

Sabo-dam Route
Raiden-yama

雷電山砂防ダムコース Ski Tour Map 1:25000

0 250 500 750 1,000 m

1 cm on the map equals 250m on the ground

Mag. declination from GRID NORTH: 9°58' W (-3' per year) | MGRS Zone: **54TUN**
Grid spacing: **1000m** | Map by hokkaidowilds.org CC BY SA 2023/02/22

雷電山砂防ダムコース **Ski Tour Map** **1:25000**
































Mag. declination from GRID NORTH: **9°58' W** (-3' per year) | MGRS Zone: **54TVN**
Grid spacing: **1000m** | Map by hokkaidowilds.org CC BY SA 2023/02/22

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Map. declination from GRID NORTH: **9°59' W** (-3' per year) | MGRS Zone: **54TVN**
Grid spacing: **1000m** | Map by hokkaidowilds.org CC BY SA 2023/02/22






























Mag. declination from GRID NORTH: **9°58' W** (-3' per year) | MGRS Zone: **54TVN**
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Symbol Key

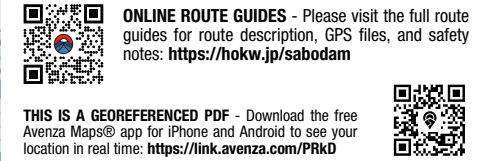
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|--|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | Ascent/Ski-tour Route (time) * |  | Contour lines (100m, 10m) |
|  | Freeride Route * |  | Cliffs / Bluff / Rocks |
|  | Advanced Route * |  | Trees / No trees |
|  | National Highway |  | Buildings |
|  | Prefectural Highway / Gate |   | Backcountry gates |
|  | Municipal Road |   | Ploughed parking / Onsen facility |
|  | Minor Municipal Road |   | Shop / Public toilet |
|  | Forestry Road |   | Hut / Campground |
|  | Bus route / Stop |   | Shrine / Temple |
|  | Ski lift / Abandoned ski lift |   | Hot spring / Fumerole |
|  | Municipal boundary |  | Transmission tower |
|  | Power lines | | |

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

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ONLINE ROUTE GUIDES - Please visit the full route guides for route description, GPS files, and safety notes: <https://hokw.jp/sabodam>

