RESORT GUIDE

UNITED



# NISEKO UNITED

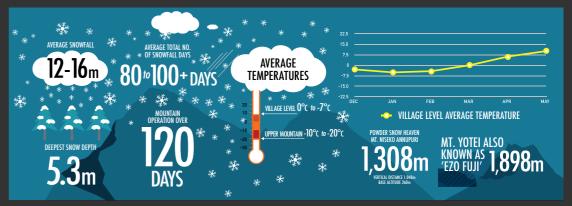
It snowed on average seven of every 10 days during the past six peak winter seasons in Niseko. On many of those days 5-30cm (2-12 inches) settled every 24 hours at the resort base – just above sea level. How come? Because Japan is one of few places in the world that benefits from a meteorological phenomenon known as "ocean-effect snow".

Niseko's snow materialises thanks to cold north-westerly air streams that blow off Siberia. This frigid continental air mass turns to cloud after it hits the relative warmth of the Sea of Japan – similar to how vapor clouds form when you open a freezer in a warm room. As the clouds build and cross the mountainous coastline near Niseko the moisture in them freezes and starts falling in endless amounts of perfect, dry powder snow. A classic north-westerly weather pattern can last for weeks at a time, meaning heavy snow literally day after day without a storm in sight.



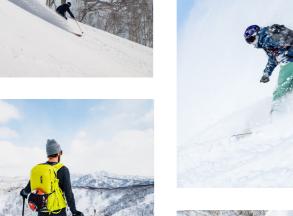
The Annupuri mountain range rises from the Sea of Japan to the 1308m peak of Mt Annupuri itself – home of the four inter-linked ski resorts that make up Niseko United. Each resort has its own unique character and all can be skied between with ease, resulting in one huge, dynamic mountain to explore.

Similarly, each base area and village offers its own unique ski holiday experience, allowing visitors to choose the winter wonderland escape of their dreams. Retreat to the solitude of a snowbound forest or indulge all the senses amidst busy dining and entertainment precincts – all within minutes of the slopes.











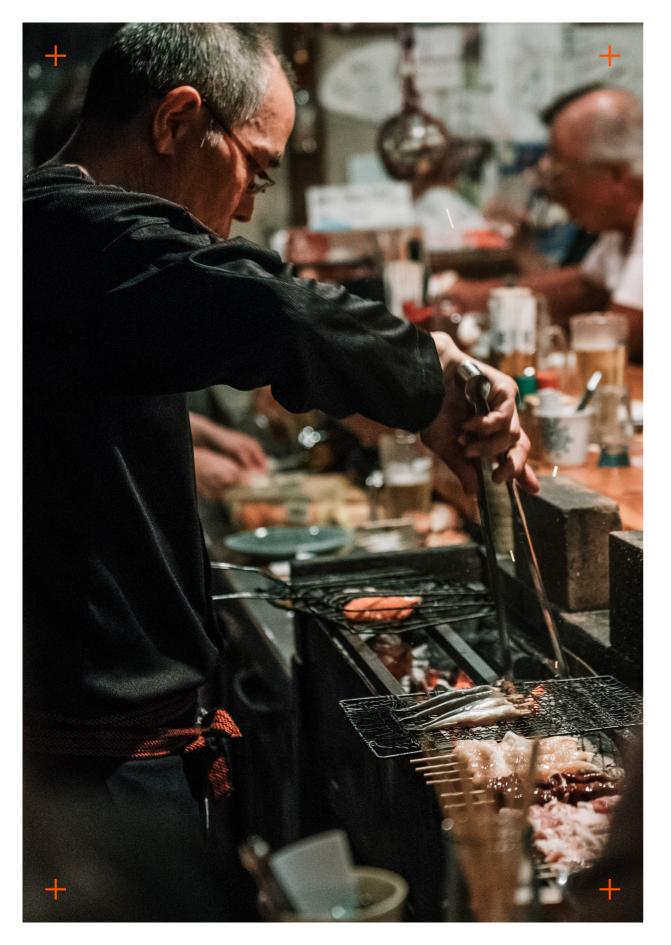


# FEEL THE MOUNTAIN

The constant replenishment of snow cover is as welcome for beginners as it is for pros. Snow on the pistes remains soft and forgiving for those who might be taking a few tumbles. Meanwhile intermediate and advanced skiers can experience the unique joy of gliding through Niseko's light-as-air powder after even the mildest snowfalls.

