

Join Panda Travel in...



# 2024 Hokkaido Summer Explorer

(GP13107)



Cancel for any reason up  
to 65 days prior to departure  
date for a FULL REFUND!

June 4 - 12, 2024

7 Nights/ 9 Days

*Sapporo - Otaru -  
Noboribetsu - Hakodate*

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

**\$3,729\***

per person-triple occupancy

**\$3,729\***

per person-double occupancy

**\$4,179\***

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

## Day 1: (Tue) Jun 4 – Honolulu Depart Honolulu via Hawaiian Airlines

→ Meet the Panda Travel representative 3 hours prior to departure at the Hawaiian Airlines check-in counters.

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## Day 2: (Wed) Jun 5 – Chitose-Sapporo

New Otani Inn Sapporo (Free WiFi)

→ Arrive at Chitose Airport and meet your local English speaking guide at the arrival lobby. We'll then transfer to New Otani Inn Sapporo, our accommodation for the next 3 nights.

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## Day 3: (Thu) Jun 6 – Sapporo (B)

New Otani Inn Sapporo (Free WiFi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 9:00am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour around Sapporo.

→ 9:30am – Our morning begins with a visit to **Sapporo Central Wholesale Market**, also known as Jogai. This market offers some of the freshest fish and marine delicacies in Japan. At the “Curb Market,” you can find approx. 60 stores selling everything from fruits, seasonal goods and local Hokkaido specialties.

→ 11:00am – Onto our next adventure, **Okurayama Ski Jump Stadium**. 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. 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!

→ 12:30pm – Enjoy lunch on your own at **Sapporo Ramen Yokochō**, a bustling tourist hub of 17 renowned Sapporo ramen eateries. Choose from a variety of ramen flavors from Sapporo classics to inventive ingredient combinations.

→ 1:45pm – Join local shoppers and enthusiasts at Sapporo's oldest covered shopping arcade (since 1868!), the **Sapporo Tanukikoji Shopping Street**. This historic landmark stretches 10 blocks and features over 200 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 that you can browse through.

→ 4:00pm – Return to hotel. The remainder of the day is yours at leisure.

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## Day 4: (Fri) Jun 7 – Sapporo-Otaru-Sapporo (B)

New Otani Inn Sapporo (Free WiFi)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour in Otaru.

→ 9:30am – Our first visit this morning will be at the long-standing kamaboko fish paste company, **Kamaei Kamaboko Store**. At the conclusion of our tour, sample fresh kamaboko and shop around for some specialty goods.

→ 10:45am – Next, explore **Otaru 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. As a highlight of your visit, delight in a **hands-on music box making experience** where you'll craft your own musical masterpiece.

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 confectionery shop** and try the famous multi-layered honey wheeled cakes that have a cult-like following.

Enjoy free time with lunch on your own - try a soft serve cone from **Yamanaka Dairy Farm** as you stroll past locally crafted music boxes and glassware, or sample fresh local seafood at one of the many restaurants in the area. **LeTAO Plus**, a memorable sweet shop, has 50 varieties of cakes and sweets, a cafe on the 2nd floor, and a free observatory on the 3rd floor.

→ 3:00pm – Later today, we'll visit **Royce' Cacao & Chocolate Town**. This brand new facility (launched in Nov 2022) takes visitors through an immersive factory experience. Here, we'll learn how cocoa beans transform into chocolate bars, browse through Royce's antique collections, and delight in the baked sweets, soft serve ice cream, and 200 types of chocolate available at their on-site shop.

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

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## Day 5: (Sat) Jun 8 – Sapporo-Noboribetsu (B/D)

Iwainoyado Noboribetsu Grand Hotel (Free WiFi) - [Enjoy onsen](#)

→ Breakfast at hotel.

→ 8:30am – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour to Noboribetsu.

→ 10:00am – Our morning begins with a visit to **Upopoy**

**National Ainu Museum and Park**, Hokkaido's first national museum and Japan's first national museum dedicated to the indigenous Ainu people of northern Japan. At this open-air facility, we'll learn about the rich and vibrant Ainu culture through hundreds of native artifacts, a replica Ainu village, and more!

→ **12:15pm** – Now a trip back in time to historic Japan at the **Noboribetsu Date Jidaimura Village**, a charming Edo Period theme park with replica Edo-era architecture, traditional games and activities, and costumed ninjas, samurais, and geishas strolling the village streets. And at 1:30pm, we'll catch an exhilarating live **Ninja show!** Enjoy lunch on your own and an afternoon of wandering through samurai exhibits and outwitting the tricks and traps of the kid-friendly Ninja Maze.

