

SMALL & BIG
BASE WINNERS!

STARS  STRIPES®

BEST OF THE PACIFIC

2019-20

STARS AND STRIPES COMMUNITY PUBLICATION



DESTINATION
TOKYO



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BEST SUNDAY BRUNCH, SIX YEARS IN A ROW!



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OFF BASE
LODGING
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BEST
SUNDAY BRUNCH
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THE NEW SANNO
TOKYO, JAPAN

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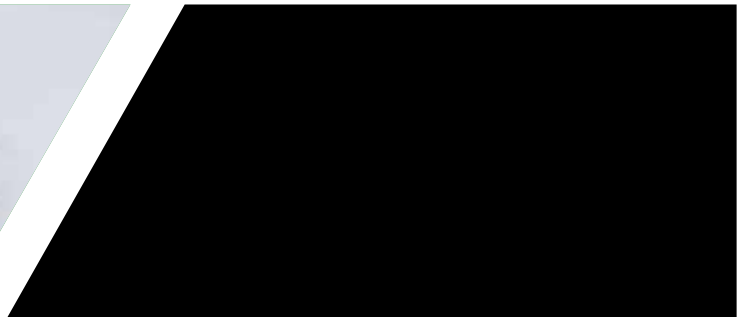
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Thanks for voting!

This year has been our best year yet! With a record number of votes, we know you picked the best of the best to represent the Pacific. If you're new to mainland Japan, Okinawa, Guam or Korea, you probably know how overwhelming the move can be, but you can get by with a little help from your friends. In this case, your friends are those in the military community stationed in the Pacific ... and this here magazine. If you're looking for a reputable car dealer, the best place to shop on or off base, or even the best place to grab a slice of pizza, turn these pages and see what the voters had to say.

For the past 15 years, Stars and Stripes has been tallying up the votes of the military community and sharing the valuable information for the sole purpose of making your transition here easier.

New this year, we added a small base winner to several of the categories. We wanted to make sure to show some love to some of the bases that might not have a lot of voters but still have great things to check out.

In here not only will you find out who the Best of Pacific is for each of the 24 categories, but you will also find out why they won. Votes are important, but the reason behind why Fred from down the street voted for the Pizza Hut on Kadena is just as important.

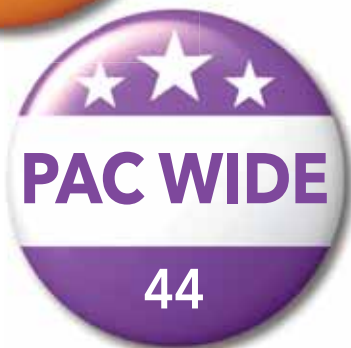
Take for instance this year's Best of Pacific - AFN Personality winner for Okinawa, Cpl Benjamin Whitten. He voted for himself and said his voice is "smooth like molasses." And you know what? Voters agreed! That's the beauty of this - bragging rights - and now you know when to tune in for some good radio or where to go for a great family dinner (Cappriciosa is where you want to go on Guam. John "Jay" Andre from the Guam National Guard said they serve up "generous portions that can feed 3 people in some cases.") or who is the best cellphone provider in Korea (Monica Mendez from Kunsan Air Base said LG U is "The fastest best service I ever had. The customer hotline is helpful.").

Best of all, this insider info and the magazine are FREE! Best of the Pacific is always free, just like all the community content from Stars and Stripes. From our weekly newspapers in the blue boxes on base (Stripes Japan, Stripes Okinawa, Stripes Guam, Stripes Korea) to our websites (StripesJapan.com, StripesOkinawa.com, StripesKorea.com, Guam.Stripes.com), we have you covered.

And, since we couldn't do this without you and those thousands of votes cast online, we thank you! As a token of our appreciation, each person who voted was entered into a raffle to win one of three gift cards of up to \$300. Congratulations to the lucky three who took home the prizes. Daryl Hodges from Okinawa (\$300) and Robert Mann (\$200) and John C. Young (\$100) from Korea probably spent a combined 15 minutes to vote and now they're a little richer for the experience. In here, you'll also find some great photos your fellow military community members submitted earlier this year for our Welcome to the Pacific magazine, a fantastic resource to ease your transition to a new base overseas. Check it out for more of the insider tips you need regarding getting your driver's license, figuring out local laws, customs and etiquette, etc. It's just another example of you making this and all of Stripes' publications truly yours.

We really enjoyed hearing from you guys and we want everyone to know that the feedback doesn't need to stop with the BOP voting. So, let us know what you think! Our community websites are up 24/7 and you can reach us on Facebook. Send us a message, and please don't forget to follow us - @StripesPacific!

Denisse Rauda,
Best of the Pacific Editor



STARS AND STRIPES®

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THANK YOU FOR VOTING
NEX YOKOSUKA BEST LARGE BASE
EXCHANGE IN MAINLAND JAPAN



CONSECUTIVE
10 YEARS
IN A ROW!

NEX YOKOSUKA BEST LARGE BASE
MINI-MART IN MAINLAND JAPAN
2 YEARS IN A ROW!



"Thank you for voting NEX Yokosuka

"The Best Large Base Exchange, 10 years in a row, and NEX Yokosuka Car Care Center Mini-Mart The best large base mini mart, 2 years in a row in mainland japan. We are honored to serve our Military Heroes and their families, and appreciate the opportunity to serve the Best Customers in the World

Julie Herring

General Manager, Yokosuka Complex
Navy Exchange Service Command



WingStreet

**BEST PIZZA IN
MAINLAND JAPAN**



THANK YOU FOR VOTING
NEX SASEBO

**BEST SMALL BASE EXCHANGE
IN MAINLAND JAPAN**

**BEST SMALL BASE MINI-MART
IN MAINLAND JAPAN**



We are honored and privileged to be a part of this community in the "Heart of Japan". To have the opportunity to get to know so many of you personally and to serve those that are so committed to courageously serving others is humbling.

We take great pride in the fact that you are our Customers.

After all, you are the Most Prestigious Customers in the World.

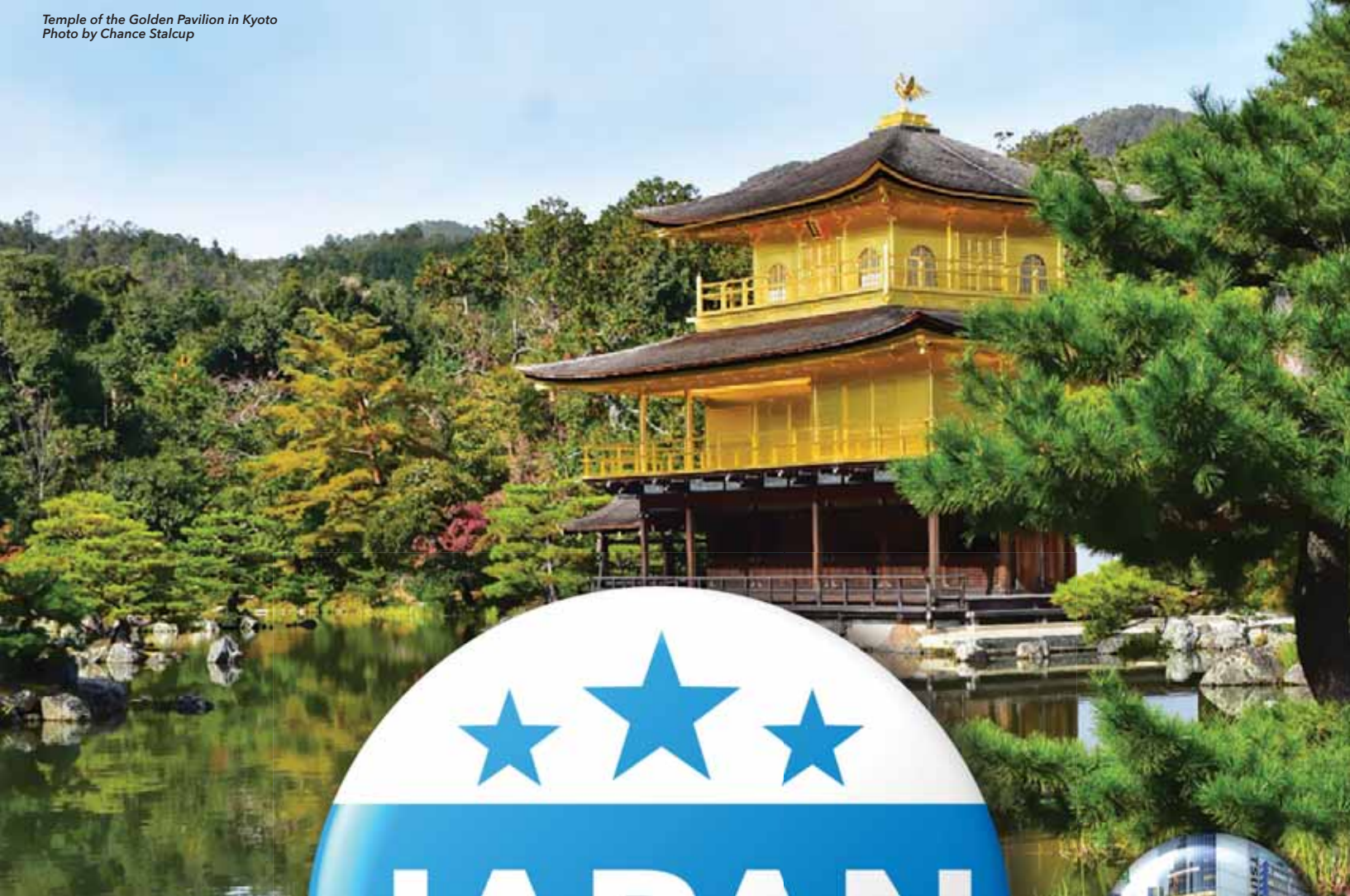
Thank you for all you do each and every day and for voting the NEX Sasebo,

"The Best Exchange in Mainland Japan" and the NEX SASEBO Car Care Center

"The Best Mini Mart In Mainland Japan"

Lisa Curren

General Manager, Sasebo
Navy Exchange Service Command



Japan has many great things to offer and there is always something new to check out. While Sasebo Naval Base isn't new, based off its wins in several small base categories this year, you might want to pop in for a visit.

There were also many repeat winners in this year's Best of the Pacific voting, but that's just fine with us. Who are we to argue? We're not the experts. We leave that up to you. And when the votes are tallied and we get the same winner year after year, it only validates them as truly the best of the Pacific.

But what of those places you didn't know about? Your fellow servicemembers are passing on the wisdom they were given when they PSCd in by sharing a few gems hidden inside this magazine you hold in your very hand.

How else are you going to find out that you can get

the best thai food at a base bowling alley or that Coco Curry Ichibanya is STILL great for the family and THE example of the best cultural food experience this entire country has to offer? We just tally the votes, folks.

Reigning champ Kelly & Kelly, with over 50 years of experience selling cars to servicemembers outside of Yokota Air Base, is Alisha Archangel's recommendation. "We purchased 2 vehicles from them and they have never let us down," she said.

No one wants to get let down, so turn the page and check out the top vote-getters in Japan. What are you waiting for!?

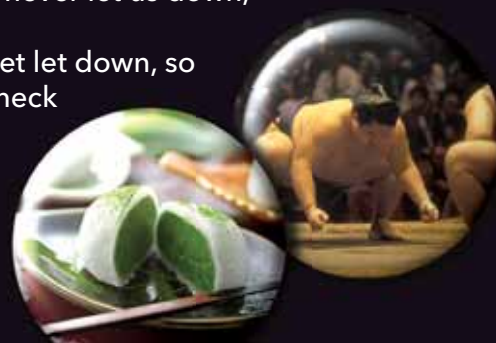


Photo by Greg Tyler, Stars and Stripes



SASEBO NEX
SMALL BASE

BEST EXCHANGE

YOKOSUKA NEX
BIG BASE

"They have various sizes and dresses perfect for parties."
- Truc Tran, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Always has a nice selection of products and the customer service is on point."
- Juni Eiselstein, Sasebo Naval Base

"The store in Sasebo is top-notch. Employees are super friendly and always assist with every need. The store is always clean, and the layout is perfect for everyone to enjoy!"
- Hans Christian, Sasebo Naval Base

"Everybody has a good smile! (*-*)/"
- Hiromi Nishimura, Sasebo Naval Base

"Friendly people. Easy to order when needed."
- Rebecca Vanhouten, Sasebo Naval Base

"Not only did we find exactly what we were looking for (a baby swing that couldn't be shipped to the base and wasn't available elsewhere in Japan), we also visited their main NEX and saw a selection that just blew us away. It was definitely worth the journey out there (even in near typhoon conditions)! 10/10 I would brave a typhoon again."
- Jerrod Plummer, Yokota AB

"More variety for clothing and the person who is ordering the electronics and games actually orders more than 2!"
- Andrea Wynne, Yokota AB

"Always have the newest items, display is always appealing and has a variety of items to include plus size and high-end fashions."
- Ashley Carmichael, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Yokosuka is larger with more selection of everything. Plus, NEX seems to always have more sales and discounts."
- Wayne Knutson, Camp Zama

"This store is always very clean, well-stocked and the people that work here are very friendly, dedicated and mission-driven. It's a wonderful environment to shop in and they always have what I need/want."
- Mary Tipp, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Honestly, it is the closest feeling to being at Walmart again."
- Roberta Plummer, Yokota AB

"It is huge!"
- Benjamin Jordan, Sasebo Naval Base

JAPAN



SASEBO MAIN BASE MINI MART
SMALL BASE

BEST MINI-MART/EXPRESS/MARINE MART

YOKOSUKA MAIN BASE MINI MART
BIG BASE

"Very clean, well-organized without clutter. Always greeted by associates and treated like a valued customer."
- Sue Gentapanan, Yokosuka Naval Base

"They keep it well-stocked with a variety of things that you are unable to get at the Commissary or main NEX."
- Dynee Colosimo, Sasebo Naval Base

"The ease of car access and the people working there are amazing."
- Scott Cole, Yokota AB

"They have my favorite wine!"
- Nicole Homes, Sasebo Naval Base

"The Yokosuka Main Base Mini Mart has been wonderful with their friendly staff and a great option for those shopping later in the evening. It's also great for last-minute items you may have forgotten at the grocery store. A great place to find snacks, pet products, outdoor items, alcohol, and get your gas."
- Lauren McConnell, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Very nice store with a lot of items to select from."
- Harold Mclean, Retired

"Yokosuka Mini Mart is so convenient, especially for enlisted. Located in the central hub of the base, if I need something in a pinch, I head straight there."
- Gilbert Bishop, Yokosuka Naval Base

"I love shopping at the Yokosuka Mini Mart when I go to Yokosuka and stay at the Navy Lodge. It has a great selection and it makes the stay so much better."
- Kristine Prince Moses, Sasebo Naval Base



★SHOPPING★

"I have Softbank and I can go anywhere in Japan and have amazing cell service!"

