

# Japan's Island of Demon Deities

## Experience Village Festivals and Local Life on Sado Island

Ota Village Festival Experience Tour on Sado Island

Sado Island



Ota Village Festival Experience Tour



Demon drum dance "Onidaiko" is a traditional performing art found only on Sado Island. Performed at numerous festivals on the island, this dance is a form of prayer for bumper crops and family safety that simultaneously drives evil spirits away from village households. Sado's Village Festival Experience Tour series was created to give visitors the chance to feel like part of a regional community during its annual festival. We hope you'll take this unique opportunity to enjoy a lively rural Japanese festival along with the locals!

**Tour Schedule** Oct. 12 (Sat) – 13 (Sun), 2019  
(2days / 1 night)

**Festival Held:**  
Oct. 13

**Start** Oct. 12 (Sat)  
14:40 Ota Bus stop

**Finish** Oct. 13 (Sun)  
15:20 Ota Bus stop

**Event Venue** Ota, Sado Island, Niigata

**Group Size** Min 3, Max 8 people  
(first in, first served)

**Applications Close** Oct. 6 (Sun) unless full beforehand.

**Accommodation** Sunrise Jogahama, Sado Island, Niigata

**Tour Fare** Overnight trip option 18,000 yen (includes festival experience, 1-night stay with breakfast, cost of meals (dinner))  
Day trip fare 5,000 yen (includes festival experience)

We will be able to organize a ride for those considering taking a taxi between Ryotsu and Ota. The fare for a one-way trip will be max. 3,500 yen per person if there are more than 4 persons interested.

Participants must arrange their own transport to Ota Village (or nearest bus stop) on Sado Island. (Local bus timetable details are on the other side)

A portion of the tour fee will go to the Village for their cooperation.

### Ota Village Festival



Located on the coast closest to the main island of Japan, Ota Village still has its charms as a former port village. On the day of the festival, the demon deities visit approx. 50 houses to dance at each residence. The Onidaiko (demon drum dance) that is danced here is called "Maehama-ryu" (Maehama-style) where 2 demons dance together to the accompaniment of flute and drum. Returning to the shrine from approx. 8pm, the climax of the festival is held here until midnight.

### Special Hands-On Experience



On the Ota Festival Tour, participants will arrive in the village on Oct. 12 (Sat), the night before the festival, so the residents can show them the basics of Onidaiko dance. The next day, who knows?

The participants might end up performing, too!

Inquiries / Bookings Contact

Ryotsu Port Information Centre, Sado Tourism Association  
Tel. 0259-27-5000 Email: info@visitsado.com

# Tour Itinerary

Day 1

Oct. 12 (Sat)

Eve of the Festival,  
Onidaiko  
Experience


- 14:40 Meet at Ota bus station  
\*Approx. 90 minutes from Ryotsu Port on the local route bus (one bus transfer, refer to below bus timetable details) and 40 minutes by car
- 15:00 Onidaiko (dance) experience 
- 16:30 Social gathering and dinner
- 17:00 Participating in the event on the eve of the festival at the Shrine  
\*The demon dance will be conducted at several houses in the Ota village beforehand.
- 19:00 Depart Ota Bus Stop (Local Bus Route)
- 19:57 Arrive and stay at Sunrise Jogahama  
Approx. 20:10  
\*Please note that some participants may be allocated shared same-sex rooms.

Day 2

Oct. 13 (Sun)

Festival  
Experience

(This will be the only day of experience for day-trip participants)

- 8:45 Depart Sunrise Jogahama  
~ onwards - Observe and take part in the festival  
(travel door to door with festival troupe)
  - 9:00 Dismissal at Ota bus stop 
  - 15:20 Dismissal at Ota bus stop
- \*The festival itself will run until approx. midnight, so please feel free to stay if time permits (please note that you will need to organize your transport afterwards)

Sado Kisen Ferry  
Times Aligned  
with Tour Start/Finish

Oct. 12 (Sat)	Oct. 13 (Sun)	[CF] Car Ferry	[JF] Jet Foil
[CF] Dep. Niigata Port 9:20 → Arr. Ryotsu Port 11:50	[CF] Dep. Ryotsu Port 19:30 → Arr. Niigata Port 22:00		
[JF] Dep. Niigata Port 11:30 → Arr. Ryotsu Port 12:35	[JF] Dep. Ryotsu Port 17:35 → Arr. Niigata Port 18:40		

