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THE GREAT NORTHERN HORIZON

On the Road - 02

September - November 2016

ON THE ROAD OF HOKKAIDO



For us, Hokkaido is a land of emotions. As soon as we touched its spirit, as soon as we felt our nomadic sensations again, as soon as we reached its centre, we live death and rebirth by the passage of our child of Light Kanayama. Our son born at five months pregnancy. At the same time, the world around us collapses, four typhoons affect the island of Hokkaido in a few days. In the small town of Minamifurano, the trees bow in front of the power of the wind. The tumultuous water comes out of its bed and transform the landscape. Only Fear remains. It is there like a shadow. As much as the separation. When everything collapses in us and around us, how can we find the indispensable tenderness to see beyond these events? Slowly, we feel deep inside a call to Life. The Love of our child is so intense that its energy guides us like a lighthouse.

We surrender...

Welcomed by Shigeo, he becomes a Grandpa in Japan for Nayla. A man who helped us deeply. Then the landscapes of Hokkaido carried us by their magic. We found the vast spaces, vibrating the life force.





The fiery ocean brought us the euphoric feeling of freedom. The lakes welcomed us, we were charmed by their beauty. These places hold a perfect alchemy between its elements. The land and its mountains, the water and its mirror lakes, the wind and its dancing clouds, the fire and its purple sunset.







KUTCHARO LAKE

ON THE EAST COAST OF HOKKAIDO





I N L A N D



The forests extend beyond mountains and valleys. These forests seem timeless, as they call for other dimensions, for an untouched nature, for indomitable and impenetrable spaces. When they are crossed by the large rivers, it is like a breath. The water is clear, pure. It reflects a royal blue that makes it majestic.

ONSEN

On the shore of Kussharo Lake, we are in the heart of pulsating volcanoes. It is as if we can feel the pulse of the Earth. There, a natural hot spring flows in the lake. The smell of sulfur tickles our nostrils. It is only a few degrees and the cold air has filled our lungs. With our frozen hands, we feel the temperature of the water, 43°C. With a joy close to the excitement, we undress. Naked and cold, we enter gently into the hot water. We feel a deep sensation of well-being. This is the pearl of Japan, a place that brings together the delicacy of Japanese traditions and the sumptuous landscapes of Hokkaido. An exquisite moment, one of those that bring us to be nomads.





WINTER SETS IN

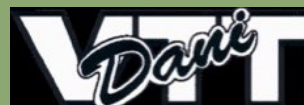
Yet the elements are so powerful there. When

the wind starts blowing, the land changes face. The breathtaking flight of hundreds of geese marks the beginning of the cold season. The warm colours of fall display their greatest paintings. The bright reds of the maple trees create splendid lights, while the snowy peaks pierce the light blue sky. The dancing leaves follow the fantasy of the wind. This ephemeral picture is offered as a treasure, the last breath before the rest of winter. Then it snows, the flamboyant trees are sparkling with white crystals. In a few hours, the snow covers the landscape with its soft touch.



There is a magic that emerges from this earth. Its whispers us to take time to breathe the landscapes, to be inspired by it. Deer and foxes are watching us. The flight of Japanese cranes is majestic of grace. The spirit of the bear is alert, as the guardian of these lands. Here, we are the guests, so we pass gently.





Thanks to all our partners

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