



# Iwanai-dake


with Raiden-yama and  
Mekunnai-dake

岩内岳

Hiking Map

1:25000





5hrs

Time




800m

Total Climb




1211m

Highest point



8km

Distance



6/10

Difficulty



Jun-Nov

Best season

Iwanai-dake 岩内岳 (1085m) stands at the western end of the Niseko Range, rising steeply above the coastal town of Iwanai. Although the climb follows a partly abandoned ski slope with derelict lifts for some of the way, the rocky summit rewards you with a spectacular bird's-eye view of the coast and along the length of the range to Annupuri. Fit hikers can continue on for a few more hours and traverse to the nearby mountains of Mekunnai-dake 目国内岳 (1220m) to the east or, as described here, Raiden-yama 雷電山 (1211m) to the west for a satisfying

long day out in this quiet part of the Niseko hills.

LOCATION

Iwanai-dake is above the port town of Iwanai 岩内町 on the Japan Sea coast of Hokkaido, northwest of the Kutchan-Niseko ski area. This hiking route up Iwanai-dake starts just before the Iwanai Marine View campground carpark.

GENERAL NOTES

Although this route describes the traverse all the way to Raiden-yama, Iwanai-dake is a

satisfying climb in its own right if time and/or conditions do not permit or you just fancy a shorter day. The Marine View campsite is conveniently located right next to the trailhead. The summer hiking season is from June into November.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

The times outlined above are for Iwanai-dake only, expect to take up to another 3 hours if extending to Raiden-yama or Mekunnai-dake. The trail is well defined with signposts at junctions.

From the trailhead at 200m elevation climb up through scrubby trees and bushes to emerge at some derelict ski lifts (in 2019 the machinery was still in place though abandoned). Another slightly overgrown trail that starts from the foot of the ski slope proper merges from the left. From here you climb up more steeply through forest, past the abandoned top station of another old lift at about halfway, then up through forest and shrub to an open shoulder and the final slopes to the rocky summit in less than three hours total.

To extend the walk to Raiden-yama or the rocky tor of Mekunnai-dake, continue on over the summit and down to a signposted junction in about 15 mins. Turn left for Mekunnai 目国内岳 (about 2 hrs 20 mins return) and right for Raiden 雷電山. The path from here undulates through head high sasa dwarf bamboo, over some minor summits and past a marshy area to reach the flat summit of Raiden-yama in two hours or less. Return the same way.

TRANSPORT

**By car:** From Iwanai town centre follow signs south up to the ski slope スキー場. Just before you reach the main buildings at the foot of the slopes turn right at the sign for the trailhead 岩内岳登山口 next to a large sign for the Marine View campsite. A hundred meters or so up the road another sign directs you into a parking area.

NISEKO REGION



**Public transport:** Public buses run from Iwanai Bus Terminal to Ikoi no Yu いこいの湯 onsen about 15 mins walk from the trailhead, though a taxi would be far more convenient.

SAFETY NOTES

The upper slopes and summit are exposed to the wind off the ocean and the appropriate bad weather gear should be taken. The usual bear precautions should be followed.

ONSEN NEARBY

There are a couple of cheap and cheerful onsen facilities just down the road from the trailhead. We liked the smaller lower one (Sansan no Yu, サンサンの湯, 500yen) – no outside bath and scalding hot but a friendly owner and even more friendly dogs. ■



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/iwanh>



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TEXT, PHOTOS I Rick Siddle  
MAP I Rob Thomson

[hokkaidowilds.org](http://hokkaidowilds.org) 2020/04/08

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT I Dominika Gan

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Iwanai-dake

with Raiden-yama & Mekunnai-dake

岩内岳

Hiking Map

1:25000

0

250

500

750

1000 m

1cm on the map equals 250m on the ground

Magnetic declination: 9°49' W | Map by [hokkaidowilds.org](#) CC BY SA 2020/04/22

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)

Designated campsite

Contour lines (100m, 10m)

Power transmission lines

Trees/no trees

Rocks/cliffs

Onsen (hot spring)

Fumerole

Highway number

Hut

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDES

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

THIS IS A GEOREFERENCED PDF

- Download the free Avenza Maps® app for iPhone and Android to see your location in real time: <https://hokw.jp/geoiwah>

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この地図の作成に当たっては、国土地理院の地図を基に、関係機関の基盤地図情報及び電子地図図（タイル）を利用した。（※国土地理院 地図タイル 番号2016） また、1/25,000地形図データ（地形表示物多様性センターも使用し、hokkaidowilds.orgが加工・加工したものである）

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-56/50). We also modified 1:25000 scale vegetation map data created by the Biodiversity Center of Japan (<http://www.biodic.or.jp/>).

The map displays the Iwanai-dake mountain range in Hokkaido, Japan. Key features include the Iwanai-dake (1085m), Raiden-yama (1211m), and Mekunnai-dake (1202m). The map also shows the Niseko-Shakotan-Otaru Kaigan Quasi-National Park and the Niseko-iwanai-kokusai Ski Area. The map includes a detailed symbol key, a scale bar, and a magnetic north indicator. The map is georeferenced and includes a disclaimer.

HOKKAIDO WILDS



## 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.

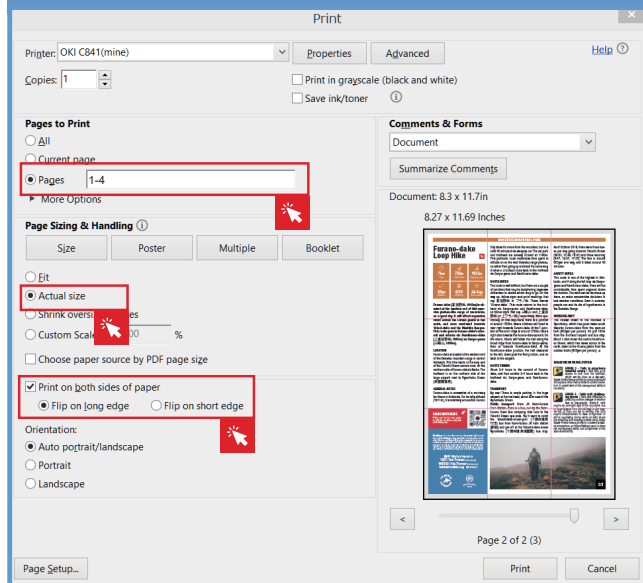


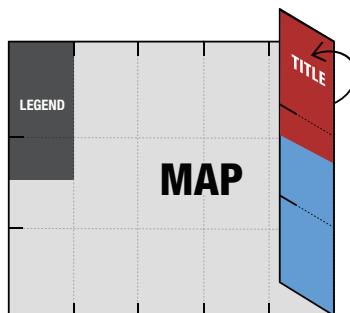
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

## ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

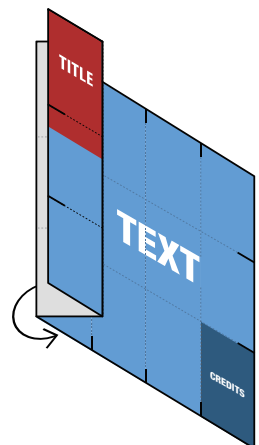
1



2



3



4



5



6



7

