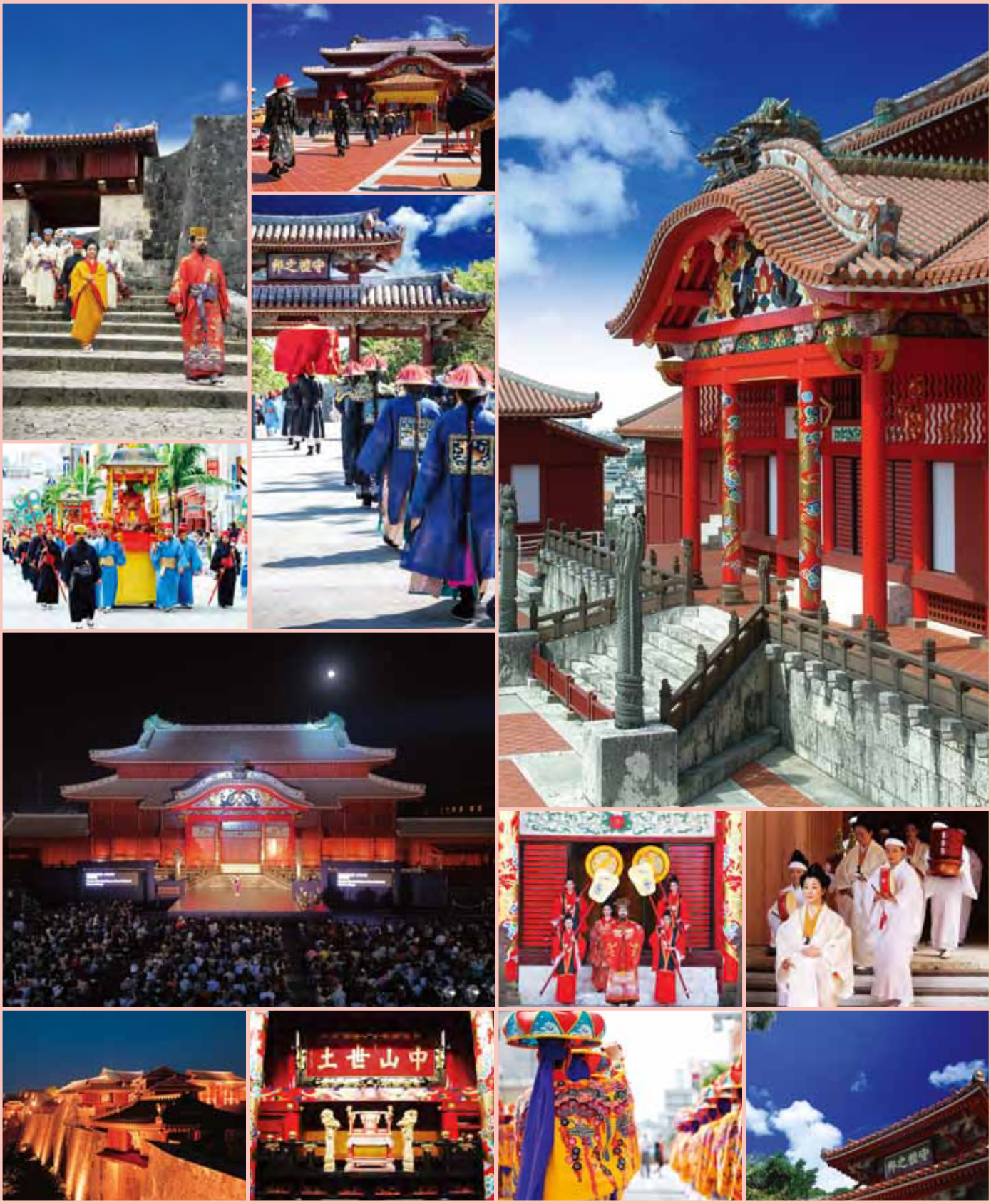