- Timothy Hoovestol, Yokosuka Naval Base

"I like that their service will work when I travel back to the States. Their prices for new phones are also very reasonable."

- Jennifer Miller, Yokosuka Naval Base

SoftBank



"Lenient with military servicemembers' contracts."

- Shani Quimby, MCAS Iwakuni

"Easiest transition for going back and forth from the U.S. and Japan."

- Andrew Porter, Kyogamisaki

"They have a store located on base which makes it easier for transactions."

- Mark Damron, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Softbank worked with us when my daughter accidentally used way too much data while we were on a cruise."

- Teresa Martinez-Travitzky, Yokota AB

JAPAN

"The Aeon Mall is near the Yokota East Gate. This place is great, and they have everything!!!! They also have restaurants on the first floor!!!!"

- Susan Quick, Yokota AB

"Best French bakery in Tokyo."

- Denis Hansard, Yokota AB

"Local and has a grocery store in it as well as clothing."

- Frances Jo Garcia, Yokota AB

"They have everything I need from electronics, clothes, food and even a movie theater."

- Samuel Burns, Yokota AB



"Absolutely love how family-friendly and professional they are. They do everything to make sure your needs are filled and that you are taken care of."

- Mathew West, Yokota AB

"Excellent customer service and great selection of cars. Also, a one-stop location for insurance with the option to complete JCI process and easy-to-find location."

- Daniel Blair, Yokota AB

BEST CAR SALES

KELLY & KELLY

"We purchased 2 vehicles from them and they have never let us down. We always recommend them when people ask where to purchase a car."

- Alisha Archangel, Yokota AB

"Incredibly friendly service. They made buying a car super easy! We still can't believe how nice the vehicle we bought is compared to the price we paid! They are also extremely responsive and even assisted our family with the insurance process after we had a fender bender."

- Briana Singleton, Hardy Barracks / Akasaka Press Center / New Sanno

"This is our second time buying a car here and they are always amazingly nice and helpful, even for things not having to do with purchasing a car."

- Shaun Faulkner, Yokota AB

STARS AND STRIPES

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I'm the one on the left.



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My name is Thien and I am a 1st-term student at Lakeland University Japan. As a student veteran, I think I have a fairly unique background. I was born in Denver, Colorado, from immigrant Vietnamese parents and as I grew up, I learned to appreciate my heritage and wanted to begin my own legacy as an American.

I enlisted into the U.S. Marine Corps at the age of 17 and left home to boot camp right after high school graduation. Stationed in southern California, I served 4 years as a Field Wireman and deployed multiple times on Marine Expeditionary Units and Unit Deployment Programs.

Those deployments gave me the opportunity to explore many different countries, cultures, and cities throughout the Persian Gulf and Southeast Asia. However, one country stood out to me from the rest during my enlistment and it was Japan.

Drawn in by the unique culture and people, I decided to return. During a rainy day in the chow hall line, I read about LUJ off of an advertisement in the Stars and Stripes Magazine. The school was an opportu-

nity for me to pursue a college education while experiencing Japanese culture. So I applied.

Now having parted from my friends and family state-side, I am studying and taking university level classes while creating new connections with locals, international students, and other fellow veterans. LUJ gave me a chance to utilize my G.I. Bill and experience the unique and robust lifestyle that is found only in Tokyo.





"Never too busy and Sunday family prices are amazing."
-Rodney Holloway, Camp Zama

"They have a friendly staff and best food on base."
-Mark Tabor, Camp Zama



"Manager is making a real effort to expand/improve service and have programs for school-age kids."
-Guy Snyder, Camp Zama

"Their coffee shop serves some of the best food on base."
-Hoai My Winder, NAF Atsugi

CAMP ZAMA BOWLING CENTER
SMALL BASE

BEST BOWLING ALLEY

YOKOTA TOMODACHI LANES
BIG BASE

"Huge! Well- designed! Great Thai restaurant."
-Jeron Omoigui, NAF Atsugi

"Great atmosphere and food choices, and the lanes are cheap and well-taken care of! Events are also well-planned (New Year's Eve party, etc.)."
-Taylor Oney, Yokota AB

"A place that is welcoming to everyone!!! We love the staff and the food is great with daily lunch specials!!! My daughter, Rachel, loves going here and making friends!!!!"
-Susan Quick, Yokota AB

"A good place to relax and enjoy a game of bowling with friends and family."
-Corey Whiting, Yokota AB

"Great location and hours, not to mention the great food options at this facility."
-Greg Rivers, Camp Zama



"Lots of great tours and available rentals at great prices."
-Wayne Knutson, Camp Zama

"Great trips at reasonable prices."
-Jovonne Isom, Camp Zama

"They tend to have more space and do not fill up as fast, giving you more time and opportunities to plan. Fast and friendly service, too!"
-Jewel Davis, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Good hours, even on the weekend."
-Christian Mealey, Camp Zama

CAMP ZAMA OUTDOOR REC
SMALL BASE
BEST ON-BASE OUTDOOR REC

YOKOSUKA OUTDOOR REC
BIG BASE



"They have everything you need for your outdoor adventure, from camping to skiing to hiking."
-Andrew DeJesus, Yokosuka Naval Base

"I love snowboarding with these guys! Makes me feel comfortable and at home."
-Nathan Shepard, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Its services helped shaped my love of snowboarding. It was always easy to sign up for trips, and they always had equipment for rent."
-Demarkus Brown, NAF Atsugi

"Wide variety of equipment ... plenty of tours offered ... friendly staff."
-David Carrano, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Great and helpful staff. So much gear and trips to choose from."
-Daniel Schaeffer, Yokosuka Naval Base





"Chey is awesome!"
- Fan,
MCAS Iwakuni

"Very cheery!!"
- Norman Corliss,
MCAS Iwakuni

"Good choice of music plays."
- Shari Quimby,
MCAS Iwakuni



NAME: LCPL CHEYEANNE ALVAREZ
AGE: 20
HOMETOWN: PARADISE, TEXAS

Q: How does it feel to be the first radio personality to win out of Iwakuni?

A: It feels really great to be the first radio personality to win out of AFN Iwakuni. It's a big win for not only myself, but I think my corporal, too. He has invested a lot of time in me. When I first got put on a show, I was so cut and dry and would freak out about every single little mistake I made. He has really worked with me a lot to get me to just let go and have fun during my shows, and to be able to laugh at myself whenever I make a mistake.

Q: How long have you been with AFN? Is this your first assignment being on-air?

A: I have been with AFN Iwakuni for almost 10 months. This is my first duty station.

Q: What is the process of getting ready for the show?

A: Sometimes getting ready for my show can be almost more fun than the show itself. I choose whatever topics I want to talk about and do some research and then decide how I want to present the information to the listeners. I love researching awareness months and talking about them on my shows. I also spend quite a bit of time practicing. I practice in the mornings when I'm getting ready, on the way to work and in the studio right before I go on air. It's a little embarrassing how much time I spend talking to myself!

Q: What makes your show different than your other colleagues?

A: All the DJs at AFN Iwakuni have really different shows. I'm not as funny as my colleagues, but I try really hard to find things that matter to me to talk about. I love to tell little random facts about myself, my family or my home so my listeners can get to know me a little better.

Q: For a person new to Iwakuni, which radio personality in the States would you describe yourself as comparable to?

A: I would say I'm probably like Lisa Taylor. I used to listen to the Dallas/Ft. Worth's 99.5 "Wake up with the Wolf Show" every morning.

"This is a tough one between Scotty G and Sam Burns, but I have to give it the morning wake up call."

- Mark Tabor,
Camp Zama

"He keeps it entertaining and talks about things I probably would not have found out about if not for him."

- Jerrod Plummer,
Yokota AB



"Sam Burns has the funniest morning show around."
- Nathan Shepard,
Yokosuka Naval Base

"Because he is awesome!"
- Gerald Hager,
Yokota AB

"Music selection is always on point, just like his personality!"
- Jennie Trady,
NAF Atsugi



NAME: SRA SAM BURNS
AGE: 22
HOMETOWN: WHITE PLAINS, MARYLAND

Q: How does it feel to dethrone a two-time winner SrA Erica Blanton? Did you feel like you had it in the bag after she left?

A: It feels good to live up to her show. She was very talented and set the bar very high for me, so winning this year makes me very proud. I didn't think I had it in the bag because we have other extremely talented DJs around the Pacific that are very deserving of the title themselves.

Q: What is the process of getting ready for the show?

A: The most important thing I need to do to get ready for my show is to wake up. I usually wake up at four in the morning, giving myself two hours to mentally prepare for the show and decide what I'll talk about. That way when the show starts at six, I feel awake and ready to communicate.

Q: What makes your show different than your other colleagues' shows?

A: We all have a very different style to our shows, and it stems from our personalities and interests. I'm very interested in sports and movies, so I'll spend lots of time focusing on that during my show. We talk about the things we like in order to give our listeners a chance to know us better.

Q: For a person new to Yokota/Kanto, which radio personality in the States would you describe yourself as comparable to?

A: I actually haven't listened to much radio in the States, but I have heard lots of Ryan Seacrest, and I can see some similarities in our style. I'm not even close to that level, but he's the first person that comes to mind.

Q: What is your go-to song when you're doing PT?

A: No question. It has to be "Lose Yourself" by Eminem. That song gets me super pumped up no matter what I'm doing. I could be making a sandwich and that song will make it that much better.

★PLAYING★

"Great parade, lots of booths selling food and snacks, lots of interesting folks."

- Evelyn Sasamoto,
Yokota AB

"Right next to the Fussa train station! Easy to get to from the Fussa Gate. Awesome food and entertainment!!!!"

- Susan Quick,
Yokota AB

"Tons of beer, food and people."

- Daniel Snodgrass,
Yokota AB

BEST
OFF-BASE EVENT

FUSSA TANABATA
FESTIVAL

Photo by Airman 1st Class Jonathan Fowler, U.S. Air Force

★DINING★



"Definitely the Best in the Pacific! The Sunday Brunch at the HVC is top notch! Great selection and choices."

- Kevin Coleman,
Sasebo Naval Base

"Fun events. The wine event is generous! Great food!"

- Elisa Helm,
Sasebo Naval Base

"Love the Sunday Brunch!"

- Katherine Tucker,
Sasebo Naval Base

"Good service and variety of events."

- Eugene Dalrymple,
Yokosuka Naval Base

"Best steaks in the Pacific!! Every single person who works there is exceptionally awesome!"

- Hans Christian,
Sasebo Naval Base

HARBOR VIEW
CLUB SASEBO
SMALL BASE

BEST
ENLISTED/
OFFICERS' CLUB

YOKOTA
ENLISTED CLUB
BIG BASE

"The E-Club staff does an amazing job providing Yokota with good food, good times, and a variety of entertainment and fun!"

- Ashley Phillips,
Yokota AB

"Sunday brunch is awesome!"

- Steven Ericson,
Yokota AB

"Excellent lunch buffets. Great dinner specials. Love the staff, they're super friendly."

- Christiana Robinson,
Yokota AB

"Love eating breakfast there!"

- Tina Leon-Guerrero,
Camp Zama

"They always offer good meals. They are friendly, too."

- Risako Nakamoto,
Yokota AB



BEST
PIZZA RESTAURANT

PIZZA HUT

"Can't go wrong with Pizza Hut pizza."

- Eugene Dalrymple,
Yokosuka Naval Base

"The pepperoni is amazing. The stuffed crust is to die for!"

- Urelle Fogel,
Misawa AB

"Their wings are fire, literally."

- Joshua Leal,
Yokota AB

"One large pan crust, onion, mushroom, and green pepper, please!"

- Robert Birkead,
Yokota AB

BEST
DATE-NIGHT
RESTAURANT

CHICO'S CHOP HOUSE
& SEAFOOD GRILL
(YOKOTA FSS)

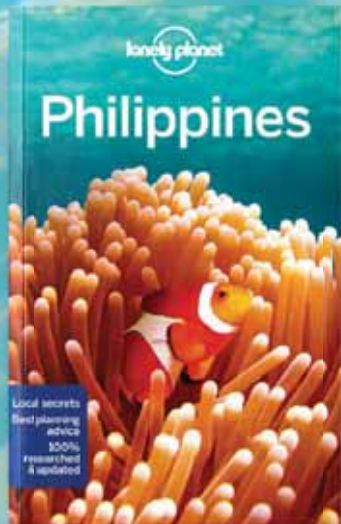
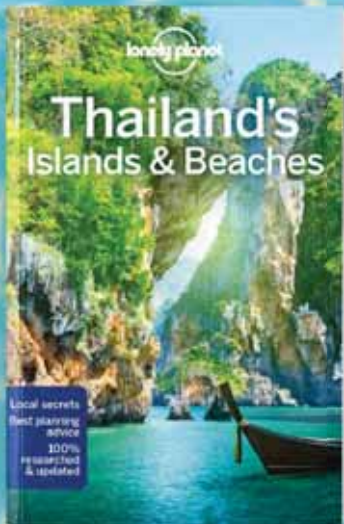
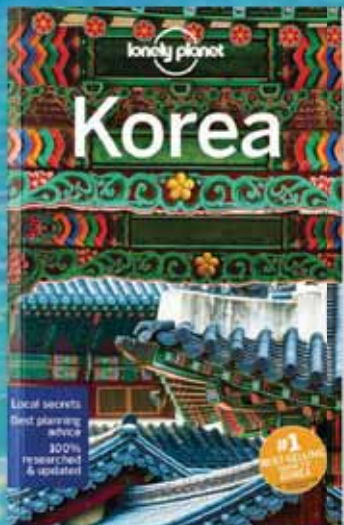
"Good atmosphere!"

