

Ansei/Nukkakushi Crater ヌッカクシ (安政)火口 (1450m) is a steaming, active geothermal valley high above Tokachi-dake Onsen area near Furano-dake in the Tokachi Range in central Hokkaido. With a parking area and trailhead at 1260m, this area can be a veritable playground for the discerning backcountry skier. You'll need to be willing to explore and scramble somewhat, but given a few days of snowfall with little wind, this entire valley can be a smorgasbord of deep, steep, and lappable skiing. Apre ski hotspring options also abound here, with some of the best in Hokkaido.

LOCATION

Ansei Crater sits at the head of the valley east (uphill) from Ryounkaku Onsen in the Tokachidake Onsen area, at the southern end of the Daisetsuzan National Park in central Hokkaido. The start of this route is at the large snowplowed public parking area adjacent to Ryounkaku Onsen.

GENERAL NOTES

Usually on HokkaidoWilds.org, ski touring routes generally have some sort of destination or specific skiing zone in mind. This route is a bit different. Here, we're simply making an attempt at documenting some of the exploratory backcountry ski options in the valley east of Ryounkaku Onsen in the Tokachi



Range. Being entirely in the alpine, this area will be very condition-dependent, but on the right day will offer some superbly accessible terrain ripe for the lapping.

Generally speaking, vertical gain and descent are fairly limited in this valley, but it does offer some compact, relatively protected, and sometimes steep bowls and gullies.

This area is very popular among winter mountaineers, with the entire rocky, craggy, cliff-bound western side of Kamihorokamettoku-yama 上ホロカメットク 山 a veritable smorgasbord of mildly technical winter climbing opportunities. As such, this area has a large number of named features, which we have tried to include in our printable PDF topomap of the area.

ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES

This ski tour doesn't really have a specific goal or destination in mind - just skiing up to the



crater and then back via your skin track will likely take less than two hours. On the other hand, with good snow and good visibility, you could happily make a full day out of this area, lapping slopes and exploring the various nooks and crannies.

Head east from the public car park adjacent to Ryounanaku Onsen, keeping high, following the summer trail marked on maps. Follow the summer trail to where it crosses the Nukkakushi-furano River ヌッカクシ富良野 JII, and then head east along the valley from there to the 'crater'. The crater is less a crater than a steaming bit of gully. Explore slopes as you desire on either side of the valley, as well as at the head of the valley. Return the way you came.

TRANSPORT

By car: The trailhead is easily accessible by vehicle - it's at the large snowplowed public parking area adjacent to the Ryounkaku onsen at the very top of the Tokachidake Onsen area. There's room to park at least 30 cars in this car park.

CENTRAL HOKKAIDO

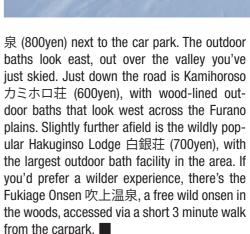
Public transport: The trailhead is accessible by public bus from Kamifurano JR train station - get off at the Ryounkaku Bus Stop 凌雲閣バス停. The trip will take about 40 minutes from the train station. The bus is run by the Kamifurano Town council. Timetable information is here: http://www.town. kamifurano.hokkaido.jp/index.php?id=1522. As of March 2023, the earliest bus bound for Ryounkaku Onsen was at 8:52am (arriving at Ryounkaku Onsen at 9:37am). There are only three buses per day heading up to the onsen (last one at 4:31pm). From Ryounkaku Onsen, as of March 2023, there were buses heading back down to the train station at 9:47. 13:37, and 17:27. Note that the bus goes via Hakuginso Lodge.

SAFETY NOTES

At HokkaidoWilds.org, we typically post routes on terrain with relatively low complexity when it comes to avalanche exposure. Much of the interesting skiable terrain in this Ansei Crater valley, however, is fairly high exposure, with some complexity when on the valley floor. Skiers should keep highly cognizant of the terrain in the area and should be particularly confident in their ability to assess snowpack stability on the aspects and in the terrain features they intend to ski. Note also that access to drop-in points higher up the valley walls will likely be via wind-scoured spurs - measures should be taken to reduce exposure to fall hazards.

