

Pure Hokkaido

Hakodate, Noboribetsu, Otaru and Sapporo in nine days: the northern island by *private* car, with three ryokan stays and a Tour Director beside you every day.

NINE DAYS · \$21,500 PER PERSON

Prices are per person.



The Otaru canal at blue hour

From Hakodate to *Sapporo*

Pure Hokkaido is the northern island taken at its own pace: two nights each in Hakodate, Noboribetsu, Otaru and Sapporo, with a private car and driver between them and a Tour Director beside you every day. Three of the four stays are ryokan with their own hot springs, so the days close in the bath and at the ryokan table.

The journey is written here from south to north. It runs equally well from Sapporo to Hakodate, and you choose the direction. You book your own flight to Hakodate or to Sapporo, and we advise on the best choice for your dates.

HAKODATE · TWO NIGHTS

An onsen ryokan at Yunokawa, the hot spring quarter on the strait, ten minutes from the airport.

NOBORIBETSU · TWO NIGHTS

A ryokan in the hot spring town below Jigokudani, whose springs feed every bath in it.

OTARU · TWO NIGHTS

A ryokan at Asarigawa Onsen, in the hills above the port.

SAPPORO · TWO NIGHTS

In the centre of the city, a short walk from Odori Park.



THE ROUTE BY NIGHT, HAKODATE, NOBORIBETSU, OTARU, SAPPORO

— day by day

Nine *days*

Because you choose the dates, we arrange the order of the days around them: several of these places keep a regular closing day (Upopoy closes on Mondays), and the sequence is set so that each is open on the day you visit.

DAY 1 HAKODATE	You land at Hakodate, and a private chauffeur takes you ten minutes along the coast to your ryokan at Yunokawa. The afternoon is for the baths; your Tour Director joins you for dinner at the ryokan.
DAY 2 HAKODATE	Lunch among the stalls of the morning market; then Goryokaku, the five-pointed fortress finished in 1864 in the last years of the shogunate, seen whole from its tower; Motomachi, the old port quarter where the consulates and churches of the treaty years stand on the slope; and Mount Hakodate at dusk, for the night view over a city built on the narrow neck of land between the bay and the strait. Dinner is at the ryokan.
DAY 3 NOBORIBETSU	A private car round the shore of Uchiura Bay to Noboribetsu, about three hours, and to your ryokan. In the afternoon, Jigokudani, Hell Valley, on foot: the valley of steaming springs above the town, which sends some ten thousand tonnes of hot water a day to the baths below. Dinner at the ryokan.
DAY 4 NOBORIBETSU	Upopoy, the National Ainu Museum and Park at Shiraoi, on the shore of Lake Poroto, opened in 2020 as the national home of Ainu culture, with lunch there; back at Noboribetsu, the afternoon is for the baths. The ryokan serves dinner.
DAY 5 OTARU	A private car north to Otaru, about two hours, and to your ryokan in the hills at Asarigawa. The canal in the late afternoon, its stone warehouses built for the herring trade that made the town. Dinner at the ryokan.
DAY 6 OTARU	The Nikka distillery at Yoichi, half an hour along the coast, built in 1934 by Masataka Taketsuru, who chose the site for its likeness to the Scottish coast where he had learned his craft, with a tasting. A glass studio in Otaru, a craft the town grew from its fishing floats and oil lamps, and a sushi counter for lunch. Dinner is at the ryokan.
DAY 7 SAPPORO	A private car to Sapporo, about forty minutes. Odori Park, the green line a kilometre and a half long that divides the city's grid into north and south, and the streets around it with your Tour Director. The evening is yours, with your Tour Director's recommendations.
DAY 8 SAPPORO	Nijo Market late in the morning, where the city has bought its crab and salmon since the Meiji era; the afternoon at ease. A farewell dinner.
DAY 9 DEPARTURE	Breakfast, and a private chauffeur to New Chitose for your flight.

what is included

What the price *covers*

EIGHT NIGHTS	An onsen ryokan at Yunokawa, Hakodate, two nights Takinoya*, Noboribetsu, two nights Kuramure*, Otaru, two nights Sapporo Grand Hotel*, Sapporo, two nights
MEALS	Breakfast every day. Seven dinners: six at the ryokan, and the farewell dinner in Sapporo. Three lunches: at the Hakodate morning market, at Upopoy, and at a sushi counter in Otaru.
TRAVEL	A private chauffeur at the airport on arrival and on departure. A private car and driver between the four towns and on every day out. Luggage sent ahead between hotels.
EXPERIENCES	A whisky tasting at the Nikka distillery in Yoichi. A glass studio visit in Otaru. The market walks at Hakodate and Nijo with your Tour Director. The Goryokaku tower, Mount Hakodate, Jigokudani and Upopoy. Every entry on the plan.
YOUR TOUR DIRECTOR	A Tour Director with you every day, from the welcome dinner to the last morning, fluent in Japanese and English, so that every reservation, check-in and conversation on the ground is handled on our side.

* or similar

the price

The *price*

\$21,500 per person

One price, for a guest travelling alone or for two sharing a room. The journey is for one guest, a couple, or a party of up to four in two rooms. Prices are per person.

BOOKING

A deposit confirms your dates; the balance is due 95 days before you travel.

The journey is taken on dates of your choosing. Tell us when you would like to travel, and we confirm your dates with you and advise on the flight that suits them.

Tipping is not customary in Japan. In restaurants and hotels the service is in the bill. A gratuity for your Tour Director at the end is standard practice and welcomed.

Your enquiry

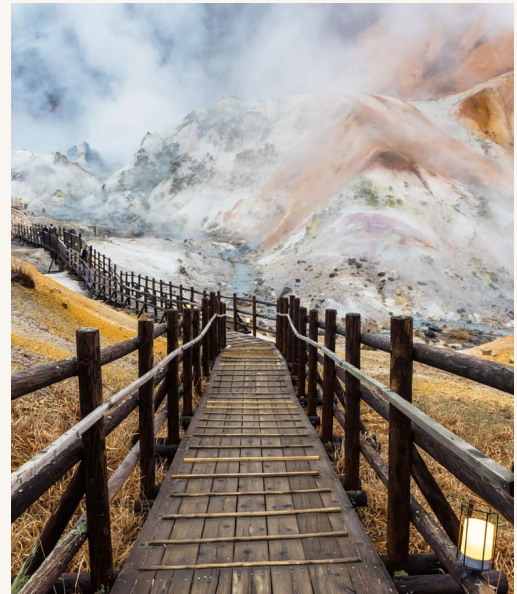
Write to us at bookings@luxuryjapantravel.com with the dates you have in mind, or enquire from the journey's page at luxuryjapantravel.com/private-collection/pure-hokkaido. We reply in person.

Each journey of The Private Collection is taken as it is designed here. A guest who would like a journey shaped around them is welcome on the Custom Tour of Japan.

With our compliments,

Luxury Japan Travel

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Jigokudani, the valley of steaming springs above Noboribetsu