

Season January–March **Duration of stay** 4 nights, 5 days

Snow, Ice, and Other Water-related Natural Phenomena: Experience Winter in Akan-Mashu National Park

Notes

Enjoy activities unique to midwinter in the forests, volcanoes, and lakes of Akan-Mashu National Park. Marvel at the natural phenomena of sub-zero environments.



Activity 08 Trekking on Lake Akan



Photo Frost Flowers, Lake Akan



Photo Whooper Swans, Lake Kussharo



Day 1	<p>11:25a.m. Haneda Airport ✈️ 95min \ Kushiro Airport 2:00p.m. Kushiro Airport 🚗 30min \ Akan International Crane Center Observe the Symbol of Eastern Hokkaido: The Red-crowned Crane (60min) (This facility offers visitors the chance to see and learn about the mode of life of red-crowned cranes, a symbol of eastern Hokkaido.) 3:30p.m. Akan International Crane Center 🚗 40min \ Akankohan Accommodation Facilities [Accommodation] 7:30p.m. Lake Akan Ice Festival (time to be confirmed) (This festival is held on a frozen Lake Akan and includes a ceremony led by the Ainu people. The fireworks display in the clear, mid-winter sky is a sight to behold.)</p>
Day 2	<p>9:20a.m. Akankohan Accommodation Facilities 🚶 10min \ Tsuruga Adventure Base[SIRI] Activity 08 Trekking on Lake Akan(300min) 2:30p.m. Tsuruga Adventure Base[SIRI] 🚶 10min \ Akankohan Eco-Museum Center and Bokke Walking Trail Tour(60min) (Among the museum's displays, you'll find marimo algae balls, a Special Natural Monument. A walk of just 10 minutes through the forest will bring you to bokke (bubbling mud pool).) 3:40p.m. Akankohan Eco-Museum Center 🚶 20min \ Akankohan Accommodation Facilities [Accommodation] 9:00p.m. Akankohan Accommodation Facilities [Accommodation] 🚶 15min \ Akanko Ainu Theater Ikor Activity 05 Lost Kamuy at Akanko Ainu Theater Ikor (40min)</p>
Day 3	<p>8:15a.m. Akankohan Accommodation Facilities 🚶 10min \ Tsuruga Adventure Base[SIRI] Activity 07 Mystical Lake Trekking Tour(150min) 11:10a.m. Tsuruga Adventure Base[SIRI] 🚶 10min \ Akanko Onsenigai Hot Spring District Lunch and Walk (90min) 12:30p.m. Akanko Onsenigai Hot Spring District 🚗 30min \ Visit Sogakudai Observatory (10min) (Enjoy a view of Mt. Oakan and Mt. Meakan.) 1:10p.m. Sogakudai Observatory 🚗 40min \ Visit Lake Mashu(20min) (In the Ainu language, the lake is called "Lake of the Gods," and the water is so clear that it once held the record for world's clearest lake. The lake's stunning blue color is referred to as Mashu Blue.) 2:10p.m. Lake Mashu 🚗 30min \ Visit Atosa-Nupuri (Mt. Io)(10min) (The sulfur crystals and fumes that can be seen and smelled just a short walk from the parking lot at this still-active volcano give visitors a chance to experience the vitality of the Earth.) 2:50p.m. Atosa-Nupuri (Mt. Io) 🚗 10min \ Tour Kawayu Eco-Museum Center (60min) (This facility introduces the spectacular nature and history of the Mashu area, which includes Kawayu Onsen (hot spring), as well as its top attractions, in an easy-to-understand manner.) 4:00p.m. Kawayu Eco-Museum Center \ Kawayu Onsen (hot spring) Accommodation Facilities Enjoy an Illumination Display Along the Hot Spring River (30min) *Between approx. 6:00p.m. and 9:00p.m. (Walk along the promenade that winds along Kawayu Onsenigai Hot Spring District's hot spring water-fed river and enjoy a magical illumination display.)</p>
Day 4	<p>7:00a.m. Kawayu Onsen (hot spring) Accommodation 🚶 10min \ Hot Spring River Riverside Promenade Admire Frost-covered Trees Along the Hot Spring River Riverside Promenade(15min) (Observe steam rising off the river through which hot spring water runs and admire the frost on the trees.) 7:25a.m. Hot Spring River Riverside Promenade 🚶 10min \ Kawayu Onsen (hot spring) Accommodation Facilities 8:55a.m. Kawayu Onsen Hot Springs Accommodation Facilities 🚗 5min \ Tour Taiho Sumo Museum(60min) (Learn of the achievements of Taiho Koki, the 48th yokozuna (sumo grand champion), who was born in Kawayu Onsen, Teshikaga. Taiho's kesho-mawashi (sumo wrestler's ornamental apron) and championship pennant are also on display.) 10:00a.m. Taiho Sumo Museum 🚗 15min \ Observe Whooper Swans at Sunayu(30min) (Observe whooper swans resting their wings after migrating from Siberia.) 10:45a.m. Sunayu 🚗 45min \ Mashu Station Area Restaurant Lunch(60min) 12:30p.m. Mashu Station Area Restaurant 🚗 30min \ Lake Mashu Observation Deck No.1 Lake Mashu Snowshoe Tour(120min) (Enjoy a special view of Lake Mashu, one only possible in winter, by snowshoeing along a road closed to vehicular traffic during the winter season.) 3:00p.m. Lake Mashu Observation Deck No.1 🚗 30min \ Kawayu Onsen (hot spring) Accommodation Facilities [Accommodation]</p>
Day 5	<p>9:00a.m. Kawayu Onsen (hot spring) Accommodation Facilities 🚗 120min \ 11:00a.m. Visit Washo Ichiba Market, etc.(120min) 🚶 5min \ 1:42p.m. JR Kushiro Station 🚗 (JR limited express) \ Travel to Central Hokkaido on Super Ozora Limited Express</p>

Legend for itinerary symbols
 ✈️ Airplane 🚗 Train/JR 🚗 Car (rental car) 🚗 Taxi 🚗 Fixed-route bus/shuttle bus 🚗 Boat 🚗 Ropeway 🚗 Bicycle 🚶 Walking 📷 Photo spot
Itinerary times defined
 Dawn 4:00a.m.-6:00a.m., Early morning 6:00a.m.-8:00a.m., Morning 8:00a.m.-12:00p.m., Noon 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m., Afternoon 1:00p.m.-5:00p.m., Evening 5:00p.m.-7:00p.m., Late evening 7:00p.m.-11:00p.m., Night 11:00p.m.-4:00a.m.