

Kerry & Kathy Kidwell - Trip to Guam – July 2011

7 airports – 17,000 + miles – 16 days

By Kerry Kidwell

Please click on links to view stories and pictures we took!

In 2005, when Jon was first sent to Guam with the Air Force, I started saving frequent flyer miles and charging everything to my AA credit card to try to get enough miles (70,000 per person) for a free trip. I reached that goal in the spring of 2011.

I first started trying to book flights to Guam in March, without any success. I was told to call back weekly to check availability. I finally was successful in booking flights in May. Although our original plans were to spend a couple days in Tokyo that was not possible, and was probably not a good idea as Japan had a [major earthquake](#) and subsequent tsunami on March 9. There nuclear reactors, about 200+ miles north, were severely damaged.

On Sunday, 7-3, Our trip started with Tom and Mary Haynes taking us to O'Hare Airport. This was not a great start as our camera was somehow lost while going through luggage screening. TSA claim not to have it but I knew I lost it there. Thank goodness for the camera in my cell phone. (They did have it when I returned- after just buying another one).

Our Boeing 777 left on time at 1:30 PM. Interestingly enough, there was no alcohol served on the plane, but we were well feed. After a couple hours, everyone was watching movies or listening to music and all the windows were shut as people seemed to want to sleep the entire flight. The 13 hour flight arrived in Tokyo at 4:15 PM on Monday, July 4th at Narita Airport, which is about 55 miles northeast of Tokyo and about 175 miles south of the nuclear reactors that were damaged with the earthquake. Narita's website gave time, temperature, and [radiation level](#).

Everything went smoothly getting off the plane and through customs. Most workers at the airport spoke at least some English. Some were wearing masks supposedly due to SARS. Unlike in America, all outside airline employees wore hardhats instead of baseball caps. The airport was spotless.

After doing a little research, we found that the Japanese airports had the best dollar to yen exchange rates which were about 82 yen to \$1 US. O'Hare had the worst exchange rates. My advice: get rid of your yen before you come back to the US. The exchange process was very interesting; generally money is not handed from one person to another in Japan - it is put into a tray. When I exchanged my dollars, the yen was very neatly organized. Coins are used for denominations up to 1000 yen (about \$12.50).

We took a local train to the [Comfort Inn Narita](#), which cost about ¥250 each and was the first train stop. We had a little difficulty getting our bearings once we got off the train, but the hotel was only 3 to 4 blocks away. Unfortunately, all the escalators were going up only, so we had to lug our luggage down many flights of stairs. The train station was also the first place that we noted [raised tiles](#) in the floor which apparently help blind people find their way down streets and through most public areas.

Most people will tell you that many Japanese speak English. We found that to be true only around the airports.

Our room was quite tiny, as we expected. It did have some interesting features. The small refrigerator had an on-off switch on the desk. There was a small flashlight. The coolest thing was the [toilet](#) in the modular bathroom which was about 4' x 5'. Not only was it a bidet, but also had jets for your butt as well. It was warm water and you control the pressure. Some even had blow dryers in the toilet, so no toilet paper was needed. I want one!

We then decided to go out to find something to eat and have a few drinks. Japanese stores, restaurants, and bars are very small in comparison to ours. We ended up in what was supposed to be a Mexican bar and restaurant. It was very tiny and only four stools at the bar, which was upstairs. Our bartender was [Ayaka](#), who spoke some English and was 21 years old, studying American literature in college. She helped me with my Japanese and we had a great time. I offered to buy her a drink and she had a Tecate beer. Keep in mind that in Japan you never tip or offer to tip as it is an insult to them, so we bought her a drink. We ordered nachos with guacamole and salsa. We only got about a dozen chips and two small dishes of dip and it cost about \$15! Drank some Asahi beer which was very good! The very tiny bathroom had a sink that was actually the top of the [toilet tank](#). Very efficient!

We then walked to a couple other bars that were frequented by Americans, had one more beer, and called it a night. While walking around, we saw lots of common Japanese cars, such as Honda, Toyota, and Mitsubishi, but they were not models we would recognize as the most were [squarish looking](#).

Here is an e-mail we got from Ayaka a few days later:

Dear Mr.Kerry and Mrs.Kathy

Hello. do you remember me?

I'm Japanese girl. We met at Mexican restaurant.

when you came our restaurant and talk with me, I had a good time
thank you.

