



Ochacha-dake 御茶々岳 (1331m) is a high peak in the Yubari range (夕張 山地), commanding inspiring views of Ashibetsu-dake 芦別岳 (1726m) directly to the south, and the Daisetsuzan Range to the east. This route assumes you're staying at the rustic Yufure-goya Hut ユーフレ小屋. You'll travel through a gorgeous valley, approaching Ochacha-dake from the southeast. This valley offers some playful and interesting skiing on the descent back to the hut. Getting to the hut is the difficult part. The route along the Yufure River gorge involves multiple river crossings and dangerous high traverses. Arguably, this Ochacha-dake diversion is best coupled with an attempt on Ashibetsu-dake for a fine overnight spring adventure.

LOCATION

Ochacha-dake is directly north of Ashibetsu-dake in the central Yubari Range near Furano, central Hokkaido. The route starts here, at the start of the forestry road heading up the Yufure River gorge.

GENERAL NOTES

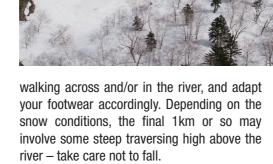
This is by far one of the most convoluted ways to get to the summit of Ochachadake. Most sane people would access the summit via Juhachisen-gawa 十八線川, one valley to the north. Via Juhachisengawa, there's no river crossings, no sketchy high traverses above the river, much lower exposure to avalanche...but! There's no hut along the way via Juhachisen-gawa. And the Yufure-gova Hut is, for some, worth the adventure in getting there. Rustic would be putting it nicely. The hut does, however, make for a remote base for exploring this relatively compact but varied area surrounding Ashibetsu-dake, the Yufure Hontani Gorge, and Ochacha-dake.

The hut is essentially at the bottom of a very picturesque valley heading up to the 1196m col, and this valley is a dream to ski back down. Just watch out for large wet slide avalanches in the warming months of spring.

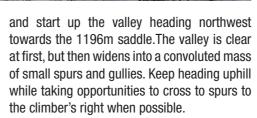
ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

Expect between 2 and 3 hours to the hut, and then another 2.5 hours or so to the summit of Ochacha-dake from the hut. The descent from the hut can take just as long as the ascent, so bank on a solid four hours from summit back to the trailhead.

Start from the forestry road entrance to the Yufure River gorge, and enjoy a blissful 1km of easy travel before the utter mayhem of the Yufure River gorge begins. There is no right way to get to the hut. It's about 3.5km along the gorge from the trailhead, and that's about all the information that will help you. Make it up as you go along. Arguably, the safest way to approach the gorge is to accept you'll be



The location of the hut is guite miraculous – it's a wonderful little clearing and flat plateau. We'd recommend dropping in for a break. Retrace your steps from the hut about 200m,



The saddle is framed by cornices, so find the opening between them to access the ridge-top. On top of the saddle, you'll have impressive views south towards Fufu-iwa (Meoto-iwa 夫婦岩 1429m). The final 30 minute grunt up to the summit plateau can be steep, but eventually you'll find yourself atop another line of cornices. Follow this north for 100m or so where they disappear and it's possible to head across the plateau to the summit. Return the way you came, taking full advantage of the playful topography down the valley towards the hut.

TRANSPORT

By car: The Yamabe Shizen Park 山部自然公 園 has a very large carpark, cleared from late March onwards. If attempting the route before the Yamabe Shizen Park carpark is cleared, make sure to park well off the road, so as to not obstruct traffic or snow-clearing, and be sensitive to locals' wishes regarding parking, if approached. Parking in deep winter for the various Ashibetsu-dake trailheads is somewhat of a bottle-neck at present, with very little options in the months of Dec-Feb.

Public transport: The JR Yamabe Station Ц 部駅 is a 40 minute walk (3.5km) from the

Yamabe Shizen Park 山部自然公園. Yamabe Station is a 14-minute train ride from Furano Station.

SAFETY NOTES

This route sits well within the Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale's Complex rating - "exposure to multiple overlapping avalanche paths [and] minimal options to reduce exposure [to avalanche risk]". Travel through the deep valley on the ascent to the hut, as well as the lower part of the wider valley above the hut involves exposure to considerable run-out paths of avalanche from higher up on the valley walls. This route is best suited to spring, so try to coincide the ascent portions of the days

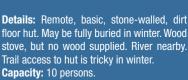




YUFURE-GOYA HUT







Contact: Furano City Council, TEL: 0167-

with early morning when temperatures are still cold, and avoid periods of rapid warming.

ONSEN NEARBY

If there's just one thing that the immediate Furano area lacks, it's good natural onsen. Drive 40 minutes up to the Tokachi Onsen area, and you'll be in heaven - our pick is Hakuginso's massive outdoor onsen complex. But if you're headed back to Furano, try out the pokey but cute Hotel Naturwald Furano ホテルナトゥー ルヴァルト富良野 (600yen), right next to the Furano ski area.

