

## **Oshukutei**

This former teahouse dates to 1916. For decades, it was used mainly to host tea gatherings for guests of the Tokiwakan inn and the Gamagori Hotel (now the Gamagori Classic Hotel). Guests would wait in the six-sided Rokkakudo building nearby before joining a tea gathering in the Oshukutei, which is divided into a small tea room (*chashitsu*) and a larger waiting room. The larger room could also be used for overnight stays and has a large window looking out toward Mikawa Bay.

The waiting room is in the *sukiya-shoin* style, in which aspects of teahouse architecture, such as unfinished log surfaces and rustic-style clay-plastered walls, are combined with the orthodox elements of Japanese-style rooms, including a decorative tokonoma alcove, sliding paper screens, and tatami flooring. The much smaller and more austere tea room is distinguished by its low door through which guests would crawl when entering from the garden. This design obliged samurai to remove their swords to attend a tea gathering and has remained a feature of teahouse

architecture into the present.

The Oshukutei is a registered Tangible Cultural Property. Guests have been able to stay the night in the building since 2025.