

Join Panda Travel in...



2023 Along the Cassiopeia Road Summer Break

(GP12947)



Cancel for any reason up to 60 days prior to departure date for a **FULL REFUND!**

June 3 - 11, 2023
7 Nights/ 9 Days

*Sapporo - Otaru - Lake Toya - Hakodate -
Aomori - Hirosaki - Morioka - Tokyo*

\$100 OFF PER PERSON
when you pay with a personal check/cash

\$4,498*
per person-triple occupancy

\$4,498*
per person-double occupancy

\$4,879*
per single occupancy

pandaonline.com

(808) 734-1961

1017 Kapahulu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816

A minimum of 16 participants is required for the tour to operate

Itinerary

Along the Cassiopeia Road



Day 1: (Sat) June 3 - Honolulu Depart Honolulu 2:15pm via Hawaiian Airlines 441

Please meet the Panda Travel representative **3 hours prior to departure** at the Hawaiian Airlines check-in counters.

Day 2: (Sun) June 4 - Chitose-Sapporo

- 5:50pm **HA 441 arrives at New Chitose Airport**
- 6:50pm **Meet guide at arrival lobby/transfer to hotel**
- 8:00pm **Arrive at Century Royal Hotel** (Free WiFi) – Enjoy your stay here for the next 2 nights.

Day 3: (Sat) July 22 - Otaru-Furano (B/D)

- Breakfast at hotel
- 8:30am **Meet guide at lobby**
- 9:00am **Hokkaido Shrine** – This landmark dates back to 1869 and honors 4 deities. Lush nature surrounds this highly revered and historic site and welcomes a variety of wild animals like the Hokkaido squirrel. Enjoy some free time to explore.
- 10:30am **Okurayama Ski Jump** – Constructed in 1931, the stadium was home to the 90m ski jump competition during the 1972 Sapporo Winter Olympic Games and is still used for competitions today. At the foot of the jump hill is

the Sapporo Winter Sports Museum, which commemorates the 1992 Sapporo Winter Olympics and winter sports like ski jump, bobsled, and biathlon. Together, we'll ride a ski lift to the peak where a viewing lounge will provide us with a spectacular view of Sapporo, the Ishikari Plain, and Ishikari Bay. This is also the ideal location to view the start line of the ski jump—look below at the steep slope to put yourself in the skiers' boots right before they begin their jumps!



Day 3 - Ski lift ride at Okurayama Ski Jump

→ 12:00pm **Sapporo Central Wholesale Market (Jogai)** –

This market offers some of the freshest fish and produce in Japan. At the "Curb Market," you can find approx. 60 stores selling everything from fruits to seasonal goods. Pick up some fresh crab and salmon sushi, a donburi bowl, or other regional delicacies as you enjoy lunch on your own here.

→ 2:00pm **Sapporo Tanukikoji Shopping Street** – Sapporo's

oldest (since 1868!) covered shopping arcade stretching 10 blocks with 200 stores. Here, you'll find merchant stalls from the old world and the new, selling traditional goods like kimonos and tea sets alongside electronics and tech accessories. You'll also find Hawaii favorites like a multi-story Daiso, a 24-hour Mega Don Quijote, and a variety of dining options.

→ 4:00pm **Return to Century Royal Hotel** (Free WiFi) – Not

too far from the hotel are plenty of shopping and sightseeing opportunities, as well as cafes and restaurants.

Day 4: (Tues) June 6 - Sapporo-Otaru-Lake Toya (B/D)

- Breakfast at hotel
- 9:30am **Meet guide at lobby** – Today, we'll make our way to Otaru and Lake Toya. Known as the "sea entrance to Hokkaido," Otaru is a romantic port town with a rich history as a major herring center. It was also the terminus for Hokkaido's first railroad, and today, nostalgic warehouses and buildings still line its picturesque canal district.
- 10:30am **Tanaka Sake Brewery** – Dating back to 1885, this historical establishment is a cultural landmark in Otaru. Unlike most breweries in Japan, Tanaka Sake Brewery maintains stone masonry warehouses—construction material that insulates the cold from Hokkaido's cool

climate and creates the perfect brewing conditions for year round sake production—and draws naturally pure water from the underground snowmelt of Mt. Tengu to enhance the quality of its brew. We'll learn more about this process and sample what many regard as Japan's best sake.



