

Ishigaki Island, Okinawa, Japan

Japan's southernmost frontier — a subtropical island where turquoise bays, living coral reefs, and centuries-old Ryukyu culture sit just steps from the pier.

Pier (most ships dock)

Typical call: 7-10 hrs

Japanese Yen (cash essential)

Japanese (little English)

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Ishigaki Port pier; large ships may anchor & tender

Best For: Snorkeling, glass-bottom boats, Taketomi day trip, subtropical nature

Walk to center: ~10 min on foot to Ishigaki city center & ferry terminal

Don't Miss: Kabira Bay glass-bottom boat and a Taketomi Island buffalo cart ride

Getting around: **Taxi** ¥1,500–¥2,000

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Kabira Bay Glass-Bottom Boat** — Japan's most photographed bay has emerald waters, black pearl farms, and no swimming allowed — which means you glide over pristine coral by...
 - Taketomi Island Day Trip** — A 10-minute ferry from Ishigaki drops you on a perfectly preserved Ryukyu village — coral-walled lanes, shisa-topped rooftops, and slow water buffalo...
- Snorkeling at Yonehara or Shiraho Reef** — Yonehara Beach's shallow reef is alive with clownfish and sea turtles.
 - Mangrove Kayaking (Miyara River)** — Paddle under a canopy of mangroves along the Miyara River — one of Okinawa's most accessible subtropical jungle experiences, suitable for beginners.
 - Stalactite Cave & Yaeyama Museum** — The Ishigaki Island Stalactite Cave formed over 200,000 years ago; combine it with a stop at Yaeyama Museum for context on Ryukyu Kingdom history and...

BEST WALKS

- Port to City Center & Euglena Mall** ~1.5 km · 15-20 min · flat — Walk north from the cruise pier along the waterfront promenade to the covered Euglena Mall shopping arcade, then continue to the Yaeyama Ferry Terminal.
- Torinji Temple & Gongen-do Shrine Loop** ~2.5 km · 30-40 min · flat — Ishigaki's oldest Rinzaï Zen temple dates to 1614 and houses two remarkable wooden guardian figures — a local secret most cruise passengers skip entirely.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		76°	71°	15d
Jun		85°	80°	20d
Aug		86°	81°	23d
Sep		85°	80°	21d
Oct		81°	76°	14d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:22AM–7:05PM · Jun 5:55AM–7:32PM · Aug 6:18AM–7:17PM · Sep 6:29AM–6:47PM · Oct 6:41AM–6:16PM

