

GKRKARATE

OKINAWA

GKR KARATE

OKINAWA EXPERIENCE 2025

LEARN ALL ABOUT THE

**GRAND
MASTERS**

**EXPLORE
OKINAWA**

**OFFICIAL
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+ MORE



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GKR KARATE OKINAWA EXPERIENCE 2025

TRAIN WITH THE MASTERS

18TH, 19TH & 21ST AUGUST

師範

Since 2001, GKR Karate has been organizing trips to Japan, the birthplace of karate. These journeys offer students a rare and meaningful opportunity to train directly with some of the country's most respected Masters—each bringing a lifetime of experience and sharing their own unique perspective on the art, culture, and spirit of traditional karate.

KANCHO
ROBERT SULLIVAN
9TH DAN - GKR KARATE
DAY 1, 2 & 3

Kancho Robert Sullivan is the Founder and Chief Instructor of GKR Karate. Each day of training will have one 'GKR specific' session, headed by Kancho.

Kancho Sullivan has been training in and teaching karate since 1964. He began his journey in the Japanese style of Goju-Kai and went on to travel internationally—training and teaching in Malaysia, Japan, and the USA. He is accomplished in two of the most prominent Japanese styles of karate: Goju and Keishinkan (Shotokan).

DAY 1 KANCHO

JAMES PANKIEWICZ

5TH DAN - MATSUBAYASHI-RYU KARATE-DO

James Pankiewicz Kancho moved to Japan in 1996 to study the language, culture, and pursue his passion for karate. While living in Okinawa, he formed strong ties with many local masters—most notably Arakaki Toshimitsu Hanshi, under whom he earned a 5th Dan in Matsubayashi-ryu Karate-do.

In 2011, he founded the Dojo Bar, a meeting hub for international karateka visiting the birthplace of karate. In 2018, he established Asato Dojo, an international center for martial arts study and exchange. Visit AsatoDojo.com to learn more.



DAY 1

SENSEI NOBUKO OSHIRO

9TH DAN SHORIN RYU



Nobuko Oshiro Sensei is a 9th Dan in Shorin Ryu Karate-do. She is the highest-ranked female karateka in Okinawa and the only woman recognized as a Grandmaster. She was also the first woman to open a dojo on the island, which she did after earning her 5th Dan.

Oshiro Sensei has traveled to China to explore karate's roots

in traditional Chinese Kung Fu.

Shorin-Ryu is a traditional Okinawan style that traces back to “Bushi” Sokon Matsumura (1797–1889), the royal bodyguard to the king. The name Shorin-Ryu, means “Shaolin style,” and was coined by Matsumura’s student, Anko Itosu (1830–1915).

DAY 2 HANSHI
TSUNEO KINJO
 9TH DAN GOJU RYU



Tsuneo Kinjo Sensei is a 9th Dan Hanshi and Grand Master of the legendary Jundokan Dojo, which was founded by Chojun Miyagi, the creator of Goju-Ryu.

Travelling to Hawaii in 1971 Kinjo studied under Masatami Tokumura, before his return to Okinawa in 1975 to train under Eiichi Miyazato at the Jundokan.

Fluent in English, Kinjo Sensei has become a global ambassador for the Martial Arts, inspiring students from Okinawa to all corners of the world.

Respected for his charismatic teaching style, Kinjo commands a strong following worldwide and currently serves as Vice Chief Director of the Okinawa Karate Kobudo Federation.

DAY 2 SENSEI

YUSUKE ONAGA

9TH DAN - SHITO RYU

Yusuke Onaga Sensei is a master of Shito-Ryu and the president of the Kaiho Juku Dojo in Okinawa. He is re-nowned for his fighting skills and was the first Kumite winner of a National Athletic Meet. He is also a master of Kobudo.

Shito-Ryu is one of Okinawa's classical karate styles and closely aligns with GKR Karate in technique and philosophy. It was founded in 1889 by Kenwa Mabuni, a descendant of the famed Okinawan warrior, Uni Ufugusuku Kenyu, who once served as a general to the Ryukyu King.



Shito-Ryu is also influenced by the teachings of legendary masters Anko Itosu—whose lineage includes kata such as Bassai Dai, Empi, Kanku Dai, Kanku Sho, and Sochin—and Chojun Miyagi, who developed kata Saifa, Seiunchin, Sanseru, Sepai, Shisochin, and Seisan.



DAY 3 SENSEI

AKIHITO YAGI

9TH DAN
MEIBUKAN
GOJU-RYU

Akihito Yagi Sensei is a 9th Dan black belt in Meibukan Goju-Ryu and teaches all over the world. Encouraging unity in karate, He writes: “Karate needs to cooperate beyond organizations and circles and transmit the traditional karate all over the world, so the baton should get stronger and connect to the next generation.”

Akihito Sensei is also a martial arts movie star, best known for his lead role in the action-packed film “Kuro-obi (Black Belt)” —a must-watch before your Okinawa trip. The fight scenes are legendary—check them out on YouTube for a preview of real karate in motion.

