

Tourism Information

Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau

Okinawa Industrial Support Center 2nd Floor
1831-1 Oroku, Naha City, Okinawa Japan

TEL +81-98-859-6123

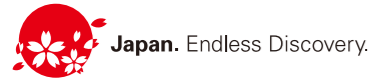
FAX +81-98-859-6222

URL <http://www.visitokinawa.jp/>

Okinawa Prefectural Government Tourism Promotion Division

Okinawa Prefecture Hall / 1-2-2 Izumizaki, Naha City

TEL +81-98-866-2764



OKINAWA

CRUISE PORTS GUIDE



Why is Okinawa such a great cruise area?

Okinawa is a gateway to Japan and Far East Asia

As Japan's southernmost point, Okinawa is located in the center of the East China Sea, making it easily worked into itineraries as either a starting or ending point to many tour cruises around Japan. It is also recommended as a destination to tour cruises that connect to Far East Asia, including Taiwan, China, and South Korea. The Port of Naha, the heart of Okinawa, is located approximately 335 miles (620km) from Taiwan and 443 miles (820km) from Shanghai.

A cornucopia of coral, ocean, and subtropical forest

While most of the islands in Okinawa prefecture are subtropical, some islands, including Ishigaki, Iriomote, and Yonaguni, are located in the tropics, giving them a unique natural environment within the Japanese archipelago. Schools of tropical fish swim amongst the sparkling turquoise-blue coral reefs, creating a natural aquarium. Rare animals, such as the Okinawa Rail and Iriomote Cat, also inhabit the forests of northern Okinawa Island and Iriomote.

Ryukyu's unique culture and heritage

Okinawa was once an independent nation that flourished under the reign of Ryukyu kings. Nine locations, including Shuri-jo and Nakagusuku-jo, have been designated as world heritage sites as "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu," and are reminiscent of ancient times. The colorful traditional dances and arts passed down from the time of the Ryukyu kingdom are still passed down today. Tours in which guests can experience traditional fabric dyeing, called "bingata," are popular with European and North American cruise passengers.

A shopping, gourmet, and resort haven

There are several massive shopping centers and outlet malls located in Naha, which are particularly popular with tourists from Asia. Okinawa is also known for its unique flavors and local dishes, made with fresh seafood, pork, beef, and vegetables. As one of Asia's best marine resorts, there is also no lack of marine activities, such as snorkeling, diving, and fishing.

Special Incentives

The Okinawa Convention and Visitors Bureau is preparing various incentives to support cruise ships make port calls. Please feel free to contact the bureau.



Distances between Okinawa's major cruise ports

	NAHA	HIRARA	ISHIGAKI	KEELUNG	SHANGHAI	BUSAN	HONGKONG	TOKYO
TOKYO	839 (1,554)	1,020 (1,889)	1,074 (1,989)	1,159 (2,146)	1,057 (1,958)	687 (1,272)	1,614 (2,989)	—
HONGKONG	777 (1,439)	724 (1,341)	640 (1,185)	511 (946)	844 (1,563)	1,153 (2,135)	—	—
BUSAN	539 (998)	653 (1,209)	711 (1,317)	715 (1,324)	478 (885)	—	—	—
SHANGHAI	442 (819)	462 (856)	520 (963)	425 (787)	—	—	—	—
KEELUNG	336 (622)	213 (395)	129 (239)	—	—	—	—	—
ISHIGAKI	235 (435)	84 (156)	—	—	—	—	—	—
HIRARA	181 (335)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NAHA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



PORT OF NAHA

Naha, the capital of Okinawa, is the center of the prefecture's politics, economy, and culture. Its subtropical maritime climate means that it experiences little change in temperature throughout the year, with an average yearly temperature of 23 degrees Celsius.

The Port of Naha, the prefecture's largest port, is a hub port for both people and cargo, and serves not only as a gateway to various Far East Asian countries such as neighboring China and Taiwan, but also functions as a node point for shipping routes connecting to outlying isolated islands and the mainland. The Port of Naha can also accommodate large passenger vessels, from 100,000-140,000-grt-class ships. For Wakasa Cruise Berth, a construction plan of new terminal is under way at the moment.

