

Untouched Japan

Visit the homelands of rare wildlife



Eastern Hokkaido Wildlife Tour

6 Days with English-speaking Guides



Tour Overview

Hokkaido, the northern most of Japan is homeland to many rare wildlife species. Many of them which are endemic to the area. If you're a quite wildlife lover, this is your plan.

Travelers can observe a variety of wildlife throughout the year. We combine wildlife observation with activities such as cruises and canoeing with the background of Hokkaido's dynamic nature, such as **Shiretoko Natural World Heritage Site**, where you may have a chance to spot a huge Brown Bear or an imposing Steller's Sea Eagle. You'll have an extraordinary experiences.

Tours available: June ~ October



Trip Wows

High possibility to spot very rare creatures, most of which are endemic to Hokkaido, such as Brown Bear, Blakiston's Fish Owl

Nature Walking with the dynamic background of Shiretoko World Natural Heritage Site

Watching very rare species of birds

Savoring the finest quality Hokkaido seafood, vegetables, and local sake



Rare wildlife

Wildlife that you might encounter



Green Season: Brown bear, Northern sea lion, Porpoises, Dolphins, Latham's snipe, Long-tailed rosefinch, Japanese bush warbler, Reed bunting, Siberian rubythroat, Grey-headed woodpecker, Long-tailed tit



Winter Season: Steller's sea eagles, Whooper swans,



All Season: Japanese deer, Siberian chipmunk, red fox, Black woodpecker, Great spotted wood pecker, White-backed woodpecker, Japanese pygmy woodpecker, Red-crowned cranes, White-tailed eagle, Hazel grouse, Marsh tit, Long-tailed tit, Tree creeper, coal tit, Blakiston's fish owl, Sea otter, harbor seal,

Ainu's living with wildlife

The Ainu is the indigenous people who mainly live in Hokkaido. Ainu means “human” in the Ainu language.

They made their living by hunting, fishing, and gathering. Also believe in the spirits of “Kamuy”, which stands for the god live in everything in the nature such as mountains, rivers, animals, even the tools they use in daily life.

Brown bear is the supreme god of kamuy. They believe brown bears are temporary appearance of gods of mountains. Bears visit the land of Ainu with meat and skins as souvenirs. Ainu in return send back the spirits of kamuy to the heaven with offerings.

Besides, Blakiston's fish owls are the guardian god of the community. You'll see the wood-carved statues of the owl are displayed at the entrances of their villages.



Unique ecosystem



Shiretoko Peninsula

Shiretoko is a 70 km long, narrow peninsula jutting out into the Sea of Okhotsk, a range of 1,200 to 1,600 meters mountains form the backbone of the peninsula, 200 high treacherous cliffs are aligned along the coastline, which makes it inaccessible from the land.

The place is a habitat for 36 land mammals, 22 marine mammals, and 285 species of birds confirmed. Among them are world widely recognized rare species, such as northern sea lion and Blakiston's fish owl and black woodpecker. Shiretoko also well-known as one of the highest brown bear population densities in the world.

As such, the fact that many wild animals can live within such a small area is largely due to Shiretoko's unique connection of the sea, rivers, forests and draft ice.



