



Oputateshike-yama


オプタデシケ山 Ski Touring Map 1:25000






9.5hrs

Time




1690m

Total Climb




2012m

Highest point




21km

Distance



8.5/10

Difficulty



Mar-May

Best season

The winter route up Oputateshike-yama オプタデシケ山 (2012m) is a rare southeastern-aspect ski tour deep into the Daisetsuzan National Park. Skiers’ nine hours of toil will be rewarded with about 1000m of quality downhill on the return. With the vast majority of daytrip accessible peaks in the Daisetsuzan Range approaching from the northwest, however, Oputateshike-yama’s charm comes from its fresh perspective on the Daisetsuzan massif. Above the treeline, skiers are treated to expansive views along the southeastern side of the range, including Tokachi-dake, Tomuraushi-yama to the north, and Bieifuji to the south. This route is most popular in the long spring days, but the trailhead is accessible all year round.

LOCATION
Oputateshike-yama is a major but often overlooked peak sitting alone towards the northeastern end of the Tokachi Range, in the greater Daisetuzan mountain range. This standard route up to the peak starts very low on the southeastern flanks at a small dam. The trailhead is at the end of the snowclearing on a rough gravel road, off the main Route 718 towards Tomuraushi Onsen トムラウシ温泉.

GENERAL NOTES
With a solid 5km of forestry-road

walking, plus another 3km before one hits the treeline, this is not a route for the faint of heart, particularly in the deeper winter months. This pilgrimage is made worth it, however, by the sheer novelty of the perspective one gets on the Daisetsuzan Range. Feasible winter south/east approaches to the range are rare, even more so if one actually wants some decent skiing. This route rewards the approach with some excellent skiing, and plenty of options to get more technical by venturing into the Bakuretsu-sawa 爆裂沢 gorge.

Best time of year: Arguably the least strenuous option is to leave this trip till April when the snow is firmer under foot, and the days are longer. That said, this area holds very good powder snow throughout the season, so for those happy with a well-before-dawn start, February or March is also doable.

Snow conditions: This eastern side of Oputateshike-yama is surprisingly sheltered from the prevailing northwester winds that can strip Tokachi-dake bare, so snow conditions can be very good. That said, a 2000m peak in Hokkaido will always suffer from rime and concrete wind-pack nearer the summit, so pack boot crampons just in case.

Accommodation in the area: If you’re arriving late the day preceding your visit, consider staying at either Tomuraushi Onsen hotspots トムラウシ温泉 (from 8,800yen per person with two meals) or a more budget self-catering



option in Tomuraushi settlement – Yama-no-Koryukan Tomura Cottages (see details below, from around 2,000yen per person).

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES
We’ve seen reports of times of anywhere between 8 to 11 hours for the return trip. Fitness, snow conditions, how much snow-free road walking is required, etc etc will all affect how long this trip takes. We recommend starting at or before daybreak in the spring, and well before daybreak in winter – the initial 5km is fairly brain-dead road walking, so spending the initial 2 hours skinning by headlamp is perfectly feasible.

Park up at the end of the snow clearing, making sure not to park in front of the gate to the dam facility. Follow the snowed in road for 5km to a weather station at around 820m. At this point you may think you’re half way there, but in reality, you’ve still got over 1200m vertical to climb.

Once you hit the treeline at around 1200m, you’ll look up and the summit will feel close. It’s not. Parties taking their time will still have around three hours of zig-zagging ahead of them in order to reach the summit. At some point, climbers may find they’ll need to switch to boot crampons for the final approach to the summit.

DAISETSUZAN NATIONAL PARK

In the final 100m or so vertical to the summit, it’s steep enough that a fall will entail a rather long slide in the right conditions, so we recommend carrying some form of self-arrest equipment just in case it’s needed. For this bread-and-butter route, we recommend descending down the open face you climbed up.

TRANSPORT
By car: This route is surprisingly accessible by car from Sapporo City - about 2hrs on the expressway towards Obihiro, then another 1.5hrs heading up into the national park towards Tomuraushi Onsen via Route 718. Just after crossing the Pontomuraushi River, turn left onto the gravel road heading west. Follow this badly potholed road for about 4.5km and turn right up towards the small dam and end of snow clearing. Don’t park in front of the gate to the dam facility. After Golden Week (early May), it may be possible to drive even further up the road, cutting out some walking.
Public transport: This route is not accessible by public transport.

