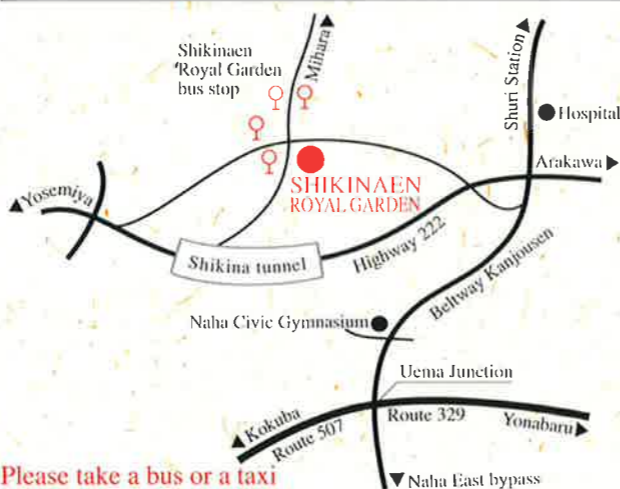


since it was located east of Shuri castle. Another name for Shikina-En was "Nan-En" (meaning southern garden) since it was located to the south of the castle.

Shikina-En is a circular landscape garden and visitors can enjoy different landscapes walking around the pond. The landscape garden in the circular style became very popular among Japanese feudal lords (Daimyo) during the modern ages. Different from those Japanese gardens, Shikina-En is characterized by a hexagonal Chinese style building (ROKKAKU-DO) which resides on a small island on the pond. The arch bridges are various sizes, and there are Ryukyu limestone walls around the pond. Shikina-En is a unique Ryukyuan garden.

Commemorative Stamp



Please take a bus or a taxi

- Shikina Kainan line (No.2 Bus)
 - Matsugawa Shintoshin line (No.3 Bus)
 - Shikina Makishi line (No.5 Bus)
 - Makishi Kainan line (No.14 Bus)
- (One-minute walk from Shikinaen Royal Garden bus stop)

C l o s e d Every Wednesday (If Wednesday is a national holiday or Ireino-Hi, the next day will be closed. However, the garden may close temporary in special circumstances e.g. typhoon). Call to check.

Open Term Apr.1~ Sep.30 9:00~17:30
Oct.1~ Mar.31 9:00~17:00

Admission Individual Party (more than 20 persons)
Adult 400 yen Adult 320 yen
Child 200 yen Child 160 yen

R e m a r k s
(1) Child-up to junior high school student.
(2) Pre-school children with guardian-free admission

Shikina-en Superintendent Office:

〒902-0072 427-1, Aza Maji, Naha city Tel.(098)855-5936

Cultural Assets Division, Department of Citizens & Culture, Naha City

〒900-8553 1-1-1, Izumizaki, Naha city Tel.(098)917-3501

World Heritage Site

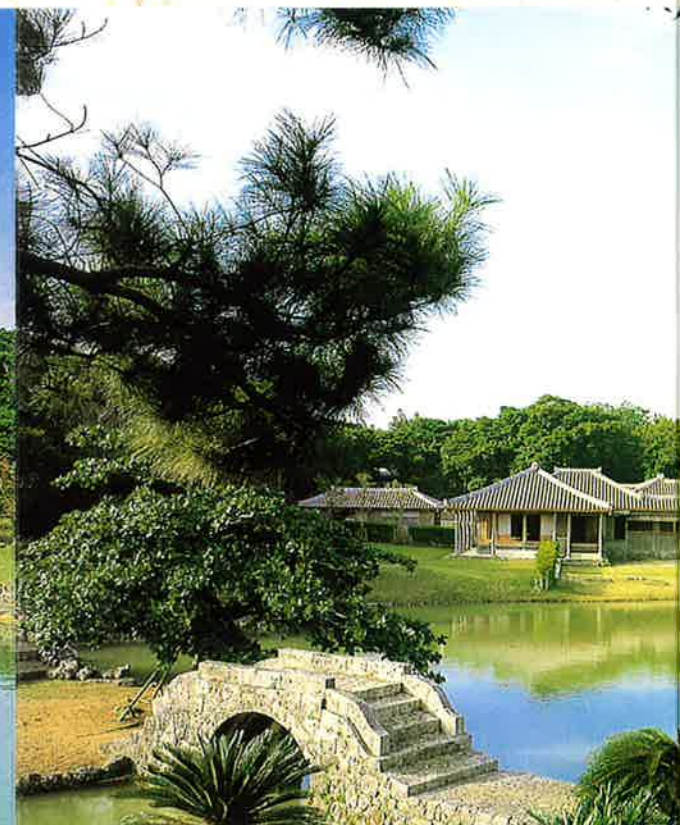
The designated national place of scenic beauty
SHIKINAEN ROYAL GARDEN

識名園

Introduction of SHIKINA-EN

Shikina-En, which is also called "SHICHINA-NU-UDUN", was the largest second residence for the Ryukyu royal families and it was used to entertain royal family members and foreign guests. Shikina-En was constructed around the end of the 18th century. The chief of a Chinese delegation (SAPPOSHI) Cho Bunkai and his assistant Li Teigen were invited to Shikina-En in 1800 when they came to Okinawa from China to perform the coronation for King Sho-On.

