



Yotei-zan Makkari Route

羊蹄山 Ski Tour Map 1:25000



0 250 500 750 1,000 m

1cm on the map equals 250m on the ground
Magnetic declination: 9° 38' W

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Symbol Key (some may not be present)

	Route (time between points)		Contour lines (100m, 10m)
	National Highway		Power transmission lines
	Prefectural Road		Trees/shrubs
	Municipal Road		Rocks/cliffs
	Minor Municipal Road		Onsen (hot spring)
	Walkway		Fumerole
	Bus route (bus stop)		Highway number
	Designated campsite		Hut

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



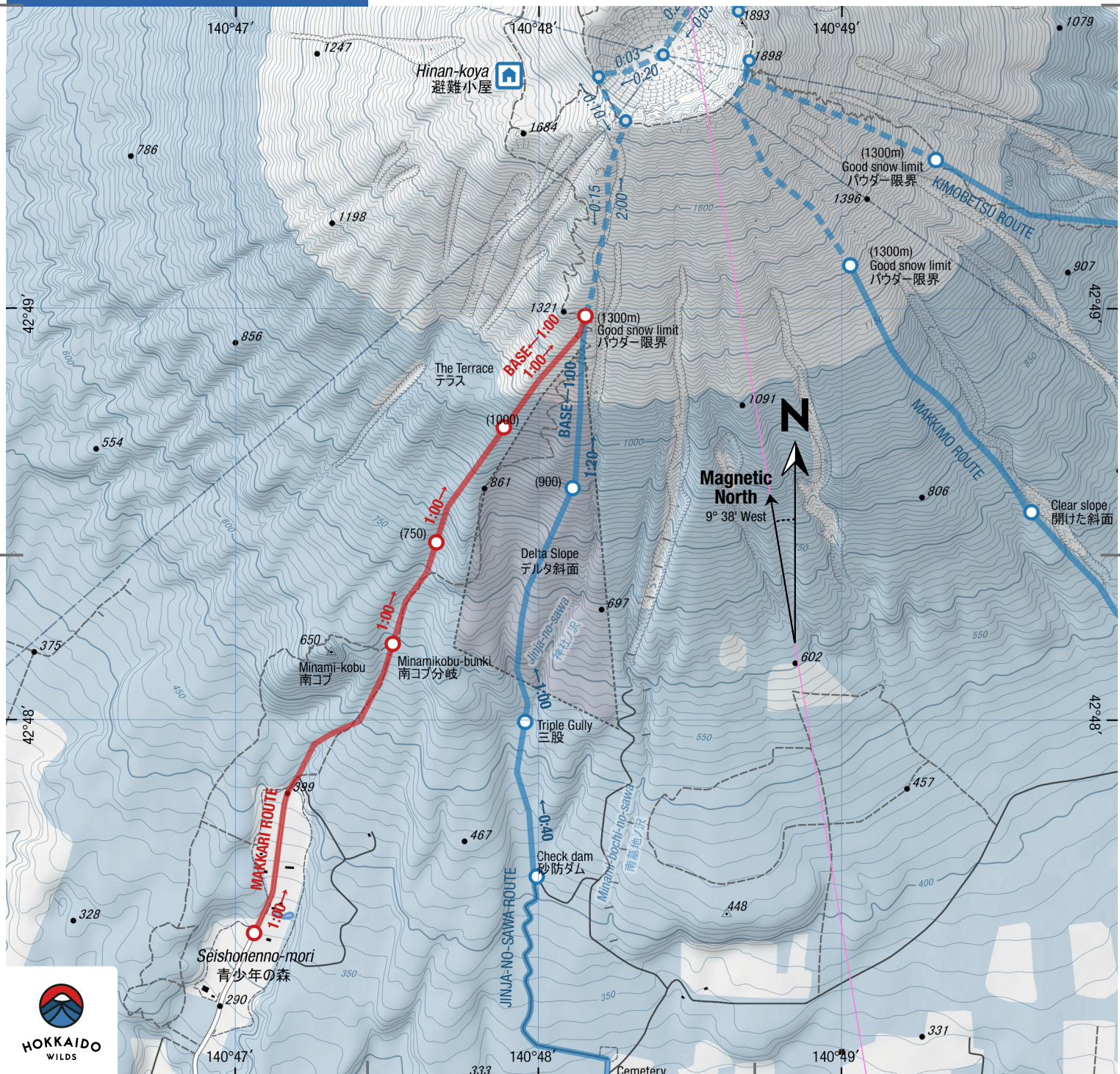
ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE - Please visit the full route guide for route description, GPS file, and safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/yotmak>

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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-867go). We also modified 1:25,000 scale vegetation map data created by the Biodiversity Center of Japan (<http://gis.biodic.go.jp/>).



Yotei-zan Makkari Route



 5hrs Time	 1000m Total Climb	 1300m Highest point
 9.5km Distance	 6/10 Difficulty	 Dec-May Best season

The Yotei-zan (羊蹄山, 1898m) Makkari Route (真狩コース) is arguably the most popular backcountry skiing route on this iconic Hokkaido volcano. The route starts climbing in earnest very early, meaning altitude is gained quickly, unlike other routes on the mountain requiring longer flat-land approaches. This comes at the expense, however, of less terrain real-estate for the downhill. That said, the relatively compact valley makes navigation easy up to the prominent small plateau at 1000m, referred to locally as the Terrace (テラス). So long as skiers keep within the main valley below the Terrace, it would be relatively difficult to end up anywhere other than the trailhead on the way down. Like all routes on Yotei-zan, the best skiing is to be had from below around 1300m, just above the treeline.

