

# Nature and Snowshoeing and Culture 1 Day Winter Tour Around Niseko

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Iwanai Town, Tomari Village, and Kamoenai Village are located on the west side of Hokkaido, where herring fishing has flourished since the late Edo period (late 1700s). Based on the legend of a Dragon God that has been passed down in stories in the region, this tour includes snowshoeing to see frozen waterfalls that can only be seen in winter in the Niseko area, and a traditional village game called "Houbiki." Houbiki is living history - an experience tied to the legacy of herring fishing - and gives a chance to enjoy interacting with local residents. Experience an adventure with heart-to-heart exchanges with local residents.

### Highlights:

- Snowshoeing around Niseko to view ice waterfalls that can only be seen in winter.
- Authentic Hokkaido dining experience at a beloved neighborhood eatery where you can enjoy dishes made with local seafood.
- Heart-to-heart exchanges with local residents through the experience of "treasure pulling" - a traditional game in the village and a living history experience program tied to the legacy of herring fishing.

### Location:

Iwanai Town, Tomari Village, and Kamoenai Village are located on the west side of Hokkaido.

**Main Activity:** Snowshoeing, a traditional village game called "Houbiki"

**Difficulty:** 2 (Easy active)

**Tour Dates:** 1st February, 2024 – 15th March, 2024

**Pax:** Minimum 2                      Maximum 6

**Price:** JPY 45,900

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[Day-by-day Itinerary](#)

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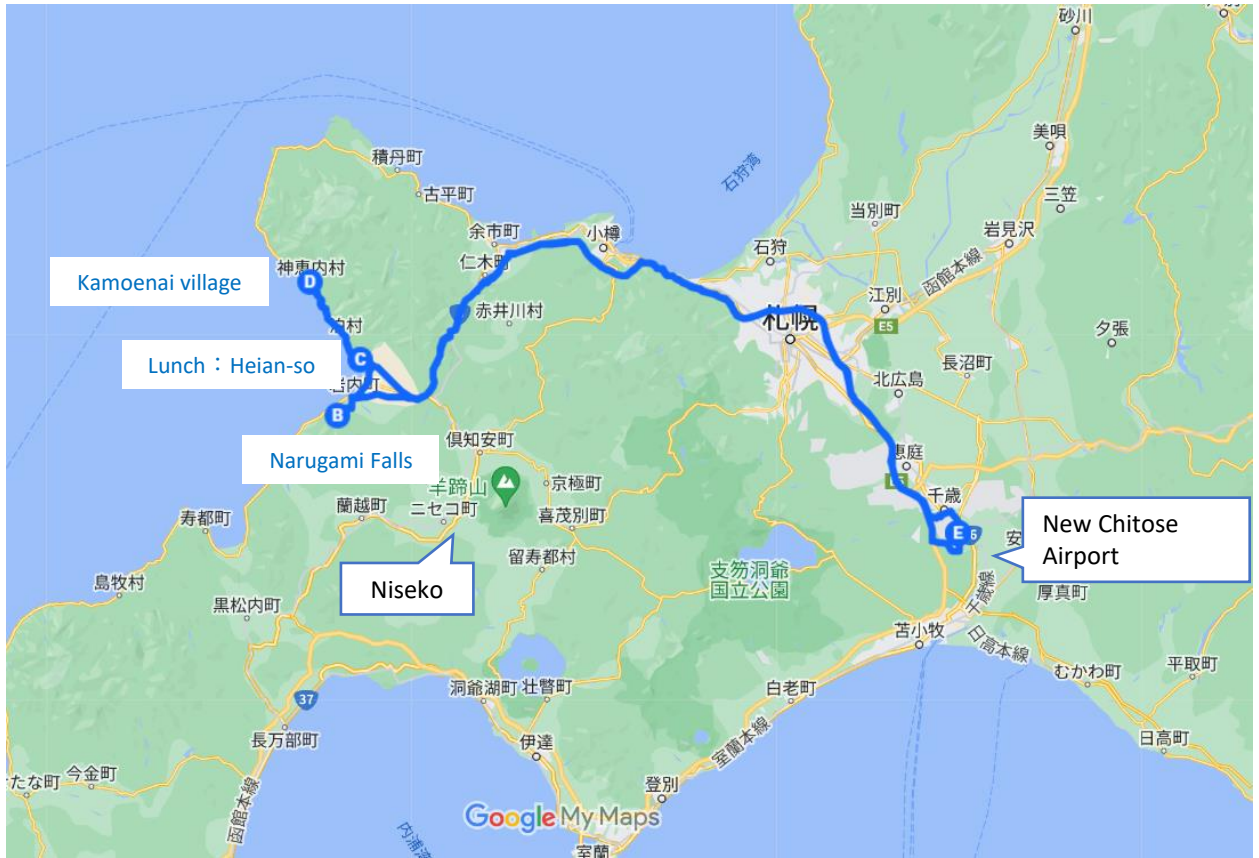
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# Route map



## Day-by-day Itinerary

8 : 00 Pick up at New Chitose Airport and meet up with your guide

Travel time: approx. 2.5 hours

10 : 30~12 : 30 Snowshoeing to see waterfalls in Iwanai town

Narugami Falls is the site of a local legend about two dragons that lived here.

