



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

On this active, adventure-seeking, wildlife and nature-centered tour, you will maximize your time in Hokkaido's stunning nature while exploring Japan's largest national park at Daisetsuzan, and the UNESCO World Heritage Shiretoko Peninsula. The wildlife spotting opportunities are simply unmatched in Japan, with the chance to see both rare and common species that make up Eastern Hokkaido's plentiful bounty. For seafood gourmet, look no further than the fishing centers of Abashiri, Utoro & Rausu for some of Japan's highest-rated seafood, including crab and uni of course. Choosing the luxury hotel category also means you'll be staying in some of Hokkaido's finest establishments with multiple kaiseki dinners and a night in a traditional Japanese inn with a private onsen bath. We'll round off the tour with great sightseeing at flower festivals and nature spots for an incredible tour that you'll be talking about for years!



Highlights of the Tour

- ✓ Tour guided by an English-speaking nature guide in private transportation
- ✓ Guided walks & hikes, including Daisetsuzan National Park, Lake Mashu & Shiretoko 5 lakes
- ✓ Indulge in Hokkaido gourmet: crab, uni (sea urchin), impeccable seafood, kaiseki hotel dinners & local eateries
- ✓ Hokkaido's best whitewater rafting during the mid-May high-water period
- ✓ Extensive wildlife spotting: Hokkaido red foxes, Blakiston Fish Owl, whale watching, sables, Ezo deer, brown bears & more
- ✓ Visit the top two flower festivals in Eastern Hokkaido (late May - early June)
- ✓ Some of the best hotels & ryokans in Hokkaido, including one night in a traditional Japanese ryokan & one night with an in-room onsen



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: Chitose → Lake Shikotsu

Day 2: Lake Shikotsu → Hidaka
→ Furano

Day 3: Furano → Biei →
Asahidake Resort

Day 4: Asahidake Resort →
Sounkyo Gorge → Kamiyubetsu
→ Abashiri

Day 5: Abashiri → Utoro

Day 6: Utoro, Rausu

Day 7: Utoro → Lake Mashu → Yoroushi Onsen

Day 8: Yoroushi Onsen → Kushiro → Kushiro Airport



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 2 pax	Spring Sightseeing, Spring Gourmet, Hot Springs, Spring Wildlife, Ferry & Boat Excursions, Spring Hiking & Trekking, Adventure Activities	Mix of Active & Relaxation
Tour Dates	Personal Preferences	Budget
8 Day Tour, May - October	Sample	Luxury
Country of Residence	Tour Starting & Ending Points	Splurge
Sample	This itinerary assumes mid-morning pick-up from New Chitose Airport on Day 1 & morning departure from Kushiro Airport on Day 8	Nature Activities Accommodation Gourmet

Your Custom-Made Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Mt. Tarumae & Lake Shikotsu

Pick-up from New Chitose Airport

Our guide will be waiting at the arrival gate to begin your tour; **please confirm flight details**

Lunch at The Birdwatching Café

Have an early lunch at this unique birdwatching café to become acquainted with Hokkaido's birds while snacking on sandwiches and great coffee

Hike Mt. Tarumae

Hike into the heart of an active volcano with steaming sulfur fumaroles, stunning views and extended hiking options available. One of the best volcano hikes in Hokkaido. Hiking time appx. 2-4 hrs.

Lake Shikotsu Promenade & Nature Center

Stroll along the shores of Hokkaido's deepest lake and one of the clearest lakes in Japan; then visit the nearby Nature Center to learn about the park's endemic flora & fauna & geologic features in a short documentary

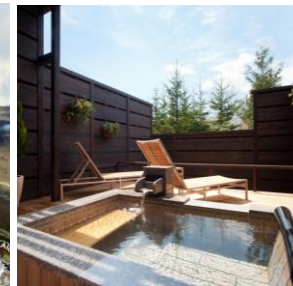
Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner

Stay at Lake Shikotsu's best resort, enjoy a healthy buffet, and soak in your own in-room private open-air bath

Hotel: Shikotsuko Resort Spa Mizu-no-Uta or similar (in-room private open air bath, dinner & breakfast buffets)

Mt. Tarumae Hike

Hiking Time	2-4 hrs.
Max Elevation	1,041 m.
Total Ascent & Descent	800-1,500 m.
Difficulty	Beginner to Intermediate
Notable Features	Lava Dome, fumaroles, volcanic tuff, panoramic views & easy access



Day 2: Hidaka & Furano

Hidaka Cherry Blossom Viewing

Sit beneath blooming sakura trees at the Tomigawa Nature Park in Hidaka, one of the last places in Japan to have cherry blossoms every year

Lunch in Hidaka Whitewater Rafting with HOA

Choose from a variety of local restaurants
Ride the rapids of Hokkaido's best river, the Saru Gawa, with level 4 rapids of snow-melt filled rivers

Drive to Furano

Driving time is approx. 1 hr. 30 min.

