



*Your Custom-Made*

*HNT Itinerary Awaits...*

At HNT, we specialize in creating and guiding private custom-made tours around Hokkaido in every season. Our passion for travel, attention to detail and love of Hokkaido will guide you to one of the best holidays of your life!

Find out why guests consistently rave about our tours and honor us with 5-star ratings. We not only care about your holiday, we're right there with you, offering complete logistical support, dedicated English-speaking nature guides and private transportation on every tour.



*Enjoy Nature. Be Happy!*

## Tour Synopsis

Make the most of your trip to Hokkaido on a private custom-made tour with HNT! Get to know our favorite routes & breathtaking landscapes, great gourmet & cultural experiences, famous sightseeing spots and off-the-beaten-path destinations.



On this 7-day tour you will see the best Hokkaido has to offer in winter with a variety of great activities. From dogsledding at the foothill of Daisetsuzan National Park, to wildlife & crane spotting at Shireoko Peninsula, Tsurui Village & Notsuke Peninsula, to a variety of snowshoeing beneath frozen waterfalls and along volcanic craters, our carefully selected activities will allow you to fully discover Hokkaido's natural & cultural highlights. We'll also visit the famous port towns of Kushiro & Abashiri, go winter canoeing on Kushiro Marshland, check out crafts at Higashikawa and much more! Top it off with superb Hokkaido gourmet, soothing hot springs and famous Japanese hospitality at our favorite hotels, ryokans and minshukus - including at least a 1 night stay at a traditional ryokan with kaiseki dinner - and you will have a fantastic vacation with memories that will last a lifetime!

## Highlights of the Tour

- ✓ Tour guided by an English-speaking nature guide with private transportation
- ✓ A variety of experiential activities such as snowshoeing on volcanic rims & beneath frozen falls, dogsledding through field & forest, canoeing at Kushiro Marshland & the Stellar Sea Eagle cruise at Rausu
- ✓ Top sightseeing including Kushiro's Washo Market, Tsurui Village crane spotting, Abashiri museum, capes & peninsulas, and more
- ✓ Stay at our carefully selected quality hotel & ryokan accommodation, including at least 1 night at a traditional ryokan with kaiseki dinner
- ✓ A nice mix of famous spots & off-the-beaten-path destinations
- ✓ Top rated onsens for you to relax during your tour



### Hokkaido Nature Tours

2-6 7-83 Ishiyama, Minami-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan

Travel License No.: 3-718

(+81)11-592-3959

## Tour Route

Day 1: Sapporo → Higashikawa → Asahidake Onsen

Day 2: Asahidake Onsen → Tenninkyo Gorge → Soukkyo Gorge → Abashiri

Day 3: Abashiri → Utoro → Rausu

Day 4: Rausu → Notsuke Peninsula → Yoroushi Onsen

Day 5: Yoroushi Onsen → Lake Mashu → Teshikaga → Mt. Iou → Lake Kussharo → Tsurui Village

Day 6: Tsurui Village → Kushiro → Tsurui Village

Day 7: Tsurui Village → Shikaoui → Obihiro → Sapporo



## Why Travel with Us?

- ✓ Unforgettable private tours in Hokkaido with an English-speaking guide & private transportation
- ✓ Carefully selected, never outsourced, enthusiastic and highly-experienced nature guides with insider knowledge of Hokkaido
- ✓ Uniquely crafted, custom-made itineraries built around your personal preferences
- ✓ Complete logistical support and itinerary creation from our HNT travel experts, which means no middle-man costs and the most competitive prices
- ✓ Superior flexibility during your tour with the ability to change activities as you go, as well as price protection for missed activities beyond your control



ASIA & AUSTRALASIA AWARDS 2017  
SHORTLISTED



## Guest Information

Name & No. of Guests	Activity Preferences	Pace of Tour
SAMPLE	Winter Sightseeing, Winter Gourmet, Winter Festivals, Hot Springs, Daisetsuzan Nat'l Park, Shiretoko Nat'l Park, Ice Fishing, Drift Ice & Boat Excursions, Dogsledding, Snowmobiling	Mix of Active & Relaxation
Tour Dates	Personal Preferences	Budget
7-Day Tour	SAMPLE	Flexible Budget
Country of Residence	Tour Starting & Ending Points	Splurge
SAMPLE	This itinerary assumes morning pick-up from Sapporo on Day 1 ( <b>please confirm hotel details</b> ) & drop-off in Sapporo on Day 7 (last night accommodation not included)	Nature Activities, Accommodation, Gourmet, Health & Relaxation

