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**Practical Travel Guide - 709** 

# **OKINAWA**



Japan National Tourism Organization 日本政府観光局



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In collaboration with
Tourist Information Centers in the area



#### OKINAWA ISLAND

Okinawa Prefecture (沖縄県) consists of some 160 islands and islets, called the Ryukyu Islands, in the south half of the Nansei (southwest) Islands (南西諸島) from the south end of Kyushu. Okinawa Island (沖縄島), also called as "Okinawa-Honto" (沖縄本島 or Okinawa Main Island), has the city of Naha (那覇), the prefectural capital and the largest city among 47 islands with residents. Okinawa

itself has a subtropical climate boasting plants and flowers all year round. Coral reefs, emerald seas and sunny skies attract sea and sunbathers all year round. Okinawa also abounds in sites of historical interest. Its rich cultural heritage, as the island was "the Ryukyu Kingdom" (see page 2/8), differs markedly from that found in mainland Japan.

#### Access:

Naha is the gateway to and from Okinawa for both seaborne and airborne visitors. For further details of transportation: https://www.visitokinawa.jp/transportation

#### By Air (from major cities):

| From  |   | То         | Operated by   | Approx. Travel Time  | Access to Downtown   |  |
|---|---|------------|---|--|--|--|
| Haneda (Tokyo) Narita (Tokyo) Itami (Osaka) Kansai (Osaka) Chubu* (Nagoya) New Chitose (Hokkaido) Sendai (Miyagi) Niigata Komatsu (Kanazawa) Hiroshima Takamatsu Matsuyama Fukuoka Kagoshima Amami-oshima Yoron | 羽成伊関中新仙新小広高松福鹿奄与田田丹西部千台潟松島松山岡児美論島大島とののののののののののののののののののののののののののののののののののの | Naha<br>那覇 | JAL, ANA, SKY ANA, JJP, VNL JAL, ANA ANA, JTA, JJP, APJ ANA, JTA, SKY, JJP, SNJ ANA ANA ANA ANA ANA ANA ANA ANA ANA A | 2 hrs. 10 min. 2 hrs. 25 min. 1 hr. 50 min. 1 hr. 55 min. 2 hrs. 4 hrs. 2 hrs. 25 min. 3 hrs. 10 min. 2 hrs. 10 min. 1 hr. 45 min. 1 hr. 45 min. 1 hr. 45 min. 1 hr. 15 min. 1 hr. 15 min. 1 hr. 15 min. 1 hr. 45 min. 1 hr. 45 min. | [To Central Naha City] - By Monorail (to Asahibashi Sta.) 11 min. ¥270 - By Bus 15 min. ¥240 |  |

\*Chubu Int'l Airport (Centrair). / Note: Airfares vary depending on the season.

JAL = Japan Airlines, ANA = All Nippon Airways, JTA = Japan Transocean Air, RAC = Ryukyu Air Commuter, SKY = Sky Mark Airlines JJP = Jet Star, SNJ = Solaseed Air, VNL = Vanilla Air, APJ = Peach Aviation

#### By Sea:

| From                  | То   | Ву          | Approx. Travel Time | Price        |  |
|-----------------------|------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|--|
| Kagoshima Shinko Pier | Naha | Marue Ferry | 25 hrs. 30 min.     | From ¥14,880 |  |
| 鹿児島新港                 | 那覇   | マルエーフェリー    |                     | (2nd. class) |  |

Marue Ferry (A" Line): Tokyo Office Tel. (03) 5534-1337 / Osaka Office Tel. (06) 6341-8071

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\*See p. 8 for admission and opening times.

