

2018- 2019 WINTER TOUR OPTIONS & INFORMATION

Backcountry Private / Off-piste Private
BC Kamoshika / BC Kitsune / BC Usagi / Intro to BC / Off-piste Advanced

Tour Provider: Evergreen Backcountry Guides

Chief Guide: Dave Enright, Owner & Director of Evergreen Outdoor Center

Tour Locations: Hakuba Areas, Myoko Areas & Nozawa-onsen Areas

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

Backcountry Private / Off-piste Private: If you and your group are looking to venturing off on a backcountry (or off-piste) tour of any level, we can arrange guides for you. This type of tour would be recommended if you have a group of friends with similar skiing/riding ability and you would like to keep the crew limited to your group of friends. This tour will be tailored to the lowest ability level in your group and can include terrain from any of the other BC (or off-piste) tours. If you are a seriously advanced group and the conditions are right, we might be able to take you even higher where Japan powder skiing really steps it up to another level!

Backcountry Group - Kamoshika: This tour is for the advanced skiers and riders who have joined our back-country tours previously. You must be fit and experienced in back-country to join these challenging and exciting trips into Hakuba's steeper terrain. Pace of this tour is little faster as we aim to access little further off the beaten tracks in search of best lines. BC Kamoshika requires hiking up slopes and ridges using alpine touring bindings & skins for skiers or split-board with skins for snowboarders. There will be approximately 3-4 hours of hiking broken up in a day so approximately 1,000-1,500 vertical meters of skiing/riding. Head off into deeper back-country and slide into some first-rate Japan powder in the Northern Alps. Japan powder skiing/riding doesn't get much better than this!

Backcountry Group - Kitsune: This tour is for those who have experienced back-country trips not only a few times and are confident in abilities skiing/riding in variable conditions. People in this tour group should be capable to ski/ride powder in gladed trees and steeper terrain and have fairly strong fitness level. BC Kitsune requires hiking up slopes and ridges using alpine touring bindings & skins for skiers or split-board with skins for snowboarders (snowshoes are occasionally allowable.) There will be approximately 3-4 hours of hiking broken up in a day so approximately 800-1,000 vertical meters of skiing/riding. Enjoy fabulous landscape from alpine ridges and epic terrain in the Northern Alps.

Backcountry Group – Usagi: This tour is designed for those who just started to explore the backcountry. At least intermediate level of skiing/riding abilities and a solid fitness level are all that is necessary. People in this tour group should be able to competently ski/ride powder and negotiate through gladed trees and open bowls. Usagi tours requires hiking up slopes and ridges using alpine touring bindings & skins for skiers or snowshoes or split-board with skins for snowboarders. There will be approximately 3 hours of hiking broken up in a day so approximately 500-700 vertical meters of skiing/riding. This introductory level tour is a great way to get off-piste, access epic terrain and ski/ride the fantastic back-country Hakuba has to offer.

Backcountry Group - Intro to BC: This tour will introduce you to the fundamentals of ski or splitboard touring in the Japanese Alps. For skiers or snowboarders this is the perfect course to try out backcountry terrain, get away from the resorts and learn all the basic points to get in and safely out of the winter mountains. By practicing with professional guides participants will have a solid base to build their backcountry adventures upon. No previous backcountry touring experience necessary, though upper intermediate skiing and riding ability in Off-piste areas is necessary to navigate the backcountry terrain.

Areas of training in the tour

AT ski bindings & skins / Splitboard bindings & skins / Setting an uptrack
 Choosing ascent routes / Choosing descent routes / Clothing & personal gear
 Beacon, probe & shovel use / Group management / Weather and snowpack analysis

Off-piste Group – Advanced: Hakuba gets huge snowfalls but with the keen local skiers and riders lining up for the first chair-lift in the morning after a big dump, the resorts get tracked out as quick as anywhere else. Somehow some of the resorts in Hakuba have excellent side-country access where you can get excellent turns in off-piste terrain. Access the goods with the lift services of the resorts then ride the excellent "side-country" terrain. Go with the knowledgeable and expertise of professional guides to look for the best powder stashes in Japan...right here in Hakuba! Skiing and riding will be lead safely into great off-piste Japan areas where we can play in open glades, ride soft pillows and slide through superb tree runs! Get lots of vertical in a day, ride with guides who know the terrain and can guide you off-piste and back again with little or no hiking.

Group Size:

We can cater to both larger groups and individual guests as well. For single individuals, we have Private Tours, and we can take up to 12 in a group tour. We do however, require a **minimum of 2 people** to run a group tour. (Kamoshika, Kitsune, Usagi, Intro, Off-piste Advanced) Thank you for your understanding.

Qualifications/Restrictions:

For our group tours we have a minimum age of 16 or older. Participants should also have the appropriate level of skiing/snowboarding abilities for their desired tour and the appropriate level of physical fitness. Please check our tour descriptions to select the most suitable tour.

Tour Calendar:

Evergreen offers backcountry / off-piste tours between mid-December and mid-April depending on the conditions and resort operations. Please contact us to check availability for your preferred tour date(s).

* All tours are subject to weather and snow conditions and guide availability.

