Emergency Contact Information

### Hospitals

#### Naha & Southern Region of Okinawa Main Island
- Nanbu Medical Center & Child Medical Center  
  ☎ 098-888-0123
- Nanbu Tokushukai Hospital  
  ☎ 098-998-3221
- Tomishino Chuo Hospital  
  ☎ 098-850-3811

#### Central Region of Okinawa Main Island
- Chubu Tokushukai Hospital  
  ☎ 098-932-1110
- University of the Ryukyus Hospital  
  ☎ 098-895-3311
- Makiminato Chuo Hospital  
  ☎ 098-877-0575
- Urasoe Sogo Hospital  
  ☎ 098-878-0231

#### Northern Region of Okinawa Main Island
- Hokubu-Chiku Ishikai Hospital  
  ☎ 0980-54-1111
- Okinawa Miyako Hospital  
  ☎ 0980-72-3151

*See the following website for a guide to using medical institutions in Japan*

### Problems & Accidents
- Local police department 110  
- Ambulance 119  
- Maritime emergency 118
- Okinawa Prefectural Police Headquarters 098-862-0110
- 10th Regional Coast Guard Headquarters 098-867-0118

### Embassies & Consulates
- Embassy of Malaysia, Tokyo: 20-16 Nanpeidai-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo  
  ☎ 03-3476-3840
- Australian Consulate-General Fukuoka: 7th Floor, Tenjin Twin Building, 1-6-8 Tenjin, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka City, Fukuoka  
  ☎ 092-734-5055
- U.S. Consulate General Naha: 2-1-1 Toyama, Urasoe City, Okinawa  
  ☎ 098-876-4211
  ☎ 092-726-6348
  ☎ 092-734-1554
- Office of the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Singapore-Osaka: 3-77 Omatsu-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai City, Osaka  
  ☎ 072-233-6931
- Embassy of the Kingdom of Thailand-Naha: 1-35 Shuri Sakiyama-cho, Naha City, Okinawa  
  ☎ 098-885-1534

### Embassies & Consulates

[Okinawa Educational Travel Website](http://edu.visitokinawa.jp/en)
Educational Travel in Okinawa Develops the Life Skills
Learn, Experience and Create a Future in Okinawa

In addition to the warm mild climate and rich natural environment only found in southern islands, Okinawa, which rises south of the Japanese archipelago, has many attractions including its history and traditional culture, which have undergone unique transitions. It is also an extraordinary place for studying peace as many battle sites remain along with the availability of other experiences only obtainable in Okinawa.

Why not have a worthwhile experience learning in close rapport with students of the same generation and the people of Okinawa?

Why is Okinawa a special destination for educational travel?

1. Precious natural environment acclaimed worldwide
   Ocean water with world-class clarity is here in Okinawa along with verdant forests abounding in biodiversity where many rare creatures live, and a rich natural environment still remains today.

2. Close to other Asian countries
   Geographical superiority
   Shanghai, Taipei, Hong Kong, Seoul and other major Asian cities are located within a radius of 1,500km from the prefectural capital Naha. Access to Okinawa is very convenient as it is the closest region of Japan to other Asian countries.

3. Nine world heritage sites interspersed around the prefecture
   Shuri Castle and other castle remains as well as places of scenic beauty have been inscribed on the World Heritage List as “Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu” in 2000.

4. No.1 destination for high school excursions in Japan
   With its distinctive history, culture and nature, Okinawa is also a place where peace may be studied, and Okinawa has garnered tremendous support from teachers and students in Japan as a destination for school excursions.

5. Unique history and culture unlike anything found on mainland Japan
   Okinawa was formerly an independent country known as the Ryukyu Kingdom. It has a distinctive history, which included flourishing trade with other Asian countries and a period of administration under the United States.
What is Okinawa Like?

Okinawa is comparatively warm throughout the year, but there can be some big differences in temperature between morning and evening. Let’s take a look at what sort of clothing is best for the time of year when you’re traveling.

### What is the Climate Like?

Okinawa’s weather is generally mild, with temperatures remaining relatively constant throughout the year. However, there can be significant variations in temperature between the seasons and even within the same day.

#### Appropriate Clothing
- **Short sleeves and light long-sleeve shirt**
  - Highs: Generally mild, but expect higher temperatures during the day.
  - Lows: Lower temperatures, especially at night.

#### Sunrise and Sunset
- **April**: Sunrise 06:18, Sunset 17:55
- **September**: Sunrise 05:46, Sunset 18:37

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Rainfall</th>
<th>Ocean Water Temperature</th>
<th>Typhoons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>High 27.2°C</td>
<td>30.0mm</td>
<td>Avg 28.7°C</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>High 27.2°C</td>
<td>30.0mm</td>
<td>Avg 28.7°C</td>
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<td>June</td>
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</tbody>
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*Sunrise and sunset times are average and are based on data from the Naha Municipal Office.

### Ocean Water

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</tbody>
</table>

*Ocean water temperatures are average and are based on data from the Japan Meteorological Agency.

### What Sort of Cuisine and Foods Can be Found in Okinawa?

#### Imaiyu (Fresh Local Fish)
- This dish features fresh fish caught in Okinawa’s waters, making it a popular choice for seafood lovers.
- The fresh fish is cooked with local ingredients, such as daikon, soy sauce, and Mirin, giving it a distinct Okinawan flavor.

#### Sea Grapes (Umi-budo)
- Okinawa’s sea grapes are a popular fruit known for their sweet and tangy taste.
- They are often eaten during summer months, especially around festivals.

#### Taco Rice
- A popular dish in Okinawa, this dish combines traditional Okinawan ingredients with American-inspired flavors.
- It typically includes ingredients like rice, meat, cheese, and vegetables wrapped in a soft tortilla.

#### Sata Andagi
- These sweet donuts are a must-try for anyone visiting Okinawa.
- Made from a special Okinawan flour, they are soft and fluffy, with a hint of sweetness.

### What are the Customs and Culture of Okinawa?

#### Try Conversing with Okinawan People in Okinawan Language
- The Okinawan language is an ancient language unique to Okinawa, and it is spoken by the majority of the population.

