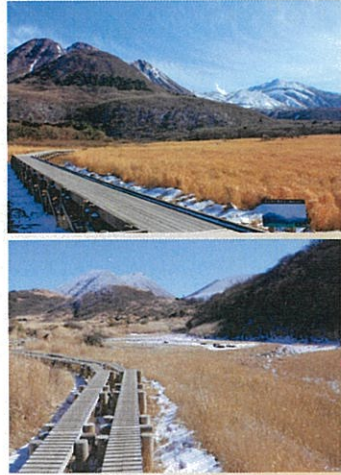


08 Tadewara/Chojabaru (Goal!)

Tadewara marsh is designated under Ramsar Convention along with Bogatsuru. Wooden path is built through the marsh, making it easier to stroll around the marsh. It is a good spot to take a photo with smoking Mt. Iozan and snowcapped Mt. Mimata. There are some restaurants around Chojabaru where you can have lunch.



07 Amagaike

Amagaike means "a rain pond". This pond appears only after heavy rain. The wooden path is built through this place. It is a cozy place to have a break on your hike.



Stay overnight at...

05 Hokkein Onsen Sanso

This is a historical inn originated in Shugen Dojo named "Hokkein Siraizumi Temple". During Edo period, lords of Taketa oka domain treasured this place and visited it to pray. In Meiji period, the 24th chief of this place started to use it as a mountain inn. Since then, it has been loved by hikers. This inn has a hot spring located in the highest place in Kyushu. Its milk-white color sulfate spring will refresh your body and soul.

memo: accomodation info.

22 private rooms, 1 large common room holding 120 people, a special room, lodges, and a tent site. Reservation is necessary. Make sure to contact the inn in case of cancellation.



Long Distance Nature Trail was planned by the Ministry of the Environment and arranged starting with Tokai Nature Trail. The total length of Kyushu Nature Trail is about 3,000 km, passing through National Parks and prefectural Parks in each prefecture in Kyushu. Walking along this trail, you can not only refresh yourself in nature but also visit historical or cultural places. It has a variety from an easy course for family to a hard one for good walkers.

brief note

In winter, the trail is often covered with snow or ice. You need to walk slowly and carefully on it. It is wise to carry a pair of crampons and spats with you regardless of the weather. A pair of sunglasses and sunscreen are helpful since the snow reflects the sunlight strongly and it may do some damage to your eyes or skins.



01 Somi main trailhead (Departure)

Turning to the right at the junction at the entrance of Somi Campsite, you will reach Somi main trailhead. Post your hiking registration form and hit the trail! Going a little further, there is a parking place.

The trail between Somi and Hokotate Pass is less popular during winter. The footsteps are hard to find and you may lose your way. If you are a beginner, hike with someone with experience.

The public transportation is also available to hike this course.

To trailhead 01: Bungo-Taketa station -(25min. by bus) - Kuju Shisyo mae -(10 min. 6 km by taxi) - Somi Trailhead
To JR station from the goal: 08: Chojabaru - (50 min. by community bus) - Bungo Nakamura Station
The buses are not running frequently. Confirm the time table of the bus service beforehand.



Walking along Kyushu Nature Trail in winter

06 Bogatsuru

Bogatsuru as a "hiker's Mecca" is the best location to see the grand view of the silvery mountains. It is amazing to look around Mt. Taisen, Mt. Mimata, Mt. Shirakuchi and Mt. Hiji glowing in the morning sun!



Snow makes mountains look dignified. The silvery snowcapped mountains look even divinely. If you want to try hiking in winter but have little confidence in you, here is a course to fulfill your desire! It is a course to traverse Kyushu mountains from south to north. On the way, you stay overnight at a mountain inn, making your schedule more leisurely. Why don't you enjoy hiking in the beautiful world covered with snow?

reference timetable [course time: 5 hours 10 min.]

Day 1 : Somi lookout—30 min. —Kutamiwakare —1 hour—Sadokubo—30 min. —Hokotate Pass —30 min. —Hokkein Onsen Sanso (stay overnight)
Day 2 : Hokkein Onsen Sanso—1 hour—Amagaike—1 h10 min. —Tadewara Marsh strolling 30min. —Chojabaru Visitor Center

04 Hokotate Pass

The south entrance to Bogatsuru is called Hokotate Pass. This is a pass with a long history, which used to be called "Hokontou". From here, you can see Mt. Mimata in front and Sobo range backward far away.



03 Sadokubo

This is a quiet basin with a marsh surrounded by the mountains. You can walk along the wooden path through the marsh, seeing Mt. Shirakuchi in front. Go forward to Hokotate Pass paying attention to the signs.



02 Kutami-wakare

This is a junction branching off toward Somi trailhead, Resonate trailhead and Noike park. There are 4,000 mountain cherry trees and their blossoms in spring creating an amazing scenery. From here, the trail goes into the cedar forest.



take a detour

Noike Park

Noike Park serves a place for a break on Kyushu Nature Trail. It has a long history that the lord of the local castle arranged this park in 14th century, and the lord of Higo district, Kiyomasa Kato also used it as a summer resort. In Meiji era, this park was designated as a public park along with Ueno Park in Tokyo and Arashiyama in Kyoto. Here, big cedar trees grow and clear spring water keeps gushing out. Feel the nature power and keep going!

