



## Arctic experience in Abashiri – 2 Days

*In the north of Hokkaido, Abashiri is the coldest city of Japan. Here you will see spectacular winter scenery and the impressive phenomenon of drift ice (Ryuhyo in Japanese). The Sea of Okhotsk is known as the southernmost point of drifting sea ice originating from the Arctic.*

*From January 20 to March 10, you can board an icebreaker and observe the dynamic drifting ice up close, and in certain areas, you can even experience walking on the packed ice.*

### **Day 1: Haneda / Memambetsu / Abashiri**

Flight from Haneda to Memambetsu.

Transfer by limousine bus to your hotel in Abashiri.

Luggage drop-off (Check in possible from 15:00)

The day dedicated to the visit of Abashiri and meals at your convenience.

*The town of **Abashiri** is located on the coast of the Sea of Okhotsk, 350km from Sapporo in the north-east of the island of Hokkaido. This city is known for being home to the northernmost prison in Japan, as well as for the natural ice floes which attracts many tourists in winter.*

### Visit Suggestions:

- **Okhotsk Ryuhyo Museum**  
Science museum on drifting ice and the Sea of Okhotsk.  
This visit is highly recommended to understand the phenomenon before cruising on the icebreaker.
- **Moyoro Museum**  
Museum on the culture and history of the Moyoro people, who lived here during the Jomon period.

### Activity Suggestions:

- **Bike ride**  
You can ride along the beach coast with a fatbike (a bike specially designed for snowy roads).
- **Wakasagi (Smelt) ice fishing**  
You can fish for smelt after drilling a hole in the frozen Lake Abashiri, and enjoy your catch onsite.



*Okhotsk Ryuhyo Museum*



*Abashiri prison Museum*

Night at the hotel



## **Day 2: Abashiri / Memanbetsu / Haneda**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Sightseeing and lunch at your convenience.

### Activity Suggestion:

#### ✧ **Aurora cruise**

Cruise on an icebreaker Ship. Cruises to discover drifting ice leave every hour from the port aboard one of the two icebreakers.



*Aurora cruise on drifting ice*

### Visit Suggestion:

#### • **Abashiri Prison Museum**

A large open-air museum, which allows visitors to immerse themselves in the period of Hokkaido's development at the end of the 19th century, while discovering the living conditions of the former prisoners of the Japanese far north. Since 2016, eight of the buildings preserved in the museum have been designated as Important Cultural Property by the Japanese government. The highlight of the visit remains the original wooden prison buildings, on a star-shaped plan copied from that of the prison in Leuven, Belgium. It is a Ducpétiaux-type plan, in which a central guard house can watch over all the alleys at a glance.

Transfer to Memanbetsu airport and flight to Haneda.



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