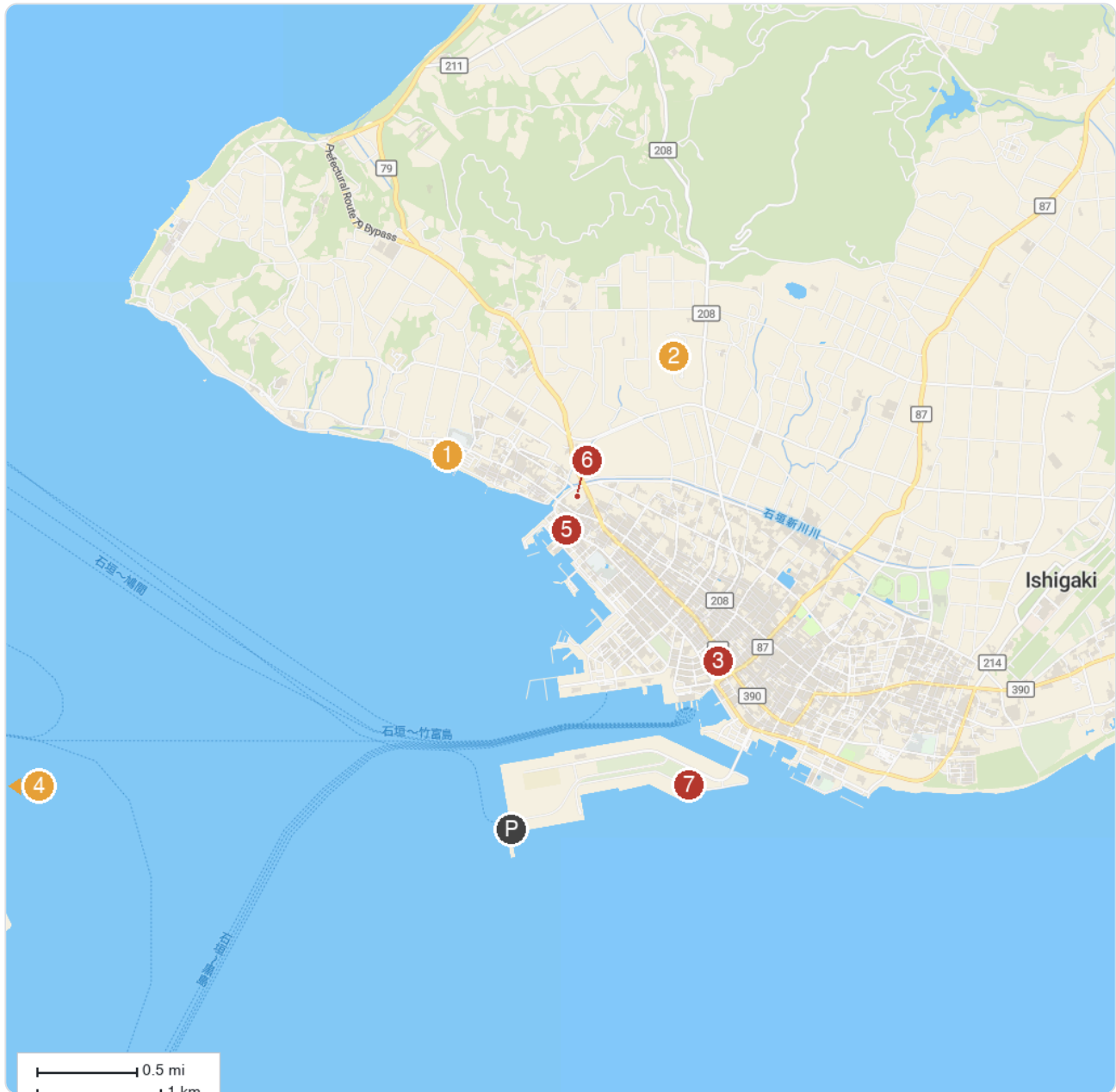
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Cash is king. ATMs in 7-Eleven and FamilyMart (near Euglena Mall) dispense yen and accept foreign cards. Taxis, buses, beach facilities, and local stalls rarely take cards.
- Taketomi Island is the insider move. The ferry takes 10 minutes and costs around ¥680 each way. Buy a return ticket at the terminal before exploring — last ferries fill up on busy days.
- Don't swim at Kabira Bay. Strong currents and active pearl aquaculture make it off-limits. The glass-bottom boats are the experience — skip the wade-in.
- Sun is intense. Okinawa's UV index is extreme even in spring. Bring reef-safe sunscreen, a wide hat, and hydrate — vending machines selling iced jasmine tea are everywhere.
- Allow buffer time returning from Kabira Bay. Tour buses all head back to port at the same time in the afternoon. Leave by 3:30 PM minimum for a 5 PM all-aboard.
- If your ship departs late, look up. Ishigaki is Japan's first International Dark Sky Park — you can see 84 of the 88 recognized constellations on a clear night.

Ishigaki Island, Okinawa, Japan — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 Funakura Park (formerly known as Children's Park) | A family-friendly park with playgrounds and green spaces. | 2 Ishigaki Stalactite Cave | Explore a beautiful natural cave with impressive stalactites. |
| 3 Ishigaki City Public Market | Browse local produce, souvenirs, and food at this vibrant market. | 4 Nagomi Tower | Climb this small tower for panoramic city and harbor views. |
| 5 Yaeyama Peace Memorial Museum | Learn about Yaeyama's history and peace efforts at this museum. | 6 Arakawa Park | A relaxing local park with walking paths and green areas. |
| 7 Dolphin Fantasy Ishigaki Island | Interact with dolphins through swimming and observation programs. | P Cruise port / terminal | |