

Japan Domestic Travel Guide

A. Important Notes for All Travelers

- **Plaza Hotel Mutsu** is located approximately a **5-minute walk** from **Shimokita Station**.
- **Planned LOC shuttle buses for arrivals on August 23**
The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) arranges complimentary shuttle buses:
 - From **Hachinohe Station** at **12:00** and **18:20**
 - From **Misawa Airport** at **12:40** and **19:00**It is **recommended** to choose flights or trains that match these times.
- Departing shuttle buses are cancelled. Instead, **the LOC will arrange large taxis from Mustu to Misawa Airport or Hachinohe Station**. The LOC will conduct a questionnaire to arrange the taxi schedule.
- **A transit at Haneda Airport** requires **about 3 hours** both when entering and when leaving Japan.
- **Please prepare Japanese cash (yen) before arriving at Misawa Airport** if you plan to use local transportation from the airport to Mustu. There is **no ATM at Misawa airport**. Many local transportation lines in Aomori Prefecture accept cash only. Please **obtain Japanese cash at Haneda Airport, Narita Airport, or your departure airport before entering Japan**.
- It is **difficult to exchange foreign cash** in Aomori Prefecture. If needed, please exchange money at **Haneda Airport, Narita Airport, or your departure airport before entering Japan**.
- ATMs in convenience stores (7-Eleven, Lawson, FamilyMart) usually allow withdrawals with credit/debit cards.

B. How to Reach Mutsu City (Shimokita Station)

1. Arriving via Haneda → Misawa Airport → Public Transport

There are usually four daily flights from **Tokyo Haneda (HND)** to **Misawa Airport (MSJ)** (Japan Airlines).

JAL153

Tokyo/Haneda 08:15 → Misawa 09:30

Transfers:

- Misawa Airport 11:05 → 11:21 Misawa Station (Airport Bus)
- Misawa Station 12:29 → 12:52 Noheji (Aoimori Railway; to Aomori)
- Noheji 13:00 → 13:56 Shimokita (Ōminato Line; to Ōminato)

JAL155

Tokyo/Haneda 11:45 → Misawa 12:05

Transfers:

- Misawa Airport 12:55 → 13:11 Misawa Station (airport bus)
- Misawa Station 15:32 → 16:47 Shimokita (direct train via Aoimori Railway + Ōminato Line; to Ōminato)

JAL157

Tokyo/Haneda 14:55 → Misawa 16:10

Transfers:

- Misawa Airport 16:53 → 17:20 Misawa Station (community bus)
- Misawa Station 17:42 → 18:09 Noheji (Aoimori Railway; to Aomori)
- Noheji 18:16 → 19:12 Shimokita (Ōminato Line; to Ōminato)

JAL159

Tokyo/Haneda 17:05 → Misawa 18:30

Transfers:

- Misawa Airport 18:45 → 19:01 Misawa Station (bus)
- Misawa Station 19:35 → 21:04 Shimokita (direct train via Aoimori Railway + Ōminato Line; to Ōminato)

Fare (Misawa Airport → Misawa Station)

- Airport Bus: ¥400
- Community Bus: ¥150
- Taxi: around ¥2,100

Fare (Misawa Station → Shimokita Station)

- Train: ¥2,150

Taxi (Misawa Airport → Shimokita Station)

- Distance / time: 90 km / about 1 hour 45 min
- Estimated fare: ¥28,500

Notes on the transit at Haneda Airport

- After arriving on an international flight at Haneda Airport, you must **enter Japan**, go **through immigration**, and **collect your checked baggage**.
- After **clearing customs**, follow the signs **to the Domestic Terminal** (Terminal 1 or Terminal 2). Domestic **flights to Misawa** usually depart **from Terminal 1** (JAL). You will need to **take the free shuttle bus**, which may take **10–20 minutes including waiting time**.
- You will need to **check your baggage at the domestic terminal**. Through check-in is available if your international and domestic flights are on the same reservation and airline group. If not, you will also need to check in for your flight to Misawa.
- You must pass through **domestic security screening** before going to the **boarding gate**. Security lines may be crowded depending on the time of day.
- The recommended minimum connection time for **international → domestic transfers at Haneda is at least 3 hours**. A shorter connection time may result in missing your domestic flight.

Notes on buses from Misawa Airport to Misawa Station:

- Both the **airport bus** and the **community bus** depart from the same bus stop. After **exiting the baggage claim area**, **walk straight toward the building exit and then turn left**. You will find the bus stop there. The airport bus goes to Hachinohe Station and the community bus goes to Misawa Station.
- Please **prepare Japanese cash (yen)** to ride the buses, Credit cards are not accepted.

Notes on trains:

- **You can buy a ticket from Misawa or Hachinohe station to Shimokita Station** at the ticket counter or a ticket vending machine. However, Credit cards and IC cards (Suica, PASMO) are NOT accepted.

