



Hamamasu-dake


via Hamamasu-goten

浜益岳 (浜益御殿) Ski Touring Map 1:25000







8hrs
Time




1300m
Total Climb




1258m
Highest point



19km
Distance



8.5/10
Difficulty



Apr-May
Best season

Hamamasu-dake (浜益岳, 1258m) offers undeniable big-mountain vibes in the impressive Mashike Range (増毛山地). From the summit, expect 360-degree panoramic views of Shokanbetsu-dake, the arrow-head Kunbetsu-dake, Ofuyu-dake, as well as Rishiri Island, Yotei-zan and the Shakotan Peninsula. After a long but technically straight forward ascent, a blistering 10km descent awaits - much of it skiing straight towards the Japan sea coast. With plenty of features to keep the downhill skier entertained, and plenty of challenge for the uphill skier too, this spring skiing epic

should be on every dedicated Hokkaido ski tourer’s hit list.

LOCATION

Hamamasu-dake sits on the western side of the Mashike Range, about 2 hours drive north of Sapporo City on the Japan Sea coast. This spring ski touring route up the mountain starts at the Poro Shrine, about 10km north along the coast from Hamamasu village. As the spring melt progresses, however, it’s often possible to drive most of the way up to the forestry road junction. In mid-April 2020, we were able to drive about 3km up the hill, saving about 1 hour of walking.

GENERAL NOTES

Hamamasu-dake is a relatively easily attainable

major peak in the Mashike Range. The sheer distance from the coast to the summit is long, however. The 20km or so return-trip trek to the summit is therefore usually left till spring, when the days are longer and the snow is more firm under foot. Like most peaks in the Mashike Range, Hamamasu-dake spends most of the winter being pounded by fierce storms straight off the Japan Sea. Therefore, in addition to the epic 10km main descent, there are some extraordinary slopes awaiting the experienced expert skier willing to commit to climbing back up after skiing up to 600m vertical drops on a number of aspects. We recommend this route for a dawn escapade when Windy.com promises exemplary weather for the day, in order to make the most of the slopes on offer.

Hamamasu-goten (浜益御殿, 1039m): *Goten* means ‘palace’ or ‘stately mansion’, and I’ve read that this subsidiary peak, sitting in between Hamamasu-dake and Ofuyu-yama, is said to look somewhat like a stately *nishin-goten* herring mansion. Regardless of the source of the name, this minor peak on its own is also a very worthy objective if you’d rather not commit to the extra 2.5 hours to get to the Hamamasu-dake peak and back. Whereas there’s some descent involved in getting to the final ascent to Hamamasu-dake peak, it’s all downhill from Hamamasu-goten to the trailhead.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

This is a long day in the hills – for the full return route to Hamamasu-dake, bank on 8 hours (5.5hrs up, 2.5hrs down). With a good clear forecast, however, there’s plenty of variation in the route and in the views, so the time will go quickly.

There are no route markers on this route. Start from as far up the access road from the shrine as the snow conditions will allow. Carry on up on your skis to a junction with a more minor forestry road, and follow this minor road for about 2.5km, taking shortcuts across bends where possible. At around 500m in altitude, the road wraps around a 533m knob, locally known as Osaka-yama (大阪山). It’s also possible to shortcut up and over this, but take the road on the return, as you’ll not need to remove skis.

Heading across the faint saddle, you’ll

pass under some old flags – they say ‘no snowmobiles allowed’. From here it’s simply a matter of following the ridge uphill – there’s not much chance of getting lost, as you’ll naturally be funneled up to the treeline and onto a narrow ridge to the Hamamasu-goten summit. From around 800m in altitude, the views of the Japan Sea behind you are phenomenal, raising the stoke for the descent that awaits on the return. From Hamamasu-goten, there’s a short descent onto a large, featureless, broad saddle before the last steep ascent to the Hamamasu-dake summit. Leave the skins on for this. Also be very wary of low visibility conditions from this point. While the ascent more or less funnels the climber up to the summit, there are multiple false options on the descent, all leading into bluffs, deep gorges, and completely different watersheds. If conditions look sketchy once you’re at Hamamasu-goten, it’s best to cut one’s losses

and enjoy the descent from there.

From the Hamamasu-dake summit, return the way you came. You’ll likely need skins on again on the gently ascending saddle towards Hamamasu-goten, but from Hamamasu-goten, it’s all downhill with some very playful features along the way.

TRANSPORT

By car: Depending on how far snow melt has progressed, it’s possible to drive up the road from the Poro shrine. On the 12th of April 2020, we were able to drive about 2km up the road.
Public transport: There are no public transport options for this route.

