

Village Streets

Faced with limited amounts of usable land, the islanders developed a culture of constructing village homes in a grid of close proximity. Homes generally are two- or three-story structures, and the roads so narrow that handcarts are the only means of hauling supplies in and out. Mazes of tiny streets are the norm. The dead end in the village center is called *sande-no-soko* by local residents—a reference to the curlicue-shaped bottom of a turban shell.