



# Memory Ride Cycling Map: Explore Tantetsukou

—Coal, Founders & Steel Works,  
Railways, Ports



Tantetsukou Promotion Council

## Cycling Etiquette

- Beware of the other moving vehicles and pedestrians.
- Yield to pedestrians and slow down on the pedestrian walks.
- Do not use headphones, mobile phones, or umbrellas during a ride.
- Do not ride a bike on the right side of the driveway, or under influence.
- Make sure the front and back lights are turned on when riding in ill-lit areas.
- Ride in a single file when cycling in a group.
- Observe the traffic lights, yield at stop signs, and make sure the safety of your surroundings.

Observe the traffic rules and drive safely.

In case of an accident, contact the emergency services:  
Call 119 for the medical and fire services,  
110 for the police.

## Item List

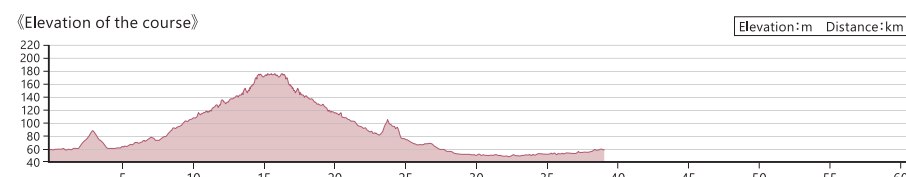
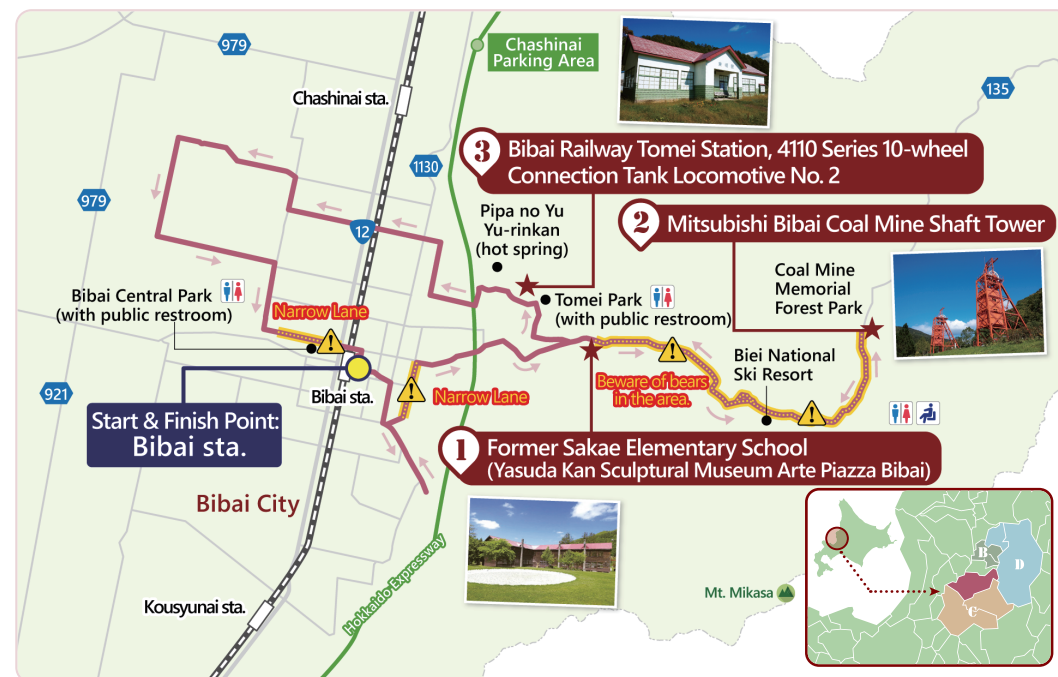
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helmet                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Gear (windbreaker jacket etc.)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile phone                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shoes                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Lights (including reflectors)                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bottle                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Bell   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Supplies               | <input type="checkbox"/> Flat tire patches                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Equipment / Tools | <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling Insurance Card                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spare Inner Tube(s)         | <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Supplies (band-aids, disinfectant, etc.) |

