



Shiribetsu-dake South Face

尻別岳南面 Ski Tour Map 1:25000



0 250 500 750 1,000 m

1cm on the map equals 250m on the ground

Magnetic declination from GRID NORTH: 9°48' W | MGRS Zone: 54TVN
Grid spacing: 1000m | Projection: WGS 84 / UTM zone 54N
Map by hokkaidowilds.org CC BY SA 2023/01/25

Symbol Key

3:00	Ascent/Ski-tour Route (time) *	600	Contour lines (100m, 10m)
Red dashed line	Freeride Route *	Cliffs / Bluff / Rocks	
Purple dashed line	Advanced Route *	Trees / No trees	
Blue line with '5'	National Highway	Buildings	
Yellow line with '66'	Prefectural Highway / Gate	G3 G8	Backcountry gates
Black line	Municipal Road	P	Ploughed parking / Onsen facility
Thin black line	Minor Municipal Road	Shop / Public toilet	
Black line with 'F'	Forestry Road	Hut / Campground	
Red line with bus icon	Bus route / Stop	Shrine / Temple	
Black line with ski lift icon	Ski lift / Abandoned ski lift	Hot spring / Fumerole	
Blue dashed line	Municipal boundary	Transmission tower	
Black line with power lines icon	Power lines		

* Dashed route line denotes technical skill required (adverse surface conditions, very high exposure to avalanche/falls etc).



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

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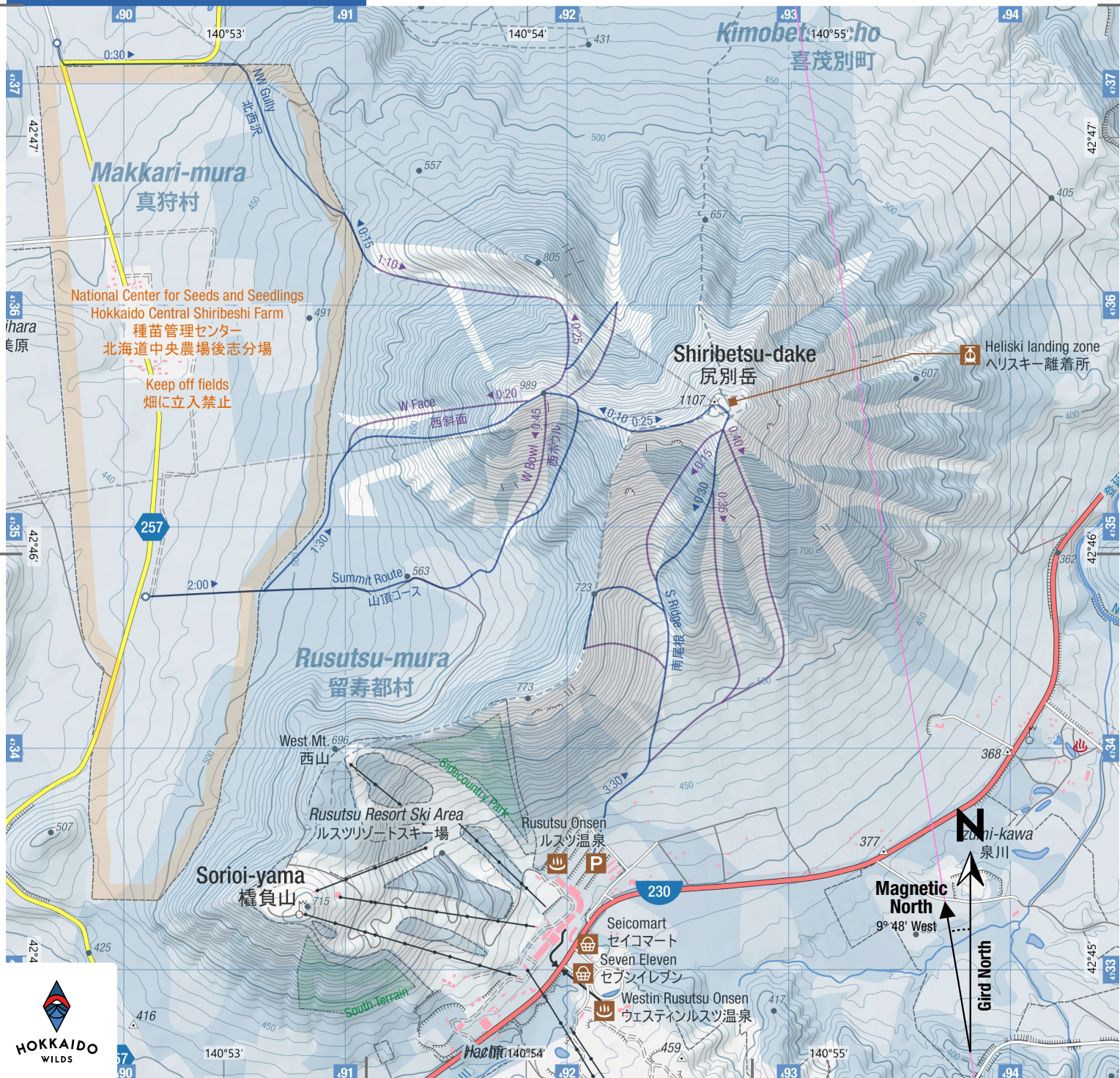


Japanese Map Glossary

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

この地図の作成に当たっては、国土情報院長の承認を得て、同院発行の基礎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-867go). We also modified 1:25000 scale vegetation map data created by the Biodiversity Center of Japan (<http://gis.biodic.go.jp/>).



