



# South Daisetsuzan Traverse (Tomuraushi to Oputateshike)

南大雪山横断 Hiking Map 1:25000



0 250 500 750 1000m

1cm on the map equals approx. 250m on the ground  
Magnetic declination: 9° 26' W

Map by [hokkadowilds.org](http://hokkadowilds.org)/Rob Thomson CC BY-SA 2019/02/27

## 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)
- Avalanche-prone slope
- 600 Contour lines (100m, 10m)
- Power transmission lines
- Trees/shrubs
- Rocks/cliff
- Onsen (hot spring)
- Fumerole
- 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 種生図 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

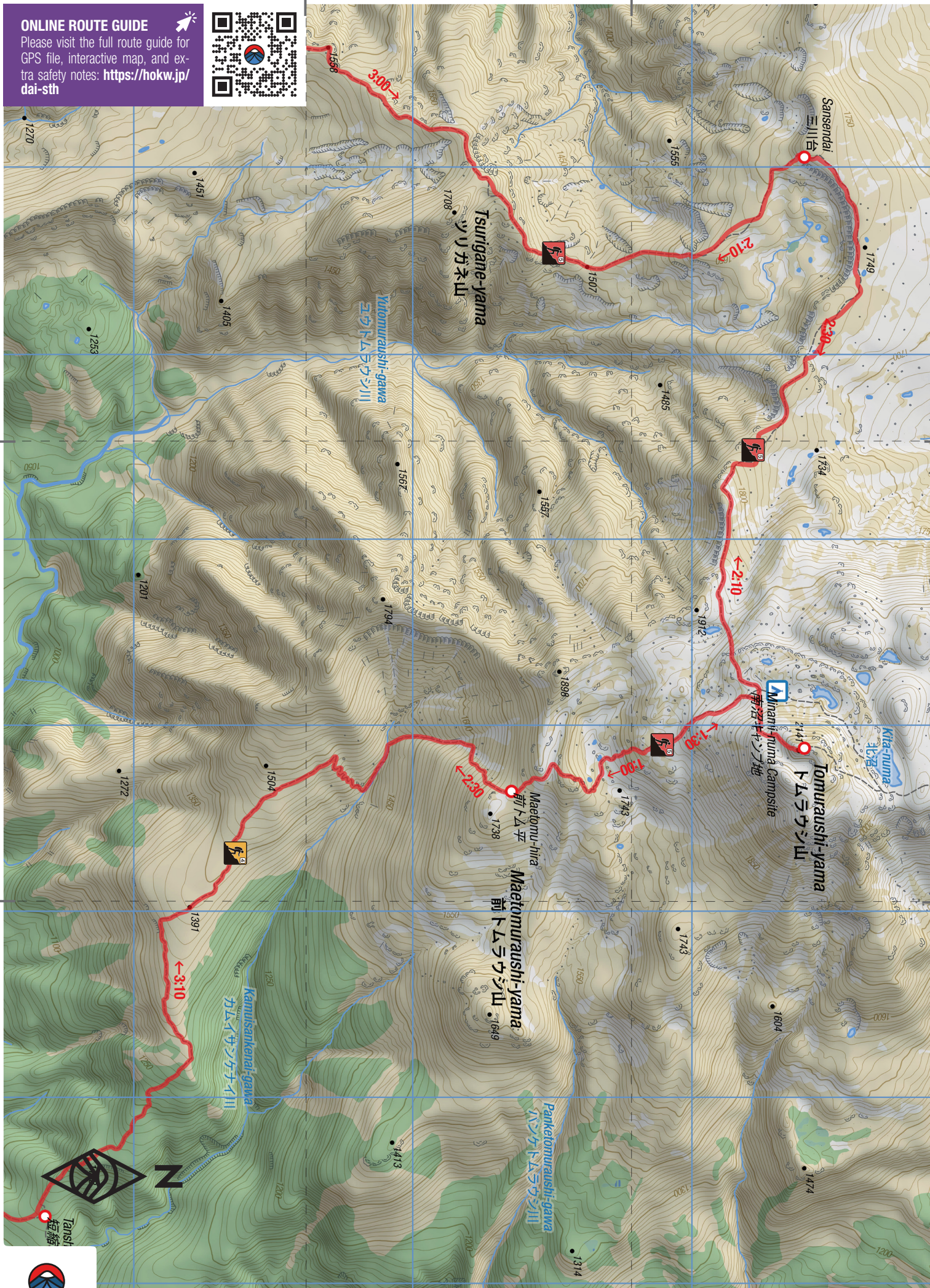
Romaji	Kanji	English
bunki	分岐	junction
cho	町	town
dake/mine	岳/峯	peak
eki	駅	station
goya/koya	小屋	hut
hinangoya	避難小屋	shelter
ike	池	pond
kawa/gawa	川	river
kako	火口	crater
ko/mizumi	湖	lake
kyo	峡	gorge
numa	沼	pond
onsen	温泉	hot spring
sawa	沢	stream
taira/daira	平	plateau
tani/dani	谷	valley
taki	滝	waterfall
toge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



