

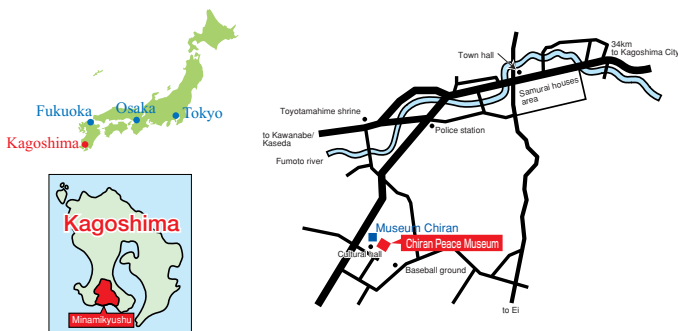


Kawasaki Ki-61 (The Army Type-3 Fight Aircraft "Hien")



Nakajima Ki-84 (The Army Type-4 Fighter Aircraft "Hayate")

Information

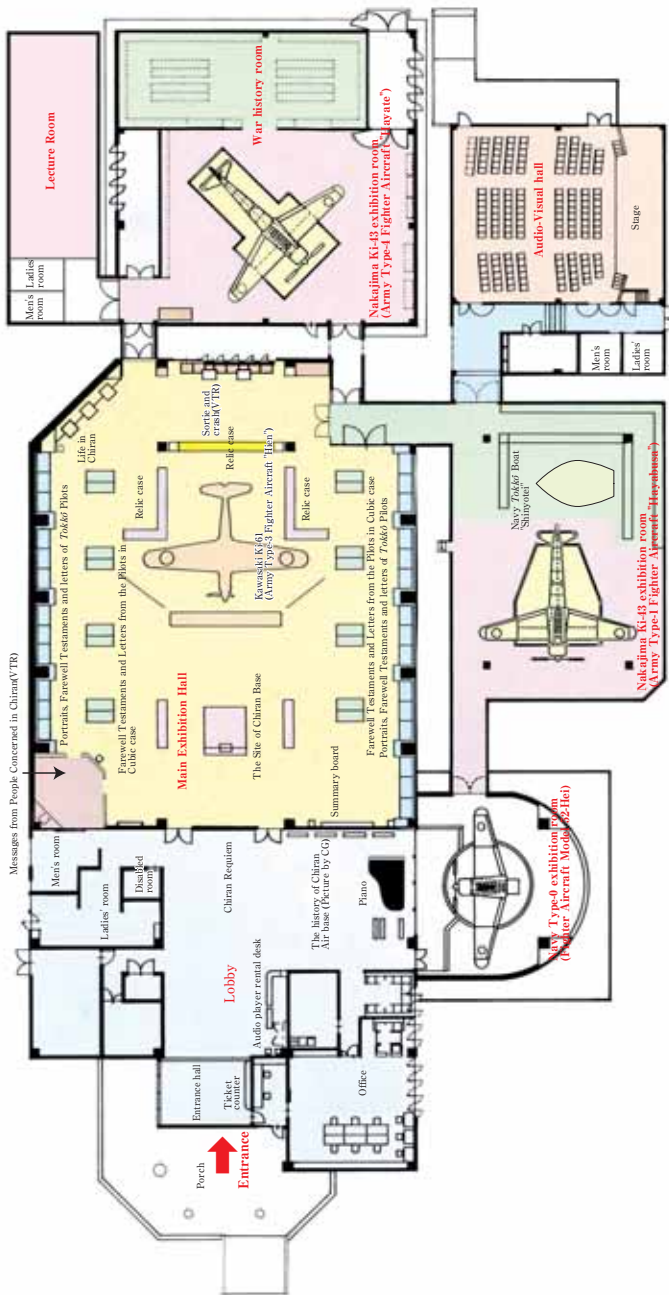


Open	365 days		
Time	9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (The admission time : by 4:30 p.m.)		
Admission Fee	Ticket Types		Individual
	Single	Adult	¥500
		Child*2	¥400
	Common with Museum Chiran	Adult	¥600
Child*2		¥400	

