

VOLCANO BAY FOOD ADVENTURE



The setting for this adventure is southern Hokkaido, a historical region that has been impacted by active volcanoes since time immemorial. This repeated volcanic activity has reshaped the land, while the communities here have long benefited from agriculture and fishing.

The sea on the Pacific side is known as Funka-wan (lit. Eruption Bay). The name is said to derive from “Volcano Bay,” which was how a lieutenant aboard a British research ship described the stretch of water when visiting in 1796. Volcanoes, including Mount Komagatake and Mount Usu, surround the bay.

The natural environment of the area supports diverse ecosystems and provides an abundance of food. On this trip, you are encouraged to spend time in the nature created by these active volcanoes and interact with the local people through various activities, not least of which includes food.

Head out to sea with local fishermen, taste mineral-rich kelp and pick vegetables grown in greenhouses on volcanically active land. Enjoy a barbecue of the food you have collected throughout the day and get to know some of the locals (over a few glasses of sake). It’s the best way to enjoy the taste of Hokkaido.

Trekking through old mines and canoeing are great ways to experience both physically and mentally the magnificence of the nature created by these active volcanoes. A guide with a deep knowledge of the area will explain everything you need to know about local history and culture. End your trip trekking on Mt. Usu and see up close how the topography has been affected by repeated volcanic activity.

Highlights

- Spend time with kelp fishermen and learn about dashi, the kelp stock used widely in Japanese cuisine.
- Interact with farmers practicing geothermal agriculture in the caldera area.
- Canoe across Lake Onuma, which was created by an eruption of Komagatake.
- Hike and fish in an old mining area.
- Nature walk in Shiretoko across active volcano Mt. Usu, which has erupted four times in the past 100 years.

Location Hakodate, Lake Toya, South Hokkaido

Main Activity: Local interaction (food)

Difficulty: Revel 1

Availability: Recommended from May until September

Tour Duration: 4Nights 5Days

Pax: Minimum 4 Maximum 10

Price: JPY
230,000

[Route map](#)

[Day-by-day Itinerary](#)

