



Porotengu


幌天狗Ski Touring Map1:25000






6hrs

Time




1100m

Total Climb




1222m

Highest point




15km

Distance



7.5/10

Difficulty



Mar-Apr

Best season

Porotengu (幌天狗, 1222m) is unmarked on official topomaps, but it offers inspiring views of remote peaks in the interior of the Mashike mountain range. More of a walk than a ski - but still with some fun, easy skiing on the upper portions - this route is perfect for the long, warm days of spring. To the south are expansive views of the Japan Sea, the top of Mt. Yotei way in the distance, as well as Shakod-an-dake further south still. In the later spring months, be prepared for some bush-bashing lower down on the overgrown forestry road.

LOCATION
Porotengu is a large prominence on Gunbetsu-dake's (群別岳, 1376m)



CENTRAL HOKKAIDO

Spring skiing: This route starts quite low down, at around 110m in altitude. This means in spring (March/April) the first 300m or so of elevation gain may require some bush-bashing through sasa bamboo grass and across logs etc. We'd say it's worth this effort though – the ridge further up is really quite spectacular.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES
Timing on this route is a bit tricky. It's about a 6 hour return ski if you're on your skis all the way from the start. On March 31st 2020, we found that we had to walk some of the way up the forestry road – the snow was patchy, with gaps here and there. Switching from skis to walking, as well as clambering over exposed fallen trees took up some time. We ended up taking just under 8 hours for the full route. Still well worth it, but it was a long day out. This route is unmarked.

Start from as far up the road from the orchard as the snow (or forestry road gate) will allow. In about 200m, the main forestry road continues veering to the left, but you'll need to take the overgrown bushy fork to the right. If you look at the road and think “surely not!”, then that's the road you take. After some mild bush-bashing in places, there's a logging clearing, and further on you'll cross the stream. There may or may not be a snow bridge, but even if there's not, it's an easy step over the stream. Continue following the ‘road’ up, cutting straight up to avoid the long zigs and zags where possible.

At around 500m, the route emerges onto the wide, gently-sloping southwest ridge, now mostly snowed-in. The ridge gains steepness to a degree, but is overall gentle enough to keep skinning straight up. Between around 650m and 950m, the ridge is an expansive field of beautiful shirakaba white birch, nicely spaced. At around 1000m, there's a very short but steep slope – about 30m vertical – that will often require ski-crampons or boot-packing. We managed this without, but with some careful tight kick-turns. From the top of this, it's not far to the summit, with no more steep climbing.

Return the way you came, but take extra care not to ski too far off your up-route – it's very easy to be cajoled into skiing towards the skier's right.

TRANSPORT
By car: There is good vehicle access from the settlement of Poro on the Japan Sea coast, from the beautiful coastal Route 231, just south of Rumoi. There's a large cemetery on the corner – drive up past an orchard until you get to snow covering the road, or you get to the forestry road gate.

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

SAFETY NOTES
The main point of concern on this route is getting lost, particularly on the descent. The wide, open ridge has no defining features, so make sure to keep an eye on the map. This is also one of the longer daytrip ski tour routes in Hokkaido – make sure to bring extra water and food.



ONSEN NEARBY
The natural choice for a post-hike soak is the Hamamasu Onsen hotsprings (浜益温泉, 500yen). 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. ■

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/poroten>



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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

—

Power transmission lines

■

Trees/no trees

⚡

Rocks/cliffs

♨

Onsen (hot spring)

🚰

Fumerole

1022

Highway number

🏠

Hut

QR

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

QR

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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、関係機関の提供情報及び電子地図（ベクター）を使用しました。『測量番号3000000、300279』を基に、1:25,000縮尺のGISデータ（環境省生物多様性センター）も使用し、hokkaidowilds.org/にて作成されました。

We created this map using the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan digital basemap (tiles) and basemap data, with the Authority director's permission (no. 146-30-pent, 2016/07/01) the slightly modified 1:25000 scale vegetation map data created by the Biodiversity Center of Japan (<http://dis.biodic.go.jp/>).

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.

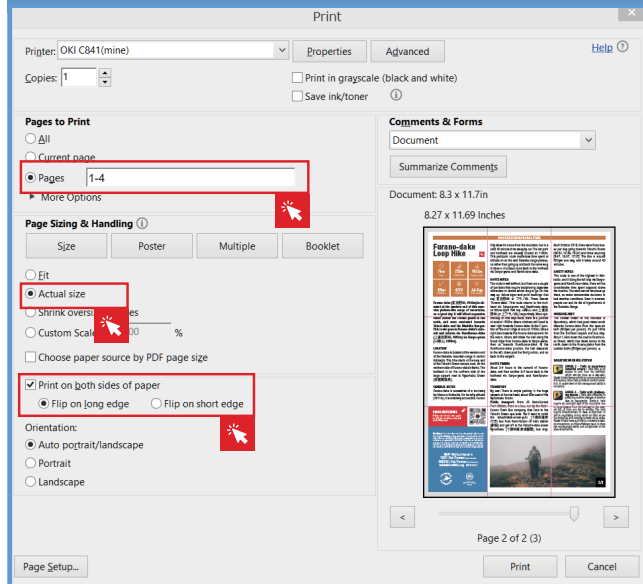


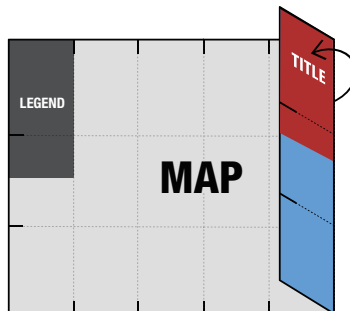
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

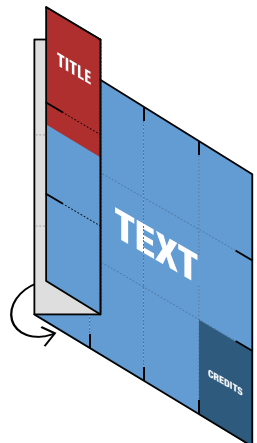
1



2



3



4



5



6



7

