



# 2025 HOKKAIDO SPRING TIME FLOWER TOUR

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**9 Nights / 11 Days • 25 Meals (9 Breakfasts, 8 Lunches, 8 Dinners)**  
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide  
**Tour #1: May 11 – 21, 2025 • Tour Manager: Anona Gabriel**  
**Tour #2: May 16 – 26, 2025 • Tour Managers: Dean & Annette Mizumura**

Spring is definitely one of the best seasons to visit Hokkaido, the northern most prefecture of Japan. It is not only a place with beautiful greenery and delicious seafood but is also where you can experience the magic and splendor of nature. We are sure that you will instantly fall in love with the beauty of its spring. Let's enhance your nature experience further by visiting these three seasonal flower fields – Iwamizawa Canola Flower Fields, Kamiyubetsu Tulip Park, and Higashimokoto Pink Moss Park!

**VISIT:** Chitose • Tokachigawa • Ikeda • Lake Akan • Abashiri • Kitami  
Sounkyo • Asahikawa • Biei • Iwamizawa • Sapporo • Otaru

**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:** Sahoro Bear Mountain • Ryugetsu Sweetpia Garden  
Boya Farm Sheep Dog Show • Ikeda Wine Castle • Canola Flower Fields • Rokkatei  
Lake Akan Cruise • Spherical Moss Exhibition and Observation Center (Marimo Moss Museum)  
Mashu Lake Observatory • Mt. Io • Kussharo Lake • Kitami Mint Museum • Higashimokoto Pink Moss Park  
Okhotsk Drift Ice Museum • Abashiri Prison Museum • Kamiyubetsu Tulip Park • Ginga Ryusei Waterfall  
Mt. Kurodake Ropeway • Otokoyama Sake Brewery • Blue Pond • Biei Landscape  
Sunagawa Highway Oasis • Seafood Wholesale Market • Lilac Festival at Odori Park  
TV Tower • Sapporo Clock Tower • Former Government Building • Tanuki Koji Shopping Arcade  
Otaru Canal • Music Box Museum • Kitaichi Glass Company • ROYCE' Cacao & Chocolate Town  
AEON MALL Sapporo Naebo • Chitose Airport Domestic Terminal Shopping

**HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES:** Winery Tour and Tasting • Ice Cream Making  
Sake Brewery Tour and Tasting • Sushi Making • Wagashi (Traditional Japanese Sweets) Making

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**WHISPER** — *Wireless Tour Guide System!*  
English narration directly to your ear!

**Non-Stop Travel Hokkaido Exclusives!**

**ICE CREAM MAKING** — Made with fresh milk straight from the ranch!  
**CRABS** — *Pick'em "LIVE" from the tank!*  
Savor the sweet freshly steamed morsels!

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**Day 1:** HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #73 at 12:15 pm.

**Day 2:** TOKYO – CHITOSE. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 3:55 pm. After entry formalities, enjoy a bento box at the domestic departure gate. Depart the Haneda Domestic Airport via Japan Airlines flt #527 at 6:40 pm. Arrive at the Chitose Domestic Airport at 8:15 pm. After entry formalities, walk to your hotel located within the airport terminal. AIR TERMINAL HOTEL (1 Night) (D)

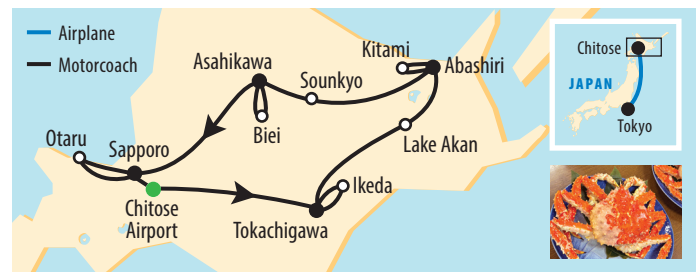
**Day 3:** CHITOSE – TOKACHIGAWA. After breakfast, depart for Tokachigawa. Take a bus tour of the **Sahoro Bear Mountain**. The brown bear is the largest land animal in Japan, inhabiting only in Hokkaido. Unlike in a zoo or in a bear reserve, here you can see them living in a real forest. After lunch, stop at **Ryugetsu Sweetpia Garden** to shop for some Japanese desserts before arriving at the hotel. Tonight enjoy a **Kaiseki Dinner** at the hotel. The indoor **onsen hot springs** – which are divided for men and women – allow you to enjoy the onsen hot springs regardless of the weather outside. The high-quality service and facilities are sure to become some of your fondest memories of your visit to Japan. TOKACHIGAWA ONSEN DAIICHI HOTEL (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

