

# Hokkaido Nature Tours

Trip Itinerary & Policies



## Christmas Wonderland Tour

**Date:** December 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> 2015

**Activities:** Hotel stay, Onsen, Hotel Dinner & Breakfast, Snowshoeing, 'Wild' hot springs, Blue Pond sightseeing, Transport

**Price: 21,000 yen** –see the How to pay the deposit guidelines below

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

### Trip Itinerary

Day	Time	Activity	Comments
Day 1 Dec. 26 <sup>th</sup>	8:45-9:00am	<b>Departure from Sapporo in private vehicle</b> Pick-up locations: Sumikawa Station (North exit), Odori Station (exit 23)	<b>Please specify your pick-up preference AND send us your phone number in your reply email.</b> HNT's phone number is 080-9617-2508.
	11:30am	<b>Arrive at Tokachidake Onsen;</b> Check into hotel, eat lunch (self-pay), prepare to snowshoe (optional)	Accommodation at the hotel is in 4-person Japanese style ( <i>washitsu</i> ) rooms. The rooms are non-smoking and futons/linen are provided.
	1:00pm	<b>Backcountry snowshoeing up the mountain with snowboarding/skiing back down an option</b> If you're not interested in snowshoeing, you can relax and enjoy the scenery and take a longer bath at the hotel's onsen	We will be snowshoeing up a slope that has no avalanche danger so you won't be required to have avalanche training or equipment; <b>Please specify in your reply email if you need hiking gear or if you plan to bring a snowboard/skis on this trip</b> Snowshoes can be rented from us if necessary (see below); hiking poles available
	5:00pm	<b>Return to hotel and take an onsen bath</b> (included in price)	Don't forget to bring an onsen towel or rent one from the hotel

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	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Nabe dinner at the hotel</b> After dinner, we will serve Mulled Wine (warm spice wine) and play some Christmas-themed games to pass the time	<i>Nabe</i> dinner is included in the price of the tour; if you would like a <i>teppanyaki</i> dinner (pork indoor bbq), please add 1,500 yen <b>and tell us in advance.</b>
<b>Day 2 Dec. 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00am</b>	<b>Hotel breakfast</b> (included in price) After eating, pack-up overnight belongings and keep at reception; Prepare for snowshoeing trip part II	
	<b>7:30am- 1:00pm</b>	<b>Guided snowshoeing along different course from day 1</b>	Same notes as day 1 snowshoeing excursion
	<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Lunch at hotel restaurant</b> (self-pay)	
	<b>1:30pm</b>	<b>Drive to Fukiage 'wild' onsen and take a bath</b>	Free hot spring pool in the forest; mixed-gender; wearing bathing suit recommended; bring towel.
	<b>2:30pm</b>	<b>Drive to Biei Blue Pond for sightseeing</b>	
	<b>4:00- 7:00pm</b>	<b>Return trip to Sapporo</b>	If possible, we will drop-off participants at their homes; Otherwise, drop-off will be at Odori Station.

**What to Bring** Winter boots · winter clothes/jacket/snowpants/leggings/hat/gloves/muffler/hand-warmers · snowshoes (Optional - rentals available 1000yen/day - notify us in advance) · **non-cotton** socks/underlayers · snowboard/skis/carrying backpack (optional) · goggles (optional) · camera · onsen towel · alcoholic drinks · hiking snacks · cash for lunch at hotel · → **Any questions? Ask us...**

**Adverse Weather & Deposit Policy** In the event of adverse weather conditions (blizzard), 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 **14 days** before trip date are eligible for 50% deposit refund; cancellations within 14 days of trip date unfortunately are not eligible for a refund.

**How to pay the deposit** Start by contacting us at hokkaidonaturetours@gmail.com. We will send you an email with your exact price and deposit information. If you are eligible for the **early-booking discount**

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(10%) or **group discount (4 or more get 15% 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 5 days before the trip-date to secure your place.

**Please specify in your reply email how you would like to pay.** Here are the payment options:

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 [hokkaidonaturetours@gmail.com](mailto:hokkaidonaturetours@gmail.com) or by phone at 080-9617-2508.

Thanks for your interest in joining this adventure with Hokkaido Nature Tours!

Best regards,

The HNT team