- Leonard Booker,
Yokota AB



Explore the Pacific

with Lonely Planet Guide Books





"Great food. NO SMOKING, and that's very important to us. They have high chairs for kids and are so, so friendly. Bonus: they have English menus."

- Maggi Lindee,
NAF Atsugi

"Nothing beats
Coco's Ichibanya."
- James Mitchell,
Sasebo Naval Base

"One of the best
Japanese foods I've
ever tried!"

- Belle Sciaratta,
Misawa AB

"My absolute favorite
quick dining place for my
family and I. It's always fun
taking on a new spice level and
laughing with the family there.
Feels like home."

- George Baray,
Yokota AB

BEST
FAMILY & LOCAL
CULTURE RESTAURANT
CURRY HOUSE
COCO ICHIBANYA

"Great food and awesome
service. Fast, reasonably priced
and lots of ways to customize
your order/spice level!"

- Jared Scarberry,
Yokota AB

"It's cheap,
delicious, and
you control how
spicy you want it,
1-10."

- Andrew DeJesus,
Yokosuka Naval Base

"Feels like home, and always
very welcoming. Sitting down
and trying a new spice level
always brings laughter and a
good, not-so-expensive night
out for my entire family."

- George Baray,
Yokota AB

"Every Friday our
family eats at Coco's.
We love the curry!"

- Kristine Prince Moses,
Sasebo Naval Base

"My husband loves this
curry house. We will surely
miss it when we leave."

- Aiko Fickenschner,
NAF Atsugi

"Wide variety of food
and desserts to choose
from. Staff is friendly and
helpful."

- Devyn Sanchez,
Misawa AB



"Reminds me of a Las
Vegas buffet for a
fraction of the price
and has a selection of
Japanese foods as well."

- Juni Eiselstein,
Sasebo Naval Base

"A true weekend
family-dining
experience enjoyed
by all."

- George Wallman,
Sasebo Naval Base

"Without a doubt
the Best in the
Pacific!"

- Kevin Coleman,
Sasebo Naval Base

"Love the mimosas!"

- Norman Okada,
Sasebo Naval Base

HARBOR VIEW
CLUB SASEBO
SMALL BASE

BEST
SUNDAY BRUNCH

THE NEW SANNO
BIG BASE

"The New
Sanno
Sunday Brunch
can't be beat. Other Sunday
brunches have come and
gone and the New Sanno
continues to shine."

- David Ingram,
Camp Zama

"A must-have
for any service
member visiting
the Kanto area. An
amazing buffet with
so much food you
won't know where
to start, and you'll
be disappointed
you can't just eat
forever."

- DeMarkus Brown,
NAF Atsugi

"Extensive food selection
and champagne!!"

- Lloyd Jack,
Yokota AB

"Definitely the best for
Sunday brunch. Wide
selection of food, super
delicious, desserts is a
must try!!! Reasonable price.
Super-friendly staff as
well."

- Netnapha Muller,
Yokosuka Naval Base

"Great price relative to
other brunch spots in Japan,
and bottomless champagne!"

- John Pagel,
Yokosuka Naval Base



NAVY LODGE SASEBO
SMALL BASE

BEST ON-BASE LODGING

KANTO LODGE (YOKOTA)
BIG BASE

"Nice rooms and service, manager's happy hour was great!"
- Elisa Helm, Sasebo Naval Base

"It was our home for the first 7 weeks in Japan, and the staff definitely helped make it feel that way."
- Alexa Logan, Sasebo Naval Base

"This lodge is awesome!!! Clean! Nice view! Employees are so nice!"
- Mizue Matsumoto, Sasebo Naval Base

"Great customer service!"
- Linda Cordes, MCAS Iwakuni

"Friendly staff, beautiful decor/artwork in public areas; rooms comfortable and well-equipped."
- Brenda Lee Johnson, MCAS Iwakuni

"Has massage services, near BX, more food options nearby."
- Ashley Carmichael, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Really liked my room, which came with a kitchen."
- Donald Bugg, Yokohama North Dock

"Clean and comfortable."
- Dary Bowlin, Camp Zama

"Big and pet-friendly."
- Matt Young, Yokota AB

"Rooms can fit a small army. Fully equipped. Easy to keep eating habits because of kitchen."
- Frances Jo Garcia, Yokota AB

FLIPBOARD
@StarsStripes
@StripesPMD

Follow us on the social media platform of your choice!

STARS & STRIPES

Facebook.com/StripesPacific

Navy Lodge Sasebo there for you!

The team at Navy Lodge Sasebo wants to thank our service members and their families for what they do and the sacrifices they make. The best way to do that is give all our guests a comfortable place to relax during their transition to their new overseas duty station. We aim to make you feel at home. When you visit Navy Lodge Sasebo, you will have a Full Kitchen, Wi-Fi and we'll serve up a Continental Breakfast every morning. And if you need anything else, we'll take care of you. Sasebo base is surrounded by water and mountains that you can see out of your room. It's simply beautiful! As the Navy Lodge Program celebrates its 50th anniversary, please know that our staff in Sasebo takes great pride in doing things right and making sure our customers are taken care of, which is why we are honored to have been selected as the 2019 Stars and Stripes Best of the Pacific On-Base Lodging winner for small bases. We look forward to your next visit.

STARS & STRIPES
BEST OF THE PACIFIC
2019 WINNER



"One of the largest Buddhas in Japan."
-Peter Andrew Herranen,
Yokosuka Naval Base

"An amazing cultural experience with lots to do around the area."
-Christian Mealey,
Camp Zama

"It is a well-known historical site that is pretty neat to see."

-Jennifer Miller,
Yokosuka Naval Base

KAMAKURA
BUDDHA
BEST
MUST-SEE
ATTRACTION
MT. FUJI

"Hard choice, but the best thing I have done in my 3 years so far was hop in my car and go to random locations to view Mount Fuji."

-Joseph Walker,
Yokosuka Naval Base

"The flowers look amazing in the summer with Fuji in the background."
-Victoria Sheldrick,
Yokota AB

"Must-see. Worldwide fame."
-Guy Snyder,
Camp Zama

"Beautiful and serene."
-Dary Bowlin,
Camp Zama



"Such friendly customer service!"
-Isaac Norton,
Camp Zama

"Larry is the best! He's kind, detail-oriented, and great to work with."
-Alicia Brunson,
NAF Atsugi

"Very convenient and fast service."

-Tina Leon Guerrero,
Camp Zama

"Always friendly and helpful in planning trips."
-Mary Linda Malley,
Camp Zama

"Use them often and the trips/tours have been great!"
-Marjorie Adams,
NAF Atsugi

ZAMA ITT
SMALL BASE
BEST
TRAVEL AGENCY

"Service with a smile and a discount! Who could ask for more?"

-Jill James,
Yokota AB

"We have loved all of the Yokota ITT trips we have taken. It has been a great way to ease ourselves into Japan and see so many wonderful sights."
-Christiana Robinson,
Yokota AB

"They always have amazing trips to venture out and explore Japan."
-Alisha Archangel,
Yokota AB

"Always courteous. If the trip was full, they would put you on a standby list and actively work it. Got on a couple of trips that were full. They go above and beyond to help people take trips."

-Richard Coyle,
Yokota AB

"Very reasonable prices for the amount of fun you get."
-William Griffin,
Yokota AB



★TRAVELING★



"Thank you for voting USAG Japan Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation for this year's Best MWR - Small Base, Japan! We take pride in serving you every day and look forward to continuing to deliver high-quality, mission supporting and programs and services for our community of soldiers, families, civilians and retirees. Thank you for allowing us to serve you!"

-Rick S. Bosch,
Director, Family & MWR USAG Japan

CAMP ZAMA MWR
SMALL BASE

BEST
MWR/FSS/MCCS

YOKOTA FSS
BIG BASE

"Thank you to our customers for their support. This award is a reflection of the strength of the Yokota community and the passion of the diverse team that serves in the Force Support Squadron. We look forward to the year ahead as we continue to develop our capabilities, build resilience and take care of our airmen and families."

-Rebecca White,
374 FSS Director





Camp Zama MWR



Mr. Rick Bosch
Director Family & MWR

**Thank you for allowing
us to serve you!**

Best MWR - **Small Garrison**
Best Outdoor Recreation - **Small Garrison**
Best Travel Agency - **Small Garrison**
Best Bowling Center - **Small Garrison**

<https://zama.armymwr.com/>



Yokota!

The Best Serving The Best!





Guam Reef Hotel
On The Beach in The Heart of Guam

Guam Reef Hotel offers hospitality and high quality entertainment venue. Located in the center of the shopping and entertainment district and within walking distance of all the exciting Tumon attractions.



RESTAURANTS

Guam Reef Hotel offers a selection of restaurants. Guests can experience the culinary bliss of Sango, Western Food / Japanese Style and Rica & Rico, Pacific Rim Cuisine. Enjoy "Sky Breakfast" at Bayview located on the 18th floor, where you can see a great ocean view.

ROOMS

Guam Reef Hotel has 427 well-appointed stylish rooms and is located in the heart of Tumon Guam. Our Beach Tower and Infinity Tower offer you a wide range of rooms from modern minimalist to rooms with panoramic views of Tumon Bay. All rooms include a flat-screen TV, hot/cold water dispenser and free Wi-Fi for your pleasant stay.



BARS

Century XXI Poolside Bar & BBQ serves a selection of light dishes and refreshing drinks to complete your Poolside experience. Do not miss our happy hour at the Top of the Reef with beautiful sunset and night views to make your time on Guam more memorable.

FITNESS & AMENITIES

A fitness room (678 sq ft) is available to help you unwind and further enhance your stay with us. We also have a microwave on every floor and a coin laundry facility located at the lobby level, available 24 hours for your convenience.



Guam Reef Hotel
On The Beach in The Heart of Guam

<http://guamreef.com/en/>



Guam Reef Hotel

On The Beach in The Heart of Guam



Bay View
Sky Breakfast

For Reservations

Tel: 1-671-649-2229 / 1-671-646-6881

E-Mail: reservations@guamreef.com

**Military Rates available*



1317 Pale San Vitores Road, Tamuning, Guam 96913



Japan's tropical island has much to offer you by way of entertainment, culture and food. Check out Kadena ITT, voted best this year for all your vacation-planning needs.

"The agents there are amazing at planning my family's flights exactly when we need them and manage to find great deals that I never would have found on my own," said Sean Jersey.

And let's not forget the perfect date night, which, according to your fellow members of the military community on Okinawa, continues to include Sam's By-The-Sea for the fifth year straight. "The atmosphere at Sam's always just croons of romance. Their selection suits almost every taste, and the soup! Ohhhhh the soup," Isaac Angers, from Camp

Foster, hailed. Don't let the size of Okinawa fool you, there's a lot to see and many great places to share with your date, family and friends beyond some delicious seafood. There's plenty more your military community has enjoyed exploring on Okinawa, so read on.

Remember one important thing: If there's a place you'd like to recognize for just how well they treated you, make sure you show them some love back when BOP voting opens up next year! Who knows, you just might win a gift card in our random drawing.



★ SHOPPING ★



"The staff at the Camp Hansen Exchange is always friendly, helpful, and thoughtful. The Exchange also tries to bring seasonal items to the store that make the customers feel more like being stateside. I also enjoy that food trucks from off base are invited on base to promote variety and cultural exchange."

- Anthony Camina,
Camp Hansen

"A very great store with great service and management."

- Stu Corby,
Camp Hansen

"Very kind and friendly."

- Jeremy Baxtes,
Camp Hansen

"The sales on women's athletic wear are great."

- Hilary Cervantes,
Camp Schwab

CAMP HANSEN
EXCHANGE
SMALL BASE

**BEST
EXCHANGE**

KADENA EXCHANGE
BIG BASE



"Very easily accessible and has everything you need from local souvenirs to even a music shop."

- Christopher Strickland,
Torii Station

"Love the new health food/supplement area!"

- Shay Collins,
Kadena AB

"Awesome customer service!!!! Prices are amazing and great deals."

- Elizabeth Padilla,
Camp Butler

"Has everything you could ever want, one-stop shop."

- Brittany Howell,
Kadena AB

"It's huge and has everything you'll ever need! :)"

- Nina Adams,
Kadena AB



OKINAWA

"The staff is always very welcoming and smiling."

- Graham Webb,
Camp Courtney

"Closest to home and well maintained and stocked."

- Alexis Bragg,
Camp Hansen

"They have great choices of food and beverages."

- Stu Corboy,
Camp Hansen

"Staff is always friendly."

- Jeremy Baxtes,
Camp Foster

"Has everything I need on-the-go!"

- Christopher Gasser,
Camp Hansen

HANSEN EXPRESS
SMALL BASE

**BEST
MINI-MART/EXPRESS/
MARINE MART**

KADENA OLYMPIC
EXPRESS
BIG BASE

"I go here every morning to grab breakfast because they have such a large selection of great food"

- Christopher Strickland,
Torii Station

"Easy to get to if you want something small and quick with not much waiting in line."

- Magda Kirai,
Camp Kinser

"It's literally like a miniature Exchange."

- Cole Schulz,
White Beach Naval Facility

"Huge selection of food, drinks and snacks. Subway restaurant inside. Self-help popcorn and snack aisle are great."