Duration : Approx. 2 hours

Guide : H2O Adventure Mr. Tsunehiro Iori

Distance : Approx. 2 km round trip on basic flat snow-covered road . Elevation difference of about 10m

13 : 00~14 : 00 Lunch at Heian-so in Tomari village ( local restaurant )

In an area that has long thrived on fishing (mainly herring), fresh seafood is served at restaurants frequented by locals.

14 : 30~15 : 30 Interaction with local residents through the experience of "Treasure Drawing," a traditional game in Kamoenai village

Along with the legend of the dragon god of Narugami Falls from the morning, a story has been passed down in Kamoenai Village that a giant snake descended from the Toumaru Pass down the river to the mouth of the river, and from Cape Ryujin located in the village it ascended to the heavens as a dragon. We will introduce the story through an exchange experience.

Duration : Approx. 1 hour

18 : 30 Arrive at New Chitose Airport and disperse

### Lunch

Authentic Hokkaido dining experience at a beloved neighborhood eatery where you can enjoy dishes made with local seafood.

In addition to seafood, you can also choose from noodle and meat menus.

**Activity:** Snowshoeing, a traditional village game called "Houbiki"

**Difficulty:** 2 (Easy active)

## What's included

- lunch
- All the activity fees mentioned in the itinerary
- All transportation as described in the itinerary
- Snacks and refreshments
- English speaking Japanese guide(s)
- Insurance

## Not included

- Airfares
- Personal expenses
- Alcoholic drinks or beverages not included meals

# We provide & What to bring

## **We provide**

- Snowshoes, poles for snowshoeing tours.

## **What to bring**

- Clothing suitable for snowshoeing and a change of clothes
- Waterproof shoes (preferably boots)
- Gloves
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Towel

## **Recommended items**

- Rations

## About us

We are Hokkaido Treasure Island Travel (HTIT), an award-winning team of creators of unique, perfectly tailored Hokkaido travel experiences. The HTIT Team is deeply connected to Hokkaido, in northern Japan. In 2004, HTIT started its journey as the pioneer of a new style of adventure travel by sharing the treasures of Hokkaido. We are constantly opening new doors and making local destinations previously inaccessible for travelers available all over Hokkaido. We provide a compelling combination of personal and professional travel advice, knowledge beyond that of a guidebook, and behind the scenes access to places and authentic local experiences generally not available for the public. Our mission is to create for you a journey of a lifetime every time you travel with us.



## Guides



Aya Masuyama

- National Government Licensed Interpreter Guide
- Hokkaido Certified Outdoor Guide
- Wilderness Advanced First Aid

Aya is a National Government Licensed Interpreter Guide in Japan. She was born and grew up in Tokyo. After graduating from university, Aya worked for an IT company in Tokyo and was just a general housewife. What changed her lifestyle dramatically was moving to Hokkaido for their small children. As both the couple grew up outside Hokkaido, she fell in love with Hokkaido where she can feel this nature, fresh air, and the distinguished four seasons. By chance, she was able to enroll her children in a unique kindergarten. A small kindergarten was quietly built at the bottom of mountain in Sapporo. Here, the children grew up in nature quickly, and from the encounter with wonderful teachers and parents who permeated the outdoors, she herself became a volunteer and became absorbed in the outdoors, and finally acquired the qualification of a nature guide. Parenting was fun and she was even more interested in what her children were interested in, immersing herself in it, learning, and increasing her outdoor guide experience one after another. She studied English again and began to convey the charm of Hokkaido to foreigners, too. Knowledge and experienced as a nature guide, knowledge of Japanese culture such as shrine, Ainu, and Jumon, and her greatest interest now is geoscience! She has full of passion to introduce this loved Hokkaido and support traveler's great time while enjoying everything!



Tsunehiro Iori

- Certified Hokkaido Outdoor Guide (Summer & winter trekking)
- JMGA Trekking Guide II
- Wilderness Advanced First Aid



# Information and Requirements

## **Dietary Restrictions**

We believe that eating like the locals is the best way of experiencing Hokkaido's unique culture. However, we understand that it is not possible for everyone to do this and we are more than happy to cater for food allergies, dietary restrictions, and special requirements. If you have any diet restrictions or preferences, please tell us in the Registration Form at the time of booking, and we will do our best to accommodate your dietary needs.

