

Naei-yama



 5hrs Time	 390m Total Climb	 819m Highest point
 7.1km Distance	 4/10 Difficulty	 Jan-Apr Best season

Naei-yama 那英山 (819m) offers a nice walk on skis just west of Kamifurano Town in central Hokkaido. While most skiers will be drawn to the mighty Daisetsuzan Range to the west, Naei-yama is a much more relaxed low-altitude skin along the forested border of Kamifurano and Biei Town. The approach is very mellow, so most skiers will find they'll prefer to have their skins on for much of the descent. But there is short, sweet, and steep open area just below the summit to get in a few powerful turns. On a good day, the summit will afford expansive views to the Tokachi Range to the east, and across the Furano plain.

LOCATION

Naei-yama is a minor peak at the far northern end of the Yubari Range in northern central Hokkaido, just west of Kamifurano Town. The route starts from a forestry road heading away from the minor prefectural highway Route 581 connecting Kamifurano to Takikawa.

GENERAL NOTES

As hinted above, this is much more of a walk than a ski; besides the short steep descent from the summit, we had our skins on for 80% of the descent. There's a few ups and downs along the way. The forest is varied though, and it's a very pleasant forest wander, well sheltered from the prevailing northwesterly winds. The name of the mountain is said to come from the Ainu *naye*, possibly meaning 'river in the valley'. Indeed, the Nae-kawa river 奈江川 has its source to the southeast of the summit.

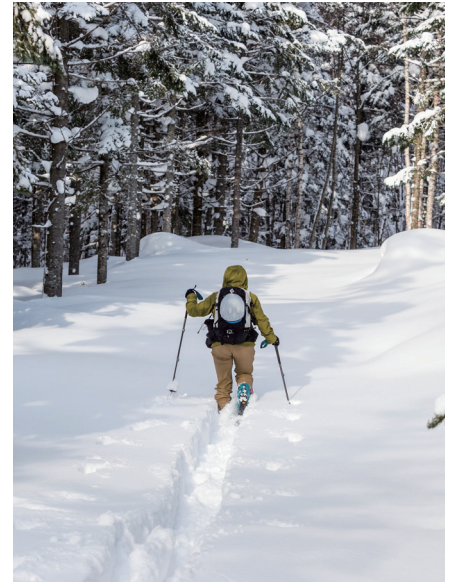
ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

After parking well to the left of the road, head due west straight into the large open field at the end of the forestry road marked on the map. Either follow the buried forestry road, or head uphill on the field to gain the broad ridge. From the field carry on due west along the ridge through a plantation of black pines. The entire route traces along the municipal border with Biei Town, so you'll see sporadic red markers attached to trees marking the border.

About 2km into the climb, the forest becomes more uniformly natural, leaving the Kamifurano-town side plantations behind. At the 3km point, after crossing a 500m long clearing, you'll make the final steep slog up to the summit. Cornices form at the summit, so you may need to wrap considerably around to the left or right to avoid them, in order to access the summit. Return the same way. You'll likely need to put the skins back on after the initial steep descent from the summit for the gradual return to Route 581.

TRANSPORT

By car: There's no official car park at the trail-head on Route 581, so you'll be parking on the



side of the road. Please allow an extra 20 minutes or so clear another 1m or so into the snow bank, in order to get your car as far to the left of the road as possible.

Public transport: This route is not accessible by public transport.

SAFETY NOTES

We've marked this route as suitable for beginners, but the normal caveats about the Hokkaido backcountry apply – take extra warm layers, submit your intentions to the police using Compass, and make an early start. This is a solid 5 hour trek even on skis. Note also that the prevailing westerly winds create a large cornice on the eastern side of the summit.

ONSEN NEARBY

Down the road in Kamifurano Town is Fronteir Furanui Onsen フロンティアフラスイ温泉 (650yen), a large public baths style onsen. There's no outdoor baths, but the indoor tubs are hot! ■



ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

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



Disclaimer The information on this map was derived from digital databases 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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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 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", and Pages 1-4 are selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