- At **Misawa Station**, take a train **bound for Ōminato or Aomori**, usually arriving at Track 1. If you take a train **bound for Aomori**, you will need to **transfer at Noheji Station**. Please transfer to a train bound for Ōminato, which usually arrives at Track 1 but also possibly arrives Track2. If you take a train **bound for Ōminato**, it will **go directly to Shimokita Station** without transfer.

2. From Tokyo/Narita Airport by Train via Hachinohe

It is generally better to use the **Shinkansen via Tokyo** → **Hachinohe** than to transfer from Narita to Haneda and fly to Misawa.

Example arriving at **Hachinohe 17:04** and **Shimokita 19:20**

- Narita Airport 12:59 → 13:43 Keisei Ueno (Keisei Skyliner)
- Ueno 14:26 → 17:04 Hachinohe (Tōhoku Shinkansen)
- Hachinohe 17:22 → 18:09 Noheji (Aoimori Railway; to Aomori)
- Noheji 18:16 → 19:12 Shimokita (Ōminato Line; to Ōminato)

Fare: approx. ¥21,500

Notes on the transfer at Ueno Station

- The Skyliner arrives at **Keisei Ueno Station**, which is **separate** from JR Ueno Station. After getting off the Skyliner, follow the signs to the **JR Ueno Station**.
- The walk from Keisei Ueno Station to JR Ueno Station takes about **7 minutes**. The route is mostly underground and is clearly marked with signs.
- At JR Ueno Station, enter through the **Central Gate (Chūō Gate)**, which provide the easiest access to the Shinkansen concourse.
- The Shinkansen platforms at Ueno are located on **deep underground levels**, so you will need to take **escalators or elevators down** after passing through the Shinkansen ticket gate.

Notes on the transfer at Hachinohe Station

- After getting off the Shinkansen, exit **through the Shinkansen ticket gates**, and **turn right**.
- Go to **the Aoimori Railway ticket gates** following the signs for "JR Lines / Aoimori Railway"; the gate will be on your **right-hand side**.

- Please **purchase a ticket to Shimokita** at the ticket vending machines or at the ticket counter of Aoimori Railway. **Only Japanese yen cash is accepted.**
- After going through the Aoimori Railway ticket gates, go down to the platform of **Track 2 and Track 3**, and **board a train to Ōminato or Aomori.**
- If you take a **train bound for Aomori**, you will need to **transfer at Noheji Station.** Please transfer to a **train bound for Ōminato**, which usually arrives at **Track 1**, but also possibly arrives **Track 2.** If you take a train **bound for Ōminato**, it will **go directly to Shimokita** without transfer.

Time Table at Hachinohe Station

05:45 (to Aomori) → Transfer at Noheji → Shimokita 07:30
 07:16 (to Aomori) → Transfer at Noheji → Shimokita 09:02
 09:33 (to Ōminato) → Shimokita 11:07
 12:12 (to Aomori) → Transfer at Noheji → Shimokita 13:56
 15:14 (to Ōminato) → Shimokita 16:47
 15:30 (to Aomori) → Transfer at Noheji → Shimokita 18:01
 17:22 (to Aomori) → Transfer at Noheji → Shimokita 19:12
 19:17 (to Ōminato) → Shimokita 21:04
 20:29 (to Aomori) → Transfer at Noheji → Shimokita 22:18

3. From Tokyo/Haneda Airport by Train via Hachinohe

Example arriving at **Hachinohe 17:04** and **Shimokita 19:20**

- Haneda Airport 13:38 → 13:57 Hamamatsucho (Tokyo Monorail)
 - Hamamatsucho 14:03 → 14:07 Tokyo Station (JR)
 - Tokyo Station 14:20 → 17:04 Hachinohe (Tōhoku Shinkansen)
 - Hachinohe 17:22 → 18:09 Noheji (Aoimori Railway; to Aomori)
 - Noheji 18:16 → 19:12 Shimokita (Ōminato Line; to Ōminato)
- Fare: approx. ¥20,000

Please see Section 2 for the transfer at Hachinohe Station.

4. Arriving at Sendai Airport on International Flights

Sendai Airport typically has international flights from Seoul, Taipei, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Kaohsiung, and others depending on season.

Example arriving at **Hachinohe 17:04** and **Shimokita 19:20**

- Sendai Airport 15:08 → 15:33 Sendai Station (Airport Access Line)
- Sendai Station 15:53 → 17:04 Hachinohe (Tōhoku Shinkansen)
- Hachinohe 17:22 → 18:09 Noheji (Aoimori Railway)
- Noheji 18:16 → 19:12 Shimokita (Ōminato Line)

Fare: approx. ¥12,500

Please see Section 2 for the transfer at Hachinohe Station.

5. Arriving at Aomori Airport on International Flights

Aomori Airport has limited international flights, mainly from Seoul and Taipei.

