

## 2010-2011 Winter Event in Hokkaido

Still go on in November

DATE	TITLE	VENUE
1 Oct – 30 Nov (excluding 9 Oct)	<b>Fire festival of Iyomante (bear worshipping festival)</b> Gathering around a bonfire, traditional Ainu dances will be performed, transporting guests to the ancient times of the Ainu	Akan
Mid Oct – late Nov	<b>Autumn Festa in Tokachigawa</b> In the harvest season, food stalls are set up and dishes cooked with safe, seasonal ingredients from Tokachi are served. Gallant and splendid Heigen drumming, a local performing art in Tokachi, also liven up the atmosphere.	Tokachigawa

Events starting in November

DATE	TITLE	VENUE
1 Nov – early Dec	<b>2010 Sapporo Art Stage</b> Art and culture campaign in Sapporo. Live theater and musical performances are available.	Sapporo <a href="http://www.city.sapporo.jp/keizai/kanko/event/event_calendar_english2010-2011.html">http://www.city.sapporo.jp/keizai/kanko/event/event_calendar_english2010-2011.html</a>
Late Nov – early Apr	<b>Asahiyama Zoo in winter</b> Go to see active animals in the snow and lovely penguins marching around the zoo.	Asahiyama Zoo, Asahikawa
11 Nov – 25 Dec	<b>Otaru Long Christmas</b> Christmas trees and illuminations produce romantic atmosphere in Otaru.	Otaru
Mid Nov – late March	<b>Toyako Onsen Illumination Street</b> A splendid tunnel of illumination welcomes you in Toyako Hot Spring.	Toyako Hot Spring

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26 Nov – 13 Feb	<a href="#"><u>Sapporo White Illumination</u></a>	Sapporo Odori Park
	Installation of symbolic art objects and decoration of approx. 370,000 light bulbs in trees. (Until 2 Jan for Odori venue as the construction for Sapporo Snow Festival starts)	<a href="http://www.city.sapporo.jp/keizai/kanko/event/event_calendar_english2010-2011.html">http://www.city.sapporo.jp/keizai/kanko/event/event_calendar_english2010-2011.html</a>
27 Nov – 24 Dec	<b>German Christmas Market in Sapporo</b>	Sapporo Odori Park
	Christmas Market of Munich, Sapporo's sister city. German wine, beer, sausages and lovely Christmas goods are on sale.	<a href="http://www.city.sapporo.jp/keizai/kanko/event/event_calendar_english2010-2011.html">http://www.city.sapporo.jp/keizai/kanko/event/event_calendar_english2010-2011.html</a>
1 Dec – 25 Dec	<b>Hakodate Christmas Fantasy</b>	Hakodate
	Illuminated Christmas tree on the ocean offer a romantic sight in the bay area. Fireworks display, various events are available. Illumination ceremony starts at 18.00 everyday.	
Mid Dec – 28 Feb	<b>Diamond Dust in KAWAYU</b>	Kawayu Hot Spring
	Beautiful lights illuminate the famous hot spring town.	
23 Dec – 10 Mar	<b>Snow Night Fantasy - Furano Kankan-mura</b>	Furano
	Special winter village with a fantastic snow path, a snow dome and an ice bar. You can also try snow tubing, snow rafting and banana boat. Rental ski for beginners are available. 300 JPY for entry.	

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Events in winter 2011

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1 Jan	<b>The first sunrise watching</b>	Cape Chikyu, Muroran
	Annual event for the New Year. Volunteer workers offer hot drink service.	
1 Jan	<b>The first sunrise watching at Cape Nosappu</b>	Cape Nosappu, Nemuro
	Annual event for the New Year. Let's go to see the very first sunrise in Asia.	
Mid Jan – 31 Mar	<b>Lake Shikaribetsu Kotan</b>	Lake Shikaribetsu
	Open-air hot spring bath on ice, ice chapel, ice bar, ice glass making, cross-country skiing, etc.	
20 Jan – 31 Mar	<b>Drift Ice Sightseeing Boats "Aurora" in operation</b>	Abashiri
	Four courses are available: Within the gulf, Futatsuiwa, Notoro Cape, and offshore. For inquiry please call on 0152-24-2147 or fax to 0152-24-2148.	
22 Jan – 27 Mar	<a href="#"><u>Sounkyo Hyobaku (Ice Waterfall) Festival</u></a>	Sounkyo
	In an area of 10,000m <sup>2</sup> , there will be an exhibit of ice sculptures, light-ups, Hyobaku drums, Ainu ethnic dance, fireworks display on weekends, etc.	
28 Jan – 13 Feb	<a href="#"><u>Chitose-Lake Shikotsu Ice Festival</u></a>	Lake Shikotsu
	Exhibit of ice sculptures made from the lake water, light-ups, ice wedding, original stage, fireworks display, etc.	
Late Jan – 28 Feb	<a href="#"><u>Tokachi River Swan Festival "Sairinka"</u></a>	Tokachigawa
	Light and sound show, winter outdoor activities	

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Late Jan – Mid Mar	<b>Lake Akan Ice Festival "Fuyu-hanabi"</b>	
	They have fire festival on ice at night, fireworks display, games, ice cutting experience	
Early – mid Feb	<b>Otaru Yukiakari no Michi</b>	Otaru Canal
	Buoyed candles float on the canal, the entire city is decorated with snow candles, window lights overflow from stone warehouses. A number of lights create a dreamy winter scene.	
5 Feb – 21 Mar	<b>Shiretoko Fantasia</b>	Shiretoko
	Aurora Fantasy: reproduces aurora with dynamic sounds (From 8pm for 20 min. every evening).	
7 – 13 Feb	<b><u><a href="#">Sapporo Snow Festival</a></u></b>	Sapporo Odori Park
	An international festival representing Hokkaido. There will be approx. 300 snow/ice statues in three venues: Odori, Susukino and TSUDOME.	<a href="http://www.city.sapporo.jp/keizai/kanko/event/event_calendar_english2010-2011.html">http://www.city.sapporo.jp/keizai/kanko/event/event_calendar_english2010-2011.html</a>
8 -13 Feb	<b><u><a href="#">Asahikawa Winter Festival</a></u></b>	Asahikawa
	Festival of "Snow, Ice and Lights," exhibit of ice/snow statues, Asahikawa Snow Light, various stage events and horseback riding.	
26 – 27 Feb	<b><u><a href="#">Showashinzan International Yukigassen (Snowball Fight)</a></u></b>	The foot of Mt. Showa Shinzan
	International snowball fight which is originated as a children's game in winter. Over 150 teams join the Yukigassen competition from all over the world. Snowball fight experience plans for tourists are available.	