Day 4 - Music Box Museum

→ **11:30am Otaru Sakaimachi Stroll** – Today, we'll explore Sakaimachi Street, an avenue lined with Otaru's famous glassworks, music boxes, and sweet shops. As you near the end of Sakaimachi Street, you'll come across the Music Box Museum's renowned vintage clock. The museum houses 15,000 music boxes playing a variety of sounds including classical concertos, hits from the Beatles, and the latest J-pop tunes. Another must visit is the Kitaichi Glass Shop, which was once a glass supplier for the Otaru fishing community and is now a store filled with beautiful glassworks. For a sweet time, visit the Kitakaro confectionary shop and try the famous multi-layered honey wheeled cakes that have a cult-like following. Enjoy lunch on your own here.

→ **2:00pm Drive to Toya** – We'll make a rest stop along our drive.



Day 4 - Toya Lake

→ **4:30pm Arrive at Toyako Manseikaku Hotel Lakeside Terrace, Center bldg with Lakeview** (Free WiFi) – Located on the shores of scenic Lake Toya and in close proximity to the area's most popular landmarks, our hotel offers natural hot spring baths (onsen), an indoor pool, and a karaoke bar.

→ **6pm Buffet dinner at hotel**

Day 5: (Wed) June 7 - Lake Toya-Hakodate (B/D)

→ **Please prepare an overnight bag(s) for the next 2 days (limit 2 luggages/person). Courier services will deliver the luggages from Lake Toya to Tokyo.**

→ **Breakfast at hotel**

→ **8:30am Meet guide at lobby**



Day 5 - Lake Toya Boat Cruise

→ **9:00am Boat Cruise on Lake Toya** – Located at the center of Toya-Usu UNESCO Global Geopark, scenic Lake Toya features gorgeous scenery, wildlife, and natural landscapes. The lake was also designated as one of Japan's Top 100 Tourist Sites! During our leisurely cruise, be on the lookout for the wild ezo deer inhabiting Nakanoshima Island and the seagulls soaring above.

→ **10:30am Usuzan Ropeway** – Like Lake Toya, volcanic Mount Usu holds UNESCO Geopark status. We'll make our swift ascent towards Mount Usu's summit on the Usuzan Ropeway with an observation deck and stunning, sweeping views greeting us atop.

→ **11:30am Showa Shinzan** – Born from Mount Usu's 1943 volcanic eruption and named after Emperor Showa, this young lava dome rapidly emerged from what was once a flat wheat field and still vents sulfurous fumes. Enjoy some free time for lunch at this UNESCO Geopark.

→ **1:00pm Drive to Hakodate** – We'll make a rest stop along our drive.

→ **4:00pm Arrive at La Vista Hakodate Bay** (Free WiFi) – This onsen hotel features 6 types of hot spring baths with spectacular night views of Hakodate. It's also located on the waterfront of the Kanemori Red Brick Warehouse District, a site that earned a spot on the Michelin Green Guide!

→ **6:00pm Hakodate night tour via chartered coach**

→ **6:30pm Dinner at a local restaurant**

→ **8:00pm Hakodate Ropeway** – Our cable car ride will take us to the Mount Hakodate observatory, with panoramic views so remarkable the Michelin Green Guide awarded it with a 3 star recommendation—the highest rank!

→ **9:30pm Return to hotel**

Day 6: (Thu) June 8 - Hakodate-Aomori-Hirosaki (B/L/D)

→ Breakfast at hotel

→ 8:30am Meet guide at lobby

→ **8:45am Hakodate Morning Market** – Spanning 4 city blocks, this bustling marketplace of 250 stalls sells everything from fresh seafood, fruits, and vegetables to regional delicacies and souvenirs.

→ **10:15am Goryokaku Tower** – The tower’s observatory overlooks Goryokaku, the star shaped fortress built by the Shogunate in 1857 to protect northern Japan, as well as the beautiful surrounding foliage that changes with the seasons.

