Marimo and Ainu culture village

Hokkaido
LAKE AKAN

Fully enjoy Ainu culture and rich nature at Eastern Hokkaido’s largest hot spring district that spreads across Lake Akan.

What is Ainu culture

Indigenous people born in the harsh winter climate of Northern Japan who called themselves by a name that describes who they are. ”Ainu means person, Ainu means us.” They are the people who survived the harsh region by skillfully hunting wild game in deep forests, fishing in the middle of rapid currents, and gathering whatever was available from the land by hand. In such circumstances, they had history and traditions. They made descriptive epic poetry and oral legends that recorded lessons from life, and astonishingly deep culture such as imaginative and rich music, songs, and dances, and they built a foundation with deep faith in the spiritual world whose existence penetrated every corner.

Come in contact with Ainu Culture

Lake Akan Ainu Kotan
Kotan means village or settlement in the Ainu language, and Hokkaido’s largest Ainu Kotan is here at Lake Akan Onsen. Artistic woodwork folk crafts and first-class Ainu art souvenir shops and restaurants where you can taste Ainu cuisine line the streets. This is a place where you can experience the precious culture and daily lives of the Ainu people all at once.

Lake Akan Ainu Theatre Ikor
Japan’s first exclusively Ainu Culture Theatre. Despite being indoors, the works performed using fire and water, which are indispensable for Ainu culture, are impressive! ”Traditional Ainu Dance” has become a UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage. Even at a glance, songs and dances born from the lives of the Ainu people who have coexisted with nature have great value.
Access from Tancho Kushiro Airport

Akanko Onsen ↔ Kushiro Airport

Service that matches the flight schedule! It's even more convenient between Kushiro Airport and Akanko Onsen by Akan Airport Liner!

- Service matching the flight times!
- Pickup and drop off at each Akanko Onsen hotel!
- Comfortable 3-Row Independent Seats
- You can do a sightseeing stopover at Akan Tancho no Sato!
- Easy web reservations!

Fare
| adult/one way | ¥2,150 |
| children/one way | ¥1,080 | @12 year old and under
※ tax included

Timetable and web reservations here
Akan Airport Liner
http://en.kushiro-lakeakan.com/airportliner/

Lake Akan

Lake Akan in Winter
Pure white flowers blooming in Lake Akan’s deep winter forest.

Lake Akan in Summer
Lake Akan, introduced with three stars in the revised edition of Michelin Green Guide Japan

Eastern Hokkaido Bus Transportation Network

To each tourist sport from Akanko Onsen! Convenient bus service based at Lake Akan. Why not fully enjoy Lake Akan while dropping by popular sightseeing spots?

Here for information about Kushiro and Lake Akan tourism
SUPER FANTASTIC Kushiro Lake Akan
http://en.kushiro-lakeakan.com/
You can also see lodging and other access information

Here for information about Eastern Hokkaido tourism
Explorer The Wonderland
http://en.visit-eastern-hokkaido.jp/
You can also look up Eastern Hokkaido bus routes