Furano Marche

A newly built shopping center showcasing local products



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Ningle Terrace	An artisan village of log houses set in a forest, where you can buy products directly from the artists themselves
Hotel Check-in & Onsen	Furano is one of Hokkaido's best mountain towns, great in every season
Dinner 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!
Hotel: New Furano Prince Hotel or similar (breakfast & spa entry included)	



Day 3: Tokachidake, Biei & Asahidake Onsen

Mt. Tokachidake Mountain Scenic Driving Road	A winding mountain road through the southern reaches of Daisetsuzan National Park
& Red Hokkaido Fox Spotting	Deer and Red Hokkaido Foxes can often be seen on this scenic mountain road
Fukiage Wild Hot Springs	A wild onsen set in a verdant forest; still worth seeing even if you're not bathing
Mt. Tokachidake Base Walk	Walk on the hardened lava of past eruptions at the base of Mt. Tokachidake, one of Hokkaido's most active and deadliest volcanoes
Biei Blue Pond & Shirahige Falls	Recently, the Blue Pond has become one of Hokkaido's premier sites – the nearby Shirahige Falls spill into the same milky-blue waters of the Biei River

Shikisai no Oka Flower Fields	In these vast, spectacular flower gardens you can ride a tractor, buggy, or pet the alpaca at the mini alpaca farm while enjoying epic views of the Daisetsuzan range
Lunch in Biei	We'll reserve lunch at the Michelin-star Asperges French cuisine restaurant
Drive to Asahidake Resort	Driving time approx. 1 hr.
Asahidake Freshwater Spring	Fill up your water bottles at this spring known for its pure tasting water
Asahidake Ropeway & Sugatami Highland Plateau Hike	Ride the ropeway up to a mid-mountain plateau below Hokkaido's highest peak to reach steaming fumaroles & small volcanic ponds, where you can extend the hike to reach the peak, to side trails or down via the ropeway
Hotel Check-in, Onsen & Dinner	Asahidake Resort is nestled at the base of Mt. Asahidake, Hokkaido's highest mountain
Hotel: Asahidake LaVista Resort or similar (dinner & breakfast included)	



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Day 4: Souunkyo Gorge, Kamiyubetsu & Lake Saroma

Souunkyo Gorge 8 Waterfalls Trail

Walk this spectacular waterfall-laden trail beneath the massive gorge, with a chance of spotting deer, white-tailed eagles, harlequin ducks and other wildlife

Lunch at Souunkyo Gorge

Recommended: Beer Grill Canyon for a fusion of Italian & Japanese cuisine with a focus on local ingredients

Drive to Kamiyubetsu

Driving time approx. 2 hrs. 30 min.

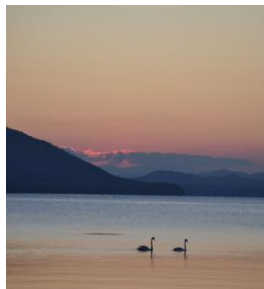
Kamiyubetsu Tulip Festival

Stroll around the Holland-inspired gardens among a million tulips at Hokkaido's best tulip festival

Hotel Check-in & Dinner

We'll aim to reserve a lake view room of Lake Saroma, Hokkaido's largest lake

Hotel: Lake Saroma Tsuruga Resort or similar (Sea of Okhotsk seafood special dinner & breakfast included)



Day 5: Abashiri & Utoro

Cape Notoro Scenic Drive

Enjoy the tranquil views at one of Japan's most remote capes replete with a classic lighthouse

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 about drift ice in Hokkaido, the southernmost place on earth with drift ice

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!

Higashimokoto Pink Moss Phlox Festival

Stroll through this park covered almost entirely in brilliant pink moss phlox

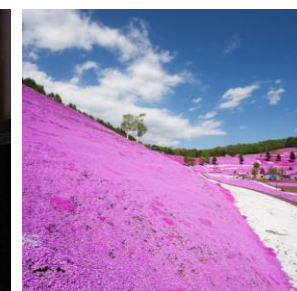
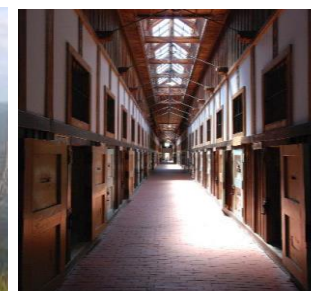
Utoro Port & Local Waterfalls