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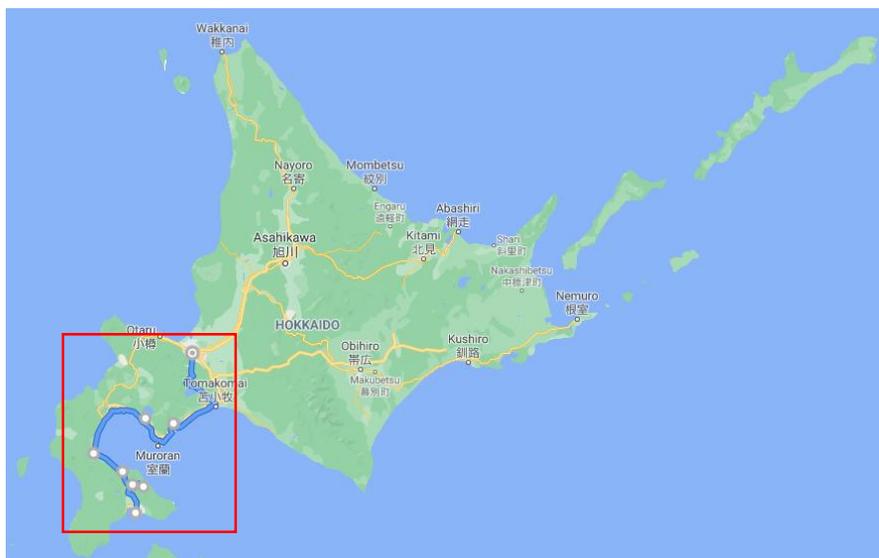
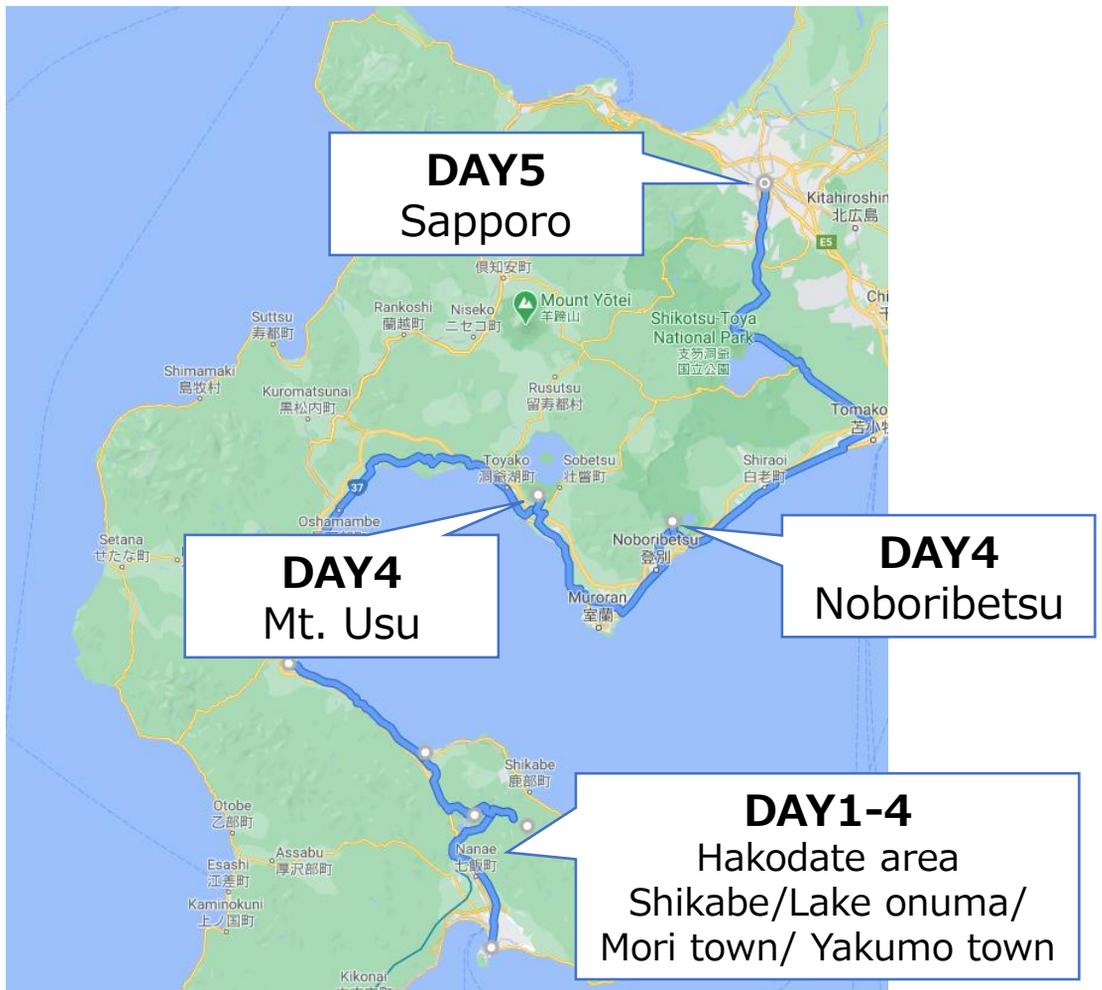
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Route map



Day-by-day Itinerary

Day 1 – Head to Hakodate

Travel by Hokkaido Shinkansen or airplane to Hakodate.

Check in to your hotel.

Please make your own dinner arrangements and get a good night's sleep.

Day 2 – Kelp cruise

After breakfast at the hotel, there is an orientation session for about one hour.

We introduce ourselves and your local guide explains the history of the active volcanoes, which are the main features of this tour. It takes about one hour by private vehicle to the Shikabe area. Here you begin your tour with an ocean cruise among the kelp.

Washoku is registered as UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage. Dashi, a soup stock made from kelp, is at the heart of Japanese food culture." During this cruise, you can observe the marine environment in which kelp flourishes.

Sail into Shikabe Bay with local fisherman to observe kelp aquaculture. Mt. Yotei, Mt. Showa Shinzan and Mt. Komagatake are visible on clear days.

Finally, head to Shamisen Falls. Nutrients from this waterfall flow into the sea and support the kelp. At lunchtime, help to prepared lunch with women from the Shikabe Fisheries Cooperative. Enjoy a range of food containing kelp, such as onigiri rice balls. Taste the splendor of kelp that grows in this southern Hokkaido area.

