

## **Seikiro Ryokan**

The Seikiro Ryokan inn opened in the castle town of Miyazu in the late seventeenth century. The landscape of the nearby Amanohashidate sandbar and the bustling port at Miyazu drew many visitors to the area in those days and even now. The inn, as it stands today, is a traditional-style three-story wooden building constructed over 100 years ago. It was recognized as a Tangible Cultural Property of Japan in 2010.

Many painters, poets, and other artists have frequented the inn over the years. Poems, calligraphy, and other artwork received from guests, some of which date back to the Edo period (1603–1867), are on display throughout the building. The third-floor banquet hall is decorated with *fusuma-e* (paintings on sliding partition panels) by Suzuki Hyakunen (1828–1891), depicting nature scenes from each month of the year. On the second floor, a long, painted scroll from 200 years ago and a copy of the renowned *View of Amanohashidate* painting by Sesshu Toyo (1420–1506) illustrate how the sandbar and surrounding scenery have changed over time. With its wealth of art and history, the inn makes the most of its museum-like atmosphere.

The guest rooms overlook the lush greenery of the garden and are decorated in traditional Japanese style. Guests may relax in the natural hot spring bath and enjoy seasonal seafood served year-round in the restaurant.