



Hamamasu Kogane-yama

浜益黄金山

Hiking Map 1:25000



0 250 500 750 1000 m
1cm on the map equals 250m on the ground
Magnetic declination: 9° 46' W

Map by hokkaidowilds.org CC BY SA 2019/10/29

Symbol Key (some may not be present)

	Route (time between points)		Contour lines (100m, 10m)
	National Highway		Power transmission lines
	Prefectural Road		Trees/shrubs
	Municipal Road		Rocks/cliffs
	Minor Municipal Road		Onsen (hot spring)
	Walkway		Fumerole
	Bus route (bus stop)		Highway number
	Designated campsite		Water
	Hut		



ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE - Please visit the full route guide for route description, GPS file, and safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/hamakoga>

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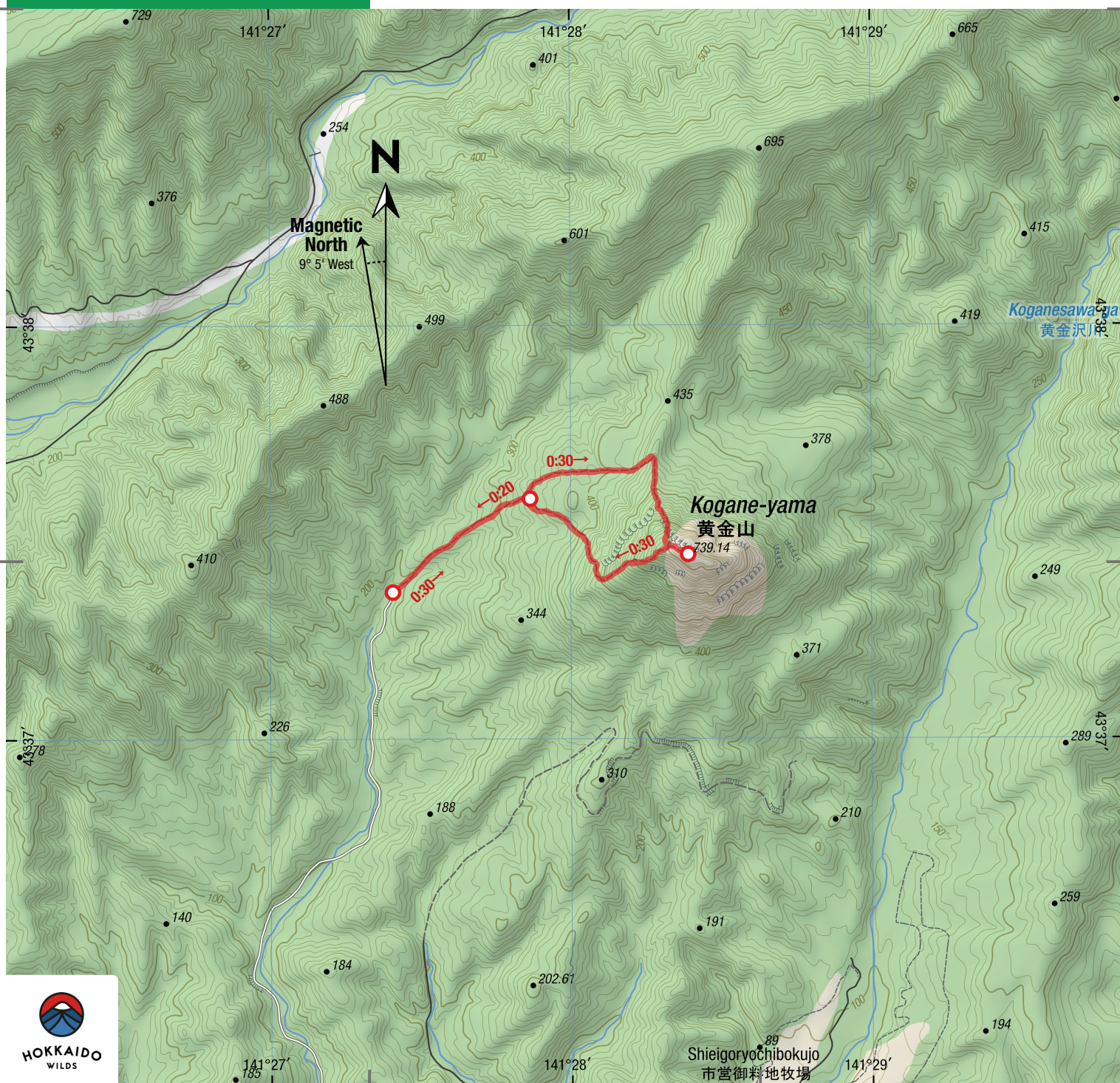


Japanese Map Glossary

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

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We created this map using the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan digital basemap (tiles) and basemap data, with the Authority director's permission (no. Hei-30-joshi, dai-867go). We also modified 1:25000 scale vegetation map data created by the Biodiversity Center of Japan (<http://gis.biodic.go.jp>).