Map Key Toilet Rest Spot

The 2D barcode for each course links to the 'Ride with GPS' app

## A Bibai Course

◆ Distance / 38.9km ◆ Elevation gain / 342m ◆ Estimated Time / 2 hr 5 min



Learn more



## B Kamisunagawa/Utashinai Course

◆ Distance / 39.8km ◆ Elevation gain / 347m ◆ Estimated Time / 2 hr 13 min

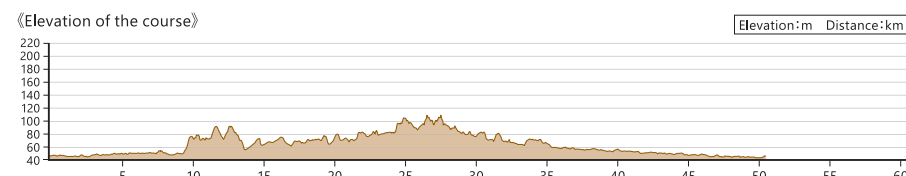


Learn more



## C Iwamizawa/Mikasa Course

◆ Distance / 49.7km ◆ Elevation gain / 459m ◆ Estimated Time / 2 hr 39 min



Learn more



## D Akabira/Ashibetsu Course

◆ Distance / 60.5km ◆ Elevation gain / 502m ◆ Estimated Time / 3 hr 13 min



Learn more







# Cycle through History

## Tantetsukou Spotlight



Find more information  
about other interesting  
spots here

**Tantetsukou  
Website (Japanese)**

<https://3city.net/>



Find more information  
about the food that  
sustained Tantetsukou

**Tantetsukou Food  
Website (Japanese)**

<https://3city.net/tantetsukou-meshi/>



● Information on this map is up to date as of February 2025. Facilities may be temporarily closed at the time of reading depending on the season or for other reasons. Please check the availability of the facilities before you visit.

**A**

## Bibai

**1**

### Former Sakae Elementary School (Yasuda Kan Sculptural Museum Arte Piazza Bibai)



Opening in 1950, this elementary school served the local coal mining residential area. Student numbers peaked in 1959 at 1250 students across 30 classes before the school closed down in 1981. The remaining two-story wooden school building and gymnasium are used as a museum for the works of sculptor Kan Yasuda, which opened in 1992.

**Address** Sakaemachi, Ochiai-cho, Bibai City

**Business Hours** 9:00~17:00

**Closed day** Tuesdays, any day following a national holiday (excluding Sundays)

**2**

### Mitsubishi Bibai Coal Mine Shaft Tower



Built in 1923, this is the second oldest mine shaft in Hokkaido. The two ventilation shafts, one for intake and the other for exhaust, were in use until the mine closed in 1972. The switchyard and raw coal pocket (where the freshly mined coal was initially stored) were built in 1925. It is now open to the public as the Coal Mine Memorial Forest Park.

**Address** Ichinosawa, Higashi Bibai-cho, Bibai City

**3**

### Bibai Railway Tomei Station, 4110 Series 10-wheel Connection Tank Locomotive No. 2



This single story wooden building is a former station of the Bibai Railway that opened in 1948. The trains were built by the Mitsubishi Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., in 1919, and were used until the railway's closure in 1972. The station's interior contains advertisements and train timetables from when the railway still operated, preserving the memories of the former coal-mining town.

**Address** 5-jo 2-chome, Toumei, Bibai City

**B**

## Kamisunagawa/Utashinai

**4**

### Kamisunagawa Coal Mine Museum



Mitsui Sunagawa coal mine became one of only few coal mines in Japan which adopted the hydraulic mining techniques in 1964. The unique mining method is displayed in this museum, along with a shaft headframe, recreated hakken nagaya (the four-unit Japanese rowhouses), and other items which bring us back to the old times in Kamisunagawa.

**Address** 1-chome 1-3, Honmachi, Kamisunagawa Town

**Business Hours** 10:00~16:00

**Closed day** Weekdays from May to October that don't fall on national holidays or on Obon holidays

**5**

### Yume Tsumugi Museum



A local museum that introduces the history and culture of Utashinai, which has flourished as a coal city since the Meiji era (1868-1912), through images and a wealth of materials. A variety of materials are on display, including a coal mine theater that recreates the life in a coal mine tenement, a "MAKKURA" experience room, and machines that were actually used in the coal mines.

**Address** 1027-1 Aza honcho, Utashinai City

**Business Hours** 10:00~17:00

**Closed day** Non-national holiday Mondays (if a Monday is a national holiday, the museum will instead be closed on the next non-national holiday day)

**6**

### Kanashibetsu Romanza (Kanashibetsu Roman Theater)



The hall first opened in 1958 as a recreational facility for the employees of the former Sumitomo Kamiutashinai coal mine. Following the closure of the coal mine, it became known as a shooting location of the film "Yesterday, in Kanashibetsu" scripted by So Kuramoto, attracting the fans for various events held several times a year.

