



## Okinawa Prefecture

Okinawa is made up over 160 islands consisting of the main island and large and small islands. It is renowned as **Japan's tropical resort destination** with beautiful beaches and coral reefs. It also has a unique and attractive culture. Once called Ryukyu Kingdom and flourishing as an independent country, Okinawa has its own cultural development under the influence of China and Southeast Asia.

### Key Points

-  **THERE ARE 21 GOLF COURSES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**
-  **HOME TO THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE SHURIJO CASTLE**
-  **OKINAWA HAS 160 ISLANDS OF WHICH 48 ARE INHABITED**
-  **AWAMORI IS THE OLDEST DISTILLED LIQUOR IN JAPAN**
-  **FOUR AND 5-STAR OCEAN VIEW RESORTS AVAILABLE**

### Access

It is easy to travel from most prefectures in Japan, with flights of around 2 hours and 50 minutes from Tokyo. From overseas, many airlines operate flights into Okinawa, making access very convenient for international visitors, including direct services from Taiwan, China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.



### Irabu Bridge

Irabu Ohashi which links Miyako island and Irabu island is a spectacular ocean viewing spot crossing the blue sea and coral reefs. The 3,540m long bridge boasts to be the longest toll-free bridge in Japan. Perfect for drive, but also for cycling!  
**Address:** Irabu, Miyakojima-shi, Okinawa

### Sightseeing & Activities



### Gusuku and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu

(Naha and multiple areas)

In Okinawa, there are many ruins that are a testimony to the unique cultural and historical heritage of the **Ryukyu Kingdom**; **Five Gusuku** (castle) and four ruins are registered as UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. The architectural design of **Shurijo Castle** is a reflection of the Ryukyu culture, including its bengara (deep red lacquer) and sculptures of dragons. The main hall is scheduled for completion around fall 2026.



Get information on all of **Okinawa's amazing cultural properties**  
[visitokinawajapan.com](http://visitokinawajapan.com)



### Valley Of Gangala

(Southern Main Island)

It is a valley, rich in nature that was formed by the collapse of the limestone cave. **Guided tours are accompanied by a specialized guide** to walk around subtropical forests and caves in the limestone area derived from coral reefs. The tour covers praying for the birth of life in the cave, a gigantic tree "Ufushu Gajumaru" in which its roots stretch from the top of the cliff, and remains of dwellings of ancient people.

**Address:** 202 Tamagusuku Maekawa, Nanjo-shi, Okinawa

**Tel:** +81-98-948-4192

**Business Hours:** 09:00-17:30

(Last reservations at 17:00 the day before)

**Cave Café:** 10:00-16:00 \*Only available

for guided tour participants (reservations required)



### Yomitan Pottery Village

(Central Mainland)

"**Yachimun**" denotes pottery in the word of Okinawa. Potteries in a plump and thick shape with robust paintings like expressing the nature of Okinawa are deeply rooted in the Okinawa's life. In Yomitan Pottery Village where the artists' studios gather, you can take a look at the productions and purchase. It is popular as souvenirs.

**Address:** 2653-1 Zakimi, Yomitan-son, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa

**Tel:** +81-98-958-6494 (Yomitan-son Tourism Association)

**Open & Closed:** Varies by Studio



### Asumi Spiritual Hikes

(Northern Mainland)

Asumi is said to be the first sacred site created by Amamiku, the Ryukyu creator god. **Visitors can walk through the forested hillside with an audio guide and experience a mystical world** where the natural scenery of Yanbaru—its unusually shaped rocks, giant banyan trees and untouched wilderness—blends seamlessly with Ryukyu mythology.

**Address:** 1241 Ginama, Kunigami District, Okinawa

**Tel:** +81-980-41-8117

**Business Hours:** 09:30-17:30

(Last reservations at 16:00)



### Okinawa Soba

This noodle dish is served with **pork stewed in sugar soy sauce and Kamaboko** (fish paste), using noodles made from wheat flour and soup broth "Dashi" made by simmering dried bonito flakes and pork. There are variations of toppings which include slices of braised sanmainiku (pork belly) and Soki (spareribs). Each region has their own unique soba such as the Miyako Soba which is made from thin noodles and Yaeyama made with round noodles.

## Tastes of Okinawa

# Food Culture & The Okinawan Diet

Under the influence of China from ancient times, Okinawa is a treasure trove of a healthy diet based on their belief of "a balanced diet leads to a healthy body". Okinawa has its own indigenous diet using **Shima Vegetables and Shima Dofu** (freshly made tofu with Okinawa water) nurtured in the warm climate and seaweed which has been the backbone of their health and longevity. In Okinawan cuisine, one always imagines that meat is pork and the **Agu pork** is

especially famous, however, **Ishigaki Beef** and **Yanburu Chicken** are also popular brand meat Okinawa soba and Shima Dofu are local dishes you have to try when in Okinawa. Locally landed tuna is fresh and farm raised mozuku is also thriving. Fruits such as pineapple and mangos, sweets are made using brown sugar from sugar canes and a local Okinawan cookie called Chinsuko is also popular.



