# HOKKAIDO FREERIDE TRIP 2020



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### **SHORT FACTS**

**COUNTRY: JAPAN** 

STYLE: GUIDED BACKCOUNTRY

DATES: 17.1 - 25.1. 2020

7 DAYS OF SKIING / 8 NIGHTS IN HOKKAIDO

**AUSTRIAN SKI GUIDE** 

LIMITED TO 7 GUESTS PER GROUP

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE FOCUSED ON CHASING THE BEST SNOW

SKIING CENTRAL-, SAPPORO- AND WEST AREA

AMAZING JAPANESE FOOD AND CULTURE

**RELAXED ONSEN SPAS** 



#### SKIING IN HOKKAIDO / JAPAN

Japan is world famous for its technology and culture for its penchant of perfection. But even when it comes to skiing and snow, the country with its 425 islands doesn't have to hide. Japan is one of the countries in Asia with the strongest snowfalls and the most fascinating hot baths. Especially on the northern island of Hokkaido, it usually snows continuously and with an intensity that makes every freerider's heart beat faster.

In many ski areas there is an average of 16 meters of snow per winter. And this is not like normal snow, it is super light, exceptionally dry and makes freeriding incredibly fun. For those who are interested in why the snow is as it is, there is a plausible explanation: the combination of cold air coming from Siberia, moisture from the Sea of Japan and the buoyancy that arises when the storm is clashing the japanese mainland, the result are heavy and dry snowfalls.

In addition to the many snow in Japan, there is a unique culture and a host of incredible culinary delights.

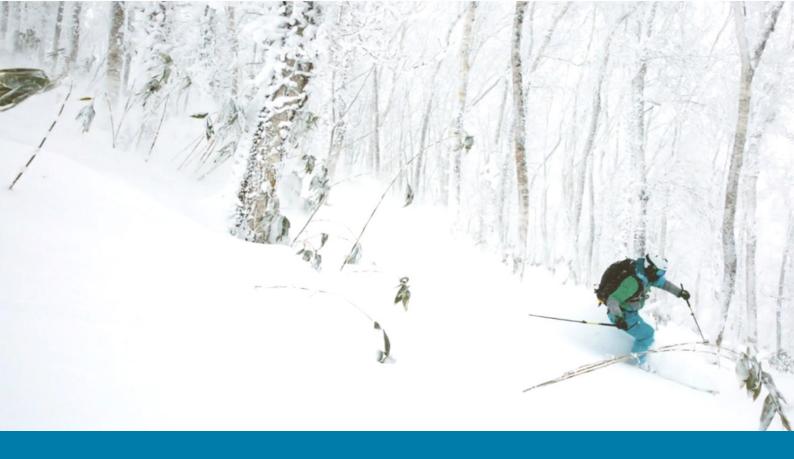
Skiing powder in Hokkaido is an overall ski vacation experience that you just won't forget!



Tom Vau leads you through the adventure **HOKKAIDO FREERIDE TRIP 2020**. The experienced Austrian ski guides has his Winter Base at the Arlberg region.

TOM (SCHIGONG INTERNATIONAL) visited Hokkaido several times and produced a short movie in 2017 about his ski philosophy Schigong, which he started to develop in 2010. Whether Niseko, Furano or even smaller spots on Hokkaido, he has explored it alone or in partnerships. In the summer he works as a freelance artist and architect, in which he has visited all the former Soviet states to document prefabricated buildings and to integrate them in an artistic process.





#### **OUR TRIP**

The journey takes place individually by plane arriving 17.1.2020 at Sapporo / Chitose. Sunshine Tours is helpful with the flight booking. At Chitose airport (CTS) you will meet your guides and together we drive in our Mini Van's to our first destination Furano.

- Furano is part of the so called Hokkaido Powder Belt (Central Area), including different ski resorts (Asahidake, Kamui Links, Tomamu) within max. of 75 min driving from our accomodation. Our nice and friendly accomodation in Furano for 3 nights will be Pension Lavender.
- Sapporo the capital of Hokkaido will be our layover for 1 night in the Hotel Ibis Styles Sapporo before we will move further west to Niseko. Here we have the choice to ride Sapporo Teine or Kokusai resort. (Sapporo Area)
- Niseko will be our last ski base for another 3 nights. Our host in Niseko Village is The Green Leaf Hotel. Plenty of skiing possibilities are waiting for us in Niseko United, the very close Rusutsu resort, Kiroro or a hike to the top of the Vulcano Yōtei-Zan. (West Area)

After 7 days of skiing, relaxing in beautiful onsen, enjoying japanese cuisine, hospitality and a last night at the Best Western Plus Hotel Fino close to Chitose airport we fly back on 25.1.2020 to our home destinations.

#### TOM VAU'S SCHIGONG JAPAN VIDEO



Watch Tom Vau's Japan movie: https://vimeo.com/286366679

#### REQUIREMENTS / FURTHER INFORMATIONS

- This trip is only suitable for good skiers with several years of deep snow experience. Honest self-assessment and appropriate fitness is required to fully enjoy our travels. Those who want to experience long ski days or climbs with enjoyment and a reduced risk of injury should prepare well physically.
- Meanwhile, the Hokkaido Powder is known worldwide and thus more visited by international audience. This is also days without snowfall. To expect splitboard. Appropriate condition and experience is required.
- Note the risk of injury during sports trips. In addition to a travel cancellation insurance, a travel health and / or travel accident insurance with the assumption of search, rescue and rescue costs as well as patient transport is especially important. It is your responsibility to take out appropriate insurance in good time before you travel.

For all air travel we require a travel accident insurance with assumption of search, rescue and rescue costs, as well as a travel health insurance for the assumption of hospital costs abroad!

## **IMPRESSIONS**





















# SEE YOU IN HOKKAIDO / JAPAN 2020!