- Vanessa Berdoza,
Kadena AB

"Very close to home and it has everything you need in a hurry."

- Tara Scrimshire,
Kadena AB

"Olympic is amazing! I can find everything I need, from pizza to diapers."

- Minica Marin,
Camp Foster

"Best selection of beer and wine available on base."

- Tracy Steele,
MCAS Futenma



au

Cell Phone Service



2019 WINNER

Winner For 7 Consecutive Years

in OKINAWA

We thank the U.S.
military community for
choosing us again.
It's an honor to serve you!



◆ Smart Phone ◆ Tablet ◆ Mobile Router



au Kadena Air Base

☎ 03-6868-2242
Kadena BX 1F



au Camp Foster

☎ 098-971-5671
Okinawa Exchange Bldg

★ SHOPPING ★



"Had it for 15 years and
get good service."
- Ronnie Schiano,
Torii Station

"From years
past, AU seemed
to have the best
connection, so we've
stayed with them."
- David Heimann,
Torii Station

BEST CELLPHONE PROVIDER

AU (KDDI)

"Always have
signal everywhere."
- Romualdo Colon,
Camp Kinser

"I've always
gotten good
reception and
service."
- Robert Webb,
Camp Butler

"Friendly &
English-speaking
staff!"
- Joreen Johnson,
Camp Foster

"Service is never spotty.
Workers are always helpful."
- Erin Preston,
Kadena AB



BEST OFF-BASE SHOPPING

AEON MALL OKINAWA
RYCOM

"A spacious and well-
designed mall with good
stores. Has one of the
few remaining Toy R Us
in the world!"
- Ross Mol,
Kadena AB

"This mall is huge and has
an amazing food court!"
- Megan Krause,
Camp Courtney

"It is clean
and has many
stores to choose
from."
- Amanda Nguyen,
Kadena AB

"It's just like
home (almost)!"
- Richard Holguin,
Camp Butler

"Amazing with so many
shops to choose from,
plus you get a really good
workout."
- Tommy Brown,
Camp Kinser

"Everything from Pokemon to
Hawaiian shirts to Starbucks!
Spotless mall and always
something new to see with all the
different events. The food court
has options for everyone, and the
aquarium is always a hit!"
- Jennifer Knopf,
Kadena AB

★ SHOPPING ★



"Professional and uphold warranty promises."

- Bobby Stanford, Kadena AB

"No pressure, no hassle, easy payment and maintenance. What more could you want?"

- Scott Stahl, Camp Foster

"Humble owner and manager, has fair prices and honors warranty repairs without fuss."

- Bryan Weatherup, Kadena AB

"Lower prices and great customer service."

- Anthony Camina, Camp Hansen

"Very friendly staff and helpful to new drivers in Japan."

- Zachary Hough, Kadena AB

"Great price on the car and the insurance. Great staff and better selection of vehicles altogether!"

- Victor Miranda, Camp Courtney

★ PLAYING ★

COURTNEY BOWLING CENTER



"Good service."

- Vanesa Jadwin, Camp McTureous

"Not crowded and centrally-located."

- Marcia Avisato, Camp Schwab

"Great location. Not too crowded. Great for kids."

- Beverly Fish, Camp Hansen

COURTNEY & STRIKERS BOWLING CENTERS
SMALL BASE

BEST BOWLING ALLEY

EMERY LANES (KADENA)
BIG BASE

"Emery Lanes has lots of lanes so you almost never have to wait. They also installed some new technology that allows you to play as a group besides just competing for the highest score. My kids love the new cameras that take their picture and create funny cartoons of them as they bowl."

- Tar Fries, Kadena AB

"Burgers are great there and my family has enjoyed the special events such as Bowling with the Grinch."

- Richard Corrado, Camp Hansen

"Karaoke and bowling. Need I say more? Pizza is also perfect!"

- Tara Scrimshire

"My family loves the food and the glow-in-the-dark option. It's very clean and just a fun atmosphere."

- Nashieka Evans, Kadena AB

"Lots of lanes, great atmosphere for friends and family!"

- Rod Santos, Camp Foster

STRIKERS BOWLING CENTER (HANSEN)

"Great for kids parties!"

- Krystal Sills

"It's fun."

- Amy Davis, Camp Courtney

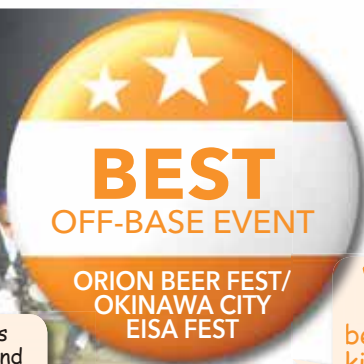


"They have awesome chicken wings."

- Annie McCarthy, Kadena AB

Photo by Senior Airman Peter Reft, U.S. Air Force

OKINAWA



"The beer festival is always a good time and fun to go to."

- Houson Morain, Camp Foster

"Orion is only in Okinawa. They also have live music, fireworks and food."

- Sonny Bellows, Camp Hansen

"It was our first event and it was pretty neat to watch. It's a great way to experience the culture. Food everywhere, also a good way to try local cuisine."

- Vivian Benitez, Camp Courtney

"Lots of food, people and yes, beer, at the beer fest. I'm taking the kids next year!"

- Victor Miranda, Camp Courtney

"I like Eisa and I like beer. The family enjoys Eisa also. You can't go wrong with them both at the same time. That must be why these festivals are combined."

- Jonathan Broadnax, Camp Hansen

★PLAYING★

BEST AFN PERSONALITY

CPL BENJAMIN WHITTEN

"Cpl. Whitten tells super dad jokes. He keeps me entertained and his guests on their toes. He is super fun to listen to in the morning when I'm not fully awake yet. Sad to see him go."

- Nicole Rogge,
Camp Foster

"I listen to him every morning. The sun may not be up yet, but Cpl. Ben Whitten always is!"

- Erin Wyrick,
Kadena AB

"He is cheerful and great to hear during my morning commute!"

- Yoko Seubert,
Camp Butler

"He seems very comfortable on air and does well helping his guests sound good."

- Tracy Steele,
MCAS Futenma

"This dude is definitely on his game. He's the BEST!!!"

- Kevin Van Gordon,
Kadena AB

"Cpl. Ben Whitten makes me laugh whenever he is on the radio. He does a great job!"

- Lauren Maron-Brown,
Camp Kinser



NAME: CPL BENJAMIN WHITTEN

AGE: 23

HOMETOWN: SANFORD, MAINE

Q: How do you feel knowing that of all the personalities, the public chose you as Best of the Pacific for Okinawa?

A: I'm very thankful. I came in to work every day thinking, "How can I best serve our audience today?" and whatever shenanigans happened

after that were, ultimately, in pursuit of that goal. I'm very appreciative to be recognized this way.

Q: How long have you been with AFN? Is this your first assignment being on-air?

A: I've since completed my two years on Oki and it was a fantastic first duty station. Yes, it was also the first time I'd ever done any sort of radio work at all. I had plenty of good leadership that helped me get to the level I'm at now.

Q: What is the process of getting ready for the show?

A: I try to be knowledgeable on a little bit of everything. I'll research any events going on in pop culture (apparently something called Throne Games is pretty big right now), any events going on around the island and anything at all that a listener might want to hear about. Basically, I try to put myself in the listener's shoes and try to talk about something I'd want to hear talked about if I were the one being entertained.

Q: What makes your show different than your other colleagues?

A: Mine is actually good... haha! Jokes aside, all of the DJs at AFN Okinawa are fantastic. Everyone has their own particular interests and things they're good at talking about. My interest was trying to find the ultimate dad joke, so corny that the universe would implode on itself due to the amount of cringe it would cause.

Q: For a person new to the island, which radio personality in the States would you describe yourself as comparable to?

A: It's hard to narrow it down to just one source of influence or personality. I am a hodgepodge of characters. Just to name a few of my sources of inspiration: "The Office" and the YouTube channels "Nostalgia Critic" and "Todd in the Shadows." Elvis Duran was the radio personality I always listened to growing up.

OKINAWA

"What other base has a gorgeous beach within base limits?"

- Christopher Strickland,
Torii Station

"Torii offers everything in one location. I can camp, swim, play at the park or water park, and sign up for activities."

- Rachika Willoughby,
Kadena AB

"My husband and I love how knowledgeable and personable Torii scuba lockers staff are. Always willing to help and answer questions."

- Amanda Tracey,
Kadena AB

"Torii has the best dive services. Their employees are professional and knowledgeable."

- Jessie Fife,
Kadena AB

"Best place and nicest beach on Okinawa."

- Quincy Williams,
Torii Station

TORII BEACH SMALL BASE BEST ON-BASE OUTDOOR REC KADENA MARINA BIG BASE

Photo by Mr. Richard L Rzepka, USAG Okinawa

"What a list of options. I looked over the mags and flyers. Kadena just keeps on getting better. It's amazing!"

- Kevin Van Gordon,
Kadena AB

"Plenty of activities like snorkeling and kayaking, nice little beach and great area for swimming. Good restaurant."

- Sean Jersey,
Kadena AB

"Jet skis, whale watching, a beach and a restaurant to eat...what else do you need? NOTHING!!"

- Michael Nulty,
Kadena AB

"By far the best. They have just added a bounce-floating water-fun area. The kids love you can rent kayaks and water toys."

- Michelle Collins,
Camp Kinser



Photo by Naoto Anazawa, U.S. Air Force

★ DINING ★



"Catfish Fridays!"
- Kristina Trujillo, Camp Hansen

"I have a soft spot for the Palms, as my first duty station was Camp Hansen. I took my wife to the Marine Corps Ball here."
- Isaac Angers, Camp Foster

CAMP HANSEN
PALMS
SMALL BASE

BEST
ENLISTED/
OFFICERS' CLUB
ROCKER ENLISTED CLUB
(KADENA)
BIG BASE

"Rockers is my absolute favorite place on base. We can have family dinner night, date night, splurge on great desserts and coffee, and even do a little gambling and dance the night away! Great special events take place here. I haven't been disappointed yet!"
- Nashieka Evans, Kadena AB

"The new enlisted club is absolutely gorgeous. I love going there for events, shows, coffee and dining. My husband even won \$75 putting \$5 in a slot machine."
- Simone Foster, Kadena AB

"Brand new beautiful facility!! They offer countless affordable events. Friendly staff!! All around great atmosphere!!"
- Tiffani Platas, MCAS Futenma

"It has the best breakfast, and it has a nice atmosphere."
- Amanda Nguyen, Kadena AB

"The food reminds me of home."
- Bradley Pope, Kadena AB

"They have those Parmesan fries ..."
- Michael Nulty, Kadena AB

BEST
FAMILY
RESTAURANT
CHILI'S KADENA

"They have something on the menu for everyone."
- Nakia Witherow, Camp Foster

"Good selection, nice atmosphere."
- Debbie Rowland, Camp Foster

"Chili's has the best atmosphere!"
- Taylor Engelkens, Kadena AB

"Lots of food for lower prices than out in town."
- Jennifer Bean, Kadena AB

BEST
PIZZA RESTAURANT
PIZZA HUT

"Can't beat those cheesy bites and cheese breadsticks."
- Marvin Maizano, Camp Foster

"Our family has always been a fan of Pizza Hut!! We are thankful to have it here so far away from home!!"
- Tiffani Platas, MCAS Futenma

"It's a slice of home!"
- Oscar Torres, Kadena AB

BEST
DATE-NIGHT
RESTAURANT
SAM'S BY-THE-SEA

"The atmosphere is where it's at! And the service is amazing."
- Jarrod Bartoy, Kadena AB

"The atmosphere at Sam's always just croons of romance. Their selection suits almost every taste, and the soup! Ohhhh the soup!"
- Isaac Angers, Camp Foster

"The atmosphere at this location provides more of an intimate setting for a date night. Highly suggest trying this location."
- Kelly Smith, Camp Foster

"My husband and I love to go here for our anniversaries and birthdays ... or just because! We love their curry soup and the delicious meals. I get the ribs and steak, he gets the steak and lobster. They also have rad souvenir cups to take home."
- Simone Vasquez, Kadena AB

OKINAWA

Fresh Island Seafood & Charbroiled Steaks
www.sams-okinawa.jp

SAM'S BY-THE-SEA

Best Date Night Restaurant

Live! Maine Lobster

Full Course Dinners from ¥1,500

Waves lapping against the seashore dinner by candle light turns Mystery into Romance.

Okinawa city Awase Tel.098-937-3421
★17:00~23:30 (L.O.22:30) ★Open Every Day. ★Free Parking.

★ DINING ★



"Best curry ever, and it's spicy!"
-Stuart Gimble, Torii Station

BEST LOCAL CULTURE RESTAURANT

CURRY HOUSE COCO ICHIBANYA

"Coco Ichibanya is the best representation of what Okinawa is today. It is a favorite of many service members, including myself. I am guilty of eating there over three times a week."

-Hunter Deakman, Kadena AB

"We could eat here once a day and still not get tired of it!"

-Danielle Smith, Camp Courtney

"We love them! Great price, yummy food!"

-Kristal Sills, Kadena AB

"CoCo's is the signature curry dish to try while you are stationed in Okinawa."

-Susie Salazar, Camp Courtney

"It's always good, you always know what to expect, and my whole family loves it."

-Tegan Hatley, Kadena AB

"Our favorite off-base place to eat. We could literally eat CoCo's curry every single day. It's the best when it's chilly outside."

-William Leidig, Camp Butler



CURRY HOUSE CoCo 志番屋

Thank you for voting
"CURRY HOUSE CoCo ICHIBANYA"
Best Restaurant for Local Culture
in Okinawa 2018



Okinawa Chatan Hamby Branch 098-926-2371 10:30-0:00



"HUGE selection and bottomless mimosas."
-Jeremiah Cahill, Camp Foster

"Best bang for your buck and they have a great variety of food!"

-Lindsay Toncu, Camp Courtney

"I love the amazing spread that is put out. It's a lot to choose from."

