



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 hot air ballooning in Furano, to dog sledding through snowy fields & forests, to guided canoeing & wildlife spotting, to the drift ice breaker ferry, our carefully selected activities will allow you to fully discover Hokkaido's natural & cultural highlights. We'll also visit Tsurui Village for crane spotting, go snowshoeing beneath frozen waterfalls & volcanic crater rims, see the Asahiyama Zoo Penguin Parade and much more! Top it off with superb Hokkaido gourmet, soothing hot springs and famous Japanese hospitality at our favorite luxury-standard hotels, ryokans & premier onsen resorts whenever possible, and you will have a fantastic vacation with memories that will last a lifetime!



Highlights of the Tour

- ✓ A variety of experiential activities such as indigo dying DIY workshop, hot air ballooning, dog sledding, snowshoeing, wildlife spotting, winter canoeing, drift ice breaker ferry, winter festivals & more
- ✓ Top sightseeing destinations including Asahiyama Zoo, Akan Lake District, Mt. Iou Geothermal Park, Kushiro's Washo Market, Tsurui Village, Furano gourmet sites & more
- ✓ Stay at our favorite luxury-standard hotel, ryokan & premier onsen resort accommodations whenever possible, including at least 1 night at a traditional ryokan with kaiseki dinner
- ✓ Observe majestic Tancho cranes, angelic whooper swans, rare Blakiston fish owl and many more at Eastern Hokkaido's top wildlife spotting destinations



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 → Furano

Day 2: Furano → Shintoku → Shikaoi → Lake Shikaribetsu

Day 3: Lake Shikaribetsu → Kushiro

Day 4: Kushiro → Tsurui Village → Lake Akan

Day 5: Lake Akan → Lake Mashu → Teshkaga → Mt. Iou → Lake Kussharo → Yoroushi Onsen

Day 6: Yoroushi Onsen → Abashiri → Sounkyo Onsen

Day 7: Sounkyo Onsen → Asahikawa → 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
- ✓ Award-winning, 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 refund policies for missed activities beyond your control

Guest Information

Name & No. of Guests	Activity Preferences	Pace of Tour
Sample	Winter Festivals, Winter Wildlife & Zoos, Snowshoeing, Hot Air Ballooning, Craft Culture & Gourmet	Very Active
Tour Dates	Personal Preferences	Budget
7 Day Winter Tour	Sample	Mix of Luxury & Flexible-budget
Country of Residence	Tour Starting & Ending Points	Splurge
Sample	This itinerary assumes 9:30 AM pick-up from Sapporo on Day 1 (please confirm hotel details) & evening drop-off in Sapporo on Day 7 (last night accommodation not included)	Nature Activities Accommodation

Your Custom-Made Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Sapporo & Furano

- Pick-up in Sapporo** Our guide will be waiting at the lobby of your hotel at 9:30 am to begin the tour; **please confirm hotel details**
- Traditional Indigo Dying DIY Workshop** Indigo dying from natural inks has been practiced in Japan for hundreds of years; learn how dyes are created, then practice the technique on a keepsake handkerchief
- Drive to Furano** Estimated driving time is approx. 2hrs. 30 min.
- Lunch in Furano** Choose from a variety of great restaurants, including Kumagera, a fantastic izakaya famous for nabe and shabu-shabu, and even has bear meat on the menu!
- Furano Rokugo Sightseeing** Check out the sites in this valley community outside Furano, with great views from the observation platform, a freshwater spring, glass factory & music box shop



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Furano Gourmet Sites

Choose your favorite gourmet stops in Furano: Furano Cheese Factory for amazing pizzas & cheese, Furano Delice for the best desserts in town, and Furano Marche for local products shopping & souvenirs

Ningle Terrace Artisan Village

An artisan village of log houses set in a forest, where you can buy products directly from the artists themselves

Furano Kan Kan Mura Snow Village

This small nighttime snow “village” has tubing, igloos and other installations located just next to the Ningle Terrace artisan village

Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner

Furano is one of Hokkaido’s best mountain towns, great in every season

Overnight: Furano Hotel or similar (dinner & breakfast included)



Day 2: Furano, Shikaoi & Lake Shikaribetsu

- Hot Air Ballooning** Take an incredible 30 minute hot air ballooning free-flight in the early morning over the snowy fields and mountains with breathtaking views
- Breakfast at the Hotel** You can return to your hotel for breakfast
- Drive to Shintoku** Estimated driving time is approx. 1 hr. 30 min.
- Lunch in Shintoku** Have lunch at a local restaurant in Shintoku, a town famous for its soba
- 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 Lake Shikaribetsu

Estimated driving time is approx. 45 min.

