

To A New Tomorrow

Many people visit here
With their kind thoughts

Many people have helped us
Getting us this far

Just as the sky touches the whole world
Now I know that people are
also interconnected

Let this place be
A bridge for people to find
their new tomorrow
That is my prayer

March 11th, 2011

The tsunami engulfed the area from both the river and the land. 74 students and 10 staff members lost their lives. In the Okawa area, 418 people became victims of the tsunami.

In order to keep alive the memories and lessons learned from this event, Ishinomaki has converted the school into a disaster memorial that gives visitors an opportunity to reflect on life and what it means to be alive.

General Info

●Okawa Elementary School Ruins

[Hours] 9:00-17:00 (open every day)

[Admission] free

●Okawa Tsunami Memorial Hall

[Hours] 9:00-17:00 (last entry 16:30)

[Closed] Wednesdays (or next day if Wednesday is a holiday)
Dec 29 - Jan 3

[Special open days] 11th of every month, Jun 12, Sep 1, Nov 5
(if special open day is a Wednesday, closed the following day)

[Admission] free

※ Toilets can be used even when closed

Access

■ By car

20 mins from Sanriku Expressway Exit 12 Kahoku

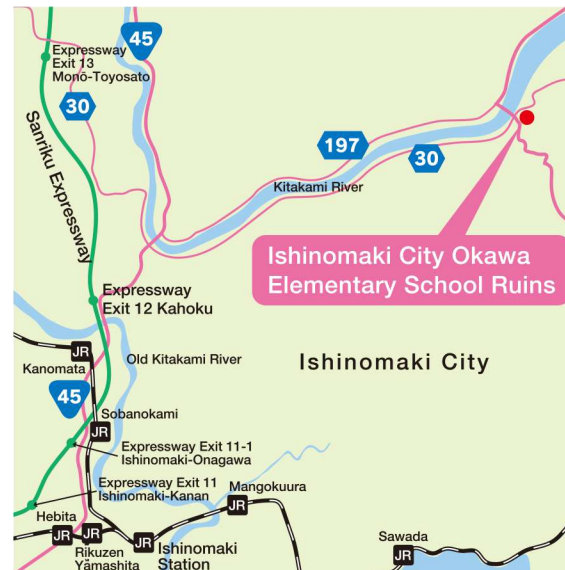
■ By train

45 mins from JR Ishinomaki Station by taxi/rented car

25 mins from JR Kanomata Station by taxi

■ Free parking available

50 cars, 5 buses (reservation required)



Ishinomaki City Okawa Elementary School Ruins

〒986-0111

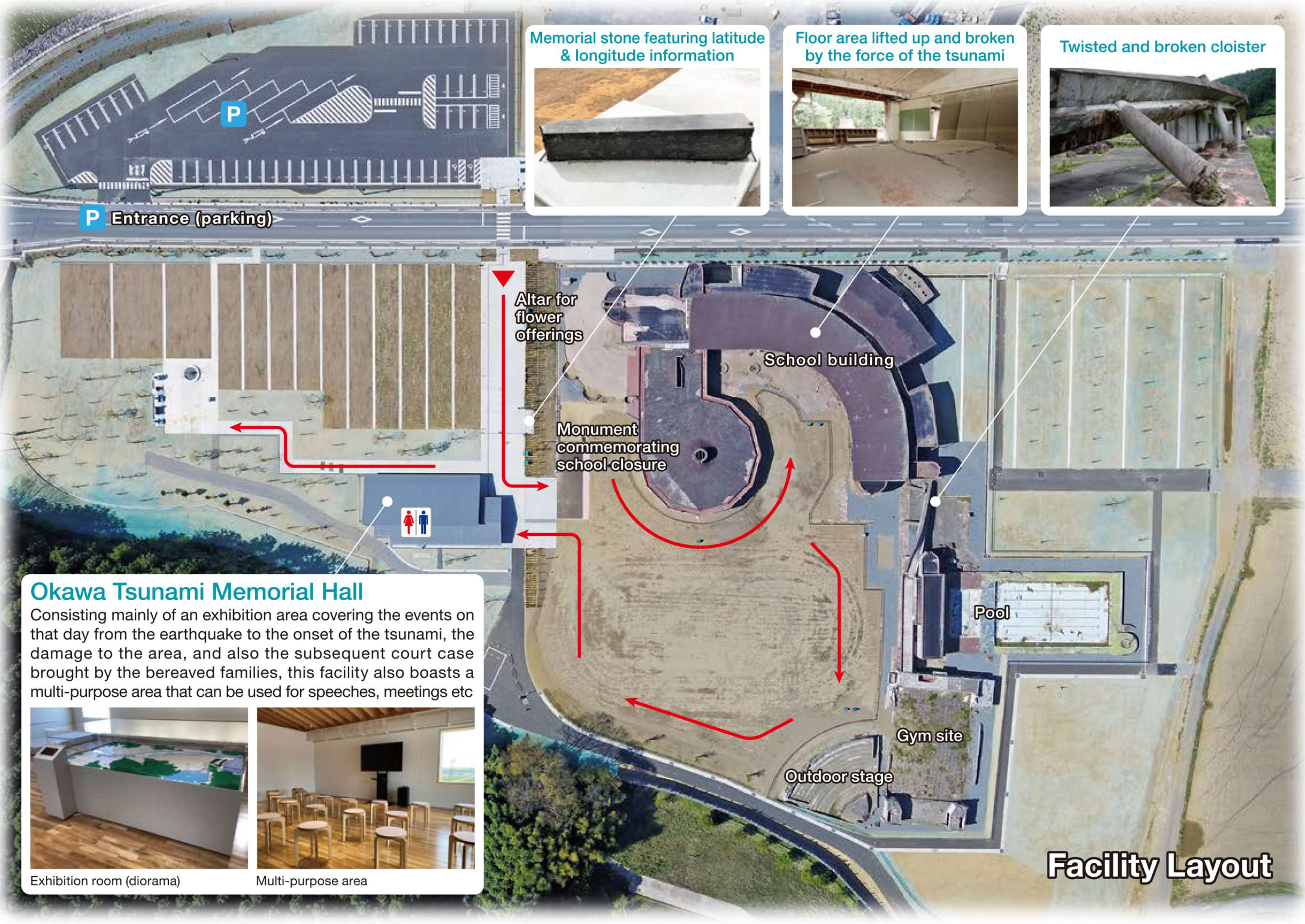
Nirashima 94, Kamaya,
Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture

TEL 0225-24-6315 FAX 0225-24-6316



Ishinomaki City Okawa Elementary School Ruins





Memorial stone featuring latitude & longitude information



Floor area lifted up and broken by the force of the tsunami



Twisted and broken cloister



P Entrance (parking)

Altar for flower offerings

Monument commemorating school closure

School building

Pool

Gym site

Outdoor stage

Okawa Tsunami Memorial Hall

Consisting mainly of an exhibition area covering the events on that day from the earthquake to the onset of the tsunami, the damage to the area, and also the subsequent court case brought by the bereaved families, this facility also boasts a multi-purpose area that can be used for speeches, meetings etc



Exhibition room (diorama)



Multi-purpose area

Facility Layout