

totalokinawaTM

www.totalokinawa.com

December 2015 & January 2016

Crank up the Quirk!

Holiday gifts with a Japanese twist





**Sign up with Sunny Net for
Fiber Optic and get**

3 Months

ISP FREE!*



Google Map

Sunabe



(098) 983-7770

Mon - Fri 10:00 - 18:00
Saturday 10:00 - 16:00
Closed on Sun & Japanese Holidays

*** Requires 1 Year Contract**

**- VPN (US IP address) for
1050yen/mo**

- FREE wireless router setup

**- FREE 1mo ISP fee for each
referral**

www.sunny-net.ne.jp

Tel: 098-983-7770

Crank up the Quirk!

Holiday gifts with a Japanese twist

Weren't we just ringing in 2015, and now we're about to say goodbye to it as we prepare for the holidays. In this issue, we help you improve your gift-giving game with some fun and funky presents found on island.

I'M PERFECT!



While you're making a list and checking it twice, check out our reviews on Bamboche and Pizza House Jr. There's also the latest dive report from Reef Encounters, Weird & Wonderful and Total You. You can view the magazine online at:

www.totalokinawa.com

totalokinawa

CONTENTS

DECEMBER 2015 -
JANUARY 2016

Issue 32



www.totalokinawa.mobi

Need a QR reader?

Check out our
magazine page on
Totalokinawa.com

9 Crank up the Quirk!

Bamboche	4
Dive Report	6
Quirky Japanese Gifts	9
Weird & Wonderful	13
Total You	14
Pizza House Jr.	16



Published in Okinawa by Totalokinawa.com
All content is Copyright 2015. All Rights Reserved
For advertising information - www.totalokinawa.com
Totalokinawa and it's partners are not responsible for the
content of any external advertising.

Bamboche

Enjoy all you can eat and cook!



Bamboche is a Japanese barbecue restaurant and buffet. This was an accidental find for me; I was next door getting new tires for my car, and my stomach got the better of me. From the outside, it's not much to behold, but inside, it's surprisingly big. It's completely help yourself, and all you can eat. After being seated, you have free reign.

If you've never been to this type of restaurant, prepare to be amazed! All the tables have cool little fire pits. The flame is low and protected by a safety grill, but if you

have kids keep a close eye on them. They have a combination of normal seating (booth style seating with the table and fire pit), and Japanese seating (low tables with fire pits but shoes not permitted).

Food choice is extensive. A combination of Japanese dishes is offered alongside American, so have yourself miso soup with fried chicken.

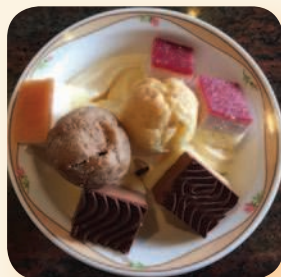
There's salad, hot and cold options, and barbecue. The barbecue selection ranges from beef, pork, sausages, and chicken, but also liver, heart and offal. You can play it safe like I did (sausages and beef were pretty tasty), or dig into something like intestines. The way it works is simple: grab a tray, a plate or two, load up and head back to your table.

I put the raw meat on its own plate, then helped myself to spring rolls, dumplings, fried chicken, potatoes and a beef curry with rice. You can have as many servings as you like. At your table, place that meat on the grate and use the handy tongs they give you to cook it to your liking.

For dessert, they have an ice cream machine, plus a chiller cabinet filled with cute little cubes of cake; when I went, they had strawberry, chocolate and orange.

To drink, there are mostly soft drinks, juices and water in the buffet area to help yourself to.

The decor is muted, but has a warm, friendly atmosphere and is clean. The front desk has a glass display filled with retro toys and games from the 80's and 90's. The restaurant owner, a kind Japanese lady, told me they were the games and toys her children used to play with when they were young. After they grew up, she saved them and put them in her restaurant, which I thought was a sweet story.



