

The Northern Hokkaido Sustainability Experience: Forests, Farming, & Cultural Interaction

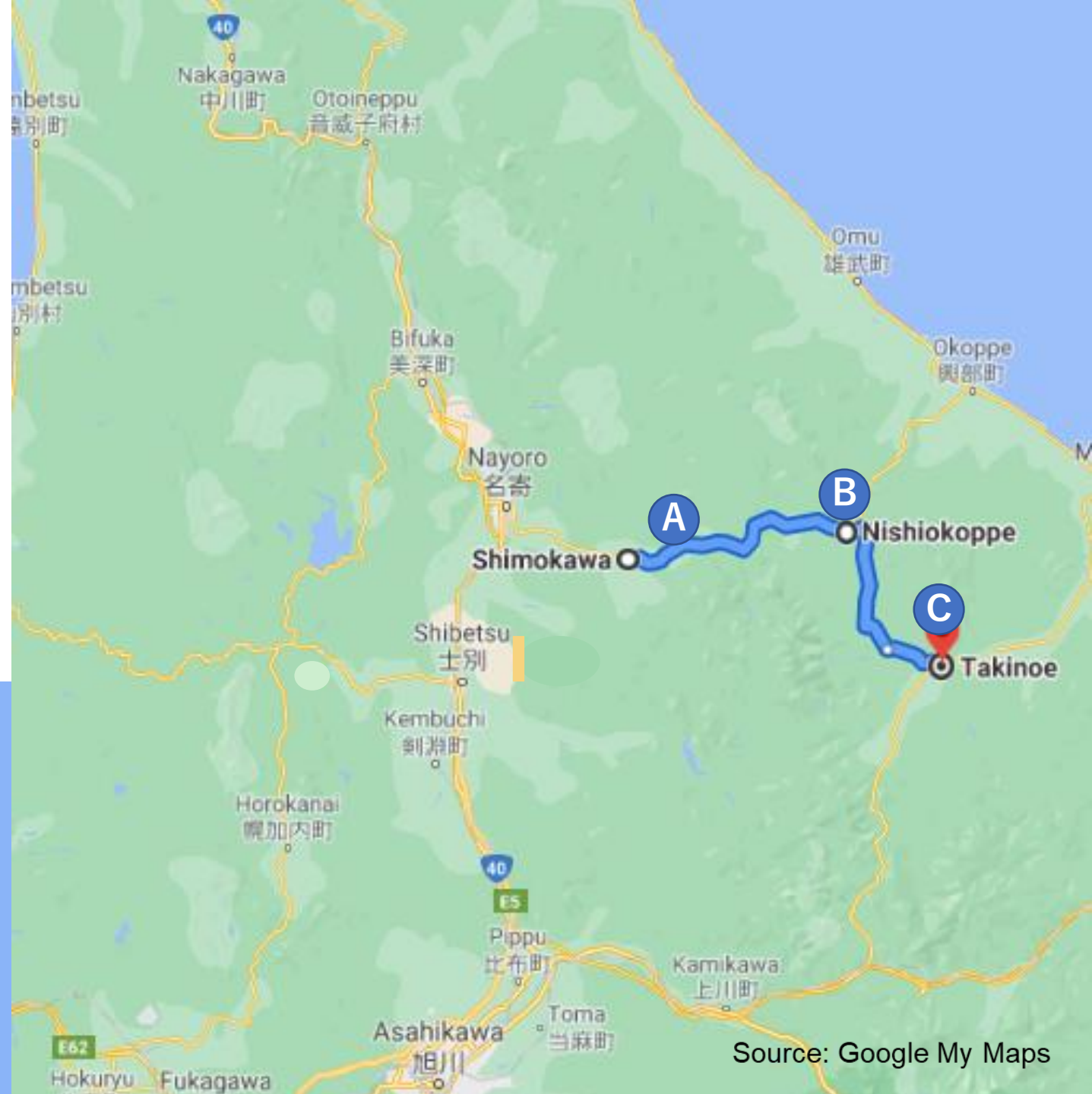
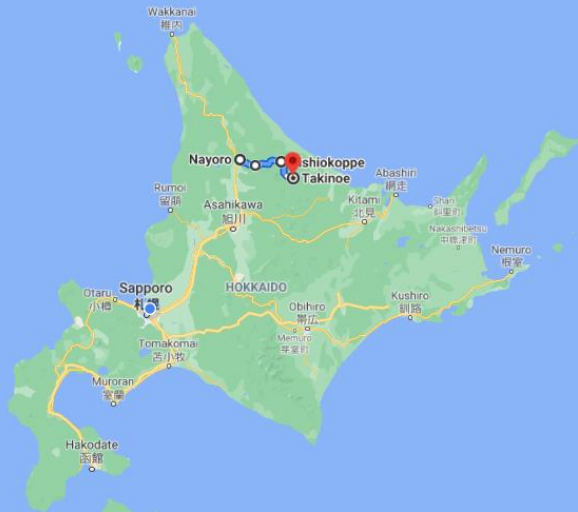


Hokkaido
Treasure Island
Travel Inc.