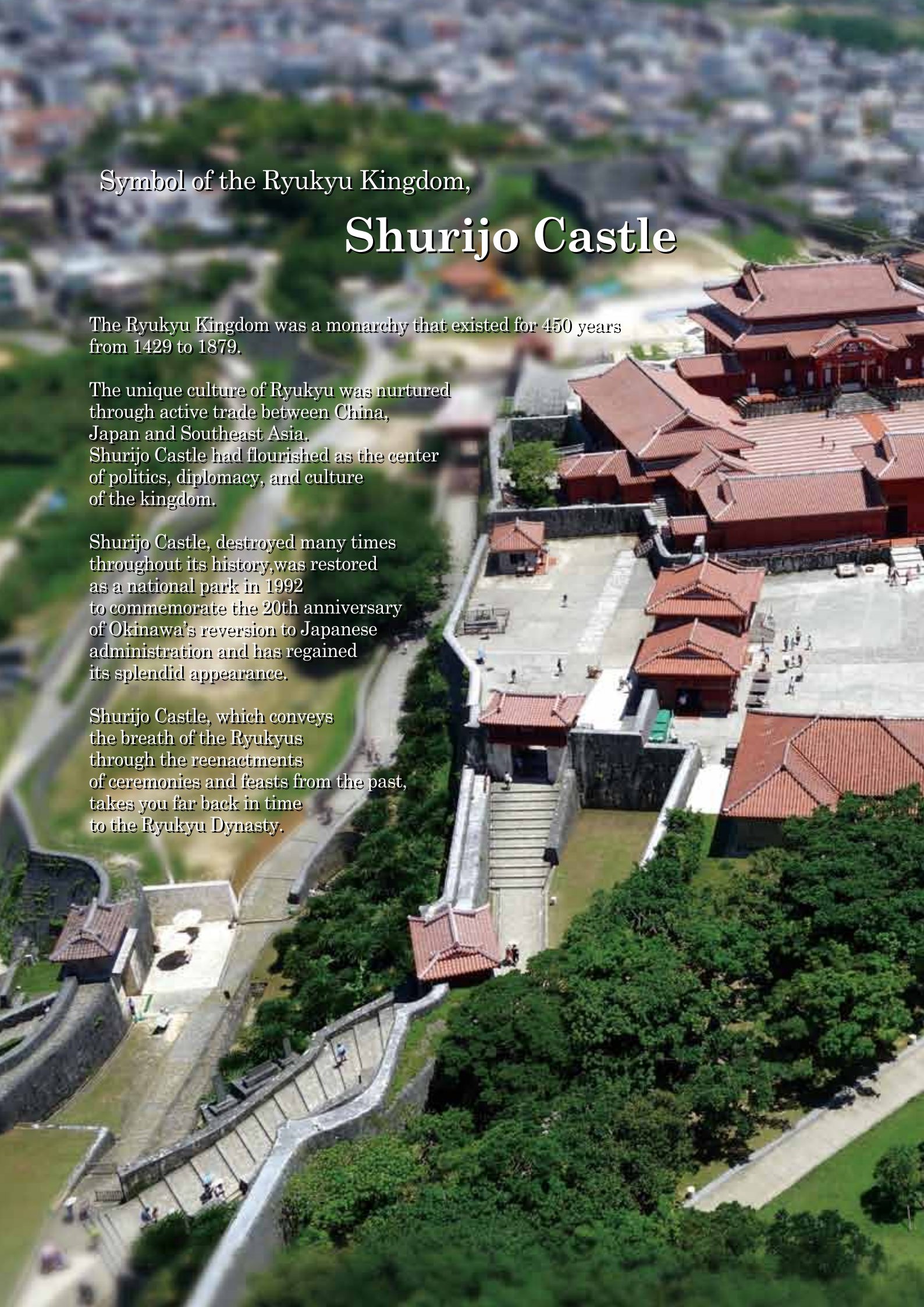
首里城公園
SHURIJO CASTLE PARK