→ **12:15pm Arrive at Shin Hakodate Hokuto Station and Transfer to Shin Aomori Station (Bento box lunch on the train)**

→ **1:50pm Arrive at Shin Aomori station**



Day 6 - Nebuta festival float

→ **2:15pm Nebuta Museum Wa Rasse** – Dedicated to Aomori’s annual August Nebuta Matsuri festival, this museum showcases beautiful exhibits that tell of the 300 year old festival’s history, lore, and traditions. A museum highlight is the Nebuta parade floats; composed of painted washi paper over wire frames, these magnificent lantern floats take one year to construct and are accompanied by teams of taiko drummers, musicians, and dancers during the summer festival.

→ **3:30pm A-Factory** – This duty-free, market-style shopping center sells everything local here: sweets, processed goods, fresh vegetables and fruits, and so much more. Most notable is the onsite apple cidre (cider) factory, which produces fresh cidre and juices from locally grown Aomori apples. Aomori is the top apple producer in Japan, so the apple products here are a must try! You’ll also find restaurants and eateries using Aomori ingredients, as well as other regional goodies.

→ **5:30pm Arrive at Minamida Onsen Hotel Apple Land (Free WiFi)** – During our stay, unwind in the hotel’s apple onsens. The apples are said to benefit your skin and its delicate scent relaxes your mind and body.

→ **6:30pm Dinner at hotel**

Day 7: (Fri) June 9 - Hirosaki-Morioka-Tokyo (B/L)

→ Breakfast at hotel

→ 8:30am Meet guide at lobby

→ **9:00am Rice field observatory** – Since 1993, rice paddy art has become a cultural phenomenon in this region. Using the rice paddy as its massive canvas, villagers harvest various colored plants to paint an agricultural masterpiece. This incredible display of Japanese innovation, design, and community effort draws over 100,000 visitors annually, including the Emperor and Empress of Japan who visited in September 2014!

→ **10:30am Tsugaru Neputa Village** – This cultural center recreates the excitement and thrill of the Neputa Matsuri festival. Sharing similar origins to its cousin—the Neputa Matsuri festival in the prefectural capital of Aomori—the Neputa Matsuri festival is rooted in the Tanabata tradition of toro nagashi, a celebration of the star festival in which festival goers set lanterns afloat on rivers. Of the two festivals, Neputa is the older one and features parade floats that are semi-circular. At this village, you’ll find musical performances, traditional folk craft workshops, souvenir shops, and a restaurant that celebrates Tsugaru’s vibrant culture.

→ **12:00pm Japanese style lunch at a local restaurant**

→ **1:00pm Drive to Morioka** – We’ll make a rest stop along our drive.

→ **3:30pm Arrive at Morioka station and transit to Ueno Station**

→ **5:58pm Arrive at Ueno station**

→ **6:10pm Transfer by Chartered Coach from Ueno Station to our hotel (Free WiFi)**

→ **6:45pm Arrive at Sunshine City Prince Hotel** - After check-in, the remainder of the evening is free. The hotel is located inside a shopping mall with restaurants and is within walking distance from Seiyu supermarket for quick snack, hot food, and beverage pickups. There is also a 24-hr Family Mart Convenience Store by the hotel. We’ll be staying here until we depart (two nights).

Our hotel lobby directly connects you to Sunshine City, a huge shopping and entertainment complex with 4 towers that include an aquarium, planetarium, solarium, a virtual reality play experience, and a nearly 788 foot high skyscraper with an observation deck.

In addition to the renowned Pokemon Center Mega Tokyo, Sunshine City is also home to Namja Town, a food and dessert theme park. If you’re in the mood to shop, check out Tobu Department Store and Seibu Ikebukuro Flagship Store. Inside Seibu is the Kit-Kat Chocolatory, the world’s first Kit-Kat boutique. Don’t miss your chance to try special and seasonal Kit-Kat flavors like purple potato, cinnamon cookie, european cheese, bean cake and wasabi-these

make for great gifts too!

Alternatively, Ikebukuro station is close by and has rail lines connecting you to other popular areas like Shinagawa, Shibuya, Shinjuku, Ueno, and Akihabara.

Day 8: (Sat) June 10 - Tokyo (B)

→ Breakfast at hotel

→ 8:30am Meet guide at lobby

→ 9:00am Tsukiji Outer Market – A renowned bucketlist spot, Tsukiji is the largest fish market in the world. While the inner auction market relocated in 2018, the charm remains in its outer market. With the 90 mins we spend here, be sure to enjoy all that the outer market has to offer, from seasonal produce and candy tasting to knife-making artisan shops.



