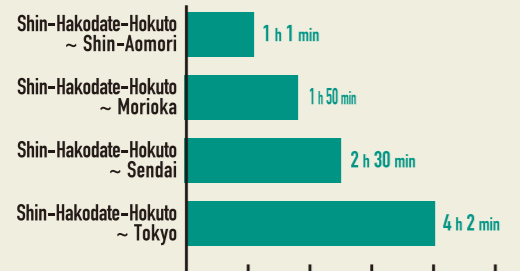




About The Tsugaru Strait Area

The Tsugaru Strait Area consists of two land regions, Aomori Prefecture and the southern Hokkaido regions around Hakodate, and the Tsugaru Strait between them. This area has a long history of social exchange that developed into a unique culturally-rich region as early as the 10th or the 11th century. To further emphasize their interaction, the long and massive undersea "Seikan Tunnel" was unveiled in 1988. Moreover, the Hokkaido Shinkansen started operations in March 2016, allowing people to travel between the two areas in about 1 hour. The beautiful seasonal changes, variety of interesting places, delicious food, and exciting events make the Tsugaru Strait Area a definite must-go spot!

Time required



Tourist reference site

HOKKAIDO SHINKANSEN TSUNAGARU NAVI

http://hokkaido-shinkansen-navi.jp/foreign/en_index.html



GOOD DAY HOKKAIDO

<http://en.visit-hokkaido.jp>

APTINET AOMORI SIGHTSEEING GUIDE

<https://www.en-aomori.com>



Valuable free pass information



Hokkaido Railway Company Series H5 (Image provision: J.R. Hokkaido)

Let us introduce a valuable free pass that only those who visit Japan from abroad for sightseeing purposes can purchase. (For more detailed information, please check on the website.)

JR Tohoku-South Hokkaido Rail Pass

This pass allows rides on the Shinkansen and limited express trains on JR Hokkaido Lines (Southern Hokkaido area including Sapporo, Hakodate, and New Chitose Airport) and on JR East Lines (Tohoku area).

Period of use After arriving in Japan, select any 5 days (Flexible 5 days) in the 14-day period starting on the day of issue.

Prices Purchased outside of Japan
- Adults ¥19,000 Children ¥9,500
Purchased within Japan
- Adults ¥20,000 Children ¥10,000



JR East-South Hokkaido Rail Pass

This pass allows rides on the Shinkansen and limited express trains on JR Hokkaido Lines (Southern Hokkaido area including Sapporo, Hakodate, and New Chitose Airport) and on JR East Lines (Kanto and Tohoku areas).

Period of use After arriving in Japan, select any 6 days (Flexible 6 days) in the 14-day period starting on the day of issue.

Prices Purchased outside of Japan
- Adults ¥26,000 Children ¥13,000
Purchased within Japan
- Adults ¥27,000 Children ¥13,500



<http://www.jreasthokkaido.com/e/>



Hokkaido Rail Pass

This pass allows rides on the trains and designated buses in Hokkaido operated by JR Hokkaido. (Excluding Hokkaido Shinkansen)

Period of use Consecutive 3, 5, or 7-day period, or any 4 days (Flexible 4 days) out of a 10-day period, beginning on the date the PASS is first used.

Prices [3 day] Adults ¥16,500 Children ¥8,250
[Flexible 4-day] Adults ¥22,000 Children ¥11,000
[5 day] Adults ¥22,000 Children ¥11,000
[7 day] Adults ¥24,000 Children ¥12,000



<http://www2.jrhokkaido.co.jp/global/>



JAPAN RAIL PASS

The PASS, a joint offering of the six companies comprising the Japan Railways Group (JR Group), is the most economical means of travelling throughout Japan by rail.

Period of use Consecutive 7, 14, or 21-day period beginning on the date the PASS is first used.

Prices Green
[7 day] Adults ¥38,880 Children ¥19,440
[14 day] Adults ¥62,950 Children ¥31,470
[21 day] Adults ¥81,870 Children ¥40,930
Ordinary
[7 day] Adults ¥29,110 Children ¥14,550
[14 day] Adults ¥46,390 Children ¥23,190
[21 day] Adults ¥59,350 Children ¥29,670



