

Peninsula Ski Club and the Blue Ridge Ski Council present...

**Asiafest 2020**

# HAKUBA VALLEY & TOKYO

**Feb. 21-29, 2020**



## REDUCED package price of \$3,697 pp includes:

- Non-stop r/t airfare Washington/Dulles to Tokyo/Narita
- Transfer to Hakuba via private coach w/ luggage truck
- 6 nights lodging at 4-star Hakuba Mominoki Hotel
- Final night lodging at Tokyo Grand Takanawa Hotel
- 4-of-5 day lift ticket good at 10 ski areas in Hakuba Valley
- Late dinner upon arrival
- Welcome reception on 2nd day
- Daily hot & cold breakfast buffet
- 3 additional dinner events in Hakuba
- Mid-week après ski party
- Mountain escort for 3 hours on first day of skiing
- Free shuttle between ski areas
- Local guide at hotel each evening
- Transfer from Hakuba hotel to Nagano train station
- Bullet train from Nagano to Tokyo
- Transfer from train station to Tokyo hotel
- Luggage transfer from Hakuba hotel to Tokyo hotel
- Transfer from Tokyo hotel to Narita airport
- Medical, baggage, and trip delay insurance

## Optional at extra cost:

- Discount equipment rentals
- Trip cancellation/interruption insurance
- Alternate departure cities
- Day excursions: Nagano farmhouse, snow monkey park & sake village, Matsumoto castle, ski guide, snowshoe tours
- Pre-trip extension: 5 nights at Niseko Hilton w/ air & ground transfers, daily breakfast, 3 dinners (\$1,324)
- Post-trip extensions: 2 add'l nights in Tokyo w/ breakfast and half-day guided tour (\$664) *or* 2 add'l nights in Tokyo & 2 add'l nights in Kyoto with bullet train to Kyoto, daily breakfast, half-day guided tours in each city, return air from Osaka to Dulles (\$1,298)

## Not included:

- Ground transportation to/from Dulles airport
- Portage
- Meals except as indicated
- Drinks with meals, with some exceptions
- Tips for drivers and guides
- Excess & overweight/oversize baggage fees

## Hakuba Valley Skiing and Snowboarding

- Location: On the main island of Honshu in the Japanese Alps near the city of Nagano.
- Ski areas: Happo-one, Hakuba 47, Goryu, Tsugaike, Iwatake, Cortina, Jiigatake, Sanosaka, Kashimayari, Norikura. Our hotel is located at Happo-one, site of the downhill and super-G events in the 1998 Winter Olympics.
- Terrain: Wide variety for all abilities, including groomers and backcountry options.
- Annual snowfall: 11-13 meters (433"-512")
- Elevation range: 2,300'-6,000'

## All costs are estimates based on double occupancy.

Final pricing may differ based on exchange rates, surcharges, and other factors. Space is limited, first-come first-serve.

Slots available with PSC: 12

## Payment Schedule

Deposit:	\$250
Aug. 1:	\$900
Oct. 10:	\$900
Nov. 1:	\$900
Dec. 1:	Balance due

**PASSPORT REQUIRED**

Discounts available for non-skiers or fewer ski days.

## Non-standard cancellation fees apply:

- Through Sep. 12: \$60
- Sep. 13-30: \$120
- After Sep. 30: all unrecoverable costs

**Sign-up deadline:** Sep. 30, 2019

**Refund cut-off date:** Sep. 30, 2019

## Registration

*You must be a member of Peninsula Ski Club or another BRSC-affiliated club to register for this trip.*

Deposits will be accepted by mail from Jan. 15 - Mar. 15, first-come first-serve. (Online payments will be allowed later.)

Send checks payable to *Peninsula Ski Club* to:

Tom Crockett, Trip Captain  
5619 Dogwood Forest Drive  
Gloucester, VA 23061

Phone: 804-693-6381

Email: [hakuba20@peninsulasclub.com](mailto:hakuba20@peninsulasclub.com)

## Q & A for Hakuba 2020

**Where is the Hakuba Valley?** The village of Hakuba and the surrounding Hakuba Valley are located in the Japanese Alps, about 35 miles west of the city of Nagano and 130 miles from Tokyo. Hakuba was the venue for the downhill and super-G events in the 1998 Winter Olympics.

**Why would I want to go all the way to Japan to ski?** This trip is perhaps best thought of as a winter vacation to Japan with the option to ski. It is as much a cultural and tourist event as it is a ski trip. Skiing is the icing on the cake.

**What is the skiing like?** The Japanese Alps and the Hakuba Valley in particular are noted for both the quality and the quantity of their snow. Our lift tickets are good at 10 different resorts in the valley, accessible by free shuttle buses from our base in Hakuba village at the Happo-one ski resort. Hakuba resorts are known primarily for their long groomed runs, but a variety of terrain and snow conditions are available. Large dumps of powder are common with annual snowfall in the range of 400-500 inches.