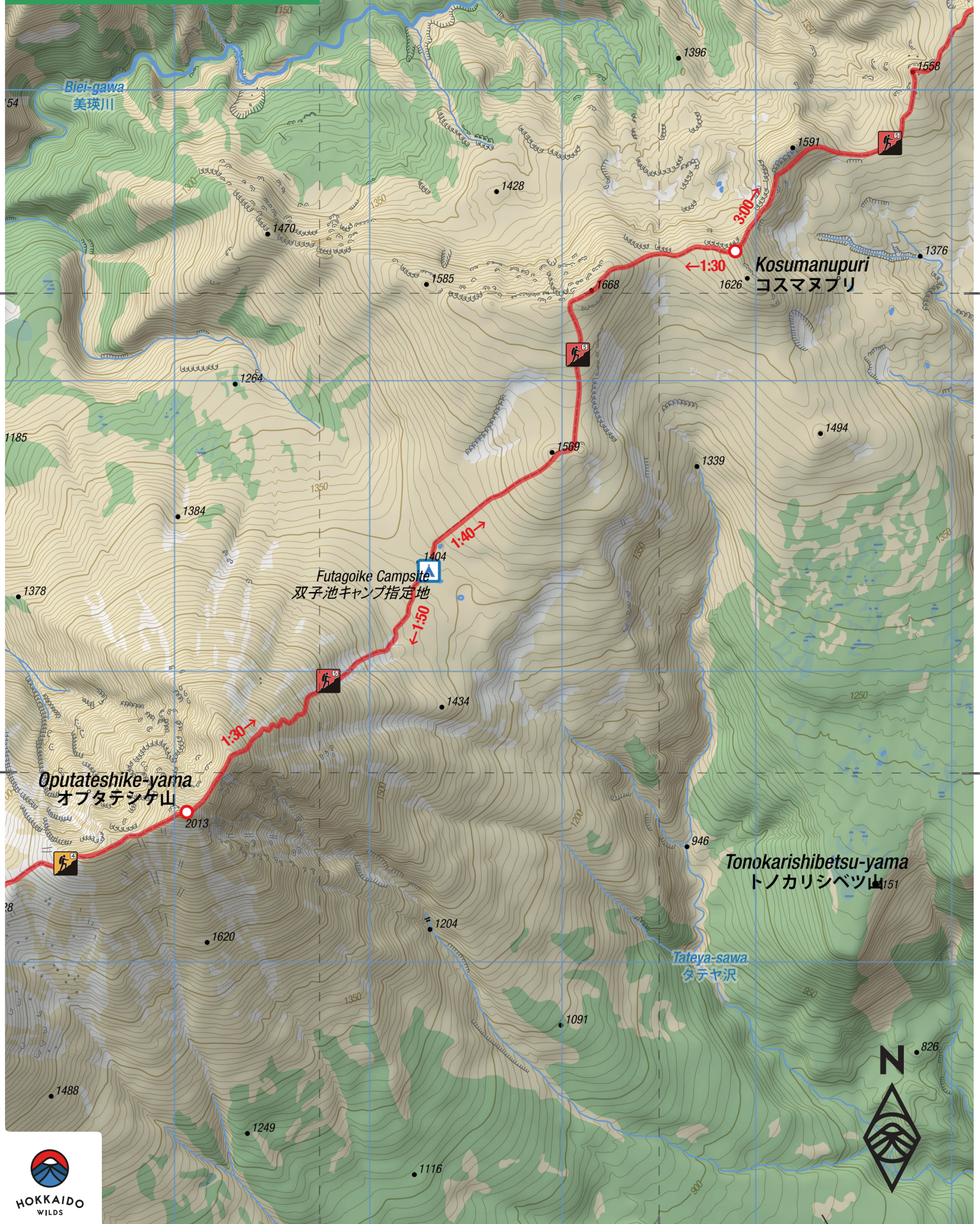


# ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

Please visit the full route guide for GPS file, interactive map, and extra safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/dai-sth>













# South Daisetsuzan Traverse



3 days  
Time



2590m  
Total Climb



2141m  
Highest point



36km  
Distance



9/10  
Difficulty



Jul-Sep  
Best season

**Mt Tomuraushi (トムラウシ山, 2141m) stands at the southern end of the main Daisetsuzan range and is one of the prized 100 Famous Mountains (hyakumeizan) of Japan, known for its remoteness and alpine flowers. It can be done as a long day hike, but this three-day expedition continues southwest along a rough and less-travelled trail to link up with the string of active volcanic peaks that make up the Tokachi Range. Wild mountain camps, some tough bushwhacking and the fine summit ridge of Oputateshike (オプタテシケ山, 2013m) make this a challenging but rewarding high-level trek.**

## LOCATION

Tomuraushi-yama is located at the southern end of the Daisetsu mountain range in central Hokkaido. This three-day backpacking route traverses across to the Tokachi Range which runs southwest from Daisetsuzan to near Furano. The hike starts at the very end of the Tomuraushi Onsen (トムラウシ温泉) access road, on the southern flanks of the mountain. It ends at the car park at Bogakudai (望岳台) below Tokachi-dake, a few kilometres above Shirogane Onsen (白金温泉). It could easily

be extended to take in more of the peaks of the Tokachi Range such as Biei-dake (美瑛岳) if you have an extra day.