Okinawa Island was the center of the Kingdom of Ryukyu, which flourished between the 15th and 19th centuries. The island houses several buildings and ruins from bygone days that have been designated as world heritage sites. Traditional performances and handiwork are also a must-see.

Contact us Naha Port Authority

TEL +81-98-868-4544
E-MAIL kumiai@nahaport.jp
URL www.nahaport.jp

PASSENGER TERMINAL

Name			
Wakasa Cruise Berth Shinko Terminal, Wharves No.5 & No.7			
Location			
Cruise Berth:Wakasa, Naha Wharf No.5: 1-2 Minatomachi, Naha Wharf No.7: 1-204 Minatomachi, Naha			
Nearest Station (Time Req.)			
Cruise Berth: Monorail "Kencho-mae" Station (15minutes walk) Wharves No.5 & No.7: Local Bus Stop (walking distance) Monorail "Omoromachi" Station (15minutes by taxi)			
Access			
Station	same as above		
Airport	Naha Airport (Domestic & International) Approx. 10min. from Wakasa Cruise Berth by car and 15min. from Wharves No.5 & No.7		
Capacity			
	Wakasa Cruise Berth	Wharf No.5	Wharf No.7
Length	340m	390m	420m
Water Depth	-10.0m	-11.0m	-11.0m
Apron Width	20m	23m	20m
Boarding Bridges	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tidal Range	2.1m	2.1m	2.1m
Notices			
Maximum Aircraft	None		
Bay Pilot	Pilotage is not compulsory, however, it is recommended to use for safety.		
Harbor Pilot	Pilotage is not compulsory, however, it is recommended to use for safety.		
Tugboat	Tug is compulsory for international vessel over 500G/T.		



SERVICE & INCENTIVE

The most up-to-date tourist info, right at the port

A temporary tourist information center is set up upon arrival at the port. In addition to providing area maps and leaflets in English, Chinese, and Japanese to passengers and crewmembers, staff members also provide the most up-to-date tourist information in English, Chinese, and other languages. We can also call taxis for passengers on request. We also provide a currency exchange counter. The Okinawa Convention and Visitors Bureau homepage (<http://www.visitokinawa.jp>) also provides tourist information in English, Spanish, French, Dutch, Russian, Portuguese, traditional and simplified Chinese, and Korean that you can use to plan your stay.



Wakasa Cruise Berth (Futur Image)



A moving welcoming ceremony

Okinawa has several traditional centuries-old performances, but the most epic and brilliant of them all is a dance called the Eisa. With their bodies wrapped in tribal costumes, the performers dance furiously while beating their drums, making for a performance that is sure to stir anyone's soul.

The Eisa dance is frequently presented in front of passengers that dock at the Naha Port and other ports as a welcoming ceremony. You might even get to hear the rustic, melancholy tone of the sanshin (a type of string instrument), or the clear singing of an Okinawan folk song.

We consult with travel companies in order to plan and provide the ceremony best suited to the passenger's needs and desires. Please do not hesitate to make any requests, should you have any. We want to give you a warm welcoming performance.



Welcome Ceremony

Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau

TEL +81-98-859-6123 FAX +81-98-859-6222
URL <http://www.visitokinawa.jp>

RECOMMENDED TOUR COURSES

Visit a world heritage and Okinawa's nature/culture

Visit the Ryukyu royal family's private villa (a world heritage site) Shikina-en, Manza-mo and its breathtaking view of the East China Sea from the upthrust coral cliff, and Ryukyu Mura with its recreated traditional houses from around Okinawa. Experience Okinawa's nature, culture, and arts in this full-day course.

