



Asahi-dake to Kuro-dake Traverse

旭岳～黒岳縦走 Hiking Map 1:25000



0 250 500 750 1000m

1cm on the map equals approx. 250m on the ground
Magnetic declination: 9° 28' W

Map by hokkadowilds.org CC BY-SA 4.0

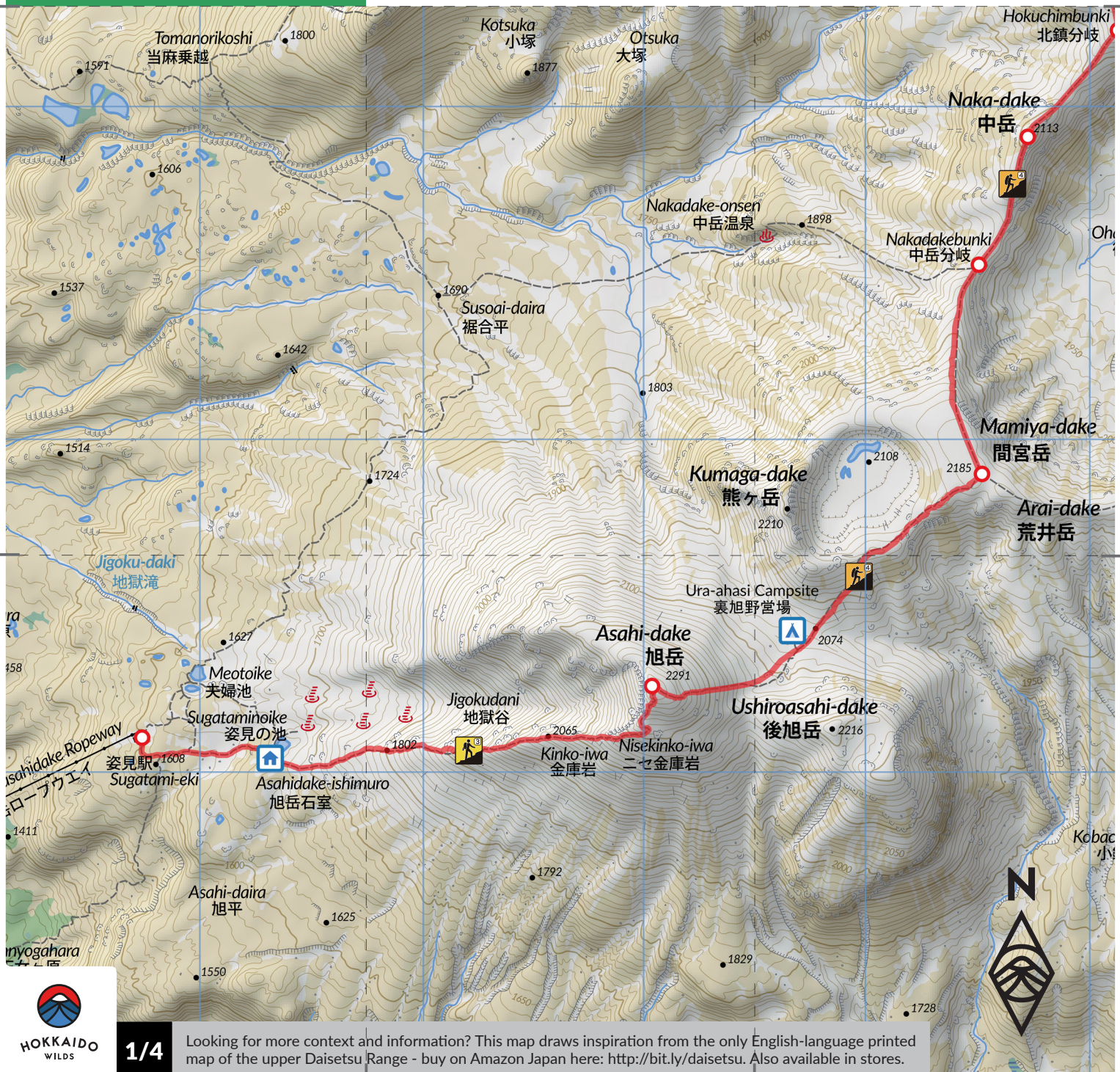
Symbol Key (some may not be present)