Google Map & Directions



<https://goo.gl/maps/hdPXQdGKhJA2>



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

www.sunrisehousingokinawa.com
Email: sunrisehousingokinawa@gmail.com



SUNRISE
Housing Agency
Tel: (098) 937-1985



The Best Possible Service To Meet Your Real Estate Needs



Ocean View Properties



2-19-6 Chatan, Chatan-Cho
Email: info@myhousing.jp
Web: www.myokinawahousing.com
Tel: 098-938-2363
Fax: 098-938-2369

ALL YOU CAN EAT BRAZILIAN STYLE STEAK HOUSE



Bovino's
BRAZILIAN BBQ
OKINAWA

Going Away Parties, Award Ceremonies, Birthday Parties-Over 100 People OK!

Every Mon-Tues ¥300 Draft Beer
Every Wed Ladies Dinner ¥2,600
Every Thurs Samba Show!!!

Freshly cooked meat cut at your table




Map labels: Mihama, Kadena, Toyota, LESTER, Bank of Okinawa, Altek, Hamby, Naha, Araha Beach, HWY 58, Foster Spot Gate, CAMP FOSTER.



VISA
MasterCard
All Major Credit Cards Accepted

904-0116 Okinawa, Chatan-Cho, Chatan 1-12-7 TEL 098-989-5934

The 2015 dive season is coming to a close, but that just means more great dives for next year are right around the corner. December and January will be bringing some new and wonderful things to the Okinawa diving scene. We will see the first Dive Rite Tech center open on Okinawa, supporting the full range of Dive Rite gear, both recreational and tech. No more waiting to order online; everything from sidemount rigs and wings for back-mounted doubles, stage bottle rigs, reels or simple clips will be in stock and ready to purchase at amazing low prices at the new Reef Encounters retail outlets, scheduled to open December 2015. We will also be supporting a full range of classes so you can use all your new tech gear. Intro to Tech, Decompression Diver, and Trimix will all be offered on a regular basis, with rebreather training also being offered throughout the year. Rebreather support with Sofnolime® and other accessories will also be available.



So if you are a tech diver, aspiring tech diver or tech instructor, Reef Encounters will be your all around shop for support and supplies to take you deeper than you've gone before. Along with Dive Rite, Reef Encounters will be carrying such names as Shearwater, OxyCheq and others to support your diving needs. Reef Encounters is also scheduled to be back in the water and running both technical and recreations trips on a daily basis starting in December.

Not only is the diving on Okinawa progressing, but the new year means it's hammerhead shark season in Yonaguni. We have already posted dates for the Yonaguni tours for 2016 on the Reef Encounters Dive Team Facebook page. Seats are filling fast, so please get your reservations and deposits in early, as 2016 promises to be an epic year for sharks and you do not want to miss out on these amazing trips. There are tours scheduled for January 15th and 27th, February 11th and 25th, and March 20th to swim with the sharks and explore the ruins of Yonaguni.

December and January will also see both divemaster and instructor classes take place at Reef Encounters, so if you want to take the next step and become a dive professional, contact us now. Reef Encounters will also be looking to hire instructors and divemasters for the 2016 season and to staff a new facility in 2016. If you are looking to join an elite team of dive professionals and teach diving using the latest techniques and tools, contact us now.

www.reefencounters.org

098-995-9414



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 Alivila 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.totatokinawa.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

**Delivery to Sunabe Area
Free Fries With Online Orders!**

098-936-7060



★ Over 300 Cars Across Two Lots
★ Convenient Locations
★ Over 40 Years In Business

Johnny's Used Cars

★ Up To 24 Months Financing
★ With Zero Interest
★ NO Down Payment
★ 1 Year Limited Warranty

www.johnnys-cars.com



Camp Foster (Main Office)
Tel: 098-982-0312
Gate 1 (Satellite Office)
Tel: 098-921-7318



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

Our Branch Office is located just outside Kadena Gate 1 next to Family Mart.



Let Us Make Your Life Better in Okinawa
@ Central Housing

Welcome

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



USO Okinawa
Until Everyone Comes Home®
www.usookinawa.org





Crank up the Quirk!

Holiday gifts with a Japanese twist

by Louise Dupuy

Holiday season is upon us, and we know that thoughts drift to our loved ones back home. Let's break with tradition this year, and send home some of the more interesting gifts that can only be found in Japan. We've rounded up a list of our favorite quirky Japanese presents that are bound to amuse and delight everyone on your shopping list. We hope you enjoy and are inspired!