SAFETY NOTES

We recommend as early a start as possible for this route, considering the sheer amount of time required on the mountain. There’s no technically difficult sections of the route (although the last 150m climb to the summit may require ski crampons), but the featureless plateau-like saddle between Hamamasu-goten and Hamamasu-dake would be very tricky in low visibility conditions – make sure your navigation skills are on point, and have the courage to turn back at Hamamasu-goten if conditions are not favourable.


ONSEN NEARBY

The closest onsen to the route is the Hamamasu Onsen (浜益保養センター, 500yen). They have good outdoor baths, basic meals, and often have local produce for sale in the foyer. ■

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 guides for GPS files, interactive maps, and extra safety notes: <http://hokw.jp/hamas>




Disclaimer The information on this map was derived from digital data-bases 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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Hamamasu-dake

via Hamamasu Goten

浜益岳 (浜益御殿経由)

Ski Tour Map

1:25000

02505007501000 m

1cm on the map equals 250m on the ground

Magnetic declination: 9° 53' W | Map by hokkaidowilds.org CC BY SA 2020/04/13

Symbol Key

(some may not be present)

0:30→

Route (time between points)

— 600 —

Contour lines (100m, 10m)

—

National Highway

—

Prefectural Road

—

Municipal Road

—

Minor Municipal Road

Walkway

●●●●●

Bus route (bus stop)

▲

Designated campsite

—

Trees/no trees

⬮

Rocks/cliffs

♨

Onsen (hot spring)

🔥

Fumerole

1022

Highway number

🏠

Hut

📱

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDES - Please visit the full route guides for route description, GPS files, and safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/hamas>

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This topographic map shows the Hamamasu-dake area, including Hamamasugoten (浜益御殿) and Hamamasu-dake (浜益岳). A blue line indicates a ski tour route starting from Hamamasugoten, passing through Hamamasu-dake, and ending near the Futatsuwa Tunnel (二ツ岩トンネル). The map features contour lines, elevation points, and various geographical features like rivers (Ko-gawa, Tokotan-gawa, Poro-gawa) and mountains (Osaka-yama). A magnetic north arrow is shown, indicating a declination of 9° 5' West. An inset map in the bottom right corner shows the location of the area within the broader region.

PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1

Load your printer with A3 printer paper (297mm x 420mm). If you've only got Tabloid or Ledger size (279mm x 432 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.

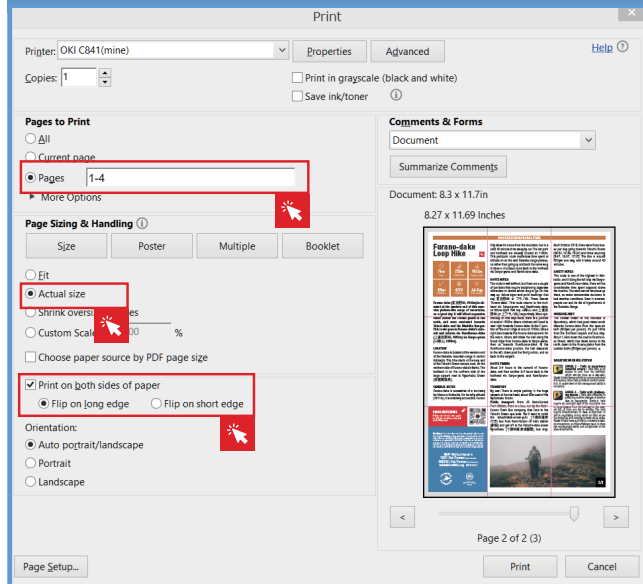


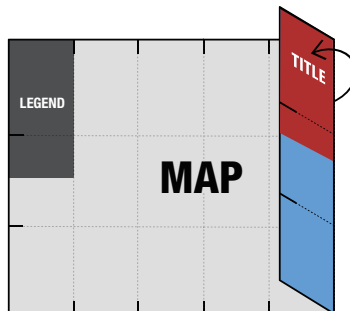
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

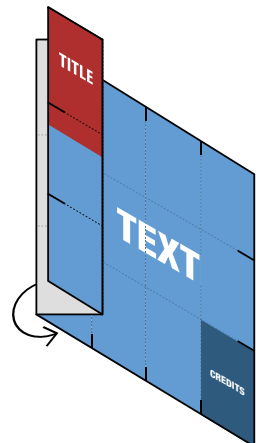
1



2



3



4



5



6



7

