

When you make a call at a closed port in Japan by a foreign pleasure boat, you have to receive special permission by the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism in advance.

(Legal Basis: the proviso to Article 3 of the Ships Law)

(When making a call at a closed port without special permission, the captain shall be punished by imprisonment with work for not more than 2 years or by a fine of not more than 1,000,000 yen. And the relevant ship may be confiscated then.)

What is a closed port?

“Closed port” means sea area at any territorial water area other than open ports.
For your reference, please see attached the List of Open Ports.

● Application Procedure

▪ Required Documentations

- i) Application Form , ii) The Copy of the Certificate of Nationality of your ship,
- iii) Crew list (Include position, name, sex, passport No. (only foreigners), nationality, and date of birth)

→ Please write in the Application Form and the List of Closed Ports of Call with referring to Entry Example.

*Any additional documentation may be required other than the above-mentioned documentations if necessary.

▪ The application destination and the way of application

It takes time to examine the application. Please make your application at least **one week (strictly to be observed)** before your call. You shall make an application either by bringing with you these documentations at the District Transport Bureau etc. in charge of said closed port or by sending them by post.

● Note

1. You may not be able to get special permission when you do not meet the examination criteria.

*Examination Criteria

Said call at a closed port shall not make any trouble in the light of the secure of stable transportation in our country and the secure of security at said closed port etc. It shall not violate any other law or regulation of Japan.

2. Write in the Application Form and the List of Closed Ports of Call in Japanese or in English.
3. You may handwrite an application form but must write clearly. We may be unable to receive your application as an inadequate documentation which we cannot read what you write in the application.
4. Write in order that the port of call may be clearly understood.
As for island, only the name of the island may be rejected.
e.g.: Wrong: Amami-Oshima Right: Naze Port of Amami-Oshima
5. Please understand that some proceeds may be required pursuant to other laws and regulations of Japan when you make a call at a closed port.