Time required : About 7 hours

Course :
Port of Naha, Shikina-en, Manza-mo, Ryukyu Mura, Port of Naha

Shuri-jo and Kokusai-dori

Go to Shuri-jo, a symbol of Ryukyu's dynastic period, and view the unique architectural beauty created from a mixture of Japanese, Chinese, and Ryukyu cultures. You will also visit Okinawa's busiest street, Kokusai-dori, where you can enjoy walking around or shopping at the lively Makishi Public Market.

Time required : About 4 hours

Course :
Port of Naha, Shuri-jo Park, Kokusai-dori, Makishi Public Market, Port of Naha

Ryukyu Bingata Experience

Experience the tradition of bingata, dying fabric, which has been practiced since the 15th century. You can even take home the finished bingata as a souvenir. Then, it's off to world heritage site Shuri-jo. While the original was destroyed in WWII, it was recreated in 1992. The castle is reminiscent of the Kingdom of Ryukyu.

Time required : About 4.5 hours

Course :
Port of Naha, Traditional bingata experience, Shuri-jo Park, Port of Naha

PORT OF MOTOBU



1 Nakijin Castle Ruins

Nakijin Castle, built on a hill, was the castle of the king of the north. Its walls stretch 1.5 km in length. It was designated as a world heritage site in 2000.



2 Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium

An aquarium where guests can experience Okinawa's oceans. It hosts impressive creatures, such as whale sharks and manta alfredi, that guests can see from behind the world's largest acrylic panels.



3 Traditional Bise Village

A small, traditional village located five minutes by car from the aquarium. The village is arranged in a grid pattern, and traditional Okinawan houses surrounded by local garcinia trees line the streets.



4 Minnajima

A small, crescent-shaped island located 15 minutes by ferry from the Port of Toguchi. Port of Toguchi is only 5 minutes from Port of Motobu. Surrounded by coral reef, the island has white sand and extremely clear water.



5 Manza-mo

Lauded as a scenic spot by the King of Ryukyu during a visit in the early 18th century. "Mo" means "an open field" in Okinawan, is said to be the most picturesque spot in Okinawa.



6 Ryukyu Mura

A theme park put together with various old structures from around Okinawa in order to recreate old Okinawa. Here, guests can enjoy performances, such as Ryukyu dances and karate performances.



Yachimun



Traditional 'bingata' Experience



8 Kokusai-dori (International Street)

Naha's main street, which stretches 1.6 km in length. It was called the "miracle mile" due to having the fastest reconstruction following the Pacific War. Now, it is a tourist spot lined with souvenir shops and Okinawan restaurants.



7 Shuri-jo Park

The royal palace when the Kingdom of Ryukyu was in its golden age in the 16th century. Shureimon, the palace gate, appears on the ¥2,000 bill. It was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2000.



9 Makishi Public Market

Vivid and colorful fish, pork meat blocks and fresh vegetables, the market is filled with liveliness and every food in Okinawa. You can catch a glimpse of Okinawan life and food culture at the popular market.



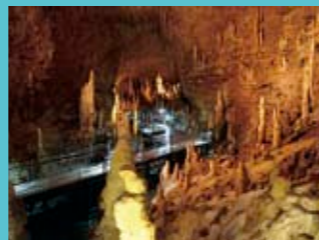
10 Shikina-en

A garden created for the Ryukyu royal family in 1800. The garden was used to entertain emissaries of the Chinese emperor. Designated as a world heritage site.



11 Former Imperial Navy Headquarters

A bomb shelter dug in 1944 during the Pacific War. It was used as the headquarters for the Japanese Imperial Navy. After the war, approximately 300m were reconstructed, including the commander's quarters.



12 Okinawa World

Here, guests can learn about Okinawa's history and culture through attractions such as a Ryukyu kingdom castle town and the five-kilometer long Gyokusendo stalactite cave.

Motobu is surrounded by natural scenery, and is known for its extremely clear water.

At the nearby Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium, guests can observe manatees and see dolphin shows. Swimming at Emerald Beach is another popular activity between April and October. Whale watching ship excursions from the Port of Motobu are also available between January and late March. The cherry blossoms at Yaedake are also famous for being the first in Japan to bloom. The flowers themselves are rather small, but they bathe the slope of Yaedake in pink, from foot to apex.

