

## **Hojo Garden**

The Hojo Garden is believed to have been designed by the founding abbot of Kenchoji, Lanxi Daolong (1213–1278), when the temple was built. The garden was renovated in 2003 for the temple's 750th anniversary, and is designated a National Place of Scenic Beauty.

The garden's simple layout and peaceful atmosphere represent a Zen aesthetic. The pond at the center has a shape said to resemble the Chinese character kokoro (心), which means “mind” or “heart.”