Dold World Journeys presents

Hokkaido Snow Festival 12 Days

Chitose - Asahikawa - Sapporo - Noboribetsu - Hakodate - Hanamaki - Kinugawa - Tokyo



Dates & Prices

Leave **Tue. Feb. 06** – Return **Sat. Feb. 17**, 2018 - **\$4,565** Single Room - \$525 / Land Only - \$3,995 / Insurance – fr. \$37

Save Up To \$100 with our Sign-up Discounts. *First Come, First Save!*

32 Travel 'Ohana MAXIMUM / Very limited SINGLES.

Highlights

- 10 nights in First or Superior First Class hotels. **Custom First Class Bobby Chinen / Nippon Travel Agency**. 10 (B) Buffet-style breakfasts, 5 (L) Lunch, and 6 (D) Dinners, including a Sayonara Dinner in Tokyo.
- Hosted by **Alex Dold** with **Michi Goto** as our amazing professional guide in Japan. Twin-bedded rooms with private bath or shower, hotel taxes, service charges and tips for baggage handling (where applicable) at hotels.
- **United Airlines** from Honolulu. JR Bullet train through the Seikan Undersea Tunnel. Tsugaru Railways' Stove Train with surume (*dried squid and cuttlefish*). Private motorcoach with air conditioning and heating.
- Overnights in Chitose, Asahikawa, Sapporo, Noboribetsu, Hakodate, Hanamaki, Kinugawa and Tokyo.
- Unique experiences like Hyoto Ice Festival, Asahikawa Winter Festival, Sapporo Snow Festival, Noboribetsu's Jigokudani (*Hell Valley*), our Snow Blizzard Challenge, and Ichigo-gari (*Strawberry Picking*).
- Highlights included Okurayama Ski Jump, Shiraoi Ainu Museum, Hokkaido Konbukan (Kelp Museum), Tobu World Square, Tokyo Metropolitan Building, Samurai Museum and more.
- Scenic highlights are Lake Shikotsu, Lake Poroto, Lake Toya, Mt. Showa Shinzan, Uchiura Bay, Onuma Park. Shopping at Otokoyama Sake Shop, Sunagawa Highway Oasis, Kitaichi Glass Shop, Hakodate Asaichi (Morning Market), Nikko Robata-zuke, Akihabara, Yanaka Ginza Shopping Arcade.
- Onsen in Noboribetsu, Hakodate, Hanamaki, and Kinugawa.
- Anti-slip snow shoe cleats provided.



Itinerary

- **Day 1. Honolulu Departure.** Our Hokkaido Snow Festival begins today with a late morning departure for Narita, Japan. We lose one day crossing the International Date Line. Once the preliminary flight schedule is ready it will be displayed online at <u>doldworldjourneys.com</u> under the journey's page.
- **Day 2. Via Haneda to Chitose, Japan.** A comfortable flight brings us to the Narita International Airport in the midafternoon. After completing Immigration and Customs formalities, we meet Michi Goto our fabulous English-speaking Japan guide and transfer by private coach to the Haneda airport for our short flight to Hokkaido. On arrival, we are taken to the Grand Terrace Chitose Hotel for the night.
- Day 3. Via Lake Shikotsu to Asahikawa. After breakfast, we board our coach and head for Lake Shikotsu, after Akita Prefecture's Lake Tazawa, it is the deepest and clearest lake in Japan. Here we visit the famous **Hyoto Ice Festival** where lines of ice sculptures are made by spraying water from the lake. Be sure to walk through the mossy tunnel and see the frozen fish suspended in the walls of the ice.

Head back to Chitose and savor a "Ramen-teishoku" lunch at Dosan Ichiba Restaurant. Then drive to Asahikawa the second largest city in Hokkaido where we experience the Asahikawa Winter Festival at Tokiwa Park. Before checking into our hotel, stop at Otokoyama Sake Shop. Dinner and overnight at the Art Hotel Asahikawa. (B), (L), (D)

Day 4. Via Otaru to Sapporo. Today we depart Asahikawa traveling south for Otaru. En route stop at Sunagawa Highway Oasis to purchase "pumpkin seed" cookies, Hokkaido souvenirs, and more. Next, we break for an ono "Barbecue seafood" lunch at Aburiyaki Unga Souko Restaurant before continuing south.

Otaru is known as a town of glass manufacturing. This began with the production of kerosene lamps and floating balls used in the herring fishery in the 20th century. Today there are many stores and studios selling glassware here. Among them, we visit the oldest and most famous shop is **Kitaichi Glass Shop** founded in 1901.