#### Places of Interest by Bus:

| То  | Route No                                    | Name of Bus Stop                                   |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| Okinawa Prefectural Museum & Art Museum<br>(沖縄県立博物館・美術館)            | 3, 7, 10, 11                                | Kenritsu Hakubutsukan-mae<br>(県立博物館前)              |  |
| Shurijo Castle  | 1, 14, 17, 346                              | Shurijo Koen Iriguchi(首里城公園入口)                     |  |
| (首里城)   | 7, 8  | Shurijo-mae(首里城前)                                  |  |
| Shikinaen Garden (識名園)  | 2, 4, 3, 5, 14                              | Shikinaen-mae(識名園前)                                |  |
| Himeyuri Monument / Himeyuri Peace Museum<br>(ひめゆりの塔/ひめゆり平和資料館)     | *82, *107, *108                             | Himeyurinotou-mae<br>(ひめゆりの塔前)                     |  |
| Mabuni Hill / Peace Memorial Park (摩文仁の丘/平和祈念公園)                    | *82   | Heiwakinendo Iriguchi(平和祈念堂入口)                     |  |
| Okinawa World (おきなわワールド)  | 54, *81, *82, 83                            | Gyokusendo-mae (玉泉洞前)                              |  |
| Chinen Marine Leisure Center (知念海洋レジャーセンター)                         | 38  | Chinen Marine Leisure Center (知念海洋レジャーセンター)        |  |
| Sefa Utaki (斎場御嶽)   | 38  | Sefa Utaki-iriguchi<br>(斎場御嶽入口)                    |  |
| Southeast Botanical Garden (東南植物楽園)<br>20 min. walk from Bus Stop   | 90  | Okinawa-shi Nomin Kenshu Center-mae (沖縄市農民研修センター前) |  |
| Ryukyumura Village(琉球村)   | 20, 420                                     | Ryukyumura-mae (琉球村前)                              |  |
|   | 20, 120                                     | Onnason Yakuba-mae(恩納村役場前)                         |  |
| Manzamo (万座毛)   | OAS<br>(Okinawa Airport Shuttle)            | Nabee Beach-mae (ナビービーチ前)                          |  |
| Ocean EXPO Park<br>(Okinawa Commemorative National Gov. Park 海洋博公園) | OAS, 117                                    | Kinenkoen-mae                                      |  |
| Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium (沖縄美ら海水族館)                                | YKB (Yanbaru Kyuko Bus)<br>**65. **66. **70 | (記念公園前)  |  |
| Tropical Dream Center (熱帯ドリームセンター)                                  | 05, 00, 70                                  |  |  |

<sup>\*:</sup> From Itoman Bus Terminal

#### Sightseeing Taxis: (English spoken)

Okinawa-ken Kojin Taxi Kumiai Tel. (0120) 768-555 (Okinawa Pref. Owner-driver taxi business cooperative society)

#### **Places of Interest:**

#### Central Naha City

Kokusai Street (国際通り) As Naha's main street and downtown shop district. There are hotels, stores, souvenir shops, and many other stores lined up and down this lively 1.6 km street.

Makishi Public Markets(第一牧志公設市場)If you walk down Ichiba Hondori Street that runs from the area around Okinawa Mitsukoshi Department Store, you will find Ryukyu-glass work, imported goods, clothes and even plaster Shiisa (Lion-Dogs). There are some restaurants on the 2nd floor that cooks the stuff you bought at the 1st floor's with a cooking fee. Please note that the market is scheduled to move 300 m away in Jul. due to reconstruction. 8 min. walk from Miebashi Monorail Sta. Open: 8:00–21:00. Closed: 4th Sun., Jan. 1–3 & Chinese New Year. \*Extra closure from mid Jun. 2019 for 2 weeks.

Tsuboya Pottery Museum (壺屋焼物博物館), 10 min. walk from Makishi Monorail Sta., displays Okinawa's ceramic history, technique and progress of Tsuboya-yaki and characteristic Tsuboya-yaki's work. Open: 10:00—18:00. Closed: Mon. (When Mon. is a national holiday, the day will be opened) & Dec. 28—Jan. 4. Admission: ¥350.

**Fukushu-en Garden** (福州園) is a 10-min. walk from Kencho-mae Monorail Sta. This authentic Chinese garden has 8,500 m² of grass area. All buildings are made of wood. Entrance and exit gate towards the four points of the compass. Each gate has a different style and traditional Chinese structure. Open: 9:00–18:00. Closed: Wed. (or the follwing day after the holiday when Wed. falls on a national holiday). Admission: ¥200.

Okinawa Prefectural Museum & Art Museum (沖縄県立博物館・美術館) is a 10-min. walk from Omoromachi Monorail Sta. In the permanent exhibition of the museum, you can see Okinawa's nature, history and culture. The collection of the Art museum is composed of contemporary arts related to Okinawa, Japan and Asia. Both museum also present special and planned exhibitions. Open: 9:00–18:00, –20:00 (Fri. & Sat.). Closed: Mon. (or the follwing day after the holiday when Mon. falls on a national holiday or Okinawa Memorial Day) & Dec. 29–Jan. 1. Admission of permanent exhibition: ¥530 for Museum, ¥400 for Art Museum.

#### Major Rent-a-car Agents in Naha:

| Nippon Rent-a-Car (日本レンタカー)       | Tel. (098) 868-4554 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| ORIX Rent-a-Car (オリックスレンタカー)      | Tel. (098) 851-0543 |
| Toyota Rent-a-Lease (トヨタレンタリース沖縄) | Tel. (098) 857-0100 |
| Nissan Rent-a-Car (日産レンタカー)       | Tel. (0120) 00-4123 |
| OTS Rent-a-Car (OTSレンタカー)         | Tel. (0120) 34-3732 |
|                                   |                     |

#### Shurijo Castle Park & Vicinity

Shurijo Castle Park (首里城公園), 15 min. walk from Shuri Monorail Sta., is a national park as well as a world heritage. In an old section of Naha City overlooking the downtown district, the park was once the seat of the Ryukyu Dynasty which reigned from 1429 to 1879. It abounds in historical relics including Shurijo Castle.