Shiribetsu-dake

(South Face)



 4hrs Time	 650m Total Climb	 1107m Highest point
 4.6km Distance	 6.5/10 Difficulty	 Jan-Mar Best season

The south face of Shiribetsu-dake 尻別岳 (1107m) is an unavoidably prominent face near the international ski resort of Rusutsu near Niseko, Japan. The bowls and gullies directly south of the summit on this diminutive peak are steep and for most of the season, very deep. Conveniently, the route starts from the sprawling Rusutsu Resort parking area, facilitating good access to a post-ski onsen, restaurants and shopping too. The normal Shiribetsu-dake caveats apply - it's a free-standing peak with steep slopes particularly prone to avalanche, dangerous glide cracks, and other snowpack instabilities. Utmost care is required.

LOCATION

Shiribetsu-dake's southwestern flanks are home to part of the sprawling Rusutsu Ski Resort in southern Hokkaido, about 20km southeast of Niseko. This route ascends the large bowl directly south of the Shiribetsu-dake summit, northeast of the ski resort.

GENERAL NOTES

Shiribetsu-dake is a magnet for backcountry skiers, with excellent accessibility, short and sharp access to steep skiing slopes, and all the epic powder the area is known for. This route up the southern aspect is particularly nice, as

it starts from the sprawling Rusutsu Resort carpark - none of the roadside parking headaches of other routes on the mountain. Given the right conditions, the massive southern bowl offers incredible acreage of skiing potential.

The normal Shiribetsu-dake caveats apply though: Its steep slopes are notorious for avalanche activity and for its colossal and deep glide cracks (see safety notes below). Related to this point is managing exposure to snowpack hazards on the ascent and descent. While exposure on the ascent can be managed by zigzagging up the main bowl's looker's right ridge, the descent will invariably lead the skier into highly hazardous zones. Good knowledge of the snowpack, as well as good observation skills and experience, is important for this route.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

Park up at the Rusutsu Resort car park - its not only perfect for skiing this southern face, but also great for a post-ski soak in the Rustusu Onsen (see onsen notes below). Head northwest along the road, and clamber up the snowbanks to start the skin northwest towards the base of the large southern bowl. In typical volcano style, the approach is very mellow, getting exponentially steeper as you climb. Arguably, you'll limit exposure to snowpack instability as you climb by gaining the ridge to the looker's right of the main bowl as soon as possible, zigzagging through the dense trees along the ridge. The ridge itself is also quite steep, so you'll have to have your kickturn game dialed, particularly if the snow is very deep or if it's bulletproof snow crust.

The summit itself is nicely flat - flat enough for the Hokkaido Backcountry Club heliski operation to land their chopper up there. You'll see snow stakes marking out the landing area, so keep well clear. Views are excellent - Rusutsu Resort to the south, Yotei-zan to the northwest.

Given stable conditions, the descent on this route offers a huge area of steep and deep skiing. Ski either the main southern bowl, or one of the two tighter gullies east of the main bowl from top to bottom in one go. It is worth repeating however that Shiribetsu-dake, particularly this southern face, is notorious for glide-cracks, full-depth avalanches, and most other sorts of instability. The bowls and gullies are not safe, and should be treated as such with extreme caution. Once at the base of the bowl, head back along your skin track to the carpark.

TRANSPORT

By car: The Rusutsu Resort carpark is colossal, and rarely full.

Public transport: Rusutsu Resort is extremely accessible by public transport - the resort runs a number of shuttles from Sapporo City, Chitose City and the Niseko area. See options on the Rusutsu Resort website.

SAFETY NOTES

It's not often we repeat ourselves so much in one route overview, but Shiribetsu-dake, particularly this southern aspect, is a hotbed of instability. It's steep, gets a lot of snow, and also gets a huge amount of sun as the season progresses. Shiribetsu-dake and the good skiing slopes it offers are easily the most hazardous in the greater Niseko area. Hold plans lightly, keep a close eye on weather and avalanche bulletins, and keep ultra conservative.

ONSEN NEARBY

One of the best things about this route is its proximity to the Rusutsu Resort onsen, particularly their excellent new Kotobuki-no-yu ことぶきの湯 (1300yen). On the 6th floor of the North Wing of Rusutsu Resort Hotel, the unique outdoor baths overlook the entire southern part of Rusutsu Resort. At 1300yen per person, pricing is on par with other large hotel onsen, but the views are worth visiting at least once. ■

ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

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



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hokkaidowilds.org 2023/01/25

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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.

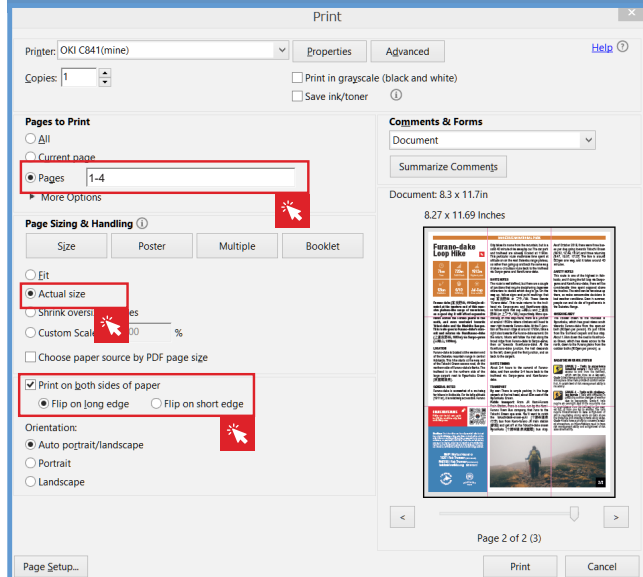


Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size", and Pages 1-4 are selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