Bus Timetable for  
Ryotsu Port  
↔ Ota bus stop

Oct. 12 (Sat)	Oct. 13 (Sun)
② Minamisen-Line 13:10 Board at Ryotsu Port Sado Kisen → 13:45 alight at Hatano-jujiro and transfer	⑭ Iwakubi-Line 15:27 Board at Ota bus station → 16:08 alight at Hatano-jujiro
⑭ Iwakubi-Line 13:57 Board at Hatano-jujiro → 14:36 alight at Ota bus station	② Minamisen-Line 16:52 Board at Hatano-jujiro → 17:29 alight at Ryotsu Port Sado Kisen

Taxi ride between Ryotsu ↔ Ota (with more than 4 passengers) Oct. 12 (Sat) 14:00 Depart Ryotsu Port → 14:40 Arrive at Ota Oct. 13 (Sun) 16:30 Depart Ota → 17:15 Arrive at Ryotsu Port

## Tour Terms and Conditions (Summary)

The following is an English translation of the original text written in Japanese; in case of any conflict between the English and Japanese texts, the Japanese version shall prevail.

### ● Agent-Organized Tour Contract

This tour is planned and operated by Sado Tourism Association of 353 Ryotsu-minato (port), Sado, Niigata 952-0011, Japan; Niigata Prefectural Government Registered Travel Agency No. 2-342 (hereinafter referred to as the Company). Clients who participate in this tour will conclude an Agent-Organized Tour Contract (hereinafter referred to as the Travel Contract) with the Company. In addition, the tour terms and conditions comprise of those hereunder, along with those specified in writing in the Tour Conditions (full version) to be given to clients separately, and the Final Itinerary to be given to clients before departure; and those included in the Company's Travel Industry Conditions for Agent-Organized Tour Contracts.

### ● Tour Guide

This tour will not be accompanied by a tour guide.

### ● Services Included in the Tour Fare

The tour fare includes festival experience costs, the cost of accommodations and meals listed in the tour itinerary, consumption tax and other taxes.

\*In principle, refunds will not be made for these expenses even if a client does not use a portion of the services.

\*The tour fare does not include any expenses that are not listed in the tour itinerary, such as transportation from the client's home to Sado Island/Ryotsu Port, or any personal expenses.

### ● Cancellation Rates

After concluding the Travel Contract, if the client cancels their reservation for personal reasons, the client shall pay the following cancellation fees.

Timing of Cancellation	Notice received the day before the tour	Notice received before the departure time on the day of the tour	Notice received after the tour departs or no show
Cancellation Fee	40% of the tour price	50% of the tour price	100% of the tour price

### ● Special Compensation

If during the planned tour, a sudden or chance accident of external causes results in fixed damages to a client's life, body, or belongings, in accordance with the Travel Industry Conditions Special Compensation Regulation, the Company will pay a fixed compensation and solatium payment to the client.

### ● Itinerary Compensation

In accordance with regulations of the Travel Industry Conditions (Tour Package Contract), if major changes are made to the tour itinerary, an amount proportionate to the change of 1-5% of the tour fare will be paid to the client as change compensation. However, the amount for change compensation for one tour agreement is limited to 15% of the tour fare. Furthermore, if the change compensation amount for one tour contract is less than 1000 Japanese yen, change compensation will not be paid. The tour fare upon which any change compensation calculations are made will exclude any additional fees resulting from individual client requests.

### ● Exclusions

In the following circumstances, the Company will not bear any responsibility: damages or loss caused by natural disasters, strikes, or other acts of God, damages or loss caused by client intent or accident, such as theft or infectious disease.

\*Other circumstances are as listed in the Company's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism-Approved Travel Industry Conditions.

### ● Regarding the Handling of Personal Information

The Company and any travel agent consigned by the Company will use the personal information written on the tour application form to contact the client, arrange services such as transport and accommodations, and consign the aforementioned services, to the extent necessary to arrange the requested tour. The Company may also use the client's personal information to contact the client with information such as services and campaigns offered by the Company and affiliated companies.

## Tour Presenter, Operator and Management Sado Tourism Association

Niigata Prefectural Government Registered Travel Agency No. 2-342  
All Nippon Travel Agents Association (ANTA) Members Domestic Certified Travel Supervisors: Terue Willoughby, Megumi Suzuki  
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