




2021 DEPARTURES TBA

PRICE TBA

 Chitose | **TYPE** Freeride | **DURATION** 9 nights, 10 days | **SKILL LEVEL** Level 4 | **FITNESS LEVEL** Level 1

Group participants to 6 people

## A freeride road trip to ski the best of Hokkaido's resorts

### WHY HOKKAIDO POWDER GUIDES?

**Local Knowledge** We are based in Hokkaido and have been in operation for 15 years. Having an intimate knowledge of the mountains and locales enables us to craft amazing ski journeys.

**Safety** Our daily operation involves monitoring the weather and snowpack, and this dictates all our decision making. A safety plan is in place for each of our guiding areas. We also maintain good communication with the local emergency authorities which is essential for backcountry trips in Japan.

**Exclusivity** We seek exclusivity with the terrain that we ski, and our snowmobile accessed areas guarantee fresh tracks.

**Preparation** We have excellent pre-trip support and each destination includes an information package specific to the area.

**Travel Agency** We are also a registered travel agency and book all of your accommodation and transfer requirements.



**OUR GUIDES** bring together a collective experience gained from years working for guiding operations in Japan and abroad. They are certified through their individual country's guiding associations as ski guides, or full mountain guides IFMGA/UIAGM.

# ITINERARY Hokkaido Road Trip

*The following is a 'general' outline for the trip. Hokkaido Powder Guides reserves the right to make alterations and substitutions to the itinerary as weather or terrain conditions dictate or as necessary to improve the trip quality or to accommodate the comfort, convenience, and well-being of our guests.*



## DAY 1 Niseko Transfer

Arrive in Sapporo. Transfer to Niseko, the powder skiing capital of Japan. Check in to your hotel and enjoy a hot spring before dinner.

## DAY 2 Niseko

The first guided day we will ski Niseko's United Resorts to sample some of Hokkaido's famous powder. From the tops of the cone shaped mountains there are stunning views of the Sea of Japan and Mt Yotei, Hokkaido's Mt Fuji of the North. The widely spaced birch offer world-class tree skiing.

## DAY 3 Rusutsu

Travel to the nearby resort and ski some amazing powder runs. The off-piste areas funnel back to the lifts so it will be a big day of powder riding. On the return journey we will soak in an outdoor thermal spring that has views of Mt Yotei, or the 'Mt Fuji of Hokkaido.'

## DAY 4 The Local's Resort

Located next to Niseko United, Moiwa receives just as much snow and has great side-country terrain. To finish the day we will skin out of the resort and ski our last line down to the 'Pool of Five Colors.' Soak in the springs that are reputed to have therapeutic properties.

## DAY 5 Sapporo Transfer

Ski Kiroro. The snow here is always dependable as the prevailing wind blows the snow in to the tree skiing areas and is often very deep. Transfer to traditional ryokan hotel for tonight.

## DAY 6 Kokusai

Sapporo Kokusai receives snow from the predominant wind direction, straight from the Sea of Japan. A fast gondola ride accesses all the side-country terrain that we need for an exceptional day of powder skiing. Transfer to Furano, a township at the geographical center of Hokkaido and the gateway to the Central Hokkaido resorts.

## DAY 7 Furano

The day's off-piste provides for 900 vertical meters of skiing each run. Furano provides some of the steepest lifted terrain in Hokkaido and has options for excellent side-country skiing. On a clear day there are magnificent views across the valley to the smoking volcano of Daisetsuzan.

## DAY 8 Tomamu

Journey south to Tomamu Resort. This destination always provides great skiing with dry and colder temperatures than other parts of Hokkaido. The tree skiing is some of the best in Central Hokkaido with widely spaced birch trees.

## DAY 9 Asahidake

Today you will ski a live volcano. You will be awed by this conical shaped mountain that billows steam from multiple vents. We will be riding the rope-way which provides for backcountry skiing on the front side. Dinner at a traditional restaurant to celebrate the last night.

## DAY 10 Return Transfer

Return transfer after breakfast.



## TRIP LEVEL

This trip ski level is rated as a LEVEL 4. You should be competent skiing in the trees in powder snow. The fitness is rated as LEVEL 1. These are typical days around ski resorts where we ski the side-country terrain, mostly traversing out of the boundaries. There may be a short ascent of a half hour skin climb.

# DETAILS



## SKIS AND EQUIPMENT

Skis which have a mid ski width of 100-115 mm with touring bindings and skins are recommended for this trip. Please contact us if you would like to rent skis. Avalanche equipment such as beacon, probe and shovel are also essential.

## MOUNTAINS AND SNOW

The average elevations of resorts in Hokkaido are around 1,100 meters, with verticals of around 600-900 meters. Most of the skiing is in the trees. The exception is Asahidake which has an elevation between 1,000 to 1,600 meters.

The south west region of is known for a lot of precipitation due to its vicinity to the Sea of Japan. The Central Hokkaido region is known for exceptionally light powder.

## LODGING AND FOOD

You will be staying in comfortable hotels in Niseko and Furano and a traditional hot spring hotel in the Sapporo area. Some of the dinners are included in all the destinations.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE



Medical Insurance is mandatory on all trips and Travel Insurance is strongly

recommended. Please visit our recommended insurance provider World Nomads to learn more.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- 8 guided days
- 9 nights accommodation
- 9 breakfasts, and 5 dinners
- Scheduled Airport Bus transfers & all transportation on guided days
- Detailed pre-departure information & trip extension assistance
- Lift Passes

## WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?

- Lunches and 5 dinners
- Airfares
- Personal travel and medical insurance
- Optional tipping to guides
- Ski equipment rental
- Drinks



## WHY HOKKAIDO POWDER GUIDES

*We are a Hokkaido based guiding company in operation for fifteen years. Having an intimate knowledge of the mountains and locales enables us to craft amazing ski journeys. Hokkaido is not just about the skiing, but also the cultural and culinary experience, and it is this combination that truly makes for an unforgettable ski trip.*



# DETAILS *continued*



## BOOKING PROCESS

Call us at +81-167-225655 or email at [info@hokkaidopowderguides.com](mailto:info@hokkaidopowderguides.com) to confirm there's space on this trip. If Skype is preferred, please send us an email to arrange a time.

Make sure you have read and understand our 'Terms and Conditions' and also our 'Waiver' which we will send to you.

To confirm your spot please complete our secure 'Individual Form' on our website.

## PAYMENT

Once you've completed our on-line registration form and we've confirmed that we have the number of participants for the trip, we will send you the booking policy. Please review our 'Terms & Conditions' for the full details on payment, cancellation and refund policies. The amount payable will need to be made in Japanese yen.

If you are paying with credit card there is a 5% processing fee. Another option is to pay via a bank remittance. Please contact us anytime to discuss your options.

## SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

The single supplement is an additional fee for solo travelers who wish to have their own rooms during the trip.

## QUESTIONS?

Feel free to call us at +81-167-225655 or email [info@hokkaidopowderguides.com](mailto:info@hokkaidopowderguides.com) if you have any questions or need any additional information.

## CONTACT US

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