

SHURIJO CASTLE PARK

Okinawa
Shurijo Castle Park

Admission Fee Information

■ Admission Fee *Wheelchairs are also available.

	Adult	Student (Senior HS)	Child (Elem. & Jr. HS)	Under Age 6
General	¥820	¥620	¥310	Free
Groups	¥660	¥490	¥250	
Yearly Passport	¥1,640	¥1,240	¥620	

- The Seiden, Nanden, Bandokoro, Shoin Sasunoma, Kudani-udun, Yuinchi, Kinju-tsumesho, Okushoin, Hokuden, Houshinmon are located in the paid admission zone. Admission is free in the other parts of the Park.
- Group fees apply for 20 persons and more.
- The customers who are currently using the Monorail's (Nicknamed: Yui Rail) free ticket (one-day ticket and two-day ticket), can apply for group rates at the ticket office window of Shurijo Castle Park by presenting your ticket.
- ※ During the validity period of free ride ticket, discount is allowed one time per person per ticket.

Hours

■ Open Hours

- Apr. to Jun. (8:30 to 19:00) Last entry: 18:30
- Jul. to Sept. (8:30 to 20:00) Last entry: 19:30
- Oct. to Nov. (8:30 to 19:00) Last entry: 18:30
- Dec. to Mar. (8:30 to 18:00) Last entry: 17:30

■ Closed

The Park is closed on the first Wednesday and Thursday of July, every year.

Access

1. By Public Bus

- Use city bus No. ①④⑤ or outer-city bus No. ⑥ and get off at the "Shurijo koen iriguchi" bus stop. Shureimon is 5 minutes away on foot.
- Use the No. ⑦⑧ Shuri-jokamachi Line bus, and get off at "Shurijo-mae" bus stop. Shureimon is 1 minute away on foot.
- Use city bus No. ⑨⑩ or outer-city bus No. ⑪⑫ and get off at "Yamagawa" bus stop. Shureimon is 15 minutes away on foot.

2. By Sightseeing Bus, Car or Taxi

The attendants will direct visitors arriving by bus, car or taxi, if parking spaces are available in the Underground Parking Lot of the Suimuikan (Shurijo Castle Park Rest Center).

■ Suimuikan Parking Fees

- Motorcoach ¥960 (Book of 11 tickets: ¥9,600)
- Small Vehicle ¥320 (Book of 11 tickets: ¥3,200)

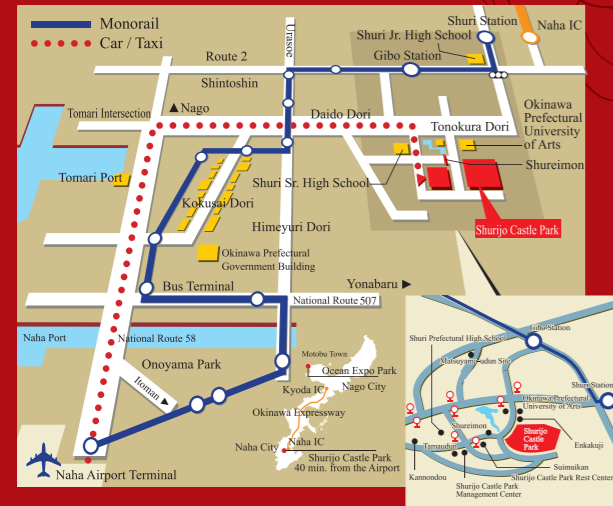
■ Suimuikan Parking Lot Hours

- Apr. to Jun. 8:00 to 20:00
- Jul. to Sept. 8:00 to 21:00
- Oct. to Nov. 8:00 to 20:00
- Dec. to Mar. 8:00 to 19:00

*Parking reservations are available only for school trip groups. (Buses only)

3. By Monorail (Yui Rail)

Get off at Shuri Monorail Station or Gibo Monorail Station. Shureimon is 15 minutes away on foot.



Shurijo Castle Park Management Center

1-2Kinjo-cho,shuri,Naha City,Okinawa903-0815

TEL:098-886-2020/FAX:098-886-2022

http://oki-park.jp/shurijo/

(15.03.00.000)



Welcome to Shurijo Castle

Testimony to the splendor of the Ryukyu Kingdom

Shurijo Castle Tour

- ← General Course (Approx. 1 hr., 30 min.) Basic Route
- ← Wheelchair Course (Approx. 1 hr., 20 min.) Basic Route
- ← Surrounding Cultural Assets

● Rental wheelchair, walking stick, and stroller

These are available on loan at Suimuikan and Houshinmon. (Free) Please ask a Park attendant.

