

Toya Caldera and Usu Volcano Global Geopark

<http://www.toya-usu-geopark.org/?pagename=english>

Mt. Usu, a large, active volcano at the south of Lake Toya, erupted four times in the last hundred years. The last eruption was in 2000-2001. Right next to Mt. Usu is **Mt. Showa Shinzan**, which was born very recently in the 1940's and is now about 290 meters tall. "Toya Caldera and Usu Volcano Geopark" has been added to the list of UNESCO Global Geoparks Network since 2009.

Our bus will arrive at the parking lot of Mt. Showa Shinzan at around noon. There are a lot of shops in the parking lot, serving food and selling *omiyage* (souvenir gifts). Have lunch and enjoy the beautiful scenery and activities there. The bus will depart at 4 p.m. from the parking lot. Please get back to the bus before the departure time.

Mt. Usu Ropeway <http://usuzan.hokkaido.jp/en/>

The ropeway (cable car) runs every 15 minutes from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Riding the cable car from the foot of Mt. Showa Shinzan to the near-top of Mt. Usu, we can enjoy a great view of Lake Toya and Mount Showa Shinzan. You can take a 50-minute hike around the southern rim of the volcano from the Summit Station to the Outer Rim Observation Deck.

Mt. Nishiyama Trail

The Nishiyama trail is an easy 20-minute hike up to the craters that were formed during the last eruption in 2000 and are still active. Along the trail, you can see up close damaged roads, buildings, and other reminders of the awesome power of nature. An English-speaking guide will accompany you.

The trail starts at the Toyako Visitor Center & Volcano Science Museum, located near the Toyako Onsen Spa Pier, and leads to the Nishiyama parking lot. The Toyako Visitor Center is located a 15-minute drive from the Mt. Showa Shinzan parking lot.

FEES & SAMPLE SCHEDULE

- FEES (pay on the site) Ropeway round-trip ticket ¥1,500/person (group discount ¥1,050/person)

- SAMPLE SCHEDULE

(A) 2-HOUR TOUR

Base Station (1:30pm) -- Summit Station -- Crater Basin Observation Deck (1:45pm) -- trail split point (2:15pm) -- Outer Rim Observation Deck (2:25pm) -- Summit Station (3:30pm) -- Base Station (3:36 pm) (or start earlier, and bring lunch and have a picnic on the summit)

(B) 1-HOUR TOUR

Base Station (1:30pm) -- Summit Station -- Crater Basin Observation Deck (1:45pm) -- trail split point (2:15pm) -- Summit Station (2:55pm) -- Base Station (3:06 pm)

(C) 0.5-HOUR TOUR

Base Station (1:30pm) -- Summit Station -- Crater Basin Observation Deck (1:45pm) -- Summit Station (2pm) -- Base Station (2:06 pm)

(D) 1-HOUR TOUR (Mt. Nishiyama Trail)

(Depart from Mt. Usu at 12:15 pm) Mt. Nishiyama Kitaguchi Parking (12:30pm) -- Mt. Nishiyama Observation Deck #1 (12:45pm) -- Mt. Nishiyama Observation Deck #2 (12:55pm) -- Kitaguchi Parking (1:15pm) (Leave for Mt. Usu at 1:30 pm then have lunch and/or ride a ropeway)

*The above figures are approximate, provided only as a guide.



Mt. Yotei

Lake Toya
Observation Deck

洞爺湖展望台

Crater Basin
Observation Deck

火口原展望台



洞爺湖

Lake Toya

昭和三十八年

Mt. Showa
Shinzan

Mt. Nishiyama Crater

Gin'numa Great Crater

山頂駅

Summit Station

有珠山外輪山展望台

Outer Rim
Observation Deck

銀沼大火口

有珠登山道
合流地点
trail split point

外輪山遊歩道

Outer Rim Trail

有珠山ロープウェイ
山麓駅 (火山村)

Base Station
(Volcano Village)

60分

50分

15分

6分

展望台 登山道合流地点

Observation Deck

trail split point

火口原展望台 山頂駅

Crater Basin Observation Deck

Summit Station

スタート Start