Hamburger Stacking Game



Where to buy: Don Quijote in Ginowan

Cost: 2410 yen

This is a very Japanese twist on the popular stacking game Jenga, except the aim is to build a delicious looking hamburger without it crashing down around your ears. It's a great way for the whole family to pass time when you're finished with dinner or locked in because of a storm.

Flavoured Kit-Kats

Where to buy: Don Quijote Village

Cost: From 198 to 358 yen, depending on pack size

This is a pretty popular candy here. A wide variety of flavours (including green tea, sakura and cheesecake) adds a delicious twist on a traditional favourite. They're perfect for that special person with a sweet tooth back home! Flavours vary and can be seasonal, so these are a great year-round gift.



Floating Jellyfish Light



Where to buy: Tokyu Hands in San-Ai by Round One

Cost: 780 yen for small to 1200 yen for large

Cute little floating ambience lights are a perfect gift for that stressed out work-a-holic. Run a bath, throw in some bubbles, put a peaceful playlist on, dim the lights and enjoy a soak with your adorable new light-up friend.

Petit Steamer Animal Cookware

Where to buy: Japan Tax Free Shop, next to American Depot in American Village, Mihama
Cost: 1200 yen each

This one is a treat for the foodies: they're little crock pots in the shape of animals. Is the chef in your life also a cat lover? Kill two birds with one stone! They're a great price, and a reasonable size. Jamie Oliver himself will be jealous!



Remote Control Mario Kart



Where to buy: Village Vanguard Shop on 2nd Floor by Daiso in Aeon City Mall, American Village, Mihama
Cost: 3980 yen each

We didn't forget the gamers in your life! Give them a break from the console and allow them to indulge in a real game of Mario Kart around the house with this cool remote control Mario Kart toy. It's sure to be endless fun (and headaches for the pets, no doubt).

Mimi Pochi Purse

Where to buy: Japan Tax Free Shop, next to American Depot in American Village, Mihama
Cost: 1296 yen each

It's no secret that many girls love purses and shopping, so why not make that a cute experience with a mimi pochi? It's a sweet little coin purse, good for keeping all that loose change in check, and these have shisa dog faces, so you can guarantee her friends won't have that back home! They come in a range of colours too, allowing for colour coordinating, too! Perfect!



SINCE 1998 Largest Dance Floor on Okinawa!
WESTERN WORLD
OPEN / FRIDAY / SATURDAY 6PM~CLOSE

COUNTRY NIGHT!!

Friday & Saturday - FREE Entry!!

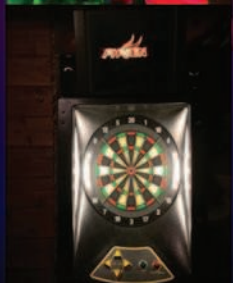
HAPPY HOUR! 6PM~8PM
Soft drinks \$2 Beer on tap \$3 Mixed drinks \$4
Free cover charge!!



GOOD FOOD! GOOD TIMES!!



SPECIAL MENU 6-8PM!!



TEL : 098-921-9300

Check FB (WESTERN WORLD OKINAWA JAPAN) for more information!!!

Weird and Wonderful Japan

Ministry negates U.N. official's stat

Japan's Foreign Ministry has protested remarks by a U.N. official who claimed that 13% of Japanese schoolgirls were involved in "enjo kosai," or compensatory dating with older men, stating there is no objective basis for that number. Someone needs to review their Research 101 notes and remember to cite sources.

A Fowl Case

Within days of each other, Tochigi police found the severed legs of a cat, 1,100 dead fish, and headless bodies of a duck and pigeon, all believed to be by the same perpetrator. Is this a serial killer in the making?

Tokyo Olympics site hacked

The 2020 Tokyo Olympics website was inaccessible for 12 hours due to a cyberattack. Two thoughts come to mind: 1. Why would anyone want to hack the Olympics site, and 2. Even more surprising is that anyone noticed.

