


相泊〜モイレス


Sea Kayaking Map

1:25000




6.5hrs

Time




20km

Distance




6.5/10

Difficulty




3.5/5

Remoteness



4/5

Water clarity



May-Sep

Best season

Aidomari settlement 相泊, on the Rausu 羅臼 side of Shiretoko Peninsula, is a remote outpost only 20km south-west of the wild and remote Cape Shiretoko 知床岬. This sea kayaking day trip (20km return) takes paddlers from this end-of-the-road outpost, along the remote southeastern coast of the peninsula, accessible only by foot or sea, to the remote Moiresu Bay, about 10km shy of the cape. Expect to be sharing this coastline with hardened kelp harvesters, foxes, and the occasional brown bear. What this side of the peninsula lacks in dramatic cliffs, it makes up for in its raw wind-swept beauty. There are a number of locations along the way suitable for a rough camp.

**LOCATION**  
This sea kayaking daytrip follows the southeastern coast of the Shiretoko Peninsula from the remote settlement of Aidomari, on the Rausu side of the peninsula, in far eastern Hokkaido. The route starts from the end of the publically accessible Route 87 road.

**Put-in location:** Put in on the stony beach just north of the Aidomari fishing port. There’s a large gravel parking area just across the bridge. This is the end of the road for the public. Beyond this there’s another 1km or so of rough 4WD track for local fishery personnel to access fishing huts. As per Hokkaido bylaw, it’s not

permitted for recreational vessels (including sea kayaks) to put in/take out in fishing ports, except in an emergency.

**Take-out location:** This is an out-and-back route, so the takeout location is the same as the put-in.

**GENERAL NOTES**  
There’s only two feasible sea kayak daytrips on the Shiretoko Peninsula if you’re intent on heading towards the Shiretoko Cape. One is the Utoro Side, and the other is this one. There’s nowhere closer to the cape that paddlers can put in. Daytrips to the cape and back are not really feasible for most paddlers – it’s over 20km one-way from the closest put-in, which happens to be this Aidomari put in

described on this post. Hence, day paddlers will usually be happy with a leisurely 10km paddle towards the cape, and then paddle the 10km back the way they came, for a solid 20km day trip.

This Rausu side of the peninsula is home to vast *konbu* (kelp) forests. The local fishers have tended to these forests, harvesting kelp here for generations. As such, you’ll see fishing huts dotted along the coast, and you’ll come across kelp harvesters throughout the paddling season. It’s a ruggedly beautiful backdrop for a back-breaking existence for these hardy folk.

This Rausu side of the peninsula is also much less developed than the gaudily developed and touristic Utoro side. Keep respectful of the kelp

## SHIRETOKO PENINSULA

harvesters’ right to work in the area – say hello if you meet them, and always be friendly and cheerful if you need to use any boat ramps in an emergency (otherwise, avoid approaching fisheries-related facilities including huts).

### ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

We recommend allowing about 7hrs for this route, to make the most of the coves, beaches, and views along the way.

Start from the stony beach just north of the Aidomari fishing port, and paddle the 5km or so to the first notable cape-like feature of the route – Kannon-iwa 観音岩. Along the way, you’ll be paddling along the long, lonely Kuzurehama beach – a stony beach dotted with banya 番屋 fishing huts, and flanked by tower cliffs and dense forest. The cape at Kannon-iwa can be choppy.

From Kannon-iwa, it’s a 1.5km paddle to a nicely sheltered cove, also flanked by high cliffs. From there, it’s another 3.5km or so to the destination for the day, Moiresu Bay. You’ll paddle along Kaseki-hama beach to get there. When there’s a strong southerly blowing, the broad Kaseki-hama Bay can get significant wind-chop.

Rounding Takenoko-iwa, you’ll immediately be in the relative safety and shelter of the picturesque Moiresu Bay. There’s a large fishing facility at the northern end of the bay, a river, and fine stony beach. It would make for a suitable rough camp spot if necessary.