- ①Tamaudun Royal Mausoleum (玉陵), designated as a World Heritage Site is the tomb of an ancient Okinawan king, which was built in 1501. The mausoleum is built into a large natural rocky hill-side. Open: 9:00–18:00. Admission: ¥300.
- ②Shureimon Gate (守礼門) is one of the restored gates of the ruined Shurijo Castle.
- ③Stone Gate of the Sonohyan Utaki (園比屋武御嶽石門), designated as a World Heritage Site, was used by the kings to pray for safe journeys.
- ④ Shurijo Castle Site (首里城跡) is designated as a World Heritage Site. The structures of Shurijo Castle, restoration works finished in 2019, has a notable unique design influenced by Chinese, Japanese and Okinawan styles.

Because of fire on Oct. 2019, Shurijo Castle Site had been partialy restricted to enter. More information https://oki-park.jp/shurijo/en/.

- ®Stone-paved path at Kinjo District (金城町石畳), a 15-min. walk from Shurijo Castle Park, is lined with old-style houses with red-tiled roofs and stone walls.
- ⑨Shikina-en Garden (識名園), designated as a World Heritage Site, is a beautiful garden where the detached villa of an old royal family of Okinawa once stood. 15 min. by bus or taxi from Kinjo District. Open: 9:00–17:30 (Oct.–Mar.) –18:00 (Apr.–Sep.). Closed: Wed. (or the follwing day after the holiday when Wed. falls on a national holiday or Okinawa Memorial Day) & Okinawa Memorial Day. Admission: ¥400.

<sup>\*\*:</sup> From Nago Bus Terminal

\*See p. 8 for admission and opening times.

#### Southern Part of Okinawa

Okinawa was a major battleground during World War II. Among relics and monuments associated with the tragic war are:

Himeyuri Monument (ひめゆりの塔), 60 min. by bus was erected to console the memories of 222 high school female students, worked as a nurse during the war, and their teachers who committed mass suicide to prevent their capture by the Allied Forces. Himeyuri Peace Museum (ひめゆり平和資料館) Open: 9:00–17:30. Admission: ¥310.

Mabuni Hill (摩文仁の丘) in the Peace Memorial Park (平和祈念公園), 60 min. by bus from Naha, commands a beautiful and peaceful view of the southern part of Okinawa, was a battle site during the war. Casualties on both sides were many. On the hill stand the Okinawa Peace Memorial Hall and many monuments for the war dead contructed by the prefectures of Japan.

Okinawa World is a leisure land re-creating an ancient Okinawa village including Gyokusendo (玉泉洞). Gyokusendo is the longest limestone cave in the Orient. 890 m is open to the public (Total length is about 5 km). You can see an Okinawa textile fabrics and glass making, demonstration Ryukyu-dance and Ryukyu folk song on the stage. Also there are Habu (venomous pit viper of Ryukyu) Park and Tropical Fruit Garden. Open: 9:00–18:00 (enter by 17:00). Admission: ¥1,700.

Valley of Gangala (ガンガラーの合), located in front of Okinawa World, is a forested valley which formed when a limestone cave collapsed. The guided tour, which takes 80 minutes, will bring you into close contact with nature passed down from ancient times. There are 4 tours daily (10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00). Tours should be booked in advance, but will be cancelled in case of bad weather. Admission: ¥2,500.

Chinen Marine Leisure Center (知念海洋レジャーセンター) at the tip of Cape Chinen is noted for its beautiful coral reefs and emerald green sea. Colorful coral reefs and tropical fish can be seen from a glass-bottomed boat (¥1,400 for a 25min. ride). A high-speed boat service is also available to a secluded island off the cape where you can enjoy swimming and diving. Open: 9:00–17:00 (Oct.–Mar.), –17:30 (Apr.–Sep.).

#### Middle & Northern Parts of Okinawa

**Southeast Botanical Garden** (東南植物楽園), in its  $400,000~\text{m}^2$  in size, has 100 species of plants, 3,000 kinds of tropical flowers and 200 tropical fruit trees collected from all over the world. Open: 9:00–22:00 (enter by 21:00). Admission ¥1,500.

**Ryukyu-mura Village** (琉球村) is a leisure center developed at the foot of Takoyama Hill. There are 7 different types of tropical Ryukyu (Old Okinawa)- style houses and exhibit of Okinawa handicrafts. You can experience traditional Ryukyu culture through meals, cultural trials and art performance events. Open: 9:00–17:30. Admission: ¥1,500.

