



Air & Sea Travel Center

BEST GROUP TOURS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Heritage of Okinawa The Kingdom of Ryukyu

4 Islands: Okinawa, Ishigaki, Iriomote & Yubu

Ryukyu Village, Ocean Expo Park, Limestone Cave, Water Buffalo Cart, Food & Fun...

Traveling Dates: Jan 12 – 21, 2027 (10 Days)

Price per person from: \$ 4,688 Incl. Tax & Fuel Surcharge Single Supp: \$ 1,000

Okinawa Prefecture is the southernmost prefecture of Japan. The Ryukyu Islands is a chain of hundreds of islands over 1,000 kilometers (620 mi) long and extends southwest from Kyushu (the southwesternmost of Japan's four main islands) to Taiwan. Okinawa Prefecture encompasses the southern two thirds of that chain. Okinawa's main appeal for travelers is its two dozen islands ringed with crystal-blue tropical water and white sand beaches. Naha, Okinawa's capital, is located in the southern part of Okinawa Island.

Tour Package Includes

- International Flight from **HONOLULU by Japan Airlines**
- Roundtrip Airfare to Ishigaki Island
- Deluxe Hotel Accommodations
- Admissions and **20** Meals as Stated
- **4** Islands – Okinawa, Ishigaki, Iriomote & Yubu
- UNESCO World Heritage Site: Shuri Castle
- Ocean Expo Park & Peace Memorial Museum
- Ferry Rides & Water Buffalo Cart Rides
- Gyokusendo Cave at Okinawa World
- Awamori Liquor Tasting
- Hand-Weaving Experience
- Star Sand Experience
- Local Specialty Meals: Okinawa Soba, Palace Cuisine, Ishigaki Beef
Yubu Style Teishoku
- Gratuity for Local Tour Guides & Drivers

B: Breakfast | L: Lunch | D: Dinner

Day 1 ** Jan 12 Honolulu → Haneda

We begin our journey by boarding an international flight to Okinawa Naha Airport via Haneda. Meals and snacks will be served on the plane.

Day 2 ** Jan 13 Haneda → Naha

Okinawa, known as Ryukyu historically is situated between Taiwan and Kyushu. This popular vacation destination is famous for its natural beauty, including its blue skies, sunshine, ocean, endless coastline, red hibiscus blossoms, and a unique landscape that is a fascinating combination of Chinese and Japanese cultures. Upon arrival in Okinawa Naha Airport, our representative will escort us to our hotel.

Day 3 ** Jan 14 Naha (Okinawa Island) (B, L, D)

After breakfast, we will go to **Gyokusendo Cave** at **Okinawa World Park**. The primary Gyokusendo Cave was discovered in 1967 and it is one of the largest underground stalactite caves in the Far East. Besides being one of the most popular tourist destinations in Okinawa, it has also been used as a film location for various movies. The best-known movie internationally is the 1974 monster classic **Godzilla vs Mecha Godzilla**. Within the park, there is a snake museum, Sanshin making, and glass blowing. The main attraction is the dynamic and colorful **Eisa Dance (Traditional Okinawan Taiko Dance)** in the outdoor auditorium. After lunch, we will visit **Shuri Castle**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. It was the palace of the Ryūkyū Kingdom and the cultural center of the Ryukyu Island until 1879. It was almost destroyed in 1945 during the Battle of Okinawa. In 1992, it was reconstructed on the original site based on photographs, historical records, and memory. One might be in for a surprise as the architecture of the castle is very different from other Japanese castles. Tonight's **Welcome Dinner** features **Okinawan Palace Cuisine**. During the reign of the Ryukyu monarchs, when the kingdom flourished through trade with surrounding Asian countries, elaborate feasts were hosted nightly for visiting envoys. Carefully selected ingredients are painstakingly prepared, with the resulting fare as delightful to the eye as it is to the palate. After dinner, we will return to our hotel in Naha.