For those with a little more gas in the tank, and assuming good sea conditions, it’s worth paddling 1km further around Tsurugi-iwa and Megane-iwa to Funadomari 船泊 for a more secluded break. Return the way you came.

### TRANSPORT

**By car** | There’s a large gravel parking area at the end of the road in Aidomari. It’s a 30-minute drive northeast from the Rausu township.  
**Public transport** | There’s a public bus – the Chienbetsu-sen Line 知円別線 – run by the Akan Bus Company 阿寒バス, running between Rausu and Aidomari (24km, 40mins). Buses run from Rausu two times per day. As of April 2023, they ran at 6:20am and 4:05pm from Rausu to Aidomari, and 7am and 4:45pm from Aidomari to Rausu. The folk at the Rausu Visitor Center will be able to give you more up-to-date information on the bus. Rausu is accessible by public bus from Kushiro City. Kushiro City is accessible by JR train from major cities in Hokkaido.

### SAFETY NOTES

As is the case with most sea kayaking areas

in Hokkaido, this route is relatively exposed to the open sea. While the Kuril Islands give shelter from Pacific Ocean swells, there is a large fetch across the Nemuro Strait, so wind waves can whip up quickly. Note that while beaches are relatively accessible here, there’s no road access to the coast and there is extremely spotty mobile coverage – bring a reliable form of communication such as a GPS Messenger or PLB. Sea temperatures in the Shiretoko area are markedly colder than other areas in Hokkaido. The Shiretoko Peninsula has an extremely high population density of higuma brown bears. While it’s fairly unlikely you’ll see a bear on any of the beaches along this route, practice smart bear precautions if camping at Moiresu Bay.

### ONSEN NEARBY

There are two wild hot springs on the coast just south of the end of the road – Aidomari Onsen 相泊温泉 and Seseki Onsen 瀬閑温泉. They’re both mixed-gender, free, and extremely basic. Aidomari Onsen consists of a large concrete tub just above the high tide mark. Seseki Onsen, however, consists of two concrete and rock tubs just below the high tide mark – you’ll need to time your visit for low tide, as the tubs are awash in high tide. For a more civilized onsen soaking experience, the nearest onsen facility is the Rausu Daiichi Hotel 羅臼第一ホテル (500yen). It has large indoor onsen baths and nice outdoor baths looking out towards the forest. ■

### Japanese Map Glossary

Romaji	Kanji	English
cho	町	town
dake/mine	岳/峯	peak
eki	駅	station
goya/koya	小屋	hut
gyoko	漁港	fishing port
ike	池	pond
iwa	岩	rock
kaigan	海岸	coast
kawa/gawa	川	river
ko/mizumi	湖	lake
ko	港	port
misaki	岬	cape
onsen	温泉	hot spring
sawa	沢	stream
shima	島	island
tani/dani	谷	valley
taki	滝	waterfall
today	灯台	lighthouse
toge	峠	pass
wan	湾	bay
yama/san/zan	山	mountain

### ONLINE ROUTE GUIDE

Please visit the full route guides for GPS files, interactive maps, and extra safety notes: <http://hokkw.jp/searausu>

**Disclaimer** The information on this map was derived from digital databases provided by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan, the Japan Hydrological Association, 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. NAUTICAL CHART INFORMATION ON THIS MAP SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR MARINE NAVIGATION - PLEASE REFER TO OFFICIAL CHARTS.

### MAP, TEXT, PHOTOS | Rob Thomson

[hokkaidowilds.org](http://hokkaidowilds.org) 2023/04/26

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominika Gan

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Supported by



## 相泊⇔モイレス Sea Kayaking Map 1:25000



	Suggested route (distance)		Land contour lines (100m, 10m)
	Depth (approx.)		Trees / No trees
	Intertidal zones		Buildings
	Fixed nets (month/type)*		Parking / Onsen
	Cliffs / Bluff / Rocks		Shop / Avoid landing
	Cave / Bears common		Camp-suitable / Water source
	Lighthouse, light		Escape-suitable / Fishing hut (banya)
	Fishing port / Marina		Shrine / Temple
	Prone to rough seas / Tidal currents		Hot spring / Fumerole
	National Highway		Transmission tower
	Prefectural Highway		Bus route / Stop
	Municipal Road		Municipal boundary
	Minor Road / Track		Submarine cable



