

totalokinawaTM

www.totalokinawa.com

December 2011 & January 2012

FREE
¥0



Merry Xmas &
Happy New Year

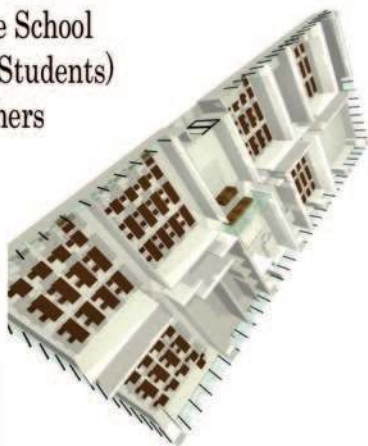
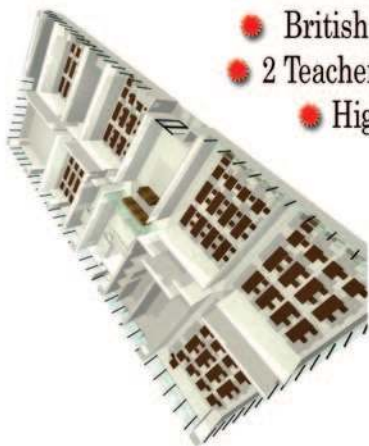


Santa Monica International Elementary School

Now Open! More Information At:

www.okinawainternationalschool.com

- British Style International Private School
- 2 Teachers per Class (Maximum 20 Students)
- Highly Qualified Staff & Teachers
- Etiquette Lessons
- No Religion



CONTENTS

December 2011 Issue 7

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year From Total Okinawa!

www.totalokinawa.com

Welcome to Total Okinawa's Christmas magazine. This month we've got a feature on Christmas in Okinawa, including some ideas on how to spend the holidays here, as well as Japanese traditions at Christmas and New Year.

We've also got two restaurant reviews, one from Kababs Indian restaurant and another from Yoshida Asian Fusion. There's also our regular dive update from Reef Encounters, Tricks & Tips and Weird & Wonderful. Enjoy!

As usual you can also view the magazine online at: www.totalokinawa.com

10 FEATURE

XMAS IN OKI

Restaurants - Kababs

Dive Report

Weird & Wonderful

Tips & Tricks

Cartoon Corner

Restaurants - Yoshida

4

6

9

12

15

16



Xmas In Oki Pg.10

Published in Okinawa by Totalokinawa.com
All content is Copyright 2011. All Rights Reserved
For advertising information - www.totalokinawa.com
Totalokinawa and it's partners are not responsible for the
content of any external advertising.

TOTALLYSMART



www.totalokinawa.mobi

What is TotallySmart?

This is the new SMART way to read a magazine. Use your mobile phone to scan the QR Code on relevant pages and jump straight to a customized mobile phone page with all the information on that business. Directions, opening hours, telephone number and more right in your hand. Great for out and about!

Most Japanese phones have a QR reader or check out the iPhone app store or the Andoid Market.

Totalokinawa Magazine December 2011

to

Restaurant Review

Indian Flavour

Authentic Indian Curry In Chatan

If you're a fan of curry but haven't ventured far from Japanese style restaurants then you have to try Kababs on Highway 58.

Indian restaurants have grown in popularity in Okinawa in the last few years but Kababs is one of the oldest. They offer several unique dishes including a delicious cheese filled nan bread and also their freshly made curry bread.

These alone are worth the trip!

We went at lunchtime and had the lunch set shown in the picture above for ¥1050.



The surprise was the chicken curry which apart from the tasty sauce contained three large chunks of perfectly cooked chicken. There was also a portion of lightly spiced roast chicken which was some of the most succulent roast chicken we've ever had. The owner told us that they only use best quality, freshly prepared American chicken.

We also tried one of the Japanese style curry plates, these are great value ranging from ¥680 - ¥850. What makes them unique is the blend of spices in the curry. It tastes like a combination of Japanese and Indian curries. We had ours with two pieces of roast chicken tikka. You could also try their tandoor roasted ribs, the only place in Okinawa that does them.

They're open for lunch and dinner with a-la-carte curries starting from around ¥900 and a kids set is available for ¥500. Take out is available with a menu on their website.