## GENERAL NOTES

The best season for this walk is July to early September. You will almost certainly have to stay a night at the trailhead at Tomuraushi Onsen before you start, either at the single large lodge (Higashi-Daisetsuso 東大雪荘, tel: 0156 65 3021) or the campsite nearby (400yen, pay at the lodge). The campsite has basic facilities but water must be boiled or filtered. The trek ends at a popular car parking area from where you will either need to hitch a lift or walk another few kilometres down to Shirogane Onsen (hot springs, accommodation, campsite and bus to Biei Town). There is a hiking course marked on the map taking a couple of hours but I have never done it.

**Camping:** You need to be completely self-sufficient which means carrying a tent, and all food and fuel etc for at least three days. Finding water can be an issue; a water filter is worth having as you can refill along the way if possible. Camping in the national park is only permitted at designated campsites. Some are next to huts and have access to toilet facilities. Others, including the two on this route, are just open sites with no

toilet facilities, although the Minami Tomuraushi site has a booth where you can do your business in a portable toilet (see below). Water is obtained from streams fed by snowmelt and must be boiled or filtered. The water sources can dry up later in the season; at the Futagoike site below Oputateshike it was little more than a trickle when we stayed there in early August.

**Pack it out:** There is an increasing problem with human waste pollution around these camping grounds. The park authorities are encouraging the use of 'portable toilets'. These toilet kits can be bought for a couple of hundred yen at outdoor stores and consist of a large plastic bag into which you do your business, then add the contents of a magic sachet that solidifies and deodorizes the waste. You then seal this in the provided strong Ziploc-type bag, double-bag it, and pack it out to dispose of later. Some trailheads have special bins for this. If you find this procedure gross, better stick to day hikes!