Hamamasu Kogane-yama



4hrs
Time



473m
Total Climb



739m
Highest point



3.8km
Distance



5/10
Difficulty



Jun-Oct
Best season

Kogane-yama (黄金山, 739m) in Hamamasu on the Japan Sea coast, packs an impressive punch. It's easily one of the most thrilling peaks in the greater Sapporo region. Despite it's sub-1000m height, this massive, ancient volcanic outcrop dominates the skyline when approaching from the Hamamasu Onsen Spa. Hikers walk through gentle-sloping forest before scaling an impressively-steep approach to the exposed-rock summit. The trailhead is accessed via a forestry road, which we chose to tackle on mountain bikes for an adrenaline-pumping descent.

LOCATION

Kogane-yama in Hamamasu Town is located about 2 hours drive north of Sapporo City, along the Rumoi Coast on the Japan sea. It's a short drive (or mountain bike ride) from Hamamasu Onsen Spa. The trail head is about 4km up a gravel road.

GENERAL NOTES

This hike has to be one of Ishikari City's best-kept secrets. "This has to be one of the most thrilling hikes in the greater Sapporo region," I mentioned to Mike, another hiker in the group. Mike has hiked most peaks in



the Sapporo area, and he heartily agreed. Bang-for-your-buck would be an understatement. There's essentially two rocky, volcanic peaks at the top, connected by a narrow knife-ridge col, with mind-bending views and drops to either side. With good access on the approach via a gravel road, it's only two hours return for fast hikers to the summit and back.

ROUTE NOTES

With a variety of hiking speeds in our group, we took a healthy 2.5 hours on the way up, and about 2 hours on the way down. Faster hikers would likely be able to complete the entire route in about 2 hours, but it's best to allow at least three hours, in order to soak in the impressive views at the top.

The route is well defined throughout. Note that there is a 'new' route (新道) and an 'old' route (旧道) for the actual climb to the summit, after the 4km approach on a gently ascending track. At the spring (4km from the trailhead), either take the track to the left (old route) or the one to the right (new route). Arguably, if you're going to do a loop, it would be better to take the old route up, and the new route down. The old route is very steep. The old route has plenty of roots and ropes to assist hikers, but overall it's a route better climbed than descended.

The hike starts at the well-kept carpark and public toilets, here. It's possible to drive to the trailhead, but our group opted to cycle to the trailhead from the Hamamasu Onsen Spa – about 7km. This made for an exciting downhill ride on the way back. Good gravel-specific bikes recommended.

From the trailhead, the route climbs gently through gorgeous white-birch-lined forest. After about 4km, there's a spring with drinking water. From here, take a left route for a steep, clambering slog up the old route. The first 750m or so of the old route is relatively mellow, before starting the final approach to the summit. Those with a fear of heights will spend the next 30 minutes with their heart in their mouth.

All of a sudden, hikers will find themselves spat out into a tree-less rocky false summit, and greeted with massive views across to the Hamamasu

Township and the Japan Sea. Take care on this false-summit. It's a long way down. Another 75m on is the actual summit, connected by a narrow col. Return via the new route, which is decidedly less vertical than the old route.

TRANSPORT

By car: There is ample parking at the trailhead car park. Hamamasu Onsen also has a large car park with public toilets. The Hamamasu Onsen is a great spot to start from if you've got some bikes in tow.

Public transport: There are no public transport options for this route.

SAFETY NOTES

The obvious, objective safety hazard on this route is the sheer exposure of some sections of the route. The false summit rocks can be slippery, and a fall would result in a long free-fall drop. The northern side of the actual summit is also free-fall territory, with a sheer cliff. Take care when traversing from the false to actual summits.

ONSEN NEARBY

The natural choice for a post-hike soak is the Hamamasu Onsen hotsprings (浜益温泉, 500yen), about 3km down the road from the entrance to the gravel road. They've got a large outdoor bath area, as well as sauna and cold pool. There's a restaurant attached for lunch meals. There's often local produce for sale in the entrance area. ■



ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

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



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.

TEXT, PHOTOS, MAP | Rob Thomson

hokkaidowilds.org 2019/10/29

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Welldonegan

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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.

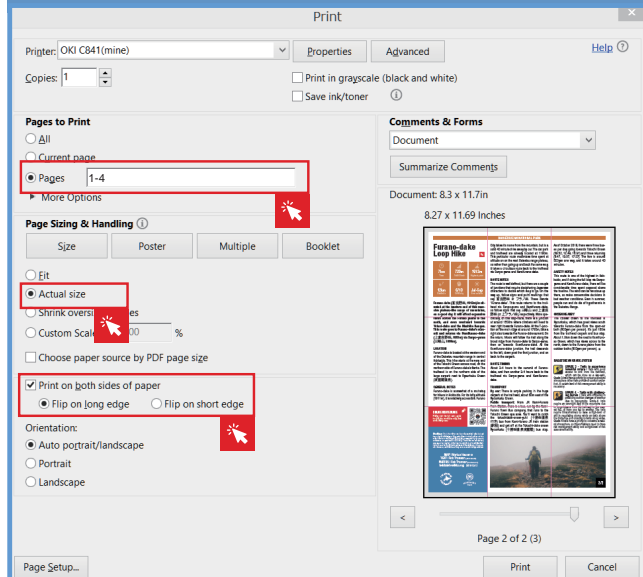


Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size", and Pages 1-4 are selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

