



JR Hokkaido Mail Magazine



Let's visit superb view of winter

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Special ticket: Teshikaga 2-day Eco-passport



At Lake Mashu, a famous tourist spot in eastern Hokkaido, trees whitened with snow and ice line the lake shore, and stand in stunning contrast to the blue surface of the lake.
In order to visit mysterious Lake Mashu, take a bus from Mashu Stations on the JR Senmo Line. With the "Teshikaga 2-day Eco-passport," you can enjoy unlimited rides on buses and trains in the designated section for two days for just 1,500 yen.
And Lake Mashu is not the only destination. Using the pass, you can also go to Lake Kussharo. Let's visit the winter lakes with this special discount ticket!

Sales period: January 21-February 19,2012

Fare :Adult 1,500 yen / Age 6 -11 500 yen

Validity period: 2 days

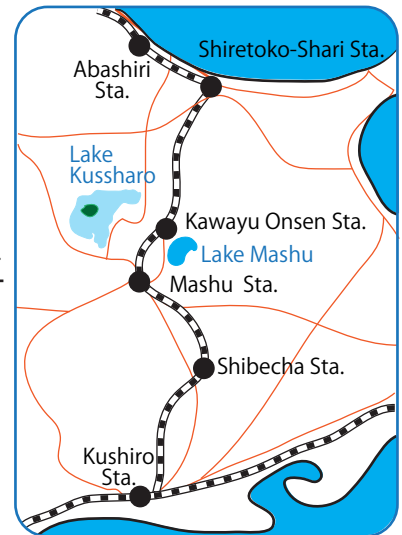
Valid area: Ordinary and rapid trains between Mashu and Kawayu Onsen Stations on JR Senmo Line / Buses on all local lines in Teshikaga Town

Sales place: Mashu Station Tourist Information Center

※ Available on the bus

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Open everyday in the season)

※ Note: After the purchase, no cancellation, change or refund are available.



Timetable The operation schedule may change according to the traffic and weather conditions.
This timetable is a selected part. For More Information: <http://www.eco-passport.net/time/index.html>

Lake Mashu Bus (Mashu Station – Lake Mashu)

Mashu Station		8:55	10:35	13:45	15:35
Lake Mashu No.1 Observatory	Ar.	9:25	10:55	14:05	15:55
	Lv.	9:45	11:25	14:35	16:25
Mashu Station		10:15	11:45	14:55	16:45

* The Lake Mashu Bus, departing from JR Mashu Station at 8:55, uses a jumbo taxi. (It may not be possible to ride, because of its capacity situation.)

Kussharo Bus (Kawayu Onsen Sta.–Mashu Sta.)

Kawayu Onsen Station		9:00	11:50	13:55
Mt.Iou	Ar.	9:05	11:55	14:00
	Lv.	9:25	12:15	14:15
Kawayu downtown		9:30	12:20	14:20
Sunayu	Ar.	9:40	12:30	14:30
	Lv.	10:00	12:50	14:45
Mashu Station	Ar.	10:30	13:20	15:15
	Lv.	12:00	15:10	15:45
Sunayu		12:25	15:35	16:10
Kawayu downtown		12:35	15:45	16:20
Mt.Iou		12:40	15:50	—
Kawayu Onsen Station		12:45	15:55	16:30

Kawayu downtown ⇄ Kawayu Onsen Station

Kawayu Onsen		8:00	10:15	11:20	13:05	17:05	18:05
Kawayu Onsen Station	Ar.	8:10	10:25	11:30	13:15	17:15	18:15
	Lv.	8:20	10:40	11:45	13:15	17:25	18:30
Kawayu Onsen		8:30	10:50	11:55	13:25	17:35	18:40

Mashu Onsen ⇄ Wakoto Peninsula

Mashu Onsen		6:45	16:35
Kussharo Prince Hotel		7:15	17:05
Wakoto Peninsula	Ar.	7:20	17:10
	Lv.	7:20	17:15
Mashu Onsen		7:55	17:45

Timetable of JR Senmou Line,
<http://www2.jrhokkaido.co.jp/global/english/ttable/07.pdf>

Information of special discount service for Hokkaido Rail Pass holders valid until 11th March,2012

You can receive discounts when you show your Hokkaido Rail Pass at the facilities in Niseko below;

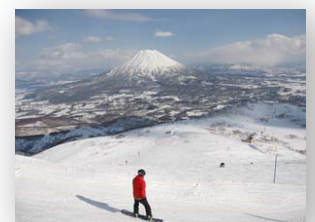
【Grand Hirafu】

- Discount for lifts and Gondola in Grand HIRAFU
- Rental ski set or rental snowboard set :discount 10% from Normal price

【Kiranoyu Onsen】

- Discount for bathing fee

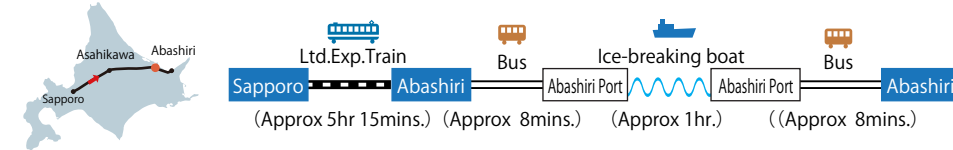
For More Information: <http://www2.jrhokkaido.co.jp/global/pdf/discount.pdf>



Let's go see the drift ice in the sea of Okhotsk!