**Day 4:** TOKACHIGAWA – IKEDA – TOKACHIGAWA. This morning, start the day at the **Boya Farm Sheep Dog Show**. Stop at the **Ikeda Wine Castle** to take a **tour of the winery** and **taste a few of their products**. After lunch, drive by the **canola flower fields**. “Nanohana” is the word for canola flowers in Japanese. Enjoy the endless bright yellow blooms. Lastly, stop at **Rokkatei**, a sweets shop that utilizes many of the natural resources of Hokkaido to create their sweet treats, before returning to the hotel for a buffet dinner. (B, L, D)

**Day 5:** TOKACHIGAWA – LAKE AKAN – ABASHIRI. This morning, we’re in for a real treat! The **sightseeing cruise** around **Lake Akan** is Akan’s most popular tour. From the boat you can see the unspoiled primitive forest that shows natural beauty in each season. At the **Spherical Moss Exhibition and Observation Center (Marimo Moss Museum)** on Churui Island, you can see the real moss ball known as “marimo,” a natural treasure in Japan. After lunch, **learn to make ice cream** with milk straight from the ranch! Stop at **Lake Mashu**, an endorheic crater lake formed in the caldera of a potentially active volcano. It has been called the clearest lake in the world. Take in the view from the **Observatory**. Next visit **Mt. Io**. Known for erupting liquid sulfur in the eruptions of 1889 and 1936, Mt. Io literally means “sulfur mountain.” Lastly, visit **Kussharo Lake (Sunayu)**, a caldera lake in Akan National Park. As with many geographic names in Hokkaido, the name derives from the Ainu language. It is the largest caldera lake in Japan in terms of surface area, and 6<sup>th</sup> largest lake in Japan. It is also the largest lake in Japan to freeze over completely in winter. Arrive in Abashiri. This evening enjoy dinner at the hotel. Don’t miss your chance to soak in the **onsen hot spring**. After a full day of sightseeing, there’s nothing quite like it in the world to relax your body and spirit. Enjoy the tranquil experience. HOTEL ABASHIRIKOSO (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

**Day 6:** ABASHIRI – KITAMI – ABASHIRI. Begin the day of touring in Kitami. It was peppermint that built Kitami’s economy in the early days. During the peak production in 1938/1939, Kitami’s peppermint accounted for approximately 70% of the global market and became globally recognized as a special produce of Kitami and of Japan. Adjacent to the **Kitami Mint Museum** stands the Mint Distillation House where you can enjoy the aroma of freshly made mint. Then explore **Higashimokoto**, a park in Hokkaido that is famous for its beautiful “carpets” of shibazakura. Moss phlox is called “shibazakura” in Japanese, meaning “grass cherry blossoms” because it is like little cherry blossoms blooming on the ground. Shibazakura has variety of colors including light pink, red, light purple, and white. After lunch, visit the **Okhotsk Drift Ice Museum**. Then the **Abashiri Prison Museum**. Learn about the conditions the prisoners experienced while incarcerated. Return to the hotel, where a special **Kaiseki Dinner** has been arranged. (B, L, D)

**Day 7:** ABASHIRI – SOUNKYO – ASAHIKAWA. Begin the day with the lovely view of fields of blooming tulips at **Kamiyubetsu Tulip Park**. 1.2 million tulips of 120 different kinds! Looking down on the garden from the observation platform on a Dutch windmill, it’s like a dream world. After lunch, enjoy **Ginga Ryusei Waterfall**. The word “ginga” means “the Milky Way” and the word “ryusei” means “a shooting star.” After lunch, take the **Mt. Kurodake Ropeway**, a 1984 meter high peak that towers over Sounkyo Onsen in central Hokkaido. The Kurodake Ropeway connects Sounkyo Onsen with an upper station that is located half way up to the summit and is one of the most easily accessible major peaks of the Daisetsuzan National Park. You may still see snow from the top of the ropeway! Our destination for the day is Asahikawa. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant in Asahikawa. HOSHINO RESORTS OMO7 ASAHIKAWA (2 Nights) (B, L, D)



