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Editor's Note: This is the original Okinawa Hai post on Beach Rock Village. We published a newer post on this establishment in 2016.

We've left all of your original comments in place on this post, but we thought after six years you might want a fresher take on the place.

CONTRIBUTED BY DASHA GARIEPY



If you've done any driving lately on 84 heading towards Ocean Expo Park, you may have noticed signs reading "Beach Rock Village". I started noticing them about a month ago, and wondered what the heck it was.

It just so happens that Kelly and Joelle surprised the Okinawa Hai editors with a "mystery lunch" last week. Guess where? :)



What a surprise Beach Rock Village turned out to be! Think "Bohemian Gypsy" - it's part cafe/restaurant, part camp ground, part playground and part nature experience that has an American 60's psychedelic hippie edge with a Peace Corps feel.

It's staff includes college age international volunteers, and the entire site is a mish-mash of cultures and art - as if everyone who's ever visited left a bit of themselves behind in an artistic footprint. Take this unusual door for example:



or these groovy lilly pad steps (left) or the inlaid tile on the ladder (right).



However, there's so much more than the unique decor. Beach Rock Village has something for everyone. The playful among you (like "Tara of the Jungle") can hop on a Goliath-sized swing to swoop over the tree tops:



Or if you're *really* daring, like Pamela here, you can forgo sitting on the swing all together and dangle from the ropes instead! Just make sure you're not wearing a skirt or the whole camp might see your knickers! ;)



If swinging's not your thing, you can follow Kandy's example and climb to the top of an outrageously high tree house that sports an acrylic floor:



Hungry? Then head over to the central area and choose a seat at either a table in the tree house:



or a pillow in the tent:



There are also open air picnic tables, and even tables on top of one of the buildings! This place is all about freedom of choice - including what you eat.

Among other things, the menu includes curry (too spicy for my wimpy taste buds):



a super tasty Taco Rice and Cheese:



and several types of pizza.



Yes, friends, it's as delicious as it looks. A word of caution, though: be prepared for a loooooong wait for your food. It takes forever to serve, but it's well worth the wait.

Plus you'll be completely entertained by the cook staff who sing along at the top of their lungs to some crazy-loud music. I'm telling you, this place is *interesting*!

If you need more than than afternoon to take it all in, then feel free to spend a night (or two or three) in one of Beach Rock's unique sleeping accommodations. For various prices you can choose to sleep in either a cottage:



or a Tepee (Larissa likes this one!):



or a yurt.

A what?



(A yurt is a portable, felt-covered, wood lattice-framed dwelling structure used by nomads in the steppes of Central Asia.) This was a total Harry Potter moment - the outside of these things are raggedy and pathetic. But open the door and woah!



As if by magic, the inside is enormous and clean. Puts me in the mind of "Arabian Nights"... one only needs some scarves and a carpet to be transported to another world.

Speaking of transportation, if you get tired of walking around, you can hire a horse on site:



I'm telling you, this place has it all. Unfortunately we didn't have time to see it all the day we went. We missed seeing the waterfalls. Or the river. Or the beach. And, believe it or not, the map we were given says that there is an ELEPHANT on the premises. An elephant in Okinawa? I guess it's no stranger than eating pizza in a yurt!