2020 GRAND HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL TOUR #2

New & Improved Itinerary!

Experience 7 Winter Festivals: Sapporo Snow Festival, Asahikawa Winter Festival, Sounkyo Ice Waterfall Festival, Lake Akan Winter Festival with Fireworks, Tokachigawa Swan Festival, Lake Shikotsu Ice Festival & Otaru Snow Light Path Festival

9 Nights / 11 Days • Escorted from Honolulu • English-Speaking Local Guide
February 06 – 16, 2020 • Tour Manager: Andy Lau
23 Meals (9 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches & 7 Dinners)

VISIT:
Chitose • Sapporo • Asahikawa • Sounkyo • Abashiri • Lake Akan • Obihiro
Tokachigawa • Lake Shikotsu • Noboribetsu • Yoichi • Otaru

ENJOY 5 ONSEN HOT SPRING BATHS:
Sounkyo Choyo Tei • Hotel Abashiri Koso • Akan Tsuruga Wings
Tokachigawa Onsen Daiichi Hotel • Hotel Mahoroba

Non-Stop Travel Exclusives!

ICE BREAKER CRUISE BY "AURORA"
See drifting sea ice! Nature's amazing treat!

CRABS
Pick'em "LIVE" from the tank! Savor the sweet "freshly steamed" morsels!

ICE POND FISHING
Enjoy your "Wakasagi" smelt tempura on the lake! Nothing else like it! Delicious!

AOYAMA VILLA — GOURMET KAISEKI DINNER!
After touring an authentic "herring" mansion, settle into the banquet room overlooking Otaru Bay.

ICE CREAM MAKING
Made with fresh milk straight from the ranch!

WHISPER — WIRELESS TOUR GUIDE SYSTEM!
English narration directly to your ear!

COMPLETE PACKAGES!

$4588*
INCLUDES ROUNTRIP AIRFARE FROM HONOLULU, 9 NIGHTS HOTEL, 23 MEALS, TIPS FOR LOCAL TOUR GUIDES AND BUS DRIVERS, ALL TAXES & FEES

EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT PER PERSON
SAVE $100
BOOK BY JUNE 29, 2019†

SAVE $75
BOOK BY AUGUST 31, 2019†

SAVE $50
BOOK BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2019†
2020 GRAND HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL TOUR #2 DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1: Thu, Feb 06 — HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Hawaiian Airlines flt #441 at 12:05 pm.

Day 2: Fri, Feb 07 — CHITOSE. Arrive in Chitose International Airport at 5:00 pm. After entry formalities, walk to your hotel located within the airport terminal. AIR TERMINAL HOTEL (1 Night)

Day 3: Sat, Feb 08 — CHITOSE — SAPPORO. After breakfast, first stop this morning will be at the AEON Mall to purchase snow/ice cleats. Visit the Hokkaido Jingu Shrine. In 1869 the Meiji Emperor decided to enshrine three Shinto Deities: Sukunahikona, Okuninushi and Okuninushi. They became the three deities of Hokkaido. Later, the Meiji Emperor himself was later enshrined here. Next, explore the Sapporo Central Wholesale Market, where the freshest local products can be found. After lunch, view the spectacular sights from the top of Mount Okura via the Okurayama Observatory Chair Lift. Then take in the wonders of the SAPPORO SNOW FESTIVAL at Odori Park and in the Susukino area. The Sapporo Snow Festival was started in 1950, when high school students built a few snow statues and it has since developed into a WORLD CLASS EVENT attracting more than two million visitors. Later, enjoy dinner at Sapporo Beer Garden. KEIO PLAZA HOTEL SAPPORO (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 4: Sun, Feb 09 — SAPPORO. The day is at your leisure. Continue to explore the city on your own. Spend more time at the SAPPORO SNOW FESTIVAL (B)