Akihito Sensei carries on the legacy of his grandfather, Meitoku Yagi, who developed Meibukan Goju-Ryu and trained directly under Chojun Miyagi from 1926 until Miyagi’s passing in 1953. Their bond was so strong, Miyagi’s family passed his personal belt to Yagi. Meibukan Goju-Ryu maintains Miyagi’s belief that karate should continue to innovate, even developing new kata. For this reason, Meibukan continues to teach all of Miyagi’s kata but have also developed 5 new kata specific to their style.



DAY 3 HANSHI

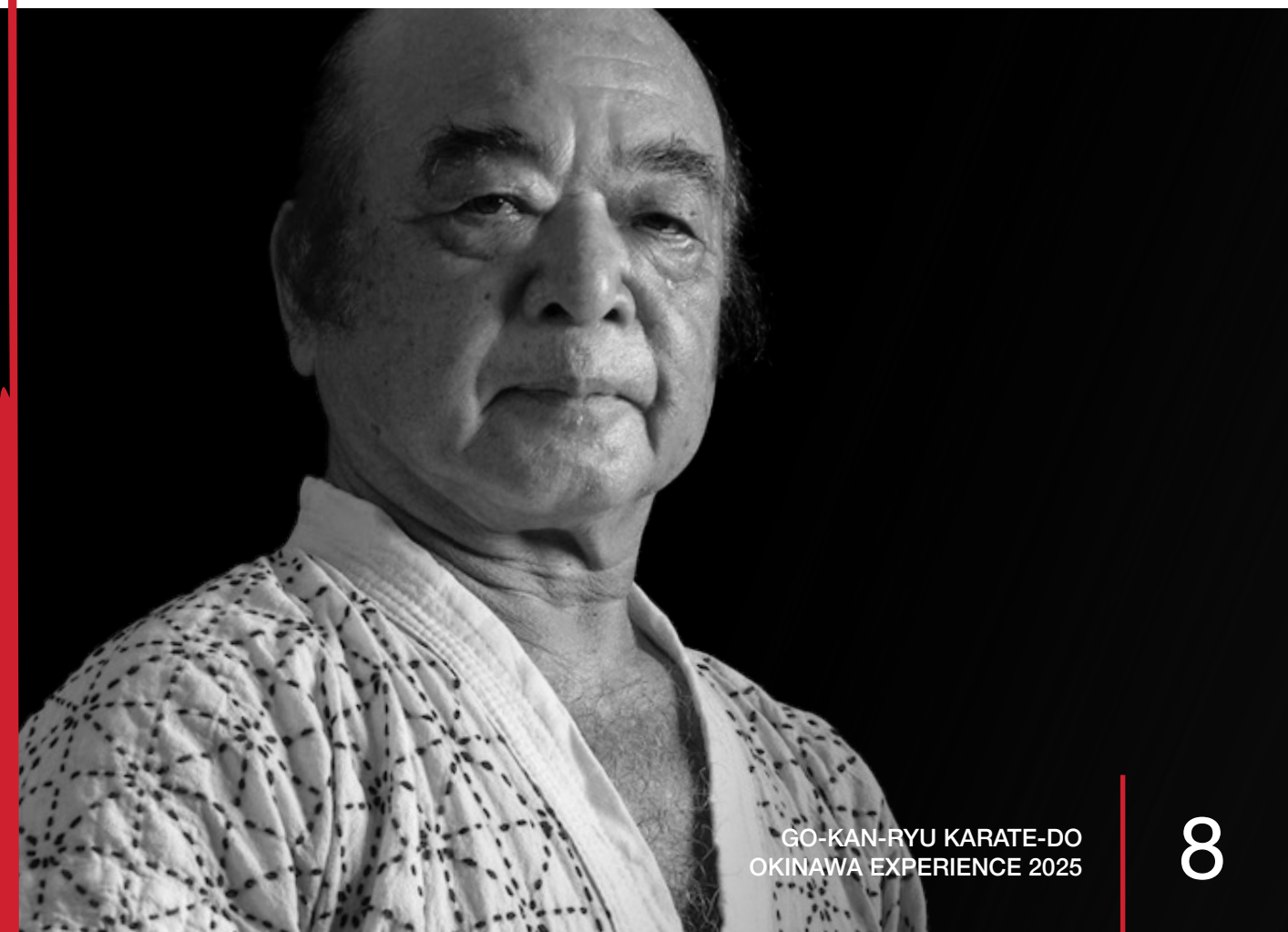
TATSUNORI MATSUDA

9TH DAN
OKINAWAN
KENPO

Tatsunori Matsuda is a 9th Dan Hanshi and master of Okinawa Kenpo and Kobudo. He also holds a World Title in Kobudo. He began training in 1965 under Shigeru Nakamura, also learning from Taketo Nakamura and Seikichi Odo.