Day 8 - Ameyoko Shopping Street

→ 11:00am Ameyoko Shopping Street – the absolutely perfect place to get your omiyage. “Ameyoko” is short for “Ameya Yokocho” or “candy shop back alley” since candies were traditionally sold there. Alternatively, it is short for “America,” a callback to the post WWII era when American products were sold there illegally. Now, the street is lined with over 400 shops from cooked street food, snacks like dried squid, and fresh seafood to clothes, bags, accessories, cosmetics, and much more! Enjoy 1.5 hours here to explore and have lunch on your own.

→ 1:30pm Shibuya Sky – This open-air observatory sits atop the Shibuya Scramble Square—the tallest building in Shibuya with over 200 shops and restaurants—and offers unparalleled 360-degree views of Tokyo (there’s a special spot to see Mt. Fuji on a clear day!). In addition to overlooking the famous and ever busy intersection of Shibuya Scramble Crossing, Shibuya Sky also features rooftop hammocks for cloud watching, an indoor observation corridor with interactive art installations, and a cafe bar.

→ 3:00pm Harajuku & Takeshita-dori – the heart of all things trendy and eccentric. More than just its colorful street art and its youth-driven quirky fashion culture, this area is also a haven for sweets like gigantic cotton candy, crepes, and cream puffs. There is also a multi-story Daiso nearby.

→ 5:15pm Return to hotel – Enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure.

Day 9: (Sun) June 11 - Tokyo-Haneda-Honolulu (B)

→ Breakfast at hotel

→ 9:30am Meet guide at lobby

→ 10:00am Rikugien Garden – Around this ornate landscaped garden, also known as the “Six Poems Garden,” you’ll find reproductions of 88 miniature scenes from famous poems.



Day 9 - Divercity - Gundam Statue

→ 11:45am Divercity Shopping Center, Odaiba - Enjoy lunch on your own & spend some free time to do some last minute shopping at the Divercity Shopping Center. Don’t forget to get a photo in front of the life-sized Unicorn Gundam Statue, towering at 78 feet!

→ 2:15pm TeamLab Planets Toyosu – At this immersive museum, visitors pass through labyrinth-like rooms to experience fields of flowers, look up at walls that appear to be composed of brightly lit geographic shapes, and dive into other digital art spaces that play with technology and perspective.

→ 5:00pm Arrive at Haneda Airport

→ 8:15pm Depart from Haneda Airport by HA864 for Honolulu

→ 8:50am Arrive in Honolulu (same day)

Thank you for traveling with us! 🐼

Need to Know...



Payment Policy

- » Reserve with **\$75 per person deposit. Refundable up to 60 days prior to departure date, April 4, 2023.**
- » **Final payment due by April 16, 2023. Package is non-refundable after this date.**

* Fares and Fees (Priced in USD)

- » Are subject to change in light of fuel supplements, taxes, and differences in costs.
- » Air ticket fare is guaranteed, but taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges are subject to change until tickets are issued, approximately 45 days out.
- » We reserve the right to make changes to the itinerary with or without notice.



Special Assistance

- » You must inform us of any disability/impairment that requires special attention at the time of your making the reservation.
- » We reserve the right to cancel the reservation(s) if the disability/impairment is unsuitable for the tour.
- » You are also responsible for any costs and/or accommodations related to your disability/impairment, such as providing your own travel companion.



Travel Insurance

- » We highly recommend the purchase of trip insurance. Please ask our representatives for more information.



Travel Documents

- » A valid passport is required for all U.S. citizens and must be valid and not expire at least 6 months from the return tour date.
- » Non-U.S. passport holders must check with the Japanese Consulate to see if a visa is required.



Land Tour Operator & Costs

- » Land Tour Operator is Nippon Travel Agency.
- » Land Tour costs are based on current currency conversion rates, which are subject to change.



Other remarks

- » Not Included in the tour: Gratuities for local English speaking guide; additional baggage fee charges from the airlines; alcohol and soft drinks with meals.
- » A minimum of 16 participants are required for the tour to operate.
- » You are expected to abide by domestic and international government and accommodation policies related to health, safety, and welfare.