Lake Shikaribetsu Ice Kotan Festival

This remote festival where the frozen lake becomes an ice village is one to remember. Activities include snowmobiling, snowshoeing, ice carving, ice bar, open-air lake onsen and more (festival activities are self-pay)

Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner

This remote lake at the base of surrounding mountains is the perfect get-away from it all

Overnight: Hotel Fusui or similar; no luxury-standard accommodation available at Lake Shikaribetsu (dinner & breakfast included)



Day 3: Lake Shikaribetsu & Kushiro

Lake Shikaribetsu Ice Kotan Festival

Enjoy a 2nd day at the festival at Lake Shikaribetsu

Drive to Kushiro Marshland

Estimated driving time is approx. 2 hrs. 30 min.

Lunch on route

Choose from a variety of local restaurants

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

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

Drive to Kushiro

Estimated driving time is approx. 30 min.

Kushiro Washo Market

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

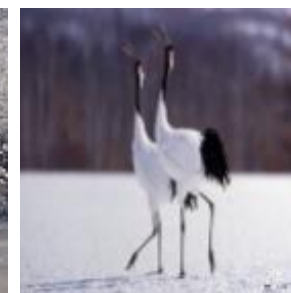
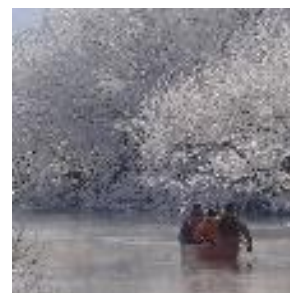
Hotel Check-in

A remote port town in eastern Hokkaido with great seafood and lots of fishermen culture

Dinner in Kushiro

Choose from a variety of local restaurants specializing in seafood and Robata-yaki (Japanese BBQ)

Overnight: Kushiro Prince Hotel or similar (breakfast included)



Day 4: Tsurui Village & Lake Akan

Drive to Tsurui Village

Estimated driving time is approx. 45 min.

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

Drive to Lake Akan

Estimated driving time is approx. 1 hr.

Lake Akan Ainu Kotan Village

Explore the Ainu village at Lake Akan, great souvenir shopping directly from the artists

Lunch at Lake Akan

Choose from a variety of restaurants, including some that serve Ainu cuisine

Lake Akan Winter Festival

This festival is held on the frozen lake, with winter activities such as ice fishing, snowmobiling, etc. on offer (activities are self-pay)



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Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner Lake Akan is one of Hokkaido's premier lake resorts; we'll try to reserve lake view rooms

Ainu Theater Performance Learn about Ainu culture and their spiritual world through live ceremonial performances

Overnight: Akan Yuku no Sato Tsuruga Resort or similar (dinner & breakfast included)



Drive to Yoroushi Onsen Estimated driving time is approx. 1 hr.

Ryokan Check-in, Onsen & Dinner A unique experience in staying at one of Hokkaido's best traditional Japanese ryokans

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



Day 5: Akan Lake District & Yoroushi Onsen

Oakandake Mountain Pass Scenic Drive This mountain pass has postcard views of Mt. Oakandake on a winding road connecting Teshikaga & Lake Akan

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 Recommended: Teshikaga ramen, the local specialty

Mt. Iou Geothermal Park 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!

Lake Kussharo Sunayu & Kotan Wild Onsen

Day 6: Abashiri & Sounkyo Onsen

Drive to Abashiri Estimated driving time is approx. 1 hr. 45 min.

Aurora Drift Ice Ferry Ride the ferry as it breaks through sea ice in the most southerly place in the world with drift ice; if there is no drift ice, the ferry takes a scenic cruise along the coastline

Lunch in Abashiri Be it the freshest crabs & shellfish at the local seafood market, or hand rolled soba at a tiny place tucked in the woods, or a bowl of ramen in the interiors of a train car, Abashiri is a great place to eat!

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

Drive to Sounkyo Estimated driving time is approx. 2 hrs. 30 min.



Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner

Located at the base of Mt. Kurodake, this resort is tucked into Sounkyo Gorge, Hokkaido's largest and most spectacular gorge

Sounkyo Ice Festival

Slip & slide along massive ice structures and igloos at one of Hokkaido's best winter festivals

Overnight: Hotel Taisetsu or similar; no luxury-standard accommodation available at Sounkyo Onsen (dinner & breakfast included)



Day 7: Sounkyo Onsen & Asahikawa

Sounkyo Gorge 8 Frozen Waterfalls Snowshoeing Trail

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

Kurodake Ropeway & Snowshoeing

Ride the ropeway to the mid-mountain level for stunning views and a variety of snowshoeing trails for all levels

Lunch at Sounkyo Onsen

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

Drive to Asahiyama Zoo

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

Asahiyama Zoo & Penguin Parade

Learn about Hokkaido's endemic fauna at Hokkaido's best zoo & see the adorable penguin parade up close

Otokoyama Sake Brewery

Learn about the ancient technique of sake brewing at this century old brand; samples & purchases available

Drive to Sapporo

Estimated driving time is approx. 2 hrs.