Now I can't speak English well, but I'll try to speak English to tell what I want to say.

I think when we talk with someone not only foreigner, it is most important for us to try to tell what we want to say. we shouldn't afraid of mistake, should we?

how do you like guam?

Guam is popular among Japanese but I have never been to there.

some day I'd like to visit Guam.

and I want to drink! hahaha!

today at Narita we held big summer festival.

many people wear Japanese traditional clothes 'Yukata'.

If you were at Narita, you would be able to see the festival.

I send you pictures of Narita temple's park.

there is one of my favorit place because I like silent place.

From Ayaka

While getting ready the next morning I could not find any toothpaste and asked Kathy for some. She gave me a tube of Vagisil and I brushed my teeth with it - at least until I got to the taste. Yuck! She claimed it was an accident.

As I mentioned earlier the bathrooms are modular and are about 6 inches higher than the rest of the hotel room. The water pressure was great, but the tub enclosure was very small. There was no caulk between the tub and the walls, so not sure where the water went that hit the wall. Also, instead of "Do Not Disturb" signs to hang on the doorknob, there were several choices of magnetic signs that could be placed on the outside of your room. Electricity in Japan is 100 V, instead of 110 V. There are no grounding plugs as well. Everything worked well.

The hotel, like most Comfort Inns, offered a free breakfast. There were lots of choices of food including some we usually don't see at breakfast, including soups and what looked like cole slaw. Kathy and I both had some scrambled eggs, but they were way too runny for us to finish. On the way out, we saw that the neighboring restaurant was growing their own [hydroponic vegetables](#). Cool!

On Tuesday, 7-5, our flight to Guam left the next morning at 9:30 AM on Japan Airlines (JAL). We took a train back to the airport. Had a little difficulty buying tickets as no one spoke English at the train station. We arrived at about 7:15 AM and was surprised to find that the ticket counters did not open until about 7:30 AM and there were no scheduled flights until 9:30 AM. We later found that Narita airport is similar to Midway in Chicago and less busy. There was little or no AC in the airport, so it was sticky. I know

they are trying to save power due to the nuclear reactors being damaged in the earthquake.

While waiting for our plane to take off we checked out some of the small shops at the airport. What was interesting is that magazines are bound on the right-hand side instead of the left. Cars also drive in the left lane with the steering wheel on the right.

Our plane boarded and left on time. It was a newer Boeing 767 plane and was great! More legroom, a larger screen in front of you, a larger selection of movies and games as well as music to play, and even a fold down foot rest. Instead of cheap earbuds (which are about worthless), there are actually stereo headphones for each seat and I had to turn the volume down.

Both are flights over offered first-run movies, but the JAL plane had probably more than 50 movies available, many still in movie theaters. I watched *Limitless*, *Win – Win*, *Tangled*, and *Lincoln Lawyer* during the trip. I also played some interesting video games. The JAL flight also had available a camera mounted in the nose of the plane and created an interesting view during takeoff and landing in particular. It appeared to me that alcohol was being served free of charge, although we didn't hear any announcement and didn't have any. Lots of small children on the plane!

We arrived at Guam airport (GUM) on time at about 2:15 PM. Since we were the only Americans on the plane, we got through customs very quickly and Jon was there to meet us.

When we got to his house, we were disappointed in the cat smell coming from the bedroom where we were supposed to sleep . We ended up sleeping in his bed the entire time and he slept on the couch. Besides his two dogs, he was babysitting another large dog and three cats for a friend who had been deployed to Japan.

We went to a house on base to eat with Jon's dog park friends that evening.

On Wednesday, 7-6, we cleaned at Jon's. The cat smells were hard to get rid of, even on tile floor! Bought groceries, supplies and new sheets and blankets . Got our visitors passes at Anderson Air Force Base, where Jon works. We visited the [world's largest Kmart](#), but were shocked at how high their prices are, especially when compared to the commissary on base. Example: a case of bottled water (you don't drink the water in Guam) was \$9.99 at Kmart, but only \$5.99 at Home Depot and \$3.49 on base.

Went to Chamorro Village festival with [Anne Marie and Nathan Wilson](#) that night. They appear to have something every Wednesday night. They don't really have legalized gambling, but have "games of chance" which seems almost the same thing. Kathy bought some souvenirs and especially remembers the old hippie who sold her a necklace for Mary Haynes. Jon and I thought she got ripped off!