#### Be Sure to Respect Certain Sites
- In Okinawa, there are many important sites and cultural landmarks that have been preserved over time.
- Be sure to respect these sites and ask permission before entering any restricted areas.

### Imaiyu is the Okinawan word for fresh fish. These colorful tropical fish are delicious to eat.

### Sea Grapes (Umi-budo)
- These sweet and tangy fruits are a staple of diets outside Okinawa.
- They are often served as a snack or in salads.

### Taco Rice
- A popular dish in Okinawa, this dish combines traditional Okinawan ingredients with American-inspired flavors.
- It typically includes ingredients like rice, meat, cheese, and vegetables wrapped in a soft tortilla.

### Sata Andagi
- These sweet donuts are a must-try for anyone visiting Okinawa.
- Made from a special Okinawan flour, they are soft and fluffy, with a hint of sweetness.

### Okinawa’s Guardian Deity Shisa
- Okinawa’s guardian deity shisa are placed here and there all around the islands.
- In Okinawa, you will often see a pair of figures, which look somewhat like lions, placed on a roof or in front of a gate to the building.

### Countries and Regions Differ in Many Ways, Such as Their Climate and Customs. Here Is Some Basic Information You Should Know Before You Travel to Okinawa.
What is Okinawa Like?

Guide to Okinawa Main Island and Outlying Islands

Okinawa Prefecture, which is located on the southwestern tip of Japan, belongs to the Southwest Islands chain arching between Kyushu and Taiwan. Its extensive sea area stretches approximately 1,000 km east to west and 400 km north to south, and is interspersed with over 160 Islands small and large. There are 41 municipalities, including Naha City where the prefectural office is located. Okinawa is linked to major cities in Asia within a 1,500 km radius. Here is a guide to the Okinawa main island, which is the center of Okinawa and might also be called the gateway to the south of Japan, and the four principal outlying island groups.

Central Region of Main Island

The central region where the American presence can be particularly felt is distinguished by several historical heritages including the remains of Katsuren Castle, Zakimi Castle and Nago Castle. There is an extensive shopping center and a Ferris wheel in Chatan, which is popular among young people.

Northern Region of Main Island

The northern region of the Okinawa main island, which mountains and forests stretch over, is known as Yanbaru and has been designated a national park. It is also a treasure trove of precious flora and fauna with many species designated for special protection by the prefecture and central government. To the northwest of this region, the regions that are designated as a national park are limited to Kunigami Village, Higashi Village and Omga Village.

Southern Region of Main Island

The southern region of the Okinawa main island, where intense fighting took place during WW II, has many battle sites and memorials. Historical heritages can be found here and there, imparting a feel for the history of the Ryukyus. Among these, there are some cultural properties and famous sights that are a must-see for anyone visiting Okinawa to learn about the days of the Ryukyu Kingdom, including Shuri Castle Park and Shikina Enbu Garden in Naha city.

Miyako Island Area

Miyako Island is known as the Eco-island for its promotion of locally produced and consumed energy, including advanced efforts to use renewable energy. There is a lot of beautiful nature to see including Yonaha Maehama Beach, which has been ranked No. 1 on a popular travel information website three years in a row.

Kume Island Area

Kume Island is located in the East China Sea, approximately 100 km west of Naha city. The entire island has been designated a prefectural nature park. In the northeastern part of the island, the mountain streams and wetlands around Mount Uogasakayama are protected under the Ramsar Convention.

Kerama Islands Area

The Kerama Islands are mainly comprised of four inhabited islands: Takashima, Zamami, Aka and Geruma. The area was designated a national park in 2014. It has some of the most transparent seas in the world, which make for excellent scuba diving.

Yaeyama Islands Area

In the Yaeyama Islands comprised of Ishigaki, Inomote, Taketomi, Yonaguni and other islands, abundant nature and a distinctive traditional culture are alive that are different from those on the Okinawa main island. The sea area which comprises the largest coral reef in Japan known as the Sekisei shoko coral reef, a part of Ishigaki Island and all of Inomote Island, have been designated as a national park.
School Exchange

Experience school life through classes and club activities
Both hosts and visitors enjoy the time spent learning about different cultures and values as well as understanding more about each other.

Okinawa School Exchange Highlights

1. Experience Okinawa’s extraordinary nature and culture
   Karate, traditional performing arts and other extracurricular activities strengthen exchange within the context of Okinawa’s world-renowned culture and nature.

2. Exchange through club activities
   Students interact with each other through sports, culture, performing arts, music or many other activities.

3. "Ichiribachode" Spirit
   "Ichiribachode" means “once we meet, we are brothers and sisters.”

Visit to an Okinawan School

A Program Example

- 8:15 - 8:45 Short homeroom
- 8:50-10:00 Class in English (to learn about Okinawan culture)
- 10:10-11:20 Karate class
- 11:30-12:40 Japanese conversation class
- 12:40-13:40 Lunch
- 13:40-14:50 Student shadowing (visiting students accompany their host school’s students and take part in their classes)
- 15:00-16:10 Tea ceremony
- 16:20-16:30 Short homeroom

*From the exchange program between Okinawa Shogaku Senior High School (Japan) and Kaohsiung Municipal Samrin Vocational High School of Home Economics and Commerce and Kaohsiung Municipal Ubi Senior High School (Taiwan) in July 2016.

Interview with Host School

Q: What sort of programs helped enhance exchange between the students of both schools?
   The karate class during PJE was a lot of fun for the students as it got them practicing the Karas together.
   The cultural exchanges were good for helping students understand each other better. Also, outside of class, the students went to the beach where they had a BBQ, played volleyball and had fun playing at the sea.

Q: What sort of change did you see in the students after the school visits?
   The students brightened up. Also, Taiwan became more familiar to them. The schools in Taiwan sent their appreciation and invited us to visit their school during summer vacation. The students have been contacting each other ever since.

KiraKira Beach in Nishihara Town

First karate experience

Saying goodbye

Homeroom

Mr. Uza, teacher at Okinawa Shogaku Senior High School
Improving communication skills and learning

Through a Variety of Exchanges and Experiences

Interacting with others who have different cultural and historical backgrounds and thinking together to create something are indeed a very precious time when young people can develop the skills which are necessary for living in the global community.