Drop-off in Sapporo

Unfortunately, this marks the end of our tour together . . . until next time!

Tour Price

Tour Price (based on 2 pax)	¥628,700 pp
Sales Tax	¥62,870 pp
Total Tour Price	¥691,600 pp
5% Off Early-booking Tour Price*	¥657,000 pp

* Tour price is per person based on a mix of luxury-standard & 3/4 star accommodation; please inquire directly for exact quotes for groups other than 2 pax and/or other accommodation standards

* 5% Early-booking discount available for tours booked 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"> ✓ Tour guided by an English-speaking nature guide ✓ Private transportation in a 4wd vehicle ✓ Entry and participation fees for all activities listed in the itinerary, except winter festival activities ✓ 6 nights of luxury-standard hotel/ryokan accommodation whenever possible, including at least 1 night at a traditional ryokan with kaiseki dinner ✓ 5 hotel/ryokan dinners ✓ Daily hotel/ryokan breakfasts ✓ Hot springs entry fees and taxes ✓ Quality photos provided following the tour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily lunches • 1 dinner • Winter festival activities • Wi-Fi (please ask us about mobile Wi-Fi or SIM card rental from New Chitose Airport)



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Sample Hotels for HNT Custom-Made Tours	
Zaborin Ryokan	Niseko
★ Kuramura Ryokan	Otaru / Asarigawa
5 Umi no Bettei Furukawa Ryokan	Noboribetsu
★ JR Tower Hotel Nikko Sapporo	Sapporo
The Windsor Hotel Toya Resort & Spa	Lake Toya
Ki Niseko	Niseko
Lake Shikotsu Tsuruga Resort Spa Mizu no Uta	Lake Shikotsu
Akan Yuku no Sato Tsuruga	Lake Akan
★ Lake Toya Nanokaze Resort	Lake Toya
4 Sapporo Grand Hotel	Sapporo
New Furano Prince Hotel	Furano
★ Yunokawa Prince Hotel Nagisatei	Hakodate
Dai-ichi Takimotokan Resort	Noboribetsu Onsen Resort
Asahidake Yumoto Yukomanso Ryokan	Asahidake Onsen Resort
Natulux Hotel	Furano
Hotel Niseko Alpen	Niseko
★ Asahikawa Park Hotel	Asahikawa
3 Lake Toya Sun Palace Resort	Lake Toya
★ Kushiro Castle Hotel	Kushiro
Ibis Styles Sapporo	Sapporo
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. **Domestic Bank Transfer** (no additional charges other than remitter fees)
2. **International Bank Transfer** (subject to bank fees of ¥4,000 per transaction in addition to remitter fees)
3. **PayPal** (subject to PayPal fees of approximately 4% per transaction)

Deposit & Cancellation Policy

A minimum 50% deposit must be received in order to confirm your tour with us at HNT. Any cancellations by any participants made prior to 30 days before the start of a tour are eligible for a 50% deposit refund (e.g. appx. 25% of the total tour price). Any cancellations by any participants made within & including 30 days before the start of a tour are not eligible for a deposit refund. Remainder payments can be settled in advance of the tour (2 weeks prior preferred) OR in cash (yen only) upon pick-up on Day 1 of the tour. Please note that tour cancellations made due to government mandated travel bans on/by Japan vis-a-vis the guest's Country of Residence will be eligible for more lenient refund policies (please inquire for details).

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 due to reasons beyond the guest's control (such as weather related, unannounced closures, etc.), a refund will be provided for any missed activities, not including any cancellation fees imposed by hotels, operators or others.

Awards, Recognition & Social Media

2020/21 Luxury Travel Guide (LTG)
Private Tour Company of the Year, Global Awards

2019 Travel & Hospitality Awards Winner (THA)
Nature Tour Company of the Year, Japan

2018 Travel & Hospitality Awards Winner (THA)
Tour Company of the Year, Hokkaido, Japan

2017-2020 TripAdvisor
Certificate of Excellence / Travellers' Choice Awards

2017 Luxury Travel Guide (LTG)
Shortlisted, Asia & Australasia Awards

2016 - Present: All Nippon Travel Agents Association (ANTA)
Member, Hokkaido, Japan



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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)

"I can't speak highly enough of the organization: A professional guide service with a human touch, you won't go wrong with Hokkaido Nature Tours!" - Chris Tharp (America), National Geographic Traveller UK