



HOKKAIDO, JAPAN *4 DAY TRAVEL GUIDE*

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Restricted items for planes and customs

- Fruits and vegetables, soil, and many plant species
- Animals or animal products
- Items made from endangered species
- Counterfeit or stolen products, bootlegs, or knock-offs
- Weapons and ammunition
- Uncensored pornography
- Illegal drug

Things to bring

- Passport (be sure it has 6 months or more left before it expires)
- Visa (if required – see Ministry of Foreign Affairs for more info)
- Proof of airline tickets/reservations/boarding passes
- Customs forms and documents
- Verification of hotel reservations
- Transportation information and tickets
- Credit cards, cash, traveler's checks, and other currency
- Identification documents, such as your driver's license
- Maps and guide books
- Translation guide and/or travel apps on your smartphone
- Travel medical insurance

Things to know

- Smoking is banned all over the central districts of the city and streets,
designated smoking areas in some restaurants and establish-
ments
- Exchange currency to yen beforehand for optimal exchange
rates
- Do not tip restaurants
- Order a SIM card or portable wifi

Sapporo.



Sapporo is a lovely city to wander around. Checking out the Sapporo TV Tower, Sapporo Clock Tower, Odori Park, Sapporo Beer Museum, and the botanical gardens is a great way to spend an afternoon.

Asahikawa.

Located in the center of Hokkaido, Asahikawa is the island's second largest city after Sapporo. The city is not known as a leading tourist destination, but its zoo, Asahiyama Zoo, is among Japan's best and most popular. The local noodle dish, Asahikawa Ramen, is also quite well known.



Utoro (Gateway to the Shiretoko National Park)

Utoro is the largest and only sizable town along the western coast of the Shiretoko Peninsula. Located at the entrance to the national park, it serves as a transportation hub and is the boarding point for sightseeing boat tours up the peninsula's coast.



Shiretoko National Park.

Shiretoko, which originated from the Ainu word, "Shiri Etoku" which means "far corner of the earth" is exactly located at the northernmost tip of Japan (excluding the Northern Territories). Shiretoko National Park is characterized by the rugged grand landscape formed by volcanic activities and drift ice as well as abundant wildlife.

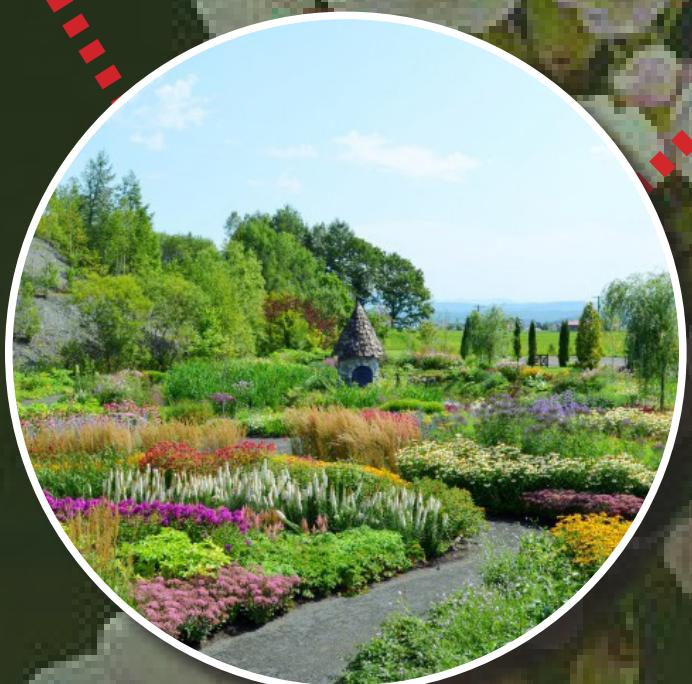


Day 1 - Sapporo.

Sapporo ("important river flowing through a plain" in Ainu language) is the capital of Hokkaido and Japan's fifth largest city. Sapporo is also one of the nation's youngest major cities. In 1857, the city's population stood at just seven people.



Asahikawa is a large city in Hokkaido, known for its natural and urban appeal. It is popular with travelers for its sightseeing, like the Asahiyama Zoo, and skiing and snowboarding resorts in winter.



Day 2 - Sapporo to Asahikawa

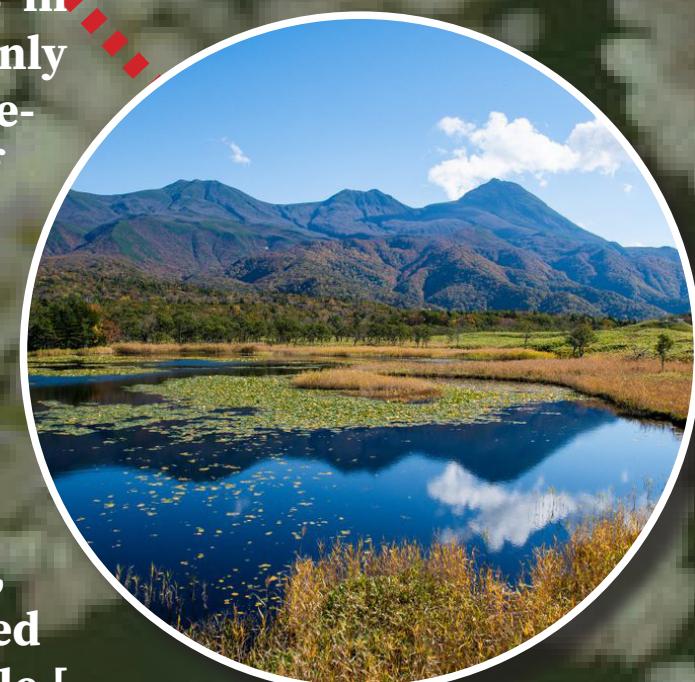
Day 3 - Asahikawa to Utoro (Gateway to the Shiretoko National Park)

