



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 - 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 → Souunkyo 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 Marshland → Kushiro

Day 7: Kushiro → Shikaoi → 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
- ✓ 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 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 Winter Tour	Sample	Flexible-budget
Country of Residence	Tour Starting & Ending Points	Splurge
Sample	This itinerary assumes 8:30 AM pick-up from Sapporo on Day 1 (please confirm hotel details) & 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

Pick-up in Sapporo	Our guide will be waiting at the lobby of your hotel at 8:30 am to begin the tour; please confirm hotel details
Drive to Higashikawa	Estimated driving time is approx. 2 hrs. 30 min.
Higashikawa Craft Sites	The town of Higashikawa outside Asahikawa is famous as a handicraft village, especially in pottery, woodwork & photography, with a burgeoning café scene as well
Lunch in Higashikawa	Choose from a wide variety of small restaurants, many with original twists on classic Japanese staples including soba, udon, ramen & more



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Asahidake Freshwater Spring

Fill up your water bottles at this voluminous spring known for its abundance & pure tasting water owing to centuries of filtration from the substrata of the Mt. Asahidake volcano

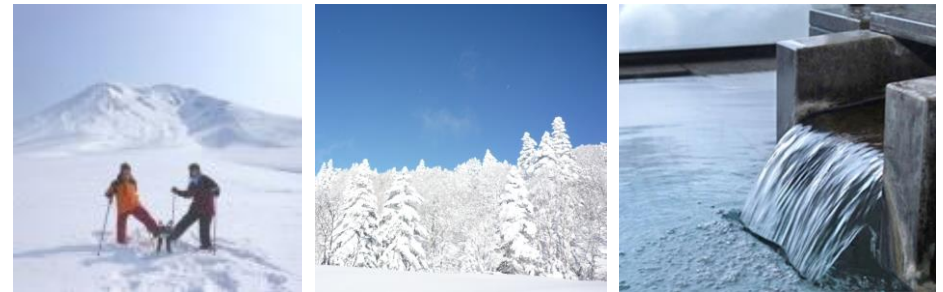
Asahidake Ropeway & Sugatami Highland Plateau Snowshoeing

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, Sounkyo 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 Sounkyo

Estimated driving time is approx. 1 hr. 30 min.

Lunch at Sounkyo Onsen

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

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

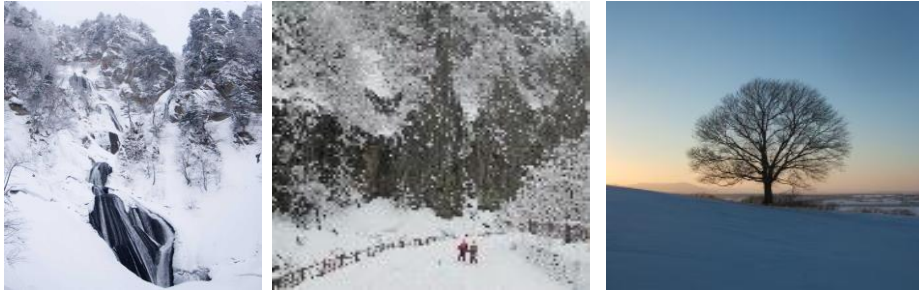
Drive to Abashiri

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)



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



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Day 5: Akan Lake District & 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

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

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: Tsurui Village, Kushiro Marshland & Kushiro

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

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 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

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

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

Dinner in Kushiro

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

Hotel Check-in

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

Overnight: Kushiro (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.
- Mitsui Outlet Mall** Last-minute international & Japanese brand-name shopping in the outskirts of Sapporo (if time permits)
- Drop-off in Sapporo** Unfortunately, this marks the end of our tour together . . . until next time!



Tour Price

Tour Price (based on 4 pax)	¥409,700 pp
Sales Tax	¥40,970 pp
Total Tour Price	¥450,700 pp
5% Off Early-booking Tour Price*	¥428,200 pp

* Tour price is per person based on 3/4 star accommodation; please inquire directly for exact quotes for groups other than 4 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 ✓ 6 nights of 3/4 star hotel/ryokan accommodation, with 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 • 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
★	Kuramure 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