-Tommy Brown, Camp Kinser

BEST SUNDAY BRUNCH

KADENA OFFICERS' CLUB

"It's so good - almost overwhelming."

-Ross Mol, Kadena AB

"Reasonably priced with everything you could think of to eat."

-Eric Thompson, Camp Foster

"Champagne Brunch at its finest!!! There is something for every member of the family."

-Sharon Crowder, Kadena AB

★ TRAVELING ★



"There is so much to see at Ocean Expo! It takes multiple days to do and see it all. Most is free of charge, too!"

-Marcia Avvisato, Camp Schwab

"So much to see and teaches a lot about the island aquatic life."

-Jeremiah Cahill, Camp Foster

"The best aquarium in the Pacific."

-Jim Hennemann, Camp Butler

BEST MUST-SEE ATTRACTION

CHURAUMI AQUARIUM AND OCEAN EXPO PARK

"It's a wonderful drive up and it's really hours of fun for the whole family!"

-Nina Adams, Kadena AB

"The Aquarium is a must-see in Okinawa."

-Susie Salazar, Camp Courtney

"It's so much to see! The aquarium is just one of the best features. The dolphin show is interactive and fun."

-Nashieka Evans, Kadena AB

"We always take visiting friends and family to the aquarium. It's fun for all ages and we love the variety of exhibits and the huge tank!"

-Brooke Flory, Kadena AB

"From the awesome whale shark tank, beach and botanical garden, to the cultural museum, it provides plenty of activities."

-Debbie Beltran, Kadena AB

"Quiet and within walking distance of everything."

- Aubrianne Perry, Camp Courtney

"Clean, had rooms available when we needed one."

- Bassma Harajli, Camp Courtney

"Quiet, clean and fantastic staff!"

- Beverly fish, Camp Hansen

CAMP COURTNEY LODGE
SMALL BASE

BEST ON-BASE LODGING

WESTPAC LODGE (FOSTER)
BIG BASE

"Clean, provide breakfast and shuttle."

- Joreen Johnson, Camp Foster

"Central to everything and easily accessible. The staff is very accommodating, and they really take great care of you."

- Isaac Angers, Camp Foster

"Nice, clean rooms and we were offered free breakfast at Terra. The fitness area is pretty nice, too."

- Naomi Davis, Camp Foster

"You cannot beat the Westpac on Camp Foster! It's in a great location, within walking distance to the Camp Foster Exchange. Close to shopping out in town. Having the Terra Restaurant right next door and the free breakfast is very nice!!"

- Lindsay Toncu, Camp Courtney

"Free breakfast at Terra Restaurants. Sold!!! Plus, they have a lot of activities, can watch a movie and also have a kids' room."

- Teresa Alverson, Camp Foster

"Westpac is a great place to stay."

- Houston Morain, Camp Foster

"Great place and friendly staff. Convenient location and shuttle bus to airport."

- David Diggs, Kadena AB

"I enjoy my stay in Westpac. It is conveniently located close to a dining facility and walking distance to the PX. It provides the comforts of a home away from home."

- Susie Salazar, Camp Courtney

"Great location and many food places nearby and on property."

- Tommy Childers, Kadena AB

BEST OFF-BASE LODGING

THE HILTON (AMERICAN VILLAGE)

"It's in American Village, which is conveniently located by shops and restaurants."

- Tegan Hatley, Kadena AB

"Great views, great location."

- Dustin Schuett, Camp Foster

"Beautiful resort, great location, good restaurant."

- Annette Macfarlane, Camp Foster

"Great hotel with great food and centrally-located."

- Robert Swanson, MCAS Futenma

"The agents there are amazing at planning my family's flights exactly when we need them and manage to find great deals that I never would have found on my own."

- Sean Jersey, Kadena AB

"Very informative! Prices always the lowest."

- Stuart Gimble, Torii Station

"Very friendly and easy when you just don't want to try to set up your own trip. Step-by-step instructions when traveling out of the country."

- Eric Thompson, Camp Foster

"Just used ITT to go whale watching. 10/10. Great prices and provides travel."

- Taylor Engelkens, Kadena AB

"So many attractions you can book. Decently priced."

- Vanessa Berdoza, Kadena AB

BEST TRAVEL AGENCY

KADENA ITT

"Best website that's updated, better trips planned."

- Robert Rang, Fort Buckner

"They manage to get us where we need to go."

- William Schwartz, Kadena AB

"I have used them before for tickets and brochures. They are great!"

- Maryanne Tirinnanzi, Camp Lester

"Constant member deals and discounts."

- Jennifer Balcasar, Kadena AB

"Thank you to our customers for voting Torii MWR as 'Best Small MWR/18FSS/MCCS on Okinawa!' Congratulations to the dedicated staff of Torii MWR for serving our community and making us the best of the best. It truly has been a honor to serve and provide to Soldiers and their families on Torii Station. We look forward in continuing to foster this relationship with our patrons to provide quality programs and services."

- Natalie M. Boutte, Director, Directorate of Family and MWR USAG-Okinawa, Torii Station

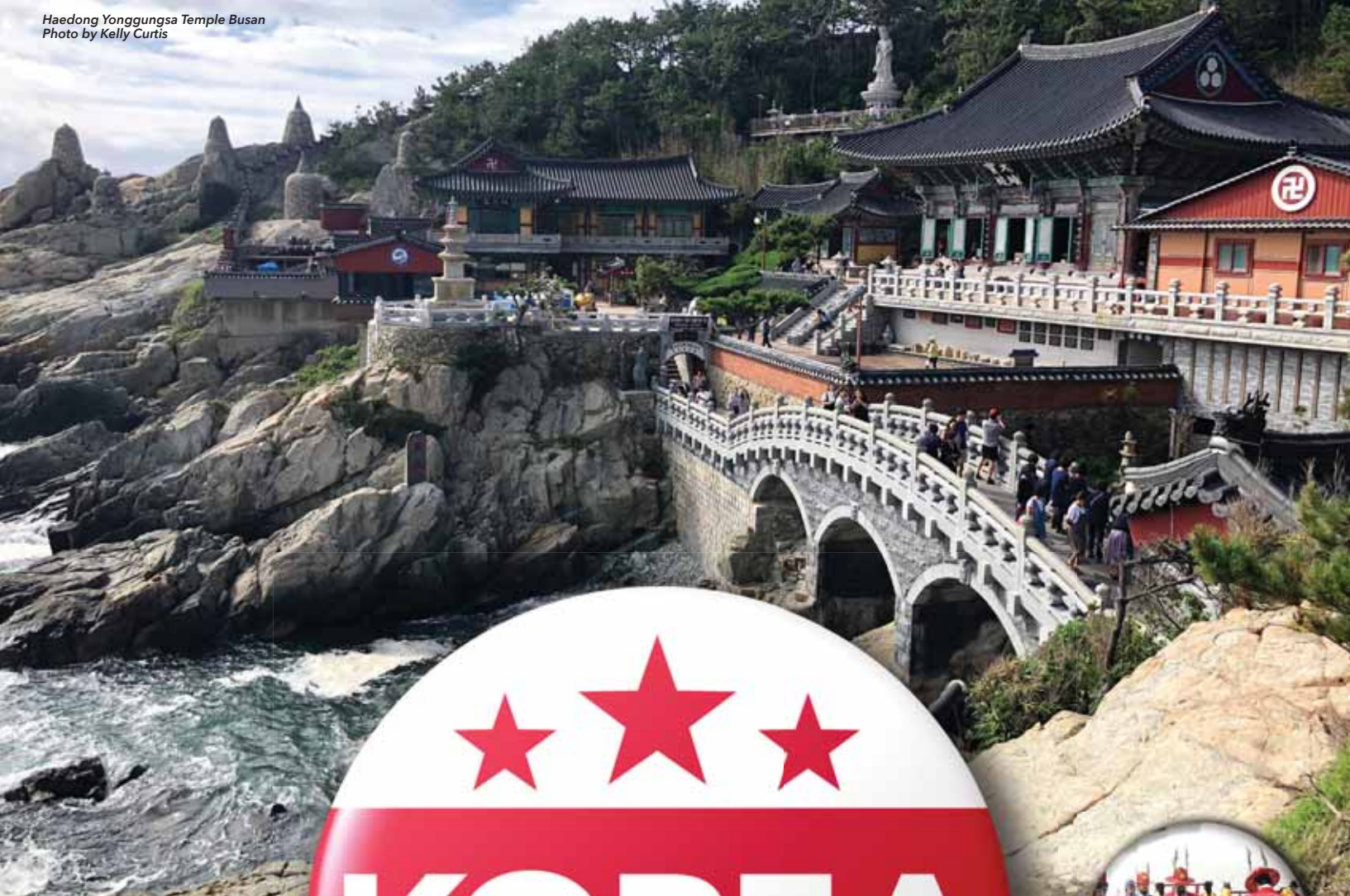
TORII MWR
SMALL BASE

BEST MWR/FSS/MCCS

KADENA FSS
BIG BASE

Supporting Kadena Air Base and helping to raise the morale of its airmen are at the core of the 18th FSS mission. It runs many of the facilities and programs that the Kadena community enjoys. In addition to all of the programs and tours on- and off-island, the 18th FSS is in charge of running the Risner Fitness Center, bowling alley, enlisted and officer clubs, Auto Hobby shop and many more.

OKINAWA



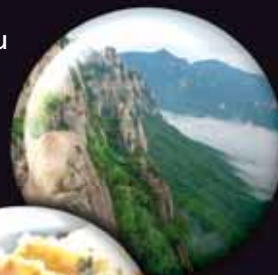
Korea! Every year, the votes keep growing and growing. And like last year, Korea edged out mainland Japan and Okinawa in casting the most votes. And it just wasn't one or two bases leading the way. They all chipped in, especially Kunsan, which picked up several wins in the small base category. But hats off to everyone in Korea. You're taking charge of the Best of the Pacific voting and showing us all the good stuff Korea has to offer.

Speaking of the best, there were many repeat winners from last year, but new this year in the off-base shopping category was the Shijangdon (Old Songtan Entertainment District). Daniel Ward said: "The Songtan Shopping District (Ville or SED) is second to none in terms of overall value and variety of goods and services." Located across from Osan Air Base's main gate, this shopping area has many shops and restaurants to help immerse you into Korean culture

while still close to base.

Other cultural and historical activities that are repeat winners, are the annual Mud Festival (Lynn Brown from Camp Humphreys said the festival is a "great opportunity to make lasting memories with new friends.") and a visit to the DMZ (Daniel Gaston from Camp Casey called it "an unforgettable experience.")

There are so many other things you can't top in Korea. So, if you are new to the ROK or just haven't ventured off the base much, this is your chance! And this magazine is going to help you. Read on and take some advice from our voters and discover what is the best of Korea!



★ SHOPPING ★



"I choose the Casey Main Exchange because it is the most helpful store around. The employees are always willing to help you find what you need, and the lines are always quick."

-Raymond Chen,
Camp Casey

"The employees are very polite and professional. There is a great selection of clothing and everything else a single soldier may need!"

-Dalton Huff,
USAG Yongsan/ K-16

"Camp Casey Main Exchange is the best because the employees there make sure the customer service is the priority."

-Esterline Herve,
Camp Casey

"This choice is suitable for my everyday living."

-Anthony Smith,
Camp Casey

CASEY
MAIN EXCHANGE
SMALL BASE

**BEST
EXCHANGE**

HUMPHREYS
MAIN EXCHANGE
BIG BASE

"Awesome and many choices. Great service, AAFES rocks!"

-Heather Ray,
USAG Humphreys

"Camp Humphreys has a better selection of overall everything. I really like the great selection of clothing for women and men."

-Felicia Ferry,
Osan Air Base

"It has a great atmosphere and lots of side businesses and areas that make you feel like you're back home."

-Daniel Wilson,
Camp Walker

"It is so large, and the selection is incredibly vast. It feels like you are in a mall back in the U.S."

-Daniel Gaston,
Camp Casey

"It's pretty new and big. And there's a lot to choose from."

-Jeffery Sigle,
Camp Casey

"It is the biggest main exchange and best military clothing sales. Best selection."

-Daniel Ward,
Osan Air Base

"It is the biggest post exchange in Korea and has many products. Good service, too."

-Don Wong,
Camp Casey

"Camp Humphreys main exchange has a lot to offer. They are always having some sort of sale."

-Lynn Brown,
USAG Humphreys

"It's large, new and nice! The one time you'll see Air Force members wanting to go to an Army base to use their amenities!"

-Gilbert Madison,
Osan Air Base

Photo by Staff Sgt. Jonathan Pomeroy, U.S. Air Force

"Kunsan Express has everything we need in terms of daily use items."

-Saccharin Sripan,
Kunsan Air Base

"Awesome, comes in handy when you need something later at night."

-Aaron Williams,
Kunsan Air Base

"Kunsan's mini mart has a big store-feel due to the welcoming employees with big smiles and fast service."

-Monica Mendez,
Kunsan Air Base

KANSAN EXPRESS
SMALL BASE

**BEST
MINI-MART/EXPRESS/
MARINE MART**

OSAN EXPRESS
BIG BASE

"Conveniently located and stays open late."

-Brian Orona,
Osan Air Base

"They always have fresh coffee."

-James Douthit,
Osan Air Base

"Has everything you need and a lot that you don't. The people are amazing, too."

-Mike Ziegler,
Osan Air Base

"This store has ice cold beer available every day!"

-Chad Kerlin,
Osan Air Base

"Excellent customer service, and they have all the snacks, alcohol, and soju I need."

-Art Flowers,
Osan Air Base

"First-rate customer service, clean, hours of operations are great!!!"

-Victor Figueroa,
Osan Air Base

"The data is some of the best quality I have had overseas."

-Shaun Thorpe,
Chinhae Naval Base

"Phone and Internet 5G bundle that just can't be beat."

-Shannon Anderson,
Osan Air Base

"LG U has the ability to be used all over the peninsula with minimal connection issues."