Lunch Shikabe Agricultural Cooperative
Kelp cuisine, such as onigiri rice balls, miso soup, etc.

In the afternoon, leave for Lake Onuma, about 30 minutes away, for a few hours of canoeing. Onuma is a natural lake created by the impact of volcanic activity. Enjoy the seasonal flowers that bloom along its banks, the peculiar spring water and a paddle around the islands (canoeing areas change depending on the season). Spend a relaxing time on the lake while enjoying views of Komagatake.

Dinner Local sushi restaurant

Activity	Kelp cruise and Canoueing
Difficulty	1

Day 3

–Vegetable picking, exploring an old mine and fishing

After breakfast at your hotel, travel by private car for about 40 minutes to Morimachi. Here, visit farmers growing vegetables in greenhouses that take advantage of geothermal activity. Change into work clothes and boots and then head off for a tour of the area under the guidance of a local farmer. Afterwards, pick a selection of seasonal vegetables. (Available vegetable types depend on the season.) You may also take part in processing vegetables using machinery.

The farmers here are a mixed bunch. Some come from generations of farmers while others are new to agriculture, having quit their city jobs and moved onto the land.

Enjoy picking vegetables and learning more about the farmers' lives and their methods. And, of course, don't hesitate to try some of the vegetables there and then.

Enjoy lunching on the vegetables you have picked at Sento, an old bathhouse turned guesthouse. This 100-year-old building was a public bath in the Taisho and Showa eras. Today it houses a restaurant specializing in dishes made using locally harvested produce. The restaurant area is within the renovated bath area itself. The atmosphere of the old bathhouse remains and provides an opportunity for some fascinating photos.

Lunch

Old bathhouse Sento

Lunch menu includes vegetables picked during the morning

Next, set off for an expedition that passes through an old mine and includes time spent fishing in a mountain river. With your local guide, hike through the area while learning about the history and work culture of the mines which owe their existence to the region's volcanic activity. Actual hiking time is about two hours. During the hike, spend one to two hours fishing in a mountain river. Any fish you catch will be barbecued later for dinner, so do your best to catch as many as you can.

Dinner

Barbecue area

Enjoy an authentic Hokkaido barbecue, with all ingredients, such as Yakumo sausage and scallops caught in the bay, from the immediate area and even the charcoal locally produced.

Activity	Vegetable picking / Hiking/ Fishing
Difficulty	1

Day 4 –Trekking on Mt. Usu

Spend some time relaxing at your hotel after breakfast. The late checkout is designed to allow you to recharge your batteries after all the activity of the previous day. Leave the hotel at around 11:00 and head to Lake Toya by private vehicle

Lunch Local restaurant

After lunch, make your way to Mt. Usu Geopark for the start of the trek. The volcano guide will first provide a brief explanation of the history of Mt. Usu. The upward trek follows a mountain trail and lasts for about three hours. The descent is by ropeway.

Millions of years of volcanic activity have resulted in a varying topography that is fascinating to hike through.

End your hike with a rest and a delicious ice cream. You've deserved it.

Once you are fully refreshed, your private vehicle will take you to Noboribetsu Onsen for your last night's stay.

End your hike with a rest and a delicious ice cream. You've deserved it.

Soothe away the fatigue of the day at this hot spring village. Noboribetsu would not exist if it were not for the crater formed by the eruption of Mount Hiyori. Tonight's dinner is a special feast and a chance for you to come together, enjoy the magnificent spread and exchange stories of your time among the volcanoes of southern Hokkaido.

Once you are fully refreshed, your private vehicle will take you to Noboribetsu Onsen for your last night's stay.

Dinner Kaiseki cuisine at your ryokan

Activity	Trekking
Difficulty	1

Day 5 Head to Sapporo

On the last day of the tour, travel the two hours by private vehicle to Sapporo, Hokkaido's largest city. Although the tour ends here, your culinary adventures continue. A tour operator will be on hand to help you if you wish to discover the rich dining culture one of Japan's foodie capitals. Thick ramen, grilled mutton, soup curry and seafood on rice are just some of the hearty dishes that await you.

