

# Akan-Mashu National Park

A Vast Landscape Comprising  
Japan's Largest Caldera Landform,  
Volcanoes, Forests, and Lakes.

Located in the eastern part of Hokkaido, Akan-Mashu National Park is one of the longest established parks in Hokkaido. Most of the park area is covered in natural forest comprising mainly subarctic mixed coniferous forest that is said to be some of the most primeval forests of all the national parks in Japan. The foundation for Akan-Mashu National Park comprises three caldera landforms --the Akan Caldera, Kussharo Caldera, and Mashu Caldera --which were formed by the volcanic activity of the Chishima Volcanic Zone. With several volcano-lake pairs in close proximity within a narrow space, the

area is nationally valuable. The park can be broadly divided into two areas: the Akan area and the Mashu (Kawayu) area. In the Akan area, the sights to see include Mt. Me-akan and Mt. O-akan which tower sedately over nearby lakes and reservoirs such as Lake Akan and Lake Onneto in a breathtaking landscape. In the Mashu (Kawayu) area, the sights to see are Lake Mashu --one of the most transparent lakes in the world --as well as Lake Kussharo, which can be viewed from the surrounding mountain passes and peaks, and the colors of the forests, which transform with the seasons.

Date of Designation :  
December 4, 1934

Area : 91,413 ha

Related Prefecture :  
Hokkaido



Enjoy the ocean, rivers, and other water scenery



Kaminoko-ike Pond



Lake Mahu Viewed from Lake Mashu  
Observation Deck No.1



Enjoy the mountains and flora



Mt.Io (Mt. Atosa-nupuri)



Bihoro Pass Observatory



Experience culture and local life



Kawayu Onsen



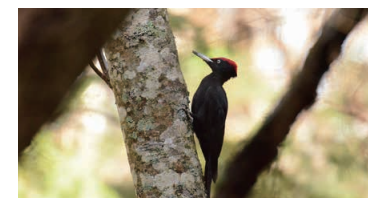
Traditional Ceremony of the Ainu



Meet the wildlife



Yezo Sika Deer



Black Woodpecker

# Itinerary

Feel the dynamism of the earth through the energy of the volcano and circulation of water

Akan-Mashu National Park, with the longest history as a Japanese national park, is located in an area with active volcano activity. Akan, Kussharo, and Mashu are in calderas (vast craters formed when a volcano collapses) and Lake Kussharo is the largest caldera lake in Japan. Many visitor's spots including fumarolic activity in Mt. Meakan and Kawayu Onsen, which is a famous sulfur hot spring, originated from beneath Atosa-Nupuri are related to volcanos. This area is also a long-standing Ainu Kotan, an indigenous village within the township. Enjoy a special experience available only in this area of learning how to live in harmony with nature from the perspectives of the Ainu people who venerate the natural phenomena, flora, and fauna as divinities and holy spirits.

web site






## Day 1

Learn about the region at the Visitor Center and canoe the headwaters of Kushiro River

- 9:00 ● Memanbetsu Airport
-  Private tour car
- 10:15 ● Kawayu Visitor Center
- 11:00 }  
● Private Tour car
- 11:30 ● Lunch
- 13:00 ● Canoe Tour at the headwaters of Kushiro River
- 15:30 }  
● Adventurous experience of leisurely enjoying the lake formed by volcanic activity
-  Private tour car
- 16:00 ● Hotel (Kawayu Onsen)

## Day 2

Volcano mountain climbing tour with a certified guide and night walk to experience indigenous Ainu folklore


- 8:30 ●  On foot
- 9:00 }  
● Atosa-Nupuri Volcano Trekking Tour  
Trekking the volcano billowing with plumes of steam with a certified guide
- 12:00 }  
● Lunch
-  Private tour car
- 13:45 }  
● Enjoying the view of Lake Mashu at Lake Mashu Observatory No. 1
- 14:15 }  
● Private tour car
- 30 minutes after sunset ● Lake Akan Forest Night Walk
- Visit to the world of folklore passed down by the Ainu people in the forest at sunset
-  On foot or by taxi
- Hotel (Akanko Onsen)

## Day 3

Experience dynamic volcano activity and magnificent, panoramic views of Mother Nature through trekking

- 7:30 ●  Taxi
- 8:00 }  
● Mt. Meakan trekking  
Best breathtaking panoramic view in the area from the summit of the mountain with wild landscape near the crater
- 15:00 }  
● Hotel Rest/shower in (Akanko Onsen)
- 18:00 }  
● Dinner at the hotel

## Day 4

- Around noon ●  Bus
- Afternoon ● Kushiro Airport

### Inquiry

Kushiro Nature Conservation Office

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