This rest house was constructed for Empress Shoken (1849–1914) as a gift from Emperor Meiji (1852–1912). It is built in the *sukiya zukuri* architectural style and incorporates refined touches inspired by teahouses. The original building was erected in 1900 but lost to firebombing during World War II. It was reconstructed in 1958.

The Kakuun-tei overlooks a lawn planted with azaleas and has a view of the *Nanchi* south pond, which was a favorite spot of the Empress. The Empress always rested here in the Kakuun-tei after spending time on the lawn or after fishing.