

EVENT INFORMATION

There are many fun events in Hokkaido year round.



Central Hokkaido

Event name	Dates	Event details
Chitose and Lake Shikotsu — Chitose and Lake Shikotsu Hyoutou Festival	Late January to late February	The ice sculptures, illuminated with variously colored lights at night, are beautiful. Stage events are also held on weekends and holidays.
Sapporo Snow Festival	Early February	There are many highlights, including the large, artistic snow statues.
Otaru Snow Light Path	Early February to mid-February	Some 200 glass-float candles twinkling on the surface of the canal, along with softly glowing snow candles and objects art, fantastically adorn the townscape of Otaru.
Sapporo Lilac Festival	Early May	Some 400 lilacs are in full bloom. Music festivals are held in various venues.
Sapporo Autumn Fest	Mid-September to early October	This is a popular food-themed event. There is a full lineup of Hokkaido dishes made with ingredients from the prefecture.

Northern Hokkaido

Event name	Dates	Event details
Sounkyo Hot Springs Ice Fall Festival	Late January to mid-March	On a 10,000 square meter venue on the riverbed of the Ishikari River, castles and shrines of ice appear. At night they are illuminated to create a fantastical ambiance.
Asahikawa Winter Festival	Early February	When all is said and done, the highlight is the large snow statues. There are also an enormous slide and a snow-sculpture workshop.
Fairytale Village Takinoue Moss Phlox Festival	Early May to early June	The highlight is a huge colony of moss phlox in full bloom on 100,000 square meters of hills. There are many events to be enjoyed during the festival period.

Southern Hokkaido

Event name	Dates	Event details
Matsumae Cherry Blossom Festival	Late April to mid-May	Matsumae Park is recognized as one of the 100 best locations for viewing cherry blossoms. It blooms with some 10,000 cherry trees of 250 varieties.
Hakodate Port Festival	Early August	This is Hakodate's largest summer festival during which the entire city is alive with a variety of events.
Noboribetsu Jigoku Festival	Late August	The great king Enma of Jigokudani appears in the hot springs village accompanied by large numbers of red and blue demons. There is also a fireworks display.

Eastern Hokkaido

Event name	Dates	Event details
Otofuke Tokachigawa Swan Festival Sairinka	Late January to early March	This is a fantastical show that wraps the intensely cold snow field of winter in light and sound.
Akkeshi Sakura and Oyster Festivals	Mid-May to late May	Fully enjoy the last cherry blossoms of the Japanese archipelago while dining on oysters, a famous product of Akkeshi. An event for catching oysters and clams by hand also gets pretty lively.
Kachimai Fireworks Display	Early August	Some 20,000 fireworks color the night sky in harmony with music and laser beams.

The schedules and locations of the various events may change, so be sure to confirm them before heading to an event.

Be careful not to run out of gas!

Service areas and Parking areas with gas stations



- When driving on the Doto Expressway toward Obihiro, **the Yuni Parking Area is the last gas station**, so check your remaining gasoline before proceeding.
- **The Wattsu Parking Area has limited operating hours**, so when driving at night be sure to fill your gas tank early.