Day 5: Mon, Feb 10 — SAPPORO — ASAHIKAWA — SOUNKYO. After breakfast, it’s on to Asahikawa. Enroute, stop at the Sunagawas Highway Oasis, a shopper’s paradise. Warm yourself with lunch at the Asahikawa Ramen Village, where you’ll get to choose the type of ramen lunch you’ll have from one of eight ramen shops. Asahikawa is known for their shouyu based broths, while Sapporo is known for its miso based broths and Hakodate for its salt based broths. Which one will you try? After lunch, take a tour of the Otokoyama Sake Brewery, along with a tasting of sake and other tasty products. Next, experience one of the most popular winter festivals in Hokkaido, the ASAHIKAWA WINTER FESTIVAL. As Hokkaido’s second largest winter festival, after Sapporo’s snow festival, Asahikawa Snow Festival boasts one of the biggest snow sculptures. Each year, one massive sculpture is made as a stage for music or other performances. The giant sculpture has a different theme each year. What will the theme be this year? Will it top the giant sculpture built in 1994 which made it into the book of Guinness World Records as the largest snow construction ever built? Depart Asahikawa for Sounkyo. Tonight, enjoy a relaxing soak in the hot springs onsen and a sumptuous buffet dinner at your hotel. After dinner, enjoy the nearby SOUNKYO ICE WATERFALL FESTIVAL, a frozen world of ice featuring man-made ice caves, pillars, tunnels, domes and sculptures. SOUNKYO CHOYO TEI (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 6: Tue, Feb 11 — SOUNKYO — ABASHIRI. Before departing Sounkyo, we will visit the nearby Ginga Ryusei Waterfall. The word “Ginga” means “the Milky Way” or “Galaxy” and the word “Ryusei” means “a meteor or shooting star.” Upon arrival in Abashiri, visit the Okhotsk Ryuyho Museum and learn about drift ice. Next, experience an ice breaker cruise aboard the “Aurora.” Enjoy a Kaiseki dinner at the hotel tonight. Don’t forget to warm up in the hotel onsen. HOTEL ABASHIRI KOSO (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 7: Wed, Feb 12 — ABASHIRI — LAKE AKAN. Begin the day with a visit to Lake Kussharo Sunayu (Swan Lake). While the surface of the lake freezes over during the winter, a hot spring gushes at lake side, creating a bath area for the swans that flock to the lake. Next, view the country side from Mt. Ito. After lunch at a local restaurant, take a ride on the Winter Marsh SL Train Transfer to the Lake Akan hotel. After enjoying a buffet dinner at the hotel this evening, walk to the nearby LAKE AKAN WINTER FESTIVAL WITH FIREWORKS. The completely frozen over lake offers you an unique event experience. Watch the “fuyu-hanabi” fireworks festival set on the ice. Take part in the ice cutting demonstrations and mini ice games. Observe the fire lighting ceremony. AKAN TSURUGA WINGS (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 8: Thu, Feb 13 — LAKE AKAN — OBIHIRO — TOKACHIGAWA. This morning experience ice pond fishing for wakasagi (smelt fish). Enjoy freshly made wakasagi tempura. Depart Lake Akan for Tokachigawa. Enroute, stop in Ohiro to shop at a wine factory and take a tour of a factory making a local delicacy. Upon arrival in Tokachigawa, enjoy a Kaiseki dinner at the hotel. After dinner, explore the TOKACHIGAWA SWAN FESTIVAL. Don’t forget to warm up in the hotel onsen. TOKACHIGAWA OONSEN DAICHI HOTEL (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 9: Fri, Feb 14 — TOKACHIGAWA — LAKE SHIKOTSU — NOBORIBETSU. Depart Tokachigawa for Noboribetsu. After lunch, stop in Lake Shikotsu for the LAKE SHIKOTSU ICE FESTIVAL. A fantastic world of ice featuring various snow and ice sculptures created from the water of the nearby lake. Enjoy the panoramic view of Lake Toya from the Silo Observatory. This evening enjoy a relaxing soak in the hot springs and enjoy a gourmet “All You Can Eat” Crab and Seafood Buffet. HOTEL MAHRORABA (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 10: Sat, Feb 15 — NOBORIBETSU — YOICHI — OTARU. After breakfast, visit Jogokudani or “Hell Valley,” a spectacular, appropriately named valley just above the town, which displays hot steam vents, sulfurous streams and other volcanic activity. It is a main source of Noboribetsu’s hot spring waters. Next stop is Noboribetsu Bear Park. About 200 brown bears are raised at the Bear Farm at the summit of Mt. Shiretori to the east of Noboribetsu Hot Spring. The bears are separated by age. There is a “cage for humans” in the first farm, where observation from the viewpoint of bears is possible. Then learn how to indigo dye a handkerchief. For lunch, pick out “LIVE” crabs * from the tanks! Your choice of King Crab, Hairy Crab and Hanasaki Crab! While you enjoy a special Salmon Teppanyaki, the kitchen will expertly prepare the crabs for everyone to share! Learn how to make ice cream. This afternoon, after arriving in Otaru, enjoy a stroll through the OTARU SNOW LIGHT PATH FESTIVAL. Otaru was a former major trade and fishing port in the 1800s. During the heyday of herring fishing, large Herring Mansions (Nishin-Goten) were built by wealthy fishermen. You’ll have the opportunity to tour one of these mansions, the Aoyama Villa, and enjoy a multi-course gourmet dinner there. GRAND PARK OTARU (1 Night) (B, L, D)

