

Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan

Ships dock at Otaru, a beautifully preserved Meiji-era port town on Hokkaido's Ishikari Bay. From canal-side gas lamps to legendary sushi alleys — and a quick train to Sapporo — this is one of Japan's most rewarding cruise calls.

 Pier (docked)  Typical call: 8-10 hrs  Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY)  Language: Japanese  Sapporo: 35 min by train

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — No. 3 Wharf (small ships, walkable) or Katsunai Wharf (large ships, shuttle needed)

Best For: Sushi, historic canal walks, glasswork shopping, Sapporo day trip

Walk to Otaru Canal: 10 min from No. 3 Wharf; shuttle + 10 min from Katsunai

Don't Miss: Kaisen-don at Sankaku Market and the canal at dusk

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  ¥1,200–¥1,500 ·  **Rideshare**  Uber, GO Taxi

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Otaru Canal & Sakaimachi Street** — Walk the 1923 canal lined with stone warehouses converted into cafes, shops, and glass studios.
- **Sushi & Seafood at Sankaku Market** — Otaru's Triangle Market sits steps from the train station — pick fresh crab, sea urchin, or scallops from the...
- **Kitaichi Glass Workshop** — Otaru converted its historic oil-lamp glass industry into an art form.
- **Mt. Tengu Ropeway** — A short bus ride from Otaru Station leads to the Mt.
- **Sapporo City Highlights** — Take the 35-minute train to Hokkaido's modern capital.

BEST WALKS

- **Canal & Sakaimachi Loop** 2-3 km · 45-60 min · Easy — The classic Otaru stroll.
- **Sapporo City Walk** 4 km in Sapporo · 2-3 hrs · Easy — From Sapporo Station walk south through the pedestrian mall to Odori Park, stroll its 1.5 km length to the Sapporo TV Tower, then...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 4:54AM–6:18PM · Jun 3:55AM–7:17PM · Aug 4:41AM–6:38PM · Sep 5:15AM–5:46PM · Oct 5:49AM–4:53PM	
Apr	49°	37°	12d	 Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY)	
Jun	67°	55°	13d		
Aug	77°	67°	15d		
Sep	71°	60°	12d		
Oct	58°	48°	16d		

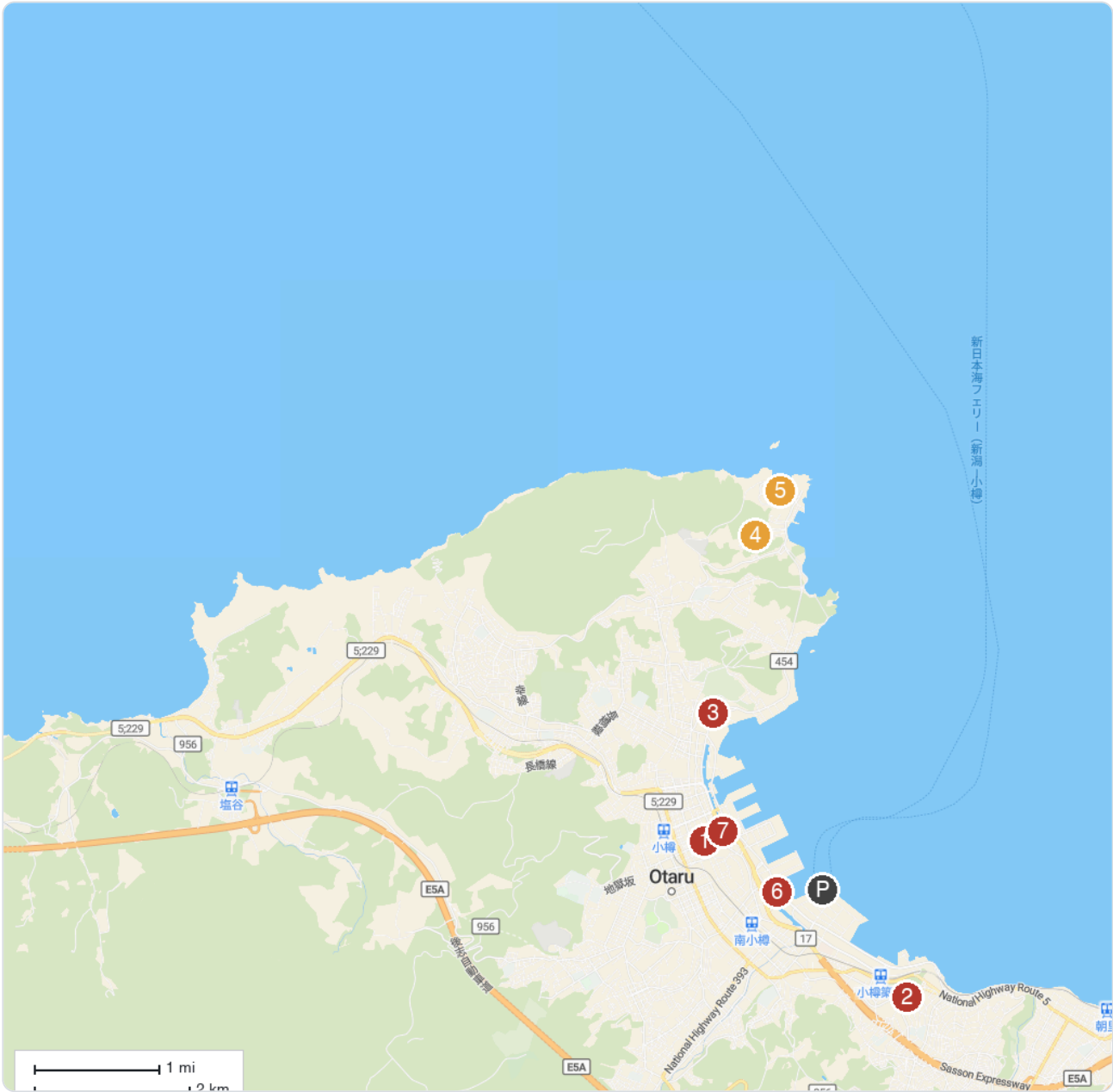
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring cash. Yen is essential — smaller ramen shops, market stalls, shrines, and local buses are often cash-only. ATMs at 7-Eleven and Japan Post accept foreign cards.
- Katsunai passengers: take the shuttle. It's a 4 km walk through an industrial port zone — not worth it. Use the ship shuttle or a taxi.
- Sapporo day-trippers: budget your time. Allow 2.5 hours before all-aboard to get back. The train is punctual but give yourself margin — Japanese rail is great until it isn't.

Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|---|---------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Otaru City Museum of Art | Art museum showcasing local and international works. | 2 | Hiraiso Park | Seaside park offering scenic views of Otaru Bay. |
| 3 | Otaru City General Museum | Museum detailing Otaru's history, nature, and railway heritage. | 4 | Old Aoyama Villa (Herring Palace) | Historic villa showcasing Otaru's herring fishing prosperity. |
| 5 | Otaru Aquarium | Aquarium featuring marine life from Hokkaido and beyond. | 6 | の カネヒデ マリンR.X.A.クルーズ | Departure point for scenic cruises to the Otaru Blue Cave. |
| 7 | Ebisuya Otaru Rickshaw | Traditional rickshaw service offering guided tours of Otaru. | P | Cruise port / terminal | |