

Okushin-den (Important Cultural Property)

Okushin-den Hall was constructed at the beginning of the Edo period (1603-1867). It includes a special raised *tatami* mat (*nijōdai*) where dignitaries would sit and a space for guards to wait in attendance (*mushakakushi*).

The most remarkable feature of the building is the “Daigo-dana,” the set of staggered shelves, which is an example of *chigaidana*, an important element of the Shoin style interior design that developed during the Momoyama period. This is considered one of the three finest sets of shelves in Japan, the other two being the “Kasumi-tana” in Shugakuin Imperial Villa and the “Katsura-tana” in Katsura Imperial Villa.