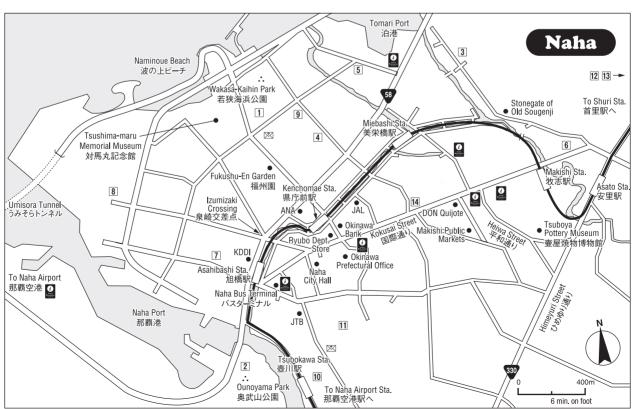
Manzamo (万座毛) is a grass plateau jutting into Nago Bay. The scenic view available here is said to be one of the best in Okinawa. Cobalt blue waters constantly spray the sheer coral cliffs. Nearby are many fine bathing beaches including Manza Beach.

**Murasakimura** (むら咲むら), located in the south of the middle part, is an exciting cultural park modeled after a town of the ancient Ryukyu Kingdom. It offers various hands-on attractions where you can truly experience Okinawa such as Shisa (an Okinawan stone guardian lion) Bingata textiles, and glassware as well as marine sports. There is a hotel in the park.

Ocean EXPO Park (Okinawa Commemorative National Park) (海洋博記念公園), about 3 hrs. by bus from Naha, is a national park. Originally constructed for the 1975 Ocean EXPO, this is the largest theme park in Okinawa. The Y-shaped coral sand Emerald Beach is located at the northernmost end of the park. This is the only beach in Japan located within a lagoon and the water is rated "AA", making this a beautiful clean bathing spot.

Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium (沖縄美ら海水族館) is the world's first aquarium designed to raise multiple whale sharks and mantas. Open: 8:30–18:30 (Oct.–Feb.), –20:00 (Mar.–Sep.) enter 1hr. before closing time Closed: 1st Wed. & Thu. of Dec. Admission: ¥1,880.

**Tropical Dream Center** (熱帯ドリームセンター) is famous for 2,000 orchids and tropical plants flowering throughout the year. Open: 8:30–19:00 (Mar.–Sep.), –17:30 (Oct.–Feb.). Admission: ¥760.



1 - 14 correspond to those in the accommodations list on page 6/8

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\*See p. 8 for admission and opening times.

#### Other Islands near Okinawa Island

#### Kumejima Island (久米島)

Located 100 km (60 miles) west of Okinawa Island, **Kumejima Island** is reached in 30 min. by plane from Naha. Regarded by many as the most beautiful island in Okinawa, Kumejima offers unforgettable sights such as Eef Beach, Hate no Hama Beach and Tatami-ishi.

**Eef Beach**, one of the top 100 beaches in Japan, is Kumejima's largest resort

**Hate no Hama Beach** is a 7 km long white sandy island off the coast of Kumejima. You can enjoy snorkeling, glass bottom boat trips, and many other beach activities. The contrast between the white sand and beautiful clear emerald water captivates everyone who visits the beach. In the southwest part of the island is a mosaic of over 1,000 pentagonal and hexagonal stones, called **Tatami-ishi**, or "Turtle Shell Rocks". It takes 2 hrs. 50 min. by ferry from Tomari Port in Naha City, or 30 minutes by air from Naha Airport.

#### Kerama Islands (慶良間諸島)

Approximately 40 km (25 miles) west of Naha City, the Kerama Islands consist of more than 20 islands of various sizes. The Keramas are famous among scuba-divers for having some of the most transparent, beautiful water in the world, which are filled with coral reefs and colorful tropical reef fish, and there are also many fun beach activities to enjoy. Whales migrate to the islands in winter and visitors can experience exciting whale-watching tours. 70 min. by ferry from Tomari Port in Naha City to Kerama's biggest island, Tokashiki Island. Registered as a National Park in Mar. 2014.

#### MIYAKO ISLAND & ISHIGAKI ISLAND

#### Access to Miyako Island (宮古島) and Ishigaki Island (石垣島): By Air:

| From  |                           | То                    | Operated by   | Approx. Travel Time  | Access to Downtown                                      |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|---|
| Haneda (Tokyo)<br>Kansai (Osaka)<br>Chubu* (Nagoya)<br>Naha<br>Ishigaki Is.<br>Tarama Is.         | 羽田<br>関西部<br>那覇垣島<br>多良間島 | Miyako Is.<br>(宮古島)   | ANA, JTA<br>ANA<br>ANA<br>ANA, JTA, RAC<br>RAC<br>RAC                                   | 3 hrs. 20 min.<br>2 hrs. 45 min.<br>2 hrs. 55 min.<br>50 min.<br>30 min.<br>20 min.                                  | [To Hirara]<br>- By Bus<br>10 min. ¥230                 |
| Naha Haneda (Tokyo) Narita (Tokyo) Kansai (Osaka) Chubu* (Nagoya) Fukuoka Miyako Is. Yonaguni Is. | 那覇田田西部岡古島宮井那国島島島          | Ishigaki Is.<br>(石垣島) | ANA, JTA, RAC, VNL, SNA<br>ANA, JTA<br>VNL<br>ANA, JTA, APJ<br>ANA<br>ANA<br>RAC<br>RAC | 1 hr. 5 min. 3 hrs. 30 min. 3 hrs. 55 min. 2 hrs. 50 min. 3 hrs. 5 min. 2 hrs. 5 min. 2 hrs. 15 min. 35 min. 30 min. | [To Ishigaki Port Terminal]<br>- By Bus<br>35 min. ¥540 |

\*Chubu Int'l Airport (Centrair).