**How will we get there?** On the main itinerary we'll fly on All Nippon Airways (ANA) direct from Washington Dulles to Tokyo Narita and return the same way. Upon arrival, we'll transfer to Hakuba via private coach. On the return to Tokyo, we'll first transfer to Nagano by private coach and then catch the bullet train. Travel arrangements for pre- or post-trip extensions or from alternate departure cities will vary somewhat. Participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation to/from Dulles.

**Can I make my own travel arrangements?** We discourage members from flying on alternate itineraries unless they need to originate from a different city. It is essential to have everyone together at Tokyo Narita in time to meet our arranged ground transportation. If you need to fly separately from the group, plan to arrive in Tokyo a day early and notify the Trip Captain of your requirements prior to making your deposit.

**What are the passport requirements?** You must have a valid passport that expires at least six months beyond your scheduled return date.

**Where will we be staying?** In Hakuba (six nights), we'll be in the 4-star Mominoki hotel in Hakuba village, located near the base of the Happo-One ski area. Our last night will be in the Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa in Tokyo.

**Can I bring my own equipment? What about rentals?** You can check your skis or snowboard as luggage subject to the usual airline rules for such equipment. Alternatively, discount rentals will be available from Rhythm Japan, located across the street from our hotel. Our BRSC trip coordinator advocates renting skis at the resort based on conditions.

**Why is this trip so expensive?** Two main reasons: Japan is a long way from the US east coast, so airfare is costly, plus we'll be staying in quality hotels. The basic trip package also includes numerous other features, itemized on the first page of this trip flyer. You get a lot, so you pay a lot.

**How many people can go on this trip?** Peninsula Ski Club has reserved 6 rooms, with space for 12 or possibly 13 people. We anticipate several dozen more participants from other clubs in the Council.

**So what is the Blue Ridge Ski Council and why are we going with them?** The Blue Ridge Ski Council is a federation of approximately 25 ski clubs located in eastern Virginia, D.C., and Maryland. The Council typically offers one eastern trip, one western trip, and one international trip to member clubs each year. The international trip is usually to Europe ("Eurofest"), but for 2020 the member clubs voted to go to Japan and call the trip "Asiafest." Smaller ski clubs such as ours might have difficulty mounting such a trip on our own, so we have elected to join forces with other clubs to provide our members with this very special opportunity.

**Who is actually in charge of the trip?** The Council's trip coordinator is Kenneth Eng from the Ski Club of Washington DC, who has experience with previous trips to Japan. The Council has engaged the services of Holiday Ski Tours to handle all of the reservations, logistics, and activities. Tom Crockett is the local trip captain for Peninsula Ski Club, and he is dealing directly with Holiday on behalf of our contingent.

**What's the deal with pre- and post-trip extensions?** Once you've spent the time and money to go overseas, you may want to make the most of your trip by doing some more sightseeing and/or skiing. For this trip, the Council (via the tour operator) is offering three different extensions, contingent on sufficient participation. These are: a 5-night pre-trip extension to the Niseko ski area on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido; a 2-night post-trip extension in Tokyo (for 3 nights total); and a 4-night Tokyo/Kyoto extension with two nights in each city. Contact the trip captain for additional details if you are interested in any of the pre- or post-trip extensions.

**EXTENSION OPTIONS**

**1. PRE-TRIP TO NISEKO:                      \$1285. P.P. DBL                      \$1550. P.P. SGL**

**INCLUDES:**

- Air between Tokyo and Sapporo via ANA.
- Transfers between Sapporo Airport and Niseko via private coach with English speaking assistant.
- 5 nights accommodations in in Niseko at the 4 Star Hilton Niseko
- Full hot and cold breakfast buffet daily.
- Dinner for 3 evenings at hotel
- Transfer between Hotel and Sapporo Airport via private coach with guide with English speaking assistant.
- Return Air transportation to Tokyo to meet main group.

**OUTBOUND FLIGHT SCHEDULE:**

16 FEB.	NH 001	IAD / NRT	10:55AM – 3:15PM
17 FEB.	NH 2155	NRT / CTS	5:55PM – 7:40PM
22 FEB.	NH 2154	CTS / NRT	1:05PM – 2:55PM

**2. POST-TRIP STOPOVER IN TOKYO:        \$645. P.P. DBL                      \$905. P.P. SGL**

**INCLUDES:**

- 2 nights additional nights accommodations in Tokyo at a 4 Star Grand Prince Takanawa or similar
- Breakfast buffet daily at the hotel in Tokyo
- ½ day city tour with English speaking guide.
- Transfer between Tokyo Hotel and Narita Airport for flight home.