Then head to **Okurayama Ski Jump Stadium** site of the 1972 Winter Olympics 90-meter ski jump. The view over Sapporo from here is spectacular. On our way to the Century Royal Hotel (our home for the next two nights) pass **Odori Park**; the main site of the **Snow Festival**. Later this evening, experience **Odori Park** *night illuminations* of the snow statues & ice carvings. (B), (L)

- Day 5. Savoring Sapporo's Snow Festival. Do as we please today. Explore Odori Park in depth and be sure to take in the Susukino Ice Carvings where all sculptures are all made of ice. Even more amazing to see the neon lights at night. Take a break from the snow with a visit to Tanukikoji Shopping Arcade with about 200 stores including a 100 Yen shop or the Daimaru Department Store. Michi and Alex will be available with suggestion and options for the group. (B)
- Day 6. Via Lake Toya to Noboribetsu. Start the morning with a visit to the Shiraoi Ainu Museum. This open-air museum is a replica of an Ainu village consisting of five thatched houses along the shore of Lake Poroto. Here enjoy a traditional Ainu song and dance performance. Continue to Lake Toya, Japan's ninth largest lake and the third largest caldera lake. Stop for a photo of the Lake and Mt. Showa Shinzan which still vents sulfurous fumes (wasn't me).

Savor lunch at the **Ichibankan Restaurant** with a full view of Mt. Showa in the background. Next to **Noboribetsu's** and explore **Jigokudani** or "*Hell Valley*." A spectacular, appropriately named valley featuring hot steam vents, sulfurous streams and other volcanic activity. It is a main source of Noboribetsu's hot spring waters. Dinner, an opportunity to enjoy a soothing Onsen bath and overnight at the Toyako Manseikaku Hotel Lakeside Terrace. (B), (L), (D)

Day 7. Via Onuma to Hakodate. After breakfast, we head south following along Uchiura Bay to Hakodate, Hokkaido's third largest city, located at the island's southern tip. Our first stop is at Onuma Park beautifully surrounded by mountains, lakes and forests. During the winter Onuma turns into a snow-covered wonderland. The lakes develop a thick layer of ice, offering visitors an array of winter-only activities like "Ice Fishing for Wakasagi (Smelt)." Savor lunch at Tembokaku Restaurant inside the park.

Before heading to our hotel, we explore the **Hokkaido Konbukan** (Kelp Museum) where we "Feel and Experience Everything about Kelp." The museum conveys the importance of kelp cultivation to Japanese diet and the long history of the industry. Dinner, an opportunity to enjoy a soothing Onsen bath and overnight at the La Vista Hakodate Bay Hotel. (B), (L), (D) **Please remember to pack an **overnight bag** for the next two nights (Hanamaki Spa and Kinugawa Spa).

Day 8. Via Aomori to Hanamaki Spa, Iwate Prefecture. We'll take our early risers to visit the **Hakodate Asaichi** (*Morning Market*) before breakfast. This tempting market offers an array of delectable fresh Hakodate produce. Seafood, vegetables, fruit and sweets are just some of the edibles available for purchase.

After breakfast we transfer to the **Shin Hakodate Hokuto Station** to experience one of Japan's bullet trains as we travel through the **Seikan Undersea Tunnel** (*hold your breath*) to **Aomori Station**. Upon arrival, board our awaiting coach and proceed to **Kanagi Town** where we enjoy a ride aboard the famous **Tsugaru Railway**. During the winter months, an old-fashioned potbelly stove gains a spot on the train as it runs through the snow field of Tsugaru plain. The red burning coals in the stove creates a comfortable ride. Savor **surume** (*dried squid and cuttlefish*) prepared on the stove and served with sake or apple juice.

After lunch at **Kanagi Kanko Bussan-kan Madeny** take part in the **Snow Blizzard Challenge**. Wearing the **Kanjiki** (*wooden snow shoes*) we race across the open snow field. Try a **Bamba Horse** sled ride before heading to **Hanamaki** located in the center of the **Kitakami Basin** in the mid-western part of Iwate Prefecture. Dinner, an opportunity to enjoy a soothing Onsen bath and overnight at the Hanamaki Onsen Hotel Koyokan. (B). (L), (D)

Day 9. To Kinugawa, Tochigi Prefecture. This morning we depart Hanamaki Spa and head south to Kinugawa on the Tohoku Expressway which stretches from Aomori City all the way to the North of Tokyo. Tochigi prefecture is known for its fertile land and streams of clear water from Nikko and Nasu. The climate here features long hours of sunshine in the winter and a large temperature difference between day and night creating the best conditions for growing strawberries. This afternoon, try our hand at Ichigo-gari (Strawberry Picking) at the famous Nikko Ichigo Strawberry Farm. We have 30 minutes to hunt and eat as many sweet and delicious strawberries as we can in a comfortable music-filled greenhouse.

