

JAPANESE GARDENS: Videos

Each of these subjects is presented first with a lecture and slide presentation of the subject, followed by the video.

Daitoku-ji Daisen-in Garden (mid-15th century)

This is a miniature, dry garden, with some abstract elements, adjacent to the Abbot's residence of the Buddhist Daitoku Temple (monastery). Other gardens surrounding the residence are also included.

Ryoan-ji Gardens (late 15th century)

This is a famous example of an abstract, minimalist, gravel garden adjacent to the abbot's residence of this Buddhist Temple (monastery). Included is the less well known large lake-and-island garden.

Sento Goshō; Imperial Palace and Gardens

In the center of the city of Kyoto, the 1200-year capital, is the walled compound of the Imperial Palace (*Goshō*), with formal buildings for affairs of state, and with several immaculate gardens which include the delicate *sukiya* architecture of pavilions and tea houses.

Shugaku-in Imperial Villa and Gardens

This vast estate founded in the mid-1600s includes rice fields, and three large gardens—lower, middle, and upper—each with several residential buildings. The high point of the site overlooks a large reservoir surrounded by the continuation of the garden, with a quaint bridge from island to island, and an expanse of “borrowed scenery” in the distance.

Katsura Imperial Villa and Gardens (1. In sunshine; 2. In rain.)

This villa, built in the early 1600s, is a superb example of Japanese architecture which can be favorably compared to the simple, minimalist, Bauhaus architecture of the 20th century. Its adjacent lake-and-island stroll garden is one of the most elegant in Japan.