



# Nikoro-yama

仁頃山 Ski Tour Map 1:25000



0 250 500 750 1,000 m

1cm on the map equals 250m on the ground  
Magnetic declination: 9° 31' W

Map by [hokkaidowilds.org](http://hokkaidowilds.org) CC BY SA 2021/03/24

## 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



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

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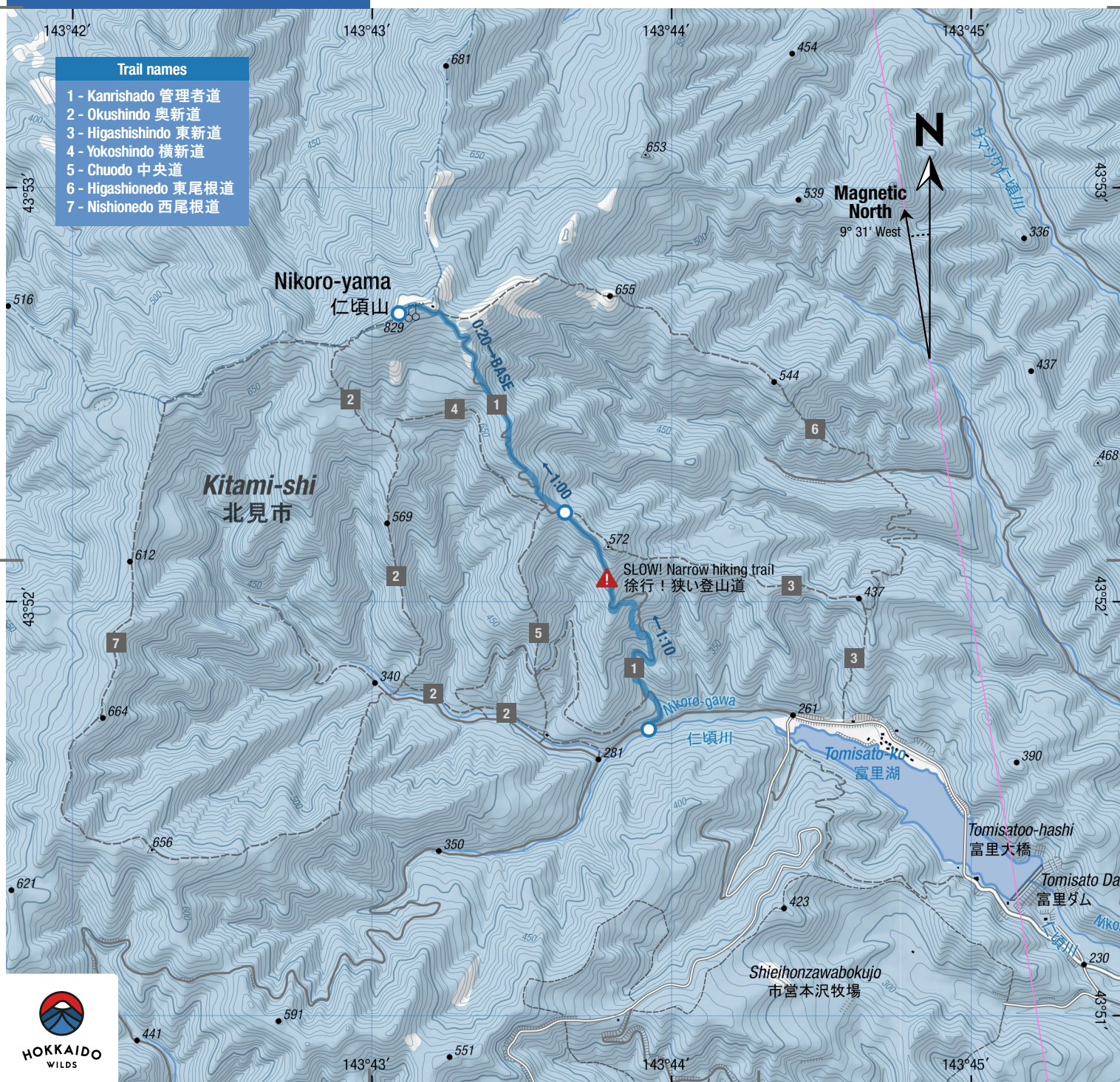


