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2027 HOKKAIDO SPRING TIME FLOWERS TOUR #2

Wander among Hokkaido's spectacular spring blossoms!

Enjoy your choice of Japan Airlines' "Economy," "Premium Economy," or the affordable luxury of "Business" class service. Premium Economy class customers will begin their journey with a relaxing visit to JAL's "Sakura Lounge" and the "Sakura Lounge — Hale" for Business class.

10 Nights / 12 Days • 26 Meals (10 Breakfasts, 8 Lunches, 8 Dinners)
Escorted from Honolulu • Includes an English-Speaking Local Guide
May 14 – 25, 2027 • Tour Manager: Cora Kinney

OVERVIEW: Spring is one of the best times to visit Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost prefecture, where lush scenery, fresh seafood, and the magic of nature await. Fall in love with Hokkaido's spring beauty as you visit two spectacular seasonal flower fields: Higashimokoto's Shibazakura (Pink Moss) and Kamiyubetsu Tulip Park!

VISIT: Haneda, Tokachigawa, Ikeda, Lake Akan, Lake Mashu, Lake Kussharo, Abashiri, Kitami, Yubetsu, Sounkyo, Asahikawa, Biei, Sapporo, Tobetsu & Otaru

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS: Ryugetsu Sweetpia Garden, Boya Farm Sheep Dog Show, Sahoro Bear Mountain, Lake Akan Cruise, Marimo Exhibition and Observation Center, Lake Mashu Observatory, Mt. Io, Lake Kussharo Sunayu, Kitami Mint Museum, Higashimokoto, Okhotsk Ryu-hyo Museum (Okhotsk Drift Ice Museum), Abashiri Prison Museum, Kamiyubetsu Tulip Park, Daisetsuzan Sounkyo Kurodake Ropeway, Ginga and Ryusei Waterfalls, Blue Pond, Shikisai-no-Oka, Patchwork Hills, Seven Stars Tree, Ken and Mary Tree, Hokusei-no-oka Observatory Park, Sunagawa Highway Oasis, Seafood Wholesale Market, Lilac Festival at Odori Park, Orientation Drive Tour of Sapporo, ROYCE' CACAO AND CHOCOLATE TOWN, Otaru Canal, Music Box Museum, Kitaichi Glass Company, Tanukikoji Shopping Arcade, AEON MALL & Chitose Airport Domestic Terminal Shopping Mall

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES: Ikeda Wine Castle Tour and Tasting, Ice Cream Making, Otokoyama Sake Brewery Tour and Tasting & Sushi Making

Non-Stop Travel Hokkaido Exclusives!

ICE CREAM MAKING — Made with fresh Hokkaido milk!

CRABS: PICK'EM "LIVE" FROM THE TANK — Savor the freshly steamed morsels!

Non-Stop Travel Exclusive!

WHISPER: WIRELESS TOUR GUIDE SYSTEM — Don't miss a thing! English narration directly to your ear!

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Day 1: Fri, May 14 – HONOLULU. Depart Honolulu via Japan Airlines flt #71 at 4:05 pm.

Day 2: Sat, May 15 – HANEDA. Arrive at the Haneda International Airport at 7:45 pm. After entry formalities, walk to your hotel connected to the airport terminal and enjoy a buffet dinner there. HOTEL VILLA FONTAINE GRAND HANEDA AIRPORT (1 Night) (D)

Day 3: Sun, May 16 – HANEDA – CHITOSE – TOKACHIGAWA. After a breakfast buffet, transfer back to the Haneda Airport. Enjoy a bento box at the domestic departure gate. Depart Haneda Domestic Airport via Japan Airlines flt #513 at 11:30 am and arrive at the Chitose Domestic Airport at 1:05 pm. En route to your hotel in Tokachigawa, stop at **Ryugetsu Sweetpia Garden**, a popular confectionery factory and café, for some time to shop for Japanese desserts. This evening, enjoy dinner at the hotel. Don't forget to try out the **onsen hot springs**! TOKACHIGAWA ONSEN DAIICHI HOTEL (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

