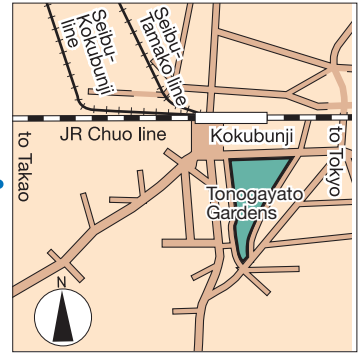


6

Contrasting bright lawn and peaceful pond

Tonogayato Gardens



- Location ●** Minami-cho 2-chome, Kokubunji City
- Contact Information ●** Tonogayato Gardens Administration Office tel: 042-324-7991 (2-16 Minami-cho, Kokubunji-shi 185-0021)
- Transport ●** 2-minute walk from Kokubunji (JR Chuo line, Seibu-Kokubunji line, Seibu-Tamako line).
- Closed ●** December 29 to January 1
- Open ●** 9 am to 4:30 pm (gates close at 5 pm)
- Admission ●** General: 150 yen, Seniors 65 and older: 70 yen
(Primary school and younger children / Jr. high school students living or studying in Tokyo: Free)
- Free days ●** Greenery Day (May 4), Tokyo Citizens Day (October 1)



These gardens with paths around woods and a pond make artful use of the natural landform of Musashino—valleys made from stepped hills. Pass through the Japanese ternstroemias at the entrance, and you find yourself in an open space with a bright lawn dotted with Japanese red pines at the top of the cliff. That contrasts sharply with the forested pond and bamboo woods at the bottom.

The gardens were constructed from 1913 to 1915 as a villa for Teijo Eguchi who would become vice president of the South Manchuria Railway Company. They became a villa for Mitsubishi's Iwasaki family in 1929. In response to a plan to develop the area for other uses, local residents started a movement for the gardens' preservation. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government eventually purchased them in 1974, developing them to be opened up as fee-based gardens.

The gardens' get their name from the former name for the area, Tonogayato of Kokubunji village.

They were designated a cultural asset (scenic spot) by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government in 1998.

Opened	April 1, 1979
Area	21,123.59 m ²
Trees	Tall trees: 2,100 Shrubs: 1,900 m ² Grass: 4,000 m ²
Main plants	Japanese red pine, acer palmatum, Japanese bush clover, Japanese ternstroemia, azalea, wisteria, moso bamboo, dogtooth violet, cyripedium japonicum, soft windflower
Facilities	Gathering hall (Koyo-tei)

Maples ● The view of the 190-odd acer palmatum and pond from the Koyo-tei teahouse is spectacular. The view is particularly great when the new leaves bud in spring and when they turn color from late November to early December.

Musashino habitat ● Located on the south edge of the Kokubunji cliff line, the gardens are formed on a landscape that includes typical stepped hill cliffs. Thus the natural habitat of the Musashino terrace and cliff line is well preserved.



Changing leaves of autumn

Flowering trees ● Flowering trees bloom beautifully, painting the gardens in natural colors. Those include ornamental peach trees in spring, wisteria in early summer, cotton rosemallow and ornamental cotton rosemallow in summer, and a tunnel of Japanese bush clover in autumn.



View of the administration office from the large lawn

Wild grasses ●

The rich natural form of Musashino can be seen in the gardens through the various wild flowers in the gardens. Those include shibateranthis pinnatifida that blooms in February, as well as dogtooth violet, cypridium japonicum, and cephalanthera erecta that color spring, campanula bellflower in early summer, fragrant gold-banded lily, trim false anemone, and orange spider lily in summer, and toad lilies in autumn.

Japanese ternstroemia ●

The most prevalent trees in the gardens are Japanese ternstroemias, which Koyata Iwasaki is said to be very fond of. About 300 of the trees can be found here.

A moso bamboo forest is also located at the base of the cliff. This provides the scenery with some variation.



Bamboo forest (moso bamboo)

Spring water and pond ● The pond in the gardens is fed by spring water. This famous spring has been called Jiro Bente stream from ages past.

Shishi odoshi ● A shishi odoshi commonly found in Japanese gardens is located next to the Koyo-tei teahouse. It uses flowing well water to add sound to the atmosphere of the gardens.



Jiro-benten pond