-Joshua Rojo,
USAG Humphreys

"I have phones for both myself and daughter, and they have provided very good service here in Korea and traveling."

-Shannon Voscinar,
USAG Yongsan/K-16

"I've been using them for 10 years."

-Jeff Grell

**BEST
CELLPHONE
PROVIDER**

"Unlimited service is inexpensive. It's easy to sign up and just as easy to end a contract when you have to PCS."

-Teresa Meade,
Osan Air Base

"I never have any surprises on my monthly bill."

-Jana Mantovani,
Osan Air Base

"LG U+ provides one of the best cellular service/home internet plans I have ever seen! For the price, quality of service, and quality of product, it can't be beat!"

-Jason Buzzard,
Osan Air Base

"Unlimited data with low price and fast speed."

-Gany Gamboa,
Osan Air Base

KOREA

★ SHOPPING ★

"It's always bustling with businesses of all kinds. A nice, slow transition to the host nation's culture."

- Allen Mason,
Osan Air Base

"Within proximity of Osan, Humphreys and Suwon, there's no better place that services us for what we need and dream of."

- Mel Juan,
USAG Humphreys

"You can find a little bit of everything here - clothing, weekly market, restaurants, cafes, footwear, tailors, etc."

- Jana Mantovani,
Osan Air Base

"Well-rounded selection of stores and places to eat."

- Bruce George,
Osan Air Base

"Everyone comes to Osan to shop for clothes, gifts and collectibles."

- Orlando Jones,
Osan Air Base

"Right outside Osan main gate. It has so much history and relationships with servicemembers. They really listen to what servicemembers want."

- Chauncey Phillips,
Osan Air Base

"You can get just about anything custom made there (suits, coats, shoes, jerseys, blankets, etc.)."

- Brian Orona,
Osan Air Base

"Multitude of vendors with a variety of selections that suits everyone's needs, which is accompanied by a variety of restaurants that offer several tastes of the world."

- Charles Walker II,
USAG Humphreys

BEST OFF-BASE SHOPPING

SHINJANGDONG
(OLD SONGTAN
ENTERTAINMENT
DISTRICT)

Photo by ChiHon Kim

Photo by ChiHon Kim

Photos courtesy of pinternational market

BEST CAR SALES

MILITARY
AUTOSOURCE

"The personnel are very helpful without any being overbearing. They follow-up in a timely manner and have no issue exploring different options so you get the right car for you."

- Kalli Ritter,
Osan Air Base

"Assisted in directions to registering and even disposing of our old car when we bought our current 2019."

- John Cutter,
USAG Humphreys

"They have the best customer service and the facility is close to the entrance to the Osan BX complex. One is able to engage a MAS sales associate whenever shopping, especially Mr. Troy Hannula, who is the best!"

- Tom Daly,
USAG Humphreys

"If you're staying overseas, there's no better place to buy for the price if you want something American-spec."

- Benjamin Cheng,
Osan Air Base

"Great discounts and prices. You can't get anything of this quality on lots back in the States."

- Kerstin Morlino-Federico,
USAG Humphreys

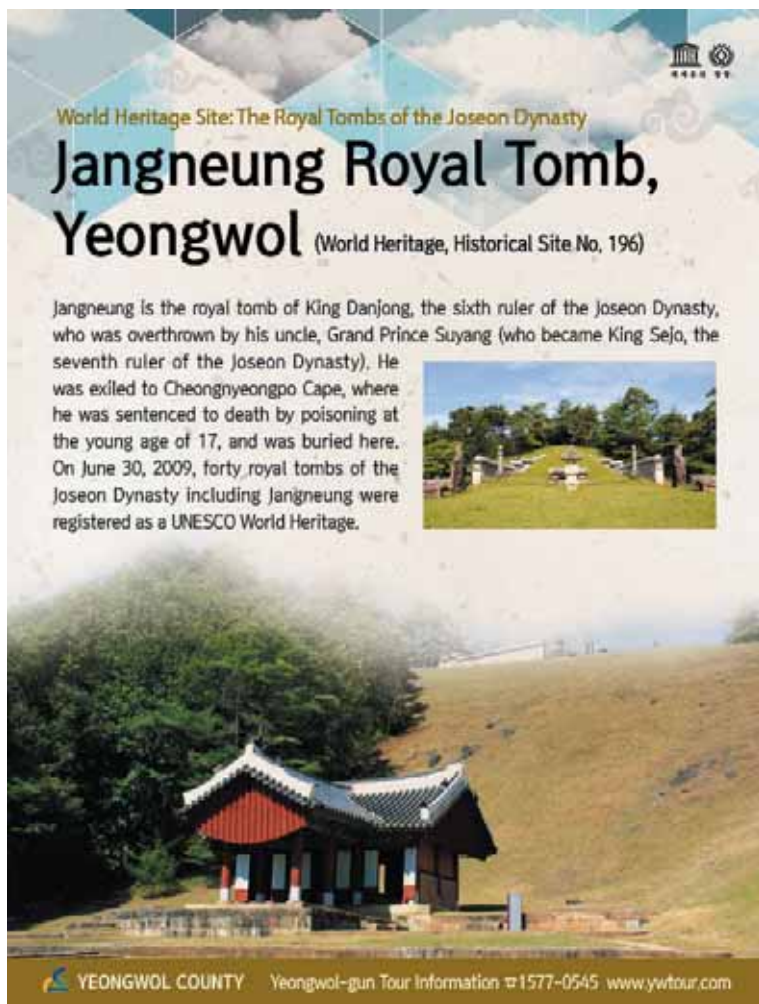
"Friendly salespeople, awesome customer service, and get to take my car back home!"

- Mary Robertson,
USAG Humphreys

World Heritage Site: The Royal Tombs of the Joseon Dynasty

Jangneung Royal Tomb, Yeongwol (World Heritage, Historical Site No. 196)

Jangneung is the royal tomb of King Danjong, the sixth ruler of the Joseon Dynasty, who was overthrown by his uncle, Grand Prince Suyang (who became King Sejo, the seventh ruler of the Joseon Dynasty). He was exiled to Cheongnyeongpo Cape, where he was sentenced to death by poisoning at the young age of 17, and was buried here. On June 30, 2009, forty royal tombs of the Joseon Dynasty including Jangneung were registered as a UNESCO World Heritage.





"Amazingly fast, friendly service. Food is amazing, and workers are so awesome."
- Monica Mendez, Kunsan Air Base

"Their food and lanes are good and free bowling on Wednesdays!"
- David Leon, Kunsan Air Base

"Offers plenty of food options."
- Mitchell Scasbrough, Kunsan Air Base

"Awesome place to bowl and have fun. Great staff as well!"
- Aaron Williams, Kunsan Air Base

TAKE IT NORTH BOWLING CENTER (KUNSAN) SMALL BASE

BEST BOWLING ALLEY

MIG ALLEYS BOWLING CENTER (OSAN) BIG BASE

"Osan Bowling has a play space for the kids AND the best burgers in Korea!"
- Jennifer Berenger, Osan Air Base

"Fun for the WHOLE family with their play area and smaller lanes for kids!"
- Donna Quillian, USAG Humphreys

"The food is great. A great variety of food selection. The people are great. The service is phenomenal."
- Victor Figueroa, Osan Air Base

"They have good lanes and even better bulgogi!"
- Maria Galicia, Osan Air Base

"You can't beat their free lunch bowling and yummy food."
- Andrew DeWitt, Osan Air Base

"It's clean and often has good deals."
- Holly Pickett, Camp Carroll

"Smooth lanes, equipment is taken good care of, and staff is great!"
- Jacob Turpin, Osan Air Base

"Awesome! Has every activity you want to do."
- Aaron Williams, Kunsan Air Base

"Good and affordable trips. Good service."
- Sakkarin Sripan, Kunsan Air Base

"There are so many weekly things to do and prices are good. Lots of off-base trips."
- David Leon, Kunsan Air Base

"Good selection of tours and activities."
- Joshua Parker, Kunsan Air Base

KUNSAN AB OUTDOOR REC SMALL BASE

BEST ON-BASE OUTDOOR REC

OSAN AB OUTDOOR REC BIG BASE

"Osan ODR has all the ski and snowboard equipment I need!"
- Chad Kerlin, Osan Air Base

"Osan, because they go all out!"
- Souktyda Manley, USAG Yongsan/K-16

"Overall a good selection of outdoor trips. We enjoyed the hiking trips around South Korea."
- Felicia Ferry, Osan Air Base

"Love Outdoor Rec!! They have wonderful trips!"
- Brittany Moore, USAG Humphreys

"Plenty of trips and activities to keep me busy around the peninsula!"
- Eddie Hurtado, Osan Air Base

"I've taken several trips with Osan Outdoor Rec and all have been well-planned and really fun!"
- Madison Gilbert, Osan Air Base

"They have great deals on trips and their equipment is in great shape!"
- Henry Vong, Osan Air Base

"Many great group adventure opportunities as well as a wide selection of gear to rent!"
- Jacob Turpin, Osan Air Base




"The social connection is fantastic. ITT also does a wonderful job at ensuring members have transportation to/from."
- Kendell Clark, Osan Air Base

"Entertainment for the whole family and an excuse to play in mud."
- Priscilla Roman, USAG Humphreys

"This is a very fun festival for the entire family. Something new to experience."
- Megan Roberts, USAG Humphreys

"Mudfest is always so much fun!"
- Rolando Alvarado, Osan Air Base

"Special Korean therapeutic (claimed benefits) mud brought in for epic outdoor festival; beachfront festival with concerts, mud pools/ spa action for adults and children (in separate areas). Nothing else like this in the world that I'm aware of."
- Kevin Mantovani, Osan Air Base

"People from all over the world attend this event. It's a great opportunity to make lasting memories with new friends."
- Lynn Brown, USAG Humphreys

"Mudfest is a great event for tourist and Korean nationals to party and have fun together in the summer heat."
- Chauncey Phillips, Osan Air Base

BEST OFF-BASE EVENT

MUD FESTIVAL



"Miquel has a bubbly personality with a comedic flair."
- Robbie Foxworth, Osan Air Base

"Bringing the party back to base!"
- Monica Mendez, Kunsan Air Base

"She has very good energy and enthusiasm!"
- Brittany Timpson, Kunsan Air Base

"She has the best personality and voice."
- Marvin Kelker, Osan Air Base

"So much energy!"
- Amber Lucy, Kunsan Air Base



NAME: SSGT MIQUEL JORDAN
AGE: 32
HOMETOWN: HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA

Q. How do you feel knowing that of all the personalities, the public chose you as Best of the Pacific?

A. It's pretty exciting to know all my Wolf Pack wingmen here at Kunsan appreciated me enough to vote for me on this platform. It's still crazy to hear people tell me they heard me on the radio. I love it though!

Q. How long have you been with AFN? Is this your first assignment being on-air?

A. AFN Kunsan is my first on-air assignment. I retrained into the career field back in 2016 and, funny story, I actually cried every day during the radio block. Despite instructors telling me I had a great radio voice, the fact they were watching me was extremely nerve-wracking. This experience isn't tech school at all. Ha!

Q. What is the process of getting ready for the show?

A. When I arrive for work in the morning, the first thing I do is check a few sites for interesting stories. I typically use Wise Brothers and The Shade Room (granted only if stories are appropriate). After

choosing a story, I go back to my intro to try and make it relatable to something I've gone through with a personal story. Next, I pick whichever reader or command information spot I find necessary to tie into the story. Finally, I update the exchange rates and weather. I do this for each hour. Finding funny stories is more my thing because I like to believe I'm giving my audience something to chuckle about. I read over the script a few times so I don't have to go off script and to sound natural, then it's off to start the show!

Q. What makes your show different than your other colleagues?

A. I think the main component that makes my show different is my "California Girl" component. I always include something in my show about my home state. People know me around base as their "favorite California girl." I also get asked to host things around base, and that helps me build more rapport with my audience. I think that noticeability makes folks a little more inclined to hear what I have to say on the radio.

Q. For a person new to Korea, which radio personality in the States would you describe yourself as comparable to?

A. In my head, I could be equal parts my childhood hometown and New York radio personalities: Chuy Gomez, former KMEL 106.1 DJ and Angie Martinez of Power 105.1. Both very prolific hip hop and R&B radio personalities of their times and even today. Their respect for the music is something I appreciate so much. They're definitely my idols that I came into this position attempting to mirror myself after. I even have a copy of Angie's autobiography, "My Voice-A Memoir," on my desk now as a reminder of how great I have the opportunity to be.

"You cannot find a more energetic, entertaining disc jockey than SGT Joni Jackson."

- Daniel Ward, Osan Air Base

"She has lots of enthusiasm and I enjoy listening to her show."

- David Moysey, Osan Air Base

"Beautiful voice!"

- Brittany Moore, USAG Humphreys

"Great banter and goes out of her way to help the high school video programs."

- Janet Cook, Camp Walker

"Joni Jackson is very entertaining to listen to. We have been in Korea for 3 years and feel she is by far the best DJ. She also plays a mix of songs, not just the top 20 over and over again. Thank you, Joni Jackson, for entertaining us!!"

- Stacy Villanueva, Osan Air Base

"I've listened to AFN radio for a span of almost 15 years and I can't tell you one name that I have remembered throughout those years except one that will stick: SGT Joni Jackson ..."

- Charles Walker II, USAG Humphreys



NAME: SGT JONI JACKSON
AGE: 28
HOMETOWN: DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

Q. How do you feel knowing that of all the personalities, the public chose you as Best of the Pacific?

A. It's a great privilege to be a radio personality. It's even a greater privilege to serve as the voice for the military community. I feel honored being chosen and appreciate the listeners for enjoying my show as much as I enjoyed their energy and interaction.

Q. How long have you been with AFN? Is this your first assignment being on-air?

A. My assignment to Korea back in 2017 is the first time I experienced being a radio personality. I immediately fell in love with the job and decided to extend. For two years, my goal was being a DJ that everyone

could enjoy across the peninsula.