- 0:30 → Route (time between points)
- National Highway
- Prefectural Road
- Municipal Road
- Minor Municipal Road
- Walkway
- Bus route (bus stop)
- 600 Contour lines (100m, 10m)
- Power transmission lines
- Trees/shrubs
- Rocks/cliff
- Onsen (hot spring)
- Fumerole
- 1022 Highway number
- Designated campsite
- Hut

この地図の作成に当たっては、国土地理院長の承認を得て、同院発行の基礎地図情報及び電子地形図（タイル）を使用した。（承認番号 平 30 情使、第 867 号）。また、1/25,000 縮尺の GIS データ（環境省生物多様性センター）も使用し、hokkadowilds.org が作成・加工したものである。
This map uses the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan digital basemap (tiles) and basemap data, with the permission of the Authority's director (permission no. 平 30 情使、第 867 号). It also uses modified 1:25,000 scale vegetation map GIS data created by the Biodiversity Center of Japan, Ministry of the Environment (<http://gis.biodic.go.jp/>).

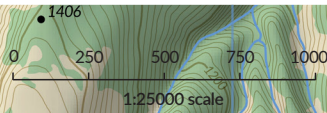
Japanese Map Glossary

Romaji	Kanji	English
bunki	分岐	junction
cho	町	town
dake/mine	岳/峯	peak
eki	駅	station
hinangoya	避難小屋	shelter
ike	池	pond
kawa/gawa	川	river
kako	火口	crater
ko/mizumi	湖	lake
kyo	峡	gorge
numa	沼	pond
onsen	温泉	hot spring
sawa	沢	stream
taira/daira	平	plateau
tani/dani	谷	valley
taki	滝	waterfall
toge	峠	pass
yama/san/zan	山	mountain



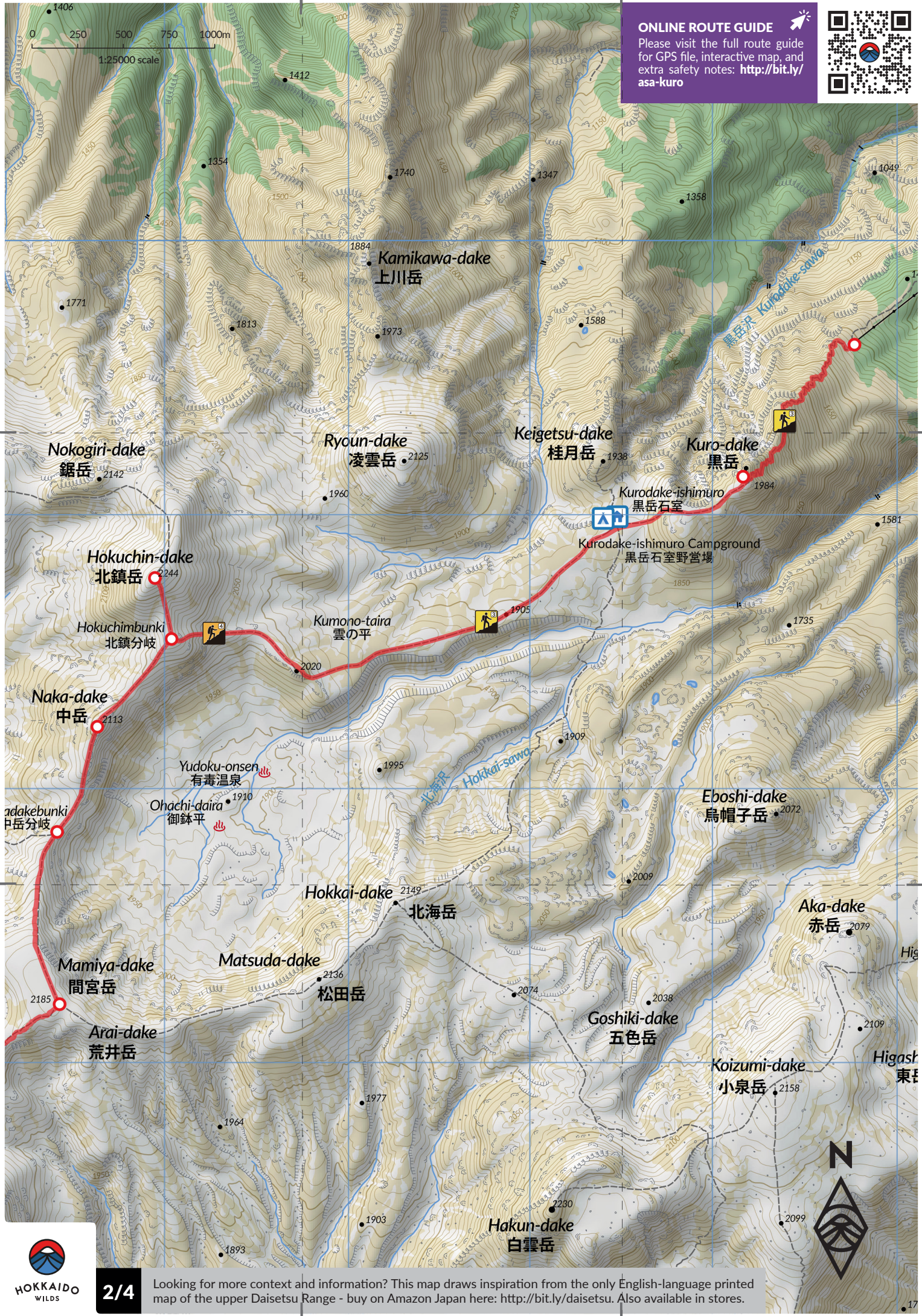
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Looking for more context and information? This map draws inspiration from the only English-language printed map of the upper Daisetsu Range - buy on Amazon Japan here: <http://bit.ly/daisetsu>. Also available in stores.



ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

Please visit the full route guide for GPS file, interactive map, and extra safety notes: <http://bit.ly/asa-kuro>



Asahi-dake to Kuro-dake Traverse



8hrs
Time



1010m
Total Climb



2291m
Highest point



13km
Distance



6/10
Difficulty



Jun-Sep
Best season

With ropeway access at either end, this high-level traverse from Asahidake (旭岳, 2291m) to Kurodake (黒岳, 1984m) is one of the most popular hikes in the national park. Indeed, it is known as the Ginza route (after Tokyo's famous shopping area) for the numbers of people on the trail at weekends and holidays. But don't let this put you off; there are expansive views as the trail skirts the rim of the dramatic Ohachidaira crater, beautiful alpine flowers in season, snowfields to negotiate and a mountain refuge to visit as you cross the roof of Hokkaido. The route can be done in either direction.

LOCATION

This hike starts (location) at 1600m from the upper ropeway station at Sugatami on the western flank of Asahidake above Asahidake Onsen spa and finishes at 1510m at the chairlift on Kurodake (here) that connects with the ropeway from the hot spring complex at Sounkyo 層雲峡. Naturally it can also be done the other way round!



GENERAL NOTES

This hike can be done in a day in either direction. This description starts from Asahidake and gets the more exposed section done earlier in the day. Alternatively, you could camp at one of the two designated campsites along the way or stay a night in the Kurodake Ishimuro Hut. If starting from Sounkyo and wishing to return there, the walk around the rim of Ohachidaira from Kurodake is a great day out (7-8hrs) which joins the Hokuchindake and Hokkaidake sections described here.

The main season for summer hiking in Daisetsuzan is July and August; before and after this you need to be prepared and equipped for snow on the ground and/or falling from the sky. The base for this climb is at Asahidake Onsen, a small collection of lodgings and hot springs below the ropeway up the mountain. Accommodation options include a youth hostel and a campsite as well as local Japanese style pensions and hotels. The

upper ropeway station at Sugatami has toilets and a small restaurant. There are no safe water sources beyond this point.