→ **3:15pm** – Welcome to **Noboribetsu Jigokudani**, an otherworldly land of bubbling hot waters, steaming pools, and bleached rocks. Beloved by the Hokkaido people and recognized as a "Hokkaido Heritage" site, this productive crater feeds 10,000 tons of natural hot spring waters to onsen hotels and resorts in the area daily.

→ **4:15pm** – Arrive at **Iwainoyado Noboribetsu Grand Hotel**, followed by a buffet dinner at 6pm. Tonight's hotel is one of Japan's leading onsen resorts, having even previously provided lodging for a Japanese Emperor and Empress. Be sure to check out the various onsite hot spring amenities like an open-air Japanese garden bath with waterfalls, a Roman style bath, and more.

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### Day 6: (Sun) Jun 9 – Noboribetsu-Hakodate (B)

La Vista Hakodate Bay (Free WiFi) - [Enjoy onsen](#)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:30am** – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour to Hakodate.

→ **9:30am** – Our morning begins with a sightseeing **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.

→ **11:15am** – Next, a visit to UNESCO Geopark **Showa Shinzan**, a lava dome born from Mount Usu's 1943 volcanic eruption. Explore and enjoy some free time for lunch at this astounding natural landmark.

→ **3:15pm** – Here we are at **Michino-eki Shikabe Kanketsusen Park**, the home of an incredible geyser that spouts over 50 ft of volcanic steam at 10-15 min intervals.

→ **5:30pm** – Arrive at **La Vista Hakodate Bay**. 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 has earned a spot on the Michelin Green Guide!

→ **7:30pm** – After dinner on your own, meet your guide at the hotel lobby. Time to explore **Mt. Hakodate!**

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

→ **9:30pm** – Return to hotel.

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### Day 7: (Mon) Jun 10 – Hakodate-Sapporo (B/D)

New Otani Inn Sapporo (Free WiFi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **8:45am** – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a drive to Sapporo. Your suitcase will be delivered by courier service from Hakodate to your hotel in Sapporo on the same day.

→ **9:15am** – Along the way, we'll visit **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 scenery that changes with the seasons.

→ **11:15am** – Now, we are at the **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.

→ **1:31pm** – We'll take a **Limited Express Train** ride from Hakodate Station to Sapporo.

→ **5:30pm** – After arriving at Sapporo Station, we'll make our way to enjoy kani (crab) dinner.

→ **8:00pm** – Arrive at **New Otani Inn Sapporo**. Enjoy the evening at leisure.

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### Day 8: (Tue) Jun 11 – Sapporo-Free Day at Leisure (B)

New Otani Inn Sapporo (Free WiFi)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.** Enjoy your free day to explore Sapporo!

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### Day 9: (Wed) Jun 12 – Sapporo-Chitose-Honolulu (B)

→ **Breakfast at hotel.**

→ **9:30am** – Meet your guide at the hotel lobby for a full day tour around Sapporo.

→ **10:00am** – Begin the day with a visit to **Shiroi Koibito Park**, a whimsical theme park with a central mascot that’s especially exciting: chocolate! Operated by famed local chocolate company, Ishiya, this theme park is known for its flagship confectionery, a buttery cookie sandwich with a thin white chocolate in between. Be sure to take home some cookies (the best Sapporo souvenirs!).

→ **11:15am** – Our next stop will be **AEON Mall Sapporo Hassamu**, a sprawling shopping center full of clothing shops, specialty stores, restaurants and more.

→ **2:15pm** – On our way to the airport, we’ll stop at the **Chitose Salmon Aquarium**. Historically, salmon was an important resource for the indigenous Ainu people and it continues to be a food staple in Hokkaido today. At this aquarium, we’ll learn more about the cultural impact of this aquatic icon and peer inside its world in Japan’s first “underwater observation room.”

→ We’ll now take a moment to explore **Michi-no-eki Salmon Park Chitose**, a rest area located along a National Highway that connects Chitose and Otaru. Unique to this complex is the Chitose River that runs by, with sights of salmon swimming upstream in autumn. Salmon Park Chitose also features a grocery store, restaurant, cafes, souvenir shops, and salmon focused products.

→ **4:00pm** – **Arrive at New Chitose Airport to begin our check-in process for the flight home.**

→ **Depart from Chitose via Hawaiian Airlines.**

→ **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 65 days prior to departure date, March 31, 2024.**
- » **Final payment due by April 15, 2024. 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 50 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.