We then went to Porky's and meet a guy named Joe who knew Jon. He was a Navy demolitions expert and quite a character. He was with his wife, but said they were divorcing. He wouldn't let us buy drinks for the rest of the night. ☺ Jon played beer pong with Joe's wife, [Lonnie Clark](#) (a bartender) and [Phallen Falagruw](#) (another bartender). They (Jon and Joe's wife) were showing their private parts to try to get the other team to miss. I told him it was inappropriate in front of his mother! Joe then got a cab for me and him and we went to Route 66 and Molly's, two other bars that Jon frequents. By the end of the night, Joe was a little wasted, was kissing Kathy and ended up on my lap playing with my nipples! I think he may be bi-sexual! He said we should take our clothes off and run naked through the streets. Then he wanted him and I to start a casino or property management company. I declined ALL invitations.

On Thursday, 7-7, we slept in, did some more cleaning and went to see where Jon worked. Went to the movie theater to see *Bad Teacher* which was not as good as advertised. The movie theatre had some great seats, and you put on your own butter! Kathy paid \$8.50 for the movie, Jon was \$5.50 with a military discount, and I was only \$4.50 with my senior discount! Pays to be old!

On Friday, 7-8, we went to the beach at Tumon and saw some locals building a [Chamorro house](#) the old-fashioned way. They were removing the bark from the tree limbs by hitting it with other limbs.

For dinner we went to [Churazzo Brazilian Grill](#) and then the Beach Bar with [Ruth](#), one of Jon's girlfriends. She was tiny, 19 and Phillipino. Something at the Brazilian restaurant didn't agree with me. We were in early that night.

On Saturday, 7-9, we went to a huge local flea market which is held every Saturday and Sunday. It was mostly clothes, fruits, plants, small gifts and some fresh fish. There was a huge crowd. It ends early each day because of the heat.

Japan experienced another earthquake (7.1) that day so we were a little concerned about the trip back.

That night we went to a party at a beach bar on the base, which was having a live band. They were the [12 Stones Band](#) (alternative rock) and they only played for 45 minutes. Then we went down to where some of Jon's friends were camping and drank beer. We met Dave Smith and his girlfriend Kylie. Dave had punched Jon in the face at one point, but they were friends.

On Sunday, 7-10, we went around the island with Mac and Anna (German) and son Jonathan (3). Jon took his motorcycle and Kathy rode with him for a short period time. We ate at a late lunch at [Jeff's Pirate Cove](#). Ran into the Wilson's and some of Jon's other friends there. Jeff may look like a pirate, but has a heavy Massachusetts accent!

On Monday, 7-11, we were off to [Talafofo Falls](#) on the south eastern part of the island. A [cable car](#) went from the top to the bottom of the falls. Before you got on to the cable car you could walk through a scary house similar to what you'd see at a carnival. There was also "LoveLand" which was open only to those over 18. Once inside, it was immediately apparent why. S-shaped paths wound through various flowers and plants that included many white sculptures of a highly sexual nature. Pictures available upon request! Some were metal contraptions where you turned a handle to make the figures perform different sexual acts. We saw lots of wild pigs as well as a strange looking [duck](#) at the falls.

Went to lunch at Jeff's Pirate Cove again. Met a waitress from there ([JulieAnn](#)) and her [cousin](#) at the River Cruise after lunch. The boat wound its way up a small river and several inlets. Along the bank we saw some land crabs, [wild chickens](#), large catfish and carabou, which are like water buffaloes. You will see them even tied out on the side of the road eating grass. Saw a huge bee nest on the side of a cliff as well as remnants of an ancient village. They gave us a little program at the end, showing how to start fire from sticks and weaved many objects from palm leaves. Kathy brought home a fan.

Before dinner that night we went to Underwater World in Tumon Bay. It was incredible with a glass curved surface allowing you a 180° view of a coral reef along with lots of sharks and fish. You felt like you could reach out and touch them.

After that, we went to TGI Friday's for dinner. They had no "stripes" program there, but it was one of the first places where we saw more than one TV on the wall. Watching sports is not big there, as all the games are generally played in the morning their time. No draft beer as well!

On Tuesday, 7-12, we were off to the beach with Phallen, Jen and [Ann Joseph](#) and the dogs. Ended up at beach bar with Jen, Phallen, [Melissa Fallon](#), Lonnie Clark and others. Jon and Jen took the dogs home (2 hours? Hmmmm).