Welcome Ceremony

Students are greeted in grand style with fun performances

The exchange begins with a welcome ceremony. After the school principal and a student representative give welcome speeches, commemorative gifts are exchanged, photos taken, and students also begin to relax.

Viewing & Participating in Actual Classes

Students interact with each other in actual classes

Visiting students do not just watch classes in session but also they participate and actually experience the subjects. The students have fun communicating through gestures and English.

Cultural Experiences

Learning about Japan through cross-cultural experiences

Young people improve their international understanding by experiencing Sanshin performances and other aspects of Okinawan culture as well as Japanese culture, including tea ceremony in a Japanese-style room.

Experiencing Club Activities

Exchanges overcome language barriers

Sports and other physical activities help overcome language barriers and lessen the divide.

Exchanges During Lunch

Learning about different food cultures

Students get to actually experience a different dietary culture while establishing friendships as they enjoy local dishes together.
Homestay During Exchange in Okinawa

Chance to experience Okinawan life up close and personal

Students can enjoy a homestay with a family running a farm or other business. By helping the host family and enjoying meals together at the dinner table, students develop a greater sense of different cultures and people while having fun at the same time.

Homestay Highlights

1. Family businesses vary by community
   - Depending on the community, students will get a chance to help families engaged in farming, fishing, and other businesses.

2. Opportunity to experience traditional culture
   - Students also have the opportunity to experience performing arts and traditional crafts that show the Okinawan spirit.

3. Top priority given to camaraderie
   - No more than around five students are assigned to each family.
   - Students welcomed like members of the family.

4. Reliable support system
   - Only government-approved families participate in the program.
   - Emergency contact system.

Comments from a host family

Initially, we didn’t know how it would go, but the students were bright and sincere, which made for a good mood. Writing Chinese characters helped us overcome the language barrier. We all cried at the farewell ceremony.

(Ogimi Marugoto Tourism Association)

Comments from a visiting school

We have wonderful memories from the visit. We hope to come and see you again soon, and want more foreign people to learn about Okinawa village’s charm.

(Lanyu High School, Taiwan)

Exchanges of Okinawan culture popular since long ago

Homestay exchanges foster an understanding of other communities through opportunities to try eisa dancing, Sanshin, and other musical instruments, which are traditional parts of each Okinawan family’s culture.

Experiences of Okinawan culture

- Experiences of Okinawan culture
  - Students not only learn Okinawan-style farming techniques, but also gain a sense of accomplishment from putting in a good day’s work with nature.
  - Helping out fosters a sense of accomplishment and gratitude for nature’s blessings
  - Although everyone might be nervous at first, they gradually open up as they spend time with each other and are full of gratitude when they have to say goodbye.

Welcome & Farewell Ceremonies

- Welcome & Farewell Ceremonies
  - Students and host families overcome language barriers to build family-like bonds

Basic Okinawan Homestay Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Welcome, enjoy Okinawan Dishes, explore Chura-Mura Yomitan Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Farming experience, farewell ceremony</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students and host families have an opportunity to meet and enjoy traditional Okinawan Dishes.

Okinawan Dishes

- Students experience a taste of Okinawan soba, goya champuru and other typical home-cooked meals, and have the chance to make sata-andagi and other sweets. They learn how meals are influenced by the different community environments.

Comments from a host family

We have wonderful memories from the visit. We hope to come and see you again soon, and want more foreign people to learn about Okinawa village’s charm.

(Lanyu High School, Taiwan)

Comments from a visiting school

We have wonderful memories from the visit. We hope to come and see you again soon, and want more foreign people to learn about Okinawa village’s charm.

(Lanyu High School, Taiwan)
Exotic charm with vestiges of the Ryukyu Kingdom not found in Japan

For roughly 450 years from the 15th to the 19th centuries, Okinawa was an independent country known as the Ryukyu Kingdom, a highly prosperous base for trade among China, Japan and Southeast Asian nations. Ryukyuan culture, which developed independently with influences from other countries, lives on today in Okinawa’s food, crafts and performing arts.

Ryukyu Kingdom historic sites inscribed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites

The Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu, a total of nine sites including Shuri Castle, were inscribed as World Heritage Sites in 2000.

Shurijo Castle Park
Shurijo Castle Park includes Shuri Castle where the ancient Ryukyuans Kings lived and many other historical sites associated with the Ryukyu Kingdom. Here, visitors can experience Ryukyu history and culture as well as the unique architectural style.

- **Capacity:** 1500 people
- **Required Time:** 90 minutes
- **Languages:** All Year Round English, Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean
- **Taketomi, Okinawa Prefecture**
- **Address:** 1-2, Kipsu, Naha City, Okinawa 903-0820
- **Tel:** 098-886-2050

Fukushima-En Park
Fukushima-En Park encompasses a total area of 8500 m². The ancient Chinese scenery and structures express traditional Chinese methods, and the seasonal trees and flowers are arranged in a pattern evocative of the four seasons.

- **Capacity:** 300 people
- **Required Time:** 30-60 minutes
- **Languages:** All Year Round English, Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean
- **Kume, Naha City, Okinawa**
- **Address:** 2-29-15 Kume, Naha City, Okinawa 903-0810
- **Tel:** 098-349-5364

Okinawa Prefectural Museum & Art Museum
The Okinawa Prefectural Museum offers exhibits showing Okinawa’s nature, history, culture and other aspects. The Art Museum principally displays works by artists having a connection with Okinawa. There is even a section where visitors may try on dyed fabrics.

- **Capacity:** 100 people
- **Required Time:** 30-60 minutes
- **Languages:** All Year Round English, Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean
- **Naha City, Okinawa**
- **Address:** 3-1-1 Chormin, Naha City, Okinawa 903-0810
- **Tel:** 098-843-8200

The Nakamura House
This residence was constructed in the traditional Okinawan architectural style in the mid-18th century. It is a very valuable structure representative of a prewar house and has been preserved in its original state.