If your goal is to see the history of the Ryukyu dynasty, we recommend a visit to the Nakijin Castle Ruins, a world heritage site. Thought to be constructed in the late 13th century, its size is said to rival Shuri-jo. Expansion work for a cruise ship berth is now underway and a berth with 460-meter long, 7.5-9.0-meter deep (draft) and 32.5-meter wide (apron) is due for completion in 2014.

Contact us
Okinawa Prefectural Government Port Division

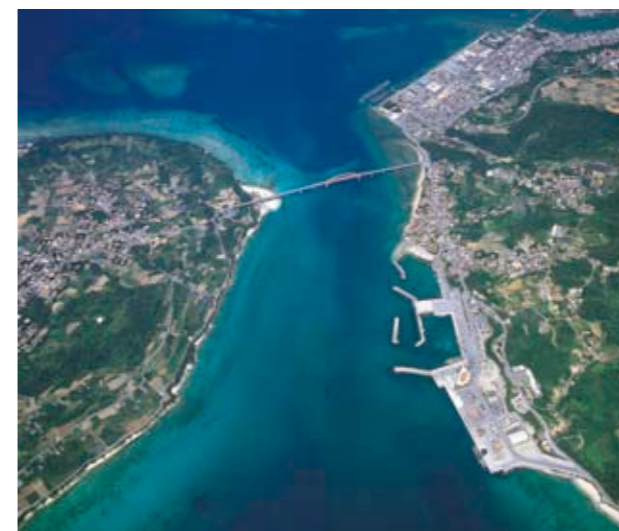
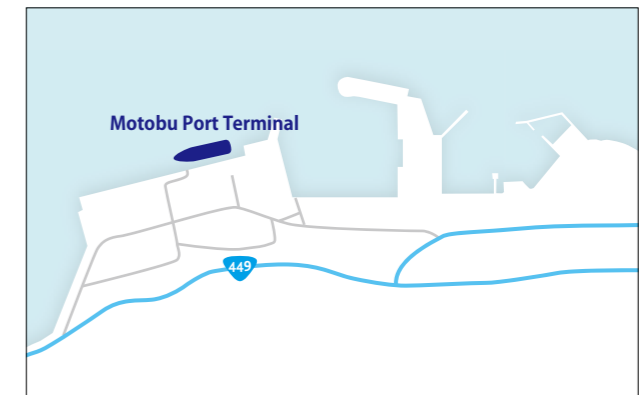
TEL +81-98-866-2395

E-MAIL aa062006@pref.okinawa.lg.jp

URL www.pref.okinawa.jp

PASSENGER TERMINAL

Name			
Motobu Port Terminal			
Location			
5235 Aza-Sakimotobu, Motobu Town, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture			
Access			
Rail Station	NONE		
Airport	Naha Airport (120min. by bus)		
Facilities			
Facility Overview	Customs, Immigration, Quarantine Lobby Approx.1,400m ²		
Length	Approx. 50m	Width	Approx. 50m
Height	Approx. 9m	Total Floor Space	Approx.1,400m ²
Capacity			
Length	330m	Boarding Bridges	NONE
Water Depth	7.5m	Tidal Range	2.0m
Apron Width	20m		



RECOMMENDED TOUR COURSES

A day at Ocean Expo Park

One-day tour to go around the facilities in the park including Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium - world's largest-class, Tropical Dream Center - displaying tropical plants, Okichan Theater - dolphin show, Sea Turtle Pool and Manatee House. Also visit the traditional Bise village only 5 minutes drive from the aquarium.

Time required : About 5 hours

Course :

Port of Motobu, Ocean Expo Park, Port of Motobu

PORT OF HIRARA

Miyako is the main island of the eight inhabited islands of the Miyako Islands, and is located approximately 162 miles from Okinawa Island. It is a flat island surrounded by a coral reef, and was connected to the Asian mainland in ancient times. The ocean changes colors depending on the sunlight, and the island's sand, a gift from the coral reef, is the most beautiful of any island in Okinawa, and captivates visitors.