While all four resorts are markedly different from each other, one thing they do have in common is that they can all accommodate skiers of any skill level. Each resort has gentle beginner zones, a wide range of intermediate slopes, and plenty of black runs and ungroomed off-piste to satisfy powder hounds' most self-indulgent dreams.









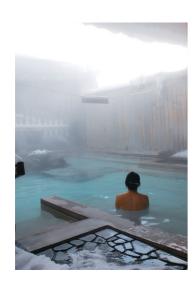


### FEEL THE FLAVOUR

Japan is famous for its food, and in Niseko you can sample the very best.

Along with the boom in the popularity of Niseko's skiing is the renown of its dining scene. Take a stroll out of your hotel and into the snow-filled streets, keeping an eye out for red lanterns or dimly lit signs in the snow marking an authentic traditional Japanese dining experience that could easily become a highlight of your trip.

Niseko is now frequented by Michelin Guide inspectors looking for the next hit, and in turn more and more Michelin-recognised chefs are being drawn to Niseko to open new restaurants. Altogether there are more than a dozen restaurants in the area that have had stars or recommendations bestowed on them, or are headed by chefs who have Michelin pedigree or starred restaurants elsewhere.



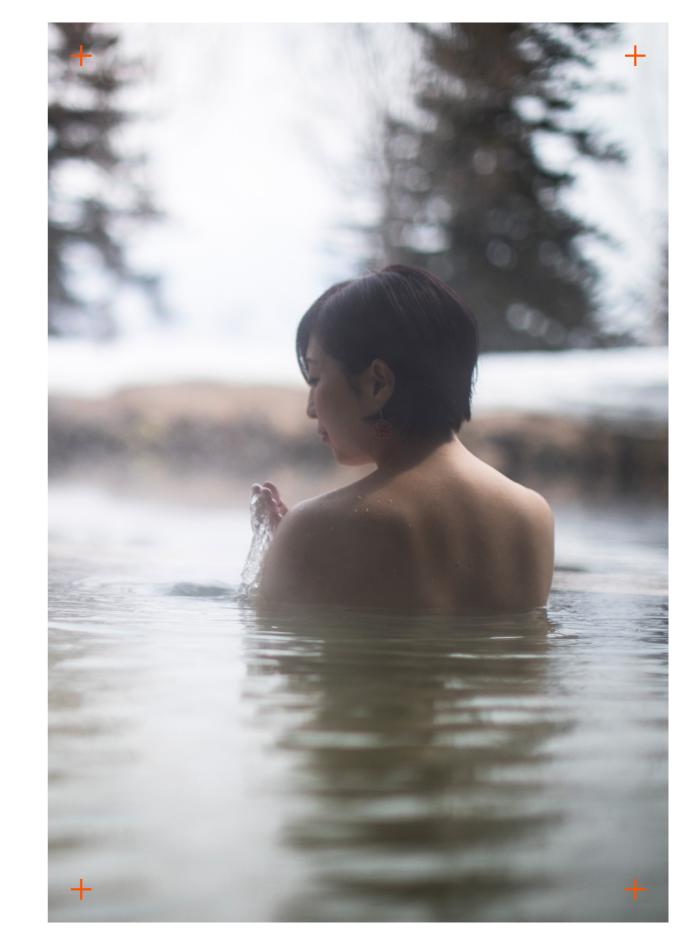




# **FEEL REJUVENATED**

Niseko is home to more than 20 public onsen – hot spring baths – and you will be within walking distance from one or more anywhere you stay in the resort areas. There's no better way to cap off a day in the powder than thawing out in a steaming outdoor onsen with snow falling silently all around.

Coming from deep underground, onsen water contains volcanic minerals said to have therapeutic benefits. For aid in recovery, seek out waters high in salt, chloride and sulphate minerals; for the treatment of skin conditions head to the sulphur baths; and to moisturise and beautify try alkaline springs or a natural mud bath that can be used as a skin and face pack.