- **Capacity:** 40 people
- **Required Time:** 20 minutes
- **Languages:** All Year Round English, Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean
- **Kitanakagusuku Village, Okinawa**
- **Address:** 1-106, Kitanakagusuku Village, Okinawa 903-0810
- **Tel:** 098-835-3556

Yomitan Pottery Village
Many traditional Okinawan pottery workshops have been established in Yomitan Pottery Village. Visitors may purchase their favorite pottery works and tour the kiln.

- **Capacity:** 50 people
- **Required Time:** 60-90 minutes
- **Languages:** All Year Round English, Chinese, Traditional Chinese
- **Yomitan Village, Okinawa**
- **Address:** 2-653-1, Zakari, Yomitan Village, Okinawa 905-0813
- **Tel:** 098-508-4927

Taketomi Island Visitor Center Taketomi Yuga-kan
This facility uses videos, exhibits and sound to show how traditional culture, performing arts and people’s lives developed within the bountiful nature of Taketomi Island and Iriomote-Ishi-ko National Park.

- **Capacity:** 60 people
- **Required Time:** 30-60 minutes
- **Languages:** All Year Round English, Chinese, Traditional Chinese
- **Taketomi, Taketomi Town, Okinawa**
- **Address:** 1-3-15, Take, Taketomi Village, Okinawa 903-0813
- **Tel:** 098-395-2400

**Visitor capacity** indicates the maximum number of people allowed into a facility at one time. *Please see the insert for more information about foreign language panel displays, pamphlets, voice guidance, and other multilingual services. *Visitor free* indicates whether or not the facility provides unlimited access.
Facility Visits

Tourism supports the economy of Okinawa Prefecture

Okinawa Prefecture, which is enveloped by the beautiful sea, has developed into one of Japan’s leading resort areas. In the recent years, Okinawa Prefecture has seen an increase in tourists from other countries and an increase in demand for interpretation.

Industry

Okinawa Prefecture has a flourishing fishing industry that benefits from the bounty of the beautiful sea as well as agriculture that makes use of the temperate climate. These products are shipped throughout Okinawa and all around Japan. Okinawa has companies and universities that serve as centers for education and research on cutting-edge technologies.

Advanced technologies that are the pride of Japan and traditional industry developed within Okinawa’s particular climate and environment

There’s a lot of industries on the small island!

Okinawa Tracking and Communication Station (JAXA)

JAXA is a facility that tracks and controls satellites. Models and videos show how satellites and parabolic antennas function. Visitors will enjoy learning about space development.

Capacity

50 people

Required Time

30 - 60 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

7112, Akus Kinrara, Onna Village, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-540-071

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST)

OIST offers five-year graduate study programs for pursuing education and research in technologies at world-class levels. Tours of the facility, which is surrounded by greenery and enjoys a view of the East China Sea are available. There is also a cafe open to the public.

Capacity

80 people ( negotiable)

Required Time

60 - 90 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

291-1, Tanche, Onna Village, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-218-0 (Campus Visit)

Trim Recycling Factory

At this plant, waste glass is used as raw material for manufacturing an artificial surface known as Supersol, which has completely different properties than those of glass. Visitors learn about this technology, which has attracted international attention.

Capacity

120 people

Required Time

60 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Languages

English, Chinese (Traditional)

Address

276-3, Aragusuku, Yae Town, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-630-23

Okinawa Prefecture Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Demonstration Facility

Visitors may tour the facility where testing is conducted to generate electricity using deep-sea water. They will also learn about the particular characteristics of deep-sea water as well as its uses and applications.

Capacity

20 - 60 people

Required Time

20 - 60 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

500-1, Ma, Kunime Town, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-865-5

Nuchi-Masu Sightseeing and Salt Manufacturing Factory (Nuchi-Una)

While viewing the salt production room, visitors have a chance to see how salt is made using the world’s first manufacturing method. Visitors will also enjoy the spectacular scenery of Miyagi Island, in addition to shopping and dining.

Capacity

30 - 50 people

Required Time

10 - 15 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

271-0, Manp, Yonashiro, Uruma City, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-263-140

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Hotel Staff

Hotel staff respond to a variety of guests’ needs and help make their stay comfortable.

Aquatic Activity Staff

Staff working on the beaches and helping with marine activities are on the frontline making sure their guests are safe.

Interpreters & Tour Guides

Interpreters and tour guides show visitors from Japan and other countries around tourist sites, presenting them in an interesting and enjoyable fashion.

There’s a lot of industries on the small island!

Okinawa Tracking and Communication Station (JAXA)

JAXA is a facility that tracks and controls satellites. Models and videos show how satellites and parabolic antennas function. Visitors will enjoy learning about space development.

Capacity

50 people

Required Time

30 - 60 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

7112, Akus Kinrara, Onna Village, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-540-071

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST)

OIST offers five-year graduate study programs for pursuing education and research in technologies at world-class levels. Tours of the facility, which is surrounded by greenery and enjoys a view of the East China Sea are available. There is also a cafe open to the public.

Capacity

80 people ( negotiable)

Required Time

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Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

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Capacity

120 people

Required Time

60 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Languages

English, Chinese (Traditional)

Address

276-3, Aragusuku, Yae Town, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-630-23

Okinawa Prefecture Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Demonstration Facility

Visitors may tour the facility where testing is conducted to generate electricity using deep-sea water. They will also learn about the particular characteristics of deep-sea water as well as its uses and applications.

Capacity

20 - 60 people

Required Time

20 - 60 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

500-1, Ma, Kunime Town, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-865-5

Nuchi-Masu Sightseeing and Salt Manufacturing Factory (Nuchi-Una)

While viewing the salt production room, visitors have a chance to see how salt is made using the world’s first manufacturing method. Visitors will also enjoy the spectacular scenery of Miyagi Island, in addition to shopping and dining.

Capacity

30 - 50 people

Required Time

10 - 15 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

271-0, Manp, Yonashiro, Uruma City, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-263-140

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7112, Akus Kinrara, Onna Village, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-540-071

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST)

OIST offers five-year graduate study programs for pursuing education and research in technologies at world-class levels. Tours of the facility, which is surrounded by greenery and enjoys a view of the East China Sea are available. There is also a cafe open to the public.

