

Osawa Reser- voir Loop Hike













Ebetsu Forest Campsite (江別市森林 キャンプ場) is a quiet campground nestled on the far northeastern corner of the expansive Nopporo Forest Park east of Sapporo City. From the campground, there is access to Nopporo Forest Park via an over-grown trail near the Osawa Reservoir, or the Forestry Research Center. If the Forestry Research Center access road is open, then this makes for a fine onehour loop around the reservoir, via the shaded Shikibi Trail (四季美コース) in the forest park. The campground itself makes for a great forested getaway micro-adventure for Sapporo dwellers - from Sapporo Station, almost 75% of the route is on separated cycle paths.

LOCATION

This route starts and finishes at the Ebetsu City Forest Campground (江別市森林キャンプ場), at the northeastern edge of the Nopporo Forest Park. This expensive park sits on the Sapporo-Ebetsu border, at the far-eastern edge of Sapporo City in central southern Hokkaido.

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDEPlease visit the full route guide for

GPS file, interactive map, and extra safety notes: https://hokw.jp/osawa



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MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Welldonegan

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GENERAL NOTES

Even long-term Sapporo residents are surprised when they find out there's a campground at the Nopporo Forest Park. Technically, the campground is just outside the park proper — it's right on the border of the park. It seems relatively popular, however. When we were there on the first weekend after stay-at-home requests were lifted for Hokkaido, there were about 25 tents well spaced out in the large camp-anywhere grassy campground. From the campground, walkers can access the nearby Nopporo Forest Park via the Forest Tree Breeding Center (when open to public), making a nice loop across the Osawa Reservoir dam.

About Ebetsu Forest Campground: 400yen per adult per night (200yen per child). No equipment rental available.

ROUTE NOTES

Expect about one hour for the full walk and a brisk pace. This route description is for an anti-clockwise direction. Either direction is fine. From the campground, head directly west towards the forest. You'll soon come to a chain across the road. If the Forest Tree Breeding Center is open to the public, carry on northwest for about 600m, and take a sharp left-turn. If the Tree Center is not open to the public, head back to the campground and do a half-loop in the opposite direction, across the reservoir dam.

Assuming you're still doing the full loop in an anti-clockwise direction, in just under 300m, you'll come to another chain across the road, with a sign on your side of the chain, depicting a large Nopporo Forest Park map. From here, you're officially in the Nopporo Forest Park. Descend down the narrow gravel road to the four-way junction. There's a nice pagoda, and clean public toilets to your right. Take the left trail — this is the Shikibi Trail (四季美二一 ス). You'll be on this trail for about 800m, with much of that along the southwestern edge of the Osawa Reservoir.

Just before the 800m point, you'll see a white sign across an old trail to your left. Ignore this, and walk another 10m or so along the main Shikibi Trail. You'll see bright pink tape tied to trees, and a relatively well-worn narrow trail heading into the forest on the left. Follow this trail as it detours its way around some recent typhoon-deadfall. It soon joins up again with a straight, wider path which drops down to the reservoir dam. Cross the dam, and take a right onto the main gravel road. Take a left into the well-kept sports center grounds soon after, and make a short loop back to the campground.

TRANSPORT

By car: The campground has a large parking area.

Public transport: The campground is about a 10 minute walk from the Nopporo Undo-koen Bus Stop (野幌運動公園バス停), outside the large sports center. Google Maps has good public transport directions and timetables.

SAFETY NOTES

The Forestry Research Center section of this route may have machinery operating. particularly on the weekdays (unlikely on the weekends). Obey signs posted, and understand this section of the route is very much at-your-own-risk. If in doubt, give this section a miss. Also note that the trail across the reservoir dam crosses a concrete out-flow channel, which will, for the most part, be dry. This may, however, flood quickly after heavy rain. Do not attempt to cross the outflow if there is water running down it. Make sure to carry a navigation device and map of some sorts, as this route is not signposted -Nopporo Forest Park can be disorienting sometimes.

ONSEN NEARBY

There's no onsen in close proximity to the campground. If heading back to Sapporo, consider dropping in to the Shinrin-koen Onsen Koyora (森林公園温泉きよら, 450yen), on the western side of Nopporo Forest Park. ■



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).

STFP 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.

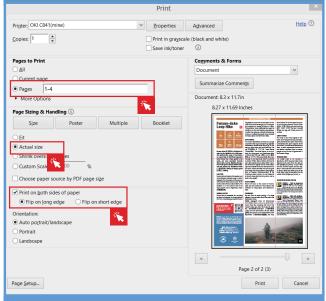


Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size", and Pages 1-4 are selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