Day 11: Sun, Feb 16 — OTARU — CHITOSE — HONOLULU. Begin the day with a visit the Nikka Whisky Yoichi Distillery for a tour and tasting. Then a sightseeing tour of Otaru, including a stop at the Kitaichi Glass shop, along with time to enjoy lunch (on your own). Learn how to make ice cream. Arrive early at the Chitose Airport and begin exploring the shopping mall located within the Domestic Terminal. Consisting of 4 floors of restaurants, shops and activities, there’s something for everyone. Those with a sweet tooth will enjoy the Sweets Zone, where you can enjoy Hokkaido sweets in a spacious and relaxing setting, and the Royal Chocolate World (factory, museum, shop and bakery) and LeTAO Chocolatier. The kids (and those young at heart) will enjoy the Doraemon Sky Park and Hello Kitty Happy Flight, which have an activity area, shop and cafe (fees may apply) or the Pokemon store. Uniqlo aims to provide customers with “ultimate casual clothes.” And there are more than two dozen shops at the airport that specialize in various fresh, frozen or dried seafood that can be eaten there or packed for you to bring home. Or you can relax in the airport onsen or movie theater (for a fee). Depart via Hawaiian Airlines flt #442 at 7:45 pm. Arrive Honolulu at 8:00 am the same day. Aloha and Welcome Home! (B)

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*Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and INCLUDE ALL AIRCARE TAXES AND FEES. Airport/hotel supplements, taxes, fees are subject to change and tour member is responsible for any increases. Some airline-imposed personal charges, including but not limited to baggage, priority boarding and special seating, may apply. For details visit www.tripadvisor.com/AirlineFees. After initial deposit, a $75 per person Non-Stop Service Fee will apply. Group departures may be cancelled, if there are less than 24 tour members. Final Payment to NST for Tour members in the first farm, where observation from the viewpoint of bears is possible. Then learn how to indigo dye a handkerchief. For lunch, pick out “LIVE” crabs * from the tanks! Your choice of King Crab, Hairy Crab and Hanasaki Crab! While you enjoy a special Salmon Teppanyaki, the kitchen will expertly prepare the crabs for everyone to share! Learn how to make ice cream. This afternoon, after arriving in Otaru, enjoy a stroll through the OTARU SNOW LIGHT PATH FESTIVAL. Otaru was a former major trade and fishing port in the 1800s. During the heyday of herring fishing, large Herring Mansions (Nishin-Goten) were built by wealthy fishermen. You’ll have the opportunity to tour one of these mansions, the Aoyama Villa, and enjoy a multi-course gourmet dinner there. GRAND PARK OTARU (1 Night) (B, L, D)

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