Kimura Tea Ceremony Museum

Midoricho, Kashiwazaki city, Niigata Prefecture (in Shoun-Sansou Garden)

Opening time: 10 a.m- 16:30 p.m.
Closed every Monday
(If Monday is a Public holiday it is then closed on Tuesday)

The Museum was founded by Shigeyoshi Kimura on November 3rd, 1984. This is the only place in Japan where you can actually drink Japanese tea using national treasure class tea bowls.

This practice has been maintained since its opening. It is rooted in Kimura's idea that "these are not things that should just be looked at, they were made to be used".





You can enjoy a traditional tea ceremony experience here.
It might look easy but there are many rules. Please listen and watch carefully. But don't worry and please enjoy it.

Welcome to Shoun-Sansou



Where GARDEN & TEA become one

The name of this garden is Shounsansou. It was built by Kenzo Iizuka in 1926. It took more than 10 years to complete. He gave it to Kashiwazaki city in December 1971.

There are many pine and maple trees. In November, we can see the beautiful autumn leaves lit up. It is very beautiful. But, we can enjoy various scenery for each season. So please come and have fun any time.

Created by local high school students as part of the 2026 English Guide Experience Program.



5 FUDOU-MYO-OU

This is Fudou-myou-ou Shrine.
Fudou-myou-ou is a Buddhist god of fire. But, a long time ago people thought he was a different god because his shrine was by the road. Now the god has been moved to this park.
We cherish him.

4 SODETSUKI GATE

This is Sodetsuki Gate. There are smaller gates next to the main gate. The shape of this gate is similar to a kimono. It acts as a border between the garden and the living space. This style makes the area more gorgeous.

3 POND AND BRIDGE

The Central pond is the focal point of the park and a popular spot to take photos. Here you can see three bridges. One is made of earth, second of concrete and the beautiful red bridge is made of wood. Around the pond there are several animals. Can you find them?

1 ENTRANCE

At the entrance to Shoun-Sansou you can see the Japanese and English names on the pillars. The English name is Pine Wood.
Iizuka Kenzou spent time in America when he was younger.
He put things from America and Japan in the garden. Can you find evidence of America in the garden?



2 AZUMAYA

This is an Azumaya, meaning “resting place”. There are many chairs, a table and a chashitsu area. People can enjoy drinking tea and talking here. In the past there were only rice fields around the gardens. Iizuka Kenzo could enjoy the natural landscape.

