

Niseko

Hokkaido, Japan



The four interlinked ski resorts of Niseko are located on Annupuri Mountain, each with its own unique character. All are connected via the Niseko United lift system. Skiing between them requires navigating specific trails and gates, but it opens up a vast mountain to explore, from snowbound forests to groomed runs.

While all four resorts are unique, they accommodate skiers of all skill levels. Each resort features gentle beginner zones, a wide range of intermediate trails, and plenty of advanced runs and ungroomed off-piste terrain for powder hounds.

One Mountain - Four Ski Resorts

Niseko Village

This area offers award-winning hotels with spa and onsen facilities, a dining and retail hub and an international snow school. The well connected base area has 1.2km of beginner ski terrain, and further up the mountain offers steeper and off-piste runs and long vertical runs for intermediate skiers.



Niseko Annupuri

A quieter resort with an old-mountain village vibe. With a wide variety of lifts and runs for beginner to intermediate skiers and some of the best tree and bowl skiing in Niseko. In the village there are a couple of quiet bars, a dozen restaurants and onsens.



Niseko Grand Hirafu

This is the largest of the four resorts, and described as the beating heart of Niseko where old meets new, East meets West. The main lift (and Niseko's first lift) is the unofficial hub of the resort. This area boasts the widest variety of accommodation, most dining and nightlife options, onsens, and ski in / ski out options



Hanazono Resort

You'll find some of the best powder skiing terrain here. The resort has a brand new 10-person gondola opening up new beginner runs as night skiing terrain. The main chairlift is a six-seater; its hooded with heated leather. Lots of activities, and good selection of restaurants and ski-in, ski-out accommodation.



Niseko Village

Lifts: 8
Vertical rise: 890m
Powder courses: 6
Beginner Zones: 2
Trails: 28
Ski-in, ski-out: Yes

Niseko Annupuri

Lifts: 6
Vertical rise: 756m
Powder courses: 4
Beginner Zones: 3
Trails: 13
Nearby Onsens: 8

Niseko Grand Hirafu

Lifts: 13
Vertical rise: 940m
Powder courses: 5
Beginner Zones: 2
Trails: 22 Night ski runs: 7

Hanazono Resort

Lifts: 4
Vertical rise: 732m
Powder courses: 4
Beginner Zones: 3
Trails: 11
Terrain Parks: 3
Ski-in, ski-out: Yes

Niseko

Top Reasons to visit



The Japow

Niseko experiences snowfall on average seven out of every ten days during peak winter seasons, with 5–30 cm settling daily even at the resort base. Why? It's due to a phenomenon called "ocean-effect snow," where cold air from Siberia meets the warmer Sea of Japan, creating clouds that release dry, powdery snow as they cross the mountains.

Onsens: Japan's natural hot springs

Another highlight and unique to Japan are the onsens; hot water springs that come from deep underground. The water contains volcanic minerals and it's believed to have therapeutic benefits. A great way to relax after a day on the mountain. Niseko is home to more than 20 public onsens, and there is likely one within walking distance of where you're staying. Annapuri has the most onsens of the four ski resort villages, and some accommodations have onsens on-site. Be sure to ask us about this when choosing your accommodation.

Family-friendly

Niseko is the perfect family ski holiday destination, and there are so many reasons why! From ski schools and off-slope activities to Niseko Alpen Hotel's pool or a dip in its hot tub, there's plenty to enjoy. Plus, the Niseko Grand Hirafu Kids Park offers snow tubing for extra fun. Niseko also has several daycare centres located at the base of each resort.

Other winter activities

Experiences: Kids parks, snow tubing, tobogganing and snow play. Onsens, snowmobile tours, snow rafting, guided snowshoe tours, guided powder tours & first tracks and cat skiing.

Dining

Experience Hokkaido's regional specialties as well as Niseko's local cuisine. From high-end European fusion restaurants to cozy local diners, there are a range of options on offer. For après, enjoy a casual beer or visit sophisticated cocktail bars for an awe-inspiring experience at a number of venues.

Top Tip: Take a stroll and keep an eye out for the red lanterns or some dimly lit signs in the snow, marking an authentic traditions. These Japanese dining experience that could easily be the highlight of your trip.

When to go:

Dec: Christmas and New Year's Eve festivities. Book early!

Jan/Feb: Peak snowfall. Great snow and powder.

March: Typically lighter snowfall but late season deals.

Getting to Niseko

Nearest airport: New Chitose Airport (Hokkaido) with a two-hour shared or private transfer.

