

### **A Windswept Bonsai Plain**

This nature trail, which begins at a parking lot on the Kubiribaru Forest Road, is a relatively new attraction, having opened in spring 2017. From a narrow path surrounded by local varieties of trees you emerge onto a plain of vivid green Okinawa pines that slopes gently toward the sea. The walk itself is one kilometer, or 30 minutes, each way. Because the wind blows the trees into interesting, fantastical shapes, the locals used to uproot the best specimens to sell to bonsai enthusiasts. (This is now forbidden!) There are magnificent views east to the islands of Hate, Ugan, and Maejima, not to mention Okinawa itself.