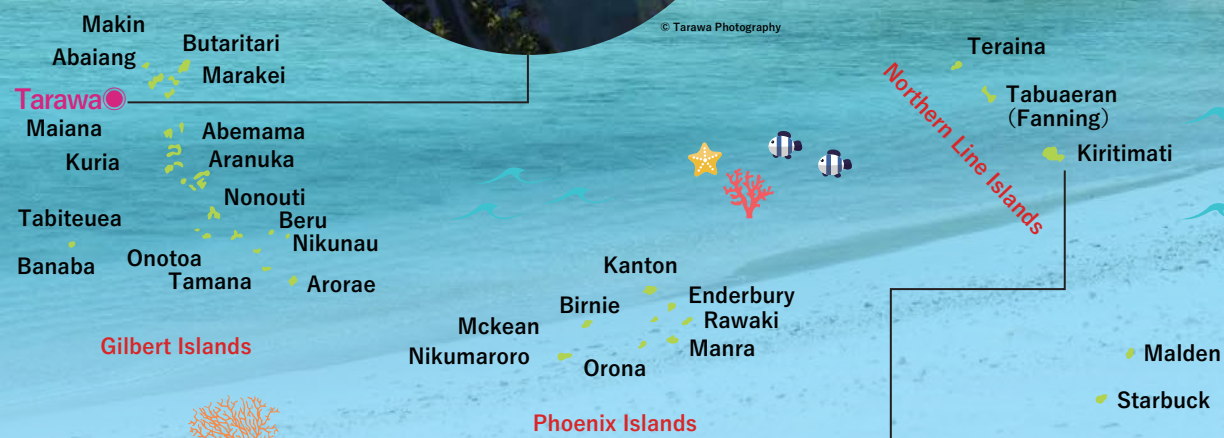


# KIRIBATI

The country where the sun rises first in the world

Kiribati, an island nation with exquisite coral reefs, lies at the crossroads of the date line and Equator. It comprises three island groups: the Gilbert, Phoenix, and Northern/Southern Line Islands. Of these, Millennium Island, situated at the easternmost tip of the Line Islands, is renowned as the world's foremost witness to the dawn's first light. Enveloped by azure seas and shores of white sand, these paradisiacal isles beckon you to enter 'Kiribati Time', a tranquil realm far removed from the frenetic pace of modern life. Here, in nature's embrace, alongside locals and adventurers from around the globe, you can savour moments that will forever linger as cherished memories.

The atoll of Tarawa, a string of narrow islets



The sunrise turning the sea red



©Christmas Island Clean Up Foundation

© David Kirkland & SPTO

## Beginners' course

Enjoy the country where the sun rises first in the world, in Tarawa, the capital city

1st day

- AM ● Arrive at Nadi Airport in Fiji.
- PM ● Plenty of time for transfers! Take your time to explore the airport.

2nd day

- AM ● Arrive in Tarawa, the capital of Kiribati. Take a bus with the locals or ask your hotel to pick you up.
- PM ● After leaving your luggage at the hotel, take a walk around the area. Let's switch to a leisurely Kiribati time right away!

3rd day

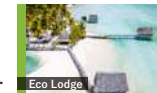
- AM ● Let's explore the long and narrow island of Tarawa! Head to Bairiki, the island's centre, and take a stroll through the town. Take the Nippon Causeway, a long stretch of road over the sea, built with Japanese aid. How about a smoothie under sunny skies at the beach cafes just across the Nippon Causeway?
- PM ● Go to the Betio area. Visit the ruins of the WWII Battle of Tarawa, the site of the Pacific War. Enjoy local food in Kiribati.



© Traveltontom

4th day

- AM ● Head to the Buota and Abatao villages in North Tarawa. When the tide is low, you can walk across the sea. The shallow sea's white sands are endless and fantastic. If the tide is high, you can take a short ferry ride across from Buota to Abatao with the locals. Lunch at Tabon Te Keekee Eco Lodge in Abatao. Enjoy Kiribati cuisine with a pleasant breeze while looking at the beautiful beach.
- PM ● Go to see the clam farm not far from Tabon Te Keekee Eco Lodge! Partake in some beautiful swimming during high tide and sunbathe on the beach. Take a photo standing at the highest point above sea level in Tarawa.



© David Kirkland & SPTO

5th day

- AM ● Experience and learn about the different cultural aspects at the Kiribati Cultural Museum in the Bikenibeu area, South Tarawa. Visit the parliament building and churches. If it is Sunday, you can listen to hymns at the church. Kiribati hymns are very powerful!
- PM ● Stop by a handicraft store. Get handmade beautiful handicrafts as souvenirs!



