

Major Winter Events in Hokkaido

As of January 2015

Name of Event/Festival	January	February	March	City/Town	Venue	Contents	Contact
Sapporo Snow Festival		5-11 Feb		Sapporo	Odori Park, Susukino, Tsudome	An international festival representing Hokkaido. There will be approx. 200 snow/ice statues in three venues.	http://www.snowfes.com/english/ 011-281-6400
Sapporo White Illumination		until 11 Feb (Sapporo ekimae dori street) until 14 Feb (Minami 1-jo dori street)		Sapporo	Odori Park, Sapporo Ekimae Dori Street (Sapporo station street), Minami 1-jo dori street	Installation of symbolic art objects and decoration of light bulbs in trees.	http://white-illumination.jp/ 011-281-6400
Chitose – Lake Shikotsu Hyoto Festival		30 Jan - 22 Feb		Chitose	Lake Shikotsu Hot Spring	Exhibit of ice sculptures made from the lake water, light-ups, ice wedding, original stage, fireworks display, etc.	http://www.1000sai-chitose.or.jp/english/ 0123-23-8288
Hakodate Illumination			until 28 Feb	Hakodate	Nijukken-zaka Slope street, Hachiman-zaka Slope, etc.	Motomachi is romantically illuminated with 50,000 electric bulbs.	http://www.hakodate-illumination.com/illumination/ 0138-27-3535
Onuma Hakodate Snow & Ice Festival		7-8 Feb		Nanae	Onuma Semi-National Park	Slidings made of ice from Lake Onuma, ice sculpture competition	https://www.facebook.com/Onuma.Konuma 0138-67-2170
Otaru Snow Light Path		6-15 Feb		Otaru	Otaru Unga, Temiya Line venue, etc.	Buoyed candles float on the canal, the entire city is decorated with snow candles, window lights overflow from stone warehouses.	http://www.yukiakarinomichi.org/ 0134-32-4111
Noboribetsu Onsen Hot Spring Festival		3-4 Feb		Noboribetsu	Noboribetsu Hot Spring area	A winter festival to celebrate the gift of the onsen water and to wish for a year of prosperity and safety.	http://www.noboribetsu-spa.in/?name_id=1714&lang=en 0143-84-3311
Showa Shinzan Yuki-gassen (Snowball Fight)			28 Feb-1Mar	Sobetsu	Special venue at the foot of the Mt. Showa Shinzan	International snowball fight which is originated as a children's game in winter. Over 140 teams from all over the world join the competition.	http://www.yukigassen-intl.com/ 0142-66-2244
Asahikawa Winter Festival		6-11 Feb		Asahikawa	Special venue near Asahi Bridge, Heiwa-dori Street Kaimono koen Park	Festival of "Snow, Ice and Lights," exhibit of ice/snow statues, Asahikawa Snow Light, various stage events.	http://www.asanavi.jp/index_eng.html 0166-25-7168
Sounkyo Ice Festival		24 Jan - 29 Mar		Kamikawa	Sounkyo Hot Spring area	In an area of 10,000 m ² , there will be an exhibit of ice sculptures, light-ups, Hyobaku drums, Ainu ethnic dance, fireworks display, etc.	http://www.sounkyo.net/ 01658-2-1811
Obihiro Ice Festival		6-8 Feb		Obihiro	Midorigaoka Park, etc.	Exhibit of snow statues and ice sculptures, fireworks, stage events, etc.	http://obihiro-icefes.com/ 0155-22-8600
Tokachi River Swan Festival "Sairinka"		24 Jan - 1 Mar		Otofuke	Tokachigaoka Park	Fantastic shows with light and sound are held in the popular hot spring resort area. You can also enjoy snow activities.	http://www.tokachigawa.net/english/ 0155-32-6633
Shikaribetsu Kotan		24 Jan - 22 Mar		Shikaoi	Lake Shikaribetsu	Open-air hot bath on ice, ice bar, concert, snow activities, etc.	http://www.nature-center.jp/ 0156-69-8181
Abashiri Okhotsk Drift Ice Festival		8-11 Feb		Abashiri	Abashiri Port	Large snow statues, singing show, character event, lit-up ice/snow statues, etc.	http://abashiri.jp/tabinavi/ 0152-44-6111
Attaka Aabashiri		31 Jan - 1 Mar		Abashiri	Lake Abashiri, near Yobitoura camping site	Enjoy winter with open participation outdoor events! You can ride snowmobiles on frozen Lake Abashiri. Some events are held on the ice stage at night.	http://abashiri.jp/tabinavi/ 0152-44-6111
Icebreaker "Aurora"		20 Jan - 5 Apr		Abashiri	Roadside Station or <i>Michinoeki</i> "Ryuhyo Kaido Abashiri"	See the drift ice in an hour-long trip on sightseeing boats Aurora and Aurora 2. Reservation required.	http://ms-aurora.com/abashiri/en/ 0152-43-6000
Mombetsu Drift Ice Festival		7-11 Feb		Mombetsu	Kaiyo Park	Exhibit of ice statues made of natural ice, various attractions, food market of Mombetsu	http://mombetsu.net/ 0158-24-3900
Icebreaker "Garinko 2"		20 Jan - 31 Mar		Mombetsu	Garinko Station in Kaiyo Park	Operation of drift ice sightseeing boat. Reservations required.	http://www.garinko.com/ 0158-24-8000
Shiretoko Fantasia		5 Feb - 12 Mar		Shari (Shiretoko)	Utoro Hot Spring	An long-run show that reproduce the aurora which appeared in Shiretoko in 1958.	http://www.shiretoko.asia/world/ 0152-22-2125
Kushiro Winter Festival		7-8 Feb		Kushiro	Tourism and International Exchange Center	Display of ice sculptures, ice slides, a giant ice maze	https://twitter.com/kushirokankou 0154-47-0808
Diamond Dust in KAWAYU	late Dec - 28 Feb			Teshikaga	Kawayu Hot Spring	The illumination lit from 16:30 to 22:00 at the heart of the popular hot spring village.	http://www2.ocn.ne.jp/~kawayup/ 080-3519-7351
Akan Ice Festival "Fuyu-hanabi"		31 Jan - 15 Mar		Kushiro	Lake Akan	Fire festival on ice at night, fireworks display, games, ice cutting experience.	http://www.lake-akan.com/ 0154-67-3200
JAPAN CUP Dog-sled Competition		21-22 Feb		Wakkanai	Wakkanai Airport Park	One of the biggest dog sledding competitions in Japan.	http://www.welcome.wakkanai.hokkaido.jp/en/ 0162-23-6468