

GYORAKU-EN

魚樂園

National scenic Beauty (国指定名勝)
Designated date : September 18, 1978

This exceptional Japanese garden offers different views and scenes for all four seasons. Gyoraku-en garden is designated as a National Site of Scenic Beauty.

Gyoraku-en was designed by the famous Buddhist monk Sesshu in the 15th century. He was also known as the master of ink-wash paintings. Gyoraku-en literally means "fish enjoying a garden". The name came originally from an old Chinese poem: "If fish can enjoy, people can enjoy, too; if people can enjoy, fish can enjoy, too." When this garden was designed, Japan was in chaos with many wars tearing it apart. Sesshu felt so much regret about this that he designed many Shangri-La gardens, hoping for peace.

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