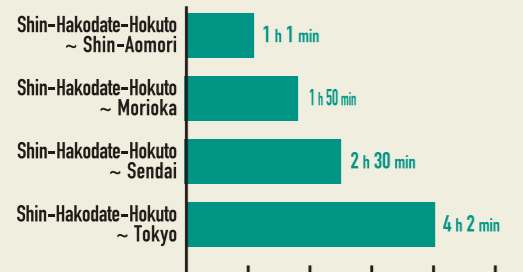




About The Tsugaru Strait Area

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)

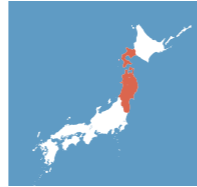
Let us introduce a valuable free pass that only those who visit Japan from abroad for sightseeing purposes can purchase. (For more detailed information, please check on the website.)

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

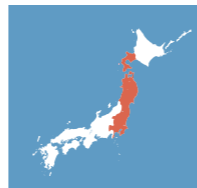


JR East-South Hokkaido Rail Pass

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/>

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)

Recommended Spots!

- Hokkaido Shinkansen
- Tohoku Shinkansen
- JR Line
- South Hokkaido Railway Line
- Aomori Railway Line
- Tsugaru Railway Line
- Kōnan Railway Line
- Shinkansen Station



Sapporo Snow Festival Sapporo

The Sapporo Snow Festival, the largest winter event in Hokkaido's capital city, attracts more than 2-million visitors from within Japan and across the globe every year. The 1.5km long Odori Park is lined with a variety of snow statues and are beautifully illuminated after the sun sets.



South-Hokkaido Area



Hakodate Yunokawa Hot Spring

Yunokawa Hot Spring, regarded as one of the three best hot spring resorts in Hokkaido, is located in the port city of Hakodate. The clear and odorless water is soft on the skin and rejuvenating. Its easily accessible location allows tourists to make day trips to this popular destination.

ACCESS Shin Hakodate Hokuto Station ▶ Train (15 minutes) ▶ Hakodate Station ▶ Bus (25 minutes) or Tram (30min) ▶ Yunokawa Onsen



Hakodate Hakodate Christmas Fantasy

One of the biggest Hakodate events in winter, visitors can enjoy seeing a 20-meter tall Christmas tree floating over the sea amongst the red brick warehouses colorfully illuminated and glittering like a fantasy world. During the event, the light-up ceremony is held every evening, highlighted by a fireworks display painting the sky in romantic hues.

ACCESS Shin Hakodate Hokuto Station ▶ Train (15 minutes) ▶ Hakodate Station ▶ on Foot (15 minutes) or Tram (5 minutes) ▶ Jujigai Station ▶ on Foot (5 minutes)
DATE December



Nanae Snowmobile on frozen Ōnuma Lake

From mid-January to the beginning of March, the ice on the lake becomes thick enough to ride snowmobiles over it. You can experience this for a limited period only in the northland. Imagine carving through the vast snowfields with majestic Mt. Komagatake in the background.

ACCESS Shin Hakodate Hokuto Station ▶ Train (10 minutes) ▶ Ōnumakōen Station

Gourmet

Local Soup "Sanpeijiru"

"Sanpeijiru" is made using fish and seasonal vegetables in a miso or salt based broth. This popular dish warms the body and is loved by locals.

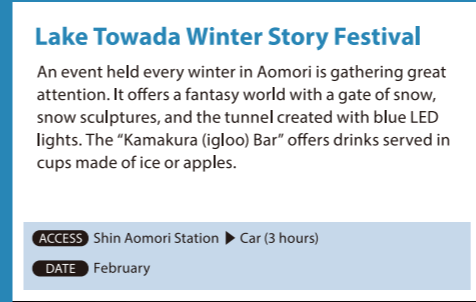
Aomori Area



Aomori Lake Towada Winter Story Festival

An event held every winter in Aomori is gathering great attention. It offers a fantasy world with a gate of snow, snow sculptures, and the tunnel created with blue LED lights. The "Kamakura (igloo) Bar" offers drinks served in cups made of ice or apples.

ACCESS Shin Aomori Station ▶ Car (3 hours)
DATE February



Aomori Sukayu Hot Spring

This hot spring was established about 300 years ago in a beautiful mountainous area. It is known for its long history and the huge bath, "Senjin Buro" (a bath for a thousand people) created from hiba timber, a kind of Japanese cypress tree. People say it is a great hot spring for recuperation.

ACCESS Shin Aomori Station ▶ Bus (90 minutes)



Aomori Frost Covered Trees in the Hakkoda Mountains.

The trees in the Hakkoda Mountains are covered with ice and snow in winter. Those beautifully frost covered trees are also called "Snow Monsters". Taking a ropeway and looking down on the Snow Monsters from above is one of the best experiences visitors can enjoy.

ACCESS Shin Aomori Station ▶ Train (6 minutes) ▶ Aomori Station ▶ Bus (60 minutes)

Gourmet

Sushi

Aomori is known for delicious sushi made from fresh seafood caught in the neighboring sea. Different kinds of seafood are available from season to season. It is also fun to explore the streets and discover the variety of restaurants in the city.