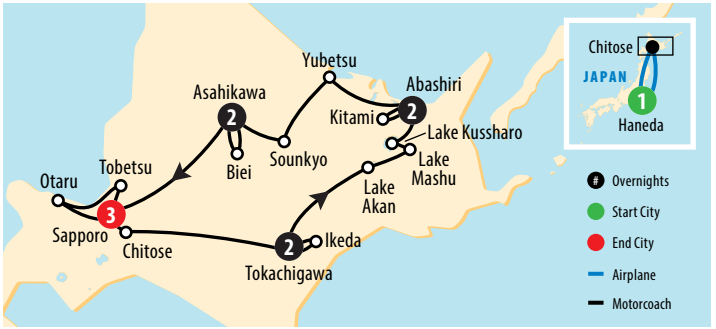
Day 4: Mon, May 17 – TOKACHIGAWA – IKEDA – TOKACHIGAWA. Start the day at **Boya Farm** to watch a **sheep dog show**. Then, visit the **Ikeda Wine Castle** to take a tour of the winery and taste a few of their products, followed by a Western lunch. After, go on a bus tour of the **Sahoro Bear Mountain**, home to Japan's largest land animal, the brown bear, found only in Hokkaido. Return to the hotel for dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 5: Tue, May 18 – TOKACHIGAWA – LAKE AKAN – LAKE MASHU – LAKE KUSSHARO – ABASHIRI. This morning, enjoy the popular **sightseeing cruise around Lake Akan**, which offers stunning views of unspoiled forests and natural beauty in every season, and visit the **Marimo Exhibition and Observation Center**, a facility dedicated to the marimo, a rare species of spherical green algae and a natural treasure in Japan. After lunch at a local restaurant, **learn to make ice cream** with fresh Hokkaido milk! Stop at the **Lake Mashu Observatory** to view this volcanic caldera lake famed for its deep blue, crystal-clear waters. Next, visit **Mt. Io**, a sulfur-rich volcano nicknamed the "sulfur mountain," where brownish-red slopes and clouds of white steam rise from more than 1,500 volcanic craters. We then head to **Lake Kussharo Sunayu**, a unique geothermal beach located on the eastern shore of Lake Kussharo. This evening, enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel, then unwind in the **onsen hot spring** – after a full day of sightseeing, there's nothing quite like it to relax your body and spirit. HOKUTEN NO OKA LAKE ABASHIRI TSURUGA RESORT (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 6: Wed, May 19 – ABASHIRI – KITAMI – ABASHIRI. Begin the day touring Kitami, once built on its thriving peppermint industry that gained global recognition. Visit the **Kitami Mint Museum** and adjacent Mint Distillation House, where you can enjoy the aroma of freshly made mint. Then explore **Higashimokoto**, a park famous for its vibrant carpets of shibazakura (moss phlox) in shades of pink, red, purple, and white, resembling cherry blossoms blooming across the ground. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting the **Okhotsk Ryu-hyo Museum (Okhotsk Drift Ice Museum)**, an interactive science facility to learn about the region's drift ice and unique ecosystem. Finally, visit **Abashiri Prison Museum**, Japan's only prison museum, which traces Hokkaido's development through the history of prison labor. Return to the hotel, where a **kaiseki dinner** has been arranged. (B, L, D)

Day 7: Thur, May 20 – ABASHIRI – YUBETSU – SOUNKYO – ASAHIKAWA. After breakfast, take in sweeping fields of blooming tulips at **Kamiyubetsu Tulip Park**, featuring about 1.2 million tulips across 200 varieties, and enjoy panoramic, dreamlike views from the observation deck atop the Dutch windmill. After lunch at a local restaurant, ride the **Daisetsuzan Sounkyo Kurodake Ropeway**, a scenic cable car that whisks you up Mt. Kurodake for spectacular panoramic views of Daisetsuzan National Park's volcanic landscape. You may still see snow at the top of the ropeway! Then head to the nearby **Ginga and Ryusei Waterfalls**, often called the "Married Couple Waterfalls," famous for their scenic seasonal beauty. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant in Asahikawa before arriving at the hotel. JR INN ASAHIKAWA (2 Nights) (B, L, D)

