

About karate in Okinawa

Okinawa is the birthplace of karate.

Nurtured for centuries, it was variously influenced through exchanges with China and Japan.

Having spread to the world and developed, it was recently adopted as an official event of the Olympic Games.

Enjoyed by people of all ages, there are close to 400 dōjō or karate gyms within the Okinawa Prefecture

where this traditional culture is inherited. The styles of Okinawa karate are Shōrin-ryū, Gōjū-ryū, Uechi-ryū and others. There is also kobudō, the art of traditional weapons.

Working in cooperation with the Okinawa Dentō Karatedō Shinkōkai, the Okinawa Prefecture is striving to promote Okinawa karate through various means.

Symbol of Okinawa karate, the Okinawa Karate Kaikan (<http://karatekaikan.jp/>) was opened in March 2017. This is where our center is located.



About the center

Established by the Okinawa Prefecture Karate Promotion Division in May 2017, the Okinawa Karate Information Center (OKIC) acts as an information office for visitors, martial artists and professionals interested in karate and kobudō. Regardless if you are a martial art practitioner or not, regardless of your age and gender, if you have inquiries on Okinawan martial arts, if you are looking for a dōjō where you could train or a karate related site or monument, feel free to contact us or visit our office anytime.

Some of the services we can provide

- Answer inquiries regarding to karate, kobudō and related matters
- Organize training sessions in an Okinawa dōjō or seminars
- Help organize a trip to Okinawa in relation with karate
- Organize cultural activities (Tea ceremony, calligraphy, cooking, etc.)
- Support your professional needs regarding to karate and kobudō (filming, interviews, etc...)

Events sponsored by the Okinawa Prefecture

- The demonstration for "Karate no hi (Day of Karate)" held on October 25th in Okinawa
- The 1st Okinawa Karate International Tournament
Dates: August 1-8, 2018
Venues: Okinawa Karate Kaikan and Okinawa Prefecture Budōkan
<http://okinawa-karate.okinawa/>

Planning a visit

A dōjō is usually not a place for public demonstration but primary a hall where people practice their art. To make sure you are welcomed, plan a visit and possible training in advance. Contacting us a few weeks before your trip to Okinawa is the ideal way. However, if you find out about our center while in Japan or even in Okinawa, contact us and we will try to accommodate your needs.

English



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