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## NISEKO: JAPAN -- Update with Tokyo / Sapporo flight information

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Hello all! Here's an update on planning air travel for our Niseko trip. Some of this is copied from the SKI BUMS site, but there are **especially important updates in red**, below.

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### INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TO / FROM JAPAN

**Flights to / from Tokyo:** Thursday, February 21st is our arrival day. Because we'll have members arriving from throughout the world -- who are tired and jet lagged -- we'll have a minimal itinerary that first day. The hotel guarantees rooms after 3 PM; please aim to arrive in Tokyo by 5 PM local time. Our hotel offers luggage storage and public facilities for guests who arrive before the rooms are ready.

**Take note:** most departures from the USA leave on **Wednesday** and arrive on **Thursday**, as you cross the international date line.

### DOMESTIC GROUND TRANSFER & DOMESTIC AIR UPDATE, JULY 26:

There's a lot info to share -- please read this closely. A few key facts:

- On Sunday February 24, we'll transfer from Tokyo to Sapporo -- roughly a 90 minute flight. We'll return to Sapporo on Saturday, March 2.
- Niseko is an approximate 2 hour drive from Sapporo.
- We've **included a round-trip ground transfer** in the trip price.
- We have **one bus with one departure / arrival time for each transfer**. Therefore, we want everyone at the Sapporo airport at the same time.
- You may, however, [book your own](#) ground transfer independently if you don't want to join our bus. There is **no refund**, however, if you do not participate in our transfer. [Click here for more info >](#)
- A number of airline carriers travel between Tokyo and Sapporo New Chitose (CTS) airport, including ANA, Japan Airways and Jetstar, and travel is plentiful between each of Tokyo's major airports: Narita and Haneda.
- **All Nippon Airways (ANA)** has published its full schedule; currently, their domestic flights are much cheaper if you book them at the same time as you book your international fare, especially if you use a Star Alliance carrier (like United Airlines) for your international travel. Similarly, **Japan Airways** offers a codeshare / bundled discount with American Airlines. The discount carrier **Jetstar** has just begun service between Tokyo and Sapporo (which began service earlier this month).

### OUR RECOMMENDED FLIGHT:

To make sure you're at Sapporo in time for our ground transfers, we've selected a flight to help coordinate everyone. We cannot delay the whole group if one person's flight is delayed, so please join this specific flight:

#### **All Nippon Airways 2153**

Sun. Feb. 24 Tokyo, Japan to Sapporo, Japan  
Tokyo (NRT) to Sapporo (CTS)  
Depart 10:15am Arrive 11:55am  
Duration: 1h 40m

*If your air travel won't allow for this, please be at Sapporo New Chitose airport, ready to meet our group by **noon**.*

**For the return on Saturday, March 2 we are not recommending a specific flight; our ground transfer will deliver us to the Sapporo airport, ready to check in for our return flights by 11:30 AM.** (Therefore, if you're flying domestically, allow 90 minutes before departure. Allow 2 1/2 hours if you're departing Sapporo on an international flight.) It's worthwhile to note that ANA / United and Japan Airways / American offer a discounted fare if you fly directly from Sapporo back to the United States.

**A reminder:** ground transfers are not included between our hotel and the airports in Tokyo. To coordinate a taxi share with other BUMS, visit our [Facebook page](#).

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