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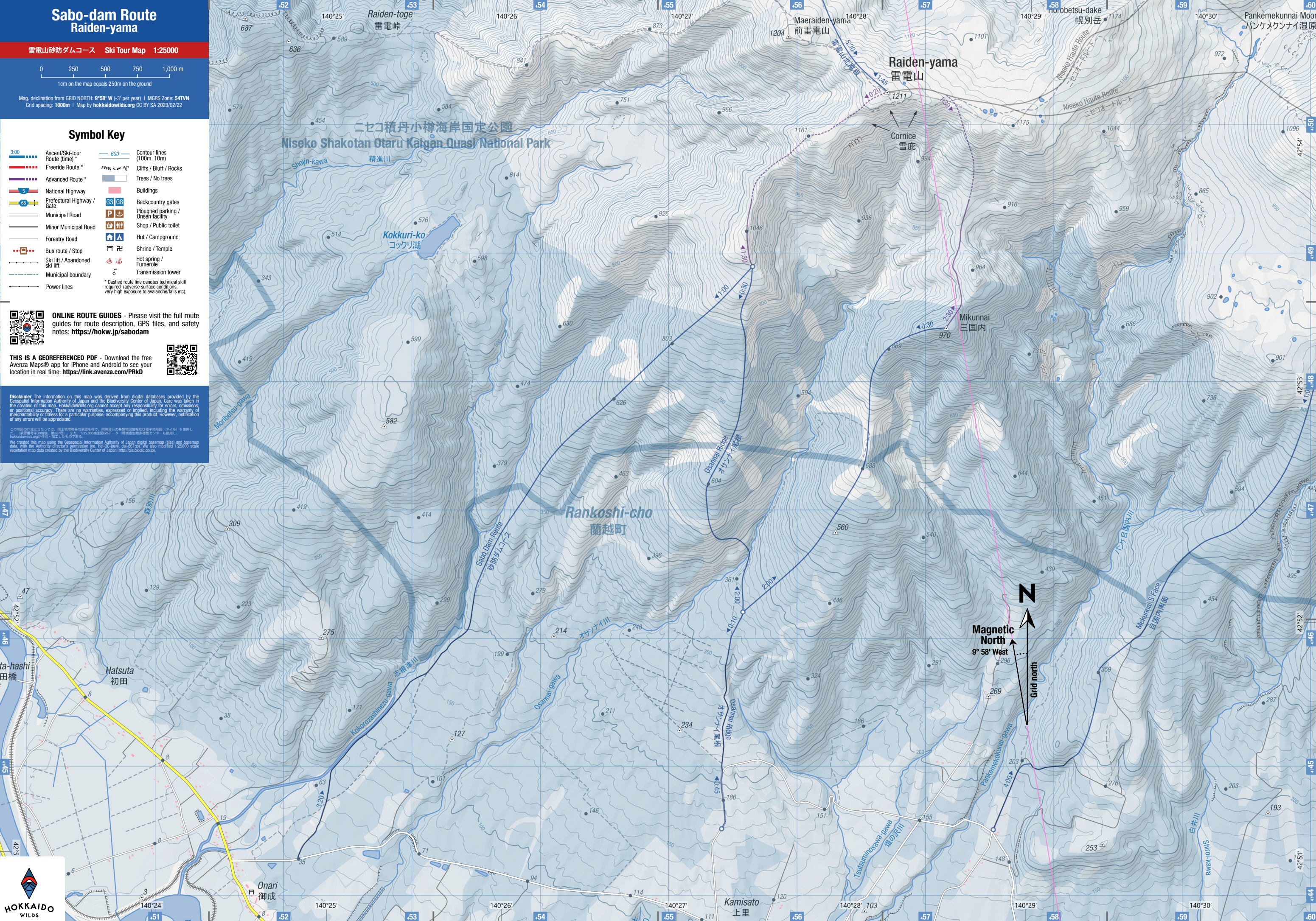
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We created this map using the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan's datasets and basemap data created by the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology. We also modified 1/25000 scale vegetation map data created by the Biodiversity Center of Japan (<http://gis.biodoc.jp/>).

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Raiden-yama


Sabo Dam Route

雷電山砂防ダムコース Ski Touring Map 1:25000







4hrs
Time




995m
Total Climb




1046m
Highest point



12.5km
Distance



6/10
Difficulty



Jan-Apr
Best season

Raiden-yama 雷電山 (1211m) at the far western end of the Niseko Range is a sprawling massif with a number of appealing winter routes to the summit. This Sabo Dam route 砂防ダムコース approaches from the south-southwest, ascending a wide ridge with well-spaced old-growth forest. There’s no tricky creek crossings on this route, and it offers the same expansive views across the entire Niseko Range, and south towards Shimamaki. Here, we describe a route to the 1046m peak. From there, skiers can brave the final icy ridge to the summit, or explore the myriad options for lapping and good downhill skiing.

LOCATION
Raiden-yama is the last major peak of the Niseko Range, before reaching the Japan Sea coast, in southwestern Hokkaido. This route follows the snowed-in gravel access road towards Lake Kokkuri コックリ湖, before heading north-northwest up one of the main ridges on the southern side of the main Raiden-yama peak.

GENERAL NOTES
There are many ways to skin the cat that is Raiden-yama. Here are some of them: Sankokunai Peak, Osannai-gawa Bowl, Raiden North Ridge, etc. This route adds to those options, as a pleasant and relatively straightforward way to



access the greater southern bowl and gullies area. There are guides who do the occasional snowmobile-access backcountry trip up here, so there is certainly plenty of great terrain to enjoy.