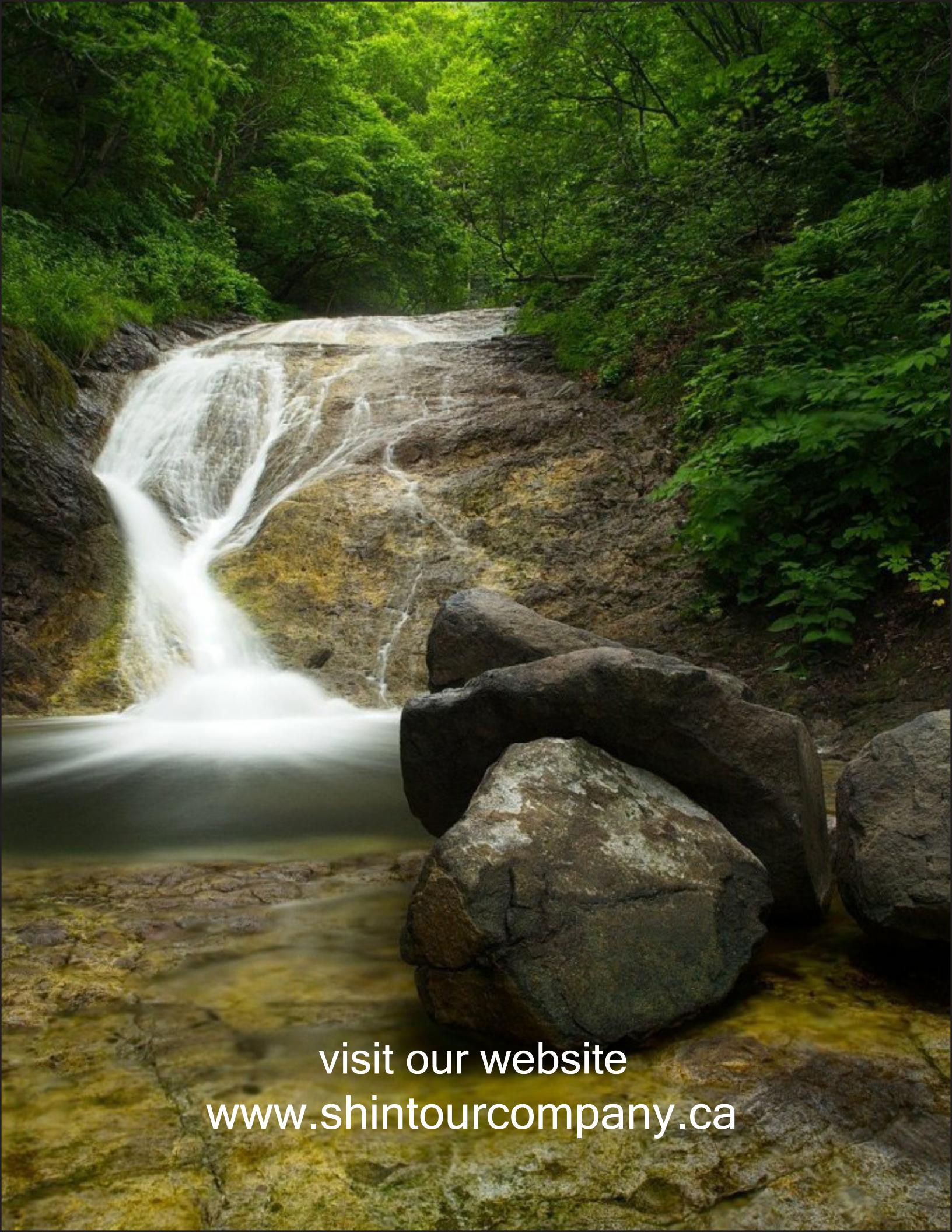
Utoro is a small working fishing port which also doubles as a tourist resort and principal access point for the beautiful Shiretoko Peninsula National Park.



Day 4 - Shiretoko National Park.

One of the most remote regions in Japan, much of the peninsula is only accessible on foot or by boat. Shiretoko is best known as the home of Japan's largest brown bear population and for offering views of Kunashiri Island, ownership of which Japan and Russia dispute. Shiretoko is also the home of many birds, such as Steller's sea eagle and white-tailed eagle, and marine animals such as spotted seal, orca whale, and sperm whale.[



A photograph of a waterfall in a lush green forest. The waterfall flows down a light-colored, textured rock face into a pool of water at the bottom. Large, dark rocks are visible in the foreground.

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