Capacity

80 people ( negotiable)

Required Time

60 - 90 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

291-1, Tanche, Onna Village, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-218-0 (Campus Visit)

Trim Recycling Factory

At this plant, waste glass is used as raw material for manufacturing an artificial surface known as Supersol, which has completely different properties than those of glass. Visitors learn about this technology, which has attracted international attention.

Capacity

120 people

Required Time

60 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Languages

English, Chinese (Traditional)

Address

276-3, Aragusuku, Yae Town, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-630-23

Okinawa Prefecture Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Demonstration Facility

Visitors may tour the facility where testing is conducted to generate electricity using deep-sea water. They will also learn about the particular characteristics of deep-sea water as well as its uses and applications.

Capacity

20 - 60 people

Required Time

20 - 60 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

500-1, Ma, Kunime Town, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-865-5

Nuchi-Masu Sightseeing and Salt Manufacturing Factory (Nuchi-Una)

While viewing the salt production room, visitors have a chance to see how salt is made using the world’s first manufacturing method. Visitors will also enjoy the spectacular scenery of Miyagi Island, in addition to shopping and dining.

Capacity

30 - 50 people

Required Time

10 - 15 min.

Accepts Visitors

All Year Round

Language

English

Address

271-0, Manp, Yonashiro, Uruma City, Okinawa. ☏ +85-856-263-140

**Visitor capacity** indicates the maximum number of people allowed into a facility at one time. **Please see the insert for more information about foreign language panel displays, parade, voice guidance, and other multilingual services. **“Barrier-free” indicates whether or not the facility provides wheelchair access. **Visitor capacity” indicates the maximum number of people allowed into a facility at one time.
Blue coral seas and forests inhabited by rare creatures

Looking to have Amami-Oshima, Tokunoshima Island, and Iriomote Island added to the UNESCO World Heritage List

The Japanese government is seeking to have Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, and Iriomote Island registered as UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site. Iriomote has many rare species, including the Okinawa rail and Pryer’s woodpecker, living in its dynamic forest with a rich diverse plant life. In addition, all seven species of mangroves native to Japan are distributed on Iriomote Island, and the indigenous Iriomote cat has been designated an endangered species.

Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium

The concept of Churaumi Aquarium at Ocean Expo Park is “encountering the Okinawa sea.” It is one of the world’s largest aquariums and the first in the world to successfully breed several whale sharks and manta rays. In the forests inhabited by rare creatures, you can encounter some of the clearest anywhere in the world. In the forests inhabited by rare creatures, you can encounter some of the clearest anywhere in the world. In the forests inhabited by rare creatures, you can encounter some of the clearest anywhere in the world. In the forests inhabited by rare creatures, you can encounter some of the clearest anywhere in the world.

Yambaru Wildlife Conservation Center

The Yambaru Wildlife Conservation Center’s Ufugi Nature Museum has displays of stuffed animals and shows videos to present an easy-to-understand manner the ecosystem and precious wildlife of the Yanbaru area in the northern region of the Okinawa main island. It is estimated that there are only about 100 Iriomote cats still living.

Sea Turtle Museum of Kumejima

While observing sea turtles as well as newly born baby turtles swimming around freely and gracefully, visitors learn about the ecology and current state of sea turtles, which are in danger of extinction.

Visit details for the facilities above:

- **Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium**
  - Address: 44-2, Ishikawa, Motobu Town, Okinawa
  - Capacity: 1,200 people
  - Required Time: 30 - 120 min.
  - Languages: English, Chinese (Traditional)
  - Year Round: Available
  - Wheelchair Accessible: Yes

- **Yambaru Wildlife Conservation Center**
  - Address: 26-3, Iujibama, Motobu Town, Okinawa
  - Capacity: 50 people
  - Required Time: 45 min.
  - Languages: English, Chinese (Traditional)
  - Year Round: Available
  - Wheelchair Accessible: Yes

- **Sea Turtle Museum of Kumejima**
  - Address: 170, Ch. Sue, Kumejima Town, Okinawa
  - Capacity: 30 people
  - Required Time: 10 - 30 min.
  - Languages: English
  - Year Round: Available
  - Wheelchair Accessible: Yes

**Nature**

Colorful coral inhabit the beautiful waters, which are also some of the clearest anywhere in the world. Experience nature as only Okinawa can offer you the chance to see in mainland Japan. National parks have been designated in mainland Japan. National parks have been designated in mainland Japan. National parks have been designated in mainland Japan. National parks have been designated in mainland Japan. National parks have been designated in mainland Japan.
During World War II roughly 70 years ago, so many people died in Okinawa Prefecture that one-fourth of its precious population was lost. Particularly in the southern region of the main island where the Japanese military was headquartered, fierce fighting embroiled local residents during the battle’s final stages. Even today, many caves where people sought shelter from the fighting, memorial monuments as well as battle sites still remain. These are now used to teach people about peace.

Cornerstone of Peace Memorial on which 240,000 names are inscribed

In the Peace Memorial Park plaza, a monument has been erected in a prayer for world peace and souls of the war dead. The names of the people who died during the Battle of Okinawa is inscribed on the Cornerstone of Peace Memorial, regardless of nationality or whether or not they were soldier or civilian. The number of people fallen during the war includes 149,425 from Okinawa Prefecture, 77,417 from other prefectures, and 14,572 from overseas countries (as of June 2016).

Cornerstone of Peace Memorial

The Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum commemorates victims of the war and seeks to communicate to future generations the historical lessons partially learned from the Battle of Okinawa. The museum has displays sharing testimony from people who experienced the fighting as well as numerous actual items and documents.

Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum

Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum

The Himeyuri Peace Museum is a free museum on the grounds, displaying personal effects and letters which have been retrieved. The museum works to communicate the value of peace through the experiences of those girls who were in their teens at the time of the fighting.

Himeyuri Peace Museum

The Tsushima-maru Memorial Museum provides an overview of the sinking of the Tsushima-maru, which was used to evacuate schoolchildren. The museum works to communicate the value of peace through the lives of which 1,482 people, including many children, lost their lives.