LOCATION

Yotei-zan is a large free-standing volcano

near the Niseko ski resort area in southern Hokkaido. This ski touring route up Yotei-zan heads up from the Yotei Nature Park on the southern side of the mountain.

GENERAL NOTES

As mentioned above, this route is easily the most popular route on Yotei-zan. There's a huge snow-cleared parking area at the Yotei Nature Park road-end, and altitude is gained quickly, without any of the longer flat-land approaches. This makes this route a perfect one for some quick hot laps. Compared with other routes on the mountain, however, skiers may find less easy-access terrain to enjoy. Of course, the main wide gully and bowl up to the Terrace is fantastic skiing, adding to its popularity. This will get tracked out quickly however, particularly on the weekends. Like all routes on Yotei-zan, start early in the day to get first pick of the juicy lines. Beyond the main Makkari Route gully and bowl, there is the option to ski ridgelines and gullies to the left or right, but skiers should take care not to drop down too far off the main bowl/gully. Doing so comes at the cost of traversing back to the trailhead across densely wooded high spurs and deep gullies.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

Skiers should allow about 4 hours from the carpark to the 1300m point, beyond which the snow conditions often turn to ice and rime. The route itself is not marked.

Starting from the Yotei Nature Park parking lot, it's a short 600m skin to the summer Makkari Route trailhead proper. From there, the route heads straight up the mountain through thick trees. Once at the 600m altitude mark, things finally open up a bit, revealing much more attractive skiing potential. Soon, Konbu-dake (昆布岳, 1045m) comes into view through the trees, and the small knob Minami-kobu (南コブ, 650m) will appear on the left. At around 700m, a ridge will come into view to the right; the Jinja-no-sawa Route lies on the far side of this ridge. The Makkari summer route heads off towards this ridge to the right, but the winter Makkari ski touring route heads straight up the gully, as the ridge is often heavily corniced and wind affected.

At around 1000m, a gently sloping terrace-like plateau will appear. This is known locally as The 1000m Terrace (1000mテラス). The terrace is still below tree-line and home to some large old growth trees. Climbing further the vegetation will continue to thin and, if the weather is

clear, skiers will have views of the Nature Park campground and Lake Toya (洞爺湖) and Shimamaki Town's Kariba-yama (狩場山) in the distance. Above The Terrace is a very steep avalanche prone slope unsuitable for skiing, so the route heads to the right to join up with the Jinja-no-sawa Route. Doing so requires traversing across a large spur at around the 1050m point where the slope angle is the shallowest. This ridge develops large cornices between 1100m and 1200m, so skiers should take care while traversing.

Once joined up with the Jinja-no-sawa route, it's a straight shot for another 200m or so to the 1300m point. If descending from 1300m, it's important to have a good idea where you'll cut back across to the Makkari Route. As we found, it's a long, tough slog to cross back to the Makkari Route after dropping below the 1050m mark on the Jinja-no-sawa Route side, due to deep gullies, tall spurs and dense bush. The best skiing on the Makkari Route is to be had from the 1000m Terrace. Even beginners will enjoy some excellent tree skiing.

TRANSPORT

By car: There is ample parking in the Yotei Shizen Koen Park car parking area, around here. This parking area is regularly cleared of snow. Park as far up as the snow clearing will allow.

Public transport: This route is accessible via the Rusutsu Resort bound bus from Kutchan Station. See the online route guide for details.

SAFETY NOTES

This free-standing volcano is exposed to the weather from all sides and it has the potential to get pretty wild pretty quickly; your escape is a rapid descent and so pay attention to potential routes as you climb. Like all routes on Yotei-zan, if you're shooting for the summit this may be one of the few times you'll use your ski crampons and boot crampons in Hokkaido.

ONSEN NEARBY

The nearest onsen to the trailhead is Makkari Onsen (真狩温泉, 500yen). About 5 minutes by car from Yotei Nature Park, the trailhead to the Makkari route. Open from 11am till 9pm, they have great outdoor baths, and an attached restaurant. Closed on Mondays. ■

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

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



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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.

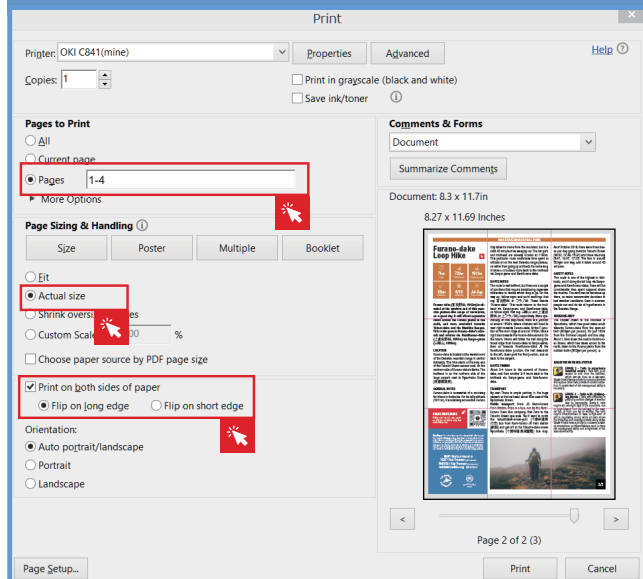


Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size", and Pages 1-4 are selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