# FEEL THE ADVENTURE

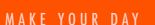
The variety of activities available off the slopes is enough to fill an entire holiday on its own. Choose your own adventure – for young kids and families there is a number of kids parks with snow tubing, tobogganing and snow play, as well as reindeer rides and snowshoeing. Indoors there are rock-climbing walls and plenty of art galleries, art and craft workshops and cultural experiences to enjoy.

For adrenaline seekers, getting behind the wheel of a 600hp snowmobile is the ultimate thrill and a unique way to explore the snow-covered landscape. Snow rafting is a less hands-on option where you can slide around in an inflatable raft pulled by a snowmobile. For nature-based thrills try Hirafu's tree-trekking course, right alongside the Ace Family run.









# NISEKO GRAND HIRAFU

Hirafu is the beating heart of Niseko – a bustling, old-meets-new, East-meets-West resort village unlike lift was built, and the village has grown around this base and nightlife, and the widest variety of accommodation.

Niseko Grand Hirafu has one main quad lift and a gondola that feed intermediate and advanced skiers two thirds of the way up the mountain. From here, traverse to other lifts and up towards the peak, or head straight down with access to dozens of long, groomed trails and plenty of ungroomed tree runs gently sloping family runs at either side of the resort.







#### NEED TO KNOW

Early December - Early May Season Lifts 13 (1 Gondola/3 Quads)

940m Vertical rise Powder courses Beginner zones Total trails Longest run 5.3km Night ski runs

#### VARIETY OF SERVICES





Restaurants







Onsen



Activities













Bookending Niseko United to the east, Hanazono offers some of the best powder-skiing terrain in the resort, and it has just become even better. This winter Hanazono unveils its brand-new 10-person gondola, opening up new beginner runs as well as night skiing terrain. Meanwhile, the resort's main chairlift Hana #1 becomes the most luxurious in Japan with hooded, heated leather, 6-seater chairs.

rollout of Hanazono's world-leading resort masterplan, off-piste activities, a stay at its centrepiece Park Hyatt Niseko Hanazono, and a wide choice of ski-in/ski-out fine dining and shopping.







#### NEED TO KNOW

Early December - Early April Season Lifts 4 (1Gondola / 3 Lifts)

Vertical rise 732m (1000m from peak)

Powder zones Beginner zones Total trails 4.5km Longest run

Parks 3 (winter only)

#### VARIETY OF SERVICES



Restaurants



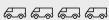




Onsen

Activities













**NISEKO VILLAGE** 

Wholly privately owned, Niseko Village offers award-winning hotels with spa and onsen facilities, dining and retail village

Embrace a new tier of bespoke luxury at Higashiyama Village is the centrepiece of the resort and right alongside the main gondola. A new network of gondolas connects

exclusive new ski-in luxury apartments, Hinode Hills.

Niseko Village also has a well-connected base area skiers can head further up or straight down to some of the steepest on and off-piste runs in Niseko, including Mizuno no Sawa, a special avalanche-controlled area. Zig-zagging red runs offer gentler inclines for intermediate skiers with a long vertical descent.



#### NEED TO KNOW

Early December - Early April Season

Lifts 8 (3 Gondola)

890m Vertical rise Powder courses Beginner zones Total trails 5.5km Longest run Ski-In / Ski-Out 4 Hotels

#### VARIETY OF SERVICES



Restaurants





Onsen



Activities















# NISEKO ANNUPURI

Niseko Annupuri offers a quintessential, old mountainresort vibe with a nicely spread out, sparsely developed building here, as well as several hotels alongside the ski runs, lots of pension lodges and an increasing number 2km of the resort.