● Coin-operated Lockers

Coin-operated lockers are available for use in the Suimuikan and Koufukumon. (Deposited coins are refunded after use.) (Free of charge)

Shurijo Castle Park Paid Admission Zone

Entry tickets are available at the Koufukumon ticket counter.

Facilities in the Paid Admission Zone:

- Houshinmon (Entrance), Nanden/Bandokoro, Shoin/Sasunoma, Kugani-Udun/Yuinchi/Kinju-tsumesho, Okushoin, Seiden, Hokuden
- Items not permitted in the Paid Admission Zone:
- Food and beverages, dangerous objects, pets and other animals.
- Smoking is not permitted in the Paid Admission Zone.



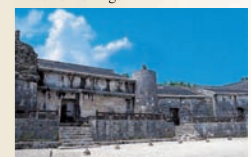
Surrounding Cultural Assets
Visit the cultural assets surrounding the Castle conveying the elegance of the ancient capital



Shureimon Gate
Built during the reign of King Sho Sei (1527-1555). On the placard is inscribed "Shurei no kuni," meaning "A Land of Propriety."



Sonohyan-utaki Stone Gate
The king would pray in front of this stone gate and pray for a safe journey upon his departure from the Castle. ※ World Heritage



Tamaudun
The royal mausoleum of the 2nd Sho Dynasty. Succession of kings and their families rest in peace within the three chambers of this tomb. ※ World Heritage



Ryutan Lake
This artificial pond was created in 1427, upon suggestions from the Chinese investiture envoys.

■ Suimuikan Parking Lot Hours
● Apr. to Jun. 8:00 to 20:00
● Jul. to Sept. 8:00 to 21:00
● Oct. to Nov. 8:00 to 20:00
● Dec. to Mar. 8:00 to 19:00

■ Suimuikan Parking Fees
● Motorcoach ¥960 (Book of 11 tickets: ¥9,600)
● Small Vehicle ¥320 (Book of 11 tickets: ¥3,200)
*Parking reservations are available only for school trip groups. (Buses only)

Enkakuji Temple and Hojo-bashi Bridge
The temple of the Royal Family. The relief on the Hojo-bashi Bridge that crosses the pond in the temple grounds is a designated Important Cultural Heritage of Japan.

Bezaitendo Shrine and Enganchi Pond
A shrine built to store Housatsuzou-kyou, or precious Buddhist scriptures received from the king of Korea.

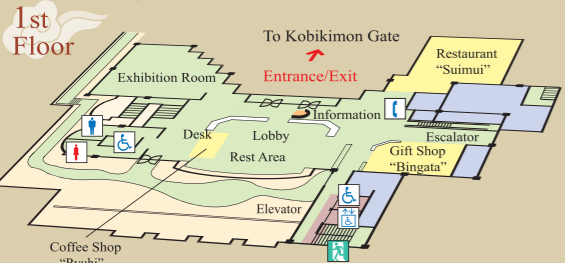
* Shuri-jō site was designated as a part of UNESCO's World Heritage Site under the title "Gusoku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu" in December, 2000.

Suimuikan

The Rest Center offers information on the various cultural assets located within the Park and in the surroundings of Shurijo Castle. It also houses a service area with shops and a restaurant for our visitors to enjoy and relax.



Original Souvenirs
At Gift Shop "Bingata," visitors can find traditional souvenirs as well as original Shurijo Castle merchandise such as T-shirts and stationary items.



- Restaurant "Suimui" Business Hours: 10:00 to 17:00 Year Round (Last order at 16:30)
- Gift Shop "Bingata" Business Hours: 8:00 to 18:00 Year Round
- Coffee Shop "Ryuhi" Business Hours: April to November 9:00 to 19:00, December to March 10:00 to 18:30



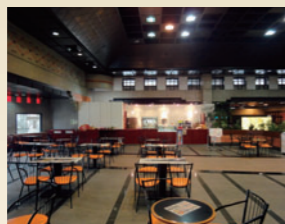
Exhibition Room



Gift Shop "Bingata"



Restaurant "Suimui"



Coffee Shop "Ryuhi"



Shurijo Castle Seiden
Shurijo Castle was the royal seat of the Ryukyu Kingdom for approximately 500 years. It served as the Kingdom's political, economical and cultural core.
*On the colorings on the walls and other areas of the Shurijo Castle's Seiden is paulownia oil. Additionally, a portion has lacquer undercoating.

