

Hokkaido Nature Tours

Trip Itinerary & Policies

Winter Peak & Festival Day Trip



Date: Saturday, February 6th, 2016

Activities: Snowshoeing, Onsen, Sake Brewery, Otaru Snow Festival

Price: 8,490 yen (see the **How to pay the deposit** guidelines below)

Early-booking discount (10% off) until Jan. 23rd; Group discount (15% off) for 4 or more; Member discount (5% off) are all available.

***Please read all of the information in preparation for the trip; all activities are optional*

Trip Itinerary

Time	Activity	Notes
8:45-9:00am	Departure from Sapporo in private vehicle Pick-up locations: Sumikawa Station (north exit), Maruyama Station (in front of KFC), Teine JR Station (south exit)	Please specify your pick-up preference AND send us your phone number in your reply email. Our phone number is 080-9617-2508.
11:00am	Arrive at Shioya Maruyama trailhead; Check gear (see the “What to Bring” section below for more information) Hike to peak (RT appx. 3-4 hours)	Prepare a bento, or purchase at a convenience store on the way; Bring high-energy snacks such as nuts, dark chocolate and energy bars; Recommended: tea thermos!
3:00pm	Tanaka Sake Brewery Enjoy a tour of the <i>sake</i> brewery (Japanese only – we can help with translation)	Samples and purchases available
4:00pm	Yunohana Onsen (entry included in price of tour)	Remember to bring an onsen towel, or rent one on site; Also please bring a change of woolen socks.
5:30pm	Otaru Snow Festival & Dinner Walk around the canal and historical district to see a much less crowded – and more romantic – snow festival than Sapporo’s. Dinner is self-pay	We will walk around the canal and Sakaimachi Street posing for lots of pictures and watching people try to stay warm. We can choose a dinner option on the spot. Otaru’s seafood is famous, but other options abound. We’ll also go into many sweets, souvenir and crafts shops to look around ... and to stay warm.
8:30pm	Depart for Sapporo / Arrive by 9:30pm	Drop-off at same locations as pick-up; Drop-off at home is possible depending on location.

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What to Bring

Winter boots · winter clothes / jacket / snow pants / leggings (long underwear) / hat / gloves / muffler (neck warmer) / hand-warmers · snowshoes & poles (Rentals available for 1500 yen – notify us in advance) · **non-cotton socks** (wool socks are best @ 800 yen at most sports shops) / **non-cotton undershirt** · goggles (sunglasses are fine) · camera · onsen towel · change of wool socks · hiking snacks · bento · money for dinner

If you have any questions about what gear to bring, please ask us. Underprepared winter hiking is dangerous, so if you have any doubts, ask us.

Adverse Weather & Deposit Policy

In the event of adverse weather conditions (rain or blizzard) on February 6th, we may push the trip up by one day to February 7th. If you cannot participate on the 7th, your deposit will be refunded in-full. If we encounter adverse weather on the 6th and the 7th, we may cancel the trip – in that case we will refund your deposit in-full, or if you wish, we can credit your account for any future HNT trip. Cancellations prior to 7 days before trip date are eligible for 50% deposit refund; cancellations within 7 days of trip date unfortunately are not eligible for a refund.

How to pay the deposit

Start by making a booking through hokkaidonaturetours.com (via the Set-Trips on a Budget or Contact Us pages). Alternatively, contact us by email at hokkaidonaturetours@gmail.com. We will send you a confirmation email with the exact price and deposit information. If you are eligible for the early-booking discount (10% off), group rates (4 or more get 15% off), or member's discount (5% off), the deposit must be paid **within 7 days from the booking date** to secure the discounted price. Otherwise, a 30% deposit must be received at least 7 days before the trip-date to secure your place.

Please specify by email your preferred payment method:

1. **Pay in-person** at our home base of Sumikawa, Minami-ku. Arrange a time and place that is convenient for you. Meeting downtown is also possible upon request.
2. **Pay via bank transfer** (will be subject to additional bank costs of about 500 yen)
3. **Pay via Paypal** (find our account under the name Hokkaido Nature Tours)

Our Guiding Policy

Paramount for HNT tours is the safety and wellbeing of our clients. Our extensive experience in the mountains of Hokkaido and internationally gives us a profound respect for the powers of nature, and we will not hesitate to postpone, cancel or alter a trip if we encounter adverse weather conditions. All scheduled plans in the itinerary are subject to change according to safety conditions. Your safety is truly our top-priority.

Please contact us for any additional information at:

www.hokkaidonaturetours.com, hokkaidonaturetours@gmail.com or by phone at 080-9617-2508.

Thanks for your interest in Hokkaido Nature Tours!

Enjoy Nature, Be Happy!

The HNT team

