

Historical walking and indigo dyeing experience

1 Day Tour in Date, Hokkaido, a city at the foot of Mt.Usu



Date, a town at the foot of Mt. Usu, has long attracted people with its rich fishing grounds and soil. In 1870, Kunishige Date moved to the area for pioneering, and developed Date while coexisting with the Japanese and Ainu people who have lived in the area before. In this tour, through the walking activity in the morning, a guide will introduce the connection between the geographical features brought by Mt. Usu and local industries, as well as the history of Hokkaido's development, to discover the hidden charm of Date. In the afternoon, we will visit an indigo dyeing studio and enjoy an indigo dyeing experience in Date, the second largest indigo producer in Japan. This is a trip where new adventures and traditional culture intersect.

Highlights:

- Walking with a Hokkaido Adventure Travel Guide, filled with a deep love for the area.
- Learn about the thoughts of the adventurers who pioneered Hokkaido and the history of coexistence with the people.
- Learn about the industries in Date that developed from the topography and soil the brought by Mt. Usu.
- The beautiful view of the coastline of Uchiura Bay.
- Visit Usu Zenkoji Temple, known as the “Temple of Flowers”.
- Observe various kinds of Hokkaido flowers in Poronotto Forest Park (April and May).
- Indigo dyeing experience using locally grown natural indigo.

Location:

Date City is located in the southwestern part of Hokkaido. The city faces Mt. Usu and Mt. Showa Shinzan to the northwest and Eruption Bay (Uchiura Bay) to the south.
From Sapporo, approximately 2 hours by JR train.

Main Activity: Walking

Difficulty: 2 (Easy Active)

Tour Dates: April - October

Pax: Minimum 1 Maximum 4

Price: For 1 participant in a group 68,800 JPY per person
For 2-4 pax participants in a group 43,800 JPY per person

[Route map](#)

[Day-by-day Itinerary](#)

[What's included](#)

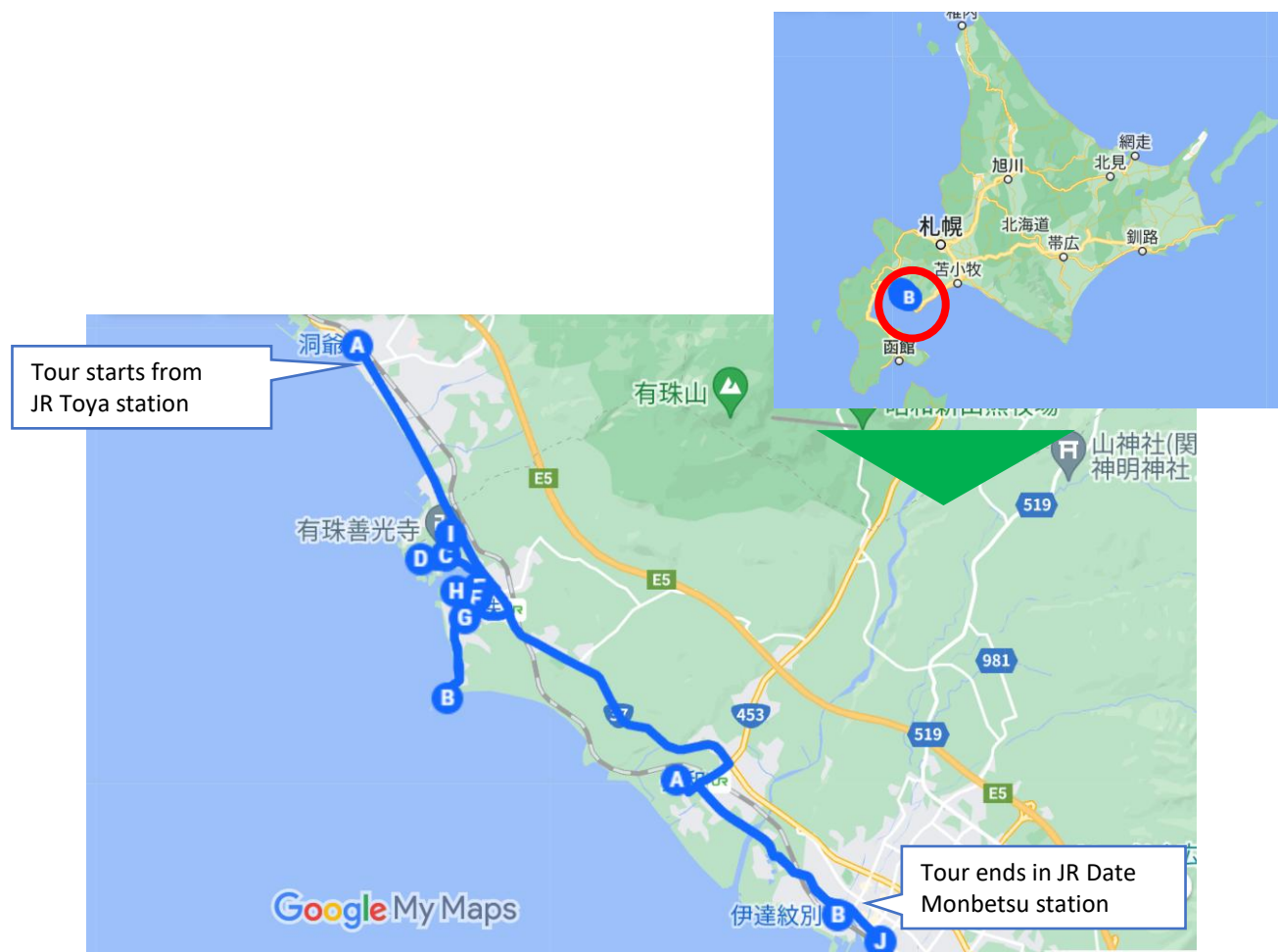
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Route map



Walking map



Day-by-day Itinerary

Day 1

9:00 Meet

Meet the guide at Toya Station or Accommodation in Toyako Onsen area.