A short drive brings us to **Kinugawa Onsen**, known as the **Okuyashiki** (living room) of Tokyo. It was opened to development in the early Meiji period, and it became a major destination for those wanting to escape the noise and congestion of the city. The name **Kinugawa** literally means "*Angry Demon River*." Tonight dinner, an opportunity for a relaxing Onsen bath and overnight at the Kinugawa Hotel Mikazuki. (B), (D)

Day 10. To Tokyo, Tokyo Prefecture. Today our coach continues south to **Tokyo**, the capital and largest city of Japan. We make a stop at Nikko Robata-zuke to shop for rakkyo and other tsukemono omiyage. Then spend time at **Tobu World Square**, an architectural museum with skillful reproductions of 102 world-famous buildings on the 1/25 scale, including 45 World Heritage Sites. All reproduced with amazing detail all the way down to cars, trains and miniature people populating the sites, and with gardens that change with the seasons. We end our day at the Grand Nikko Tokyo Daiba, our home for the next two nights. (B)

Day 11. Exploring Tokyo. We start our guided sightseeing with a ride up to the **Tokyo Metropolitan Building** observatory decks for a panoramic view of the city and beyond. Once the tallest building in Tokyo at 797 feet high. The samurai has been an iconic symbol of courage, power and masculinity for over 700 years of Japanese warfare history. Today we experience their way of life at the **Samurai Museum** including our chance to be in full costume (*Mike?*). Then head to the **Akihabara Electronics District** and visit the **Yodobashi** building. This is a massive department store offers everything electronic, plus sporting-, car-, office-related, and more.

End our sightseeing day with a stop to browse at the **Yanaka Ginza Shopping Arcade**. Located in the traditional temple district in Taito, this arcade preserves and partly recreates the atmosphere of old Tokyo. With an assortment of little stores offering mainly traditional-style Japanese snacks and sweets, trinkets, souvenirs, and clothing, the area is very popular with locals as well as tourist. We make our way back to our hotel for a delicious Sayonara Buffet Dinner. (B), (D)

Day 12. To Honolulu. This morning is our to do as we please. Very near to our hotel are two malls, museums, and more. Alex and Michi will have some suggestion. In the early afternoon, we transfer to Narita International Airport and check in for our United Airlines flight. Perhaps do some last-minute shopping or grab one more tonkatsu meal? We arrive in Honolulu in the morning of the same day, clear Immigration and Customs, and remember our fabulous time in the winter wonderland of Japan. (B)

General Conditions – Hokkaido Snow Festival

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT: A **CHECK deposit of \$100** per person is required with your **RESERVATION FORM** to secure your space. This deposit is part of your final payment which is due no later than **65 days** prior to departure. You will receive a final payment request approximately two weeks before the due date. CHECK is the main form of payment (*credit card maybe used for the airfare charged via ES International - DWJ's ticketing agent*). THIS IS **NOT** A GLOBUS FAMILY JOURNEY.

Sign-up discounts are combinable with other discounts, but are not transferable to other programs. **Land-only** space is limited. Land price does NOT include airport transfers, dayrooms, or pre or post night hotel accommodations. *These can be purchased*.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND: Full refund* will be made if cancellation is received up to **120 days** prior to departure; thereafter, only the monies which will be recovered from the hotels, tour operators, airlines, etc., will be refunded. No refund will be made for services not used once the journey commences. All refunds or penalties are subject to rules and tariffs of the vendors concerned. (*Note: Once your airline ticket is issued it is non-refundable.) There is a \$25 fee for any changes made after 90 days.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: We recommended purchasing the Travelex Travel Insurance with your FINAL PAYMENT. A copy of the coverage offered for this journey can be found online. This insurance is **non-refundable**. If you purchase insurance with your final payment you WILL be COVERED for a PRE-EXISTING condition.

PRICE: Prices are per person based on two people sharing a room and accurate as of August 20, 2017. The price is based on the rate of **110 yen to the dollar**. If the yen/dollar exchange rate changes significantly, we will alter the price of the journey. We need a minimum of 20 people to operate this program.

