



Kotoninupuri and
Osappenupuri


コトニヌプリ Ski Touring Map 1:25000






5hrs

Time




715m

Total Climb




964m

Highest point




10km

Distance



4.5/10

Difficulty



Jan-Mar

Best season

Bordering on the Akan-Mashu National Park 阿寒摩周国立公園, Kotoninupuri コトニヌプリ (952m) and Osappenupuri オサッペヌプリ (860m) are perfect for inspiring views across Lake Kussharo. The forest on its own is worth a visit - the area is characteristic of the Akan flora, with ancient trees, moss hanging off the branches. For an area this far east, there's still plenty of good quality snow, and the descent from Kotoninupuri is a blast.



If short for time, we'd recommend just a quick up-and-back to Kotoninupuri.

LOCATION
Kotoninupuri and Osappenupuri are peaks sitting on the southern end of the Lake Kussharo caldera in far eastern Hokkaido. With Tsubetsu Pass closed over winter, the route starts from just behind the gorgeous Tsubetsu Onsen.

GENERAL NOTES
With a relative abundance of blue-sky days, eastern Hokkaido is a ski tourer's dream, and this route is a relatively easy way to make most of that. The forest is classic Akan-Mashu National Park forest, with a somewhat prehistoric feel to it. Moss hanging from trees, old-growth stands of towering trees, seemingly untouched by human activity. There's not even a summer hiking trail, and no peak markers.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES
For the full loop, expect about four to five hours, as there is a fair bit of very gradual climbing. For a shorter trip, consider passing on Osappenupuri and just head straight for Kotoninupuri. In this case, expect about three and a half hours total.

Park up either to the front or back of Tsubetsu Onsen, and start skinning due east along the forestry road, on the northern side of Shichino-sawa creek 七ノ沢. Stay on this northern (left) side of the river until around 570m in altitude – about 2.4km. There's an old broken bridge around here crossing the Kamisato creek 上里川, which serves as a support for a snowbridge over the river.

Climb up a spur on the southern side of the river, heading east southeast up towards a broadening forested slope. Keep heading in a general southeast direction, to arrive at a saddle just north of the Osappenupuri summit. From the saddle it's a short walk south to the summit of Osappenupuri. From the summit there's not really much of a view, but the forest across the saddle is really quite lovely.

Now head direct north back to the saddle and enjoy the gradual climb up the broad ridge to Kotoninupuri. From the actual Kotoninupuri summit, there's not a particularly great view, so drop down to the east just below the

summit for a grand view of Lake Kussharo. The descent is a fun consistent slope west from the summit, to join back up with the uptrack. Watch out for downed trees and barely-buried branches. Back at the skintrack, follow this back to the forestry road and head back to the onsen. The forestry road is just steep enough to ski down in the skintrack, with just a few sections of poling.

TRANSPORT
By car: Tsubetsu Onsen is about 25km south-east from central Tsubetsu. Note that Tsubetsu Pass 津別峠 is not open in winter. If approaching from the Teshikaga or Lake Kussharo side, expect about one hour to drive around to Tsubetsu via Bihoro.
Public transport: There is no public transport

to this route.
SAFETY NOTES
Navigation on this route can be a little tricky at times, with a gradual approach on broad slopes mostly in the forest. Also note that despite the low altitude, visitors should expect very cold temperatures and come suitably prepared.

ONSEN NEARBY
The route starts and finishes from the Tsubetsu Onsen Lamp-no-Yado 津別温泉ランプの宿森つべつ (600yen). This is a gorgeous onsen tucked into the forest, with relaxing outdoor bathing too. There's an attached restaurant. ■




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/kotoni>



Disclaimer


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MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominiika Gan

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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.



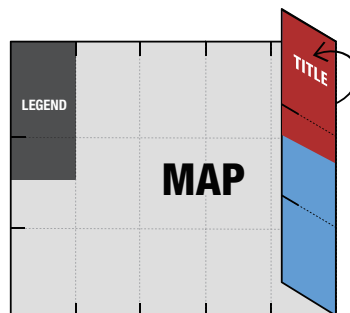
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

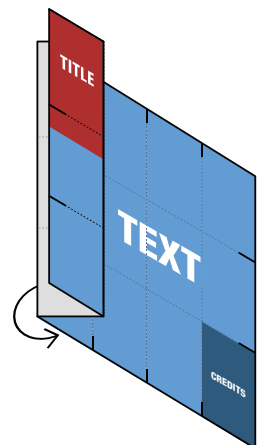
1



2



3



4



5



6



7

