

# “To the End of the Earth” Shiretoko 5-Day Cycling Tour



Hokkaido  
Treasure Island  
Travel Inc.

# Welcome to Eastern Hokkaido The Sea of Okhotsk

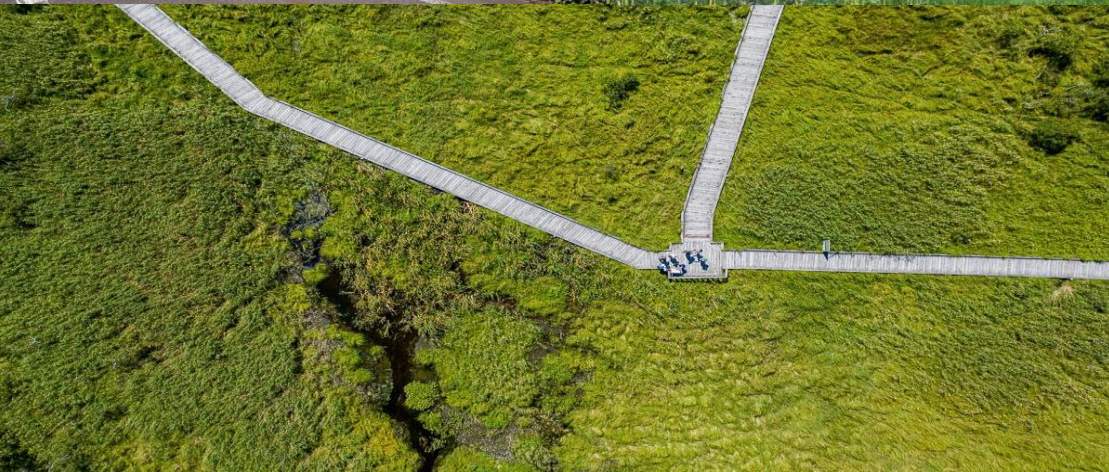
In winter, drift ice from the coast of Siberia heads southward along the Sea of Okhotsk and sits along the northern coast of Hokkaido. Fishing boats are landed while the drift ice is berthing, so fishing is not possible. However, in spring, the drift ice melts due to the rise in water temperature. The melted water from the drift ice contains abundant nutrients, making The Sea of Okhotsk a bountiful sea for wildlife and fishing.

The Okhotsk is the southernmost destination of drift ice. The latitude of the Okhotsk region is almost the same latitude as Marseille, the southern tip of France.

The Okhotsk is also known as "the sea of miracles." It's fascinating for scientists around the world, as it reveals signs for our global environment, especially global warming. The entire area of Okhotsk is called "the land of miracles."

- A) Memanbetsu Airport – The main airport of the Okhotsk area
- B) Abashiri–The gateway for the Okhotsk area
- C) Kiyosato–A rural agricultural town
- D) Utoro– The west side of the Shiretoko Peninsula
- E) Shiretoko Goko– Picturesque lakes with abundant wildlife including bears and deer





## Concept

Follow the course of winter drift ice. This once-in-a-lifetime cycling tour will take you from Abashiri City through to the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site of Shiretoko.

The Japanese name “Shiretoko” is derived from the indigenous Ainu “Sir Etok,” meaning “the end of the earth.” Ride along the coast of the Sea of Okhotsk towards the Shiretoko peninsula Together with a local professional cycling guide.

On this tour, you have a chance to immerse yourself in the local lifestyle and learn how the local life here is connected to the drift ice phenomenon. The ride will be a total of 144 km (88 miles), cycling along the coast and on medium hills to Japan’s famous destination, the “End of the Earth.”

Season:  
June – September  
Tour Length:  
5days

Price Range:  
From JPY 410,000

Including:

- 4 nights’ accommodation
- Meals (4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners)
- All activities fees
- All transport as described in the itinerary
- Snacks and refreshments
- English speaking Japanese guide(s)



- Day1 Abashiri Quasi-National Park Abashiri
- Day2 Abashiri
- Day3 Abashiri – Kiyosato
- Day4 UNESCO Shiretoko Natural World Heritage Kiyosato - Utoro
- Day5 Utoro - Abashiri

### Main Activities:

Cycling, Cultural Experiences,  
Kayaking

### Difficulty:

4 (Vigorous)

**Min 4 Max 10**

# Highlights

## Cycle Up to 144 km (88 miles)

See the diverse terrain from Abashiri Quasi-National Park, the entrance to the Okhotsk area, to the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site of Shiretoko. Enjoy a range of cycling from challenging hills to comfortable coastline riding. Visit local industries, restaurants, and a shrine for a refreshing drink of natural underground spring water.



## Ever-Changing Environments and Terrain

In winter, the drift ice carries millions of nutrients into the sea around Shiretoko, creating diverse nature. Abashiri Quasi-National Park has a smooth sandy coastline, brackish lakes, dunes, grasslands, and hills, while Shiretoko National Park is composed of rocks and mountains created by volcanic activity.

## Biological Diversity & the Land of Brown Bears

This is the southernmost location in the world where drift ice lands, bringing plenty of plankton and nutrients that attract sea creatures with it. The wild land animals benefit from that. This unique ecosystem between the ocean and mountains has been designated as a UNESCO world heritage site. The steep cliffs, rough surfaces, and deep ancient forest keep people from stepping into the peninsula. This is the last frontier, untouched by humans and a perfect habitat for wild animals, including brown bears. Shiretoko Goko has a high population density of Ezo brown bears.