In some rural areas particularly, we may ask you for some flexibility. For example, if you require halal food, we may be able to substitute for a vegetarian option instead. For those who are allergic to MSG, please be aware that it may be difficult to arrange a good alternative at every meal in Japan. Some of our overseas guests in the past found it difficult to find ready-made foods completely free of MSG, especially when buying from convenience stores. Most Japanese supermarkets sell simple foods like plain bread, boiled eggs, vegetables, and fruits, so you should always be able to find something suitable. The most important thing about dietary requirements is to let us know in advance so we can prepare and organize the foods you need.

## **Emergency Response Plan**

Your safety is our top priority, closely followed by fun and comfort! All our tour guides have years of guiding experience in the outdoors under their belt. We require all of our guides to be certified as Advanced First-Aid Responders or in Wilderness First-Aid. At all times our guides will carry a first-aid kit, as well as have an extra kit in the vehicle. Depending on the terrain and the potential risks it poses for each trip, our guides will also have the necessary safety and climbing equipment. In case of heavy rain, strong winds, or other unsafe weather conditions for activities such as hiking or canoeing, there may be times where we must change the tour plan. In such cases we will try to substitute the original activity with alternatives such as sightseeing, visiting museums, or hot springs. We take charge of turning a bad day around into a fun day!

# Reservation & Cancellation Policy

## Reservation

When we receive your reservation request we will send you an email with a link to a page on our website, where it asks you to fill in the Registration Form. We will ask for your contact details and personal information such as your height and dietary requirements in order for us to adequately organise and arrange the tour service. Once the Registration Form is completed, you will be taken to the Shopping cart to review your booking, and finally onto the Check Out page to make the payment (Deposit/Full) to secure the booking.

## Payment Methods

We will send a booking confirmation by email with an invoice requesting a deposit

- \* A 20% Deposit is required for the confirmation of the booking.
- \* The remaining cost(Balance Payment) is due 21 days before your arrival.
- \* Payment is acceptable by Credit card or Bank Transfer:
  - A. Credit card
    - \* We will send you a link with a form to fill in your credit card details
  - B. Bank Transfer
    - \* Please process the payment from your local bank in Yen.
    - \* All Transaction Fees will be paid by remitter

## Cancellation

- Cancellation fees apply from 10 days prior to the travel starting date
- 20% of the tour price will apply 10 days prior to the travel starting date
- 30% of the tour price will apply 7 days prior to the travel starting date
- 40% of the tour price will apply 1 days prior to the travel starting date
- 50% of the tour price will apply on the travel starting date
- 100% of the tour price will apply after the start of the tour or the traveler does not participate in the Tour without notice

# Disclaimer

## **Assumption of risk and safety declaration**

Travelers are advised that all activities are undertaken entirely at their own risk and they must behave in a fit and proper manner at all times in accordance with Hokkaido Treasure Island Travel Inc's guidelines. All adventure tours and outdoor activities carry inherent risks and Hokkaido Treasure Island Travel Inc nor its partners do not assume any responsibility for accidents that are caused by its customers or caused by factors outside of human control.

With the purchase of your trip you acknowledge that:

By its very nature, adventure travel, hiking and cycling tours are more challenging and demanding with a significantly higher level of risk, and involve potential exposure to injury and possibly death.

Additional dangers and risks associated with adventure travel may include difficult and dangerous terrain; high altitude; extremes of weather, including sudden and unexpected changes; political instability; remoteness from normal medical services and from communications; and evacuation difficulties in the event of illness or injury.

You must follow our guide's instructions and use any safety equipment provided at all times. For the above reasons you accept the inherent and increased dangers and risks associated with the proposed adventure and the accompanying risk of injury, death or property damage or loss.

## **Our Responsibilities and Exemptions from Responsibility**

All Travelers are required to acknowledge the Terms and Conditions that we provide to them before contracting with us. The Traveler acknowledges that he or she understands the Terms and Conditions, as well as the following information about exemptions from our responsibility.

- We shall be responsible for compensating any damage caused to the Traveler intentionally or negligently by us or by our agent in the performance of this Contract. However, this shall be limited to cases when we have received notice within two years from the time when the accident occurred.

- Except as provided in the preceding Paragraph, we will not be responsible for compensation in the following cases:

- (1) Acts of providence
- (2) Maelstrom of war or civil commotion
- (3) Suspension of Tour Services including transport and accommodation facilities
- (4) Orders from government and public agencies
- (5) Other causes beyond our control or the control of our agents

**Tour Operator / Contact**

***Hokkaido Treasure Island Travel Inc.***

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Chuo-ku, Sapporo City, Hokkaido, Japan