Lunch 11:30 - 15:30 (Sat & Sun Until 16:00)

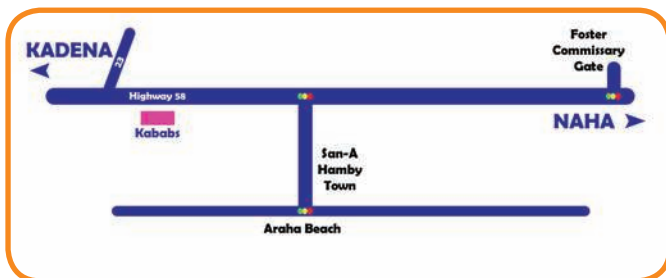
Dinner 17:30 - 23:00 (Sat & Sun From 17:00)

Closed Wednesday

Tel : 098-936-9998

Yen, Dollars & Credit Cards Accepted

www.indianfoodokinawa.com



<http://tiny.cc/kababs>

Google Map

KING FURNITURE CO.

FINE HANDMADE ROSEWOOD FURNITURE, OKINAWA

CUSTOM ORDER OK!




TEL:098-898-2743
OPEN: MON-SAT 10:00-19:00
SUN: 12:00-18:00



WWW.KINGFURNITUREOKINAWA.COM

Educating The Whole Child

Now Accepting Kindergarten



Enroll Now!

SUNSHINE MONTESSORI SCHOOL
www.sunshinemonessoriookinawa.com





Bovino's

BRAZILIAN BBQ
ブラジリアン パーベキュー
OKINAWA

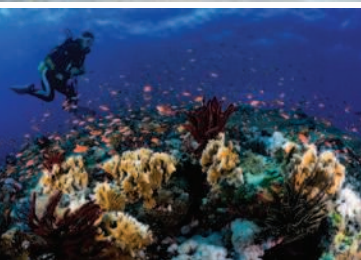
Buffet Lunch & Dinner - Meat Served at Your Table - Brazilian Buffet

Late Brazilian Time
Available for Celebrations

Tel: 098-989-5934 Fax: 098-989-5936
〒904-0116 沖縄県 中頭郡北谷町 北谷 1-12-7
〒904-0116, Okinawa, Chatan-Cho, Chatan 1-12-7
www.bovinos-okinawa.com




Holiday Diving..



The holiday season is here and the dives just keep getting better. As the waters cool around Okinawa larger sea life starts to move into the area. As January comes around we will be seeing the yearly migration of humpback whales in the Keramas and schools of hammerheads will be visiting Yonaguni. Reef Encounters is offering you the experience of a lifetime, putting you in the water with these magnificent creatures. Starting in January we will be running weekly trips to dive and snorkel with the gentle giants in the Kerama islands. While the whales are frolicking in the waters of the Keramas, schools of hammerhead sharks numbering in the hundreds will be cruising the dive sites of Yonaguni islands. Reef Encounters will be joining the hammerheads with tours in January (26th-29th), February (15th-19th) and March (8th-11th).

Reef Encounters will also be adding some new classes to the training schedule also this December. Reef Encounters will be offering sidemount training for both recreational divers and technical training. As the only Dive Rite certified dealer on island we offer the full line of Nomad sidemount rigs for you to dive with. We will also be starting our new diver development training programs with a technical program and a recreational instructor development program. Both of these programs are designed to take the new diver and using an intense training program lead to certification as a Trimix diver or as a recreational scuba instructor. Contact doug@reefencounters.org for more details on training programs or scheduling a whale or hammerhead tour.

Open 7 days a week from 9am - 6pm

Boat departs daily at 9am Tel - 098-995-9414

Dollars OK English & Japanese OK

www.reefencounters.org



m.totalokinawa.com/1b



**Pizza Buffet
With Ocean Views**

**All You Can Eat
Pizza, Curry & More!
Large Veranda
Room for Parties**

Oceans Pizza



Oceans Pizza is located in the Allivila Hotel area of Yomitan alongside the East China Sea just off Route 6

All U Can Eat ¥980!


Oceans Pizza
www.oceanspizza.com
Open Everyday
For Lunch & Dinner
098-958-7711



m.totalokinawa.com/pdf
Directions, Opening Times, Maps & More

NOW ORDER ONLINE!

Pizza in




www.okinawapizza.com

Food to Make You Smile!

All You Can Eat Buffet ¥980

098-936-7060

Delivery to Sunabe Area
Free Fries With Online Orders!



Camp Foster Legion Gate & Kadena Gate 1

Johnny's Used Cars

Now Under NEW Management!

Why Johnny's?