A second house for the Ryukyu royal families was built around the end of the 17th century in Sakiyama-mura (presently Sakiyama-cho, Shuri) and it was named "UCHAYA-UDUN". It was also called "TO-EN" (meaning eastern garden)



palatial house, share 643m² (about 195 tsubo). In 1941 (Showa 16), Shikina-En was designated as a national place of scenic beauty. However, it was completely destroyed during World War II. In 1975 (Showa 50), the restoration of this garden was started. It took about twenty years and about eight hundred million yen to complete. Shikina-En was restored and redesignated as a national place of scenic beauty by the Japanese Government on January 30, 1976 (Showa 51).

Moreover, it was registered as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO Dec 2, 2000.

The plants in Shikina-En garden were once very carefully arranged to enjoy the changes of the four seasons in the sub-tropical climate of Okinawa. In spring, Ume grove (plums) along the east side of the pond blossomed in beautiful fragrant flowers. Fuji (Japanese wisteria flowers) on the island and around the springs in the center of the pond were in bloom in summer, and visitors could enjoy beautiful dark violet flowers of Kikyo (Chinese bellflowers) planted around the pond in the fall.

The total land area of Shikina-En is approximately 41,997m² (12,726 tsubo) and the buildings, including a



SEI-MON, Main Gate

SEI-MON, the main gate to Shikina-En was exclusively used by Ryukyu royal family members and SAPPOSHI, Chinese delegates for the coronation of kings during the Ryukyu Kingdom. Both the main gate and its side gate to Shikina-En are called YAJO style gates and have roofs. YAJO style gates may be regarded as status symbols and its construction was only permitted for houses of good social standings. YAJO style gates of Shikina-En were built following the style and status symbol of OFU Era (the Ryukyu Kingdom) and are very attractive.



IKUTOKU-SEN, Spring

IKUTOKU-SEN, Spring is always filled with clean water and serves as a source of water for the pond in Shikina-En. This spring is surrounded by Ryukyu lime stone walls with beautiful curves. These walls were made by a unique "AIKATA-ZUMI" technique. There is an opening on the south side.

Two monuments were erected on the spring opening. On the right is the monument of "IKUTOKU-SEN-HI" by Cho Bunkai, the chief delegate from China to crown King Sho-on in 1800. On the left is the monument of "KAN-REIEN-REI-HI" by Lin Konen, the chief delegate from China to crown King Sho-iku in 1838. The lower parts of these original monuments were badly damaged during World War II. Thus, they were restored in 1980 (Showa 55) based on rubbed copies.



UDUN, Palace

Udun is a wooden house with a red tile roof built in a formal style that was exclusively permitted to high class people. However, a portion of this Udun has a structure characteristic to ordinary private houses.

This Udun was enlarged or improved between the end of Meiji Era and the beginning of Taisho Era.

Total area of this Udun is 525m² (approximately 159 tsubo) and has fifteen rooms including ICHIBAN-ZA (No.1 Room), where Chinese delegates for coronation of Ryukyuan kings were entertained, NIBAN-ZA (No.2 Room), SANBAN-ZA (No.3 Room), kitchen, tea room, the first front room, and the second.



ISHI-BASHI, Stone Bridge

Two stone bridges, one slightly larger than the other, are built out to the small island in the middle of the pond. Both arched bridges are raised in the center and are designed in the Chinese style.



Original SHIKINA-EN



ROKKAKU-DO, Hexagonal Building

This is a hexagonal bower (a place for rest) which was built on a small island on the pond. It is characterized by the Chinese style, beautifully shaped, black-tiled roof. It can be reached by an arched bridge which was made from a single block of Ryukyu limestone.



TAKI-GUCHI, Fall Crest

Overflowing water from the pond in the Shikina-En garden runs through the stone pipe and drops rapidly, which creates a nice waterfall. There used to be an octagonal building (HAKKAKU-DO) located close to this waterfall, and it provided people with a wonderful place to get away from the summer heat in Okinawa.



The Monument of KANKO-DAI

The Monument of Kanko-Dai was built in memory of Lin Konen, the chief of Chinese delegates who came to Okinawa in 1838 for the coronation of King Sho-iku (Doko 18). He praised the King for his successful reign after observing the well cultivated fields from the observatory. The original monument was badly damaged during World War II. In 1980 (Showa 55) it was restored based on its rubbed copy of the original.



Original SHIKINA-EN



FUNA-AGEBA, Boat Storage Place

This place was used to keep boats, in which people enjoyed rowing on the pond of the Shikina-En garden.