Kushiro Marshland

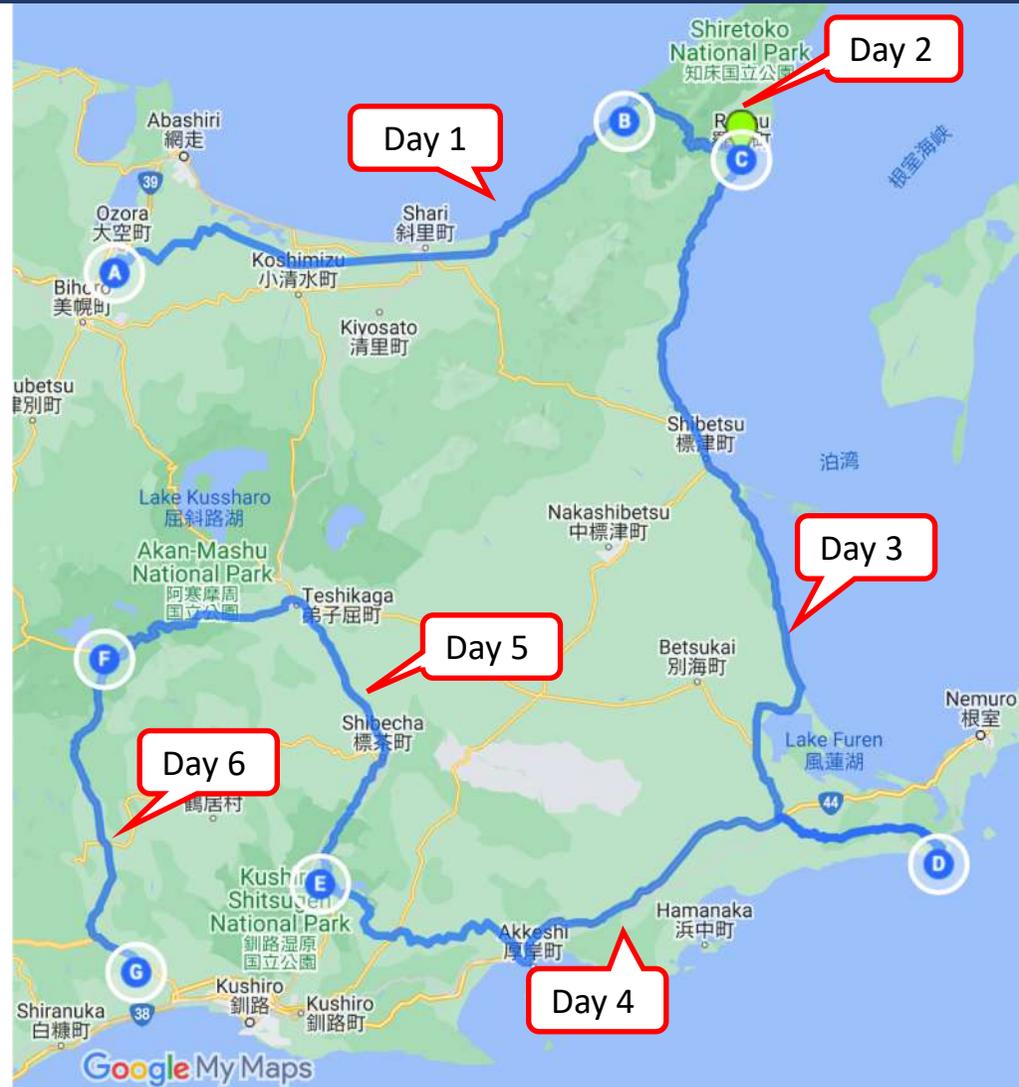
Kushiro Marshland is a vast wetland (with around 22,000 ha. 36 km from north to south and 25 km from east to west) that has countless number of meandering rivers run crisscross like capillaries and has eventually become an important breeding spots for over 200 birds, 39 mammals, 5 reptiles, 4 amphibians, and 38 fish. Almost all are native to this area, such as Red-crowned crane, Gray's grasshopper warbler, white-tailed eagle, Japanese huchen. Japanese huchen is the largest species of fresh water fish.

The area enjoys the very cool climate all year round which allows Ezo salamander which is believed to be an Ice Age survivor to live in.

Route Map

- Day 1 📍 Memanbetsu Airport to Utoro
- Day 2 📍 Utoro to Rausu
- Day 3 📍 Rausu to Ochiishi
- Day 4 📍 Ochiishi to Lake Toro
- Day 5 📍 Lake Toro to Akanko Onsen
- Day 6 📍 Kawayu Onsen to Kushiro Airport

Durations: 6 days 5 nights
Activity: Wildlife watching/Canoeing
Intensity: Easy



Accommodations

- 📍 Five nights of accommodation at handpicked hotels
- 📍 Stay at various types of accommodations – Japanese traditional Hot spring inn, Luxury hotel resort, etc.
- 📍 Enjoy the local Hokkaido ingredients through Japanese traditional course meal
- 📍 Take a break and enjoy the scenic view during hot springs and saunas
- 📍 Detail requests available



Guides and staffs

- Experienced English speaking guides with abundant local knowledge
- Interpretation, camaraderie and other supports from our guides
- Experts and local hospitality staffs provided
- Well relationships with the local connections
- Quick response against unexpected events (One-stop tour operator)





Day 1



Day 2



Day to Day - 01

Day 1 - Meet our guests at Memanbetsu Airport

Our guide will pick you up at Memanbetsu Airport, move to Utoro by chartered car. If it is in summer, you might have a chance to see a vast field of sun flowers blooming right in front of the airport.

Utoro is a famous fishing port town facing the Sea of Okhotsk, It is well-known for its freshly caught seafood such as salmon, Atka mackerel, etc. After dinner, we will have an orientation meeting.

Highlights – Utoro local seafood dinner



Meals

Dinner: Kaiseki course meal (Hotel)



Hotel

Shiretoko Village (Japanese style room, hot spring)

Day to Day - 02

Day 2 – Shiretoko pristine forest walk

Have a 3-hours walk to the deep forest following to the animal trails. Our experienced nature guides will introduce wildlife observation spots for you. As the people rarely enter the place, you might encounter very rare animals such as Siberian chipmunk and Black woodpecker.