## Your Custom-Made Tour Itinerary

### Day 1: Higashikawa & Asahidake Onsen

<b>Pick-up in Sapporo</b>	Your guide will be waiting at the lobby of your hotel at 8:30am; <b>please confirm your hotel details</b>
<b>Drive to Higashikawa</b>	Estimated driving time is approx. 2 hrs. 30 min.
<b>Higashikawa Craft Sites</b>	The town of Higashikawa outside Asahikawa is famous as a handicraft village, especially in pottery, woodwork & photography, with a burgeoning café scene as well
<b>Lunch in Higashikawa</b>	Choose from a wide variety of small restaurants, many with original twists on classic Japanese staples including soba, udon, ramen & more
<b>Asahidake Freshwater Spring</b>	Fill up your water bottles at this spring known for its pure tasting water

### Asahidake Ropeway & Sugatami Highland Plateau Snowshoeing

Ride the ropeway high above the snowy forests and go snowshoeing across the remarkable Sugatami Plateau at the base of Mt. Asahidake, Hokkaido's highest mountain, to reach the steaming fumaroles at the foot of the mountain

### Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner

Asahidake Resort is nestled at the base of Mt. Asahidake, Hokkaido's highest mountain

**Overnight: Asahidake Onsen** (dinner & breakfast included)



### Day 2: Tenninkyo Gorge, Souunkyo Gorge, Cape Notoro & Abashiri

#### Tenninkyo Gorge & Hagoromo Falls Snowshoeing

Explore the neglected Tenninkyo Gorge with its columnar joint cliffs, waterfalls and an easy snowshoeing nature trail to the frozen Hagoromo (Angel Dance) Falls, which at 270m is Hokkaido's highest waterfall

#### Drive to Souunkyo

Estimated driving time is approx. 1.5 hrs.

#### Lunch at Souunkyo Onsen

Recommended: Beer Grill Canyon for Italian Japanese fusion with a focus on locally sourced ingredients

#### Souunkyo Gorge 8 Frozen Waterfalls Snowshoeing Trail

Beginner-level snowshoeing along the frozen Souunkyo Gorge, spotting frozen waterfalls, Ezo-deer, eagles and other wildlife in the best gorge in Hokkaido

#### Drive to Abashiri

Estimated driving time is approx. 3 hrs.

#### Cape Notoro Sightseeing

A classic cape with a lighthouse, with panoramic views of the Sea of Okhotsk

#### Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner

One of Hokkaido's most remote destinations, Abashiri is on the Sea of Okhotsk and is surrounded by lakes

**Overnight: Abashiri** (dinner & breakfast included)



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## Day 3: Abashiri, Utoro & Rausu

**Abashiri Prison Museum**  
**OR**  
**Okhotsk Ryuhyo Museum**

The most feared prison in all of Japan during the Meiji Restoration Period – we'll see the living conditions that prisoners persevered through;

**OR**  
Learn all about drift ice at this modern museum in eastern Hokkaido, the southernmost place on earth with drift ice

**Utoro Scenic Drive & Waterfalls**

Enjoy a coastal drive to Utoro, with tall cliffs & plunging waterfalls along the seaside road

**Shiretoko UNESCO Conservation Center & Local Products Market**

Be introduced to the many faces of Shiretoko Peninsula, with a fascinating 20 minute movie about the flora & fauna at Hokkaido's only UNESCO World Heritage site, then check out local products at the adjoining Michi-no-Eki (local products market)

**Lunch in Utoro**

Famed for fresh seafood from its legendary waters, Utoro is the place to try a variety of top seafood items

**Drive to Rausu**

Estimated driving time is approx. 2 hrs.

**Rausu Fishing Villages Scenic Drive**

Drive along the famed Rausu coastline, passing remote fishing villages and stunning seascapes

**Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner**

Rausu, famed for seafood, wildlife & hot springs, is located within the UNESCO World Heritage Shiretoko Peninsula

**Overnight: Rausu** (dinner & breakfast included)



## Day 4: Rausu, Notsuke Peninsula & Yoroushi Onsen

**Rausu Winter Nature Cruise**

Cruise through the waters off Rausu, in search of drift ice, Steller Sea Eagles and other sea life

**Rausu Local Products Market & Lunch**

Check out the variety of local marine products, such as kelp, crab, uni and salmon, then enjoy lunch upstairs where seafood is the specialty

**Drive to Notsuke Peninsula**

Estimated driving time is approx. 1 hr. 45 min.

