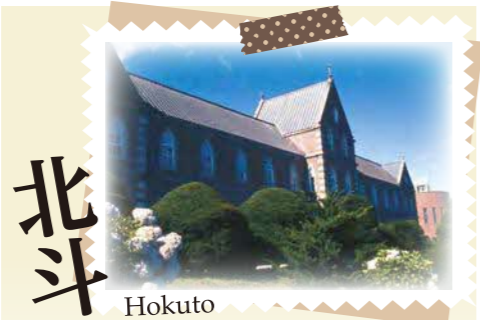




**函館**  
Hakodate

*City with a foreign atmosphere*

The city has long developed as the northern gateway between Hokkaido and Honshu, the main island of Japan, and is the center of the southern Hokkaido area. It is blessed with scenic beauty, and has foreign-looking buildings that retain the appearance of a bygone era.



**北斗**  
Hokuto

*Gateway to Hokkaido*

Hokuto City is home to Shin-Hakodate Hokuto Station, the start and terminal station on the Hokkaido Shinkansen Line. The city offers varied scenery, including the Trappist Monastery, which is famous for butter and cookies, the Kijihiki Highlands providing spectacular views, and one of the largest weeping cherry trees in Hokkaido.



**Southern Hokkaido**



**せたな**  
Setana

*Town of rich nature*

Setana Town has a long coastline facing the Sea of Japan. It is a treasure trove of marine products such as sea urchins and abalone, and is also rich in the bounty of the land, with many typical Hokkaido farms and ranches.



**長万部**  
Oshamambe

*Town of Funka Bay and Kani-meshi*

Oshamambe Town has a thriving fishing industry that produces hairy crabs and scallops. The very popular Kani-meshi crab rice ekiben (a box lunch sold on a train or at a station) was born in this town. Oshamambe Onsen, with its abundant hot springs, is another attraction. At Futamata Radium Onsen, you can see the world's most precious calcareous sinter dome.



**七飯**  
Nanae

*Town of apples and lakes*

Nanae Town is home to Onuma Quasi-national Park, nurtured with abundant greenery and water. In the Onuma area, visitors can enjoy various activities such as canoeing and cycling in the great outdoors, as well as *wakasagi* fishing and snowmobiling on the frozen lake during winter.



**鹿部**  
Shikabe

*Town of hot spring resorts and geyser-watching*

Blessed with a variety of seafood including cod roe, Shikabe Town offers a full range of fishing experiences. The Shikabe Geyser Park roadside rest area has various attractions such as a natural geyser, which is rare in Japan, footbaths, and steamed pot cuisine.



**今金**  
Imakane

*Town of clear streams and Danshaku potatoes*

This quiet town is located inland between the Sea of Japan and the Pacific Ocean. The clear streams that run through the town nurture Imakane Danshaku potatoes, the town's specialty, as well as provide fields for outdoor activities.



**八雲**  
Yakumo

*Town with two oceans*

Yakumo is the only town in Japan that faces both the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan. Visitors can enjoy marine products from the two oceans and magnificent nature, such as Panorama Park overlooking Funka Bay.



**森**  
Mori

*Historic fishing town*

Mori Town boasts a distinctive history, including events at the end of the Edo period and the Washinoki Site, a World Heritage-related asset. It has a thriving fishing industry and is the birthplace of *ikameshi* (rice-filled squid), a specialty of the area. The cherry blossom festival in spring involves as many as 1,000 blooming cherry trees.



**木古内**  
Kikonai

*A nodal point connecting the western part of southern Hokkaido*

Kikonai is a town served by the Hokkaido Shinkansen and South Hokkaido Railway. It offers numerous attractions, such as the Kancho Misogi Festival (cold-water purification festival) with a history of more than 190 years, historical and cultural sites including the Kairin Maru warship that lies at Cape Saraki, and one of the most popular roadside rest areas in Hokkaido.

Feel the wonderment of southern Hokkaido.

Experience the rich nature, seasonal culinary delicacies, and multitude of landscape wonders.

Use this guide to find that which resonates with you.



**奥尻**  
Okushiri

*Seafood paradise*

Okushiri Island is surrounded by clear, bright blue sea known as Okushiri blue. You can enjoy time on the island to your heart's content with fresh sea urchins, abalone, and other delicacies, as well as various marine leisure activities.



**乙部**  
Otobe

*Town with a sea pool*

Scenery of oddly shaped rocks and a varied coastline, including Cape Tatenosaki, also known as the Grand Canyon of the East, is overwhelming. The town is also famous for its giant Enkatsura tree, believed to be the home of the god of marriage.



**知内**  
Shiriuchi

*Town with delicious Chinese chives and oysters*

The town offers diverse travel experiences: the sea area stretching along the Matsumae-Yagoshi Prefectural Natural Park, the southernmost park of its kind in Hokkaido; the forest area with Hokkaido's oldest hot springs and rich nature; and cuisine featuring Chinese chives and oysters, which are specialties of the area.



**福島**  
Fukushima

*Town of straits and yokozuna (highest rank champion in sumo wrestling)*

Fukushima Town is the birthplace of two Yokozuna sumo wrestlers, Chiyonoyama and Chiyonofuji. In addition to the Yokozuna Memorial Museum (which shows the history of the two Yokozuna wrestlers) and the Seikan Tunnel Museum, visitors can take the highly popular Iwabe Cruise along the unspoiled and unexplored Iwabe Coast.



**松前**  
Matsumae

*Castle town of cherry blossoms*

The Matsumae Domain was the northernmost domain in Japan. Visitors can sense the history of the area through the castle and streets, which retain vestiges of the Edo period, and the Matsumae Clan Residence, a reproduction of a house from those times. From late April to mid-May, 10,000 cherry trees of 250 varieties bloom in Matsumae Park.



**上ノ国**  
Kaminokuni

*Town where the Milky Way flows*

Kaminokuni is home to enchanting nature and traditions, including Mt. Iou, which offers a spectacular view of the Sea of Japan from its summit. Numerous historical heritage sites in the town allow visitors to experience the medieval period in northern Japan.



**江差**  
Esashi

*Romantic town imbued with the sound of traditional Oiwake music melodies*

Esashi is the birthplace of Hokkaido culture. Explore the historical and cultural heritage of the town for a romantic encounter with ancient times.



**厚沢部**  
Assabu

*Town of May Queen potatoes and forests*

There is a *hiba* cypress tree (called Hiba-jiisan) of over 600 years old deep in the Reku no Mori forest. In this rural town surrounded by rich nature, visitors can enjoy peaceful moments, including a potato harvesting experience.