



YAEYAMA ISLANDS OPTIONAL TOUR:
(Oct 09 – Oct 10, 2009)

Friday, Oct 9th Naha – Ishigaki (Optional Tour)

- 6:30am Breakfast at the hotel.
Those who are remaining in Naha, today is a free day.
For those on the optional Yaeyama Tour, you will need to take an overnight bag.
- 7:00am Transfer to Naha Domestic Airport for interisland flight to Ishigaki.
- 8:20am Depart on Japan Trans Ocean Flt.#603 bound for Ishigaki.
- 9:20am Arrive at Ishigaki Airport, upon arrival we will start our sightseeing tour of Ishigaki
TAMATORIZAKI OBSERVATORY PLATFORM, the scenic point has been quite known ,
East China Sea and Pacific Ocean on the other side can be seen from the vintage point.
KABIRA BAY, is said to be the most beautiful spot on the Ishigaki Island. The beauty of green,
small islands lying in the emerald green sea, the region is undoubtedly one of the kind, even in
the entire Okinawa Prefecture.
We will be taking a group picture with back ground of Kabira Bay.
THE RYUKYU PEARL CENTER, at Kabira Bay is Japan’s only source of cultured black pearls.
In Japan, culturing of black pearls is performed only in Kabira Bay of Ishigaki Island & Funaki
Bay of Iriomote Island.
TOUJIN BAKA (CHINESE GRAVE), in 1852, 400 laborers being shipped to California from
China rebelled against the cruel treatment they received from the British. The ship however
became shipwrecked off the coast of Ishigaki and 380 Chinese unboarded. Many of them were
killed by gunfire from the British pursuers, by illness or committed suicide. Ishigaki islanders
protected and provided shelter for them and furnished them with food. In 1971 a Toujin (Chinese)
grave was made in the memory of the 128 people who perished in this foreign land.
MINEYA, Yaeyama Minsaori, its origins are said to have come from India. It is also said that the
term for cotton girdle, “Mensa” transformed to become “Minsa”. The Minsa was a special gift
presented by young women to men as a sign of the acceptance of love. The combination of 5 (itsu)
and 4 (yo) checker patterns characterize this fabric, the women’s confession of love: “Love me
forever” (ikuyo...itsuyo).
After the tour, we will check-in to our hotel for one night stay at the MINAMI no CHURAHANA,
HOTEL MIYAHIRA.
If you still have energy, you can browse around the town of Ishigaki. Or try their open bath.
Dinner at the hotel. (B , L , D)

Saturday, Oct 10th Ishigaki – Taketomi – Ishigaki – Naha

- 7:00am Breakfast at the hotel.
- 8:30am Check-out of the hotel and leave your overnighter bag(s) on the shelf at the side of the front desk.
- 8:40am Walk over and across to the Ishigaki port to board a ferry to Taketomi Island.
- 9:00am Board a ferry to Taketomi island, a fast 15 minutes ride. Taketomi island is a small island surrounded by coral reefs. Peaceful rows of houses with Shisa, guardian lion statues on the red/orange tile roofs and the walls of coral limestone. The scenes of Okinawa from the good, old days are still alive here. Upon arrival, first, we will go to the glass bottom boat ride to see different types of corals that are found like blue corals, table corals, and etc. (not jewelry type corals). Exotic, tropical fishes in the nearby sea. After the glass bottom ride, we will tour on mini van to HOSHIZUNA BEACH, star-shaped sand which is popular as sand of fortune. Then we will go to the center of the town, to ride the ox cart, pulled by ox, touring the small town of Taketomi.
The last place, KIHOUIN MUSEUM of folk documents collections. You can see coins from 2,000 years ago and “musubinawa” (knotted rope) that was use instead of an abacus and other important documents from the times when poll tax system was used. Back to Taketomi port to go back to Ishigaki.
- 12:00pm Upon arrival at Ishigaki port, you will have time to eat lunch. After lunch return back to Miyahira.
- 1:30pm Depart Hotel Miyahira for Ishigaki Airport.
- 1:40pm Arrive Ishigaki Airport and group check-in , please wait for your boarding pass.
- 2:40pm Depart Ishigaki on Japan Trans Ocean Flt.#618 bound for Naha, Okinawa.
- 3:30pm Arrive Naha Domestic Airport and transfer back to HOTEL ROYAL ORION.
- 4:30pm Arrive HOTEL ROYAL ORION, the rest of the day at your leisure. (B)

*****This itinerary is subject to change at anytime without prior notice*****

Hotel in Ishigaki Island:

Minami no Churahana – Hotel Miyahira
4-9 Misaki, Ishigaki City
Phone No.: (0980) 82-6111

Tour Cost:

TWIN / TRIPLE OCCUPANCY: \$650.00 per person