**Notsuke Peninsula Wildlife Spotting**

This sand spit peninsula becomes a wildlife refuge in winter, with scores of deer, Hokkaido Red Fox & Steller's Sea Eagles

**Drive to Yoroushi Onsen**

Estimated driving time is approx. 1 hr. 15 min.

**Ryokan Check-in, Onsen & Dinner**

A unique experience in staying at one of Hokkaido's best traditional Japanese ryokans with a chance to spot the rare Blakiston's Fish Owl & Japanese sable

**Overnight: Yoroushi Onsen Yuyado Dai-Ichi Ryokan or similar** (kaiseki dinner & breakfast included)



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## Day 5: Lake Mashu, Mt. Iou, Lake Kussharo & Tsurui Village

### Lake Mashu Sightseeing & Crater Rim Snowshoeing

From the viewpoint of Lake Mashu - a conical volcanic lake rated among the world's clearest waters - we'll go on an easy snowshoe hike along the crater rim for more incredible views and wildlife spotting

### Lunch in Teshikaga Mt. Iou Geothermal Park

Recommended: Teshikaga ramen, the local specialty  
Experience the active volcanic area of Mt. Iou, where sulfur vents billow from the ground

Take a foot bath at this unique beach onsen, where onsen water rises up as you dig a hole in the sand; nearby is Kotan no Yu Wild Onsen, dramatically located on the shores of Lake Kussharo (separated bathing areas for men & women with basic changing facilities; bathing suits permitted; bring your own towels); these are also winter nesting spots for whooper swans & Mallard ducks, and visitors can walk right up to the birds!

### Drive to Tsurui Village

Estimated driving time is approx. 1 hr.

### Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner

Tsurui Village is one of Japan's most famous villages, mainly because of the successful efforts of the locals in saving the tancho cranes from extinction

**Overnight: Tsurui Village** (dinner & breakfast included)



## Day 6: Kushiro Marshland & Tsurui Village

### Kushiro Marshland Canoeing

Go on a 1- hour canoe ride surrounded by the frozen marshland in Japan's largest marsh, observing a variety of wildlife & birds with a professional river guide

### Kushiro Marshland Observatory

Take in the wide panoramic views of Japan's largest protected marshland, a chance to spot wildlife such as the iconic Tancho cranes

### Kushiro Washo Market & Lunch

Sample some of the freshest seafood in Hokkaido, with a huge variety of sashimi that you can choose per slice directly from the vendors, or choose from a variety of other seafood dishes

### Akan International Crane Center

The top site for crane watching, with the open fields and mountain vistas perfect for photography; a short and informative documentary about the dramatic history of near extinction and yearly life cycle of the cranes, along with English subtitles, is also available

### Tsurui Village Crane Spotting

Drive through the village where crane feeding started over 70 years ago in one of the best conservation efforts in Japan's history; today we can often spot the Tancho red-crowned cranes grazing in the fields and roosting in the waterways outside the village

### Return to Hotel & Dinner

Enjoy a 2<sup>nd</sup> night in Tsurui

**Overnight: Same as Day 5** (dinner & breakfast included)



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## Day 7: Shikaoi, Obihiro & Sapporo

- Drive to Shikaoi** Estimated driving time is approx. 2 hrs. 15 min.
- Dogsledding at Shikaoi** Get pulled by a team of dogs on a 10 kilometer trail while a lead snowmobile gets perfect shots of you as a musher; full instruction, guiding and safety briefing included
- Drive to Obihiro** Estimated driving time is approx. 30 min.
- Lunch in Obihiro** Obihiro is famous for butadon, or braised pork on rice, owing to the many pig farms in the Tokachi region
- Ryugetsu Sweetpia Garden** See the factory production line at this famous dessert house, then sample & purchase sweets in the gift shop
- Drive to Sapporo** Estimated driving time is approx. 3 hrs.
- Drop-off in Sapporo** Unfortunately, this marks the end of our tour together . . . until next time!