On Wednesday, 7-13, I had to get up at 5 AM for a webinar to be able to teach a GREEN class. Tough to stay awake at that hour!

That afternoon we went snorkeling at Gap Gap, which is on the naval base. Not many fish there and someone told us to check out the old docks on St. Louis road. We did, and it was really neat! Rusted steel docks even had a large chain and anchor in the water as well as part of an old boat. There were lots of fish including a large school of minnows that filled my visor.

That afternoon we went to [Coco's Island](#) with [Jen and Ann](#). As we walked around the island, I took my shirt off and got [some sunburn](#). It also [started to rain](#), but it was a light rain. We visited a beach which had "star sand". The tiny grains look just like stars!

Also saw an [orange vine](#) that resembled “silly string”. When the rain quit, we did some more snorkeling and had some Guam beer.

We took the last ferry back, which included all the staff, as no one lives on the island. It was one of the few places where we actually saw birds. The island of Guam has almost no birds because of the brown tree snake. In many areas you'll see [buckets and traps](#) in trees in an attempt to rid the island of the snakes.

On Thursday, 7-14, we had lunch with [Anthony Godwin](#) of Today's Realty at PIC. He is current president of the Guam Association of Realtors. I had been in contact with him in 2005 as chairman of the National Association of REALTOR®'s Education Committee. We agreed to meet on Friday for dinner to discuss some possible REALTOR education classes in Guam. It would be great to go back!

We got rooms that night in downtown Tumon at the Holiday Resort. It was a wild night, which started at the California Pizza Kitchen with dinner and a couple beers. This part of the story is probably best told in person and not be recorded for posterity!

On Friday, 7-15, we got up late and attempted to recover from the wild night before. We went to the beach to see [Jake Membreno](#) re-enlist. Jake was one of the instigators from the night before. That evening we went to dinner with Anthony Godwin and Julie Paxton at Tony Roma's. Great ribs!

After that we headed back to the Chamorro Village for a deployment party. Kathy danced with one of the bartenders (female) to karaoke, who touched her breast! We then headed to the “Horse and Cow” bar, which is the unofficial headquarters of the Navy. The ceiling was covered with banners of various ships that sailors had written stuff on. Since Thursday was a long night, and we were headed home the next day, we went to bed early.

On Saturday 7-17, we got packed and headed to the airport about 11 AM. We stopped at one of Jon's favorite restaurants in Tumon for lunch. One order of spaghetti feed all three of us! On the way to the airport, we also stopped at [Two Lover's Point](#). It was an incredible view, although the wind was really strong! The last couple days had brought lots of rain, as Guam was on the back side of typhoon Ma-on, which was headed for Japan. We were lucky to get out of Japan before it made landfall, else we might have been stranded there for a few days.

The airport was hot as we waited to board at 3:30 PM. There was no air-conditioning, or very little air-conditioning. The plane again was a 767 with wide aisles and even a foot rest in front of your seat. The plane was filled once again with Japanese tourist heading home. It was interesting that, unlike Americans, they had little, if any, carry-on luggage. Some did have shopping bags, but the overhead bins were not close to being full, unlike the US-based trips we took were people fought over spaces.

Everything went fairly well in Tokyo. We were staying downtown, which is about 55 miles from Narita airport. Cab fare runs about \$350 and can take almost 2 hours. Therefore, we elected for the “bullet train” which only takes 35 minutes and was about \$70. The trains in Japan are very efficient. They arrive and depart exactly to the printed schedule. The train was a monorail, capable of 300 mph. We were told we were traveling at about 160 mph. It made no stops between our stations as it was an express train. Our seats were reserved, and there were spacious luggage storage racks in the back. The seats have lots of legroom and an AC adapter for each seat. There was also a “bar car” where you could get drinks and snacks. We didn't do that - Kathy was already a little queasy with the high-speed.

We had to switch to a local train to reach the hotel at the station. Had difficulty finding the right track and no one seem to speak English. Finally, a young English-speaking girl stopped us and asked if she could help. She helped us find the appropriate train. The trains have lots of advertising, even hanging down in the middle of the cars. Some appeared to have a sexual connotation.