2016/2017 Program of Events



A Testament of the Glories of the Ryukyu Kingdom
World Heritage Site Shurijo Castle



Symbol of the Ryukyu Kingdom,

Shurijo Castle

The Ryukyu Kingdom was a monarchy that existed for 450 years from 1429 to 1879.

The unique culture of Ryukyu was nurtured through active trade between China, Japan and Southeast Asia.
Shurijo Castle had flourished as the center of politics, diplomacy, and culture of the kingdom.

Shurijo Castle, destroyed many times throughout its history,was restored as a national park in 1992 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Okinawa's reversion to Japanese administration and has regained its splendid appearance.

Shurijo Castle, which conveys the breath of the Ryukyus through the reenactments of ceremonies and feasts from the past, takes you far back in time to the Ryukyu Dynasty.

2016/2017 Schedule of Events

Sep : Mid-Autumn Celebration

Oct : Sapposhi Parade & Sappou,
Coronation Ceremony
(Shurijo Castle Festival)

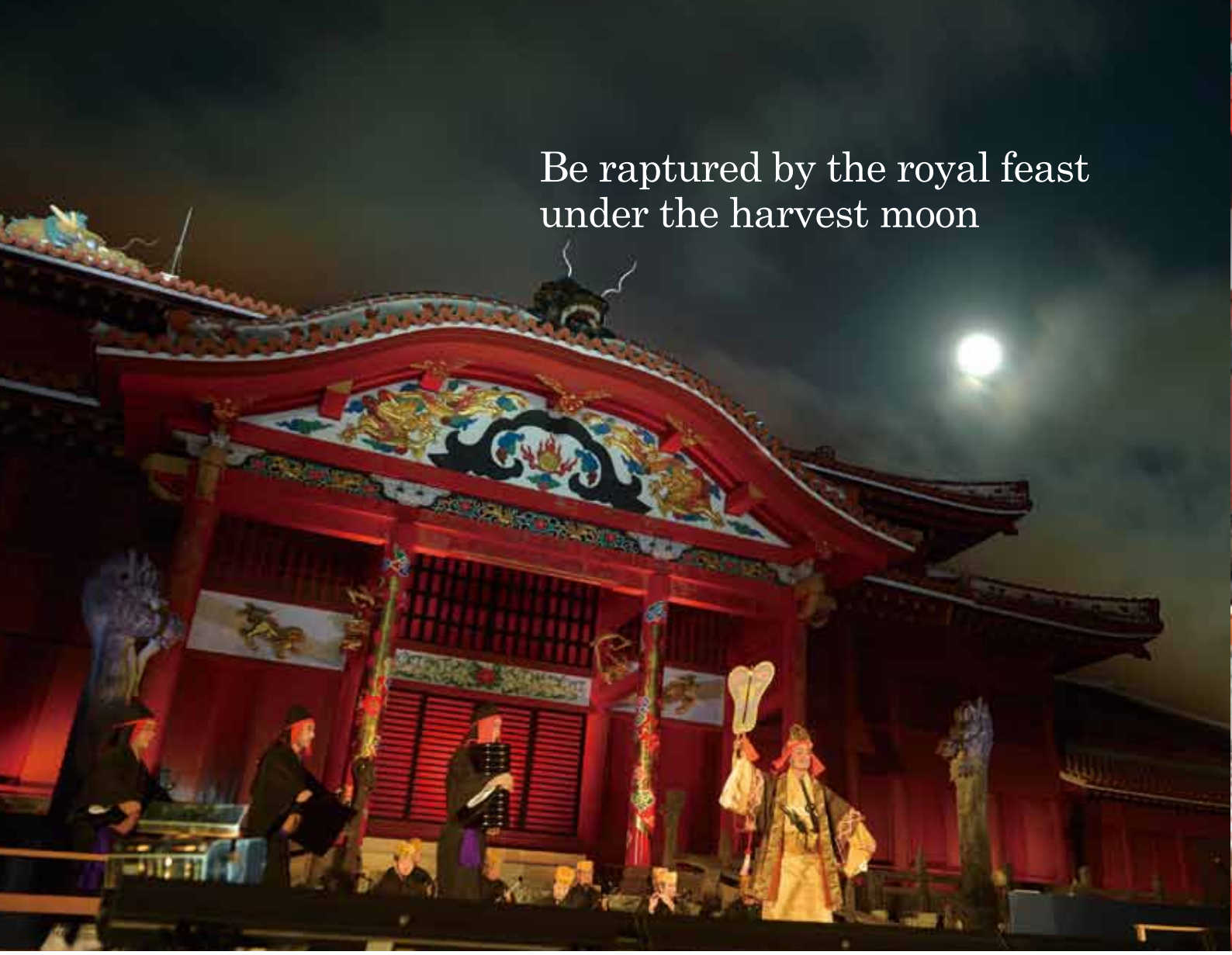
Oct : Ryukyu Dynasty Parade
(Shurijo Castle Festival)