Day 4 ** Jan 15 Naha (Okinawa Island) → Ishigaki Island (B, D)

After breakfast, we will go to **Naminoue Shrine**, literally “Above the Waves Shrine”, the primary Shinto shrine in Okinawa Prefecture. Our next stop is **Fukushuen (Fuzhou Garden)**, completed in 1992 in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the sister city relationship between Naha and Fuzhou in China. The Kume neighborhood where the garden is located, previously known as Kumemura (Kume Village), was the center of Chinese culture and learning in the Ryūkyū Kingdom for centuries, and a symbol of the significant role of Chinese cultural influence in Okinawan history. Most of the building materials were imported from Fuzhou. Then, we will transfer to Naha Airport and board a short flight to **Ishigaki Island** that lies west of Okinawa Island and the second largest island of the Yaeyama Island group. The island functions as the business and transport center of the archipelago. Tonight, we will try the **Ishigaki Beef**. Not many people know about Ishigaki beef, which is a Wagyu Brand. The most important characteristic of Wagyu is its marbling of fat throughout the meat. It is said the Ishigaki Beef is tender and juicy and has a pure flavor.

Day 5 ** Jan 16 Ishigaki Island – Iriomote Island – Yubu Island – Ishigaki Island (B, L, D)

Today's highlight is to visit **Iriomote Island**, the largest island of the Yaeyama Island group. 90% of the island is covered by dense jungle and mangrove swamps, which are either part of state lands or National Park area. In the morning, we will take a 40-minute **Ferry Ride** to Ohara Port. Upon arrival, we will ride a sightseeing boat on **Nakama River**. This area is considered to be the Amazon Jungle of Japan. The river cuts a path through mangrove forests, large sakishima-suo trees, and thick jungle plants. Next, we will ride a **Water Buffalo Cart** to Yubu-jima (Yubu Island) where we will have a **Yubu Style Teishoku** lunch. The water that divides Yubu Island from its larger neighbor is so shallow that it can be crossed on foot. Occasionally cars and trucks can be seen driving through the water as well. Then, we will stop at **Hoshizuna Beach**, located on the northern tip of Iriomote Island. Its name translates to Star Sand Beach. If we look closely at the sand, we may notice that the sand is made of tiny stars. After that, we will return to Ishigaki and take a bus back to the hotel or shopping at the arcade.

Day 6 ** Jan 17 **Ishigaki Island** **(B, L, D)**

This morning, we will transfer to **Minsah Crafts Museum**. Yaeyama Minsah is a fabric made of cotton with a plain weave, produced in Taketomi Town and Ishigaki City. It is characterized by five-and-four square Kasuri patterns arranged alternatively, imbued with the hopes it lasts “forever for eternity.” We will have a chance to have a **hand-waving experience**. After lunch, we will go to the **Emerald Sea Observatory Deck**. **Ishigaki Yaima Village**, Japan's southernmost and westernmost theme park, where we can observe up close Okinawan old folk houses, a squirrel monkey forest, a crested eagle sanctuary, and mangroves, all of which are registered as national tangible cultural properties. We will also have a chance to make a **Star Sand Bottle**. Then, we will visit the **Emerald Blue Kabira Bay**, Ishigaki Island's most scenic view. Ishigaki and Iriomote are the only two cultivation sites of black pearls in Japan. Coral reefs provide great snorkeling and diving sports, but we can see beautiful colorful tropical fish and coral reefs without getting wet by taking a **Glass Bottom Boat Ride**.

Day 7 ** Jan 18 **Ishigaki Island → Naha – Onna** **(B, L, D)**

Today, we will fly back to **Naha**, the capital city of Okinawa Prefecture. Upon arrival, we will transfer to Yomitan. First, we will stop at Michi-no Eki, just outside the base of **Kadena Air Base (KAB)**, the hub of American airpower in the Pacific, and home to the US Air Force's largest combat wing – the 18th Wing. Nearly 18,000 Americans and more than 4,000 Japanese employees and contractors make up Team Kadena. This is a four-story building with shopping venues, a picture museum, and an observatory deck. From the observatory deck, we can see many kinds of Military Aircraft, including reconnaissance and surveillance planes. Then, we will transfer to our hotel.

Day 8 ** Jan 19 **Onna – Yomitan – Onna** **(B, L, D)**

After breakfast, our excursion is set to **Churaumi Aquarium** (Okinawa Churaumi Suizokukan), located within the **Ocean Expo Park**. It is one of the world's largest aquariums that will dazzle you with the exotic tropical fish, manta rays, sharks, and whale sharks. The park also offers dolphin shows at the outdoor Okichan Theater. Today we will enjoy a **Lunch Buffet** with the animals at Ocean Expo Park. After a full day tour, we will return to our hotel.