## Tour Price

<b>Tour Price (based on 4 pax)</b>	¥280,900 pp
<b>Sales Tax</b>	¥22,472 pp
<b>Total Tour Price</b>	¥303,400 pp
<b>5% Off Early-booking Tour Price*</b>	<b>¥288,200 pp</b>

- \* Tour price is based on 4 participants, and will vary according to group size; please enquire for exact quote
- \* This itinerary is based on flexible-budget ¾ star hotel/ryokan accommodation, and can be customized for other accommodation standards.
- \*Early-booking discount offer valid for tours booked up to 3 months prior to the tour date

What is included in this tour	What is not included in this tour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Tour guided by an English-speaking nature guide</li> <li>✓ Private transportation in a 4wd vehicle</li> <li>✓ Entry and participation fees for all activities listed in the itinerary</li> <li>✓ 6 nights of 3/4 star hotel/ryokan accommodation, with at least 1 night at a traditional ryokan with kaiseki dinner</li> <li>✓ Daily hotel/ryokan dinners &amp; breakfasts</li> <li>✓ Hot springs entry fees and taxes</li> <li>✓ Quality photos provided following the tour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily lunches</li> <li>• Wi-Fi (please ask us about mobile Wi-Fi or SIM card rental from New Chitose Airport)</li> </ul>



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Sample Hotels for HNT Custom-Made Tours		
	JR Tower Hotel Nikko Sapporo	Sapporo
★	The Windsor Hotel Toya Resort & Spa	Lake Toya
5	Hilton Niseko Village	Niseko
	Lake Shikotsu Tsuruga Resort Spa Mizu no Uta	Lake Shikotsu
★	Akan Yuku no Sato Tsuruga	Lake Akan
	Lake Toya Nanokaze Resort	Lake Toya
	Sapporo Grand Hotel	Sapporo
	New Furano Prince Hotel	Furano
★	Sapporo Prince Hotel	Sapporo
4	Dai-ichi Takimotokan	Noboribetsu Onsen Resort
	Yunokawa Prince Hotel Nagisatei	Hakodate
★	Art Hotels Sapporo	Sapporo
	Hotel Taisetsu	Sounkyo Onsen Resort
	Asahidake Yumoto Yukomanso	Asahidake Onsen Resort
	Asahikawa Park Hotel	Asahikawa
	Hotel Niseko Alpen	Niseko
★	Ibis Styles Sapporo	Sapporo
3	Toyako Manseikaku Hotel Lakeside Terrace	Lake Toya
	Kushiro Royal Inn	Kushiro
★	Kohan Tei	Lake Toya
	Air Terminal Hotel	New Chitose Airport
	Toya Kanko Hotel	Lake Toya

## Policy & Payment Information

### What to Bring

Insulated boots · winter jacket / snow pants / leggings / winter hat / thick gloves / muffler / non-cotton socks / thermal layers · Ice grips for boots

Please request our HNT Essentials Checklist after booking your tour. If you have any questions, ask us!



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### HNT Guiding Policy

Paramount for HNT Tours is the safety and wellbeing of our guests. Our extensive experience in the mountains of Hokkaido and internationally gives us a profound respect for nature, and we may be forced to alter a tour itinerary if we encounter adverse conditions that may put our guests at risk. All tour activities in the itinerary are subject to modification depending on safety conditions. Your safety is our top priority.

### Payment Methods

Please specify your preferred payment method for the 50% deposit:

1. **International Bank Transfer** (subject to bank fees of 1,500 yen per transaction in addition to remitter fees)
2. **PayPal** (subject to PayPal fees of between 2-6% per transaction)

### Deposit & Cancellation Policy

A minimum 50% deposit must be received no later than 30 days before the start of a tour. The remainder can be paid in cash upon arrival. Cancellations by any participants made by 30 days before the start of a tour are eligible for a 50% deposit refund. Cancellations by any participants made within 30 days of a tour are not eligible for a deposit refund.

### Disclaimer

We take great care in creating fantastic tours for our guests which are custom-made to match their preferences. We will endeavor to follow the itinerary to the greatest possible extent. However, if changes to an itinerary must be made due to weather conditions, guest safety concerns or unexpected delays during a tour, HNT is not responsible if aspects of a tour cannot be achieved. If aspects of a tour are missed or a tour prematurely ends due to HNT reasons, a refund will be provided for any missed aspects or tour dates, not including reservation fees that cannot be refunded from hotels, operators or others.

## What Our Guests are Saying

*“The most enjoyable and relaxing holiday we’ve ever experienced!” – A.W. (Indonesia)*

*“Absolutely brilliant! I would recommend these guys to anyone who wants to see the REAL Hokkaido. I was looked after with the utmost care and every one of my needs were met.” – U.Y. (England)*

*“A One of a kind travel experience.” – L.B.P (Malaysia)*



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