- ★ Over 300 Cars Across Two Lots
- ★ Convenient Locations
- ★ Over 40 Years In Business
- ★ As Little As \$500 Down
- ★ 18 Month Financing With Zero Interest

www.johnnys-cars.com



Camp Foster (Main Office)
Tel: 098-982-0312

Gate 1 (Satellite Office)
Tel: 098-921-7318



Our Foster Branch is conveniently located right outside of Foster's Legion Gate

Johnny's is located just outside Kadena Gate 1 next to Family Mart.



JOIN THE FAST LANE As A Professional Sales Agent

Find Out More at : www.encs.com



Exchange New Car Sales is the world's largest distributor of new cars to the US military and diplomatic communities serving overseas

Apply: Online: www.okinawajob.com/job/14
Email: szimber@militarycars.com
Phone: Scott Zimmer 646-2932

Paddy Macs Irish Pub



Huge selection of drinks including Guinness, Kilkenny, Bass, Black & Tan, Half & Half, Irish Car Bombs & Irish Coffee

www.irishpubokinawa.com




USO OKINAWA

Serving Those Who Serve Their Country

1941

www.usookinawa.org

2011



Weird and Wonderful Japan

iPhone

* For the first time the iPhone is now available on AU in Japan. If you're looking for a choice or better reception then your wait is over. AU has one of the best networks in Okinawa.

Longest Habu Snake

* The longest Habu snake ever has been found in Japan. Guess where... just outside Camp Hansen right here in Okinawa.



The Habu found was measured at 2.42 meters! Apparently twice as long on average as a normal Habu.

Going to need a big glass jar for this Habu sake!

Radiation Testing

* Aeon Group, owners of Jusco, have started a policy of "near zero" radiation testing for all food sold in it's supermarkets including seafood. They say they will be stopping selling products of any products containing radiation even if below official government limits.

Babysitting

* News in November that the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force may need protection from the Rwandan military during their participation in UN peacekeeping due to the strict rules on use of weapons by the GSDF.

Tokyo Nerve Gas

* Japan's Supreme Court has finalized the death sentence of Seiichi Endo for his part in the Tokyo subway attacks with sarin nerve gas. This is the last of the trials, however some suspects still haven't been caught.

Solo Karaoke

* A new store in front of Kanda station in Tokyo caters specifically to lone singers. The company thinks the solo rooms will appeal to people who want to practice alone or for people with free time in the afternoon.

Lost In Translation

* DoCoMo is working on an automatic real time translation service. It apparently has an 80% recognition and NTT hopes to launch the service sometime in 2012.

An advertisement for a restaurant named 'ITALIANO'. The top features a red, white, and green striped awning. Below it, the word 'ITALIANO' is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath, it says 'Delicious Pizza, Pasta & Doria'. At the bottom, there is a map showing the location, a phone number 'Tel: 098-936-7611', and the text 'Open - Lunch & Dinner Closed Tuesday' and 'Italiano-okinawa.com'.

CUSTOM TEE SHIRTS

Dri Fit, Sports Shirts, Hoodies... YOU NAME IT!

www.ultragraphicjapan.com
contact@ultragraphicjapan.com



898-5009 **ULTRA★GRAPHIC**
761-98974119

American Sizes Cheap Prices
Will Travel to Northern Bases



Home Away From Home

Spending the holiday season in Okinawa? We've got some ideas to make it feel more like Christmas.

Lights, Camera, Action!



Back home you may have spent days if not weeks decorating your house with lights or admiring your neighbour's handywork. Here in Okinawa you won't find too many decorated houses, but there's some great lightshows to entertain the family.

One of the most popular, organised events is the "**Christmas Fantasy Show**" at Okinawa Zoo Park. This year it's taking place from Friday 23 December to Wednesday 28 December and includes a laser show, lights everywhere, fireworks and snow. Ticket prices range from 1000-2000 yen. Visit www.xmas-fantasy.com for more information.

If you live further North the **Kanucha Resort** has a massive display of over 1,000,000 lights from the beginning of November through to February. It's a great location for a romantic stroll and maybe dinner in one of the restaurants. Call for details as they close to the public over the main christmas holiday.

If you want to combine some shopping with illuminations then check out the **Ashibina Outlet Mall** near Naha. You can view the lights and get a great deal on your christmas presents at the same time.

The Best Possible Service
To Meet Your Real Estate
Needs



Ocean View Properties



2-19-6 Chutan, Chutan-Cho
Email: info@myhousing.jp
Web: www.myhousingokinawa.com
Tel: 098-930-2988
Fax: 098-930-2989





Christmas in Okinawa

to

www.totalokinawa.com

Yum...