Nov : Koshiki-Gyoretsu
(Traditional Procession;
Shurijo Castle Festival)

Jan : New Year's Celebration

Jan : Momoso Omono Mairi

Year round : Opening of the gate ceremony,
Invitation to dance, Sanshin trial
lessons (Ryukyu traditional instrument),
Exhibitions



Be raptured by the royal feast
under the harvest moon

Mid-Autumn Celebration

Sat 17th Sep – Sun 18th 2016
6:30pm – 9:00pm
Una courtyard at Shurijo Castle's Seiden
*Free of charge

"Sappo-Shichien" was held during the Ryukyu Dynasty to entertain the envoys "Sapposhi" of the Chinese emperor. One of these feasts, the "Mid-Autumn Celebration," was held under the harvest moon on August 15 of the lunar calendar.
Top quality Ryukyuan dances and musical drama, known as Kumi-odori,performed by people who have been designated Living National Treasures with the Seiden lit by the moonlight in the background.
A superb stage created by the combination of Shurijo Castle and Ryukyu performing arts.
Enjoy the luxurious moment.

Program
- Dances and music performances
  by Living National Treasure of Japan
- Kumi-odori (classical Ryukyuan musical drama)
- Classical Ryukyuan dance
- Choosing of the king and queen

Brought back from the past
the greatest ceremony
of the Ryukyu Kingdom

Shurijo Castle Festival

Sapposhi Parade & Sappou Coronation Ceremony

Sat 29th Oct 2016

Sapposhi Parade:
11:40 am - 11:55 am
From Shureimon Gate to Shicha-nu-Una Courtyard (free zone)

Sappou Coronation ceremony:
12:10 pm - 1:10 pm
Una courtyard at Shurijo Castle's Seiden
(Admission fee required)

In 1404, the first Sappou envoy coronation ceremony of the king of the Ryukyus was held under the name of the Chinese emperor. The greatest ceremony of the Ryukyu Kingdom is brought back from about 600 years ago.
The group of envoys sent by the Chinese emperor marched from Tenshikan in Naha to Shurijo Castle.
A part of the parade is demonstrated prior to the ceremony.

Truly gorgeous historical romanticism of the Ryukyus that stretches before the eyes

Shurijo Castle Festival

Ryukyu Dynasty Parade

Sun 30th Oct 2016
12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Kokusai Street, Naha City

The gorgeous appearance of the Ryukyu Kingdom is reenacted in the procession. Following the king and queen of the Ryukyus, as well as the group of “Sapposhi” envoys of the Chinese emperor, is a traditional performance group of a total of 700 performers, who put on a magnificent procession that illustrates the historical story of the Ryukyus.

Reenactment of the glories of Shuri,
the capital of the Ryukyu Kingdom

Shurijo Castle Festival

Ryukyu Dynasty festival in Shuri

Koshiki-Gyoretsu

(Traditional Procession)

Thu 3rd Nov 2016 (Japanese Holiday)
12:50 pm - 3:30 pm
From Shurijo Castle Seiden,
Una courtyard via Shureimon Gate to
Ryutandori Street

*Admission fee is required to view the beginning at the Una Courtyard inside Shurijo Castle.

The “Koshiki-Gyoretsu” is a reenactment of the procession of the king of the Ryukyus on January 3rd of every year.
It gorgeously illustrates how during the Ryukyu Dynasty, the king visited the three temples located around Shurijo Castle to pray for the safety of the kingdom and huge harvest.

New Year's Celebration

1 Jan (Sun), 2 Jan (Mon), 3 Jan (Tues), 2017
8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Shurijo Castle Seiden, Una courtyard, etc.

*Admission fee is required to view entertainment at Shurijo Castle Seiden, Una courtyard.

A New Year's ceremony that was held at Shurijo Castle on New Year's Day during the Ryukyu Dynasty is the "Chohai-Okishiki".
A magnificent, Chinese style ceremony was held while the king and officers of the Ryukyus lined up in the courtyard.
Enjoy the celebration of the Ryukyu Dynasty that gorgeously colors the opening of a new year.