The yolk's on you

Kanagawa police arrested two brothers, 18 and 21, for throwing 500 raw eggs off a bridge at cars on the Tomei Expressway below, causing damage to 54 cars. The 18-year-old said he got a kick out of seeing the drivers' surprised faces. He's lucky no one was seriously hurt—or he'd be surprised by a long stay in prison.



株式会社スターハウジング
Star Housing
外国人向け賃貸 不動産 TEL.098-923-3956

555-7 Aza, Kamisedo,
Chatan, 904-0101
www.starhousing1.com
info@starhousing1.com
Tel: 098-923-3956

Find Your **Perfect** Okinawan
Home With Star Housing

Give a gift not found in stores

I don't know when it happened, but somehow in my adult life, I became a full-blown Scrooge. Maybe it was when Christmas music and decor started creeping into stores earlier, right after Halloween. Or maybe it was after feeling bombarded by the onslaught of holiday marketing, vying for precious holiday shopping dollars with "killer sales," and causing people who just celebrated a holiday of giving thanks to camp outside big box stores all night and practically (sometimes literally) trample others for that \$99 gadget. Fortunately, we don't see that sort of shopping mania in Okinawa.

There's an Ikea video in Spanish that has gone viral, called "The Other Letter." In it, children are told to write a letter to the Three Kings, the equivalent of Santa, for what they'd like to receive for Christmas. Their answers are typical: a game, a Wii, a guitar, even a unicorn. Unexpectedly, they're told to write another letter, this time telling their parents what they want for Christmas. The children struggle. Then, the video fast forwards to the parents reading aloud what the children have asked for. It's not toys, or a unicorn: it's simply that the parents spend more time with them, that they eat dinner together more, play soccer, or be tickled or read to.

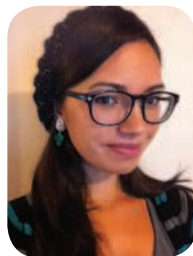
And that's really what tends to get forgotten, isn't it, especially during the mad rush of holiday season chaos? What we really want from each other can't be bought at a store; that's a myth the retail industry wants us to believe, and we haven't even discussed the environmental costs of that unbridled consumerism. Even more valuable than the biggest-ticket item on your holiday list is this: your time.

So what does "quality time" actually look like as a gift? How might you give that to yourself and others? Can you even wrap that? Here are some ideas:

For children: Remember that kids just want to spend time with you, and they can tell when you're distracted by your smartphone or the TV, so be aware and present with them. They truly would appreciate a special playdate with you, a jar full of cookie ingredients that you make together, or a new chapter book that you can read to them each night. Even if you're on a tight budget, you could wrap library books — what matters is reading them together.

For friends: Similarly, friends want to feel connected, and that you're there for them. You could surprise them with a special lunch date at a new restaurant they haven't tried or a "voucher" to teach them some skill you have. You'd be surprised how much you know that others would love to learn, whether it's budgeting and personal finance, learning a new technology, crafting, cooking, couponing, home decor, or gardening.

For yourself: If you're too busy working on your to-do list to take care of yourself, you won't be able to really enjoy the time you do have with friends and family. Don't forget to take a break and do some self-care if you're feeling frazzled. Try to focus on the few things that are truly necessary for you to do each day, and then schedule in activities that will help you relax, whether that's a bath, a nap, or a walk.



NASHVILLE

Anniversary Party

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5TH

Come join our Party Ya'll!

as we celebrate another year since re-opening Nashville RnR!

Live Country Music by 9 Long Lives

Free Food-Drink-Specials-Games

Best "country" Dressed contest for Prizes

Just gonna throw down like ya'll know how!

FREE FOOD AND DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT!

9 Long Lives COUNTRY MUSIC

LIVE!