<http://japanrailpass.net/>

The Hokkaido Shinkansen
Tsunageru Ambassador
Dokodemo Yuki-chan

Ramuda Project
Symbol Character
Magyurou

ENJOY JAPAN

The Rail Moments

The Tsugaru Strait Area

South-Hokkaido Area
Aomori Area

Approx 4 hours from Tokyo by Hokkaido Shinkansen

Tohoku-Hokkaido Shinkansen



About The H5 Series Bullet Train

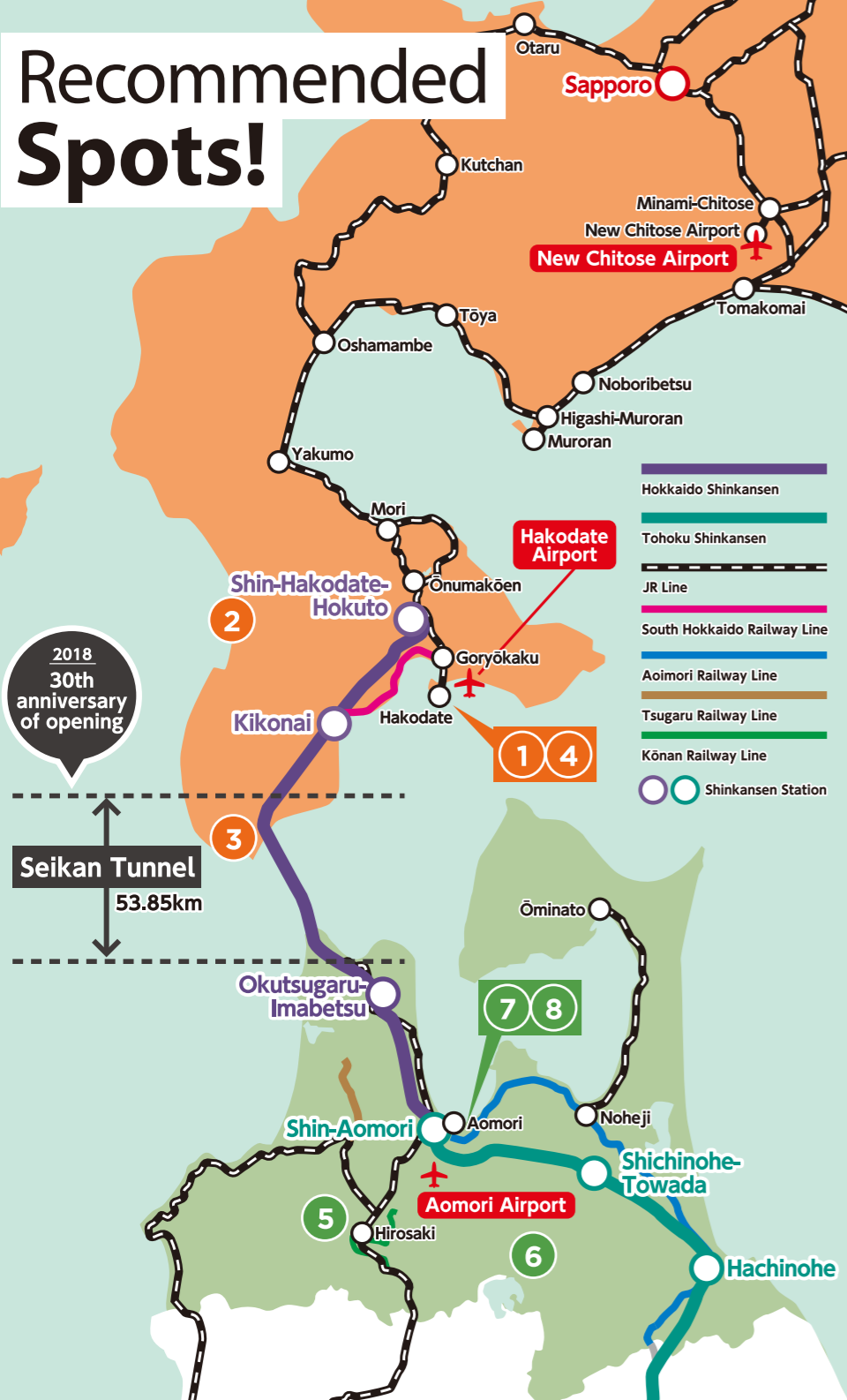
The Hokkaido Shinkansen uses the H5 Series trains. The designated maximum speed is 320km/h! The purple stripe along the middle of the train represents the beautiful lilacs, lupines, and lavender of Hokkaido.

Hokkaido Railway Company Series H5 (Image provision: J.R. Hokkaido)



Hokkaido Railway Company Series H5 (Image provision: J.R. Hokkaido)

Recommended Spots!