**Huts:** There are no huts conveniently located for an overnight stay. On the third day the route passes the unmanned Bieifuji Refuge.

## ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

The trail is well defined though muddy and/or rough in places. There are occasional splashes of yellow paint and large wooden signposts (in Japanese) at trail junctions. Times are approximate, do not include lengthy breaks for meals or frequent selfie stops, and will vary with conditions and fitness.

**Day 1 - Higashi-Daisetsu Lodge to Minaminuma Campsite, 7hrs** | From the trailhead by the Higashi-Daisetsu Lodge begin the climb up through the forest. This first section can be shortened by driving further up a forest road so day walkers with cars tend to skip it – you may be able to get a lift.







## BIEIFUJI REFUGE HUT



**Details:** A very basic, unmanned hut. During the high season, a toilet tent/shelter is set up for privacy when using one's portable toilet.

**Capacity:** 25 persons.

**Cost:** No charge.

**Contact:** Biei Town Hall General Affairs Department (美瑛町役場総務課), TEL: 0166-92-1111

**Booking details:** Not possible to book. The hut can be very busy in the high season (August).

After the junction where the shortcut trail merges (1.5 – 2hrs) continue up and along a ridge before dropping down steeply to Komadorizawa (コマドリ沢) in another 2hrs or so. Cross the stream and climb up through a boulder field to Maetomudaira (前トム平) (1hr). From here the trail passes through flower meadows and rock gardens up to the campsite and trail junction (トムラウシ分岐) near the Minaminuma campsite (南沼キャンプ指定地) (1.5 hrs). The summit of Tomuraushi is a 20min climb from the junction.

## Day 2 - Minaminuma Campsite to Futagoike Campsite, 7hrs | Head west

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Please visit the full route guide for GPS file, interactive map, and extra safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/dai-sth>



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**MAP** | Rob Thomson

[hokkaidowilds.org](http://hokkaidowilds.org) 2019/02/27

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominika Gan

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along the easy broad ridge to Sansendai (三川台) (2hrs). From here the trail gets rougher and runs through dwarf juniper thickets, turning south then southwest over the minor peaks of Tsuriganeyama (ツリガネ山) and Kosumanupuri (コスヌブリ) to Futagoike (双子池) and the Futagoike campsite (双子池キャンプ指定地) below Oputateshike (4-5hrs).

**Day 3 - Futagoike Campsite to Bogakudai, 8hrs** | Climb the imposing bulk of Oputateshike (オプタテシケ山) (2hrs). Descend the ridge and over Begetsudake (ベベツ岳) and Ishigakiyama (石垣山) to the trail junction above the Bieifuji Refuge (美瑛富士避難小屋) (2hrs). Continue to the Bieifuji Bunki (美瑛富士分岐) trail junction in 30mins. From here (unless you have the time and energy to bag Bieidake in front of you) take the traverse path that drops down to the west, joining up with the path from Bieidake at (美瑛岳分岐) after 50mins. Drop down a steep rough section to a stream, then continue traversing around and across another stream (with steep banks and a ladder) to the junction at Kumonodaira Bunki (雲ノ平分岐) (1.5 hrs) below Tokachidake. From here it's a 45min walk down to the trailhead at Bogakudai (望岳台).

### TRANSPORT

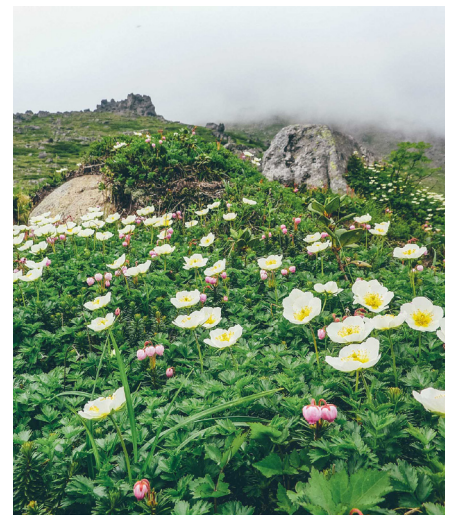
**By car** | There is ample parking at both ends of this route.