In high season (June-late October) the ropeway operates every 15 minutes from 06:30 up to 17:30 down (08:00 – 17:00 later in the season – be sure to check the schedule) and costs 1800yen one way (asahidake.hokkaido.jp). The route finishes by taking the Kurodake chairlift and then the ropeway down to Sounkyo Gorge where there are more hotels and hot springs, a Visitor Centre and bus connections to Asahikawa. The ropeway is operated by Rinyu Kanko (01658 53031, rinyu.co.jp) and runs from 06:00 – 19:00 till August 20, and 06:00 – 18:00 into September (but check to confirm current schedule and prices). Cost is 1100yen one way and 400yen for the chairlift (this finishes a bit earlier than the ropeway so check the time beforehand).

If making an overnighter of it then tents can be pitched at the wild and windy Ura-asahi campground behind Asahidake (no facilities, water is obtained from runoff from a snowfield and must be boiled or filtered) and beside the Kurodake Ishimuro Hut. Or you can stay in the hut itself though it may be full in high season.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

The route is well defined with occasional splashes of yellow paint on rocks and roped areas to keep people from trampling rare alpine plants.



Trail junctions are marked by large signposts (in Japanese). From the summit of Asahidake take the trail east heading to Mamiyadake (間宮岳, 2185m, about 1 hour) down past the Ura-asahi designated camping area (no facilities). Early in the season this descent will be over a large snowfield. From Mamiyadake you have a choice of taking either the northern



or southern rim of Ohachidaira crater. Views are spectacular from both sides. If going north, take the trail to Nakadake Bunki (中岳分岐) and on to Hokuchin Bunki (北鎮分岐) – from here you can nip up and down Hokuchindake (北鎮岳 2244m), Hokkaido's second highest peak (about 30 mins round trip). Then continue east to the Kurodake

Ishimuro Hut (黒岳石室), descending a large snowfield early in the season (the trail should be marked with red dye but take care in mist). The southern variant is slightly shorter and takes you over Hokkaidake (北海岳, 2149m), and includes a river crossing that could mean wet feet after heavy rain or when the snowmelt is in full swing. Allow about 3hrs to get to the Kurodake Ishimuro Hut via the northern route (including climbing Hokuchindake) and about 2hrs if going via Hokkaidake. Both trails meet again just before the hut. From the hut you make the short 20 min climb up Kurodake (黒岳) then descend the switchback path northeast to the chairlift down to Sounkyo (層雲峡, 50mins). Be careful not to miss the last one from here or the ropeway below. There are big signs warning of how much it will cost you (lots!) if they have to run it again just for you!

TRANSPORT

By car: Easy road access to both ropeway terminals from the Asahikawa direction. There is ample parking in the large car parks by the ropeway stations, some may charge fees.

Public transport | To Asahidake Onsen: From JR Asahikawa Train Station, there is a bus (Ideyugo いで湯号), operated by the Asahikawa Denki Kido Bus company (tel: 0166 23 3355), that runs to the Asahidake-Onsen spa area. As of November 2018, there were four buses per day there (07:11, 09:41, 13:11, 16:24) and four returning (09:30, 12:00, 15:30, 18:00). The fare is around 1430yen one way, and it takes around 1 hour 40 minutes.

To Sounkyo: From JR Asahikawa Station and JR Kamikawa Station there are buses (signed 層雲峡行き) operated by Dohoku Bus company (0166 23 4161, dohokubus.com). There are seven buses a day in each direction and the journey takes about 2 hrs from Asahikawa, 2100yen one way.

SAFETY NOTES

On a fine summer day with hordes of other walkers around you'll wonder what all the fuss is about, but this is a dangerous place in bad weather with real risks of hypothermia for poorly equipped hikers. Conditions can change quickly, it is very exposed to the wind and the upper slopes can be much colder than down at the lower ropeway station. Carry appropriate gear. The ridges are broad and open so it is possible to become disoriented in mist. Below Hokuchindake the route descends a snowfield and is marked in season with red dye. On the Hokkaidake variant you cross the river that flows out of Ohachidaira crater. This is normally straightforward but could be difficult in periods of



KURODAKE ISHIMURO HUT



Details: The most fully-serviced hut in Hokkaido. Can be used all year round, but in winter it will be buried in snow. Has hutkeepers in summer. Campsite nearby.

