

OKINAWA
IMAGES

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Korea

Japan

China

Okinawa islands

Miyako islands

Yaeyama islands

OKINAWA

Taiwan

Okinawa, Japan's southernmost and only subtropical prefecture, is an archipelago of approximately 160 islands scattered across 1,000 kilometers east to west and 400 kilometers north to south, with Kyushu to the north and Taiwan to the southwest.

With a favorable weather year-round, Okinawa averages 23 degrees Celsius in summer and around 10 degrees Celsius in winter.

Blessed with beautiful natural surroundings, emerald green seas and such as Hawaii and Bali.

INTRODUCTION

Why Okinawa?

Okinawa Prefecture located at the southern end of Japan is a paradise of eternal summer. Visitors, attracted by the diversified allure of Okinawa, can participate in marine sports in a beautiful ocean filled with world class coral reefs or escape on a tour and come face to face with the magnificence of nature in the forest homes of many rare animals and plants. If rest and luxurious relaxation are what you are searching for, then there are also many resort options including esthetic and spa facilities. Years ago, a kingdom called "Ryukyu" prospered in this land. Today, the remnants of that ancient time still echo in the traditional exotic culture and unique customs of Okinawa that have been passed down through the generations. The customs and culture of this land are particularly popular among visitors.

Blue Ocean

The crystal clear blue ocean is a well-known image of Okinawa. The water is so blue it feels as if you are being drawn into the ocean. Colorful tropical fish swim amongst the beautiful coral reefs at the bottom of world renowned clear seas. This jeweled spectacle awaits your visit.

Deep Forest

The unique natural environment of Okinawa was formed by the complex geographical features of the islands and the mild and rainy subtropical oceanic climate. Old-growth forests untouched since ancient times and mangrove jungles are home to precious rare animals and plants that cannot be found elsewhere.

Ryukyu Culture

Ryukyu culture flourished in 14th to 16th centuries when Okinawa was known as the "Ryukyu Kingdom". Ryukyu culture is filled with the characteristics of many good old traditions that have been passed through the generations and continue to progress even now in traditional crafts, performing arts, food, lifestyle, and the martial art Karate.

People in Okinawa

Culture/customs are so varied that each village is said to have original characteristics. The local dialect is also diversified, so much so that even if you are from one of the islands in Okinawa, you may have difficulty understanding people from the other islands. Furthermore, customs and festivals dating back from ancient times can still be seen in each region.