Program
-Chohai-okishiki
-Greeting by the king and queen
-Ryukyu performing arts
-Striking of the Bankoku-Shinryo-no-Kane
-Free tea and Amazake
-Flag hoisting "Hata-gashira"

The world of priestesses
who pray for the safety
of the Ryukyus

Momoso Omono Mairi

Sat 21st Jan – Sun 22nd Jan 2017
1st 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
2nd 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
From Shurijo Castle Seiden, Una courtyard
via Shicha-nu-Una Courtyard to Kyo-no-Uchi

*Admission fee is required to view events at
Shurijo Castle Seiden, Una courtyard.

Momoso Omono Mairi is a religious service where a priestess visits sacred sites (Utaki) located in and around Shurijo Castle. At the sacred sites, the priestess prayed for the longevity of the king and prosperity of his descendants, safe voyage, safety of the kingdom, and a huge harvest.
Enjoy the profundity of Shurijo Castle, where the outside world representing the men's space, and the inside world representing women's space, blend together.

Opening of the gate Ceremony: Uke-jo

Uke-jo is a ceremony in the morning that announces the opening of the Shurijo Castle Park Hoshinmon Gate. Ringing the gong and a voice calling out “Uke-jo” welcome you to the Shurijo Castle Seiden courtyard. For about 15 minutes after the gate is opened, classic Ryukyuan music and Ryukyu chamber music “Uzagaku” is played (recorded music) in the courtyard. Enjoy the special moment which only occurs in the morning.

Date: Every morning at 8:25-8:45am

Place: In front of the Shurijo Castle Park Hoshinmon Gate Free zone

*May be cancelled in rough weather.

*No ceremony is held on closed days.
(First Wednesday and Thursday of July)

Invitation to dance

Ryukyu dance was developed at Shurijo Castle during the Ryukyu Dynasty.

Enjoy the dances along with the gorgeous costumes.

Date: Every Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun and holidays
1st show starts at 11:00 am
2nd show starts at 2:00 pm
3rd show starts at 4:00 pm
*each session is approximately 30 minutes

Place: Keizuza and Yomotsuza in Shurijo Castle Park (free zone)
*May be cancelled in rough weather.

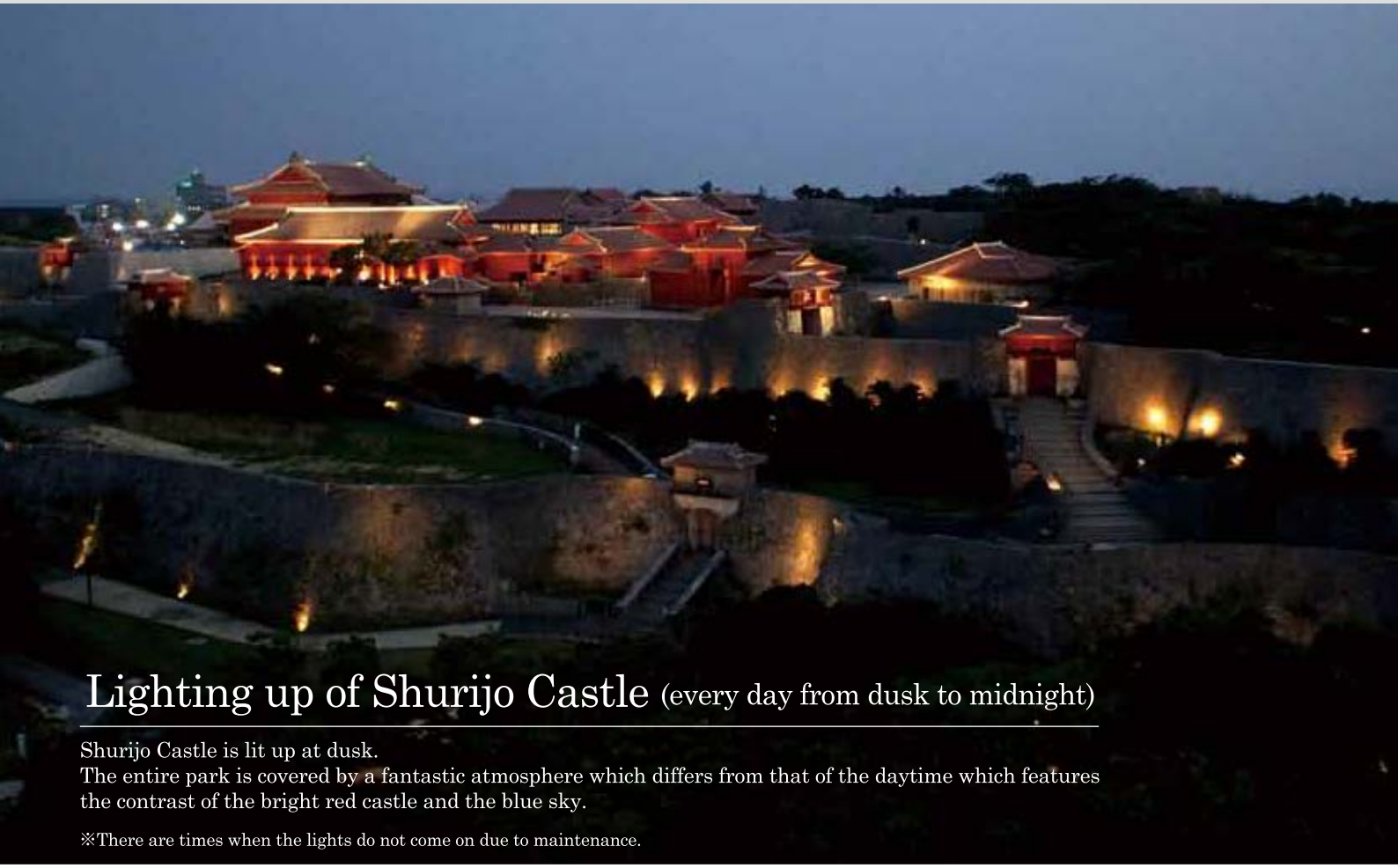
Trial lesson of the Ryukyu traditional instrument Sanshin

