

Lake Shikotsu Vicinity

In a class by itself

Hokkaido boasts numerous pristine mountain lakes, but for water clarity Lake Shikotsu is in a class by itself. The water, with transparency measured to depths of between 15 to 30 meters, is amazingly clear, making the lake a favorite for freshwater divers. Shikotsu also has the distinction of being the northernmost Japanese lake that doesn't freeze in winter, providing visitors with a picture-perfect scene any time of the year. Mountains are found on both the north and south sides, and the entire area features some of the freshest, purest mountain scenery to be found anywhere in Japan.