Tsushima-maru Memorial Museum

The Kakazu Heights Park has a sweeping view of Futenma base. It was also the site of fierce fighting during the Battle of Okinawa, vestiges of which still remain today.

Kakazu Heights Park

The Former Japanese Navy Underground Headquarters

The command bunker, which a Japanese Navy advance team built during World War II at the time of the Battle of Okinawa, has been opened to the public, including the commander’s office. There is also a free museum on the grounds, displaying personal effects and letters which have been retrieved.

The Former Japanese Navy Underground Headquarters

**Visitor capacity” indicates the maximum number of people allowed into a facility at one time. *Please see the insert for more information about foreign language panel displays, pamphlets, voice guidance, and other multilingual services. **“Barrier-free” indicates whether or not the facility provides wheelchair access.
Feeling close to nature’s bounty provides a chance to think about environmental issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Required Time</th>
<th>Accepts Visitors</th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Wheelchair Access</th>
<th>Address / Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheelchair Access</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coral Seedling Planting</td>
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<td>Okinawa World</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please use the insert for more information about foreign language panel displays, pamphlets, voice guidance, and other multilingual services.

**Barrier-free** indicates whether or not the facility provides wheelchair access.
### Experience Culture

#### Wheelchair Access

*Please see the inset for more information about foreign language panel displays, pamphlets, voice guidance, and other multilingual services.

#### Fascinating unique culture carefully handed down since ancient times

Eisa, richly influenced by each community

Eisa is a dance to honor the souls of ancestors and pray for good health, well-being, and prosperity of each home in the community. The performers wear colorful costumes and dance rhythmically while beating drums. Performances are different in each community and have been carefully handed down over the ages by the community youth groups. There are also many places where visitors can watch eisa performed for tourists throughout the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eisa Dance</th>
<th>Okinawa City Tourism Association</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>300 people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required Time</td>
<td>60 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>English, Chinese, Russian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>3-1-4-2 Choe, Naha City, Okinawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>+85-24-865-963-0</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ryukyuan Dance</th>
<th>Uruma City Tourism Association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>30 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Time</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>English, Chinese, Russian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>4-1-13 Yubari, Uruma City, Okinawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>+85-24-619-0311</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Traditional Culture Experience

**Okinawa Mura**

At Makishi Market, Naha City, Okinawa. Streets of Naha are lined with old-fashioned traditional houses, and visitors have the chance to learn about Okinawan culture, including watching eisa and Ryukyuan dance performances as well as trying their hand at making crafts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Culture Experience</th>
<th>Ryukyuan Mura</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>100 people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required Time</td>
<td>30 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>English, Chinese, Russian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>3-1-1 Makishi, Naha City, Okinawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>+85-24-865-1234</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Karate Experience

**Okinawa Traditional Karatedo Kobudo International Karate Study Centre**

At Murasaki Mura in Yomitan Village, there is a dojo where students can experience traditional Okinawan karate. Reservations are accepted in advance, which will allow you to learn about the three main karate styles in Okinawa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Karate Experience</th>
<th>English, Chinese</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>20 people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required Time</td>
<td>60 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>English, Chinese</td>
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<td>Available</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>1/10-1 Takashita, Yomitan Village, Okinawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>+85-24-864-1411</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Okinawan Lifestyle

**Kumejima Town Tourism Association**

The Association offers a variety of hands-on programs where students can interact with Kume Islanders while walking through the Hibutsu forest, exploring the Tujii caves, learning to play Sanshin, or making snacks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experiencing Island Lifestyle</th>
<th>Kumejima Town</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>30-50 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Time</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>English, Chinese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>1-5-17 Aji, Kumejima Town, Okinawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>+85-24-865-1973</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Traditional Culture Experience

**Ishigaki Yaima Village**

In Ishigaki Yaima Village, this theme park is a re-creation of old Yaeyama. In addition to having a chance to experience traditional Ryukyu village, the tour includes a visit to the restaurant where visitors can have a chance to learn about Okinawan culture, including watching eisa and Ryukyuan dance performances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Culture Experience</th>
<th>English, Chinese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>50-100 people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required Time</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>English, Chinese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>3-97-7 Aigai, Ishigaki Yaima Village, Okinawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>+85-24-850-7181</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Asian Countries and the Ryukyu Islands were Connected by Trade Ties

Exchanges Begin with East Asia Trade

Although the exact timing is unclear, it is believed that the Kingdom of the Ryukyu began to trade and exchange with the nations of Southeast Asia in the latter half of the 14th century. China’s Ming dynasty had banned trade in those years with those countries with which it had no diplomatic relations. Owing to friendly ties with the dynasty, the Ryukyuans was able to take on much of Ming’s foreign commerce. Chinese goods were much in demand at the time. Ryukyuans traded those goods in Japan and around Southeast Asia, and conversely delivered those items they obtained in those places to the Chinese Emperor. It was thus in this form of intermediary trade that the Ryukyuans began their exchanges with Southeast Asia.

Ryukyuans Ships Voyaging to “Manaban”

Ryukyuans ships made the voyage to ports across Southeast Asia to carry out trade. The Kingdom of Siam (Thailand) topped the list of these ships’ destinations, with other trade partners that included Malacca (Malaysia), Pattani (Thailand and Malaysia), Java (Indonesia), Palembang (Indonesia), Sumatra (Indonesia), Sunda (Indonesia), Annam (Vietnam) and so on. Malacca and some other regions also served as a gateway for the voyagers to trade with India, Arabia, and Europe. The Ryukyuans referred to these Southeast Asian regions collectively as “Manaban,” and they worked to deepen their exchanges with them.

The Fruits of the Southeast Asia Trade for the Ryukyus

The Ryukyus’ primary imports from Southeast Asia were pepper and other spices, and sappanwood, which was used as an ingredient in dyes and Chinese herbal medicines. These would often then be shipped to Ming China as tribute to the court or sold to mainland Japan and Korea. Ceramics produced in Ming China and Southeast Asia were also important trade goods.