The name "Miyako" is derived from the Okinawan word "myaaku," meaning "my home" or "a place where people live."

You can enjoy breathtaking ocean views, reminiscent of a time before man, from the bridges that connect Miyako with Ikema-jima and Kurima-jima. The island is also full of beautiful sandy beaches, one of which is called Sunayama Beach. Its caves made from protruding coral, turquoise-blue ocean, and white sand are hallmarks of Miyako Island. The whole island has the feeling of a healing space. Miyako is a true resort island that will cleanse both your body and soul.

Contact us
Miyakojima City Government

TEL +81-980-72-4876
E-MAIL s.yasunori@city.miyakojima.lg.jp
URL www.city.miyakojima.lg.jp

PASSENGER TERMINAL

Name	
Port of Hirara	
Location	
Hirara shimozato, Miyakojima City, Okinawa Prefecture	
Access	
Rail Station	NONE
Airport	Miyako Airport (Approx. 15 min. by taxi)
Facilities	
Facility Overview	Customs, Immigration, Quarantine Lobby NONE
Length	—
Height	—
Width	—
Total Floor Space	—
Capacity	
Length	260m
Water Depth	10m
Apron Width	15m
Boarding Bridges	NONE
Tidal Range	2.0m



RECOMMENDED TOUR COURSES

Miyako Highlights

Visit Kurima-jima and its wide sugar cane fields; Higashi-hennazaki and its panoramic view of the majestic East China Sea; Ikema-jima, a habitat of rare animals and destination for migrating birds; and Sunayama Beach, one of the most picturesque spots on the island. This tour condenses all the charm of Miyako Island into one trip. See beautiful coral reef from a glass-bottom boat.

Time required : About 7.5 hours

Course : Port of Hirara, Kurima-jima, Higashi-hennazaki, Ikema-jima, Sunayama Beach, Port of Hirara

A Casual Stroll inside Miyako's Ocean

View Miyako's seascape in this underwater marine park from 24 12-centimeter thick windows measuring 1.5 meters high by 50 centimeters wide. Discover the island's marine life, such as colorful tropical fish, octopuses, and sea snakes.

Time required : 5 hours

Course : Port of Hirara, Miyako Underwater Marine Park, Utopia Farm Miyako, Head Tax Stone, Port of Hirara

Tour of Four Miyako Islands

In this tour, you will cross bridges and ride ferries to visit the four neighboring subtropical islands of Miyako, Irabu-jima, Shimojishima, and Kurima-jima, where you will be moved by the contrast between the blue ocean and the white sand beaches.

Time required : 7.5 hours

Course : Port of Hirara, Irabu-jima (Sawada Beach), Shimojishima (Toriike), Irabu-jima (Toguchi Beach), Kurima-jima, Utopia Farm Miyako, Nakasone-Tomomiya Tomb, Head Tax Stone, Port of Hirara



1 Sunayama Beach

Here, there is an arch that has been carved into a dune by the waves. The contrast in color between the cobalt blue sea and powder-snow white sand when viewed from the arch is almost painting-like.



2 Ueno German Culture Village

Ueno German Culture Village found its origin in the Meiji Era (1868-1912), when a shipwreck occurred on the Miyako coastline. Locals rescued the German crew, and a theme replica was built to commemorate this event.



3 Higashi-hennazaki

A beautiful cape that juts out from the easternmost point of Miyako Island. From the cliff, you can see the Pacific Ocean on the right and the East China Sea on the left. This location was selected as one of Japan's 100 city parks.



A golf course surrounded by nature

Shining sea of emerald green in the background, the tee ground is decorated with subtropical flowers and green carpet. From beginners to well-experienced golfers, everybody can enjoy playing golf in the best circumstances of nature.

PORT OF ISHIGAKI

Ishigaki is an island with a tropical rainforest climate located approximately 222 miles from Okinawa Island. Passenger ships call at Ishigaki Island about 50 times each year, mostly from its closest neighbor of Taiwan. The island is a treasure trove of natural beauty, including its emerald green ocean, the beautiful white sand of Kabira Bay, and the world renowned coral reef at Shiraho.

