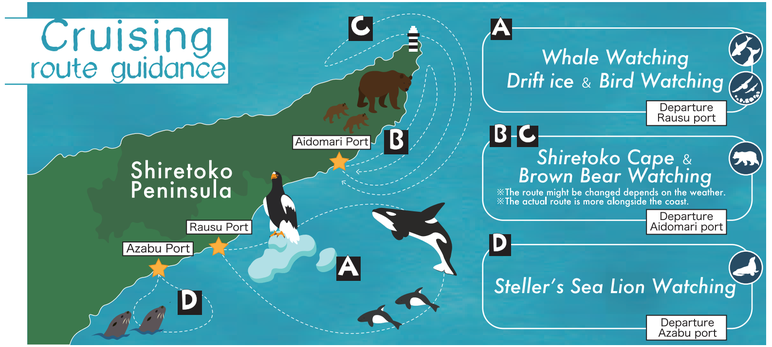
Cruising route guidance



A — Whale Watching / Drift ice & Bird Watching
Departure Rausu port

B C — Shiretoko Cape & Brown Bear Watching
※The route might be changed depends on the weather.
※The actual route is more alongside the coast.
Departure Aidomari port

D — Steller's Sea Lion Watching
Departure Azabu port

Clothing Guide

●Rausu is a cold area with temperatures rarely reaching above 20 degrees Celsius (68 degrees Fahrenheit) even in mid-summer. As temperatures are known to drop further at sea, please take all possible measures to protect yourself against the cold regardless of the season.
●Life jackets must be worn at all times while on board.
Thank you for your cooperation.

We also have life jackets for children.

Spring Summer

- ☑ It is recommended to wear a hat and gloves even in spring and summer!
- ☑ Layering rain jackets or windbreakers over a heat-retaining material such as fleece is recommended.
- ☑ On days when the wind is strong during early spring or fall, wear layers of pants that protect against the wind.

Autumn Winter

- ☑ Protect yourself from the cold using hats, earmuffs, neck warmers, and so on!
- ☑ Layering of down with heat-retention inside a winter jacket with wind-resistance is recommended.
- ☑ Please keep your feet warm! Using hand warmers to warm the inside of your shoes is effective.

Understanding Initiativesfor Safe Operation

1. Decisions for setting sale are always decided by multiple parties rather than that of one individual. If there is a difference in opinion among operators, the final decision shall be determined as "canceled" .
2. An annual maintenance period is set to maintain the engine, navigation equipment, and the hull of each vessel. This is done without fail.
3. In the event of sudden weather changes after departure, such as strong waves or high winds, the vessel will promptly return to the port in order to maintain safety of operations.
4. Employee safety training is conducted on a regular basis. Employees are prepared and on standby to respond to emergency situations.
5. When boarding, life jackets (for adults, children, and infants) will be distributed to each passenger. Please make sure to properly put on the life jacket before departure.
6. All vessels are equipped with satellite phones.
7. Each vessel is equipped with a fishing radio to ensure communication with not only sightseeing boats but with fishing boats as well. (Shiretoko Rausu Tourism Boat Association)

We comply with matters decided by the national government and follow all appropriate safety measures.

Shiretoko Rausu Tourism Boat Association
Shiretoko Rausu Brown Bear Cruise Ship Association

MAP and ACCESS

TOKYO → SAPPORO											
1h 35m	1h 45m	1h 50m	5h 55m	5.5h	50m	5.5h	4.5h	50m	7h	50m	8h
				Memanbetsu							
						2.5h					
	Kushiro		Abashiri								
	Nakashibetsu		50m	1.5h to 1h50m							
	Memanbetsu		Shari stn.			Kushiro					
OSAKA			1h			3h	2h 50m				
2h	2h 5m	2h 5m	Utoro					Nakashibetsu			
			Winter season	Summer season					1.5h	1h 15m	
	Kushiro		2h (using Konpoku pass)	30m (using Shiretoko pass)							
	Memanbetsu										
SAPPORO			RAUSU								

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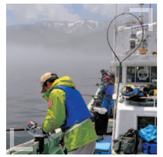
During the spring season, Rausu is bursting with wildlife. Spectacular encounters with wild animals await, including killer whales.
During April, when the snow has melted, many krill and small fish grow in the ocean. Large flocks of short-tailed shearwaters come down to feast.
Killer whales often appear in groups of families and are most frequently seen in the spring.
With whale watching, you can enjoy seeing killer whales along the coast of the Shiretoko mountain range.
When the snow has melted in the mountains, many wild animals are born.
You can also watch drown bears emerge from hibernation from the safety of a small cruise boat.

SPRING

Fall is when the harbor of Rausu is the most lively.
Large numbers of salmon swim upstream, providing a crucial food source for brown bears before hibernation. There is also a chance to see brown bears descending the mountains to catch salmon while on a small boat cruise.
You can see both chum and pink salmon swimming upstream even in town.
It is the season in which fishing can be enjoyed while gazing upon the colorful foliage of the Shiretoko Peninsula.

AUTUMN



SUMMER

Summer is the season in which sperm whales can be seen most consistently.
You can hear the tremendous sounds of the whales diving and spouting water from a close distance.
Facing the Nemuro Straight, Rausu is one of the few places in the world where whales can be seen from land.
There is also a high chance of encountering Dall' s porpoises during this time.

WINTER

As winter becomes more severe, many Steller's sea eagles and white-tailed eagles gather in Rausu.
When the drift ice arrive in mid-February, the distance between humans and eagles suddenly decreases.
The mountain sun rises over Kunashiri Island revealing a vast plain of drift ice, and the Shiretoko mountain range shines blue in the afternoon. From the sight-seeing boat, a magnificent view that combines stillness and movement spreads out before you.