An Enthusiasm for International Exchange was Cultivated by Trade with Southeast Asia

With a history different from that of Japan, the Ryukyuans prospered economically owing to these sorts of connections they forged with Southeast Asia. The islands flourished for a time as a center for trade in those years with those countries with which it had no diplomatic relations. Nonetheless, the interactions had gifted the Ryukyus with many things. Above all, the great interest in international exchange cultivated in that area still seems to be alive in the hearts and minds of Okinawans of today.

Study, Feel, and Experience the Natural Environment and Culture of Okinawa

Okinawa Educational Travel

Recommended Courses

Whether your interest is in history, culture, nature, peace studies, or industry, Okinawa offers a variety of potential subjects optimal for educational travel. Here, you can put together travel plans that incorporate experiences impossible to have anywhere else around Japan.

**Main Island**

**4-day, 3-night plan**

This plan allows you to visit not only the sites and facilities where you can come into contact with Okinawa’s history, culture, and natural environment, but also venues associated with cutting edge science and technology institutions as GODAC, OIST, and JAXA. The offerings focus on allowing students to enjoy themselves on their own through firsthand study and other experiences including homestays and school exchange programs, creating memories they will never forget.

### Day 1

**Experience History and Culture in the Southern Area of the Main Island**

- **Naha Airport**
- The Former Japanese Navy Underground Headquarters (Tomigusuku City)
- Okinawa World, Culture Kingdom and Gokudansendo (Nanjo City)
- Shurijo Castle Park (Naha City)
- Stay in the main island’s southern region

This plan allows you to visit not only the sites and facilities where you can come into contact with Okinawa’s history, culture, and natural environment, but also venues associated with cutting edge science and technology institutions as GODAC, OIST, and JAXA. The offerings focus on allowing students to enjoy themselves on their own through firsthand study and other experiences including homestays and school exchange programs, creating memories they will never forget.

### Day 2

**Exciting Okinawa-style Bullfights and Interschool Exchanges**

- Okinawa Bullfight Experience (Uruma City)
- School exchange program on Okinawa Main Island
- Stay in the main island’s northern region

### Day 3

**Study and Experience Firsthand the Ecology of the Seas**

- Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium (Motobu Town)
- GODAC (Nago City)
- Homestay (Higashi Village)
- Homestay in Higashi Village

### Day 4

**Visit a Graduate University that Performs the World’s Most Cutting Edge Research**

- Village farewell ceremony
- Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST) (Onna Village)
- JAXA (Onna Village)

### Day 5

**Recommended Courses**

- **For a 4-day, 3-night trip**
- **For a 5-day, 4-night trip**

We recommend limiting the trip to the main island. Private residences that take in lodgers on educational travel for homestays are available throughout the prefecture, allowing one to choose based on proximity to the places you want to visit.

You can also set out from the main island to visit the outlying islands. The Kerama and Yaeyama Islands as well as the islands of Kume and Miyako are among the many islands in the vicinity, each with a wealth of distinguishing features.

### Okinawa Educational Travel Tips for Planning Okinawa Educational Travel

Okinawa has an abundance of attractions, allowing for a variety of plans. Pick your destinations based on how long your trip will be.

### For a 4-day, 3-night trip

#### Day 1

- **Experience History and Culture in the Southern Area of the Main Island**
  - Naha Airport
  - The Former Japanese Navy Underground Headquarters (Tomigusuku City)
  - Okinawa World, Culture Kingdom and Gokudansendo (Nanjo City)
  - Shurijo Castle Park (Naha City)
  - Stay in the main island’s southern region

**Day 2**

- **Exciting Okinawa-style Bullfights and Interschool Exchanges**
  - Okinawa Bullfight Experience (Uruma City)
  - School exchange program on Okinawa Main Island
  - Stay in the main island’s northern region

**Day 3**

- **Study and Experience Firsthand the Ecology of the Seas**
  - Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium (Motobu Town)
  - GODAC (Nago City)
  - Homestay (Higashi Village)
  - Homestay in Higashi Village

**Day 4**

- **Visit a Graduate University that Performs the World’s Most Cutting Edge Research**
  - Village farewell ceremony
  - Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST) (Onna Village)
  - JAXA (Onna Village)

**Day 5**

- **Recommended Courses**
  - **For a 4-day, 3-night trip**
  - **For a 5-day, 4-night trip**

- **For a 4-day, 3-night trip**
- **For a 5-day, 4-night trip**

- **That was amazing!**

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28
Okinawa Educational Travel

**Recommended Courses**

### 5-day, 4-night plan

This program focuses on getting to know what makes Okinawa special firsthand, including a nature experience at the Kerama Shoto National Park and a homestay at a village where traditional culture remains vibrant. The plan offers abundant other opportunities for learning, including a peace studies program, a field trip to Churaumi Aquarium, and an enjoyable stroll around the city.

**Day 1**
- Naha Airport
- Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum (Itoman City)
- School exchange program at Okinawa Main Island
- Stay in the main island’s southern region

**Day 2**
- Tomari Port to Kerama Islands
- Peace Studies (Tokashiki Island)
- Takashiki Village Chamber of Commerce and Industry +81-98-987-3666
- Kayaking: It is one of the best activities for Kendari and the Kuruma Peninsula!
- Stay at Zamami Island

**Day 3**
- Zamami Port to Tomari Port
- Musasaki Mara (Yomitan Village)
- Churaumi Yomitan Homestay (Yomitan Village)
- Stay in Yomitan Village

**Day 4**
- Farwell Ceremonies
- Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST) (Onna Village)
- Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium (Motobu Town)
- GODAC (Motobu Town)
- Stay in the main island’s northern region

**Day 5**
- Shuri Castle Park (Naha City)
- Naha Machi Mai (stroll around the city) (Kokusai Street) (Naha City)
- Naha Airport

**Outlying Islands + Main Island**

### A Day for Thinking About Peace and Interacting with Okinawan Students

1. A singer performed for the students the folk songs of Okinawa as the majority of the battle involved the people who were raised in different backgrounds but the exciting!
2. Children from the village have raised to be a peace-loving people.