No Christmas celebration would be complete without some festive food. As we discussed last year KFC is often the party food of choice for both Okinawans and Japanese at Christmas. If you don't fancy KFC or have had enough turkey after Thanksgiving then the great thing about living in Japan is that because it's not a national holiday you can dine out on whatever

choice of food you prefer. If you love sushi, most of the major supermarkets prepare party platters at this time of year which make a great alternative to the traditional turkey!



End of Year Traditions

The end of the year and the new year that follows are a season for more celebration in Japan than the Western import of Christmas. Traditionally New Year in Japan is the time for family to get together.

If you work for a Japanese company or are out over the festive period, you may be involved in or see "bonenkai" which means "forget the old year parties". It's not uncommon during the party season to regularly see groups of totally intoxicated workers out for the night, and in true customary fashion any indiscretions are forgotten at work the next day!

Final Ideas

Why not do something you couldn't do back home over Christmas? Go diving, walk on the beach or how about reflect on the year at the Peace Memorial Park. Whatever you do have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



Beautiful Homes from Tokuzato Housing

Houses
Apartments
Duplexes

Tel: 098-956-2667
<http://www.tokuzato-hsg.jp/en>



Etiquette

Continuing from last month, here's some more etiquette advice for making living in Japan a bit easier!

Eating

In the last issue we showed you some of the do's and don'ts of chopsticks. Here's some more help on eating in Japan:

- It's polite to say "*Itadakimasu*" before starting to eat. It's said to express gratitude not only for the preparation of the food but also any living animals that made up the meal.

- Unlike some Asian cultures, it is



considered polite to clear your plate in Japan. It's not polite to pick out certain

foods and leave the rest.

- Instead of pouring soy sauce directly onto rice or other food, pour a small amount into the provided dish.

- When dipping sushi into the soy sauce, it's considered polite to do it sushi side down, to prevent grains of rice falling into the soy sauce.

- You can lift rice and soup bowls to your mouth to avoid spilling food. It's also acceptable to slurp certain foods such as ramen or soba noodles. However, that's not an excuse to slurp when in the Italian restaurant as slurping pasta is not normal!



- Lower down the scale on ways to offend is eating or drinking while walking. It's not a big problem, but some Japanese do consider it impolite to eat while walking or on public transport.

- When you visit a restaurant you'll often receive a wet paper towel called an *oshibori*. Don't wipe your face or neck with the towel as it's considered rude in the majority of places.

- When using a toothpick you should cover your mouth with one hand.

While on the subject of covering your mouth whatever you do don't blow your nose at the table especially with a cloth handkerchief! Blowing your nose in public let alone in a restaurant is very rude. However, sniffing to prevent blowing is ok!

SideDoor

Competitive Darts Bar

**Hundreds of Cocktails
Nightly Drink Specials
Darts FREE All Night!
Cat, Dog & Fish Friendly Bar!**

<http://sidedoor.freehosting.com>
www.facebook.com/sokinawa

Chetan

NASHVILLE

Kitamae Country Music Club
www.nashville-okinawa.com

BK & LUA'S ROCK HOUSE

Kitamae Rock House
www.bkandluas.com

Kin Town

OHOP'S

Okinawa House of Pancakes
www.ohops.biz

MIA'S ROCK HOUSE

Kin's Very Own Rock House
www.miasrockhouse.com

FIRST ROUND LAST ROUND

Billiards & A Great Bar
www.firstround-lastround.com

SALOON

Ride the Bull in Kin Town!
www.kinsaloon.com

LITTLE COUNTRY

Friendly Country Bar
www.littlecountrykin.com



Ambrosia

アンブロージア

Beauty & Relaxation

Tel: 098-989-3620

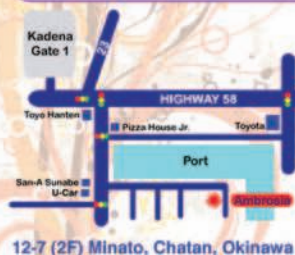


Aromatherapy Massage

- ★ First time customers get 10% off
- ★ Special 20% off in your birthday month

60 Mins Full Body Course	¥5,250
120 Mins Total Course (Body & Facial)	¥9,450
45 Mins Maternity Course	¥3,675

Couples Room Available



Permanent Makeup
Aromatherapy Massage
Rejuvenation Facials
Eyelash Curl & Extension



Permanent Makeup

- ★ Special ¥3000 off permanent makeup for eyebrows

Eyebrows	¥29,400	Upper Eyeliner	¥21,000
		Lower Eyeliner	¥18,900

Find Us On Facebook!

www.okinawabeautysalon.com
Open 11:00 - 20:00
Closed Mondays & 4th Sunday
\$ and Credit Cards OK!