The name of this route – *Sabo Dam* – means ‘erosion-stop dam’. There are a lot of small concrete erosion-stop dams on the river next to the Kokkuri-ko Lake access road.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES
A simple up-and-back trip will likely take fit parties around 4 hours return – perhaps slightly longer if doing this route in deep winter.

Start from the Lake Kokkuri-ko access road entrance, and skin along the road for 2.5km. After that, head towards the north-northeast through some relatively non-descript old-growth forest. The climb begins very mellow at first before adding steepness at around 400m. That said, overall the climb is quite



mellow, with kick turns only occasionally needed. Generally, if you’re ascending, this southern face of the Raiden-yama foothills will eventually funnel you up to the 1046m point. For notes on the final approach to the Raiden-yama summit, check out the Osannai-gawa Route post, which also goes via the 1046m peak.

For the descent from the 1046m point, returning the way you came is the simplest option, keeping towards the skier’s right – it’s easy to get sucked into heading skier’s left, which can make the return to the trailhead a bit complicated – there are a lot of undulating spurs and small gullies where it wouldn’t be impossible to get rather lost without the aid of a GPS. There’s also a lot of very good skiing terrain that drops down towards the Osannai Gully to skier’s left from the 1046m point. Skiing into the gully will require climbing back out again to gain the ridge.



TRANSPORT
By car: There’s no dedicated parking for this route. Skiers will typically park on the side of the road near the entrance to the Kokkuri-ko lake access road. This is technically illegal, so make sure to clear a bit extra snow off the shoulder and get your vehicle as far out of the lane as possible. The road is relatively highly trafficked.
Public transport: There is no public transport to this route.

SAFETY NOTES
This up-and-back route along the ridge has very low exposure to avalanche hazards, but skiing off the ridge to the skier’s left will get you into some steeper, more committing terrain that requires good snowpack stability. Also note that on the descent along the ridge, it’s easy to be pulled to the skier’s left into fairly confusing undulating terrain lower down. Keep an eye on the GPS and err on keeping skier’s right. Beyond the treeline will be very exposed to the strong winds off the Japan Sea. Also, keep an eye (and ear) out for snowmobiles on the Kokkuri-ko Lake access road. They won’t be expecting to see skiers on the road.


ONSEN NEARBY
If you’re headed back towards the direction of Niseko, our natural choice of onsen is the down-to-earth and local Yusenkaku Onsen 幽泉閣温泉 (500yen) next to Kombu JR Train station. They’ve got a decent selection of indoor baths, an outdoor bathing area, and a nice relaxation area. They often sell local vegetables in the foyer area, as well as other local crafts, foods, and of course the famous Rankoshi rice. ■



| 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: <https://hokw.jp/sabodam>




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TEXT, PHOTOS, MAP | Rob Thomson

hokkaidowilds.org 2023/02/21

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | @welldonegan

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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.



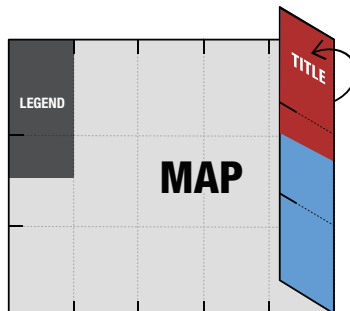
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

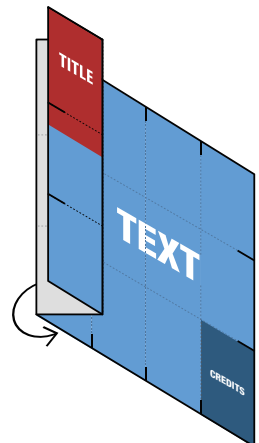
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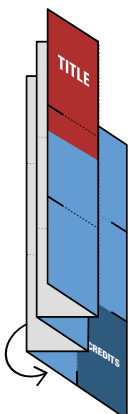
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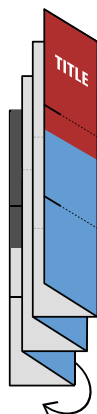
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4



5



6



7