Ishigaki has plenty of regular ship services to outlying isolated islands, making it a tourist hub to the islands of Iriomote, Taketomi, Hateruma, and Kuroshima. Taketomi, which is accessible from Ishigaki by a 10-minute high speed ferry, is known for its tranquil landscape of old Okinawa.

Approximately 90% of Iriomote is covered with subtropical old-growth forest, and is home to unique wildlife, such as the crested serpent-eagle and Iriomote cat. The Nakama River cruise also offers passengers a Japanese jungle adventure experience. The Yubu-jima tour, in which guests are taken across the island on an old-fashioned Buffalo Cart, is also popular.

Contact us
Ishigaki City Government

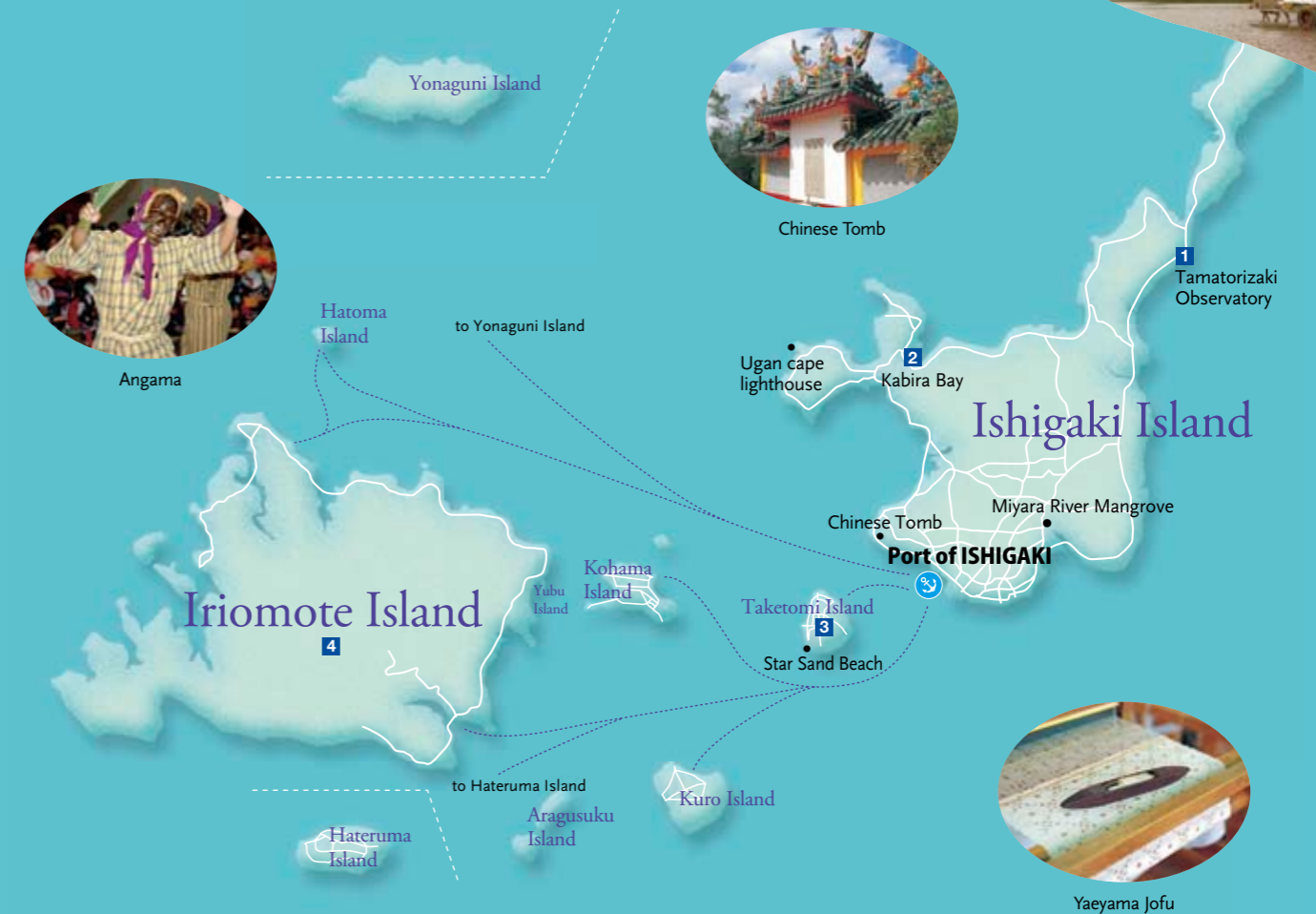
TEL +81-980-82-9911

E-MAIL kirameki@city.ishigaki.okinawa.jp

URL www.city.ishigaki.okinawa.jp

PASSENGER TERMINAL

Name	Ishigaki Port Terminal
Location	3-4 Hamasaki-cho, Ishigaki City, Okinawa Prefecture
Access	
Rail Station	NONE
Airport	Ishigaki Airport (Approx.15 min. by taxi)
Facilities	
Facility Overview	Customs, Immigration, Quarantine Lobby Approx.2,109m ²
Length	54.5m
Height	14.2m
Width	26.0m
Total Floor Space	2,109m ²
Capacity	
Length	465m (2 berths)
Water Depth	9.0m
Apron Width	20m
Boarding Bridges	Available
Tidal Range	2.0m



RECOMMENDED TOUR COURSES

Ishigaki Highlights

Guests will see all the highlights of the island in this one-day course. Visit the Torinji Gongendo Buddhist temple, Okinawa's oldest wooden structure; Chinese Tomb, a monument dedicated to the Chinese laborers; and Kabira Park with its beautiful and expansive coral sea.

Time required : About 7 hours

Course : Port of Ishigaki, Torinji Gogendo, Chinese Tomb, Yaima Folk Village, Kabira Park, Yonabaru Palm Forest, Tamatorizaki Observatory, Miyara River Mangrove, Port of Ishigaki

A Visit to Taketomi: See Old Okinawa