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



この図の作成に当たっては、国土院環境省の提供した、国勢調査のデジタルベクタデータ（形状）を使用した。水深データは30秒間隔（第67号）、併せて、日本気象協会気象庁の水深（new pcswater data（気象庁発表，第2022005）M7000等深線）やJLIS26000系統水質GISデータ（環境省環境多様性センター）も使用し、hokkaidowildlife.jpの植生図や水産資源分布図・集計した、地価標準地図より土地利用（色）を割り当てた。

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, dal-967) on. We also utilized Japan Hydrologic Association marine data (newpcwaster data and M7000 underwater contour data; Permission no. 2022005) as well as JLIS26000 system water quality GIS data (provided by the Environmental Diversity Center), hokkaidowildlife.jp vegetation maps and aquatic resource distribution maps/aggregated data obtained from the Standardized Land Price Map to assign land use (color).



## 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.

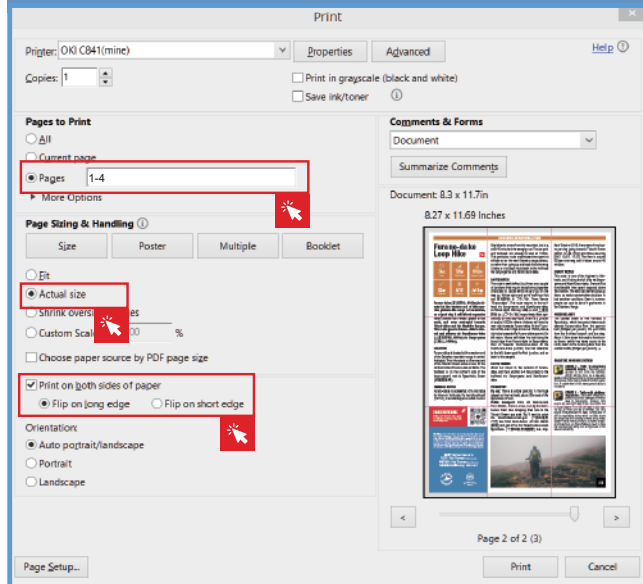
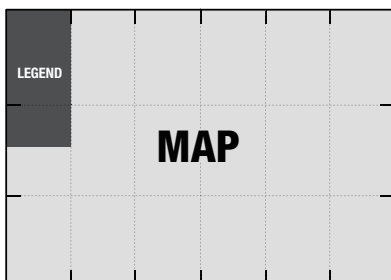


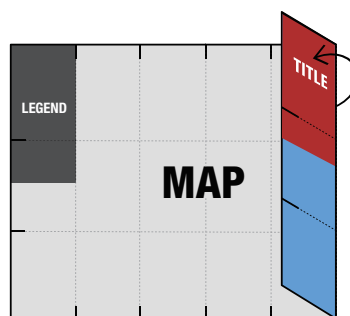
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

## ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

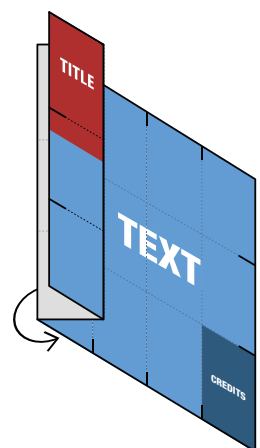
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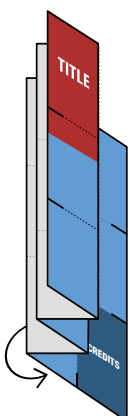
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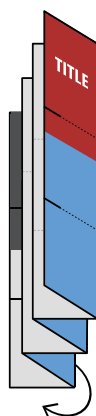
3



4



5



6



7