SAFETY NOTES
This area is extremely remote by Hokkaido standards, with the only major city Obihiro almost 2hrs drive away from the trailhead. We strongly recommend carrying some sort of satellite messenger with SOS function (such

as a Garmin inReach) in case of emergency. Also, while the peak is ‘only’ just over 2000m, deep winter conditions are extremely cold here. Bring the appropriate gear, expecting temperatures down to as low as -30°C. Also, since this route is in the general vicinity of the Furano area, consider looking at the Furano Avalanche Center (on Facebook). They issue sporadic observations throughout the season which may give extra insight into avalanche conditions.

ONSEN NEARBY
The trailhead is only a 30 minute drive to one of our hands-down favourite onsen in Hokkaido – Tomuraushi Onsen トムラウシ温泉 (600yen). The outdoor pools are right next to a roaring alpine river, and the hot mineral water itself is something special. They have a small shop selling basic foodstuffs like instant ramen, but the attached restaurant is for overnight guests only. There’s also a campground just up the road, closed in winter. ■



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



YAMANO-KORYUKAN TOMURA





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Details: Warm, modern, well-appointed log cabins in Tomuraushi village. Great self-catering option for groups accessing Daisetsuzan NP from the east.
Capacity: 6 persons.
Cost: From 13,300yen per cabin.
Contact: Yama-no-Koryukan, TEL: 0156-65-2000.

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

Please visit the full route guides for GPS files, interactive maps, and extra safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/oputa>



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.

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.

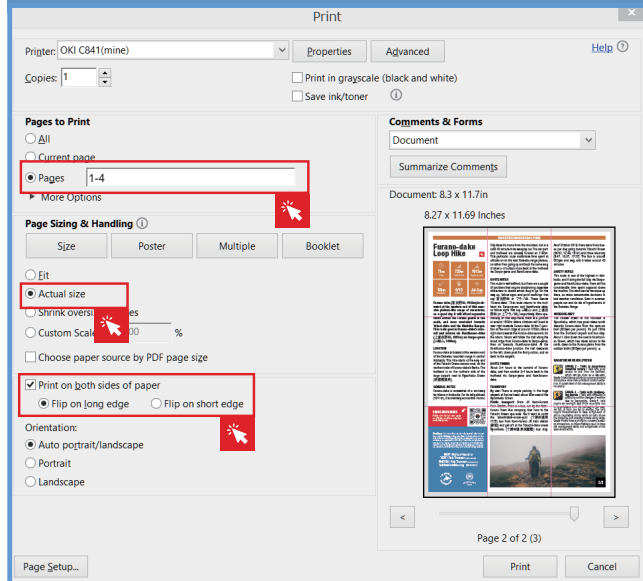
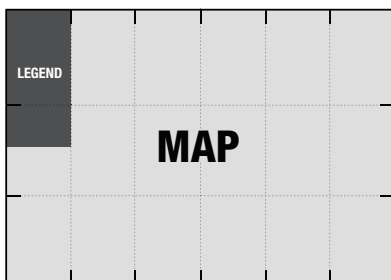


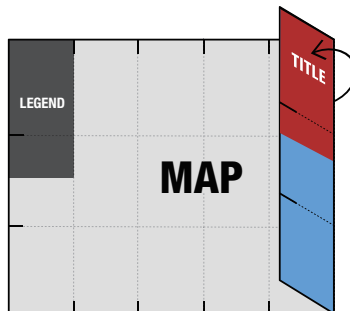
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

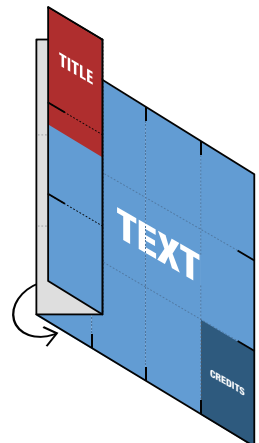
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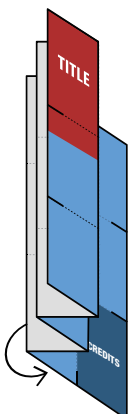
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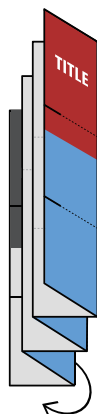
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4



5



6



7