Capacity: 80 persons.

Cost: 2000yen per night.

Contact: Kurodake Ropeway, TEL: 01658-5-3031.

Booking details: No need to book, but the hut is very busy in the high season (August).

peak snowmelt or after heavy rain. Be aware that bears live throughout the national park. There are usually rangers at the upper ropeway station at Sugatami who can offer advice on trail conditions etc.

ONSEN NEARBY

Both trailheads have a number of hot springs that take day visitors, including the Shirakabaso (白樺荘) youth hostel in Asahidake Onsen (location | 800yen per person) and Kurodake no Yu (黒岳の湯) in Sounkyo (location | 600yen per person). This place also serves delicious Italian food (pasta and pizza) in the ground-floor-restaurant. ■

DAISETSUZAN GRADE SYSTEM



GRADE 3 - Trails to experience beautiful nature. Trails with good access to and from the trailhead, which can be done as a day-walk. Grade-3 trails have a priority to conserve a natural atmosphere rather than provide of comfort underfoot. A certain level of risk management ability is necessary.



GRADE 4 - Trails with challenging terrain | Trails with difficulties in predicting sudden changes of weather due to topography. Grade-4 trails require an overnight stay in the mountains due to long-distance from the trailhead to the nearest hut, of from one hut to another. The trails require hikers/trekkers to have a high-level of skill in negotiating strong winds on trails above the timberline and crossing torrents along valley. Grade-4 trails have a priority to conserve a natural atmosphere, so hikers/trekkers need to have risk management ability and a high-level of risk assessment ability.

(From <http://bit.ly/daisetsu-g>)

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Disclaimer The information on this map was derived from digital databases provided by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan and the Biodiversity Center of Japan. Care was taken in the creation of this map. HokkaidoWilds.org cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, including the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this product. However, notification of any errors will be appreciated.

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PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1

Load your printer with A4 printer paper (210mm x 297mm). If you've only got Letter size (215.9mm x 279.4 mm), just follow the instructions below. You'll achieve an accurate scale, but the map will be clipped a little at the top and bottom.

STEP 2

Open the print window by clicking on File > Print (or hitting Ctrl + P on your keyboard).

STEP 3

Make sure "Actual Size" is selected.

STEP 4

For double-sided printing, select "Print on both sides of paper".

STEP 5

For best results, select the highest quality print option available on your printer (settings will vary).

STEP 6

You won't need this instructions page, so just select the pages that don't include this instruction sheet.

STEP 7

Click "Print".

PLEASE PRINT AT 'ACTUAL SIZE' (NO SCALING)

The 1:25,000 scale used in the map is accurate if the PDF is printed without scaling (i.e., ACTUAL SIZE). Follow the instructions on this page to ensure an accurate rendering of the scale.

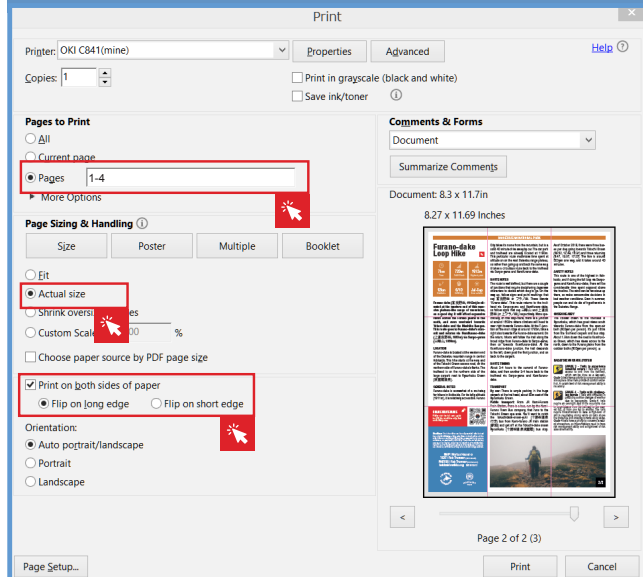


Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size", and Pages 1-4 are selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