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Blue Ocean



Tokashiki Island









Tategami Rock / Yonaguni Island

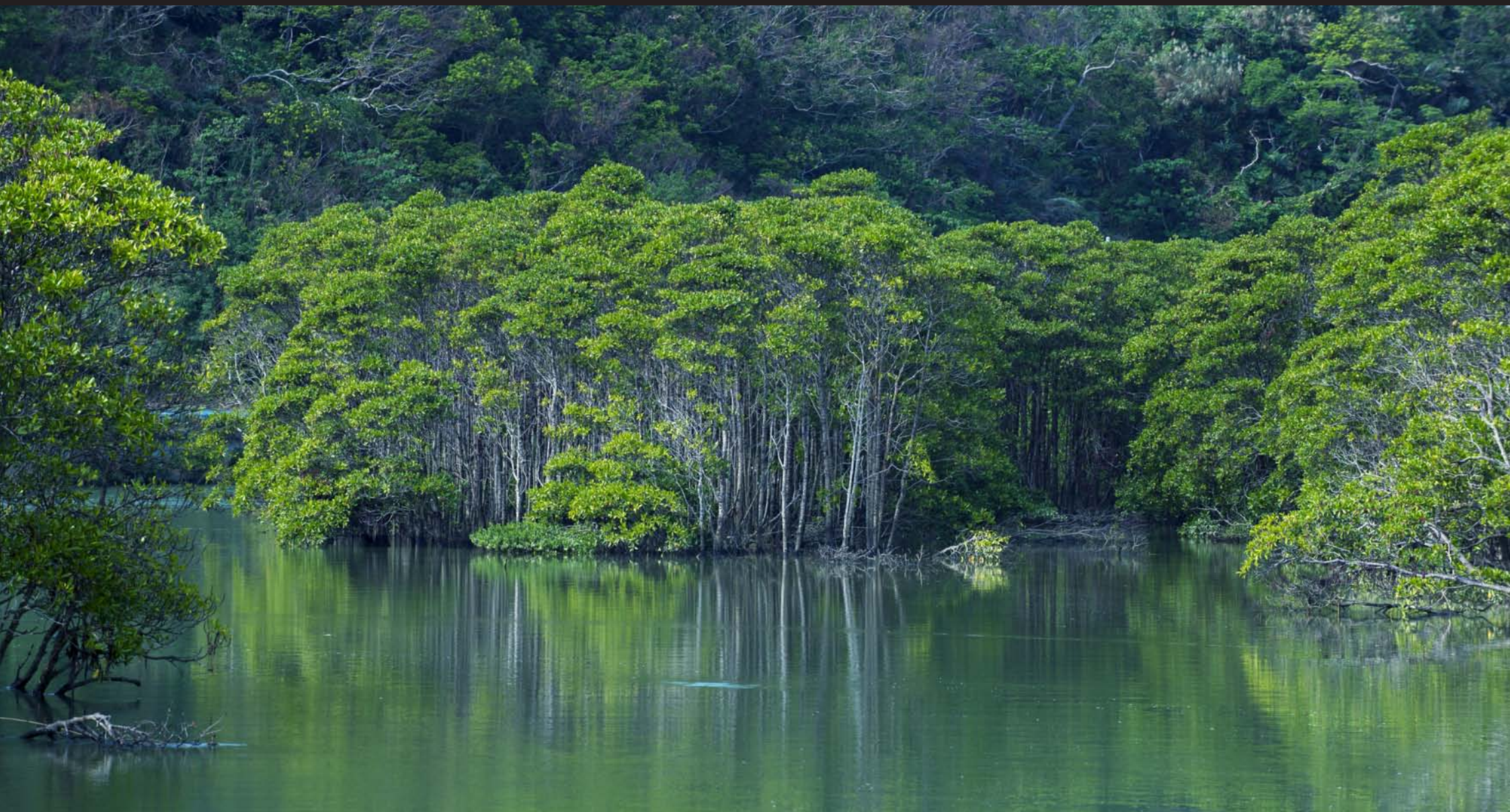




Nirai kanai Bridge / Okinawa Island

Deep Forest











Ryukyu Culture



Nakamura House / Okinawa Island











Shuri Castle / Okinawa Island



Sefa Utaki / Okinawa Island



Naha Giant Tug of War / Okinawa Island





Naha Hari Dragon Boat Race / Okinawa Island





People in Okinawa



Goya Champuru



Rafute (Simmered pork belly)



Awamori (Okinawan liquor) warehouse



Pottery kiln



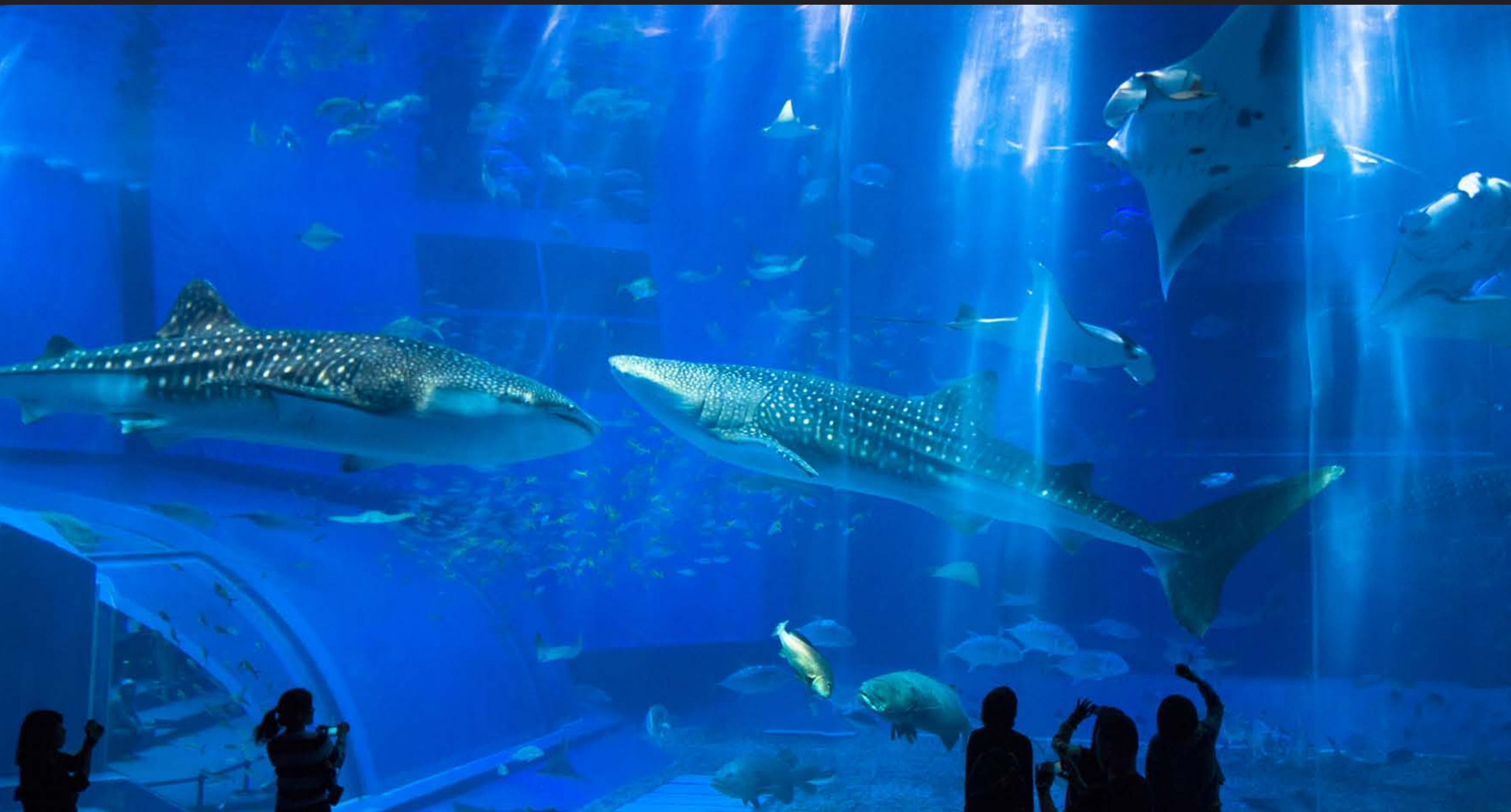


Sanshin (three-stringed lute)



Tourism











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