



## Seibikan

- Year of completion: 1909 (in Meiji 42)
- Architect: Ichisuke Nishiya
- Style: Japanese and Western combined
- Highlight: The first floor is Japanese style while the second floor is Western style. A building with one distinctive style on top of another is rare.

## Gohoden

- Year of completion: 1917 (in Taisho 6)
- Style: Byo (mausoleum) architecture of multi-layered irimoya-zukuri (a hip-and-gable roof construction), Toha style
- Inner temple: Karaito-gozen, a concubine of Tokiyori Hojo
- Main temple: Kongokaidainichinyorai
- Highlight: Maki-e consisting of three parts and five pieces. The maki-e with cherry blossom and peacock is the largest piece in Japan, and it is said to be the greatest lacquer art.

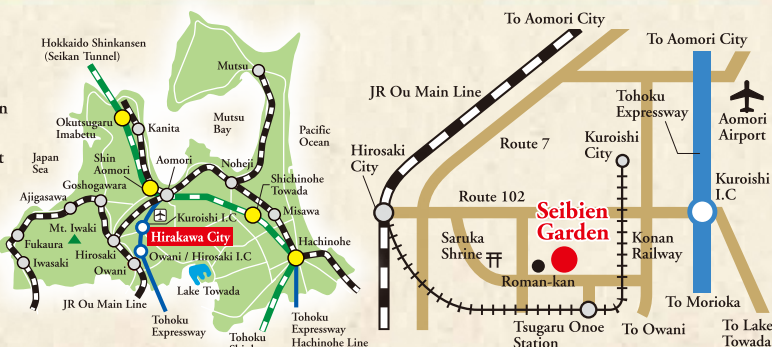


## Garden

- Year of completion: 1911 (in Meiji 44)
- Designer: Teijyu Obata
- Style: Chisen-karesansui-kaiyu
- Highlight: A flat garden with a pond located in the center, "Shin" and "Gyo" Tsukiyama (artificial hill) and "So". The center space is left open to use the natural scenery of surrounding countryside and far away mountains.

## Access

- 10 minutes on foot or 2 minutes by car from Konan Railway Onoe Station
- Take Konan Bus from JR Konan Station and get off at Seibi-en-mae bus stop
- 40 minutes by car from Aomori Airport
- Aprox. 90 minutes by car from Towada Nishi Line's Towada-kohan-yasumiya
- 15 minutes by car from Hirosaki City
- 10 minutes by car from the rice field art venue in Inakadate Village
- 10 minutes from Kuroishi Interchange on Tohoku Expressway