White River Photo Studio

Now View
& Order
Photos
Online!

Family Package ¥11,550

Includes:

- 5x7 Photo (2)
- 8x10 Photo (1)
- 5 Wallet Sized Photos
- 5 Postcard Photos

Costume & Makeup Fee:
¥1050 - ¥4200 per person
(Tax Included Weekdays Only)



m.totalokinawa.com/s1
Directions, Opening Times, Maps & More

Tel: 098-939-2880
Open 10am - 7pm
Closed Sunday

www.whiteriverphotostudio.com



Cartoon Corner to



M AUTO

Military & Civilian Car Sales

Japan Used Car
Dealers Association

Member of Okinawa
Protecting Used
Car Association

Over 27 Years
in Business

20-1 Yagibaru, Kitanakagusuku-son, Okinawa

Tel/Fax: 098-989-0701

www.autosalesokinawa.com

contact@autosalesokinawa.com



"Wheel, schmeel, what have you done for me lately?"

**NO Set Up Fee On
Hikari Next Services**

**Watch US TV Online
With A US IP Address**

**High Speed Internet
Fiber Optic & ADSL
Home & Business Accounts**

**Okinawa's #1
English Speaking
ISP**

SUNNY-NET
INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER

www.sunny-net.ne.jp



TECH SUPPORT
(098)983-7557 (Mon-Fri 10:00-18:00)
Excludes Sat & Sun, & National Holidays

SALES & BILLING
(098)983-7770 (Mon-Fri 10:00-18:00)
Excludes Sat & Sun, & National Holidays

Yoshida Asian Fusion Dining

Innovative Flavors from Around the World

If you want to experience fusion cuisine, Yoshida Asian Fusion Dining offers a course menu which will take you around the world, all in one sitting.

Chef Akira Miyagi has been the Executive Chef at Yoshida Asian Fusion Dining since they opened in 2008. He graduated from the world renowned Osaka Nakanoshima Tsuji Japan Professional Cooking Academy and has worked in Japan, France, and England. In Tokyo, he began his fusion career and was sent to South America, Hawaii, and Hong Kong to be influenced by different cuisines.

Chef Miyagi takes careful time in planning every menu, which changes monthly. He says the first course to the last course must be equally impressive. Most of the menus are of French influence, but capture a multitude of flavors from around the world. Every course has a beautiful balance of color, flavor, and texture.

The meal begins with a delicate amuse bouche followed by a hors d'oeuvres plate and soup course. You can see Chef Miyagi thinly slicing prosciutto from a leg of dry-cured ham which is displayed on the counter. Soft bread, provided exclusively for the restaurant by Zazou Bakery, is baked and served in Yomitan pottery.

A seafood course then a meat course follows, which combine an array of local and imported ingredients complimented by fresh herbs and vegetables. Yoshida offers a vast wine menu, and your server will help you decide on the perfect



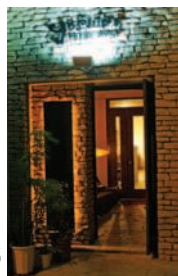
Hors d'oeuvres Course : Marinated Norwegian Salmon

wine to accompany every course.

The dessert selection is truly a sight to behold, as golden ribbons of caramelized sugar defy gravity in an almost ikebana arrangement with fresh fruit, cream, and layered cake.

Lunch is served from 1130-1400, and dinner is from 1830-2100. They are closed Monday evening, every Tuesday, and the third Monday of each month. Course meals for lunch are ¥1850, and dinner courses are ¥4200, except for December which offers a special holiday dinner course for ¥6000. Only yen is accepted, sorry no credit cards. For the holiday season, Yoshida closes after lunch December 28, but will reopen after the New Year.

Reservations are preferred, as the restaurant only has seating for 30. You can reserve the entire restaurant for a private party, if you call 098-957-0141 at least two weeks prior to your event. Bon appétit!