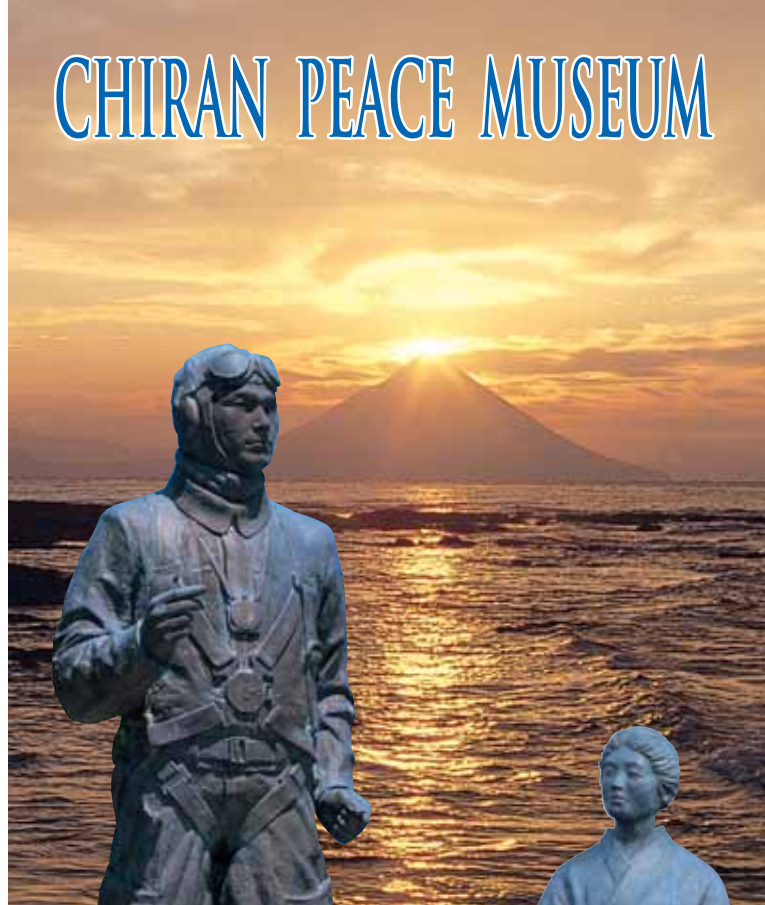
*1 Group: 30 or more visitors
*2 Child: primary and middle school students

Museum Chiran is closed every Wednesday.

Ground Plan



CHIRAN PEACE MUSEUM



TOKOSHIENI (Statue of a *Tokkō* Pilot)

Their planes never came back again.
They must have loved their family, hometown and Japan.

“Praying sacred spirits are rest in peace forever.
Hoping to inform how the young *tokkō* pilots were,
Ah... the pilots who disappeared in the skies of Okinawa.”

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INTRODUCTION

Chiran Peace Museum preserved and displayed the materials left by the deceased Army pilots through unprecedented *tokkō* operation in Okinawa during the final moments of World War II. “*Tokkō*” means “Special Attack” in Japanese, and refers to a military tactic of ramming attack that pilots crashed themselves and their aircrafts into enemy warships. “*Tokkō*” is known as “Kamikaze” internationally.

On December 1941, the Chiran Branch of Army Fright Training School opened here, in the town of Chiran (currently Chiran-cho in the City of Minamikyushu). However, with the deterioration of the war situation, it changed to military air base for *Tokkō* on March 1945. From each base in Japan, mainly Chiran Base, 1036 *tokkō* pilots who were about early twenties years old made a sortie and died on the sea of Okinawa. As Chiran Base was the southernmost airbase of mainland, the largest number of *tokkō* pilots was launched from here.

Through those historical facts, we will preserve and transmit the relics and the related materials in those days to coming generations, and proclaim and disseminate the message of peace, “the tragedy of war is never repeated again”. Furthermore, we contribute to the world eternal peace to ensure the value of peace and dignity of every life.

With this philosophy, the Chiran Resource Center, a former museum, was constructed in 1975, which developed into the current Chiran Peace Museum in 1987.



Artifact Descriptions



- 1 “Mum, I am sorry for being a disobedient child. Please forgive me. I am happy to go.”
- 2 The author has drawn a cemetery design around some names. There is one name in each oblong box.
- 3 “I am going to die on the sea of Okinawa. Even after my death, I defend my country, Japan.”
- 4 A *tokkō* plane is leaving Chiran and relatives are waving off their loved one with the national flag. The script reads “Head for the south end.”
- 5 “How many people will cry for me when I die?”
- 6 “Perfect Win” is written on the headband. Similar headbands or banners were worn under the pilots’ helmets.



Portraits of the deceased *tokkō* pilots



Farewell testaments and letters of the pilots



Sortie and crash (VTR)



The war history room



The young pilots playing with a puppy



The *tokkō* pilots writing notes of thanks



The farewell glass of Shochu (Japanese liquor)



The arm wrestling fun at night



The last meal before departure



Female students in Chiran who made their farewell