**Public transport** | *To Tomuraushi Onsen:* From Shintoku JR Station there is a bus operated by Hokkaido Takushoku Bus Company (0155 31 8811) during the main season (mid-July to mid-August, check the dates with the company). There are two services daily in each direction, 2000 yen one way. Booking is highly advised. If you are staying at the Higashi-Daisetsu Lodge there may be a shuttle bus service – enquire to the lodge (TEL: 0156-65-3021).

*From/to Shirogane Onsen:* Five buses a day run to and from Biei JR Station. Dohoku Bus Company (0166 23 4161). 650 yen one way.

### SAFETY NOTES

This route takes you into the wild interior of the mountain range away from more popular day hike areas and on to quieter, rougher and more isolated trails. Daisetsuzan is a dangerous place in bad weather with real risks of hypothermia for poorly equipped hikers; there is a very real reminder of that on this route as it takes you



through the terrain of the tragic Tomuraushi Incident of 2009. Conditions can change quickly, it is very exposed to the wind and the upper slopes can be much colder than down at the trailhead. Carry appropriate gear and enough emergency supplies to sit out bad weather if necessary. The ridges are mainly broad and featureless and it is possible to become disoriented in mist. There are no escape routes once you start the second day of the hike apart from one trail that drops down west from Sansendai to a remote forest road. Bears are numerous; take care when coming across fresh droppings and tracks. Don't leave any litter or food refuse when camping.

### ONSEN NEARBY

The Higashi-Daisetsu Lodge at Tomuraushi Onsen allows campers to use the hot-spring baths (500yen). At Shirogane Onsen the Yumoto Shirogane Onsen Hotel has a nice outdoor bath by the river (800 yen).■

### 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, or from one hut to another. The trails require hikers/trekkers to have a high-level of skill in negotiating storm 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.



**Grade 5 - Trails with extremely challenging terrain** | Trails with difficulties in predicting sudden changes of weather due to topography. Grade-5 trails are

long-distance trails from trailhead to the nearest hut or from one hut to another. The trails require hikers/trekkers to have a high-level of skill in crossing torrents and rock surfaces. Grade-5 trails have a priority to conserve a natural atmosphere, therefore hikers/trekkers need to have risk management ability and extremely high-level of risk assessment ability.

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



## 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.

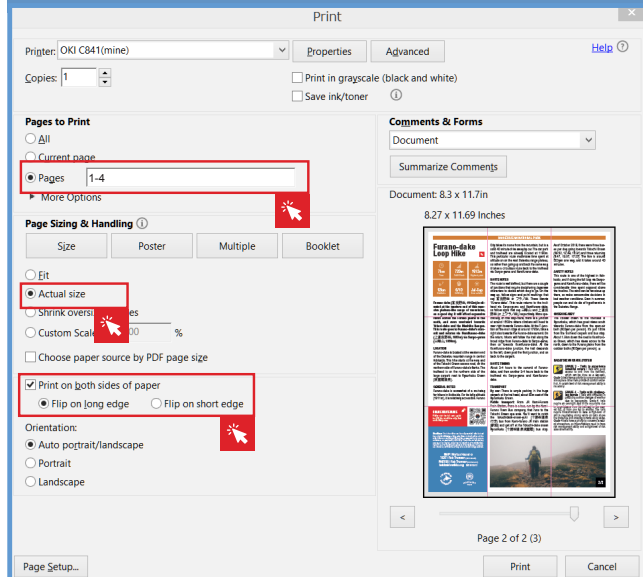


Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size", and Pages 1-4 are selected (Windows).

## ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