\$6 COVER DOORS OPEN AT 6PM RESERVATIONS FROM 6PM

NASHVILLE RNR OKINAWA

<http://www.nashville-okinawa.com/>

NASHVILLE OKINAWA

QR CODE



Saint Josephine Montessori

Friendly New School Close to Camp Kinser

www.sjosephinemontessori.com

school@sjosephinemontessori.com

Tel: 098-878-5523 Cell: 090-9784-6562

BRAND NEW HOUSES from

Seaside Housing

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

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

CUSTOM TEE SHIRTS

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

www.ultragraphicjapan.com

contact@ultragraphicjapan.com

898-5009 **ULTRA GRAPHIC**

American Sizes Cheap Prices Will Travel to Northern Bases

New Beginnings International Christian Center

New Beginnings International Christian Center is a Ministry with a Kingdom Agenda: A Spiritual Boot Camp that prepares all for their next level of Ministry. We are here to make a Supernatural Impact in the local Japanese & Military Community!

Our Service times:
12:30pm Sunday Worship
7 pm Wednesday Life Group
Bible Study (Please call for directions)

Check our website for directions or scan the QR code for a Google Map

www.nbicc-okinawa.org 090-6866-5207

QR CODE

Pizza House Jr.

So much more than pizza!



Pizza house Jr. is a small, modern restaurant in Urasoe, only a short drive to Kinser, and located just behind a KFC. It has plenty of parking too, which is always a plus on Okinawa. I found it to be spotlessly clean, and very welcoming. The staff speak fairly good English, and, as with most places here, are polite and helpful. There is a big, glossy menu right outside, all with English translations and pictures, so you can size up what you want before you even set foot in the door. It's touted as a pizza restaurant, but honestly this is only a tiny portion of what they serve.

Don't get discouraged though, the menu is great! Though quirky, the selection means even picky eaters should be fine. Most dishes have a somewhat Italian feel, though there is also the odd Mexican inspiration and American in there too. I went with the beef stew doria, and my husband opted for the taco pizza. Neither of us were disappointed. The pizza was available in 3 sizes (he went for the 22cm), which turned out to be a decent portion, and it was loaded up with delicious toppings, all fresh. The beef stew was divine, and included a bed of rice topped with chunks of beef, stew sauce and drowned in cheese. It was also a generous portion, bursting with flavour and incredibly filling. Neither of us wanted dessert.

The drinks were pretty standard, and included a range of soft drinks and fruit juices. Prices were not too unreasonable. They have some competition with KFC right in front and a coffee shop next door. We paid around \$25.00 for our meals, including drinks.

This was a great little find. It's got a calm, cool vibe, perfect for a quiet couples dinner or a business lunch.



Google Map & Directions



<https://goo.gl/maps/GDXdwEDsygv>



Okinawa's International Housing Agency **TOMIYA HOUSING**

We Serve US Military & Foreign Civilians



Modern Design



New Builds



Traditional Homes



Google Map

Since 1976

Trust Relationship



2-44-20 Aragusuku
Ginowan City 901-2201
Tel: 098-892-0077
www.tomiyahousing.com
Email: info-e@tomiya88.com



Master Sun

Get 5 Minutes **FREE**
at Master Sun
With This Coupon

Excludes Services Requiring
Prepayment. Offer Valid While
Supplies Last.



Ambrosia
Beauty & Relaxation

For Aromatherapy Massage

★ Special 20% off in your birthday month

Tel: 098-989-3620



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)

AUTO REPAIR SHOP TOMA
2000 Yen Discount Coupon
(For Labor Charges Over 20,000 Yen)
Cash Payment Only Exp. 31 Dec 15
One Time Only
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: Hearth Cafe Sunabe
www.hearth-cafe.com



Bovino's
Ask About Our Great Yen/Dollar Rates!