**Day 8:** ASAHIKAWA – BIEI – ASAHIKAWA. Begin the day at the **Otokoyama Sake Brewery** for a **tour of the facilities** and **tasting of sake and other tasty products**. After lunch visit **Blue Pond** outside the onsen hot spring town of Shirogane Onsen, is named after its deep blue color, which it owes to natural minerals dissolved in the water. Take in the beauty of the **Biei landscapes**. Enjoy a **Kaiseki Dinner** at a local restaurant before returning to the hotel for the evening. (B, L, D)

**Day 9:** ASAHIKAWA – SAPPORO. After a sumptuous breakfast buffet at your hotel, depart Asahikawa for Sapporo. En route, stop at a **Sunagawa Highway Oasis**, a shopper’s paradise. For lunch, stop at a local **Seafood Wholesale Market** and pick out **“LIVE” crabs** from the tanks, to enjoy with a special kaisendon (fresh seafood over rice) lunch. Savor the sweet freshly steamed morsels. After lunch, arrive in Sapporo and stop at **Odori Park** for the **Sapporo Lilac Festival**. Then drive through Sapporo, passing the **TV Tower**, **Clock Tower**, and the **Former Government Building** before making a stop at the **Tanuki Koji Shopping Arcade**, the largest and oldest shopping arcade in Sapporo, which houses over 200 shops. Tonight, enjoy a hands-on **sushi making session**, which will yield your delicious dinner. (B, L, D)

- Tour #1: MERCURE HOTEL SAPPORO (2 Nights)
- Tour #2: KEIO PLAZA HOTEL SAPPORO (2 Nights)

\*One live crab for every 6<sup>th</sup> tour member; subject to weather conditions and availability.

**Day 10:** SAPPORO – OTARU – SAPPORO. After breakfast, **learn how to make wagashi**, traditional Japanese sweets. Arrive in Otaru after lunch. Otaru served as a major trade and fishing port in the 1800s. The **Otaru Canal** makes for a pleasant stroll. Explore the **Music Box Museum**. A visit to the **Kitachi Glass Company** will delight your eyes with its beautiful creations. Return to Sapporo for an evening of leisure. (B, L)

**Day 11:** SAPPORO – CHITOSE – TOKYO – HONOLULU. After breakfast, depart the hotel. Stop at the new **ROYCE’ Cacao and Chocolate Town** to learn how the famous ROYCE’ chocolate treats are made. Receive a complimentary sample at the end of the tour. Enjoy some last minute shopping at **AEON MALL Sapporo Naeba**. Arrive early at the Chitose Airport and begin exploring the **shopping mall located within the Domestic Terminal**. Consisting of four 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 ROYCE’ 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 café (fees may apply) or the Pokémon 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. Depart Chitose Domestic Airport via Japan Airlines flt #518 at 5:00 pm and arrive at the Haneda Domestic Airport at 6:45 pm. Depart the Haneda International Airport via Japan Airlines flt #74 at 9:05 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 9:35 am the same day. Aloha and welcome home! (B)

\* Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees. Airline fuel supplements, taxes and 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](http://www.tripadvisor.com/AirlineFees). After initial deposit, a \$75 per person Non-Stop Travel (NST) Cancellation Fee will apply. Group departures may be cancelled, if there are less than 24 tour members. Final payment to NST for “non-cruise/line” Air and Land Package must be made by money order or personal check. NST does not guarantee that all tour members will fly together with Tour Manager. Tour Manager assignments, number of meals offered on tour, tour price, discount, and the “final” tour itinerary are subject to change with/without notice. **NST reserves the right to correct errors or omissions including but not limited to, fares, fees, and surcharges at any time.** Deposit: \$500 per person. Final Payment Due: Tour #1: 01/02/25 • Tour #2: 01/06/25. NST at its discretion, may use group and individual photos on its website, print, television, and various social media. † Early booking discount is per person. Purchase of NST’s complete air and land package is required. †† Earn rewards every time you refer a friend. For each “new-to-NST” customer you refer, both you and your referral can receive a \$25 discount off your next NST escorted group. **Special Assistance:** You must notify NST, at time of reservation, of any disability requiring special attention. NST reserves the right to cancel your booking or terminate your vacation if your special needs or disabilities are not suitable for the vacation or if you are not traveling with a companion who will provide all the assistance you require.

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