**Address** 1-5 Kamiuta, Utashinai City

**Business Hours** Open for exterior viewing only

**C**

## Iwamizawa/Mikasa

**7**

### Coal Mine Memory Management Center Stone Storehouse



This visitor center was opened in 2009 by the Coal Mine Memory Promotion Organization, an NPO that works to utilize the many memories of the coal mines that remain in Sorachi to revitalize the local region. Various events are held in the stone building built in 1927 and the stone warehouse built in 1909.

**Address** 1-jo west 4-chome 3, Iwamizawa City

**Business Hours** 10:30~17:30

**Closed day** Mondays and Tuesdays (If it is a national holiday, closed on the following day instead)

**8**

### Sumitomo Ponbetsu Coal Mine Shaft Headframe



Despite adopting the techniques from Germany, the coal mine was closed only after 12 years. The shaft has a unique structure where both a skip and a cage are installed in a single headframe. (Shaft depth: 650m; Measured depth: 735m; Height: 51m)

**Address** 261-4 Ponbetsu, Mikasa City

**Business Hours** Open for exterior viewing only

**9**

### Tomatsu Train Station



The station started operating in 1929 to dispatch coals from Sumitomo Tomatsu coal mine. The building is characterized by its unique gambrel roof which connects the waiting room and the station office.

**Address** 1-chome, Toumatsu-cho, Mikasa City

**Business Hours** Early May - Early November 9:00 - 17:00 approx.

**Closed day** Closing days vary

**D**

## Akabira/Ashibetsu

**10**

### Sumitomo Akabira Coal Mine Shaft Tower and surrounding facilities



Constructed in 1963 at a total cost of approximately 2 billion yen due to the development of its deep mines, it has remained a regional landmark even following the mine's closure in 1994. At the Akabira City Coal Mine Heritage Guidance Facility, visitors can tour the interior of the headframe while listening to explanations provided by a guide.

**Address** Aza akabira, Akabira City

**Business Hours** 9:30~17:00 Exterior: Always open Interior: Open Wednesday though Sunday (A paid-for guided tour offers a look inside the classification yard in the facility.)

**Closed day** Mondays and Tuesdays (If it is a national holiday, closed on the following weekday instead)

**11**

### The Former Mitsui Ashibetsu Railway Tanzan River Bridge



This bridge, spanning the upper reaches of the Tanzan River, a tributary of the Ashibetsu River, was constructed in 1944 in response to a request to increase coal production. It was part of the Mitsui Mining Company's private railway. Completed in December 1945, the bridge is 94 meters long and 30 meters high. A diesel locomotive and coal freight cars are displayed on the iron bridge. It is a Registered Tangible Cultural Property of Japan.

**Address** Nishi-Ashibetsu-cho to Naka-no-Oka-cho, Ashibetsu City

**Business Hours** Open for exterior viewing only [Note:]Visitors can take a close look from the observation square in summer season (May - October)

**12**

### Hokutan Akama Coal Mine's Coal Preparation Plant Remains (Augmented Reality Spot)



The mine started operating in 1938 and merged with Sorachi coal mine in Utashinai in 1965. Despite its peak coal produce of approx. 530,000t, the mine was eventually closed in 1973. Immerse yourself in the scene of coal transportation in old times. The AR image of the preparation plant allows the visitors to compare the image with the site of a surviving raw coal pocket.

**Address** 1-chome, Misono-cho, Akabira City

Long Distance  
Challenge Ride

## Long Ride Course

**E**

## Muroran Course

A course with many slopes, recommended for intermediate bikers. It offers a trip around Etomo Peninsula which features the buildings and facilities related to railways, steels, and ports.

◆Distance/275km ◆Elevation gain/567m ◆Estimated Time/1 hr 40 min



Learn more

**F**

## Kuriyama/Oiwake Course

Long Ride Course (Half-day)  
Enjoy the history of the steam locomotives and the food of the coal, iron and port industries through the stores and facilities dotted along this route.

◆Distance/83.2km ◆Elevation gain/584m ◆Estimated Time/4 hr 29 min



Learn more

**G**

## Iwamizawa/Yubari Course

Long Ride Course (One Day)  
Spend the day exploring places that prospered through their coal mining and railways to get a real sense of their growth and decline through the buildings and facilities dotted along the route.

◆Distance/124.8km ◆Elevation gain/1,633m ◆Estimated Time/7 hr 3 min



Learn more

**H**

## Tsukigata/Numata Course

Super Long Ride Course (More than one day)  
Get an idea of the influence the Kabato Prison and coal mining had on the development of Hokkaido through buildings and facilities dotted along this route.

◆Distance/186.3km ◆Elevation gain/1,022m ◆Estimated Time/9 hr 56 min



Learn more