Walk through the famous fishing port, discover nearby waterfalls and dramatic seascapes

Hotel Check-in & Dinner

Utoro, located in the UNESCO World Heritage Shiretoko Peninsula, is one of Hokkaido's most famous seaside towns with incredible seafood

Hotel: Shiretoko Grand Hotel Kitakobushi or similar (in-room onsen with sea view, dinner & breakfast included)



Day 6: Shiretoko & Rausu

Shiretoko 5 Lakes Guided Hike

Take a 90 minute guided walk around the bear-filled UNESCO Shiretoko Five Lakes with a specialist Shiretoko nature guide to experience this remarkable habitat with a chance at spotting Higuma brown bears

Bear Spotting Scenic Drive

We'll take a scenic drive around Shiretoko Peninsula while trying to spot brown bears

Shiretoko Pass Scenic Drive

Enjoy a scenic drive with views of the disputed offshore Russian islands



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Lunch in Rausu	Rausu is said to have the best uni in Japan; Recommended: Jun no Banya, a historic building with local women working in a cooperative seaside restaurant specializing in seafood
Rausu Whale Watching Cruise	Take a 2.5 hour cruise through the bay in Rausu for a chance to see whales, dolphins, and orcas
Rausu Fishing Villages	Drive to the “end of the road” passing quaint fishing villages along the way
Return to Hotel & Dinner	Enjoy a 2 nd night at Utoro in the UNESCO World Heritage Shiretoko Peninsula
Hotel: Same as Day 5 (in-room onsen with sea view, dinner & breakfast included)	



Day 7: Mt. Iou, Lake Mashu, Mt. Kamuidake & Yoroushi Onsen

Mt. Iou Geothermal Park	Experience the active volcanic area of Mt. Iou, where sulfur vents billow from the ground
Lake Mashu Observatory	Gaze at the waters of the clearest lake in Japan, once rated as the clearest lake in the world!
Mt. Kamuidake Hike	Beginning at the unforgettable Lake Mashu viewpoint, the hike traverses around the crater rim and eventually reaches the dramatic volcanic remains of Mt. Kamuidake, a now inactive volcano. The summit area rewards visitors with precipitous cliff and lake views



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Bento Lunch on the Mountain	We'll stop to pick up your choice of bento lunch on the way to the mountain (self-pay)
Ryokan Check-in, Private onsen & Dinner	Understand the true meaning of Japanese inn hospitality at one of the best ryokan's in Hokkaido, and take a private onsen bath reserved just for you to soak away the fatigue from your hike
Nighttime Wildlife Spotting	Catch a glimpse of the rarest owl in the world, the huge Blakiston Fish Owl, who come to feed at the fish pond on the ryokan grounds; Japanese sables are also commonly spotted here; a true hidden gem!
Ryokan: Yoroushi Yuyado Daiichi Ryokan or similar (kaiseki dinner & breakfast included)	

Mt. Kamuidake Hike

Hiking Time	4-5 hrs.
Max Elevation	857 m.
Total Ascent & Descent	700 m.
Difficulty	Intermediate
Notable Features	Panoramic views, precipitous cliff, crater rim walk, limited vertical ascent



Day 8: Kushiro & Kushiro Airport

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 venders, or other seafood dishes
Drive to Kushiro Airport	Driving time approx. 45 min.
Drop-off at Kushiro Airport	Unfortunately, this marks the end of our tour together . . . until next time!

Tour Price

Tour Price (based on 2 pax)	¥695,900 pp
Sales Tax	¥69,590 pp
Total Tour Price	¥765,500 pp
5% Off Early-booking Tour Price*	¥727,200 pp

* Tour price is per person based on luxury-standard 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 ✓ 7 nights of luxury-standard accommodation whenever possible, with multiple nights at ryokans with kaiseki dinners & in-room onsen ✓ 6 hotel dinners, with at least 1 kaiseki dinner & 1 specialty dinner ✓ Daily hotel/ryokan breakfasts ✓ Multiple nights with private & in-room onsen experiences ✓ 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)

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

Policy & Payment Information

What to Bring

Day hiking backpack with rain cover · Windproof & waterproof jacket & pants · Winter hat · Thin gloves · Trekking boots · Trekking poles (if accustomed) · Non-cotton synthetic hiking shirts · Thick synthetic or wool socks · Thermal leggings · Water bottle · Headlamp · Sunglasses · Sunscreen · Small onsen towels

Please request our HNT Hiking 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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“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

What Our Guests are Saying



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