The trail includes the impressive waterfalls, treacherous cliffs with the background of Shiretoko Mountain Range. After lunch, enjoy a natural outdoor hot spring on the way to Rausu. Have a Blackiston's fish owl observation at a special facility after dinner.

Highlights – Shiretoko forest walk, Kumano-yu outdoor hot spring, Blackiston's fish owl observation



① Shiretoko forest walk (3hrs)
Intensity: Easy (★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆)

② Blackiston's fish owl watching



Breakfast: Hotel Lunch: Local seafood restaurant
Dinner: Western course meal (Hotel)



Shiretoko Sarai (Western style room)



Day 3



Day 4



Day to Day - 03

Day 3 – Brown Bear watching cruise

A 3-hours cruise from the port of Rausu to the Cape Shiretoko gives you a high possibility to spot Brown bear. You might have a chance to see rare animals which include red fox, white-tailed eagle, seals, northern sea lions and killer whale. After lunch, move to Notsuke Peninsula which is an unique sandbar. Lots of rare birds such as Letham's snipe, Long-tailed rosefinch, and Siberian stonechat can be observed. Stay in Ochishi.

Highlights – Brown Bear watching cruise, Notsuke Peninsula sandbar walk



① Brown Bear watching cruise (3 hrs)

② Notsuke Peninsula walk (90 mins)
Intensity: Easy (★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆)



Breakfast Hotel Lunch: Seafood Ramen (Local restaurant)
Dinner: Japanese-style seafood (Hotel)



Kajika-no-yado (Japanese style room)

Day to Day - 04

Day 4– Sea birds watching cruise

A special boat cruise give you a chance to witness a wide collection of sea birds, most of them which are native to the area. The birds you might see include Spectacled guillemot, Japanese cormorant, Rinoceros auklet, and Tufted puffin. If you're lucky, you might see Minke whale, white-sided dolphin, and harbor seal. Grilled seafood lunch at Akkeshi which is a famed oyster producer.

Highlights – Sea bird cruise, Akkeshi oyster lunch



Sea bird cruise (2hr 30mins)



Breakfast: Hotel Lunch: Grilled oyster (Local restaurant)
Dinner: Creative cuisines featuring local ingredients (Hotel)



Kushiro Marshland Hostel The geek (Western style room)



Day 5



Day 6



Day to Day - 05

Day 5 – Marshland canoe tour

Enjoy a chilled canoe tour down the river through Kushiro Marshland. This tour allows you to have closer look at animals resting in their nests. Part of the area in the marshland is inaccessible except canoe. Take pleasure in that premium moment.

The wildlife you might see includes Japanese deer, Eurasian red squirrel, White-tailed eagle, and Red-crowned crane.

Move to Akanko Onsen after lunch and have a good rest with hot springs and sauna.

Highlights – Marshland canoe, Lake Akan



Marshland canoe tour (2 hrs)
Intensity: Easy (★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆)



Breakfast: Hotel Lunch : Western-style (Restaurant)
Dinner: Japanese-Western buffet-style (Hotel)



Akan Yuku no Sato Tsuruga
(hot springs, rooftop hot baths, sauna)

Day to Day - 06

Day 6 – Experience the indigenous Ainu culture

On the last day, we will take you to the special place around Lake Akan's forests that only authorized Indigenous Ainu guides are allowed to enter. You'll learn their way of thinking about the world and the deep association between the natural world and personal philosophy, culture that is something you can only experience here in Akanko Onsen.

After lunch, enjoy the Ainu traditional dance performance at the Ainu Theater before leaving Akanko Onsen to the Kushiro Airport, which will take about 1 hour.

Highlights – Ainu culture, UNESCO intangible cultural heritage traditional dance,



Mystic forest walking tour (Indigenous Ainu guides)
Intensity: Easy (★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆)



Breakfast : (Hotel)
Lunch: Traditional Ainu cuisine (Restaurant)

Tour Overview

Locations : East Hokkaido, Shiretoko Natural World Heritage Site, Notsuke Peninsula, Nemuro, Akkeshi, Kushiro Marshland, Akan Mashu National Park

Main Activity : Wildlife observation

Difficulty : 1/5 (Very easy)

Pax : Minimum 6 Max 10



Tour dates recommended:
June to October



Price : For each person
JPY ¥ 271,900 ~

Organization Profile

Organization name: Akan Adventure Tourism Co., Ltd.

Head Office: 2-6-20 Akanko Onsen, Akan-cho,
Kushiro-shi, Hokkaido, JAPAN

Establishment: April 2, 2018

Representative Director: Masayuki Onishi

Capital: ¥ 400 million

Our works: Organization of accommodations, meals, sightseeing, activities and transportations

Entertainments development and promotion

Development and management of adventure tourism based tours and programs

For any inquiry, please feel free to ask via tour@akanat.co.jp