Day 9 ** Jan 20 **Onna – Naha** **(B, L)**

After breakfast, we will return to Naha. On the way, we will enjoy some free time for shopping at Koshin Pearl Shop. We will visit **Ryukyu Mura**, an authentic re-creation of an ancient Okinawan village. Old Ryukyuan homes were brought from all over the islands and reassembled here to preserve the heritage of the Ryukyu Kingdom. The park was created in the hope that this unique heritage could be shared by all who visit. Some of the staff wears traditional Okinawan folk costumes, providing the perfect photo opportunity. Inside the village we will find examples of Okinawan crafts on display and for sale, including bingata, pottery and sugarcane products. These are all made using traditional methods, handed down from generation to generation. We can join the **Michijune** (Parade) for dancing “Kachashi”, a form of festive Ryukyuan folk. One of Okinawa’s most famous products is its **Hard Liquor, Awamori**. It is distilled from rice, considerably more potent and less sweet than sake; not found on the mainland and only brewed here. Some varieties made offshore of Okinawa Main Island have the highest alcoholic content. Awamori has a venerable history going back 500 years, when the Ryukyu Kingdom had extensive trade with Southeast Asia. It was first introduced to the islands from Thailand. Awamori is still made from Thai rice because its long grains give a higher alcoholic yield and it is not as sticky as Japanese rice. We will sample some Awamori at **Masahiro Awamori Factory**. The devastating effects of the war had a profound impact on the Okinawans, and there are a number of monuments and museums relating to that period throughout Okinawa Island. We will visit the **Peace Memorial Park**. Its main attraction is the **Peace Memorial Museum**, which gives an overview of the battle and the reconstruction of the island. Other notable sites include the **Clock Tower**, the **Path to Peace Hill**, and the **Cornerstone of Peace**. Tonight, we can enjoy the rest of day on our own.

After breakfast, enjoy your last-minute shopping in Naha. We will transfer to the airport for our return flight to Honolulu via Kansai in the afternoon. This will end our fantastic trip to Okinawa.

☺ We wish you a safe journey and have many wonderful memories to share with family and friends! ☺

Remarks:

1. Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees
2. Business class is available, please call your agent for price
3. Refer to “General Condition of Air & Sea”
4. We reserve the right to modify the itinerary to ensure smooth operation
5. Tour price is subject to change according to any airfare increase, increase in government taxes, additional fuel charges and fluctuation of the rate of exchange between U.S. and foreign currency
6. Tour price includes fuel surcharge & government taxes and fees. The tour price shown is current at time of listing and pricing on May 5, 2026
7. Escorted tour with a minimum of 20 passengers
8. Gratuity for Local Tour Guides & Drivers is included
9. It is mandatory to inform Air and Sea Travel of any existing conditions that may require medical attention or accommodations during the trip. You need to provide this information in writing in the Tour Supplemental Information section of the application. If you do not have a travel companion who can help you with your special needs, you need to talk to your agent to determine if this is an appropriate tour for you. Some tours may be too strenuous depending on your condition. Air and Sea Travel reserves the right to reject or cancel your booking. You are responsible for any cancellation penalty that this may incur.
10. All travelers, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, are welcome to travel with us and will no longer be required to provide proof of pre-departure testing, except for specific countries where COVID-19 vaccination, testing, or additional documentation are required by law. Please visit or revisit the government site to verify the travel requirements. Fully vaccinated are recommended. Vaccines combined with multi-layered preventative health and safety measures will help us provide a safe and healthy vacation environment.
11. As government regulations evolve, our health and safety protocols will evolve as needed to ensure compliance. This may mean different protocols from state to state and city to city based on local requirements.

Payment Policy:

CHECK OR CASH PAYMENT ONLY. A deposit of \$350 per person is required at the time of application. The balance is due on **Oct 5, 2026.** In the event balance payment is not made within the required time period, Air and Sea Travel Center reserves the right to cancel reservations and charge a service fee for cancellation.

Cancellation Policy:

Written notice is required for any cancellation. The cancellation fee will be as follow:

**** Oct 6 to Nov 20, 2026, 50% of total price plus any other service fee caused by the cancellation;**
**** From Nov 21, 2026 to departure or withdrawing during the tour shall be regarded as willingly giving up all rights concerned, 100% of total price, and request for other services as a substitute shall not be accepted.**

**** We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance when you make your reservation****