Rie Egawa accompanies as a certified Hokkaido Adventure Travel Guide recognized in Hokkaido.

9:20-9:40 Cape Arutori

We will view Mt. Usu, the beautiful coastline, and the city of Date from a scenic view point. We will view the topographical features formed by the collapse of Mt. Usu and seek the reason why people once gathered here to live.

9:50-11:30 Date Historical walking

Discover the charm of Date by experiencing the history of Hokkaido's pioneering spirit! Walking along the coast, you will explore the history of a region that was once a spiritual center for people and a place where diverse beliefs coexisted. You can also enjoy beautiful flowers in spring.

[Walking route]

Usu Zenkoji Temple - Usu Fishing Port - Zenkoji Temple Ousuyama Jizo Hall - Ousuyama Shrine - The Memorial Church of Mr. and Mrs. Batchelor - Poronotto Forest Park - Zenkoji Nature Park

Activity:	Walking
Difficulty:	2 (Easy Active)
Distance:	approx. 6-7 km in total (can be adjusted depending on participants' fitness and interest)
Time:	1 hour 40 min

Lunch

Shokado Bento Box including Japanese dishes at local Japanese restaurant.

Day-by-day Itinerary

13:00-15:00 Indigo dyeing experience

After lunch, we will visit the studio of an indigo dyeing artist, AIZOME 『I』 , where we will have the opportunity to experience indigo dyeing using natural indigo produced in Date, the second-largest indigo producer in Japan. This immersive experience will introduce you to the fascinating world of indigo.

*You may bring up to two items (total weight 200g) to dye. If the total weight exceeds 200g, an additional fee will be charged on-site. If you do not bring any items, a tenugui hand towel (92cm in length) will be provided for dyeing.

Activity:	Indigo dyeing – Cultural experience
Difficulty:	1 (Relaxed)

15:30 End of Tour

Tour ends at JR Date Mombetsu Station or Accommodation in Toyako Onsen area.

What's included

- Lunch x 1
- All the activity fees mentioned in the itinerary
- All transportation mentioned in the itinerary
- An English speaking Japanese guide

What's not included

- Personal expenses
- Alcoholic drinks or beverages not included meals
- Travel Insurance

We provide & What to bring

We provide

【Indigo Dyeing Experience】

- Apron
- Rubber gloves

What to bring

【Walking】

- Rainwear
- Backpack
- Drinks (water bottle is recommended)
- Comfortable shoes for walking

Recommended Items:

- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses

【Indigo Dyeing Experience】

Recommended Items:

- Clothes that can get dirty

About us

JTB -- “Perfect moments, always.”

The JTB Group traces its roots back to 1912 when “Japan Tourist Bureau” was formed to attract international travelers to Japan and assist with their travel needs. While our activities and clientele have expanded greatly since then, the JTB Group remains aligned around a core purpose: bringing people, places and possibilities together. Developing innovative services and solutions that enable our customers to connect more deeply and meaningfully. Contributing to the creation of sustainable communities and a more peaceful and interconnected planet.

No matter how the world changes, the JTB Group remains as committed now as we were 108 years ago to delivering unrivaled excitement, value and satisfaction. At its essence, JTB’s legacy resides in the bonds of trust we have forged with our customers, communities and stakeholders.

The JTB Group is poised to embark on the next exciting chapter in its incredible journey, staying attuned to and aligned with the evolving needs of a new era, maintaining its position as a digital trailblazer, and delivering real value that our customers can feel.



Guides



Rie Egawa (Sotoasobu)

【Qualifications】

- ◆Hokkaido Outdoor Certified Excellent Guide (Nature)
- ◆Hokkaido Adventure Travel Activity Guide (Nature)
- ◆Wilderness Advanced First Aid (WAFA)
- ◆Leave No Trace Instructor
- ◆Toya-Usu Volcano Meister
- ◆NEAL nature experience activity instructor and more.

Information and Requirements

Dietary Restrictions

If you have any dietary restrictions or allergies, please let us know in advance. We will provide you alternatives to the best of our abilities.

Vegetarian options are available for lunch on this tour, excluding meat and fish on an ingredient basis, but please note that fish-based ingredients will be included in the soup stock.

Emergency Response Plan

In Hokkaido, we have established the Hokkaido Outdoor Qualification System so that everyone can enjoy outdoor activities in nature safely and securely throughout the four seasons. Qualified guides who pass the practical assessments have skills related to lifesaving and emergency first-aid, and a fundamental knowledge of Hokkaido and activities as a professional. Please be assured that any activity guide who accompanies you will be certified.

In the event of an accident, your guide will respond promptly in cooperation with local medical personnel.

Reservation & Cancellation Policy

Payment Methods

Only payments by credit card will be accepted.

Cancellation

*Cancellation fee (per person)

- Cancellations from the 10th to 8th day starting from the day before the start date of the trip... 20% of the travel fee
- Cancellations from the 7th to 2nd day starting from the day before the start date of the trip... 30% of the travel fee
- Cancellation the day before the start date of the trip... 40% of the tour fee
- Cancellation on the day of the start date of the trip (exclude (1) below) ... 50% of the tour fee
- Cancellation after the start of the trip or no contact, no participation (1) ... 100% of the tour fee

Disclaimer

In case of light rain, the tour will be held. However, in the event of a typhoon or rainstorm, the tour may be cancelled. In case of bad weather, the walking route may be changed.

Tour Operator / Contact



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