

Information

■Hours

- March to November 10:00 a.m. ~ 4:30 p.m. (last entry at 4:00 p.m.)
- December to February Open on request
(call Komatsu City Archaeology Research Center at 0761-47-5713)

■Closed

- Wednesdays (When Wednesday falls on a national holiday, the museum stays open and is closed on the following Thursday), days following national holidays, from December 29 to January 3, and while exhibitions are being changed.

■Admission

- Free of charge

■Access

By bus

- Take Kokufudai line bus(#41) , and get off at Kokufudai bus stop
About 30 minutes from JR Komatsu station

By car

- free parking available
- About 15 minutes from the nearest highway exit (Komatsu I.C.)



Kodayama Archaeological Museum

Address: 3-64 Kokufudai Komatsu City, Ishikawa Pref. 923-0061

Telephone: 0761-47-4533

URL: <http://www.city.komatsu.lg.jp/4017.htm>



Kodayama Archaeological Museum



Kodayama tumuli group

A plateau which is now turned into Kokufudai residential area was in the past a hilly area called Kodayama. When the development of residential sites started, numerous kofun (tumulus or mounded tombs) were discovered, which led to excavations. These tumuli group overlooking the surrounding fields testify the existence of powerful clans controlling this area.

Kodayama Archaeological Museum

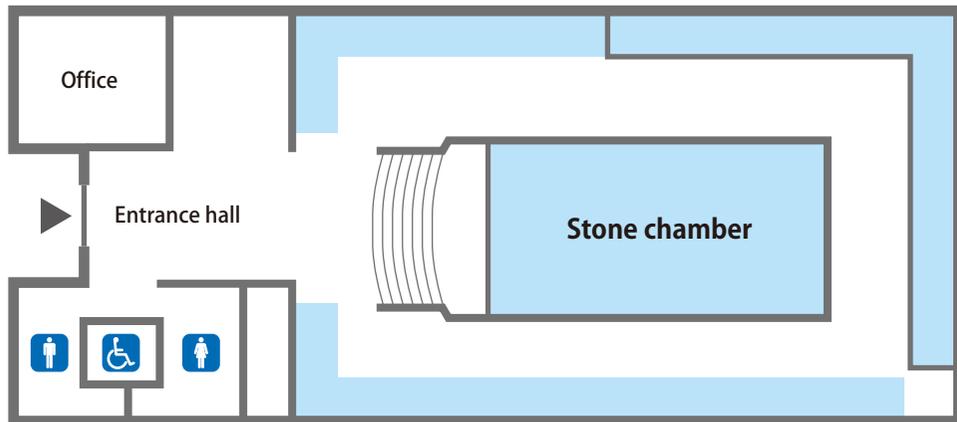


Kodayama Archaeological Museum, a number of artifacts discovered during the investigation are displayed for the visitors to learn the history of Kodayama. In addition, panels explaining the tumuli in East Asia and other parts of Japan facilitate a deeper understanding of the characteristics of



Kodayama-kofun Tumuli Group through comparing them. In this area, the kofun built during the Early to Middle Kofun period (about 1700 years to 1500 years ago) were the largest in number, and grave goods such as weapons and farming tools made of iron and magatama (comma-shaped beads) have been excavated.

Floor Guide



Stone chamber

At the center of the museum, the stone chamber of Kodayama No. 33 grave is displayed in the form as it was discovered during the investigation. This burial structure is called Kiri' ishi zumi (masonry laid with regularly cut stones) horizontal stone chamber and was built in the Asuka period (about 1350 years ago). Tuff, a type of rock made of volcanic ash, were processed into square shape and laid to form the room, testifying the existence of advanced technology in this area.



Kofun park

In the Kofun park adjacent to the museum, three kofun are preserved. No. 1 grave was the oldest in the group, built in the Early Kofun period. On the other hand, No. 9 and No.12 graves were the last kofun to be built in the Asuka period. After the investigation, the mound of No. 12 grave has been restored and preserved in the original form. It has the same structure as the No.33 grave in the museum.



The visitors to the park can see this elaborate kiri' ishi zumi horizontal stone chamber from outside. The upper side walls of the stone chamber have strong curve toward inside. This structure could be a proof of the arched ceiling, which is quite rare in Japan. Several royal tombs with similar style have been found on the Korean peninsula, so this stone chamber is attracting a lot of attention.