



# Shishamonai Falls

シシャモナイ滝

Paddling Map


1:25000






4hrs

Time




11km

Distance




5/10

Difficulty




4/5

Remoteness



5/5

Water clarity



Jul-Sep

Best season

Shishamonai Falls シシャモナイ滝 is a beautiful 100m-high cascade, flowing directly into the Japan Sea, just south of Kamui-misaki 神威岬 on the Shakotan Peninsula 積丹半島 in southwestern Hokkaido. On foot, access requires some serious roped-up clambering, so most visitors access the falls by kayak or SUP. It's only a short 2.5km paddle from the put-in. In addition to the falls themselves, the area is home to some of Shakotan Peninsula's most beautiful capes, passageways, and sea caves. This area is an excellent way to get a taste of what the Shakotan Peninsula has to offer to the paddler.

**LOCATION**  
Shishamonai Falls are about 8.5km south of Cape Kamui-misaki on the far western side of Shakotan Peninsula in southwestern Hokkaido. The put-in parking area is about a 2.5hr drive west from Sapporo City.

**PUT-IN LOCATION**  
The Sainokawara Parking area 西の河原駐車場 is a convenient put-in for this route; the parking area is large and there's an access tunnel under the road to the rocky beach below. As far as put-ins go, it's not a walk-in-the-park. The carry to the beach is down a number of flights of concrete stairs, a small rocky drop to the beach, and then over rocks to the shoreline. Unless there's a strong westerly blowing, however, the put-in cove is usually well protected. You'll be sharing the put-in with recreational fishers – the main-prize catch in the area is Japanese amberjack/yellowtail.

**TAKE-OUT LOCATION**  
The take-out is the same location as the put-in.

**GENERAL NOTES**  
A lot is going on in this relatively compact area on the western coast of Shakotan Peninsula. There are deep sea caves, narrow passageways, towering cliffs, a mysterious gravel spit (Sai-no-kawara), and the main event, Shishamonai Falls. Anywhere else, each in their own right would be a spectacle. Therefore, it's worth taking a whole day to explore both north and south of the put-in parking area.

**Camping at Shishamonai Falls:** Depending on how the season's wave action has shaped the gravel beach at the falls, it can be possible to find some flat areas to bivvy for the night. Water from the falls should be boiled or filtered before consumption. The falls area a relative-

ly popular wilderness destination, so visitors should take care to practice leave-no-trace principles.

**ROUTE TIMING AND NOTES**  
If only paddling to and from the falls, this paddle can be done with in a couple of hours. It's worth exploring the caves and passageways north of the falls too, though, so this area is

worthy of a full day of exploring and relaxing.

Put in at the the Sai-no-kawara parking area beach. We recommend heading north first, heading to Cape Numammae-misaki 沼前岬. At Numamae-misaki, there are passageways, impressive rock spires, and a couple of sea caves to explore.

Just south of the put-in, on the way to Shishamonai Falls, is the impressive Cape Jubo-misaki ジュウボウ岬. Jubo-misaki is characterized by a compact grassy peninsula attached to impressively tall cliff-like rocks by a gravel spit. There's a wooden shack on the peninsula, reported to house several jizo statues – it's not possible to get access to the inside of the shack. It's a somewhat spiritual-feeling place, with rock-piles dotting the landscape. As mentioned above, this area is popular among anglers aiming to catch large yellowtail ブリ, either off the rocks near the majestic Cape Jubo-misaki ジュウボウ岬, or off kayaks further out.

Sea kayakers will undoubtedly carry on to the falls by paddling around the exposed outer shoreline of Jubo-misaki. SUP paddlers will often short-cut this exposed seciton by portaging across the narrow spit on Sai-no-kawara.

Between Jubo-misaki and the falls is an

impressively tall section of cliffs, popular among adventurous rock climbers. There is a rock arch and two deep sea caves along this stretch of cliffs. Carry on another 1km or so, and you'll round a small rocky point to suddenly see Shishamonai Falls appear in a beautifully sheltered cove. Return the way you came.

**TRANSPORT**  
**By car** | There is plenty of parking in the Sainokawara Parking area.  
**Public transport** | In summer, the southern side of Kamui-misaki is serviced by a public bus from Iwanai Town 岩内町 to Kamui-misaki, run by Chuo Bus – the Kamoenai Line 神恵内線. There's a bus stop at the recommended take out for this route; the Sainokawara Bus Stop 西の河原バス停. Google Maps has good up-to-date timetabling information. The buses only run between April and October.

**SAFETY NOTES**  
Given the close proximity of everything in this area to the put-in, it would be easy to have a

false sense of security when paddling in the area. The reality is that the coast in the area is difficult to access on foot, and once you're at Shishamonai Falls, there's no practical way out except by returning the way you came on the sea. Hence our 'Remoteness' rating of 4/5 – the falls in particular are very remote in their own right. Therefore, getting caught out would be very easy if conditions change. All paddlers should be very aware of weather forecasts before setting off.

**ONSEN NEARBY**  
Shakotan Peninsula is home to a few excellent onsen. There's the amazing hilltop Misaki-no-yu 岬の湯 (900yen), near the northern tip of Shakotan Peninsula. They have a large relaxation area and offer meals. The sunset views from the outdoor baths are incredible. If you're heading back to Sapporo, consider the lovely Furubira Onsen 日本海ふるびら温泉しおかぜ (550yen). ■

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://hokw.jp/shishamonai>

**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. HokkaidoWids.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

[hokkaidowids.org](http://hokkaidowids.org) 2023/10/25

MAP FOLD & LAYOUT CONCEPT | Dominika Gan

Unless indicated otherwise, all content on this PDF (pages 1 to 1) is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License (CC BY-SA 4.0). Please attribute <author-name> (hokkaidowids.org), and let us know so we can link to your work. E.g., "Photo by Rick Siddle (hokkaidowids.org)"

Supported by







## 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.



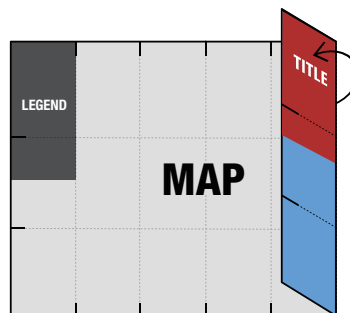
Figure 1. Ensure "Actual Size" is selected (Windows).

## ORIGAMI INSTRUCTIONS

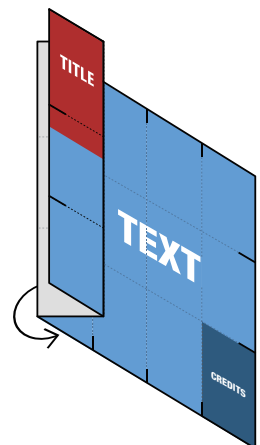
1



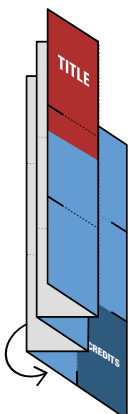
2



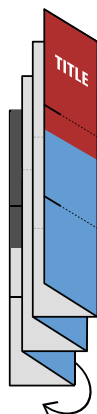
3



4



5



6



7