### Pork Dishes

It is no exaggeration to say that the Okinawan diet begins and ends with pork. Various kinds of pork meats are used for traditional Okinawan dishes such as "**Mimigar**" which uses pig ears and "**Nakamijiru**" which is a soup made from guts or giblets of pig. It's quite a compelling experience to the tourists, but is considered as a nostalgic and familiar dish to the locals.



### Chanpurū

It is a stir fry dish of vegetables and tofu. "**Chanpurū**" means "to mix" in the Okinawan dialect. There are various kinds, such as Tofu Chanpurū, Sōmen Chanpurū and Gōyā Chanpurū that is made with "gōyā (bitter melon)" an iconic summer vegetable of Okinawa and Shima Dofu which is a classic home cooking dish of Okinawa.



### Sata Andagi

**Okinawa-style donuts** of which the crispy surface and springy inside texture is delicious. Flour and sugar are the basic ingredients, while brown sugar is sometimes used. **The modest sweetness and filling** makes it popular regardless of age and sex. It is regarded as an auspicious sweet and served in celebrative occasions too.

## Okinawa Featured Courses



### Kanucha Golf Course (Mainland/North)

Located within Kanucha Resort—one of the largest resort complexes in Okinawa Prefecture—this course offers two distinct personalities across its 18 holes. **The Village Course, the front nine, lets players feel the spirit of the forest, while the Seaside Course, the back nine, overlooks the majestic Pacific Ocean.**

Highly strategic and uniquely designed holes appear one after another, with the par-3 13th (pictured above) serving as the signature hole and delivering truly breathtaking views.

**Style:** Resort course with accommodation **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 72 **Length:** 6,911 yards **Course Rating:** 72.9 **Designer:** Agasa Resort Design **Established:** 1993 **Facilities:** Simulator golf, putting green, fully appointed clubhouse **Address:** 156-2 Abu, Nago-shi, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-980-55-8888



### PGM Golf Resort Okinawa (Mainland/North)

A hilly course with spectacular views of the East China Sea, where **sparkling turquoise waters stretch toward the Motobu Peninsula** and all the way to Ie Island on the horizon. Already known for its highly strategic layout, the course became even more demanding after renovations overseen by Japanese legend Isao Aoki.

Come and test yourself on this true championship course, proudly hosting an event on the Japan men's tour. The entire course is now open for night golf, allowing you to play all 18 holes under the lights.

**Style:** Resort (From July 2026) **Holes/ Par:** 27/ 108 **Length:** 7,265 yards **Course Rating:** 72.2 **Designer:** Keiji Matsuyama **Established:** 1972 **Facilities:** Putting green, fully appointed clubhouse **Address:** 1043 Fuchaku, Onna-son, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-98-965-1100



## Okinawa Featured Courses



### Kanehide Kise Country Club (Mainland/North)

Players will be pleased by the symmetrical 18 holes that have "**Yambaru Course**" going in a deep forest and "**Umikaji Course**" coming into the open-air of the East China side. Distinctive holes on the natural topography creating undulation and dogleg will inspire a player's challenging spirit.

**Style:** Resort course with accommodation **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 72 **Length:** 7,204 yards **Course Rating:** 72.3 **Designer:** Michio Izumi **Established:** 2001 **Practice facilities:** 270 yard range, putting green, park golf, restaurant and locker room **Address:** 1107-1 Kise, Nago-shi, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-980-53-6100



### The Atta Terrace Golf Resort (Mainland/North)

An 18-hole course offering constant variety, set against a stunning backdrop of blue sky and ocean. Surrounded by lush nature, the gentle sound of birdsong brings a sense of calm to every round.

**Expansive panoramic views of the East China Sea** and the course's beautifully crafted contours inspire golfers to take on each challenge with confidence and excitement. Every hole invites bold play and rewards thoughtful strategy.

**Style:** Resort with accommodation **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 72 **Length:** 6,925 yards **Course Rating:** 73.1 **Designer:** Kokubagumi Co., Ltd. **Established:** 2002 **Practice facilities:** Clubhouse & hotel, dressing rooms, restaurant **Address:** 1079 Afuso, Onna-son, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-98-967-8554



Okinawa Featured Courses



**Ginoza Country Club** (Mainland/North)

This hilly course captivates golfers with scenery framed by the deep blue sea and the rich green of untouched forest. Its 18 strategically designed and *elegant holes deliver both tension and exhilaration throughout the round.*

Enjoy a truly immersive golf experience with the refreshing sea breeze, the gentle sounds of birds and insects, and the feeling of being surrounded by the magnificent nature of Okinawa.