Seiden Large Dragon Pillar (Closed Mouth) Seiden Large Dragon Pillar (Open Mouth)
Height: 4.1m (Pillar: 3.1m / Pedestal 1m)
Pedestal: Ryukyu limestone
Material: Fine-grain sandstone (from Yonaguni)

Shurijo Castle, colored in the brilliant colors of vermilion, the center stage of the Ryukyu Kingdom

The culture of the Ryukyu Kingdom era is brought back to life in the modern age

It is said that Shurijo Castle was constructed around the 14th century, however, the details are not known. Since becoming the royal seat in 1406 for King Sho Hashi who united the kingdom, the Castle proudly served as the heart of the politics, foreign diplomacy and culture of the Ryukyu Kingdom for approximately 500 years until King Sho Tai, the last ruler of the kingdom abdicated the throne to the Meiji Government. Through trade with China, Japan and Southeast Asia, various items were brought to the Shurijo Castle, where the distinct culture of Ryukyu blossomed through the arts such as lacquerware, dyes and textiles, ceramics and music.

The Seiden of Shurijo Castle was reduced to dust during the Okinawa War of 1945. In the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of homeland return of Okinawa, it was restored in 1992 with 18th century Shurijo as the model.

A World Heritage that tells the tales of the prosperous Ryukyu Kingdom

Shurijo Castle served as the proud and dignified center of Ryukyu Kingdom and its politics, foreign affairs and culture. With architectural influences from both China and Japan, the Castle shows its exceptional cultural and historical values in its unique stonework and architectural design. Thus, Shurijo was designated as a World Heritage Site in December of 2000, the 11th World Heritage Site within Japan.



Path to the Seiden



1 Kankaimon Gate
This is the front gate of the Shurijo Castle. It was named Kankaimon as a way of welcome to the visitors to the Castle, such as the "Sapposhi," the Chinese investiture envoys. It is also called "Amae-ujo."



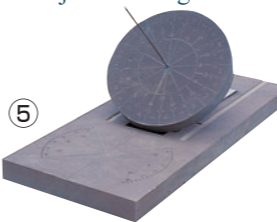
2 Zuisenmon Gate
Zuisen means "a splendid and auspicious spring." The gate takes its name from the Ryuhi spring just in front of it. It is also called "Hikawa-ujo."



3 Ryuhi
Spring in front of the Zuisenmon Gate. This spring provided precious drinking water for the royal family and was also delivered to the "Tenshinkan," where the "Sapposhi" lodged while in Ryukyu.



4 Roukokumon Gate
This gate was named for the water clock in the gate's turret, as "Roukoku" means "water clock" in Chinese. It is also called "Kago-ise-ujo." High-ranking officials would get off their palanquins here, out of respect for the king.



5 Nichiei-dai
A sundial placed in front of the Roukokumon Gate. It is said that the use of the sundial began in 1739, and kept the time in the kingdom until 1879, when Ryukyu became a prefecture of Japan.



6 Tomoya
Restored based on old pictures and records. Its original use is unknown.



8 Koufukumon Gate
On the east-side of this structure housed the "Okumiza," managing the official registry records, and on the west was the "Jishaza" the office managing temples. It is also known as "Naga-ujo." Presently, it serves as the Castle's ticket counter.



7 Bankoku Shinryo-no Kane
This bell was hung in the Shurijo Castle Seiden in 1458. It is famous for its inscription emphasizing the spirit of trade and friendship upon which the prosperity of the royal family, safe journeys on the seas and abundant harvest.



12 Kyo-no-Uchi
This was the largest area within the Castle grounds where important rituals and observances were held. A number of Utaki, or worship sites were located in this area, and prayers by the goddess Kikoe-Okimi were offered for the prosperity of the royal family, safe journeys on the seas and abundant harvest.



9 Houshinmon Gate
The final gate leading into the "Una." There are three entranceways through this gate; the center was reserved only for the king and nobles. Another name for this gate is "Kimi-hokori-ujo."



13 Iri-no-Azana
A lookout tower constructed on the west-side of the Castle walls, where one could observe Naha Port. It provides a panoramic view of the Castle precincts, as well as the city of Naha and the Kerama Islands.



10 Suimui Utaki
One of the places of worship within the Castle precincts. It is the subject of many songs and poetry recorded in "Omorosoushi," the oldest Ryukyu collection of songs. According to Ryukyu mythology, it is said to be "a sacred place created by gods."



11 Keizusa and Youmoutsuza
"Keizusa" was the office that managed the lineage records of the warrior class and compiled documents of the kingdom, while "Youmoutsuza" kept track of the goods, materials used within the Castle grounds. Presently, it serves as a place to take a break and to get information about the Castle.



14 Kobikimon Gate
During the Ryukyu Kingdom era, this gate was used to carry in materials for renovations in the Castle buildings and for repairs on the stonework. At other times, it was generally barricaded with stones. Presently, it serves as the entranceway for the visitors' observation route.