Example arriving at **Shimokita 18:01**

- Aomori Airport 15:20 → 15:55 Aomori Station (Bus)
- Aomori Station 16:17 → 17:01 Noheji (Aoimori Railway; to Hachinohe)
- Noheji 17:05 → 18:01 Shimokita (Ōminato Line; to Ōminato)

Fare: approx. ¥3,500

Taxi (Aomori Airport → Shimokita Station)

- Distance / time: 130 km / 2.5–3 hours
- Estimated fare: ¥40,000–¥45,000

6. Consider Japan Rail Pass or JR East Tohoku Area Pass

- Japan Rail Pass (nationwide JR): <https://japanrailpass.net/en/>
- JR East Tohoku Area Pass: <https://www.jreast.co.jp/en/multi/pass/>

B. Departure from Mutsu City (Return Travel Information)

7. Arranged Taxis

LOC arranges large taxis from Mustu to Misawa Airport or Hachinohe Station for departures upon request. The taxi fare must be paid by the guests. The fare will be **about 8,000 yen**. We will try to arrange taxis for everyone who requests one, but if we cannot secure enough vehicles, we may ask some people to use public transportation instead.

8. Returning via Misawa Airport → Haneda Airport (4 flights)

For your returning flight, LOC recommend **arriving at Misawa Airport more than 1 hour** before the scheduled departure.

JAL152

Misawa Airport 10:10 → 11:35 Tokyo/Haneda

Transfers from Shimokita:

- Shimokita 06:35 → 07:34 Noheji (Ōminato Line; to Noheji)
- Noheji 07:40 → 08:06 Misawa Station (Aoimori Railway; to Hachinohe)
- Misawa Station 08:54 → 09:10 Misawa Airport (Airport Bus)

JAL154

Misawa Airport 12:50 → 14:15 Tokyo/Haneda

Transfers from Shimokita:

- Shimokita 08:13 → 09:30 Misawa Station (direct train via Ōminato Line + Aoimori Railway; to Hachinohe)
- Misawa Station 10:34 → 10:50 Misawa Airport (airport bus)

JAL156

Misawa Airport 16:50 → 18:15 Tokyo/Haneda

Transfers from Shimokita:

- Shimokita 11:52 → 12:39 Noheji (Ōminato Line; to Noheji)
- Noheji 12:45 → 13:11 Misawa Station (Aoimori Railway; to Hachinohe)
- Misawa Station 13:40 → 14:07 Misawa Airport (Community Bus)

JAL158

Misawa Airport 19:10 → 20:35 Tokyo/Haneda

Transfers from Shimokita:

- Shimokita 14:17 → 15:14 Noheji (Ōminato Line; to Noheji)

- Noheji 15:20 → 15:44 Misawa Station (Aoimori Railway; to Hachinohe)
- Misawa Station 15:59 → 16:15 Misawa Airport (Airport Bus)

Fare (Shimokita Station → Misawa Station)

- Train: ¥2,150

Fare (Misawa Station → Misawa Airport)

- Airport Bus: ¥400
- Community Bus: ¥150
- Taxi: around ¥2,100

Taxi (Shimokita Station → Misawa Station)

- Distance / time: 90 km / about 1 hour 45 min
- Estimated fare: ¥28,500

Notes on trains:

- You can buy only a ticket from Shimokita Station to Noheji Station from the ticket vending machine at Shimokita Station. You will need to pay the additional fare on the train or at the ticket gate at Misawa Station.
- At **Shimokita Station**, take a train **bound for Noheji, or Hachinohe**. If you take a train **bound for Noheji**, you will need to **transfer at Noheji Station**. Please transfer to a train bound for Hachinohe, which usually arrives at Track 3, but also possibly arrives at Track 2. If you take a train **bound for Hachinohe**, it will **go directly to Misawa Station** without transfer.

Notes on Misawa Station:

- The bus stop for the **airport bus and the taxi stand** are located on the west side of the station. **After exiting the ticket gate, turn right** and go down to the grand floor. Please refer to the map below for the locations of the bus stop and taxi stand.
- The bus stop for **the community bus** is located on the east side of the station. **After exiting the ticket gate, turn left** and go down to the grand floor. Please refer to the map below for the location of the bus stop.
- Please **prepare Japanese cash (yen)** to ride the buses, Credit cards are not accepted.



Notes on the transit at Haneda Airport:

- After arriving at Haneda Airport on a domestic flight from Misawa, follow the signs to the **International Terminal**. Most international flights depart from **Terminal 3**, but some airlines also use **Terminal 2**, so please check your flight information carefully.
- You will need to take the **free shuttle bus** or the **Haneda Airport Transit System** to reach the international terminal. The transfer may take **10–20 minutes**, including waiting time.
- At the international terminal, you must **check in for your international flight** and **check your baggage**, unless your domestic and international flights are on the same reservation and airline group with through check-in.
- You must pass through **security screening** and **outbound immigration** before entering the international departure area. Lines may be crowded depending on the time of day.
- The recommended minimum connection time for **domestic** → **international** transfers at Haneda is **at least 3 hours**. A shorter connection time may result in missing your international flight.

