

Hojo Garden

The Hojo Garden is located behind the Hojo and is visible from the building's verandah. The garden is thought to have been designed by the founding abbot of Kenchoji Temple, Lanxi Daolong (1213–1278), when the temple was built. The garden was a place for welcoming noble visitors, and features a pond called Sanpekichi at its center. The shape of the pond is said to resemble the Chinese character kokoro (心), which means “mind” or “heart.”

The garden has a lush lawn with rolling hills, and its simple layout and peaceful atmosphere represent a Zen aesthetic. It was renovated in 2003 in celebration of Kenchoji Temple's 750th anniversary, and is designated a National Place of Scenic Beauty.