Google Map

<http://tiny.cc/g66ke>

East West Montessori School

Give Your
Child A
World Class
Education



Ages 2-6
Toddler &
Kindergarten
Classes

098-983-7303
M-F 9am-2pm



www.eastwestmontessori.com



Contact Us For
Open Houses & Tours

JAPAN FAMILY HOUSING

HELPING YOU FIND YOUR PERFECT OKINAWA HOME



OUR SERVICES

- Luxury Full Service Homes
- Elite Apartments and Condos
- Reasonable Lease Rates
- Multilingual Staff



contact@japanfamilyhousing.com
www.japanfamilyhousing.com
Tel: 098-933-8112
Fax: 098-933-8117
1-9-37 Kubota, Okinawa City



m.totalokinawa.com/jg
Directions, Opening Times, Maps & More

to

Coupons



Master Sun

Get 5 Minutes FREE
at Master Sun
With This Coupon

Excludes Services Requiring
Pre-Appointment. Please
Check In At The Front Desk
To Redeem.



Ambrosia Beauty & Relaxation Tel: 098-989-3620

For Aromatherapy Massage

- ★ First time customers get 10% off
- ★ Special 20% off in your birthday month
- For Permanent Makeup
- ★ Special ¥3000 Discount for eyebrows




Oceans Pizza & Pizza In

Get ONE Small French
Fries with every group
OR
Free Fries with Online
Orders!

www.totalokinawa.com & www.okinawapizza.com
(Limited to one coupon per group/order)

TOMA'S GARAGE

Get A Free Oil
Change With Your
GOJ Inspection

(Excludes Diesels & Turbos)

Tel: 098-956-0691
Car Repair & Insurance
www.tomasgarage.com



White River Photo Studio

Get One Extra 5x7
Print With the Family
Package
(Frame Extra)

Totalokinawa Magazine Coupon
Please Cut Or Print and take to Shop
www.whiteriverphotostudio.com

**10% Discount at
Hearth Cafe**



Totalokinawa Magazine Coupon
Please Cut Or Print and take to
Restaurant
Valid at 2nd Floor & Terrace
www.hearth-cafe.com



Bovino's

10% Discount On
Your Dinner Check
For Active Duty
Military

www.bovinos-okinawa.com

Looking for Jobs?  **okinawajob.com**

Okinawa's Premier Job Portal



**BRAND NEW
HOUSES from**

Seaside Housing

95% of our houses are within
walking distance of a beach!

Telephone: 098-936-0202 www.seasidehousing.jp



Central Housing

Are you Looking for House?
Please Check Our Official Website.

Tel 098-939-5121
http://www.centralhousingokinawa.com



Bella Claudia

LADIES IMPORTED CLOTHING

DRESSES - LINGERIE - COSTUMES

First 100 Customers
3 Month 10% Discount!

* Discount Card With First Purchase

Depot Island Close
To Sunset Beach
Tel: 098-989-8878
www.bellaclaudia.com

Google Map 



XXX-Mas Party!

Come Give Your Favorite
Dancer Some Xmas Cheer!

Dec 23rd

DEJA VU
GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

www.dejavugents.com

Dec 24th

CHI CHIS
GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

Okinawa, Japan
www.chichisgents.com

Start The New Year
With Okinawa's
Hottest Dancers on
December 31



Entrance Ticket
Raffle!

1st Prize
5 FREE Door
Entries

T Shirt &
Free Drink
Giveaways!

**Doors Open
7pm!**

Maps at: www.dejavugents.com www.chichisgents.com

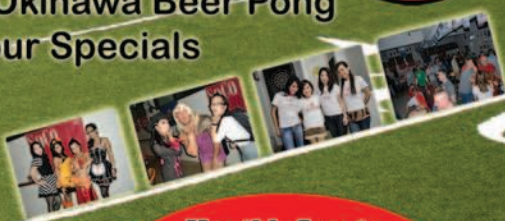
PITSTERS SPORTS BAR

Great Food - NEW MENU!

Big Screen Sports

Home of Okinawa Beer Pong

Happy Hour Specials



Monthly Events
Check Web for Schedule
www.pitsters.com



in totalokinawa.com
Directions, Opening Times, Maps & More



**Monthly
Plans!
Unlimited
Tanning
¥6500!**

Master Sun Tanning Salon

**Open Daily - 6am - 1am
(Last Session 12am)**

Tel: 926-5553

www.okinawatan.com

Coupon Page 14



**No Appointment Needed!
Just Walk In!**

**Complimentary Showers,
Bath Towels, Fragrance,
Soap & Shampoo**



**Always
1\$ = ¥100**

**Open
6am**

**High Performance
Tanning Equipment**



m.totalokinawa.com/jh
Directions, Opening Times, Maps & More

