

The Japanese Garden 日本庭園



Can you find the different features within the Japanese Garden? When you have found them, please answer the questions in the boxes.



Camellia Plant (*Camellia japonica*)

Question: Do you see many flowers in this garden? Why/why not?



National Bonsai Collection

Question: Why are these trees this small?



Arbour

Question: What would you do here?



Acer Trees

Question: These trees will have different leaf colours depending on the time of year - what colours are they today?



Lanterns

Question: Why are these in the garden?



Soft Pine Tree (*Pinus strobus*)

Question: What does this tree remind you of?



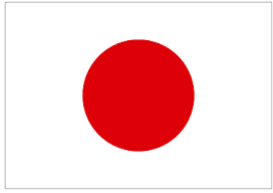
Haiku Poems

Question: Do you know anything about haikus? How many can you find in the garden?



Clipped Box Plant

Question: What atmosphere do these round plants create within the garden?



The Japanese Garden Answers



Can you find the different features within the Japanese Garden? When you have found them, please answer the questions in the boxes.



Camellia Plant (*Camellia japonica*)

Question: Do you see many flowers in this garden? Why/why not?

Answer: No, as Buddhism in the middle ages saw flowers as a sign of frivolity.



National Bonsai Collection

Question: Why are these trees this small?

Answer: *Bon-sai* means `planted in a container`. As the roots cannot grow to full size, neither can the tree. Bonsais are seen as symbols of harmony, patience and luck.



Arbour

Question: What would you do here?

Answer: It is a sheltered place to sit and reflect, and also view the garden.



Acer Trees

Question: These trees will have different leaf colours depending on the time of year - what colours are they today?

Answer: Will depend on the time of year. In Japan, it is considered that these trees protect against calamity.



Lanterns

Question: Why are these in the garden?

Answer: To light your way. The Oribe Lantern (pictured) is named after a warrior, the one by the Arbour is a snow-viewing lantern and the other is named after a shrine in Japan.



Soft Pine Tree (*Pinus strobus*)

Question: What does this tree remind you of?

Answer: Many answers may be suggested. Its common name is the Cloud Tree and it has been topiarised (cut) to suggest clouds.



Haiku Poems

Question: Do you know anything about haikus? How many can you find in the garden?

Answer: Haiku poetry became popular in Japan from the 17th century. It consists of 3 lines, with 5 syllables in the first, 7 in the second and 5 in the third. There are 4 in the garden - the fourth is on the initial information board.



Clipped Box Plant

Question: What atmosphere do these round plants create within the garden?

Answer: The aim is to create a peaceful atmosphere. These plants have been clipped to represent trees and hills, therefore creating a miniature landscape.