

"Yokoso" Furano – the town with a ski resort

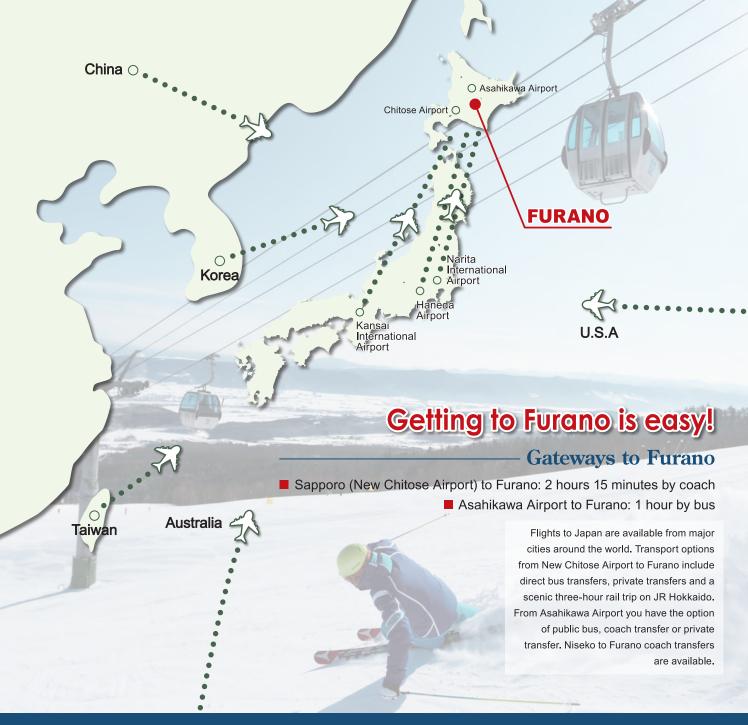
Champagne powder and bluebird days. Friendly locals and Japanese culture. Furano is a special little town offering unforgettable experiences, and the warmth of the people you meet will leave you wanting to come back year after year.

Ski all morning on fantastic snow and then visit soothing hot springs and incredible museums and galleries, partake in winter activities before experiencing Japanese culture at events and festivals, cap off the evening by exploring the myriad of amazing restaurants and bars. Go to bed with dreams of the lines you skied and the friends you made.

So much more than just a resort, Furano is a vibrant town of 25,000 people that happens to have an amazing ski area adjoining it. This magic combination gives you the opportunity to make friends with the people of the land, eat in the restaurants that the locals eat at, and turn your ski holiday into the cultural experience of a lifetime.

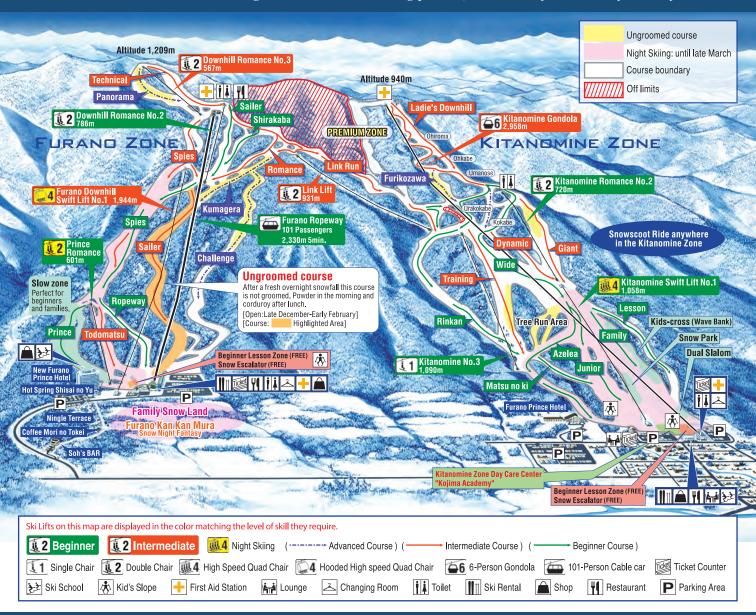
Slide down the beautifully groomed slopes or take a day trip to one of the many backcountry powder destinations, put your children in kids care and take a lesson to improve your powder technique, take an afternoon off from skiing and visit the local attractions. You can tailor your Furano experience to be whatever you want it to be.





FURAND SKI AREA*MAP

Furano Ski Area offers an amazing combination of stunning powder, bluebird days and family friendly runs.







Snow Schools

Whether you're new to skiing or snowboarding, or an expert looking to work on improving your technique, you can be sure to find a lesson that's perfect for you.

Professional English speaking instructors will help you to progress to the next level in a fun and safe environment. You'll have the benefit of learning in beautiful Furano which has some of the best snow conditions in the world!

Kids care

Your children will have plenty of fun in the snow with our international child care. In the indoor play area kids are able to play in the warmth with educational toys, listen to songs, sing and dance. In the outdoor area they can enjoy sledding, making snow men, snow domes, and much more. Caring staff guarantee your kids will have a fun filled snow holiday!



Ski Host

If it is your first time skiing in Furano, be sure to arrange a Furano Ski Host. This service is free of charge and is the best way of getting to know your way around the slopes of Furano Ski Area. The ski hosts are local volunteers and are a great source of information about hidden restaurants, quaint bars and remote onsens. Please contact Furano Tourism Association to make a booking for a ski host.