## Seibien Garden Scenic Beauty (Government Designated)

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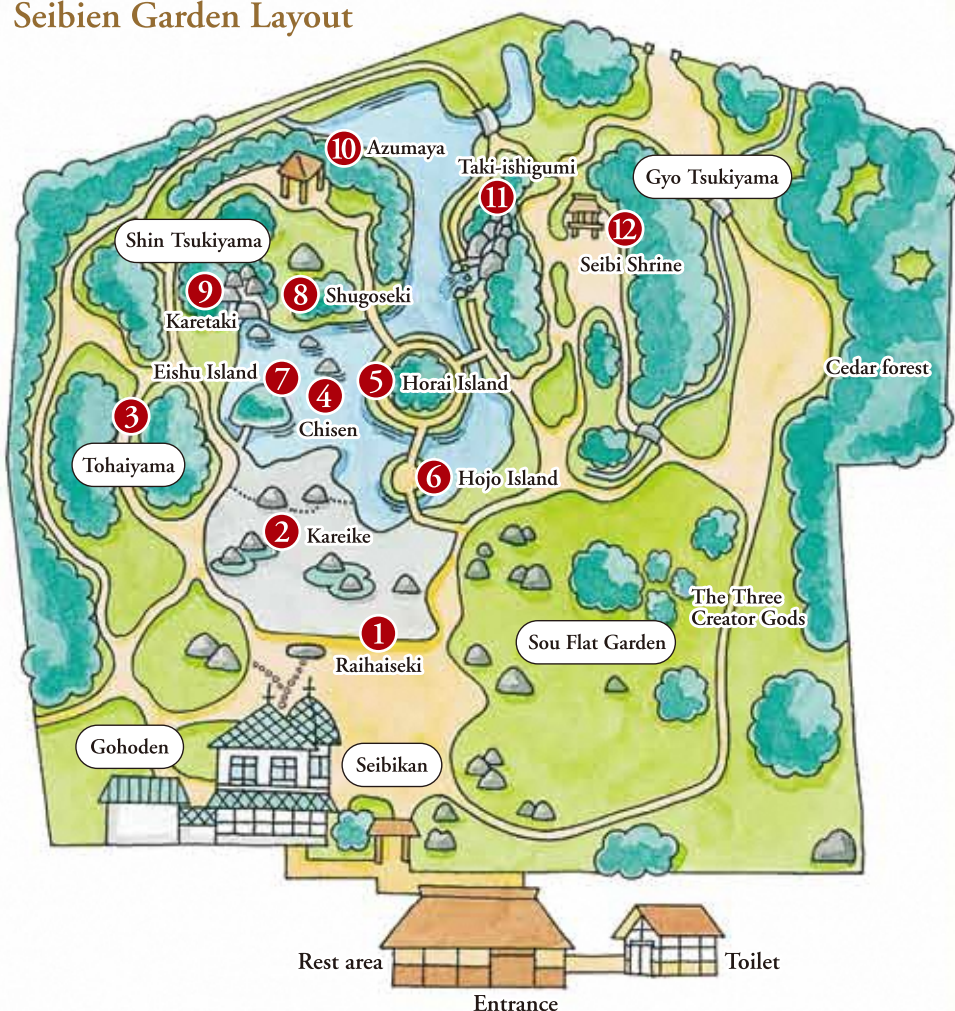
Scenic Beauty (Government Designated)

# Seibien Garden





## Seibien Garden Layout



### Seibien Garden

- Area: Approx. 12,000 square meters
- Style: Chisen-karesansui-kaiyu
- Designated date: May 31st, 1953 (in Showa 28)  
December 19th 2002 (in Heisei 14), additional designation
- Grounds: Moriyoshi, the 24th master of Seito family invited Teijyu Obata and created Seibien Garden spending 9 months from 1902 (in Meiji 35).

### 1 Raihaiseki (worship stone) / Steppingstones

Raihaiseki is used to make an offering to God, and basalt with superb joint is used. The steppingstones are positioned in "Y" shape from Kutunugi stone (to take off shoes) to the front of Chozu (water to wash hands) and Raihaiseki.

### 2 Kareike

White sand represents a pond, Nobori-ryu (rising dragon) is on the left bank and Kudari-ryu (setting dragon) is on the right bank. 7 stones in the center shape the form of Seven Gods of good fortune. Kareike of white sand shows the cleanliness and magnificence of Seibien Garden as a whole.

### 3 Tohaiyama

When the garden was first created, the hill was made to worship Saruka Shrine nearby and Mt. Iwaki far away, but they cannot be seen at all now because of the change of environment. It was used as a shelter during the war.

### 4 Chisen

Although some of rocks around the pond are hidden under trees, rock work on the bank is splendid.

### 5 Horai Island

Japanese red pine trees that symbolize cranes are arranged on an island in a shape of turtle. This is a symbolic part of the garden with a meaning of perpetual youth and longevity.

### 6 Hojo Island

Joint of the stone bridge is splendid.

### 7 Eishu Island

At night, the scenery where the light of Kotobashira lantern is reflected on the surface of water can be seen.

### 8 Shugoseki (guardian stone)

A giant stone in a shape of mountain is placed in the center of Shin Tsukiyama as the garden's guardian stone.

### 9 Karetaki

With a rock work of Momoyama-era style, a giant stone is placed tilting a little forward, to emphasize on power and luxury.

### 10 Azumaya

The east half of the garden and Tugaru Plain spreading towards further north of the garden can be viewed from here.

### 11 Taki-ishigumi

There is a fall that flows west from the shrine. The water streams down a steep slope, keep changing its form, flows through the stones and pours into the pond.

### 12 Seibi Shrine

The main god is Ukanomitamano-kami (Inari). With the surrounding forest, the shrine creates the state of Yugen-kanjyaku (graceful and quiet).