**RETURN FLIGHT SCHEDULE:**

02 MAR.	NH 002	NRT / IAD	10:40AM – 9:15AM
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**3. POST-TRIP TOKYO AND KYOTO:        \$1260. P.P. DBL;                      \$1675. P.P. SGL.**

**INCLUDES:**

- 2 additional nights accommodations in Tokyo at a 4 Star Grand Prince Takanawa or similar
- Breakfast buffet daily at the hotel in Tokyo
- ½ day city tour with English speaking guide.
- Luggage transfer between Tokyo and Kyoto.
- Bullet Train between Tokyo and Kyoto
- 2 nights accommodations in Kyoto at a 4 Star Hotel. (Kyoto Okura Hotel or similar)
- Breakfast buffet daily at the hotel in Kyoto.
- ½ day city tour with English speaking guide.
- Transfer between Kyoto Hotel and ITM airport.
- Return Air Transportation between ITM and IAD via ANA Airlines.

**RETURN FLIGHT SCHEDULE:**

04 MAR.	NH 2176	ITM / NRT	7:50AM – 9:05AM
04 MAR.	NH 002	NRT / IAD	10:40AM – 9:15AM

[Note: PSC will add 3% to the above prices to cover club operating expenses.]

**OPTIONAL DAY EXCURSION AND EXTENSIONS TOURS.**

**DAY TRIPS:**

While the area around Hakuba is primarily a ski resort, there are some possibilities for day trips and excursions for non-skiing participants or for those that would wish to take a day off. We have only listed three of the most popular excursions. Prices are approximate.

- 1. Nagano Farmhouse tour: \$ 80.
- 2. Snow Monkeys Park and Sake Village: \$125.
- 3. Matsumoto Castle Tour: \$100.
- 4. Ski Guide Service: \$ 35. per person/per day
- 5. ½ day snow shoe tour with lunch: \$ 65. (10 person min)
- 6. Full day snow shoe tour with lunch: \$110. (10 person min)

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: All U. S. Citizens participating in this tour program are required to have a U. S. Passport valid for at least 6 months *beyond* the return date of the tour. Any non-U. S. Citizens participating in this tour must check with the appropriate consulate for all countries being visited and transited, to ensure that they have met all entry requirements. It is the participant’s responsibility to be sure that all proper entry requirements are met and that they have all the appropriate documents necessary. The Airlines will not let you board the aircraft if your passport is EXPIRED.**

**INCLUDED INSURANCE:**

- Medical Insurance coverage that includes all of the following: *(This does not cover Cancellations)*
    - Trip Delay up to \$750.00 (\$150.00 per day)
    - Baggage and personal effects up to \$1,500.00
    - Baggage delay up to \$400.00
    - Accident & Sickness Medical Expense of \$50,000.00
    - Emergency Evacuation & Repatriation of \$250,000.00
    - Accidental Death and dismemberment of \$25,000.00
    - Worldwide Emergency assistance Services
- (Please note that this insurance does not cover refunds for cancellation or reimbursement for lost travel days due to trip interruption.)*

**OPTIONAL TRIP CANCELLATION/INTERRUPTION INSURANCE:** The medical insurance included within the program protects the traveler in the event of trip interruption due to medical reasons beyond their control, forcing the passenger to leave the trip earlier than expected. The insurance DOES NOT reimburse the cost of the trip due to a cancellation nor does it reimburse unused portions of the trip once a passenger returns early. In order to have this full coverage, the passenger must pay the additional premium amount for the trip cancellation insurance. The premium depends on the amount of coverage desired and is based on the tour cost as indicated. It will cover all non-refundable amounts in the event of a covered cancellation or trip interruption up to the amount of coverage selected.

<b>INSURANCE COSTS:</b>	<b><u>TOUR COST P.P.</u></b>	<b><u>PREMIUM P.P.</u></b>
	\$3,000.-\$3,500.	\$194.
	\$3,501.-\$4,000.	\$242.
	\$4,001.-\$4,500.	\$276.
	\$4,501.-\$5,000.	\$319.
	\$5,001.-\$5,500.	\$353.
	\$5,501.-\$6,000.	\$388.
	\$6,001.-\$6,001.	\$422.

**\*\* Optional “Cancel for Any Reason” provision:** For an additional 50% of the insurance premium, you can add this feature which will allow you to cancel for ANY REASON up to the day of departure and receive 75% of your total trip cost refunded. *(This must be purchased within 14 days of receipt of contract and it is not valid for residents of the State of Washington.)* [Note: “Cancel for Any Reason” is no longer applicable to PSC participants; contract date was 12/2/18.]

PRIVATE PROPERTY, LUGGAGE DAMAGE, ETC.: Personal property, including luggage is at the owner's risk unless insured. Damage or theft of such items during travel and handling does not fall under the responsibility of the Tour Operator. It is expected that normal handling can, and sometimes does, cause damage to luggage and or personal affects. The above insurance can cover such loss and it is again suggested that all participants be advised of the benefits of enrolling in the Trip Cancellation Insurance program.

INSURANCE ENROLLMENT FORMS: Please note these forms must be completed with the amount of coverage circled and returned to us with payment. Payment can be either individual checks and enrollment forms sent individually or one check from the club with all forms attached. Checks should be made payable to Holidayze. Insurance forms must be submitted at least 60 days prior to departure to be effective. **Also please note that insurance premiums are not refundable.**