Note: Airfares vary depending on the season.

#### Mivako Island (宮古島)

About 300 km southwest of Okinawa Island, is like a heaven for skin and scuba divers. The whole island, planted with sugar cane, is surrounded by white sandy beaches washed by the emerald green sea. The island is noted for the unique Miyako jofu fabric. An International Triathlon Competition is held every year in April. The island is free of Habu, the poisonous snake common to some southern regions.

#### **Access to Places of Interest:**

Although infrequent, a regular bus service runs from the main area Hirara to places of interest. It is most advisable to do the sights by taxi or rent-a-car. Bicycles and bikes can also be rented.

#### **Places of Interest:**

Nakasone Toyumiya's Tomb (仲宗根豊見親墓), in Hirara area, was built with pieces of coral arranged in the shape of a stairway that attests to the skill of the 15th century stonemasons.

**Tax Stone** (人頭税石), also in Hirara area, is supposed to have been used to levy taxes from the 17th to the 19th centuries. All the inhabitants were taxed when they grew to be the same height as the stone (1.4 m high).

**Sunayama Beach** (砂山ビーチ), 15 min. by car from Hirara area, is small but excellent for swimming. The natural crescent of heaped coral and white sands harmonize to from a point of scenic beauty.

**Miyako jima City Botanical Garden** (宮古島市熱帯植物園), 15 min. by car from Hirara area, with an area of 120,000 m²., has 40,000 tropical and subtropical plants and trees growing there all the year round. Admission: Free

**Maehama Beach** (前浜ビーチ), 20 min. by car from Hirara area, and then 15 min. walk, directly facing Kurima Island (home to the migratory hawk Sashiba), is a 7-km stretch of white sandy beach, one of the best swimming sites on the island. Campsites available.

Cape Higashi Henna (東平安名崎), 40 min. by car from Hirara area, and then 50 min. walk at the east end of the island, has a 20 m cliff overlooking the East China Sea to the left and the Pacific Ocean to the right. Designated as a Special Place of Scinic Beauty.

**Muiga Cliff** (ムイガー断崖), 30 min. by car from Hirara area, and then a 20-min. walk, is a 30 m sharp curved cliff. From here, the view of the Pacific Ocean and Cape Higashi Henna is breathtaking.

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\*See p. 8 for admission and opening times.

#### Ishigaki Island (石垣島)

65 min. by plane from Naha Airport, about 120 km further southwest of Miyako Island, is also noted for its emerald green water and white sandy beaches. The island is also well-known for its pineapples and black pearls which are unique to this island. Ishigaki Island is also said to be the gateway for visits to other Yaeyama Islands further in the south.

#### **Access to Places of Interest:**

There is a bus service circling the island, but it runs infrequently. Sightseeing buses (in Japanese), taxis, rent-a-car and rent-a-cycle services can also be contracted.

#### **Places of Interest:**

**Miyara Donchi** (宮良殿内), a 20-min. walk from Ishigaki Port, was built in 1819. It is the only remaining home of a high-ranking samurai in Okinawa. It features a red-tiled pyramidal roof with a strong stone fence and a rock garden of limestone. Open: 9:00–17:00. Closed: Tue. Admission: ¥200.

**Torin-ji Temple** (桃林寺), a 15-min. walk from Ishigaki Port, is a Buddhist temple of the Rinzai Sect built in 1614. The two king images at the entrance are believed to be the guardian deities of the island.

Yaeyama Museum (八重山博物館), a 20-min. walk from Ishigaki Port, displays 300 items from the Yaeyama people's daily lives. Open: 9:00 –17:00. Closed: Mon., national holidays & Dec. 29–Jan. 3. Admission: ¥200.

Chinese Grave (唐人墓), 20 min. by taxi from Ishigaki Port, is the grave of 128 Chinese who died from many causes following their shipwreck in 1852. The bow-shaped roof and colors are exotic.

Kabira Bay (川平湾), 40 min. by bus ride from Ishigaki Port, is one of the most scenic spots with its white sands opening onto an emerald sea dotted with tiny islets. It is also a culturing area for the unique black pearl found here.

**Sukuji Beach** (底地ビーチ), a 30-min. walk from Kabira Park, is excellent for swimming with white sands and shallow waters reaching afar. Diving and fishing are also to be enjoyed.