ONSEN NEARBY

The natural choice for a post-ski onsen hotspring soak is Ryounkaku Onsen 凌雲閣温



Japanese Map Glossary

Romaji	Kanji	English
bunki cho dake/mine eki goya/koya hinangoya ike kawa/gawa kako ko/mizumi kyo numa onsen sawa taira/daira tani/dani taki toge	分町岳、避が田川の湖峡沼泉沢平谷滝峠は「半駅屋小地川口湖峡沼泉沢平谷滝峠	junction town peak station hut shelter pond river crater lake gorge pond hot spring stream plateau valley waterfall 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/ansei

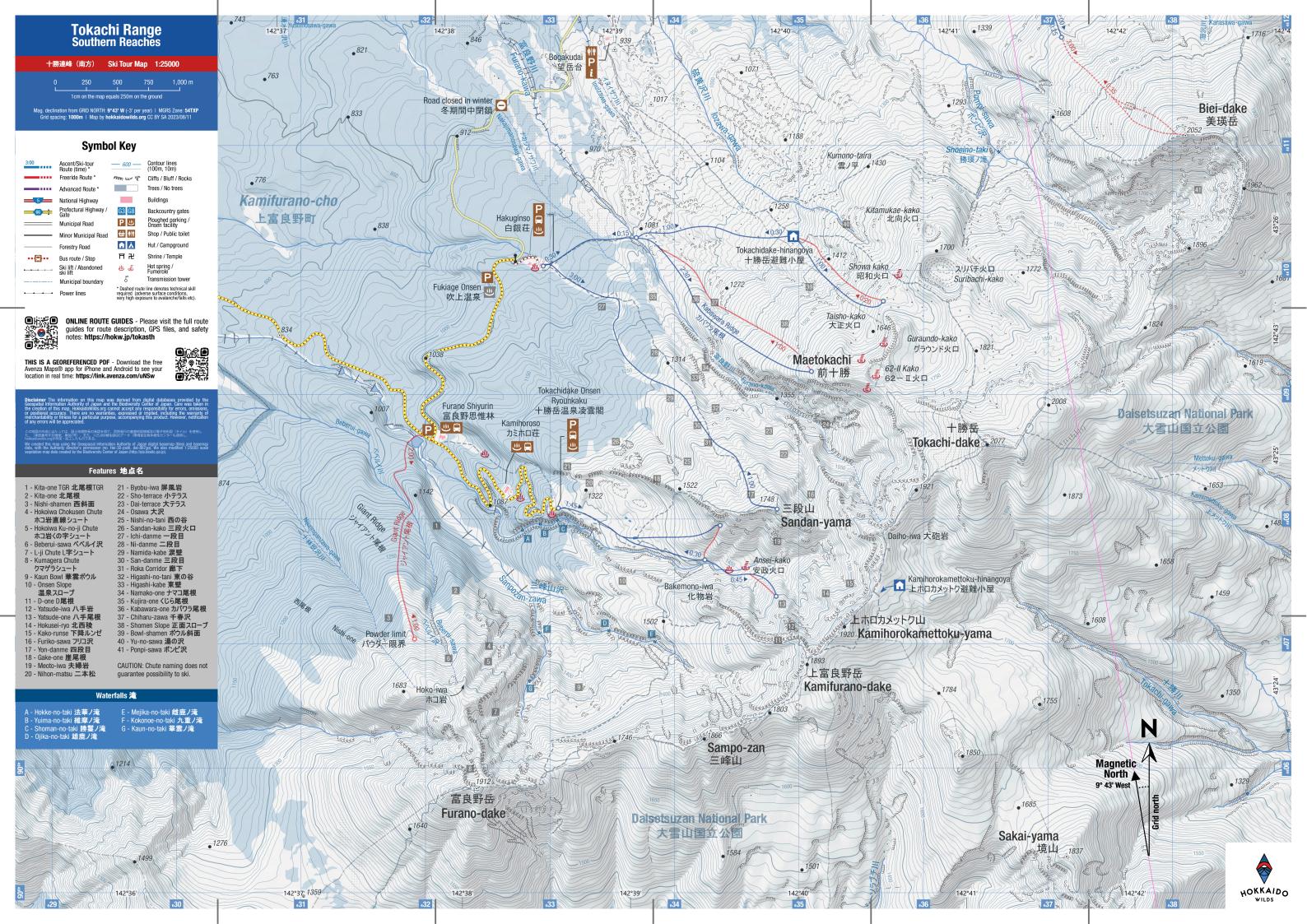


TEXT, PHOTOS, MAP I Rob Thomson

hokkaidowilds.org 2023/03/07

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | @welldonegai





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.

STFP 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

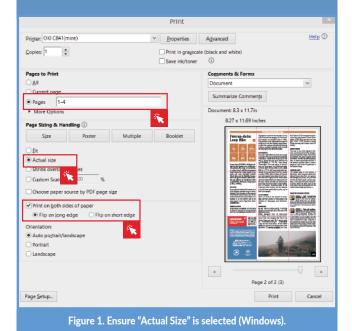
You won't need this instructions page, so just select the pages that don't include this instruction sheet.

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