Ski & Snowboard Hire

There are a number of rental shops around Furano offering carving skis, snowboards, cross country skis, powder skis and snow shoes, as well as sleds and clothing. Make your holiday easier by renting modern well maintained equipment. Backcountry ski rental including beacons, probes and shovels are available.



Live cultural performances

These shows are performed by local volunteers and are the highlight of many visitors ski trip.

Japanese flower arrangement, calligraphy,

Japanese harp instruments, singing and dancing are just some of the things you will be able to experience with Furano locals. Do not miss this opportunity for a great night out.

Snow Night Fantasy "Furano Kan Kan Mura"

This is a fantasy village of snow and ice in front of the New Furano Prince Hotel. Wander through the enchanted forest where there are snow and ice sculptures. Stop in at the Ice Cafe for a drink, or experience a snow tubing slide of nearly 200m! Night flights in a hot air balloon are also available here.

Japanese tea ceremony by high school students

This Japanese Tea Ceremony is presented by the Furano High School Tea Ceremony Club. It is held in Kitanomine and close to most accommodation. Enjoy true Japanese tradition with your Kimono clad hosts.



A stunning art gallery, museums, Furano winery, a cheese factory, lavender farms and Japan's most famous zoo are just some of the places that you can visit during your ski holiday. Also don't forget to visit the beautiful arts and crafts village of Ningle Terrace.

Furano Theatre presented by Furano Group

Experience the art of "onsen". Relax your mind while soaking in the therapeutic waters of local hot springs. Across the valley in Daisetsuzan National Park there are high altitude hot springs fed by an active volcano and surrounded by snow scapes.

Take time out to experience some snow based adventure such as hot air ballooning, ice hole fishing, snow mobile touring, snow shoe trekking and snow tubing.

Furano is not just a ski town, but it is also a cultural hub that is home to Japan's leading theatre groups. "Furano Group" was established 26 years ago by the renowned script writer Soh Kuramoto, who is famous for the TV drama "From the Northern Country". Each winter some of Japan's top actors and actresses put on one of Soh Kuramoto's plays.

Dining: restaurants, bars, karaoke

One of the highlights of a ski holiday in Furano is the amazing choices you have for dining. You can choose to eat out in the resort area of Kitanomine or head into downtown Furano for a quality night out. Explore the narrow backstreets of central Furano and you will discover the culinary delights of small local restaurants that seem to be hiding. There is a wide selection from western to Japanese restaurants, bars, izakayas (Japanese style bars) and karaoke. Enjoy fresh local produce, beautiful sake warmed over charcoal, and dort forget to try the locally produced wines and cheeses.











Furano Evening Shuttle Bus

Downtown is so close to the resort area that you can walk, however for your convenience Furano Tourism Association provides a special downtown shuttle bus in the winter season. This service runs via the main accommodation areas and makes getting around the resort easy and stress free.







Accommodation

No matter what kind of accommodation you are looking for you are sure to find it in Furano. There is a full spectrum of choices including luxurious hotels with ski-in ski-out access, western style self contained apartments, Japanese bed and breakfasts known as minshuku,





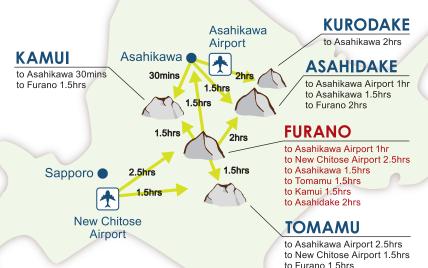


pensions-which are small hotels with a homely atmosphere, and backpackers. Most accommodation is conveniently located within a short walk from the slopes.

Explore the Hokkaido Powder Belt...

Furano-Tomamu-Kamui-Asahidake-Kurodake

Take the opportunity to experience some of the other fine nearby ski areas. Furano lies at the heart of the Hokkaido Powder Belt which is a close network of five distinct neighboring ski areas that boast some of the best and most consistent snow conditions in the world. The Hokkaido Powder Belt ski fields of Furano, Tomamu, Kamui, Asahidake and Kurodake are synonymous with superb quality powder snow and provide a wide variety of terrain from family cruisers to backcountry terrain. With a total of 5 mountains to choose from you can easily turn your ski holiday into a multi resort experience. Return transportation and guided day trips from Furano to Hokkaido Powder Belt ski areas are available.





Tomamu

Tomamu is a grand scale stand alone resort that is in one of the coldest regions in Japan. This fabulous resort features two sets of twin tower hotels as well as Japan's largest indoor wave pool. There are lots of family friendly trails and on piste attractions for the kids. Tomamu is also famed for its off piste areas. You can access the off piste by a straight forward registration process. Cat skiing is also available.

Kamui Ski Links

Kamui Ski Links is the hidden gem of the central Hokkaido area. The resort is serviced by 6 lifts including a gondola. This mountain has the most liberal off piste policy in Japan and has no course restrictions. Skiers travel from Furano for the renowned long and spacious cruising runs, the huge tree skiing areas and famed off piste terrain. With no on mountain accommodation this place does not get tracked until days after a snowfall and there are no lift lines or crowds to compete with for the best lines.



Amazing dry powder snow HOKKAIDO POWDER BELT

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