Okinawa Kenpo was created by Kokichi Nakamura in 1878 and later refined by his son Shigeru, who blended teachings from his father, uncle Teiichi, and masters like Anko Itosu (Shotokan’s teacher), Chojun Miyagi (Goju-Ryu founder), and Kuniyoshi Shinkichi over 12 years.

Shigeru also pioneered the use of protective gear in kumite, making sparring safer and more accessible.



GO-KAN-RYU KARATE-DO
OKINAWA EXPERIENCE 2025

WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY ARE FREE
DAYS—PERFECT FOR EXPLORING
OKINAWA BEYOND THE DOJO...

ZAMAMI ISLAND

Zamami Island is home to the stunning Furuzamami Beach where you can enjoy snorkeling right off the shore, grab a bite at the beach café, or rent gear for jet skiing and other water sports.

With minimal shops, Zamami is great for relaxing. Certified divers can explore over 200 coral species, with 40+ dive shops around the island. Be sure to book dives in advance.

QUEEN ZAMAMI FERRY TICKETS

While we have already sold out of the ferry tickets we obtained, you can still buy ferry passes directly to Zamami, or visit nearby Aka or Tokashiki Islands. Ferries also run on Friday, offering another chance to explore. All islands are around 45 minutes from the mainland, with buses to major snorkeling beaches.



SCAN TO ARRANGE
TICKETS OR VISIT:
go.gkrkarate.com/ferry
(usually available
1 month in advance)

QUEEN ZAMAMI FERRY SCHEDULE (WEDNESDAY):

Departs Naha (Tomari Port):
9:00 AM (arrive early)
Arrives Zamami: 9:50 AM
Departs Zamami: 5:10 PM
Returns to Naha: 6:10 PM



OKINAWA WORLD

For a cultural experience and a break from the heat, take a local bus from Naha (about 25 minutes) to Okinawa World. The site has three main attractions:

1. RYUKYU KINGDOM CASTLE

A recreated Shuri-era townscape with Eisa dance performances and hands-on workshops like glass blowing, indigo dyeing, and pottery.

2. GYOKUSENDO CAVE

A stunning 5km limestone cave, considered one of East Asia's most beautiful.

3. HABU MUSEUM PARK

Features shows & exhibits on the venomous habu snake.

There are also shopping malls between Okinawa World and Naha. Great for a short cultural outing away from the sun.



NAHA SHRINE

CAR RENTAL, SNORKELING & SHOPPING...

Driving offers the flexibility to explore beyond Naha (international license needed).

Naminoue Shrine is located in Naha. This Shinto shrine overlooks Naminoue Beach. You can reach it by taxi or monorail (Asahibashi Station + 15-min walk). The beach is scenic but less pristine than Zamami. Ideal for a low-effort beach day with cultural flair and minimal travel.

Cape Maeda is an hour north, and offers the best mainland snorkeling location, with reef access and the famous Blue Cave. Nearby, Mihama Town American Village has shops, restaurants, and a cinema—reflecting the area's U.S. military presence. A fun option for sightseeing, though it's a longer trip.



GKR OKINAWA EXPERIENCE 2025

T-SHIRT

CHARCOAL - AVAILABLE IN CHILDS SIZES 6 - 16
AND ADULTS UNISEX SIZES: S - 3XL AND 5XL

\$40 AUD

GKR OKINAWA EXPERIENCE 2025

SINGLET

BLACK - ADULTS UNISEX SIZES: XS-5XL

\$40 AUD



GKR OKINAWA EXPERIENCE 2025

SUN GLASSES

\$40 AUD

ONE SIZE



AVAILABLE ONLINE ONLY

VISIT: [GO.GKRKARATE.COM/OKINAWA2025](https://go.gkrkarate.com/okinawa2025) OR SCAN >

ORDERS DUE BY SUN 29 JUNE 2025





GKR OKINAWA EXPERIENCE 2025

TRAINING PASSES

Don't miss your chance to be part of this unforgettable karate experience.

ADDRESS

Kaikan Dojo
854-1 Tomigusuku,
Okinawa 901-0241
Japan

DATES

Monday 18th August
Tuesday 19th August
Thursday 21st August

TIMES

9.00am to 4.30pm
(with a lunch break)

COST

\$70 per day AUD pp (Adult or Child)
Spectators for all seminars
can watch FREE

Last day to book your training:
SUNDAY 10 AUGUST 2025

To purchase your Okinawa
training pass, go to:
go.gkrkarate.com/okinawa2025
or scan the QR code to order.



OFFICIAL

AFTER PARTY

We will be hosting a special after party on Friday evening. It will be a great chance to relax, connect, and reflect on the journey with fellow karateka. While the venue is still being finalised, full details will be shared closer to the date. Stay tuned!

If you have any questions regarding our Okinawa Experience you can visit the **GKR Okinawa Experience 2025** Facebook page.

OR

email Kyoshi Anthony Ryan:
aryan@gkrkarate.com



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