

Daisetsuzan National Park

The Roof of Central Hokkaido;
Known Locally as Kamui Mintara or
“the Playground of the Gods”

Daisetsuzan National Park is located in the central part of Hokkaido. Sometimes referred to as the roof of Hokkaido, the area designated as a national park includes the Daisetsuzan volcanic group that culminates in Mt. Asahidake (Hokkaido's highest peak at 2,291 m above sea level), other magnificent peaks such as Mt. Tomuraushi, Tokachi Mountain Range and Ishikari Mountain Range, as well as the sources of the Ishikari River and Tokachi River, which are representative landmarks of Hokkaido. The average elevation of the mountainous regions is approximately 2,000 m. However, their higher latitude gives them an alpine environ-

ment that rivals 3000 m class peaks across the rest of Honshu. The vast mountain belt is covered with colorful alpine plants including endemic species such as *Oxytropis japonica var. sericea* and *Lagotis yesoensis*. The area is referred to by the Ainu people as Kamui Mintara or "the playground of the Gods," and its beautiful landscapes are a treat for mountain climbers. Among local treasures are rare animal species such as the Japanese pika and the *Parnassius evermanni daisetsuzanus*, which are said to have survived the ice age, as well as a Miyabe charr that is endemic to Lake Shikaribetsu.

Date of Designation :
December 4, 1934

Area : 226,764 ha

Related Prefecture :
Hokkaido



Enjoy the ocean, rivers, and other water scenery



Numa-no-Hara High Moor



Lake Shikaribetsu



Enjoy the mountains and flora



Mt. Asahi



Ohachidaira Observatory



Experience culture and local life



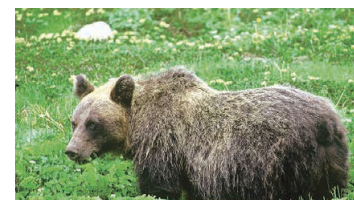
Sounkyo Onsen (hot springs)



Taushubetsu River Bridge



Meet the wildlife



Brown Bear



Japanese Pika

Itinerary

Minus 20 degrees Celsius ice and snow wonderland of northern Japan

Daisetsuzan National Park located in the heart of Hokkaido is the largest national park in Japan. The park is a massive treasure trove of nature and home to an untouched old-growth forest in the Nukabira area, Sounkyo which offers many flora and fauna and remarkable geological formations known as columnar jointing, and a mountainous area featuring Mt. Asahidake, Hokkaido's highest peak. Different scenes of beauty can be enjoyed depending on the season. The park turns into a breathtaking winter wonderland in the middle of winter when the temperature can drop to minus 20 degrees Celsius or lower. Beautifully accented by diamond dust, which occurs when water vapor in the air crystalizes, fragile looking frost flowers, and mushroom-shaped ice on the lake, the park offers limited-time only amazing scenery. Let's go out and see the extraordinarily beautiful world of ice and snow.

web site



Day 1

Admire ice bubbles, mushroom-shaped ice, and other fantastic ice sculptures created by nature that cannot be seen anywhere else

- 9:30 ● Private tour car
- 11:30 ● Arrive at Lake Nukabira, lunch
- 13:30 ● Watch mushroom-shaped ice
- 15:30 } Private tour car
- 16:30 ● Tokachi Shikaoi Geopark
- 17:10 } Private tour car
- 17:30 ● Lake Shikaribetsu Kotan
- Overnight stay (Lake Shikaribetsu Ice Lodge)

Day 2

Snowshoe hiking along a path with rock walls near the Ishikari River highlighted by Sounkyo Gorge

- 9:30 ● Private tour car
- 11:00 ● Sounkyo Visitor Center
- 11:30 ● Snowshoe trekking
- 14:30 } Putting on snowshoes, playing in the snow
- 15:00 ● Private tour car
- 15:30 ● Hotel (Overnight stay in Sounkyo)
- Evening ● Sounkyo Onsen Ice Fall Festival

Day 3

Experience an actual winter in the north. Snowshoeing across snow covered fields

- 9:00 ● Private tour car
- 10:30 ● Asahidake Visitor Center - Board the ropeway
- 13:30 ● Asahidake Onsen nature walk
- 15:00 } Experience powder snow. Animal tracking in a winter forest.
- Evening ● Private tour car
- Asahikawa Airport

Inquiry

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