Tour Prices:

Please refer to the following;

Private Guiding (BC/OP)

People in a Private group	1	2	3	4	5	6 +
Price per person (¥)	57,500	31,750	23,170	18,875	16,300	16,000

Group Tours (BC Kamoshika / BC Kitsune / BC Usagi / OP Advanced)

Number of Tours	1st Tour	2nd Tour	3rd Tour and more
Total Price per person (¥)	19,500	19,500	17,550

What is Included:

- * Sales tax
- * 3-piece avalanche gear (beacon, probe and shovel) and backpack rental
- * Rescue Insurance
- * Transport between the office and the tour location.
- * For Private Tours we offer complimentary hotel pick-up & drop-off service. Please make your own way to our office if you are on Group Tour.

Discounts for Tours:

- **10% OFF** for “**Early Bird**” bookings (booked and paid by October 31, 2018)
- **10% OFF** from the third tour
- **20% OFF** for Group Tours and **10% OFF** for Private Tours in the 2018/19 for those who have taken the Avalanche Skills Training (AST) with Evergreen in the same winter season.

Tour Insurance Coverage:

Rescue insurance is included on all backcountry tours (up to 1,500,000 yen.)

In off-piste tours, there will be financial assistance for medical services received within Japan in case of injury. Please supply us your **Japan residential address at booking** since this service is limited to Japan residents, and we need to know you are eligible before any tour starts. Please prepare your own insurance policies if you would like to have extra coverage.

Backcountry Gear Rental:

All backcountry and off-piste tours include a 3-piece avalanche gear set (beacon, probe and shovel) and backpack. We also rent BCA Float Avalanche Airbag Backpacks with extra fee.

Snowboarders: We have a variety of split-boards to rent. All split-board rentals come with skins, bindings and telescoping poles. If you are renting a split-board, please bring in your snowboard boots when you come in for the pre-tour meeting so we can set up the board for you.

We strongly recommend you to have a split-board rather than employing snowshoes for our backcountry tours. If you are planning to use snowshoes, please note that we might ask you to rent a splitboard depending on the condition of the mountain and also other participants in the same group.

Skiers: We have a variety of powder touring skis with alpine touring bindings. Any ski boot will fit the step-in style AT bindings. All touring ski rentals come with skins and adjustable powder poles. If you are renting skis, please bring in your ski boots when you come in for the pre-tour meeting so we can set up your skis for you.

Pre-tour Meeting for Backcountry Tours: (Not for Off-piste tour)

Our backcountry tours, both Group and Private tours, will have **Pre-Tour Meeting**. We kindly request all our guests to come to our office at 17:00 on the day before your first tour date for the meeting.

During the meeting we will explain the itinerary of tour, prospective conditions and routes as well as verifying the group's riding/skiing abilities. We also kindly request all guests to sign-in and complete any outstanding payments for the tour. Backpacks will be given out to guest to load up with their lunch, water and belongings.

We will also set up any rental skis or boards this stage so we can jump in vans quickly the next morning. **So, please bring your boots with you to this meeting if you might need to hire a split-board or powder skis.** The meeting should take about 30 ~ 45 min depending on group size and number of rentals required.

Booking and Payment:

We kindly request our guests to book through our website. With regard to confirming your booking, advanced payment is required to secure your bookings. Evergreen will invoice you through PayPal upon confirming your booking.

Cancellations & Tour Date Changes:

Evergreen reserves the right to cancel any tours / programs due to: inclement weather, insufficient booking or events beyond our control. In these cases, alternative dates may be offered or Evergreen will refund the tour fee in full.

In cases where guests cancel their bookings once the booking has been confirmed, a cancellation fee will be applied as follows:

Cancellations made 10-7 days prior to tour or earlier	10%
Cancellations made 6-2 days prior to tour	30%
Cancellations made the day before the tour	50%
Cancellations made on the day or no shows	100%
Changing the date 2 days prior to tour (group)	2,000yen /person
Changing the date 2 days prior to tour (private)	5,000yen /group
Changing the date the day before (group/private)	Not possible
Changing the date on the day (group/private)	Not possible

Please email or phone us if you need to cancel your booking. Cancellations made after 17:00 will be considered as cancellations received on next day. We don't accept cancellations left on our answering machine.

Van Transportation for Group Tour:

Please be ready to jump in the van by 7:55 in the morning. Make sure you have all of personal avalanche gear (beacon, probe and shovel,) backpack, skis & poles w/skins, split-board w/ skins & poles, money for ski pass, your lunch and plenty of water. You can buy your lunch at resort if you join off-piste tour.

On your Tour Day:

For Group Tours: Please make your way to the Evergreen Backcountry Guides office by 7:45 AM at the latest. Many hotels and lodges offer shuttle van service, please ask your accommodation or arrange a taxi in advance. Please have all your personal belongings with you for your day in the backcountry. You should be returning to Evergreen between 15:30 and 16:00 in the afternoon.

For Private Tours: Please coordinate your morning pick-up time and place with your guide or reservation team in advance. We can stop-by the convenience store for lunch supplies if needed. Please have all your personal belongings with you for your day in the backcountry. You should be returning to Evergreen

between 15:30 and 16:00 in the afternoon, we can drop any rental gear off at Evergreen then drop you back at your accommodation.

Thank you for taking the time to read over the tour details and we very much look forward to meeting and guiding you in Hakuba. If you have any further queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us and we would be happy to assist you.

Evergreen Backcountry Guides and Staff