Q. What is the process of getting ready for the show?

A. Preparing for my show was mostly me reflecting on my day-to-day routine, family life or professional atmosphere. Then I would bring that to my radio show so I could relate to my listeners in the best way. Most people have the same routine, just in different quirky ways. It's nice to hear someone put a spin on theirs for a few morning-ride laughs.

Q. What makes your show different than your other colleagues?

A. My show is different because I like to bring my life and what I experience to the radio show. If I've experienced a 3-hour hike in Korea and there is a hiking trip coming up, I'd give the audience the story of their lives to convince them that they'd have a great time.

Q. For a person new to Korea, which radio personality in the States would you describe yourself as comparable to?

A. I love to compare myself to "The Breakfast Club" morning show. The three personalities on the show are vibrant, truthful and funny. Like me!

"Amazing draft beer prices and the dance floor is always a good time after the Ville closes down."

- Daniel Gaston,
Camp Casey

"The pizza at the Gateway Club is outstanding, and the wings are delicious."

- Dakota Anderson,
Osan Air Base

"Good food and beer specials, plus the Street Beat Band is the best!"

- Kerlin Chad,
Osan Air Base

"Has had various events with popular guests, i.e. Rob Schneider, Papa Roach, etc."

- Henry Vong,
Osan Air Base

"They have amazing calzone and really good wings."

- Frank Van Meter,
Camp Hovey

"Good food, cheap drinks, safe place to have fun and enjoy your time by yourself or with friends. They have different events each day."

- Brian Franklin,
Camp Casey

"The Gateway Club has excellent food as well as pool tables and a fun casino."

- Raymond Chen,
Camp Casey

"They have the best food on base."

- Jason Ramirez,
Camp Casey

**GATEWAY CLUB
(CASEY)
SMALL BASE**
BEST
**ENLISTED/
OFFICERS' CLUB**
OSAN ENLISTED CLUB
BIG BASE

"Awesome breakfast. One of the best places to get a good American-style breakfast. Also provides awesome events at night/weekends."

- Ian Patterson,
USAG Humphreys

"Best Enlisted Club I've ever been to! Great food and setting. Wing Wednesday is a weekly ritual!"

- Valentin Efrain,
Osan Air Base

"I love the crab legs!"

- Ron Rey,
Osan Air Base

"Great staff, events and food. Lots of events for base personnel and families."

- Ernest Lee,
Osan Air Base

"They do so many events and we signed up to be a member! Saves us money and we have fun."

- April Torres,
Osan Air Base



"Love eating Pizza Hut for a taste of home."

- Candice Flores,
USAG Humphreys

"They have that stuffed crust and cheesy bread that can't be beat."

- Austin Poteat,
USAG Humphreys

"Much better quality than back in the States. Flavorful and exquisite."

- Edwin Cobos,
USAG Humphreys

"Best pizza spot on Camp Humphreys."

- Amiry Shawn,
USAG Yongsan/K-16

BEST
PIZZA RESTAURANT
PIZZA HUT

"Nobody out-pizzas the Hut!"

- Daniel Ward,
Osan Air Base

"It's worth waiting for. Pizza Hut pan pizza is easily my favorite."

- Mel Juan,
USAG Humphreys

"Always on time!"

- Emily Prado-Elfstrom,
Osan Air Base

"The Cajun Pasta is sooooo amazing."

- Cheyenne Robertson,
Osan Air Base

"For an on-base restaurant, Chili's provides a great experience and great food!"

- Cindy Johnson,
USAG Humphreys

"Nothing better than a restaurant from home."

- Jeremiah Rodriguez,
Osan Air Base

"Very nice ambience."

- Ryan Cleary,
Osan Air Base

"Family-friendly atmosphere and familiar American food that children like."

- Mike Zeigler,
Osan Air Base

"Chilis Osan has great menu options for the whole family."

- William Williams,
Osan Air Base

"Great food for the price with a great family-dining experience."

- Ernest Lee,
Osan Air Base

"On base and has decent prices."

- Rebecca von Klinggraff,
Osan Air Base

BEST
**DATE-NIGHT &
FAMILY RESTAURANT**
**CHILIS
(OSAN AB FSS)**

"Ample kid-friendly selections!"

- Robert Walton,
Osan Air Base

"Real good food, drinks and good service."

- William Quintero,
Osan Air Base



★ DINING ★

BEST LOCAL CULTURE RESTAURANT

**NOLBOO HANGARI GALBI,
SHINJANGDONG
(OLD SONGTAN)**

"The most popular going away, TDY stop, special dinner venue around Osan for Korean BBQ-style food."
- Kevin Mantovani, Osan Air Base

"An excellent place to get your taste buds acclimated. The side dishes are mild, the meat is excellent, the menus and staff use English. The restaurant also has a fully-stocked bar, is easy to find, and the owners are lovely."
- Kendell Clark, Osan Air Base

"This is my go-to spot anytime I have visitors from out of town. Great introduction to Korean BBQ and amazing salad."
- Kalli Ritter, Osan Air Base

"The true Korean BBQ experience."
- Efrain Valentin, Osan Air Base



"Best options and buffet always looks fresh and well-planned."
- Heather Ray, USAG Humphreys

"I drive from CP Humphreys to Daegu just for lunch!"
- Shawn Jenkins, USAG Humphreys

"Had wonderful food at Thanksgiving!"
- Maria Donovan, Camp Carroll

"Many options to choose from with great customer service."
- Devon Mayers, Camp Mujuk MCCS

"Their selection is great, and the food and prices are also good."
- Faith Duenas, Camp Henry

"They go all out with the menu and decorations for their holiday super brunches."
- Michael Elmer, Camp Henry

"The club has a great variety of breakfast and lunch items to choose from. Go there hungry because it's worth it."
- Mel Juan, USAG Humphreys

**EVERGREEN CLUB
(USAG DAEGU FMWR)
SMALL BASE**

BEST SUNDAY BRUNCH

**OFFICER'S CLUB
(OSAN AB FSS)
BIG BASE**

"Wow! What a spread they have. I never miss a Sunday Brunch, one of the best things to look forward to all week."
- Victor Figueroa, Osan Air Base

"Hands down, Osan Officers Club has something for everyone. Super delicious. Also offering bottomless mimosas and a bounce house for the kids."
- Megan Roberts, USAG Humphreys

"It literally has everything you would ever want!"
- Kendell Clark, Osan Air Base

"Great brunch with free mimosas! They usually have a bouncy house for the kids to play in while adults eat and chat."
- Jennifer Schwomeyer, Osan Air Base

"The food is delicious, and the staff is wonderful!"
- Junko Pilch, Osan Air Base

"I mainly go for the unlimited mimosas!"
- Candace George, Osan Air Base

"Good food, and a kids' play area! What more could you want?"
- Kelsie Perez, Osan Air Base



★ TRAVELING ★

"A great trip to go on for more clarity on the history of Korea, as well as the purpose of US military still existing on the peninsula today."
- Mason Allen, Osan Air Base

"An unforgettable experience actually going up and seeing the DMZ. You are walking among living history."
- Daniel Gaston, Camp Casey

"Though the strategic environment is changing, this surreal experience is still a must-see!"
- Dan Kobs, USAG Humphreys

"Nothing like you would ever experience anywhere else."
- Chris Yun, Osan Air Base

BEST MUST-SEE ATTRACTION THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE

"Korea has rapidly modernized and it's easy to forget why we're here. Touring the DMZ puts things in perspective."
- Michael Capil, Chinhae Naval Base

"Might not be there forever, so check it out while we can."
- Rebecca von Klinggraeff, Osan Air Base

"Going through the tunnels and seeing North Korea was one of the best adventures ever!"
- Christian Gonzales, Chinhae Naval Base

"I loved the DMZ tour!"
- Eddie Hurtado, Osan Air Base

"When you go there, it is like you are walking into a big piece of US-Korean history."
- Jeffrey Crane, Osan Air Base





WOLF PACK INN (KUNSAN)
SMALL BASE

BEST ON-BASE LODGING

TURUMI LODGE (OSAN)
BIG BASE

"Rooms were really clean and great service."
- Chris DiSanto, Osan Air Base

"Friendly and attentive staff."
- Mitchell Scasbrough, Kunsan Air Base

"Clean and comfortable."
- Steve Tucker, Osan Air Base

"The lodge has great and helpful service. Also has pet-friendly rooms."
- Michael McGinnis, Osan Air Base

"Clean, great people and in the perfect location on base."
- Mike Zeigler, Osan Air Base

"Turumi was the nicest Air Force hotel I've ever stayed in. 10/10."
- Nathan Like, Osan Air Base

"Clean, large room. Enjoyed my stay there very much!"
- Efrain Valentin, Osan Air Base

"Nice facility with close food/entertainment options."
- Dan Kobs, USAG Humphreys

"Affordable, within walking-distance to shopping, food and the bus terminal."
- Natalie Goes, USAG Yongsan/ K-16

"Their cleaning services are very good. The lodge also has a fitness room and a laundry room. Plus, it's close to the BX and Chilis, and has a taxi line right outside."
- Dakota Anderson, Osan Air Base




KUNSAN AB CAC TOURS
SMALL BASE

"Very informative and helpful."
- Sakkarin Sripan, Kunsan Air Base

BEST TRAVEL AGENCY

OSAN AB ITT
BIG BASE

"Osan AB ITT has many great trips that are fairly priced."
- Henry Vong, Osan Air Base

Osan Air Base Information Tickets & Travel

"Osan is killing it!"
- Brittany Moore, USAG Humphreys

"Great variety of trips offered throughout Korea."
- Felicia Ferry, Osan Air Base



"Even though we are going through uncertain times due to relocation and transformation, our MWR professionals continue to offer quality programs and exceptional customer service to the members of our communities. We continue to reach out to our customers to ensure we meet or exceed their expectations. We believe that it is even more important to offer quality programs during turbulent times, to help take people's minds off of the many changes that are impacting their lives. We strive to be a constant, positive influence on the soldiers and families in our communities."
- Jeff Wertz, Area I & II FMWR

AREA I & II FMWR
SMALL BASE

BEST MWR/FSS/MCCS

OSAN FSS
BIG BASE

"Our team of FSS professionals strive to provide first-class customer service. We are constantly in touch with our customer's needs to ensure we are exceeding the quality of life needs for Team Osan."
- Jason Barreuther, Chief, Community Services Flight



OSAN AIR BASE, REPUBLIC OF KOREA
FORCE
SUPPORT SQUADRON



When we think of Guam, we think of sandy beaches, crystal blue ocean and great Chamorro food. And the military community is here to tell you there's plenty more where that came from!

From a beach, with their toes in the sand, is how we'd like to imagine all of our record number of Guam voters chimed in for this round of Best of Pacific. And even if they were on the beach, many still took the time to tell us why they voted the way they did. We thank them for that.

Some of the old faithfuls still stood best this year for Guam, but there were several newcomers on the list. Voters gave Hyatt Regency Guam Hotel the nod for this year's Best Sunday Brunch. "Big lobster,

all-you-can-eat," Genaro Cuico from Naval Base Guam told us. Short and sweet, but enough to make us want to head over for a feast.

After brunch, visit this year's winner for best off-base shopping, Micronesia Mall. Deacon White from Anderson Air Force Base said it has "Good stores, many food choices and a cinema."

Good shopping, nice beaches and more, this U.S. territory definitely draws you in. So, if you are itching to visit for a relaxing vacation or are contemplating a request to be stationed there, know that there is plenty to make the best of on Guam.



★SHOPPING★

"Love the prices!
Love the staff
- always so helpful
and friendly!"

- Chrystal Joiner,
Naval Base Guam

"More variety and they
always have deals going on.
The staff also runs around the
store sharing sale information with
everyone."

- Deacon White,
Andersen AFB

"The
associates
at the
NEX are
so friendly and welcoming
when you first enter the
store. When you need
assistance or have a
question, there is
always someone
around to assist
you. I am always
able to find what
I am looking
for."

- Paul Blas,
Naval Base Guam



GUAM MAIN NAVY
EXCHANGE

"Complete array of items. Stocks
reasonably-priced name brand items
(Style and Co., Ruby Red, Karen Scott,
etc.) in petite, average and plus sizes. In
addition, they always have great sales and
periodic scratch cards. There is also a
fully-stocked furniture mart."

- Mary Matanane,
Retiree

"Very clean and the
workers are super nice
to you. Everything you
need is here."

- GuQuan Xiao,
US Army Reserve Center



MAIN NAVAL BASE
MINI MART

"Big and full of
stuff!"

- Gene Pewtress,
Andersen AFB

"Everything you
need when you
are in a hurry. Fast
food items, gas,
toiletries, produce,
drinks, etc."

- Tammy Aguon,
Naval Base Guam

"After paying
for my gas, I go
inside and do a little
shopping. So awesome!"

- Celina Manley,
Naval Base Guam

"Friendly staff.
Great selections of
beer. Convenient."

- Kirstin Perry,
Naval Base Guam

GUAM

THANK YOU
FOR VOTING
NEX GUAM
BEST EXCHANGE
NAVAL BASE GUAM

BEST MINI-MART
NAVAL BASE GUAM



Your Navy Exchange would like to give a big "Thank You" to the best customers in the world for voting Navy Exchange Guam the Best Exchange in Guam for the 5th Year in a Row and the Naval Base Guam Mini-Mart as the best Mini-Mart/Shoppette for both years the category has been part of the Best of the Pacific contest. The NEX Guam Team takes immense pride in being able to serve the men and women of the Armed Forces stationed on Guam and those that visit our lovely island. We are honored to serve and we are grateful that our customers have once again voted Their Navy Exchange as the Best in the Guam.

Matthew Barnwell
District Vice President,
Navy Exchange, Guam



"Wide selection of phone brands and
prices, flexible plans and prepaid
options, convenient locations on and off
bases, excellent store hours, 24-hour
customer service via phone. Easy ways
to pay via phone, in store, or online and
great customer service!"