© David Kirkland & SPTO

6th day

- AM ● Depart for Japan. Transit in Fiji.

7th day

- PM ● Arrive in Japan.

## Deluxe plan

## Advanced course

Once in a Lifetime! Blend in with the unspoiled wilderness on Kiritimati Island

1st day

- PM ● Departure from Japan, transfer in Honolulu.

2nd day

- PM ● Arrive at Kiritimati Island. Check into the Captain Cook Hotel. Experience blending into the starry night sky, which is amazingly clear when seen with the naked eye.



© Widescenes Photography

3rd day

- AM ● Your room is right in front of the ocean! Watch the sunrise in all its glory.
- PM ● Enjoy the endless sparkling ocean with snorkelling and fishing.



© Kirkland Photos

4th day

- AM ● Take a boat out of London town to go diving!
- PM ● During a break from diving, land on a deserted island and have lunch on the beach.

5th day

- AM ● Sunrise breakfast on the beach while watching the world's earliest sunrise.
- PM ● Depart on a sightseeing tour of the island. Kiritimati Island is famous for its seabird habitat. Let's go see the spawning area where seabirds gather.

6th day

- AM ● Dive at the famous Bay of Wrecks in Kiribati! Drive to the site and make entry from the beach.
- PM ● Relax on the beach with a beer in hand while watching the sunset.

7th day

- AM ● Participate in bird watching. Discover lovely tropical birds in the lush nature.
- PM ● Cheers to our last night in Kiribati with locals and fellow travellers from around the world.



© David Kirkland & SPTO

8th day

- AM ● Depart from Kiritimati Island. Transfer to Honolulu. (\*Arrive the day before because of the date line's crossing.)

9th day

- PM ● Arrive in Japan.



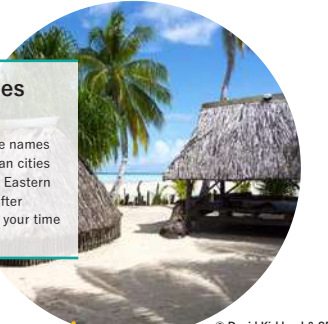
## Recommended Food

Enjoy Kiribati food on a peaceful terrace while listening to the sound of the waves. Te Mai Salad is made from potatoes. Thinly sliced Kiribati potato chips are also recommended. Seafood is also excellent, as one would expect from an island nation. Ola Ola Salad, marinated tuna with lemon, chilli, cucumber, tomatoes, and coconut cream, is also very fresh.

## Kiritimati Island

You can find various cities on Kiritimati Island!

There are several cities which has unique names in Kiritimati Island. Names of big European cities such as London and even that country in Eastern Europe! There are even villages named after tropical yellow fruits. Why don't you take your time and discover the island?



© David Kirkland & SPTO



## Participate in a game fishing tour!

Kiribati, particularly Kiritimati Island, is a world-class saltwater fly fishing and game fishing destination. There are numerous opportunities to encounter large fish, such as bonefish, giant trevally, sailfish, and marlin. In the vast lagoon of the Kiritimati Atoll, the world's largest coral atoll, you can enjoy as much time as you want to chase the shadows of fish that appear in the crystal-clear waters. Why not visit this paradise that every fisherman dreams of?

Q What does 'Christmas' mean in the Pidgin language of Papua New Guinea? Regarding the 'Kiritimati Island' in Kiribati, 'Kiritimati' is pronounced the same as 'Christmas' in Japanese.

The answer is on p.32!

## Column 1 From Tarawa to Abaiang Island, a moment in harmony with nature.

It takes about 2 hours by boat from the port of Betio in South Tarawa, or about 10 minutes by domestic flight (Air Kiribati). How about a trip to Abaiang Atoll? Famous for its beautiful lagoon and islets, the island is home to traditional villages; it's iconic towered Koinawa Cathedral Church and more... Experience the culture, and meet the local community...giving you a taste of Kiribati as it used to be. Lose yourself in the beauty of the earth and lose track of time.



© Luciano Napolitano

## Column 2 Where am I? What day is it today?

Kiritimati Island is via Honolulu. As we pass through the date line, you can experience a very strange sensation. Especially on the return trip, you will arrive in Hawaii the day before the day you leave Kiribati. From Hawaii to Japan, you will arrive in Japan on the same day as the day of your departure from Kiribati. It is a good idea to set the clocks for the three countries on your smartphone.



## Let's enjoy online content

Check the website of Tourism Authority of Kiribati for more information! You can find information on the activities and hotels.