Lunch Free

Dinner Free

Accommodations

DAY1-DAY3(2nights)

Location: Shikabe area

Type: Hotel/Private room

Hot springs: There is hot spring

DAY 3 -DAY 4 (1night)

Location: Yakumo town

Type: Guest house/Private room or dormitory

Hot springs: No hot spring, please use shower rooms.

DAY4-DAY5(1night)

Location: Noboribetsu

Type: Ryokan/Private room

Hot springs: There is hot spring

What's included

- English speaking guide and well experienced activity guide
- Accommodation 4nights
- Meals (4 breakfast, 3 lunch and 3 dinner)
- Coach for transfer from the hotel to Sapporo area(Second to Final day)
- Safety equipment
- Activity fee

What's not included

- Tip
- Personal expense
- Alcoholic beverage
- Travel insurance

We provide & What to bring

We provide

- Safety equipment
- First aid repair kit

What to bring

Upper and lower body

- Hat or Cap
- Comfortable clothing (long sleeved shirts and long pants)
- Cold weather wear (such as fleece jacket)
- Gloves
- Polarized sunglasses
- Reusable water bottle (Please support conservation of our planet!)
- Rain jacket
- Towel
- Face masks
- Cash
(Small shops and restaurant still can accept only cash, so we recommend you to exchange money after arriving airport in Japan.)

*Please bring any prescription medications, asthma inhalers or epi-pens that may require.

Optional

- Camera
- Sunscreen lotion
- Wind jacket
- Binoculars

About us



Perfect moments, always

JTB -- "Perfect moments, always."

The JT B 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 JT B 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 JT B Group remains as committed now as 108 years ago to delivering unrivaled excitement, value and satisfaction. At its essence, JT B's legacy resides in the bonds of trust we have forged with our customers, communities and stakeholders.

The JT B 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

Well experienced local guide

Information and Requirements

Dietary Restrictions

If you have food restrictions, allergy to nuts or seafood, or if you are a special vegetarian, vegan or gluten-free, please let us know in advance and we will provide you alternatives as much as possible.

Emergency Response Plan

There are mobile phone receptions at all accommodations. If any unexpected accident happens, the guide will promptly respond in cooperation with a nearby medical institution.

If any problems occur such as broken gear or minor mechanical equipment problems, rest assured, we will assist you.

Weather Conditions

South Hokkaido is the area in Hokkaido where you can feel the four distinct seasons.

The area is very humid, so there is a lot of precipitation and the humidity tends to be higher than in other parts of Hokkaido.

The temperature in March is around 2 degrees, but in April and May, the temperature tends to exceed 10 degrees. From July to September, it's full-blown summer and you may get a little sweaty, but it's still warm and comfortable, with temperatures in the upper 20s. From October, the temperature drops to about 13 degrees, and from November, the winter temperature is about 6 degrees, not much different from Tokyo.

Reservation & Cancellation Policy

Payment Methods

Trip Price : JPY380,000

Only payments by credit card will be accepted.

The due date for the payment is August 1st, 2021. Please note that payments will not be accepted after this date.

[How to pay by credit card]

The credit cards listed below can be used to make payments.

Your credit card statement will show that the payment has been made to the name of JTB Corp., which is the agent handling registration.

Visa, MasterCard®, JCB, AMEX, Diners Club

Cancellation

*In case of cancellation, your deposit will be refunded after deducting the cancellation fees as shown below.

*JTB shall make the corresponding refund within the 7th day from the next day of cancellation, when effecting refund before tour departure.

*Cancellation Fee when notice is given:

21 or more days prior to the departure date of the tour	N/A
8-20 days prior to the departure date of the tour	20% of the tour fee
2-7 days prior to the departure date of the tour	30% of the tour fee
1 day prior to the day of departure	40% of the tour fee
On the day of departure	50% of the tour fee
After the day of departure, or in case of failure to show without notice	100% of the tour fee

Disclaimer

Trip Cancellation: JTB reserves the right to cancel or change the itinerary of a tour. In the event of the tour being cancelled, we will refund 100% of your costs.

Weather conditions are never severe enough to warrant cancelling a tour, only a truly exceptional event that cannot be predicted could lead to a cancellation.

JTB is not responsible for compensating any additional costs such as flights.

[Terms and Conditions for Agent-organized Tour](#)

Tour Operator / Contact

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Perfect moments, always