9. Returning via Hachinohe → Tokyo → Narita Airport (Shinkansen)

Example arriving at **Narita Airport 14:30**

- Shimokita 08:13 → 09:50 Hachinohe (direct train via Ōminato Line + Aoimori Railway; to Hachinohe)
- Hachinohe 10:17 → 12:58 Ueno (Tōhoku Shinkansen)
- Keisei Ueno 13:35 → 14:25 Narita Airport (Keisei Skyliner)

Fare: approx. ¥21,500

Notes on local trains and the transfer at Hachinohe

- You can buy only a ticket from Shimokita Station to Noheji Station from the ticket vending machine at Shimokita Station. You will need to pay the additional fare on the train or at the ticket gate at Hachinohe Station.
- At **Shimokita Station**, take a train **bound for Noheji or Hachinohe**. If you take a train **bound for Noheji**, you will need to **transfer at Noheji Station**. Please transfer to a train bound for Hachinohe or Metoki, which arrives at Track 2. If you take a train **bound for Hachinohe**, it will **go directly to Hachinohe Station** without transfer.
- After arriving at Hachinohe Station, exit through the Aoimori Railway ticket gates and **turn left**, following the signs for "Shinkansen". You will see the **Shinkansen ticket gates on the left-hand side**.
- After entering through the Shinkansen ticket gates, proceed to **Track 11 or 12 for trains bound for Tokyo**.

Time Table at Shimokita Station

05:45 (to Noheji) → Transfer at Noheji → Hachinohe 07:10
06:35 (to Noheji) → Transfer at Noheji → Hachinohe 08:27
08:13 (to Hachinohe) → Hachinohe 09:50
10:26 (to Hachinohe) → Hachinohe 11:58
11:52 (to Noheji) → Transfer at Noheji → Hachinohe 13:31
14:17 (to Noheji) → Transfer at Noheji → Hachinohe 16:01
17:08 (to Noheji) → Transfer at Noheji → Hachinohe 18:57
18:19 (to Hachinohe) → Hachinohe 19:59
20:12 (to Noheji) → Transfer at Noheji → Hachinohe 22:01

Notes on the transfer at Ueno Station

- After getting off the Shinkansen at **JR Ueno Station**, follow the signs to the **Central Gate (Chūō Gate)**.
- The Skyliner does **not** depart from JR Ueno Station. It departs from **Keisei Ueno Station**, which is a separate station located about **7 minutes on foot** from the JR station.
- After exiting the JR ticket gate, follow the signs for **Keisei Ueno Station**. The station is located **underground**, near Ueno Park.
- At Keisei Ueno Station, you must **purchase a Skyliner ticket** or **show your reserved ticket** at the Keisei ticket counter or ticket machines.
- The Skyliner uses **dedicated platforms** and requires a **reserved seat ticket**.

10. Returning via Hachinohe → Tokyo → Haneda Airport (Shinkansen)

Example arriving at **Haneda Airport 13:50**

- Shimokita 08:13 → 09:50 Hachinohe (direct train via Ōminato Line + Aoimori Railway; to Hachinohe)
 - Hachinohe 10:17 → 13:34 Tokyo Station (Tōhoku Shinkansen)
 - Tokyo Station 13:20 → 13:24 Hamamatsucho (JR)
 - Hamamatsucho 13:30 → 13:46 Haneda Airport
- Fare: approx. ¥20,000

See Section 9 on local trains and the transfer at Hachinohe.

11. Returning via Sendai Airport

Example arriving at **Sendai Airport 12:20**

- Shimokita 08:13 → 09:50 Hachinohe (direct train via Ōminato Line + Aoimori Railway; to Hachinohe)
 - Hachinohe 10:17 → 11:29 Sendai Station (Tōhoku Shinkansen)
 - Sendai Station 11:50 → 12:17 Sendai Airport (Airport Access Line)
- Fare: approx. ¥12,500

See Section 9 on local trains and the transfer at Hachinohe.

12. Returning via Aomori Airport

Example arriving at **Aomori Airport 10:10**

- Shimokita 06:35 → 07:34 Noheji (Ōminato Line)
- Noheji 08:01 → 08:49 Aomori Station (Aomori Railway: to Aomori)
- Aomori Station 09:30 → 10:05 Aomori Airport (Bus)

Fare: approx. ¥3,500

Taxi (Shimokita → Aomori Airport)

- Distance / time: 130 km / about 2.5–3 hours
- Estimated fare: ¥40,000–¥45,000