When we got off at the Kanda station, it was about six blocks to our hotel and we had to ask several times for directions, not finding anyone who spoke English well. We stayed at the Comfort Inn Kanda. The front desk people again didn't speak English but gave us maps to use. By that time it was about 9 PM, so we decided to head back towards the train station where there were restaurants and bars. We stopped in a bar which was on the third floor of an office building and had an American name. No one spoke English though. We were able to order two beers, for which we were charged ¥1800 which is about \$23. After I complained, he said it was ¥600 just to sit at a table. Many patrons were smoking and most were playing darts or other games. They appeared to have gambling devices similar to what we would find in a bar in Illinois.

We then thought we would get something to eat at Burger King, however it was just closing. We then saw a Pizza Hut under the train rails. They had little scooters to deliver pizzas with. We ordered a pizza, and Kathy waited for it as I went to a Family Mart to buy a couple beers and some water. We went back to the hotel and ate while watching Harry Potter in Japanese! Kathy finally found a button that changed the language to English on the 19' flat screen monitor.

On Sunday, 7-18, we needed to be at the airport early as our plane left at 6:40 a.m. from [Haneda Airport](#), which is a newer airport south of Tokyo. Cab fare from our hotel was ¥8800, or about \$110. The cabs in Japan have back doors which automatically open, so you're not supposed to reach out and touch them. The rearview mirrors are mounted on the front corners just above the headlights. The cabs are all spotless.

After checking in, we went to the gift shop in the airport to try to use up the rest of our yen buying water, candy and gum. While shopping, we noticed that Kit Kat, a Nestle

brand, sold more than just candy in Japan. We saw boxes of green tea and boxes of blueberry cheesecake with a Kit Kat name on them.

Our flight left at 6:40 AM on Sunday and arrived 13 hours later at 6:15 AM on Sunday. No wonder international travelers have significant jet lag! When arriving at JFK in New York, it was strikingly similar from the air to Tokyo - lots of water intermixed among the land. While flying over the city itself, there was a major difference: the inner city of Tokyo is very cramped and crowded with virtually no trees or green space. The smallest American yards always seem to have at least some green space and trees are abundant.

Since we were leaving from LaGuardia Airport the next morning, we got a cab from JFK to the hotel, which was just across the street from the airport. Cab far was about \$25. I had e-mailed the hotel several times asking them for an early check-in, but never got a reply. When we got there it was about 7:30 AM, and they claimed to have no room for us. They said we couldn't check in until 1 or 2 PM. We considered taking a cab to Manhattan to do with little sightseeing, but it was \$35 one-way and we were exhausted as we hadn't slept much. I was a little upset!

The lobby was very small with a couch and small chair. Although people were checking out, we were still not offered a room as supposedly the maids do not come in until later. I decided that I was tired and needed sleep, and also knew that they would not like people sleeping in the lobby. We sat our four bags on floor and I laid down on the couch, sprawling as much as possible. Amazingly, soon after that, they had a room for us! It had not been freshly cleaned, which irritated me more.

We slept until about noon and decided to go to the Mets-Phillies game which was about a mile away. The cabbie argued with someone in a foreign language for the entire trip (welcome back to the USA!) and the fare was \$15. The national anthem was playing when we got there and we needed tickets. We immediately had two Mets fans arguing with each other about who would be selling us their tickets. We got a good deal (\$100) for two tickets 17 rows from the field behind third base. Although it was a fantastic view, it was brutally hot that day and Kathy was now fading. A couple Bud Lights and I was getting my second wind! Interestingly, by NY law, vendors have to show [calorie counts](#). How about a large tub of popcorn at 2,473 calories!

We left in the seventh inning with the Phillies up 5-1. When we got back to our room it was the bottom of the eighth with the score 8-4 and a bases-loaded. The final was 9-5.

To get back to the hotel, Kathy wanted to take a cab, but they were all limos and wanted \$35 for 1 mile. I wanted to ride the train which was free that day. We finally found a limo for 20 bucks. I bought some Popeye's chicken and we went to bed. Were those gunshots heard in the night? Hmmmm.

On Monday , 7-19, our plane left New York at 8 AM, arriving in St. Louis at 9:30 AM. The airport still showed a little tornado damage from earlier this year. Dave Moyer picked us up at the airport at about 10:30 AM and we stopped in Litchfield for lunch. Around Atlanta it was raining so hard cars pulled over, but we had no rain at home. We spent the rest of the day unpacking and napping. We are both jetlagged. I literally stayed up all night Monday and all day Tuesday. Decided to drink several beers and take some Tylenol PM Tuesday night to finally get to sleep. It worked!