## Japanese Map Glossary

Romaji	Kanji	English
<i>bunki cho</i>	分岐町	junction town
<i>dake/mine eki</i>	岳/峯 駅	peak station
<i>goya/koya hinangoya</i>	小屋 避難小屋	hut shelter
<i>ike</i>	池	pond
<i>kawa/gawa</i>	川	river
<i>kako</i>	火口	crater
<i>ko/mizumi</i>	湖	lake
<i>kyo</i>	峡	gorge
<i>numa</i>	沼	pond
<i>onsen</i>	温泉	hot spring
<i>sawa</i>	沢	stream
<i>taira/daira</i>	平	plateau
<i>tani/dani</i>	谷	valley
<i>taki</i>	滝	waterfall
<i>toge</i>	峠	pass
<i>yama/san/zan</i>	山	mountain

この地図の作成に当たっては、国土地理院長の承認を得て、同院発行の基盤地図情報及び電子地形図（タイル）を使用した。（承認番号平30情使、第867号）。また、1/25,000植生図GISデータ（環境省生物多様性センターも使用し、[hokkaidowilds.org](http://hokkaidowilds.org)が作成・加工したものである）。

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





# Nikoro-yama



3hrs  
Time



514m  
Total Climb



829m  
Highest point



5.8km  
Distance



3/10  
Difficulty



Feb-Mar  
Best season

**Nikoro-yama 仁頃山 (829m)** oozes with warm affection for this mountain, poured unreservedly on visitors by the local Nikoro-yama Friendship Society that maintains the trails. In winter, there's shovels hanging on hooks next to rest areas along the main trail, for people to keep the benches clear of snow. There's elderly people in gumboots, young people in trail-running shoes, and everything in between, keeping the trail well-trodden, even in the middle of winter. You may also be greeted at the summit by an igloo, replete with serve-yourself tea (boil your water using the supplied gas burners). It's hardly a freeride world tour destination, but there's plenty of trails to explore by ski for the intrepid ski tourer happy to keep speed in check on the way down.

## LOCATION

Nikoro-yama is about 15km northwest of central Kitami City in eastern Hokkaido. Most trailheads up the mountain start a few hundred meters west of the end of



Tomisato Lake.

## GENERAL NOTES

You'll likely get a few raised eyebrows if you tell any locals you're taking your skis up Nikoro-yama. The vast majority of visitors in winter don't even use snowshoes. Given the area's general lack of mountains of snow, and the sheer foot traffic the main trails get, this route is better suited to walking up in your hiking boots. But after a fresh dump of snow, the decent on skis can be a bit of fun. Just be extremely cautious of walkers on the trail. In general one can see fairly far ahead, but there are a few blind corners and narrow spots – pedestrians most certainly have the right of way, so keep speed well in check on the decent.

## ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

Expect just over two hours on the ascent, and about 30 minutes or less on the descent, depending on how busy the trail is. If the main central access road is busy on the way up, we'd recommend skiers consider taking one of the less traveled alternate routes on the descent.

Start from the large carpark about 500m west of the end of Lake Tomisato. Assuming you're taking the central, main maintenance access road to the summit, just follow this all the way to the summit, cutting corners where it makes sense to do so. About half way up, the hiking trail joins up from the right. You'll know you're very near the marked summit when you pass three large radio tower buildings. The summit is just west of these buildings, marked with a sign and a bell.

Either carefully (and in a controlled manner)

descend the way you came, or take one of the other less travelled marked routes. Did we mention you should always give way to pedestrians?

## TRANSPORT

**By car:** There's plenty of parking either right at the trailhead, or about 700m east of the trailhead next to the lake.

**Public transport:** There is no public transport to this route.

## SAFETY NOTES

The main hazard on this route is pedestrians on the descent. Not many people ski up or down this mountain, so it's really important to ensure you're in control at all times, and skiing as slowly as possible past people on the descent – this is as much a courtesy as it is a safety consideration. Hikers may not appreciate skiers zipping past them at great speeds.

## ONSEN NEARBY

You'll have to return to Kitami City for a soak. Try Nonda-no-yu のんだの湯 (500yen) – they have large outdoor baths.



## ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

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



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## MAP, TEXT, PHOTOS | Rob Thomson

[hokkaidowilds.org](http://hokkaidowilds.org) 2021/03/24

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominika Gan

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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