- John "Jay" Andre,
Guam Army National Guard



GTA

"Word of mouth says
that this is the best
service on island."

- Aaron Hughes,
Andersen AFB

"They always try to get you
the best pricing and honor it
for years, even if the price
increases."

- Thomas Gilbert,
Naval Base Guam



Welcome to New Connections

A new environment with all new experiences can be stressful. Let GTA set you at ease and keep you connected to those close to your heart but far from your new home.

For over 60 years, GTA has been providing superior service and products to help keep you close to those that matter most. As you serve our country, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your family's communication needs. For your added convenience, GTA stores are located on Andersen Air Force Base and Navy Base Guam for your ease of access.



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★ SHOPPING ★

BEST OFF-BASE SHOPPING

GUAM PREMIUM
OUTLET

"Wonderful shopping
experience."

- Gabriel Waldorff,
Naval Base Guam

"GPO has a
variety of
stores, a theater
with a large
selection of movies,
and many food
options."

- Cortney Howard,
Naval Base Guam

BEST CAR SALES

ATKINS KROLL



"Parts conveniently
available here."

- Bobbie Cruz,
US Army Reserve Center

"Good customer
service."

- Matt Napui,
Andersen AFB

"Because of the quality
of their vehicles and
the fair prices of their
goods and services."

- Alejo Sablan,
Retiree

★ PLAYING ★

BEST BOWLING ALLEY

OROTE POINT LANES
(NBG)

"Close
proximity to food
establishments
and cheap
prices."

- David Klebacher,
Naval Base Guam

"Great
atmosphere!"

- Jude Cruz,
US Army Reserve Center

"Everything about
this bowling alley is
perfect."

- Roy Eay Jr.,
Naval Base Guam

BEST ON-BASE OUTDOOR REC

GAB-GAB
(NAVY MWR)

"The bathroom is clean."

- Genaro Cuico,
Naval Base Guam

"It's a nice beach, but
not too crowded."

- Aaron Hughes,
Andersen AFB

"Hands down
best everything!
Ocean pool, drop
offs, snorkeling,
diving and general
facilities."

- Reginald Free,
Retiree

★PLAYING★



"A variety of food and souvenirs. Draws people from all countries."

- Anthony Lukela,
Army Guard

"The food is great!"

- David Elliot,
Naval Base Guam

"Chamorro Village has a variety of local food to offer to our visitors on the island. Also, lots of souvenirs to take home to their families."

- R. Cruz,
Naval Base Guam



★DINING★



"I like the chicken wings!"
- Genaro Cuico,
Naval Base Guam

"They have a wide variety of food to choose from. It's all delicious!"
- R. Cruz,
Naval Base Guam

"Best selection of food and beverages."

- Janell Ward,
Andersen AFB



"Great price and great pizza!"

- Abrch Pastore,
Guam Naval Hospital

"Ten dollar pizza!"
- Quinn Arciaga,
Andersen AFB

"Best taste and selection."

- Andrew Ellison,
Civilian

"Cheapest deals."
- Albert Villa,
Radio Barrigada



GUAM

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"Awesome environment."

- Deacon White,
Andersen AFB



"Love their calamari!"

- Maricar Warren,
Naval Base Guam

"Best food and environment!"

- Roy Eay Jr.,
Naval Base Guam

MOSA'S
BEST
DATE-NIGHT
RESTAURANT

PROA

"Cheap and great service."

- Albert Villa,
Radio Barrigada

"Taro Cheesecake!"

- Quinn Arciaga,
Andersen AFB

"Delicious food, expensive, but fairly priced. Great atmosphere."

- David Klebacher,
Naval Base Guam



"Friendly staff serves up great food."

- Andrew Ellison,
Civilian

BEST
FAMILY
RESTAURANT

CAPPRICIOSA



"Wide variety of Italian food. Generous portions that can feed 3 people in some cases. Pasta, lasagna, pizza and if you like escargot, it's one of the few places on island you can find it. And they have 3 locations to choose from. Two in Tumon Bay and one in the Agaña Shopping Center. Nice kiddie menu, too."

- John "Jay" Andre,
Guam Army National Guard

"Excellent Chamorro food available. The local platter is delicious."

- Mary Matanane,
Retiree

BEST
LOCAL CULTURE
RESTAURANT

MESKLA

"Wide variety of local dishes, from seafood and beef to pork. If you like coconut milk and spicy food, you can find that, too. Locally-owned and like homemade."

- John "Jay" Andre,
Guam Army National Guard

"Always good food and service."

- Rose Blend,
Retiree



BEST
SUNDAY BRUNCH

HYATT REGENCY
GUAM HOTEL

"Hyatt is my go-to favorite for brunch. It is great to celebrate and just fun to go eat on a Sunday!"

- Clarice Martinez,
Naval Base Guam

"I love their seafood and beer! Great service!"

- Anthony Lukela,
Army Guard

"Nice views, good food, relaxing place."

- GuQuan Xiao,
US Army Reserve Center





BEST ON-BASE LODGING

NAVY GATEWAY INNS & SUITES (NAVAL BASE GUAM)

"Quiet and close enough to some eats and shopping."
-Ed Kelin, Orlando, FL.

"I have pets. They allow pets."
-Derrick Ward, Andersen AFB

"Easy proximity to base facilities, great price, amazing rooms."
-David Klebacher, Naval Base Guam



BEST OFF-BASE LODGING

DUSIT THANI GUAM RESORT

"Beautiful property and well maintained."
-Leigh Stephens, Naval Base Guam

"Luxurious. Great pool."
-Kirstin Perry, Naval Base Guam

"Close to all the shops."
-William Sarwiento, Retiree



BEST MUST-SEE ATTRACTION

TWO LOVER'S POINT

"Great view with a restaurant and gift shop. Beautiful sunset for dinner."
-Tammy Aguon, Naval Base Guam

"Great location."
-Matt Napui, Andersen AFB

"Simply beautiful."
-V'Lyssa Sanna, Retiree



BEST TRAVEL AGENCY

ANDERSEN ITT

"They have very helpful employees."
-Ray Stiers, Andersen AFB

GUAM



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"Can't beat the location!"
- Daniel Gaston



"Seoul is such a main hub for Korean pop culture. The Dragon Hill Lodge puts you right there in the action!"
- Eddie Hurtado



"Our room had beautiful night-time views. The restaurants were great!"
- Candice Flores

"Wonderful experience in the heart of Seoul. Great restaurants and travel desk."

- Jason Butler,
Yokosuka Naval Base

"Dragon Hill is awesome, because they really look out for the small details that help make a trip successful."

- Kristine Prince Moses,
Sasebo Naval Base

"The grounds are beautiful and the staff was very helpful with adventures, whether it be booking a trip to the DMZ, getting a taxi, or teaching members how to use Seoul's subway."

- Kendell Clark

"The Dragon Hill really surprised us. When we vacationed there, the hotel rooms were a great size and the amount of restaurant options was fantastic!"

- Lauren Maron-Brown



THE NEW SANNO (TOKYO)

"Amazing brunch!"

- Nathan Shepard, Yokosuka Naval Base

"It's like a little piece of America in the middle of Tokyo, Japan!"

- Jacob Moore, Sasebo Naval Base

"The best all around with great prices and in the heart of Tokyo! You can't beat that!"

- Harold Mclean, Retired

"Delicious breakfast, nice rooms, wonderful service, awesome central Tokyo location, the NEX store has great unique Japanese gifts, and the amazing Thanksgiving buffet is perfect for when you don't feel like spending seven hours cooking the turkey yourself."

- Sean Jersey

"It's gorgeous and very convenient with pool, bar, slots, great service along with good food."

- Vanessa Macias, Yokosuka Naval Base

"I've been going to the New Sanno Hotel since 2009, when my father was in the Air Force. I now get to enjoy it for special holidays and occasions with my husband! It's in such a convenient location and very affordable and luxurious! The staff is always so welcoming and accommodating!"

- Ashley Phillips, Yokota AB

"Conveniently located & inexpensive."

- Josefina Goodin, MCAS Iwakuni



HALE KOA HOTEL (HONOLULU)

"Great location for family fun."

- Chauncey Phillips

"Love this hotel! The size, the amenities, the location, the beach, the pool, the affordability... the list goes on!"

- Jessica Rudnitski, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Affordable for military families and great location to local attractions."

- Christina Bates, Sasebo Naval Base

"It makes you feel like royalty."

- Aaron Paul Ibarrola, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Hale Koa is a DREAM!! Facilities are beautiful and staff is awesome!"

- Leila Crawford, Misawa AB



CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S GIFT CARD WINNERS!

Three lucky voters in this year's contest found it pays, in more ways than one, to make their voices heard about what they think is best.

DARYL HODGES (OKINAWA)



Q: What's the best thing about your current location in the Pacific?

A: The best thing about Okinawa is the emphasis on experiencing the outdoors. We have enjoyed the beaches, waterfalls and awesome parks.

Q: What are you going to buy with your gift card?

A: New Ninja (kitchen blender).



★ EDUCATION ★

STARS & STRIPES

BEST OF THE PACIFIC
2019-20

2nd Place

EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

"I have three master's degrees from Embry. I would highly recommend them to anyone in the Aviation Industry!"

- Kevin Van Gordon



"Great major options and military-friendly."

- Sakkarin Sripan

"Embry-Riddle has the best programs, is the most credible, has good accreditation and a strong alumni association."

- Gerald Sellars, Yokosuka Naval Base

"Embry Riddle has been great for my husband. The flexibility offered has helped him make progress on his degree."

- Brenda Alvarez

3rd Place

TROY UNIVERSITY



"I'm an alumnus of Troy and loved it!"

- Teresa Martinez-Travitzky, Yokota AB

"They provide awesome support!"

- Tara Scrimshire

BEST HIGHER EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

"Only one I have been to and they walk you through the process making it easy to do."

- William Griffin, Yokota AB

"Both my husband and I have degrees from UMUC. Now our oldest is attending. High quality education and great degree choices."

- Naomi Davis

"It is such an affordable and simple option to higher education."

- Isaac Norton, Camp Zama

"The wide variety of courses and great selection of teachers makes UMUC great, but the staff service is even better being friendly and helping every step of the way."

- Tristan Crawford

"Easily accessible and well-priced."

- Ricah Quinto, Sasebo Naval Base

"Best place to go to pursue a higher education. Teachers and faculty are professional and know their stuff."

- Jerrod Plummer, Yokota AB

"They offer a good amount of face-to-face classes or hybrid classes."

- Felicia Ferry, Yokota AB

"UMUC offers the most face-to-face courses, and allows students to take full advantage of their military TA and VA benefits. They're also on more installations in the Pacific than any other university, and it's easy to take classes here in Korea or from any duty station in the world!"

- Luke Roberts

"They are easily accessible via online and have a great online program. They also have a great military price for any military or their families wanting an education."

- Sheila Del Rosario, Yokosuka Naval Base

PACIFIC

ROBERT MANN (KOREA)

Q: What's the best thing about your current location in the Pacific?

A: It is hard to pick just one best thing about living in Korea at Osan AB. I would have to narrow it down to the food, people and cultural heritage. I am amazed at how delicious fermented vegetables can be, and I can't get enough of all the different kimchi they have here. The BBQ is pretty amazing, too. The people are some of the nicest I've interacted with, and they love kids here, which has been great since I brought my whole family. While living at Osan AB, we can pretty much make it to anywhere in South Korea for a day trip. This has allowed us to see all kinds of palaces, temples, fortresses and other cultural sites; or to enjoy one of the many festivals they have throughout the year. It has been a lot of fun getting to know the culture and history of Korea.



Q: What are you going to buy with your gift card?

A: I want to buy a Nintendo Switch, but I think my wife probably has something else in mind.

JOHN C. YOUNG (KOREA)

Q: What's the best thing about your current location in the Pacific?

A: It's the Army's hidden gem. Korea is the perfect location for jumps to China, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam and so many other locations that are really affordable travel destinations.



Q: What are you going to buy with your gift card?

A: New luggage to travel with!

\$200

\$100



Keeping you connected, rain and shine

During emergencies, the importance of communications and our cell phones becomes clear. When faced with a natural disaster like a typhoon, cellphones keep us connected to loved ones, serve as lifelines to emergency services, and help us access essential news and information.

When Typhoon Yutu crashed through the Marianas in October 2018, our subscribers in the CNMI and Guam were able to call and message friends and family to make sure they were safe. They were able to check for updates on social media and online. As soon as the winds died down and it was safe to be outside, IT&E associates were quick to refuel generators and assess communications sites.

Typhoon Yutu wasn't the only typhoon to pass through. Typhoon Wutip brushed past Guam in February 2019 and Typhoon Mangkhut devastated Rota in September 2018. Throughout them all, subscribers never lost touch with loved ones.

How are we able to keep subscribers connected during natural disasters? We plan, prepare, and invest in our network. Our network infrastructure is equipped with multi-layer backups for connectivity, power, and mobile solutions to keep subscribers connected during a disaster.

Every year we invest roughly \$2 million on network survivability.

"We are committed to maintaining a hardened network. Every connection matters, especially during a typhoon or other natural disaster. Communications are critical for our residents and business community," says Jim Oehlerking, CEO of IT&E.

We're not just a company. We are a group of people that deliver the connections you rely on every day. Our team takes pride in their work. We monitor the network 24/7, working to prevent and resolve issues quickly. In times of disaster, our team is eager and determined to go out in the field and get to work because we know how important it is to keep in touch with friends and family – to make sure everyone is safe and to hear a familiar voice on the end of the line.

Our network is typhoon-proven. It's the widest, most reliable network in Guam and the Marianas. Never miss a call or message from a loved one. Never settle for less.

EXPLORE
YOUR
WORLD



Staying Connected

stronger, faster, more reliable

Never settle for a network that's smaller or not typhoon-proven, when only one network is the largest and most reliable. With IT&E's 4G LTE Advanced network, discover a faster, more reliable way to connect. And it's only going to get better.

EXPLORE
YOUR
WORLD



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