

## Junior High School and High School

### Great

#### A place of memories

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Okinawa Prefecture is a **tourist destination where** many visitors come frequently. The visitors are not only from Japan, but many from overseas, for instance, USA, China and Taiwan. Recently, duty-free stores and outlets can be **found** in Okinawa prefecture.

Of course, when we talk about tourism in Okinawa, it is common that visitors go to Shuri Castle, Chura-umi Aquarium and Kokusai Dori (literally International Avenue). People who are exhausted from daily work may come to Okinawa to relax.

The word “tourism”, means “sightseeing of scenery, historical sites in a foreign country”. However, tourism is not only visiting, but it is also related to people.

**I often go travelling with my family.** I travelled to Hokkaido by express train. There were two seats in each **row**, so my dad sat in front of me. Nevertheless, we decided to sit facing each other. When he tried to rotate the seat, a guy who was probably sitting near him found a piece of plastic bag and shouted, “Whose garbage is this?”

Moreover, when I went to Fukuoka with my mom, we hired a taxi, and the driver was very rude with an extremely bad attitude.

I can still clearly recall these unpleasant memories. It was quite disappointing to experience such a journey. It was a pleasant journey, besides the weather and the people who I met on the way who were rude so ruined the journey. But during the spring holiday this year, I went to Kyushu and I found it enjoyable with the local people that time.

When I drove through the mountain roads in Oita, the streets were vintage in style. There was a shop selling mushrooms that I liked very much. It seemed that the place was a growing area as fresh mushrooms were hanged and dried there. They looked so tasty, so my mom asked the staff if they could cook us some. Originally the store only sells mushrooms, but they agreed quickly to cook for us. We ate a barbequed mushrooms at the restaurant inside. They were very delicious and the taste was unforgettable.

Tourists come to Okinawa to have a good time and to relax.

However, if visitors have a traumatic or bad experience they would think it would be better not to come to Okinawa again.

There are a lot of TV programs introducing Okinawa here. When they only show the beautiful side of Okinawa, they do not show any other side of Okinawa and may be biased towards showing the best parts of Okinawa. Are Okinawan people all good and kind people? I think their driving manners are not good.

Visitors who come to Okinawa often drive. Nevertheless, when some people have bad manners, tourists may feel anxious to drive here. Also, breaking into the queue or “Uchina time” (Okinawan slow pace) is also a bad manner. I think it is not a fault being slow, but when some people are too loose about time, it will be a trouble to others. I often experience people breaking into the queue. I was very annoyed as it was me who came first, but someone just cut into the line in the midst of the confusion.

In order to let tourists think that it is good to come to Okinawa, it is crucial that we, Okinawan need to be cautious of our actions. Even if one stays in a high-class hotel, it is eventually the people he meets that changes the memories of a journey.

In addition, tourists should be well-mannered as well. If they throw their rubbish into the beautiful ocean of Okinawa, the sea will become dirty. Also, writing things on historical sites and leaving garbage are not welcomed.

Okinawa, as a sightseeing city, it should make tourists feel excited and come with expectations. As they come all the way to Okinawa, we really want them to have a memorable and enjoyable journey. For that purpose, manners of local residents and tourists are important.

There may be some visitors who had some bad encounters during their trip in Okinawa. For the future of Okinawa and for the future visitors, we should take care of all people concerned. Although it may be just something very usual, we should put an effort in our daily lives.

In order to enhance the manners of both Okinawan and tourists, Okinawan people need to think about their prefecture more objectively and tourists should care more about the feelings of local residents by being closer to the place.

From now on, I will also think before acting, and be considerate towards others.