See the Shisa that sit atop the red-tiled roofs of traditional houses to ward off evil, the white sand roads, and blooming bougainvillea and hibiscus flowers. Located only 10 minutes from Ishigaki via high-speed ferry, Taketomi is the most Okinawa-esque of all the islands. We recommend renting a bicycle or Buffalo Cart to see the island.

Time required : About 3 hours

Course : Port of Ishigaki, Taketomi, Port of Ishigaki

An Adventure on Hidden Iriomote

Iriomote is located 35 minutes from the Port of Ishigaki via high-speed ferry. While bigger than Ishigaki, it has no roads crossing or encompassing the island, and is covered in deep-green subtropical rain forest. Popular activities include sightseeing cruises to the mangroves in the Nakama River area, or visiting Yubu-jima on Buffalo Cart.

Time required : About 7 hours

Course : Port of Ishigaki, Iriomote, Nakama River sightseeing, Yubu-jima, Port of Ishigaki



1 Tamatorizaki Observatory

This location commands a panoramic view, from Ishigaki Island's northernmost point of Hirakubozaki Cape all the way to Nobaruzaki Cape in the south. The view of the emerald ocean on the east coast with the coral reef is breathtaking.



2 Kabira Bay

Called the most beautiful on Ishigaki Island, the color of the sea changes with the sun and at low tide, you can view the bay's coral reef on glass boats. Black pearls are also cultivated in the bay.



3 Taketomi Island

A small, flat island with a circumference of a mere nine kilometers. Here, people drive buffalo carts, while singing folk songs, through the traditional houses reminiscent of old Okinawa.



4 Iriomote Island

About 90% of the island is covered in subtropical old-growth forest. The island is home to many strange creatures, including the Iriomote cat, garnering it the name of "the Galapagos of the east."