Japanese Map Glossary

Romaji	Kanji	English
bunki cho dake/mine eki goya/koya hinangoya ike kawa/gawa kako ko/mizumi kyo	Kanji 分町岳駅屋小難池川口湖峡	junction town peak station hut shelter pond river crater lake gorge
numa onsen sawa taira/daira tani/dani taki toge yama/san/zan	\$ 沼泉沢平谷滝峠山	pond hot spring stream plateau valley waterfall pass mountain

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

Please visit the full route guides for GPS

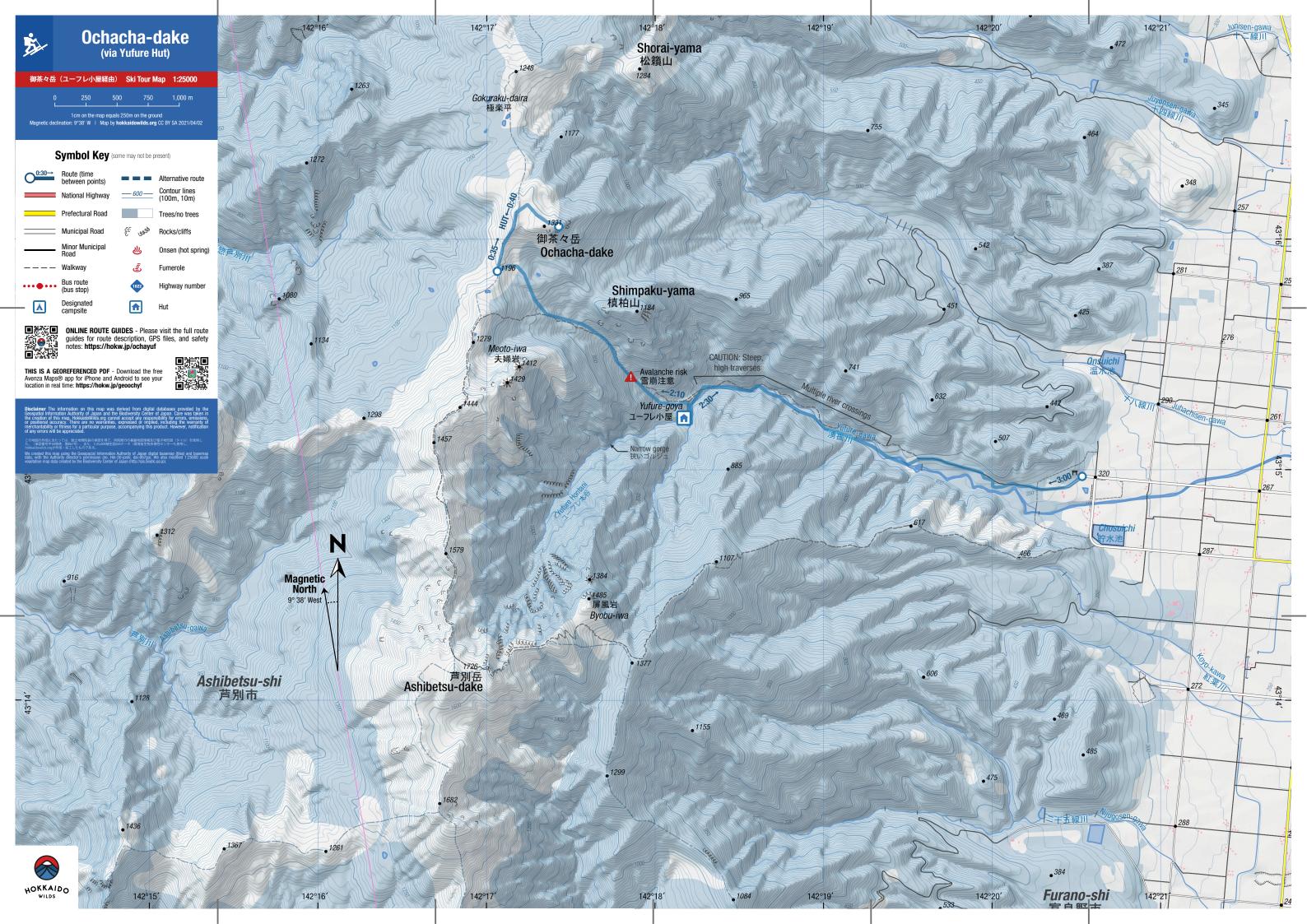


TEXT, PHOTOS, MAP I Rob Thomson

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MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominika Gan





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 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).

STEP 3

Make sure "Actual Size" is selected.

STEP 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.



ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