South-Hokkaido Area

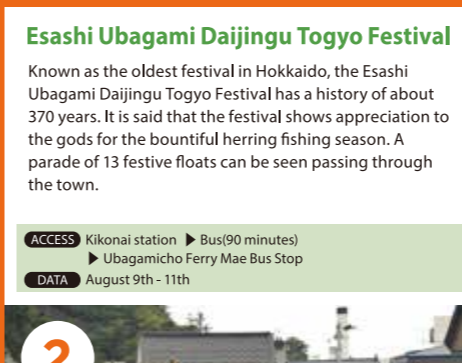


Hakodate

Hakodate Night View

A popular night view spot where tourists visit from around the world. It shows a different face each season, one just as beautiful as the next. In winter, the exquisite scene is covered in a soft blanket of snow and illumination. Between June and December, you can see the fires of the squid fishing boats dotting the evening view.

ACCESS Shin Hakodate Hokuto Station ▶ Train (15 minutes)
▶ Hakodate Station ▶ Bus or Taxi (10 minutes)
▶ Ropeway-mae Bus Stop ▶ Mt. Hakodate Ropeway Sanroku Station ▶ Ropeway (3 minutes)



Esashi

Esashi Ubagami Daijingu Togyo Festival

Known as the oldest festival in Hokkaido, the Esashi Ubagami Daijingu Togyo Festival has a history of about 370 years. It is said that the festival shows appreciation to the gods for the bountiful herring fishing season. A parade of 13 festive floats can be seen passing through the town.

ACCESS Kikonai station ▶ Bus (90 minutes)
▶ Ubagamicho Ferry Mae Bus Stop

DATA August 9th - 11th



Matsumae

Matsumae Castle

The only castle in Hokkaido, Matsumae Castle, along with Ishida Castle in Fukue, is one of the last castles built as part of the castle system in feudal Japan. It was built to guard the northern territory from Russian fleets at the end of the Edo period.

ACCESS Kikonai Station ▶ Bus (90 minutes) ▶ Matsushiro Bus Stop
▶ on Foot (5 minutes)

Gourmet

Hakodate Morning Market

Hakodate is surrounded on three sides by the sea, blessed with rich fisheries where the warm sea current of Japan Sea and the cold sea current of the Pacific Ocean meet. On top of the well-known squid and tuna, a variety of other fresh delicacies from the sea can be found here, including octopus, scallops, abalone, flounder, and cod.

ACCESS Shin Hakodate Hokuto Station ▶ Train (15 minutes)
▶ Hakodate Station ▶ on Foot (1 minute)

Hakodate

Aomori Area

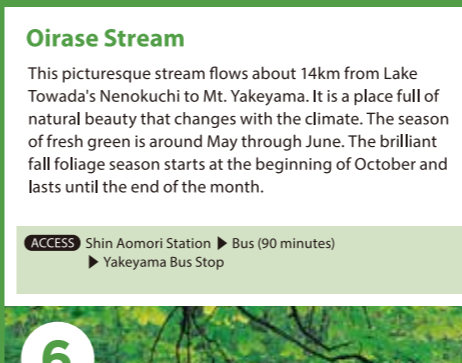


Hirosaki

Hirosaki Castle

Hirosaki Castle was built in the Edo period and stands as the beloved symbol of the city. During the Hirosaki Cherry Blossom Festival, Hirosaki Park is filled with bright cherry blossoms that beautiful contrast with the dignified old pine trees. Due to the extensive renovation work on the castle's stone walls starting in 2018, the castle tower has been moved to a temporary base.

ACCESS Shin Aomori Station ▶ Train (45 minutes)
▶ Hirosaki Station ▶ Bus (15 minutes)
▶ Shiyakusho Mae Bus Stop ▶ on Foot (4 minutes)



Towada

Oirase Stream

This picturesque stream flows about 14km from Lake Towada's Nenokuchi to Mt. Yakeyama. It is a place full of natural beauty that changes with the climate. The season of fresh green is around May through June. The brilliant fall foliage season starts at the beginning of October and lasts until the end of the month.

ACCESS Shin Aomori Station ▶ Bus (90 minutes)
▶ Yakeyama Bus Stop



Aomori

The Nebuta Museum WA-RASSE

It is a facility that introduces the history and charms of the Aomori Nebuta Festival. Visitors can experience every aspect of Nebuta any time of the year. Four full-sized floats are on permanent display showing their overwhelming features.

ACCESS Shin Aomori Station ▶ Train (6 minutes) ▶ Aomori Station
▶ on Foot (1 minute)

Gourmet

Furukawa Fish Market Nokke-don

You can create your own "Nokke-don" (a rice bowl with toppings) with a wide selection of fresh seafood, meats, and other side dishes within the market. Enjoy chatting with the lively shop keepers who often speak the Japanese Tsugaru dialect.

ACCESS Shin Aomori Station ▶ Train (6 minutes)
▶ Aomori Station ▶ on Foot (5 minutes)

Aomori