In January winter is fully underway, and the drift ice makes its annual appearance. Ride the ice-breaking boat "Aurora" in Abashiri! Experience the power of the boat as its sturdy keel carves its way through the ice.
If you are lucky, you may sight lovely seals relaxing on the drift ice.
JR Hokkaido will operate a special train "Ryuhyo Tokkyu Okhotsk-no-kaze (Drift Ice Limited Express Okhotsk's Wind)" between Sapporo and Abashiri in the drift ice season again this year. It will make 5 roundtrips a day; this is in addition to the "Okhotsk" which runs every day.
I wonder when the drift ice will arrive alongside of Hokkaido this year.
I am very much looking forward to it.



Year	The first day with visible draft ice	The first day to come ashore	The last day with visible draft ice
2011	19 Jan	29 Jan	12 Mar
2010	22 Jan	8 Feb	30 Mar

Source: Abashiri Area Meteorological Observatory

Train timetable Sapporo - Abashiri Operated everyday

	Sapporo → Abashiri	Sapporo Lv.	Asahikawa Lv.	Abashiri Ar.	Abashiri → Sapporo	Abashiri Lv.	Asahikawa Lv.	Sapporo Ar.
Okhotsk No.1		7:21	9:01	12:46	Okhotsk No.2	6:23	10:11	11:46
Okhotsk-no-kaze※		7:55	9:34	13:21	Okhotsk No.4	9:30	13:13	14:45
Okhotsk No.3		9:41	11:19	15:09	Okhotsk No.6	13:31	17:13	18:47
Okhotsk No.5		15:08	16:42	20:37	Okhotsk-no-kaze※	14:17	18:03	19:37
Okhotsk No.7		17:30	19:08	22:58	Okhotsk No.8	17:18	21:00	22:38

※Note: Okhotsk-no-kaze is operated only January 21 ~ March 11, 2012.

Ryuhyo Limited Express Okhotsk-no-Kaze

On the long trip between Sapporo and Abashiri, you can enjoy a comfortable trip on the roomy "Ryuhyo Limited Express Okhotsk-no-Kaze". If you look up from your seat you will see skylights flooding the interior with warm light.



Timetable for Bus and Ice-breaking boat (Aurora-go) Abashiri Station - Abashiri Port

Note: There may be changes in the timetable. Please double-check the times on the website.
<http://www.ms-aurora.com/abashiri/en/>
This timetable is a selected part. For More Information:
<http://www.13.ocn.ne.jp/~abashiri/Winter/shisetu24.01.20.pdf>
※1 Operated only February 5 - March 31.
※2 On the operation dates for the sunset cruise, the special connecting bus will be in service.

January 20 - 31					February 1 - March 31						
Bus					Bus						
Bus stop "Abashiri Sta."	8:25	10:30	12:30	14:30	Bus stop "Abashiri Sta."	9:00	10:30	12:00	13:30	15:00	16:00
Abashiri Port	8:33	10:38	12:38	14:38	Abashiri Port	9:08	10:38	12:08	13:38	15:08	16:08
Ice-breaking boat					Ice-breaking boat						
	No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4		No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5	sunset cruise(※1)
Lv.	9:00	11:00	13:00	15:00	Lv.	9:30	11:00	12:30	14:00	15:30	16:30
Ar.	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:00	Ar.	10:30	12:00	13:30	15:00	16:30	17:30
Bus					Bus						
Abashiri Port	10:16	12:16	14:16	16:16	Abashiri Port	10:46	12:16	13:46	15:16	16:45	(※2)
Bus stop "Abashiri Sta."	10:24	12:24	14:24	16:24	Bus stop "Abashiri Sta."	10:54	12:24	13:54	15:24	16:53	

Economical ticket: Doto(eastern Hokkaido) V-kippu



For a roundtrip to/from the free area, you can take a reserved seat on ordinary car of limited express train. In the free area, you can enjoy unlimited rides with non-reserved seat regular trains. It is very convenient for the winter sightseeing plan, including for drift ice, in eastern Hokkaido.

Sale period: until March 16, 2012

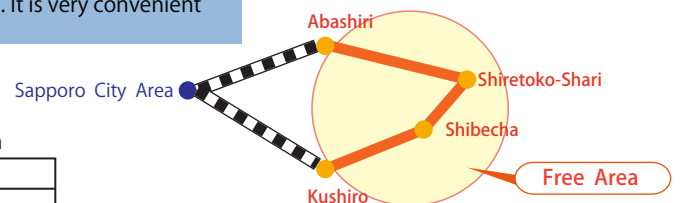
Period to use: January 21, 2012 - March 20, 2012

Validity period: 5 days

Available at: Ticket counter of JR Hokkaido station (Midori-no-madoguchi), or Twinkle Plaza

Fare

Type	Section	Fare
Abashiri • Kushiro	Outward: Sapporo City Area → Abashiri	16,000 yen Age 6-11 8,000 yen
	Return: Kushiro → Sapporo City Area	
Kushiro • Abashiri	Outward: Sapporo City Area → Kushiro	
	Return: Abashiri → Sapporo City Area	



Notice:

- * For Sapporo and Kushiro/Abashiri, you can take a limited express train with reserved seat once in each way.
- * Unlimited rides with non-reserved seat ordinary car of regular train are available in the free area.
- * A ride with SL Fuyu-no-Shitsugen-go (marshland in winter) is available by purchasing the reserved seat.
- * No stopovers available outside of the free area.

This ticket is not possible to use as a roundtrip ticket for the same section, such as "a roundtrip between a station in Sapporo and Kushiro Station" or "a roundtrip between a station in Sapporo and Abashiri Station."
The journey must be either;
Course 1 / A station in Sapporo to Kushiro Station and Abashiri Station to a station in Sapporo, or
Course 2 / A station in Sapporo to Abashiri Station and Kushiro Station to a station in Sapporo.