**Holes/ Par:** 18/ 72 **Length:** 6,558 yards **Course Rating:** 73.2 **Designer:** Yoshihiko Komuro **Established:** 2004 **Facilities:** Practice green, clubhouse & restaurant, locker room **Address:** 2824-264 Matsuda, Ginoza-son, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-98-983-2200



**Okinawa Country Club** (Mainland/Central)

This course offers sweeping panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean. The front nine is highly strategic, using dramatic elevation changes to full effect, while the back nine unfolds amid forests and water features, *presenting a constantly shifting challenge.* Each hole has its own distinctive character, ensuring a memorable and varied round.

Although the overall course length is not long, it demands precise shot-making and accurate distance control from every golfer.

**Style:** Seaside **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 70 **Length:** 7030 yards **Course Rating:** 69.0 **Designer:** Sho Okubo **Established:** 1965 **Facilities:** Hitting nets, putting green, fully appointed clubhouse **Address:** 109 Tobaru, Nishihara-cho, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-98-945-3371



Okinawa Featured Courses



**The Southern Links Golf Club** (Mainland/South)

A dramatic seaside course set atop steep 40-meter cliffs. The true highlights come at the par-4 7th and par-3 8th, where *golfers are challenged with thrilling over-the-water shots across the cliffs.* Don't let the breathtaking scenery—or the strong sea breeze—intimidate you. After your round, relax in style at the luxurious comfort hotel located adjacent to the course, a favorite among visiting golfers.

**Style:** Resort Course with accommodation **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 72 **Length:** 6,311 yards **Course Rating:** 71.4 **Designer:** Ryukyu Resort **Established:** 1988 **Facilities:** Driving range, putting green, fully appointed clubhouse **Address:** 697 Hanashiro, Yaese-cho, Shimajiri-gun, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-98-998-7001



**Shurei Country Club** (Mainland/South)

Located on a hilltop on the scenic Chinen Peninsula in the southern part of Okinawa's main island, *this course attracts golfers with breathtaking ocean views from virtually every hole.* Along with its many strategically challenging holes, the dramatic elevation changes are a key highlight.

The course features undulating terrain, which demands both precise approach shots and confident putting.

**Style:** 18 hole **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 70 **Length:** 5,548 yards **Course Rating:** 66.0 **Designer:** Asahi Construction **Established:** 1982 **Facilities:** Putting green, fully appointed clubhouse **Address:** 1029 Chinen China, Nanjo-shi, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-98-947-3411



Okinawa Featured Courses



**Ocean Castle Country Club** (Mainland/Central)

A scenic, hilly course *located beside the World Heritage-listed Nakagusuku Castle Ruins in central Okinawa.* At first glance, the 18 holes may appear gentle, blending naturally with the rolling terrain. In reality, shifting winds and subtle contours demand precision and make the course far more challenging than it seems.

**Holes/ Par:** 18/ 72 **Length:** 6,498 yards **Course Rating:** 73.1 **Designer:** Sho Okubo **Established:** 2003 **Practice facilities:** Putting green, locker rooms, restaurant **Address:** 60 Noborimata, Nakagusuku-son, Nakagami-gun, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-98-895-7867



**Palm Hills Golf Resort Club** (Mainland/South)

Conveniently located near two of Okinawa's most famous sightseeing destinations—the *Himeyuri Monument and Peace Memorial Park*—this course offers both ease of access and a memorable playing experience. Designed to make full use of the island's gentle hills, the layout delivers sweeping views of the shimmering sea and the city of Itoman.

**Style:** 18 hole course **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 72 **Length:** 6,847 yards **Course Rating:** 74.2 **Designer:** Golf Plan **Established:** 1991 **Facilities:** Driving range, putting green, fully appointed clubhouse **Address:** 762 Arakaki, Itoman-shi, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-98-994-0002



**Shigira Bay Country Club** (Miyako Island)

It is a full-scale resort course that is embraced by colorful nature of the southern shore of Miyako Island, and is the only one in Japan where you can see the ocean from every hole. *Enjoy the thoroughly maintained beautiful 18 holes and the exceptional resort golf experience* to the fullest at the finest grade hotel "Shigira Resort".

**Style:** Resort Course with accommodation **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 70 **Length:** 5,848 yards **Course Rating:** 66.0 **Designer:** Time and Tide **Established:** 2000 **Facilities:** Putting green, fully appointed clubhouse **Address:** 1264 Uenoshinzato, Miyakojima-shi, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-980-76-3939



**Emerald Coast Golf Links** (Miyako Island)

A resort course on Miyako Island known as "the golf resort closest to the sea in Japan." The signature 16th hole, an over-the-water par that plays in the refreshing sea breeze, is especially popular. *If you're lucky, you might even spot sea turtles swimming in the emerald-green ocean below.* The 18th hole, where golfers take aim at a green that juts out dramatically into the sea, is another unforgettable highlight.

**Style:** 18 holes seaside **Holes/ Par:** 18/ 72 **Length:** 6,912 yards **Course Rating:** 72.4 **Designer:** Chohei Miyazawa **Established:** 1988 **Facilities:** 50 yard driving range, putting green, fully appointed clubhouse **Address:** 1591-1 Shimojiyonaha, Miyakojima-shi, Okinawa **Tel:** +81-980-76-3232