Mangrove Wood along Miyara River (宮良川のマングローブ), 30 min. by bus from Ishigaki Port, is a real attraction for its size and number of mangrove trees. About 500 Yaeyama-yashi Palm Colony of Yonehara are also worth seeing.

#### Major taxi and rent-a-car services in Miyako/Ishigaki Island:

|              |                                 | Sightseeing taxis                          | Rent-a-car  |   |  |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Miyako Is.   | Yachiyo Taxi<br>Kyoei Taxi      |  | Nippon Rent-a-car<br>Toyota Rent-a-car<br>Nissan Rent-a-car | Tel. (0980) 72-0919<br>Tel. (0980) 75-0100<br>Tel. (0980) 73-7723 |  |
| Ishigaki Is. | Ishigaki Taxi<br>Sakishima Taxi | Tel. (0980) 82-3088<br>Tel. (0980) 82-3988 | Nippon Rent-a-car<br>Toyota Rent-a-car<br>Nissan Rent-a-car | Tel. (0980) 82-3629<br>Tel. (0980) 82-0100<br>Tel. (0980) 84-4123 |  |

#### TAKETOMI ISLAND

**Taketomi Island** (竹富島), 10-15 min. by boat from Ishigaki Island, is only 9 km in circumference and is made entirely of coral. Private houses with red tiles surrounded by coral walls are scattered about and retain traces of olden times. While bicycling on ancient Taketomi roads surrounded by white sand made from coral, you can see carts pulled by water buffalo, relish the tropical atmosphere and enjoy bananas, hibiscus and bougainvillaea in bloom. The island is also noted for its star-shaped crystalline sand, which is rapidly dwindling.

Rent-a-cycle: ¥400 per hour; ¥2,000 a day Buffalo carts (水牛車): ¥1,500 for 30 min. per person

Nitta Kanko (新田観光): Tel. (0980) 85-2103

Taketomi Kanko Center (竹富観光センター): Tel. (0980) 85-2998

#### IRIOMOTE ISLAND

**Iriomote Island** (西表島) is reached in 40-55 min. by boat from Ishigaki Island. It has an area of 289 km² and a population of about 2,400. With the largest coral reef in Japan stretching 20 km long and 15 km wide, this island is a tropical paradise. Nearly 90 percent of the island is covered by a primeval jungle predominately of mangrove, palm and banyan trees. This island is also famous as the habitat of the Iriomote

wild cat. An atmosphere of unspoiled nature, free from the hustle, bustle, and pollution of urbanized city life, is the most attractive asset of this island. For individuals, sightseeing is difficult, since there are only a few taxis or regular bus services. There are many sightseeing tours from Ishigaki Island operated by several travel agencies.

#### By Sea:

| From            | То                                | Operated by                              | Approx. Travel Time | Price* |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------|--------|
| Ishigaki Island | Taketomi Island                   |  | 10-15 min.          | ¥700   |
|                 | Iriomote Island<br>Ohara Port 大原港 | <u>Yaeyama Kanko Ferry</u><br>Anei Kanko | 35-40 min.          | ¥1,830 |
|                 | Uehara Port 上原港                   |  | 40-45 min.          | ¥2,390 |

\*Fuel surcharge included.

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\*See p. 8 for admission and opening times.

