

Sightseeing on the Lake

The perspective being quite different from that on land, the scenery you can view from a ship is refreshing. Cruise ships operate between April and early November on Lake Shikotsu. There are also glass bottom boats to view the scenery in the water. On Lake Toya, cruise ships operate regularly all year around and the passengers can disembark at the Nakajima during summer. Canoeing, which gives a sense of unity with nature is gaining popularity at some campsites on Lake Shikotsu and Lake Toya.



Cruising in Lake Shikotsu

Spots to View Nature

Various lake water and forests scenes can be viewed along the roads within the park.

Lake Shikotsu Area

Poropinai Observation Deck: An observation deck set up at the north shore of Lake Shikotsu along Route 453. Lake Shikotsu and Mount Tarumae can be viewed.

Lake Okotanpe Observation Deck: The viewing spot for Lake Okotanpe, calmly situated to the west of Mount Eniwa.

Bifue Pass: An observation deck on Route 276 to the west of Lake Shikotsu. The lake peeks through the dense woodland.

Jozankei Gorge Area

Hoheikyo Dam Observation Deck: The splendid downstream view of Hoheikyo Gorge spreads out from the observation deck situated at the dam's site.

Nakayama Pass: Located on Route 230, this pass offers an unbroken view of the mountain range including Mount Yotei and Jozankei area.

Lake Toya Area

Lake Observation Deck: Located on the north shore of Lake Toya, near the national route. You can get an unbroken view of Lake Toya, Mount Usu, and Mount Showa Shinzan.

Orofure Pass : At 930m, you can enjoy the view of Lake Toya, Mount Yotei, and Volcano Bay as you go through the forests.



Lake Okotanpe Observation Deck



Bifue Pass Observation Deck



Hoheikyo Gorge Dam Observation Deck

Fishing

In Hokkaido, Kokanee is generally called "Chippu". It is the short form of the original Ainu word "Kapachepu". The details of how it was imported are stated in the section on page 11. The popularity of Chippu fishing continues to be high. In order to protect the tranquil environment and freshwater plants of Lake Shikotsu, permits are required for motor boat use.



Chippu fishing

Nature Observation on Snow

By using snowshoes or cross-country skis, you can stroll freely on the snow and experience nature in winter (tracking animal footprints, bird watching, etc). There are snowshoeing tours at Shikotsuko Visitor Center, and tours by private companies are available around Lake Toya and Mount Usu, as well as at the base of Mount Yotei.

Ski Resort, Niseko

The Niseko Mountain Range, extending northwest from Mount Yotei up to the coast around Otaru to the north, has been designated a quasi-national park. It is a chain of mountains of 1,000-1,300m in elevation extending east-west, with Niseko Annupuri the highest peak. It is highly valued as a ski resort for its abundant snowfalls, its gentle landscape with fields of bamboo grass, its relatively low temperature, and high snow quality.

In recent years, the news of its existence and popularity has reached overseas and the number of ski enthusiasts from Australia, which is near, but whose seasons are the opposite of Japan's, has been increasing. Numerous hot springs are located at the base of the mountain and are often used as lodges by mountain climbers.



Niseko Higashiyama

Campsites within the Park

Camping is a great means to interact closely with nature. Camping sites are scattered at major scenic spots and mountain trail entrances.

Lake Shikotsu Area

Morappu: The most historical campsite in the park. It is the largest on the lakeshore and is well-equipped.

Bifue: A site for RVs located in the woods on the lakeshore. Cars are allowed up to the tenting area.

Poropinai, Okotan: Relatively quiet campsites located on the north shore of Lake Shikotsu.

Lake Toya Area

Takarada: Adjacent to the Toya Takarada Nature Experience House. RVs are allowed in one section.

Nakatoya, Takinoue: Both located in the woods facing the east lakeshore.

Tsukiura (Green Stay Toyako): Serviced for RVs.



Morappu Campsite



Soubetsu River (near Takarada campsite)

Mount Yotei Area

Makkari trailhead, Lake Hangetsu: A campsite which used to be mainly for Mount Yotei climbers, but the number of people coming to enjoy camping itself are increasing in recent years.

Jozankei Gorge Area

Jozankei Nature Village: An outdoor activity complex for Sapporo citizens, situated at the upper part of Hoheikyo Gorge Hot Spring. Nature appreciation programs such as bird-watching are provided.



Poropinai Campsite