### Learn About History and Nature at Kerama Shoto National Park

1. Enjoy marine sports to your heart's content in one of the world's most beautiful seas. (Activity also available at Tomakomai Island)

### Learn About the Latest Technology and the Beautiful World of the Ocean

1. A scholar will provide a talk on the world’s oldest marine life and the diverse marine life of Okinawan waters.

### History and Local Lifestyles on View in Central Naha

1. Okinawa’s busiest shopping district is packed with shops selling marine products, eating and drinking establishments, and other businesses along a 1.5-kilometer stretch.

### Homestay Experience to Learn About Farming Community Culture and Lifestyles

1. Encounter the soul of the culture and people of Okinawa through a homestay program focused on experiencing daily life.
Information about Okinawa Educational Travel

Access

Access to Okinawa from Asia

<table>
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<th>Airports</th>
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<td>PEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seoul</td>
<td>ICN</td>
<td>About 2 h</td>
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<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shanghai</td>
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Access from Okinawa to Cities in Japan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Airports</th>
<th>IATA code</th>
<th>Flight Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Naha</td>
<td>OKI</td>
<td>About 2 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomari</td>
<td>HTA</td>
<td>About 3 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ishigaki</td>
<td>HSG</td>
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Access by Air

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<tr>
<th>Airline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>NH</td>
<td>About 2 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAL</td>
<td>JA</td>
<td>About 2 h</td>
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Access by Sea

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ports</th>
<th>Travel Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>About 1 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naha</td>
<td>About 2 h</td>
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JAL & ANA Offers a Special Fare

Fly JAL or ANA to anywhere in Japan for ¥10,800 (tax incl.) one way.

JAL Japan Explorer Pass


ANA Experience JAPAN Fare

https://www.ana-cooljapan.com/ejf/

*As of November 1, 2016

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About transportation in Okinawa is available on the following website:

http://okanawa-tourism.or.jp/access/transportation_in-okinawa
Information about Okinawa Educational Travel

Please check the following website for more information about animals and plants prohibited from being brought in or taken out of Okinawa, dangerous sea creatures, and what to do if disaster strikes (typhoons, earthquakes, tsunami, etc.)

http://en.okinawastory.jp/about/important/

Precautions for Aquatic Activities

Five Precautions for Snorkeling

1. It looks easy, but practice is essential! Learn how to use the snorkel, mask and fins.
2. Floating is difficult! Wear a life jacket or wetsuit and make sure you’re buoyant.
3. The sea is beautiful, but full of danger! Check where you’re going to swim, make sure of the weather and sea conditions, and avoid any risks that could cause danger to yourself or others.
4. Watch out for jellyfish! Many jellyfish will appear in the waters between May and October. Caution is necessary as jellyfish are difficult to identify because they are clear and almost see-through. Touching one brings intense pain and welts may form. If you are stung, get out of the water and call for help.
5. Poor health can be deadly in the water! If you’re not feeling up to it, then stop and get out of the water.

Accidents happen! Learn from an instructor or someone who is experienced. First practice in a pool or shallow area where you can stand.

- If you see or are involved in an accident or incident at sea, call 118 right away!

What to do During a Disaster (earthquake, tsunami or typhoon)

If an earthquake strikes

1. If you feel tremors at your lodging, secure an evacuation route, wait for the earthquake to subside, then evacuate following any instructions given by the accommodation staff.
2. If you’re outdoors, move away from concrete block walls, cliffs, rivers and out of alleyways.
3. There is a risk of a tsunami, so keep away from the seashore and evacuate to high ground or solidly-constructed high buildings.

If a typhoon comes

1. Strong winds may cause objects flying and overturn them, so avoid going outside and stay inside at your lodging.
2. Keep on guard even if the storm has calmed down, and be sure to check the weather information before doing anything.
3. Buses, airplane and other means of transportation will be affected, so get more information before heading out.

When there is a typhoon, check the travel and tourism website “Be Okinawa” for information about typhoon conditions as well as airline and ferry service.

See the Okinawa disaster prevention information portal.

http://en.okinawastory.jp/

http://www.bousai.okinawa.jp/eng/

Watch out for Habu Snakes

The habu is a poisonous snake found in Okinawa Prefecture. It is most active between April and November, but is also awake throughout the year. The young will hatch around September and begin to move around looking for food. During the day, they hide in stonewalls, caves and thick brush, but will come out at night.

Habu Bite First Aid

1. Stay calm, try not to move around, and call someone close by for help.
2. Seek medical attention at a clinic or hospital right away. As a first-aid measure, use a venom extractor to repeatedly draw out poison from the wound.
3. If it’s going to take time to get to a hospital, then wrap a cloth loosely, enough for one finger to be inserted, around an area between the bite and heart.

Remember Your Manners

Table manners

Tables in shops are for the establishment’s beverage and meal service, so please refrain from bringing your own drinks or food. Also, banana peels, orange peels and other scraps as well as fish bones are not thrown on the floor, but left on plates.

Everyday manners

In Okinawa, people will not like it if you walk around in your bathing suit in places other than the beach. If you’re leaving the beach area, it’s best to put on a T-shirt and shorts over your swimsuit.

Hotel manners

Remember to remove your shoes in your hotel room. Also, change into the room slippers or toilet if they are provided.

Restroom manners

The restrooms at commercial establishments may be used for free, but you will leave a good impression if you buy something small as a token of appreciation.

Free Wi-Fi is Available

Locations displaying the sticker “Be.Okinawa Free Wi-Fi” have Wi-Fi available free of charge. See below for details on hot spots and how to connect.

http://be.okinawa.free.wifi.okinawaclip.com/?lang=en

Multilingual Contact Center

This is a public service for foreign visitors provided by Okinawa prefecture.
- Tourist information, interpreter services, emergency response support and other multilingual services are available by telephone, Skype or email.
- Service is free of charge. Only telephone dialing charges apply.

Ofﬁce Hours: 9:00—21:00 (JST)

Phone: 0570-077201 / +81-98-851-7286

E-mail: visitokinawa@ocvb.or.jp

Skype: Okinawa Story / ID: call-center-en01
Skype: Okinawa Story / ID: call-center-en02