#### **Accommodations:**

| Name of facilities                               | Tel.           | Room<br>rate (¥) | Name of facilities                          | Tel.            | Room<br>rate (¥) |
|--|----------------|------------------|---|-----------------|------------------|
| Okinawa Main Island                              |                |                  | Ishigaki Island                             |                 |                  |
| Naha City:                                       |                |                  | Ishigaki City:                              |                 |                  |
| 1 Victoria Hotel (BH)                            | (098) 868-0701 | ¥                | 23 Rakutenya (M)                            | (0980) 83-8713  | ¥                |
| 2 Okinawa Int'l Youth Hostel (Y)                 | (098) 857-0073 | ¥                | 24 Hotel Emerald Isle Ishigakijima (H)      | (0980) 82-2111  | ¥                |
| 3 City Front Harumi YH (Y)                       | (098) 867-3218 | ¥                | 25 Art Hotel Ishigaki (H)                   | (0980) 83-3311  | ¥¥               |
| 4 Hotel Taira (BH)                               | (098) 868-4515 |                  | 26 Hotel Miyahira (H)                       | (0980) 82-6111  | ¥¥               |
| 5 Okinawa Oriental Hotel (BH)                    | (098) 868-0883 | ¥                | 27 ANA Intercontinental Ishigaki resort (H) | (0980) 88-7111  | ¥¥¥              |
| 6 Hotel Royal Orion (H)                          | (098) 866-5533 | ¥¥               | Kabira:                                     |                 |                  |
| 7 Nest Hotel (H)                                 | (098) 868-1118 | ¥                | 28 Ishigaki Seaside Hotel (H)               | (0980) 88-2421  | ¥¥               |
| 8 Pacific Hotel Okinawa (H)                      | (098) 868-5162 | ¥¥               |   |                 |                  |
| 9 Roco Inn Okinawa (BH)                          | (098) 869-6511 | ¥                | Taketomi Island                             |                 |                  |
| 10 Mercure Okinawa Naha (H)                      | (098) 855-7111 | ¥                | 29 Ohama-so (M)                             | (0980) 85-2226  | ¥                |
| 11 ANA Crowne Plaza Okinawa Harborview (H)       | (098) 853-2111 | ¥¥               | 30 Izumiya (M)                              | (090) 5943-5165 | ¥                |
| 12 Doubletree By HILTON Naha Shuri Castle (H)    | (098) 886-5454 | ¥                | 31 YH Takana Ryokan (Y)                     | (0980) 85-2151  | ¥                |
| 13 Novotel Okinawa Naha (H)                      | (098) 887-1111 | ¥¥               |   |                 |                  |
| 14 Hotel Jal City Naha (H)                       | (098) 866-2580 | ¥¥               | Iriomote Island                             |                 |                  |
| Onna Village:                                    |                |                  | 32 Akebono-kan (M)                          | (0980) 85-6151  | ¥                |
| 15 Maeda Misaki Divers House (M)                 | (098) 965-6459 | ¥                | 33 Irumote-so Youth Hostel (Y)              | (0980) 85-6255  | ¥                |
| 16 Hotel Moon Beach (H)                          | (098) 965-1020 | ¥¥               | 34 Nirakanai Iriomote (H)                   | (0980) 85-7111  | ¥¥               |
| 17 ANA intercontinental Manza Beach resort (H)   | (098) 966-1211 | ¥¥               |   |                 |                  |
| Motobu Town:                                     |                |                  | Kume Island                                 |                 |                  |
| 18 Vintage Centurion Resort Okinawa Churaumi (H) | (0980) 48-3631 | ¥                | 35 Dormitory Kumi (D)                       | (098) 985-2522  | ¥                |
|  |                |                  | 36 Nankurunaisa (M)                         | (098) 985-7973  | ¥                |
| Miyako Island                                    |                |                  | 37 Cypress Resort Kumejima (H)              | (098) 985-3700  | ¥                |
| Miyakojima City:                                 |                |                  |   |                 |                  |
| 19 Hotel New Marukatsu (H)                       | (0980) 72-9936 |                  |   |                 |                  |
| 20 Kawada-so (M)                                 | (0980) 72-3368 |                  |   |                 |                  |
| 21 Hotel Kyowa (H)                               | (0980) 73-2288 | ¥                |   |                 |                  |
| Maehama Beach:                                   |                |                  |   |                 |                  |
| 22 Miyakojima Tokyu Hotel & Resorts (H)          | (0980) 76-2109 | ¥¥¥              |   |                 |                  |

#### Remarks:

 $\boxed{1}$  –  $\boxed{37}$  correspond to those on the maps 3/8, 7/8 & 8/8

H = Hotel Rate for a twin room
BH = Business Hotel Rate per person
Y = Youth Hostel Rate per person
M = Minshuku (family-run inn) Rate per person
D = Dormitory Rate per person

¥¥¥ = more than 15,000 yen ¥¥ = 8,001 yen - 15,000 yen ¥ = 8,000 yen or less

\*Standard basis rate (no meals, taxes included)



## Okinawa Tourist Information Center (near monorail Asahibashi Sta.):

2nd fl. of Naha Bus Terminal, 1-20-6 Izumizaki, Naha City, Okinawa Hours: 9:00–21:00 Tel.: 098-953-8271