Niseko Annupuri offers a wide variety of lifts and get amongst the best tree and bowl skiing in Niseko. The wide, gently sloping base area is serviced by a modern slow-speed quad lift. Intermediate and advanced skiers will make plenty of use of the







#### NEED TO KNOW

Early December - Early April Season Lifts 6 (1 Gondola/2 Quads)

756m Vertical rise 4 Powder courses Easiest courses Total trails Longest run 4km Nearby Onsens







VARIETY OF SERVICES





Onsen

Activities





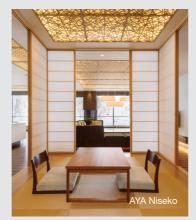


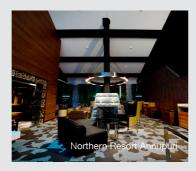










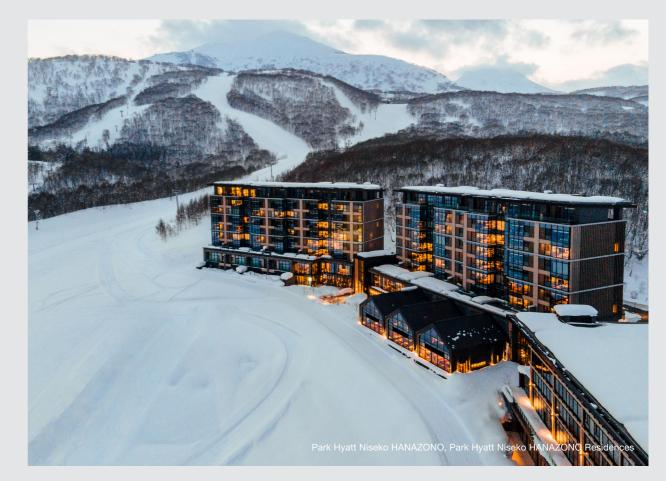


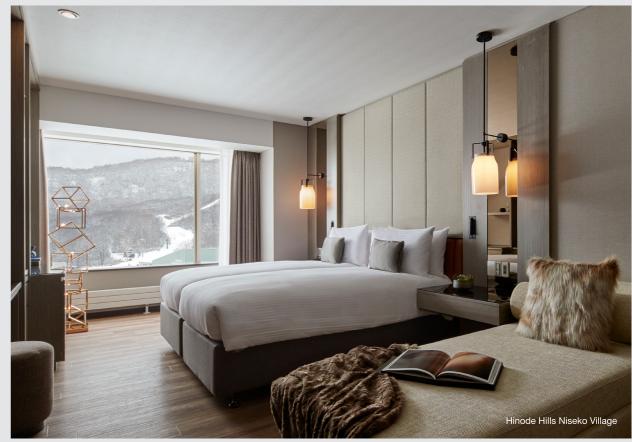


Niseko's latest chalets and condominiums are more suited to the pages of architectural magazines than travel brochures. The resort has become one of the hottest holiday destinations in Asia over the past decade, attracting billions of dollars in foreign investment catering to the desires of the modern ski traveller.

Meanwhile there are plenty of older, budget mountain lodges and midrange options, with excellent value after the season starts to slow down after March and April. Self-catering apartments are the most popular and prevalent accommodation style, alongside cottages and cabins, chalets, hotels, pensions and hostels.

Explore resort accommodation options at www.niseko.ne.jp









# JAPAN'S EASIEST CONNECTION

- Arrive on your doorstep via direct flight to Chitose Airport (CTS) and connecting bus or private transfer (2 hours).
- Connecting flights from Tokyo take just 90 minutes.
- Or take the shinkansen (bullet train) from

  Tokyo to Shin Hakodate Station and board a
  bus connection (3 hours).

#### MAJOR HUBS TO CHITOSE AIRPORT

| токуо       | 1.5 hrs |
|-------------|---------|
| BEIJING     | 3.8 hrs |
| TAIWAN      | 4.0 hrs |
| HONG KONG   | 5.0 hrs |
| SINGAPORE   | 8.0 hrs |
| SYDNEY      | 11 hrs  |
| MELBOURNE   | 12 hrs  |
| LOS ANGELES | 15 hrs  |
| NEW YORK    | 18 hrs  |

#### AIRPORT ACCESS

Niseko United is easily accessible from New Chitose (Sapporo) Airport by Bus or Private Transfer.





hakodate



# NISEKO UNITED









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FEELING IT? START PLANNING AT NISEKO.NE.JP

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