

HOUSING OVERVIEW/OFF-BASE HOUSING

HOUSING OVERVIEW

All inbound accompanied service members must check in with the housing office within the first 5 days upon arrival.

Unaccompanied personnel may be assigned to bachelor enlisted quarters (BEQ) or bachelor officer quarters (BOQ) at their installation. Based on availability of suitable unaccompanied housing, some members will be afforded the opportunity to seek off-base rental housing with the assistance of a housing referral specialist. All inbound unaccompanied personnel must check in with the unaccompanied housing office. Members on accompanied orders are considered unaccompanied if their dependents delay travel. In these cases, members will occupy unaccompanied housing until they are joined by their dependents and qualify for military family housing.

For more information on the housing policy, contact your service sponsor prior to arriving on Okinawa.

The Air Force is the executive agent for Military Family Housing for all branches of service stationed on Okinawa.

Please visit www.Housing.af.mil to find your new home with the Air Force.

The [Okinawa Military Family Housing Office webpage](#) has information on Military Family Housing, Housing Management Office hours of operations and locations, Housing Assignment Application forms and pictures of military family housing on Okinawa. Starting in 2017, on-base Military Housing will start a [five-year Military Housing renovation project](#) that will impact the number of available units for inbound service members.

Please understand that if you are bringing your family, chances are you will be living off-base (1 in 3 families) as there is major re-construction and renovation project in-process leaving Okinawa with a more than 1400 unit housing shortage on-base. If that happens to be you, keep your criteria for the off-base housing unit to a bare minimum as it will allow a better chance of getting a unit. A long commute is very possible with these shortages.

If you are one of the service members that will be off-base, it could be a financial burden up-front until you get reimbursed. The [Navy Marine Corps Relief Society](#) can provide housing loans to Marines before you arrive on Okinawa. Please look into this while at your current location. Most people do not want to live off-base when they first get here due to many unknowns, however; many of those people try to move off-base later on once they see the extreme amount of positives associated with it. Everyone I have talked to that lives off-base talks about how they would never go back on-base again after living off-base. This project is a concern for the leadership of Okinawa at the highest levels and are currently looking into ways to improve Marines' transitions here during the shortages.

Okinawa is a great place to live as there is a plethora of things to do on the island. Not to mention, there are many countries and other islands very close that make it easy to travel to so I hope you take advantage of it once you get here.

OFF-BASE HOUSING

There are multiple types, styles and sized dwellings available in Okinawa. Housing ranges from studio apartments to four bedroom houses. Pets are not always allowed in off-base housing units, a pet deposit is required to cover any potential damage caused by the pet. For the most accurate information on current housing situation, visit the following web site [Housing in the local community](#). You can check the inventory of off-base housing at [Homes.mil](#). Go to "Find Properties" and enter "Kadena" to search.

SPECIAL NOTES

Special Note about Okinawa Family Housing Renovation

The 18th Wing has undertaken a comprehensive renovation program that will invest nearly \$500 million over five years from 2017-2021 to renovate military family housing aboard Okinawa. The work will be executed in phases such that various housing areas will be unavailable for assignment during this period. Accordingly, more families will be required to live off base during the renovation period. Personnel living off base enjoy the same access to DODEA schools, AAFES shopping and other on-base resources as those living in military family housing.

Special Note about Temporary Lodging

Inbound personnel may occupy temporary lodging awaiting an on-base housing assignment or an off-base rental. Accompanied personnel require a certificate of non-availability (CNA) from the transient lodging facility (TLF) to utilize off-base temporary lodging. The WestPac Inn is the Marine Corps TLF aboard Camp Foster. Unaccompanied personnel must obtain a CNA from the unaccompanied housing office to be eligible for TLA. A CNA from the TLF does not create a TLA entitlement for unaccompanied personnel.

Go to the [MCIPAC HOUSING WEBSITE](#) for more details and information.