Day 8: Fri, May 21 – ASAHIKAWA – BIEI – ASAHIKAWA. This morning, visit the **Otokoyama Sake Brewery** for a tour of the facilities and a tasting of sake and other treats. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting



the renowned **Blue Pond**, famed for its shifting turquoise and cobalt waters and surreal submerged trees. Then, take in the beauty of the Biei landscape. See the panoramic flower gardens of **Shikisai-no-Oka**, where colorful fields blanket the rolling hills. Travel through the picturesque **Patchwork Hills**, formed by farms that plant alternating crops, creating a living patchwork quilt. See the iconic **Seven Stars Tree** and the romantic **Ken and Mary Tree**, both of which gained national fame, and enjoy the tranquil atmosphere and wide, photogenic views. Finally, visit **Hokusei-no-Oka Observatory Park**, perched on a hill with sweeping vistas ideal for photographs of the surrounding countryside. Enjoy a **kaiseki dinner** at a local restaurant before returning to the hotel for the evening. (B, L, D)

Day 9: Sat, May 22 – ASAHIKAWA – SAPPORO. After a sumptuous breakfast buffet, depart Asahikawa for Sapporo. En route, visit the **Sunagawa Highway Oasis**, a shopper's paradise offering a variety of food and souvenirs. 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). After, spend some time at the **Sapporo Lilac Festival** at **Odori Park**, featuring approximately 400 lilac trees, live music, a wine garden, food stalls, and traditional games. Then, take a brief **driving orientation tour of Sapporo**, which includes the Sapporo TV Tower, Sapporo Clock Tower, and Red Brick Office (Former Hokkaido Government Office Building), before arriving at the hotel for an evening of leisure. SAPPORO STREAM HOTEL (3 Nights) (B, L)

*One live crab for every 6th tour member; subject to weather conditions and availability.

Day 10: Sun, May 23 – SAPPORO – TOBETSU – OTARU – SAPPORO. This morning, head to Tobestu to visit the **ROYCE' CACAO AND CHOCOLATE TOWN** to learn how the famous ROYCE' treats are made and receive a complimentary sample at the end of the museum tour. Then, enjoy a hands-on **sushi making** session, which will yield your delicious lunch. Afterward, travel to Otaru, once a major trade and fishing port. Stroll along the charming **Otaru Canal**, explore the **Music Box Museum**, and visit the **Kitaichi Glass Company**, where beautiful glass creations are sure to delight. Return to your hotel in Sapporo and walk to the **Tanukikoji Shopping Arcade**, the city's largest and oldest covered shopping street with over 200 shops. Enjoy free time to explore the area, before heading to a nearby restaurant for dinner, then walk back to the hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 11: Mon, May 24 – SAPPORO. A full day at leisure to explore Sapporo on your own. Looking for more shopping opportunities? MEGA Don Quijote Sapporo Tanukikoji Honten, open 24 hours, is a short walk from your hotel! Your Local Guide will be available to assist as needed. (B)

Day 12: Tue, May 25 – SAPPORO – CHITOSE – HANEDA – HONOLULU. After breakfast, depart the hotel. Enjoy some last minute shopping at an **AEON MALL**, before arriving early at the Chitose Airport and begin exploring the **shopping mall located within the Domestic Terminal**. With four floors of restaurants, shops, and attractions, there's something for everyone. Satisfy your sweet tooth at the Sweets Zone, ROYCE' Chocolate World, or LeTAO Chocolatier; enjoy family fun at Doraemon Sky Park, Hello Kitty Happy Flight, or the Pokémon Store; and explore over two dozen seafood shops offering fresh, frozen, and dried delicacies to enjoy on the spot or take 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 #72 at 9:55 pm and arrive in Honolulu at 10:20 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 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. 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-cruiseline" Air and Land Package must be made by money order or personal check. NST does not guarantees 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" cruise or tour itinerary are subject to change with/without notice. Tour highlights and activities are subject to change. Seasonal highlights and activities, such as cherry blossoms and fall foliage, are subject to weather and/or other conditions and is NOT guaranteed. **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: 01/04/27. 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. **Wheelchair and electric scooter access outside of the USA is severely restricted.** JI7519 071326

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