www.bovinos-okinawa.com



Try Bamboo Cafe Chicken - 3 Jerk Chicken Pieces Free!
www.bamboocafeokinawa.com



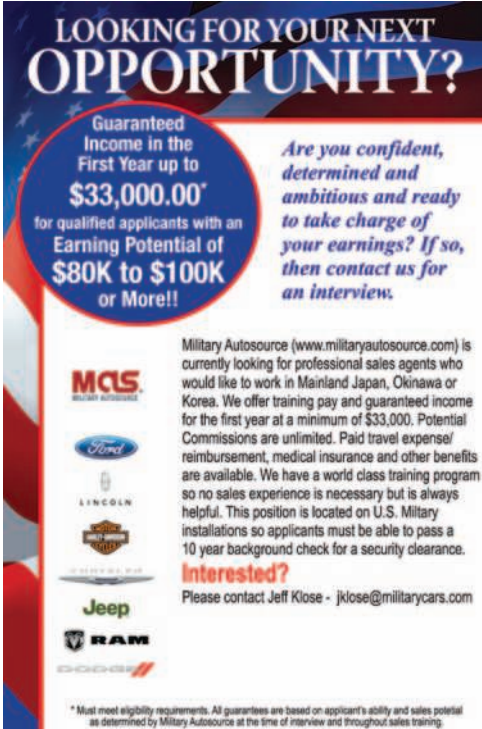
White River Photo Studio

Family Package ¥13,500

Includes:
5x7 Photo (2), 5x10 Photo (1)
5 Wallet Sized Photos
5 Postcard Photos
Costume & Makeup Fee:
¥1050 - ¥4200 per person
(Tax Included Weekdays Only)

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

www.whiteriverphotostudio.com



LOOKING FOR YOUR NEXT OPPORTUNITY?

Guaranteed Income in the First Year up to **\$33,000.00***
for qualified applicants with an Earning Potential of **\$80K to \$100K or More!!**

Are you confident, determined and ready to take charge of your earnings? If so, then contact us for an interview.

Military Autosource (www.militaryautosource.com) is currently looking for professional sales agents who would like to work in Mainland Japan, Okinawa or Korea. We offer training pay and guaranteed income for the first year at a minimum of \$33,000. Potential Commissions are unlimited. Paid travel expense/reimbursement, medical insurance and other benefits are available. We have a world class training program so no sales experience is necessary but is always helpful. This position is located on U.S. Military installations so applicants must be able to pass a 10 year background check for a security clearance.

Interested?
Please contact Jeff Klose - jklose@militarycars.com

* Must meet eligibility requirements. All guarantees are based on applicant's ability and sales potential as determined by Military Autosource at the time of interview and throughout sales training.



NEED a website?

Websites - ¥9900/mth
Includes domain name, email, hosting & more

Website Hosting - ¥1095/mth
Already got a website? Move to our private hosting
Free transfer assistance

Domain Email - ¥290/mth
Get your own .com & .mail. Look more professional!

E-Commerce Store - ¥5500*/mth
Want to sell online? Add an e-commerce store to your website. *With website

Register Online For News & Events!

DISCOVER OKINAWA'S BEST INTERNATIONAL DANCERS

LADIES FREE ENTRY ON THURSDAY
LADIES NIGHT THURSDAY




DEJA VU
GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

TUES-SUN 7PM-1AM
BEAUTIFUL INTERNATIONAL DANCERS
DAILY SPECIALS
WWW.DEJAVUGENTS.COM



totalokinawa.com
Directions, Opening Times, Maps & More



CHI CHI'S GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

Okinawa, Japan
www.chichisgents.com

OPPOSITE CAMP FOSTER COMMISSARY GATE

OKINAWA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL DANCERS
Open Tuesday - Sunday




totalokinawa.com
Directions, Opening Times, Maps & More



www.chichisgents.com

The Rose Garden

Beef Steak and Eggplant Curry

1,280 yen



Chicken Thai Curry

1,190 yen



Russian Beef Stroganoff

1,280 yen



Louisiana Gumbo

1,890 yen



Certified Angus Beef Steak

1,980 yen



Those who like fresh quality food, cooked to order, know where to find us.

The Rose Garden offers the best quality food for customers. Try our Japanese beef and chicken Thai curries. Our curries are flavorful, delicious and an absolute must for any curry lover. Once you taste our curries, you will never go back to other places. Don't forget our certified juicy Angus beef steaks and Louisiana gumbo with large tiger shrimp. Russian beef stroganof is also popular among our customers. When it comes to dessert, there's no better place for freshly baked pies and cakes. We highly recommend our sour cream cheesecake, so stop by and we'll cut you a slice!

Tel: 098-932-2800

www.rosegardenokinawa.net

Open 8am to 11pm - 7 Days a Week - Last Order 11pm