[Some general observances and facts about Guam.](#)

Guam was a Spanish territory until the 1890's, when it became US property. It fell into the hands of the Japanese during World War II. The Japanese were cruel to native Chamorro people, using them as slaves. Torture, rape, and beheading were common during the Japanese rule.

Reportedly, the American Legion in Guam is the only American Legion to ever be occupied by a foreign country.

July 21 is celebrated as Liberation Day in Guam as on that date in 1941 the US won the island back. However, the heavy bombing ruined almost every structure in Guam. Therefore, you will see no old buildings in Guam; most are less than 50 years old and are now entirely built from concrete because of the high number of typhoons and large amounts of termites. I bought a book there about the liberation- ask me to see it. There were three Japanese soldiers who survived more than 20 years in the jungle after the war. One lived in a [small cave](#) and was [captured in 1972](#).- 28 years later!

The island has about 175,000 occupants of which about 10% are military or military families. The native Chamorro are about 35% of the population. Less than 7% are white. The bulk of the population is a large mixture of Japanese, Filipino and other inhabitants of Micronesia. Guam is a US territory, so Guamanians, as some call them, are considered US citizens. They have a representative in the House, but that person cannot vote. The US military controls about 35% of the landmass of Guam.

The US has poured lots of money into Guam and was considering moving thousands of Marines to Guam from Japan starting this year. However those plans have stalled. That shift caused one member of Congress to wonder out loud if [Guam would tip over!](#) The infrastructure of Guam is not good; the EPA condemned the drinking water source at one point. We never drank the water there - it tasted horrible.

There is very little dirt per se in Guam, as the island is made of coral. What little dirt there might be would remind us of red Georgia clay and seems to stain everything it touches.

Electricity is very expensive on Guam and is generated by diesel fuel. Wind power may be coming soon. The only natural gas is of the bottled variety. There is no need for heating, so each home has only AC units which are generally mounted in the upper part of the walls. Jon had four in his house. The houses are all concrete (including roofs) and few have any insulation. Very few have garages, unless they were expensive ones. Even a modest house in Guam can run \$250,000.

We were disappointed to see very little recycling or other “green” activities. We did see a couple solar water heaters on roofs. Many people turn off their water heater except for when they use it. The price of gas was about \$1 a gallon higher than what we paid at home, but was almost \$1 a gallon cheaper on base.

There are still some dirt roads and paved roads are not in excellent condition. The speed limit for almost the entire island is 35 mph, however no one drives that. The average speed is probably 50 to 60 mph. There seems to be a general lack of traffic law enforcement. Regardless of the number of lanes of traffic, there are only three traffic signals; a left-hand turn signal light may be above a through lane of traffic. It also appears that [riding in the back](#) of a pickup truck is allowed.

[Real estate taxes](#) are very cheap and sales tax is almost nonexistent, except for tourist type items. There is however a 4% gross proceeds tax that is paid monthly. [Federal income tax](#) is calculated per IRS guidelines, but is paid to Guam and not the IRS.

The northern part of the island is the most heavily populated and has a lot of low income housing. Every house seems to have a “boonie dog” or two and they are everywhere. Chickens too! In fact, Guam still has lots of cockfighting. We saw some cockfighting pits in residential yards. We saw a farm that raises fighting roosters.

We really enjoyed the southern part of Guam, which is sparsely populated and more mountainous. They were interesting small villages and some beautiful ocean views.

It seems to rain every day in Guam, and the temperature is consistent from day to day. While we were there it was in the upper 80s every day and around 79-80 every night with humidity around 80% continually. Everything seems to rust. Based on that, there are a lot of “Guam Bombs” - old rusted out cars that seem to be everywhere.

[Crime in Guam](#) is blamed mostly on the large influx of meth into the country in the last few years. Most of the crime is property or theft related. To give you an idea, in comparison to Chicago, IL:

Incidents per 1,000 residents per year:

Violent Crime:-	Guam	3	Chicago:	12
Property Crime-	Guam	23	Chicago	49

Many upscale communities are gated and many homes have walls and gates to help prevent theft. Many use their typhoon shutters for security as well.

The quality of housing is poor. New homes are built from poured concrete or concrete block that is finished inside and out by skim-coating it. Very little drywall- therefore interior walls may be a little rough. Most flooring is ceramic tile and most baths are tile top to bottom.

All in all, an interesting trip!