#### Hirata Tourism Co., Ltd. (Ishigaki Ferry Terminal):

visit https://tic.jnto.go.jp/

1 Misaki-cho, Ishigaki City, Okinawa Hours: 7:30–18:00

To find other Tourist Information Centers,



Tel.: 0980-82-6711

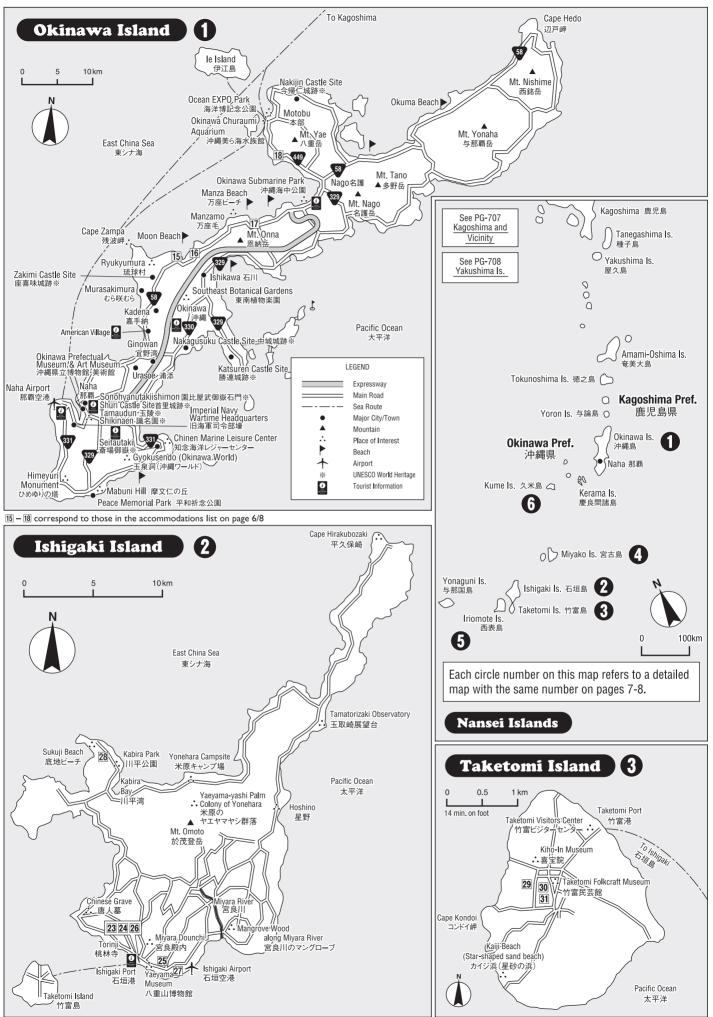
Goodwill Guide Groups offer tourists from overseas local tours guided in English or other languages. The guides are registered with JNTO and display the badge shown. As they are volunteers, there is no charge for their service. You are

only expected to pay for their transportation, admission to tourist facilities if you visit any and their meals if you eat with them.

#### **INTO** Website

https://www.japan.travel/en/plan/list-of-volunteer-guides/

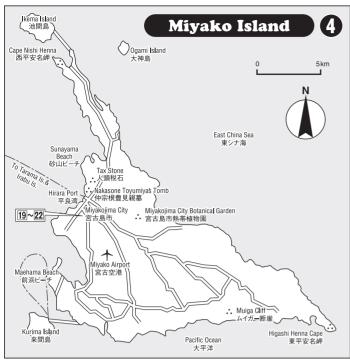
\*See p. 8 for admission and opening times.

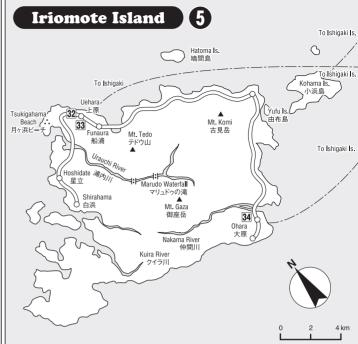


23 - 28 correspond to those in the accommodations list on page 6/8

29 - 31 correspond to those in the accommodations list on page 6/8

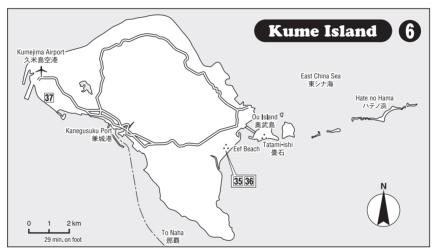
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19 - 22 correspond to those in the accommodations list on page 6/8

32 - 34 correspond to those in the accommodations list on page 6/8



35 - 37 correspond to those in the accommodations list on page 6/8



### JNTO TIC (Tourist Information Center)

TIC of Japan National Tourism Organization is your helping hand while in Japan. Its main services are providing travel information and free literature on Japan such as tourist spots, transportation, and suggesting tour itineraries, etc.

1F, Shin-Tokyo Bldg., 3-3-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0005 Tel. 03-3201-3331 (in Japan) Open daily from 9:00 to 18:00 (Closed on Jan. 1) https://www.japan.travel/en/plan/tic/

- [Good to know] Admission and opening times at tourist attractions: • Last entry to the most of attractions is 30 min. before the closing time.
- In general, if their weekly closing day (most are on Mon.) falls on a national holiday, they are open on the day and are closed on the following day after the holiday(s).
- Most are closed throughout / a part of New Year holiday period (especially Dec. 29-Jan. 3).
- · Please visit the official website of each place / your nearest tourist information center for the updates.

#### JNTO Website: https://www.jnto.go.jp

All information, including transportation schedules, fares, prices and accommodation charges which is contained in this leaflet is based on data as of November 2019, and is subject to change without notice. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of all information, regrettably errors do occasionally occur. Therefore, you should check with organizations concerned for updated and accurate information on your chosen destination. JNTO shall not be liable for any loss or damage of whatever nature that may arise as a result, directly or indirectly, from the use of any of the information or material contained in this leaflet.