Casually enjoy trying the Sanshin, a traditional musical instrument of the Ryukyus.

Date: Every Sat, Sun and holidays
1st lesson starts 11:40 am
2nd lesson starts 2:40 pm
*each lesson is approximately 30 minutes

Place: Keizuza and Yomotsuza in Shurijo Castle Park (free zone)

*limited to the first five comers / no reservations accepted



Lighting up of Shurijo Castle (every day from dusk to midnight)

Shurijo Castle is lit up at dusk.
The entire park is covered by a fantastic atmosphere which differs from that of the daytime which features the contrast of the bright red castle and the blue sky.

※There are times when the lights do not come on due to maintenance.

Information

Open hours (free zone)

Kankaimon Gate, Kobikimon Gate, Kyukeimon Gate

Apr - Jun	8:00 am-7:30 pm
Jul - Sep	8:00 am-8:30 pm
Oct - Nov	8:00 am-7:30 pm
Dec - Mar	8:00 am-6:30 pm

Open hours (paid zone)

Seiden, Hoshinmon Gate, Nanden, Bandokoro, Shoin, Sasunoma, Kugani-udun, Yuinchi, Kinjyu-tsumesho, Okushoin, Hokuden

Apr - Jun	8:30am-7:00pm
Jul - Sep	8:30am-8:00pm
Oct - Nov	8:30am-7:00pm
Dec - Mar	8:30am-6:00pm

*Sales of admission tickets end 30 minutes prior to closure.
*Closed days — 1st Wednesday of July and the following day

Admission fee

	Adults	High-school students	Elementary and middle school students
General (less than 20 people)	820 yen	620 yen	310 yen
Group (20 people or more) (monorail One-Day Pass ticket discount)	660 yen	490 yen	250 yen
Annual passport	1,640 yen	1,240 yen	620 yen

*Under 6 years old is free of charge

Parking fee

Large-sized vehicles	960 yen
Small-sized vehicles	320 yen

Contact

Shurijo Castle Park Management Center
1-2 Kinjo-cho, Shuri Naha City, Okinawa 903-0815
Phone: 098-886-2020 Fax: 098-886-2022

http://oki-park.jp/shurijo/

Shurijo Castle Park

*Shurijo Castle site was registered as a UNESCO World Heritage site by the names of "Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of the Ryukyus" in Dec, 2000.
*Events posted here are subject to change without notice. Please contact us for details.

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SHURIJO CASTLE PARK

(16.02.3,000)