Welcome to Northern Hokkaido

Explore the northern end of Hokkaido, between the Sea of Japan and the Sea of Okhotsk. This is a particularly sparsely populated area in Japan. Northern Hokkaido generally has many low mountains, and the higher you go north, the lower the altitude. Due to the harsh environment for agriculture in this region, it has a low population, and remains untouched as natural surroundings with many undeveloped mountains.

- A. Shimokawa - The town where forests cover 90% of the area
- B. Nishiokoppe - Enjoy deer leather crafting with a deer hunter here
- C. Takinoue - The town thriving in forestry and dairy farming



Source: Google My Maps



Concept

Visit these three towns in Hokkaido making an effort towards sustainability and discover how they aim to create a more sustainable society.

The journey begins in Shimokawa town, designated as one of the “Future Cities” by the Japanese Government. The second stop is Nishiokoppe village, where you will meet a deer hunter to practice sustainable hunting. The tour ends in Takinoue town, which thrives in forestry and dairy farming.

This tour will broaden your horizons and encourages positive change to sustain nature and our planet.

Season:

March - October

Tour Length:

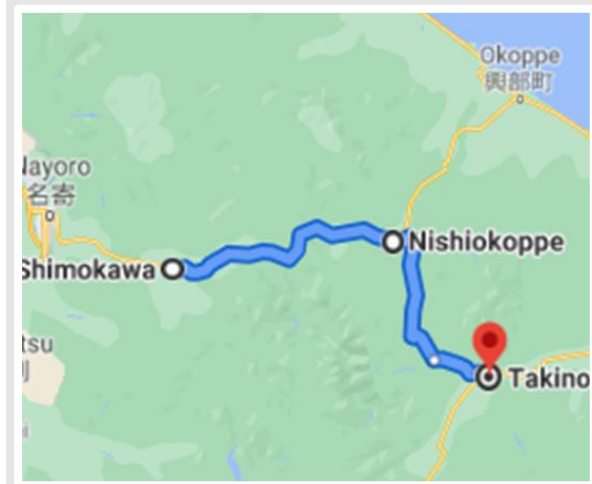
4days

The Price Range:

From JPY 350,000

Included:

- 3 nights accommodation
- 3 breakfasts, 3 lunch, 3 dinner
- All activities mentioned in the itinerary
- All transport as described in the itinerary
- Snacks and refreshments
- English speaking Japanese guides



Day1 Try your hand at making chopsticks with timber offcuts in Shimokawa

Day2 Shinrin Yoku (forest bathing) & make essential oils with forest resources

Day3 Deer leather crafts & meeting an eco-friendly deer hunter In Nishiokoppe

Day4 Pasture walking with cows in Takinoue

Main Activity:

Cultural experiences

Difficulty:

1 (Relaxed/Social)

Min 4 Max 10

Highlights

1 Making Chopsticks with Timber Offcuts

At this woodcraft workshop, make your own chopsticks with timber offcuts using “Kan’na,” a Japanese authentic woodwork tool. The woodworker Masahiro Kondo, runs this woodcraft workshop, and mainly makes products using timber offcuts. While creating his artifacts, he tries to minimize wood waste.

3 A Deer Hunter in Hokkaido

Meet a deer hunter who makes an effort for harmonious coexistence with nature. Take a leisurely walk in her hunting grounds blessed with the bounty of nature. Try stream fishing and mushroom picking for your dinner in the surrounding forests. After lunch, try creating some leather crafts. The material used is deerskin, which she has tanned herself. Her policy is to use every part of the deer so the deer's life isn't wasted. By spending time with her and her family, we can learn more about her environmental-friendly attitude and relate to her thoughts about nature.



2 Shinrin Yoku (Forest Bathing) and Making Essential Oil With Forest Resources

Discover why Shimokawa was designated as a “Future City.” In the fresh air, take a soothing forest bath, called Shinrin Yoku in Japanese. The forest covers 90% of Shimokawa's land area. Gather twigs and leaves of Sakhalin fir to make some essential oil. Sakhalin fir grows in colonies in this area, called “Fupu” in the language of Ainu, the indigenous people. This essential oil is made by extractive distillation, using distilled water and the oil of the Sakhalin fir..



4 Pasture Walking with Cows and Interaction with Local Farmers

Take a relaxing walk with cows at a picturesque, vast green pasture. The idyllically calm and peaceful scenery will no doubt make your heart feel good. Under the policy of this farm to give top priority to cow welfare, they let the cows graze in the pasture as much as possible. On this farm, they produce homemade milk. Their nature-and-cow-friendly attitude produces milk in excellent quality.

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