



Kyoto

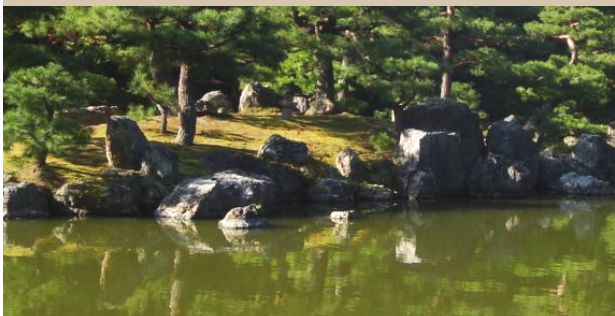
zones – the inner zone and the outer zone. It has 10 islands and some famous "strangely shaped stones" – kigan (奇岩). The outer zone has few and only smaller stones and islands – so when viewed from the pavilion, it seems to be far in the distance.



The main island in the middle of the pond is the Ajihara-jima (葦原島) (1). Although it translates as "reed meadow island", you can see pine trees and three Sanzonseki-arrangements of stones. Looking from the direction of the entrance, you can see a pine tree on the edge of the island and two stone arrangements on its left and right side (1a). The most impressive stone arrangement can be seen on the side of the Kinkaku (1b).



Pine and Sanzon-seki on its right side



Hosokawa-seki and the big Sanzon-seki

There is also a famous stone called Hosokawa-seki (細川石 - Stone of Hosokawa). Many members of the Hosokawa clan were loyal deputies to the shogun and governed large parts of Japan. They donated this stone and placed it at the head of this island, symbolizing that their clan was the head of Japan.

Walking anti-clockwise around the pond, you will see two smaller islands between the Ajihara-jima and the Kinkaku. They are the traditional crane island (鶴島) (2) and turtle island (亀島) (3) found very often in Japanese gardens, mostly as rocks

Sanzon-seki

三尊石

basic stone arrangement with 3 stones, were the biggest one is in the middle and the two smaller ones are arranged left and right to it.

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