

我した恩納村 青緑清らさ 肝心据えて 文化(花)ゆ咲かさ



恩納村の概要

恩納村は沖縄本島のほぼ中央部西海岸側に位置し、北に名護市、東に宜野座村、金武町、うるま市石川地区(旧石川市)、南に沖縄市、読谷村の各市町村と隣接しています。面積は50.83 km²で、南北に27.4km、東西に4.2kmと細長い形をしており、うるま市石川地区(旧石川市)と隣接する部分は沖縄本島の東西にもっとも狭い地域にあたります。山間地の喜瀬武原(きせんばる)を除いて、国道58号および県道6号線沿いの海岸線に14の字が点在しています。村の西側は東シナ海に面し、東側は恩納岳を中心に、北から漢那岳、熱田(あつた)岳、ブート岳、屋嘉(やか)岳、石川岳、読谷岳などの山々が連なり、さらにこれらの山々を源とする小さな川が40近くあり、山や川、海などの変化に富んだ豊かな自然が息づいています。

戦前、戦後を通じて半農半漁の静かな村として時を刻んできた恩納村は、本土復帰後開催された国際海洋博覧会を機に

大きく変貌しました。サンゴ礁の広がる美しい海岸線が観光資源として注目され、大型のリゾートホテルが競って並び建つようになったのです。

多くの村民が生業としてきた農業・漁業も、時代の流れに伴い大きな様変わりをみせています。農業ではこれまでのサトウキビ栽培に加えて、ランやキクなどの花卉、熱帯果樹、野菜類など多様な作物が栽培されています。漁業も「獲る漁業」だけに頼らず、もずくや海ぶどうなどの養殖漁業が年々成果を上げています。

平成24年9月には沖縄科学技術大学院大学が開学し、国際的な学問の場として海外からも注目されています。今、恩納村では観光と結びついた工芸産業、商業、サービス業などが芽生えてきており、新しい時代へ向けての村づくりが着々とすすんでいます。

About Onna Village

Onna Village is located at the west coast of the central region of the main island of Okinawa. To the north is Nago City, to the east is Ginoza Village, Kin Town, and the Ishikawa District of Uruma City (formerly Ishikawa City), and to the south is Okinawa City and Yomitan Village. Onna Village has a long, narrow shape extending 27.4 km north to south and just 4.2 km east to west, encompassing a land area of 50.83km². The area of the village that borders the Ishikawa District of Uruma City (formerly Ishikawa City) is the narrowest part of the main island of Okinawa in terms of east to west distance. Excluding the mountainous area of Kisenbaru, the village has 14 individual communities located on the coast along National Route 58 and Prefectural Route 6. The west side of the village faces the East China Sea and the east side Mount Onna, while to the north is a series of small mountains that include Mount Kanna, Mount Atta, Mount Buto, Mount Yaka, Mount Ishikawa, and Mount Yomitan. There are also close to 40 small rivers originating from these mountains that flow through the area, which provides Onna Village with an abundant and ever-changing natural setting that includes mountains, rivers and ocean.

Onna Village was a small farming and fishing village before and after World War II, but it began greatly to transform itself after Ocean Expo '75 was held on the main island of Okinawa following its reversion to Japan.

Onna Village's beautiful shoreline, coral reefs and beaches received a great deal of attention as tourism resources and soon a number of large resort hotels were constructed in the village.

Onna Village's main agricultural and fishing industries, where most of its residents have worked, too, have undergone a great deal of change over the years. As for agriculture, in addition to its mainstay crop of sugar cane, the village now grows a wide range of other crops that include flowers and ornamental plants, such as orchids and chrysanthemum, tropical fruits, and vegetables. The village's fishing industry has also expanded from fishing to include such successful aquaculture ventures as mozuku seaweed and sea grapes.

In September 2012, the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University opened in Onna Village and has received international acclaim as a hub for multidisciplinary research. Today, Onna Village is witnessing the birth of new industries linked to tourism, including arts and crafts, commerce and services, which is steadily bringing about a new chapter in the village's approach to community development.