

# Odasshuyama















Odasshu-yama (オダッシュ山, 1098m) rises up out of the Tokachi plains at the northern reaches of the Hidaka mountain range. Once you're across the flat-land approach, the route lifts the climber up quickly, revealing expansive views across the plains and over to the Tokachi mountain range. From the summit, the northern Hidaka mountains all stand at attention. On the descent, the expansive eastern bowl below the Zenpo peak (前峰) awaits. There's a number of options, ranging from the expansive eastern-aspect side of the bowl, to a northerly-aspect slope further down. The spectacular downhill skiing makes up for the long-ish flat-ish approach from the road-end.

## LOCATION

Odasshu-yama sits at the northeastern end of the Hidaka Range in central Hokkaido, just west of the sleepy little town of Shintoku-cho. The guidebook start

### **ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE**

Please visit the full route guide for GPS file, interactive map, and extra safety notes: http://hokw.jp/odash



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of the route is at the end of the snowclearing on Odasshu 7th Avenue (7号/オダッシュ通) on the nothern side of the Animal Research Center (畜産試験場). However, we found that there was also ample parking on the wide verge at the t-intersection on 6th Avenue (六号) further south – starting here cuts off about 1km from the total distance.

### **GENERAL NOTES**

The tree-skiing opportunities and occasional open slopes on the eastern bowl of Odasshuyama are sublime, spectacular, and long. The 3km of only very gently ascending terrain and forestry roads to get to where the route actually starts climbing in earnest, however, are a bit of a chore. The incline is, however, enough to ensure there isn't too much poling on the way back down. That said, the views are spectacular, and the skiing can be amazing. Overall we considered it very well worth the commitment to the flat-land approach.

### **ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES**

After parking up well clear of the intersection at the 6th-avenue (6号) road-end, skin up the snowed in road, veering right at intersections, and skiing through underpasses. There's a short section of washed out road to contend with, before a straight section of road. Cut up to the left on another forestry road at a sign that says オダッシュ山登山道登山口 (Odasshuyama Trailhead). Turn left at the expressway, pass through the small underpass, and finally you're out of civilization, walking through gently ascending forest.

After a small draw, the route abruptly starts climbing in earnest up to around 740m on the main northeastern ridge. The cornice should be manageable here. Follow the northeastern ridge all the way to just below the Zenpo false peak. There's no need to go all the way to the top of this false peak — cut across to the right through the forest on a gently climbing traverse to join up with the ridge again further up. There's a final steep pitch to the summit.

On the descent, descend down to the Zenpo false summit. Either ski back down the northeastern ridge, or ski straight down into the eastern face of the eastern bowl. We encountered troublesome suncrust on this face, so traversed to the northern face on the other side of the bowl, dropping from a point at around 840m in altitude to the valley floor. In either case, strive to reconnect with your uptrack at around 600m altitude – any lower and the gully gets steep and tricky. From there,



zoom along your uptrack all the way back to the car.

## **TRANSPORT**

By car: As mentioned above, the guidebook indicates the start of the route around here, at the end of the snowclearing on Odasshu 7th Avenue (7号/オダッシュ通). However, we found that there was also ample parking on the wide verge at the t-intersection on 6th Avenue (六号) – starting here cuts off about 1km from the total distance. If parking at the latter 6th Avenue trailhead, make sure to park well down from the t-intersection and well to the side of the road. It's clear this road is used by large trucks, so they'll need room to turn the corner.

Public transport: Shintoku JR Station is accessible by JR train from Sapporo Station (2hrs 15mins, 6,360yen, every 90 minutes, see the route here). From JR Shintoku Station it's about 5.5km to the trailhead (near the Shintoku Animal Research Center 畜産試験場 chikusan shikenjo). There may be taxis at the train station, but it would pay to call ahead and book (Shintoku Hire 新得ハイヤー, TEL: 0156645155, URL: http://city.hokkai. or.jp/~ishihata/)..

## **SAFETY NOTES**

A large cornice develops on the southern side of the main northeastern ridge, so don't get too close to this while walking up the ridge. We don't see any references to avalanches in the eastern bowl either in the guidebook or online, but skiers may wish to take care when things open up a bit on the eastern side of the bowl.

#### **ONSEN NEARBY**

The Shintoku Train Station Public Bath (新得町駅前温泉, 420yen) was an absolute gem of a place. Open from 2pm-10pm every day, it's a bright, cheerful place for a soak. Their claim to fame is that they use hot spring water from up in the Daisetsuzan range, from Tomuraushi Onsen — it's transported down to Shintoku Village by tanker. ■

# 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 achive 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.

#### STFP 4

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

#### STFP 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.



# **ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS**