PRICE INCLUDES: The journey price includes airfare (and taxes) based on a special excursion fare to Japan, which is subject to certain restrictions; accommodations in First or Superior First call hotels/ships, based on two people sharing a room with private facilities (bath or shower); meals as indicated in the itinerary, (B) breakfast, (L) lunch, and (D) dinner; and entrance fees where applicable.

NOT INCLUDED: The trip price does not include passport expenses; meals not listed above and all beverages; Country tax; airline baggage fees; baggage and health insurance; laundry expenses; and all items of a purely personal nature. Tips to local guides, coach drivers, and hotel personnel; excursions, city sightseeing, and entrance fees are excluded unless specifically noted in the itinerary.

PASSPORT AND DOCUMENTS: A passport valid 6 months past the date of your return with 2 blank visa pages is required. Tourist Visas are not required for U.S. citizens on this tour. A copy of your passport is due with final payment.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: Single rooms are VERY **limited**. For persons traveling alone who wish to share hotel rooms, every effort will be made to find you a roommate; however, if this is not possible, through choice or circumstance, the single supplement must be charged (*if a single room is still available*).

SIGHTSEEING AND TRANSFERS: All sightseeing and transfers are by private deluxe air-conditioned and heated motorcoach. No Smoking on coaches.

BAGGAGE: Due to limited motorcoach capacity, only one suitcase (50 lbs maximum) and one carry-on per person will be allowed. Porterage for this suitcase is included in the journey's price. Airline baggage fees are not included. No responsibility is accepted for loss of or damage to baggage or any of the passengers' belongings. We strongly recommend buying travel insurance.

RESPONSIBILITY: Dold World Journeys, LLC., and/or its agents, sub-agents, and affiliates act only as agents for the owners and contractors providing means of transportation or other services, and all tickets and/or vouchers are issued subject to any and all terms and conditions under which such means of transport, accommodations, or other services are offered or provided. The issuance and acceptance of such tickets and/or vouchers shall be deemed to be consent to the further conditions that Dold World Journeys, LLC, and/or its agents, sub-agents, and affiliates shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way in connection with such means of transport or other services, or for any loss, injury, or damage to or in the respect of any person or property howsoever arising. The right is reserved to alter without notice the services, accommodations, and prices given in this brochure and/or written itinerary and to decline, accept, or retain any person as a member of this tour. Dold World Journeys, LLC, and/or its agents, sub-agents, and affiliates cannot be held responsible for any disruption of travel and/or related services in troubled areas due to monetary crisis, political or social unrest, labor problems, mechanical or construction difficulties, climatic aberrations, local laws, disease, or novel conditions.

DISRUPTION OF SERVICE: Dold World Journeys, LLC, hereby gives notice that, in the event that circumstances, for example, airline strike, delay of service, flight cancellation, or any event that causes disruption of the scheduled and printed itinerary of any tour, Dold World Journeys, LLC, shall not be responsible for any additional funds paid by the passenger which have been caused by this disruption.

Any disability requiring special attention should be reported at the time the reservation is made. All reasonable attempts to accommodate the special needs of disabled tour participants will be made, but Dold World Journeys, LLC, is not responsible for any denial of services by carriers, hotels, restaurants, and other independent suppliers. The motorcoach company and other carrier employees may not physically lift participants or assist them on or off transportation vehicles. A qualified companion must accompany persons requiring such assistance. (Travel Agents Registration #7051)

Reservation Form

Hokkaido Snow Festival

To join our journey please complete, sign, and return by e-mail or mail. If the itinerary has been finalized a \$100 per person CHECK deposit will be due to hold your space.

Date of Tour: February 6, 2018

Dold World Journeys, LLC

4348 Waialae Avenue, Box 372, Honolulu, HI 96816 alex@doldworldjourneys.com / www.DoldWorldJourneys.com / (808) 732-9430

Name (1): Mr. Mrs. Ms.			
Roommate (2): Mr. Mrs. Ms.			
Correspondence & Bi	illing Information		
Name			
C4 4			
		Zip Code	
375 43			
In Case Of Emergenc	ry While On Tour, Please No	otify	
Name	Rela	Relation:	
Street			
		Zip Code	
Home Phone			
Secure Flight Passen	ger Information		
We need your LEGAL NAME a	•		
Passport copies are due with fir	nal payment for all international tours, incl	luding Canada & Mexico.	
Person 1			
Legal Name	Birth Date	2	
Person 2			
Legal Name	Birth Date	e	
Citizenship		Example: United States, Japan, Philippines	
By signing this application, I acl	knowledge that I have read the General Co	onditions and agree with the terms outlined therein.	
Signature			
	ions in the Dold Family Trac		