

About Kitora Tumulus Area

Kitora Tumulus environs are a part of the Asuka Historical National Government Park. The park was developed to protect the Kitora Tumulus Special Historic Site integrally with the surrounding natural and rural environments, and to promote widespread appreciation of the history, culture and climate of Asuka. Farm work experience, craft workshops, and various other programs and events relating to Asuka are offered throughout the beautiful natural environment of the vast park.

Hands-on Programs in the Kitora Tumulus Environs

Ancient glass production class

Learn how glass was made during the Asuka period.

Days: First and third Sundays of each month

Time: 13:00 – 15:00

Capacity: 15 people
(advance registration is required)
* Please register by a week before your desired date of participation.

Fee: 1,000 yen/person

Inquiries Shijin no Yakata
Registration Telephone: 0744-54-5105



Hands-on programs

A variety of programs are offered in the Kitora Tumulus Environs on weekends and holidays.

Time: 10:00 – 16:30

Fee: Required *Please inquire with us



Magatama (bead) making



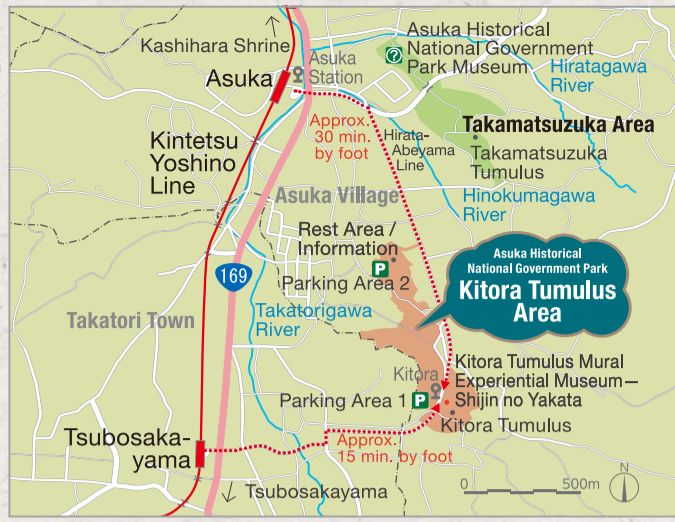
Kaijubo (ancient mirror) making



Birdcall making



Woodburning



How to get there

By train	From Osaka: Osaka-Abenobashi Station – (Kintetsu Minamiosaka Line/Yoshino Line) – Asuka Station/Tsubosakayama Station
	From Kyoto: Kyoto Station – (Kintetsu Kyoto Line/Kashihara Line) – Kashiharajingumae Station – (Kintetsu Yoshino Line) – Asuka Station/Tsubosakayama Station
	From Nagoya: Kintetsu Nagoya Station – (Kintetsu Nagoya Line/Osaka Line) – Yamatoyagi Station – (Kintetsu Kyoto Line/Kashihara Line) – Kashiharajingumae Station – (Kintetsu Yoshino Line) – Asuka Station/Tsubosakayama Station
How to reach Shijin no Yakata	By foot: Approx. 30 min. from Asuka Station, 15 min. from Tsubosakayama Station By bus: Approx. 5 min. from Asuka Station. Take the Kitora Tumulus Area direct bus and get off at "Kitora."
By car	From Osaka: Osaka (approx. 46km) → Asuka (Hanwa Expressway/Minamihanna Road via R169)
	From Kyoto: Kyoto (approx. 42km) → Nara (approx. 25km) → Asuka (via R24)
	From Nagoya: Nagoya (approx. 178km) → Asuka (Higashi-meihan Expressway/R25 via Meihan Expressway)
Parking areas (Kitora Tumulus Area)	Parking Area 1: 20 ordinary-sized vehicles (incl. 2 handicapped parking), 6 large-sized vehicles Parking Area 2: 42 ordinary-sized vehicles (incl. 2 handicapped parking)
* Parking is limited. We ask for your cooperation in using public transportation.	

Asuka Historical National Government Park Kitora Tumulus Area

Open year round Free admission

* The parking areas and restrooms in the park may be utilized only during the operating hours of Shijin no Yakata.

Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata

- Hours: 9:30 – 17:00 (March to November) 9:30 – 16:30 (December – February)
- Free admission Closed: Year-end and New Year holidays (December 29 – January 3)
- Inquiries: Asuka Park Managing Center, Asuka Historical National Government Park 538 Asuka-mura Oaza Hirata, Takaichi-gun, Nara, 634-0144 Telephone: 0744-54-2441 / Fax: 0744-54-4633 Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata Telephone: 0744-54-5105
- URL: <https://www.asuka-park.go.jp/>

* Kitora Tumulus mural paintings will be on display for a limited time.

Inquiries about the Exhibition and Conservation Center of Kitora Tumulus Mural of the Agency for Cultural Affairs, the display of Kitora Tumulus mural paintings, etc.: Office for Protection of Tumuli and Murals, Agency for Cultural Affairs Telephone: 03-5253-4111 (main number for the Agency for Cultural Affairs) URL: <http://www.bunka.go.jp>

2018.2.6000

Asuka Historical National Government Park Kitora Tumulus Area



2 Kitora Tumulus Viewing Plaza
Kitora Tumulus is a two-tiered, round tumulus, which garnered widespread attention in 1983 owing to the discovery of richly colored mural paintings. The tumulus was refurbished following an excavation survey, and was restored to its original size in 2015. The Tumulus Viewing Plaza offers a commanding view of the restored tumulus.

3 Four Deities Plaza
As the largest open lawn space in Kitora Tumulus Environs, the plaza offers various events and a spacious, relaxing place to eat lunch and simply enjoy a leisurely time.

4 Farm Work Experience House
This facility serves as a home base for experiencing farm work in the grain fields and the Kitora rice paddy. Visitors may try their hand at farming and enjoy various farming activities.

7 Rest Area / Information
In addition to obtaining information guides on the Asuka region, visitors can also gain ideas on how to enjoy the park. An exhibition of the Hinokumadera Temple Site and the Hinokuma Site Group can also be viewed here.

1 Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata (Main Hall)
This is a hands-on facility where visitors can learn about Kitora Tumulus and its mural paintings in an easy-to-understand, enjoyable manner. Actual mural paintings from Kitora Tumulus may also be viewed here for a limited time.

5 Kitora Rice Paddy
This facility serves as a home base for experiencing farm work in the grain fields and the Kitora rice paddy. Visitors may try their hand at farming and enjoy various farming activities.

6 Experience Workshop
This workshop offers experience in craft making and hands-on programs that feature techniques that were used in ancient Asuka.

5 Grain Fields and Kitora Rice Paddy
This facility serves as a home base for experiencing farm work in the grain fields and the Kitora rice paddy. Visitors may try their hand at farming and enjoy various farming activities.

1 Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata
This is a hands-on facility where visitors can learn about Kitora Tumulus and its mural paintings in an easy-to-understand, enjoyable manner. Actual mural paintings from Kitora Tumulus may also be viewed here for a limited time.

6 Experience Workshop
This workshop offers experience in craft making and hands-on programs that feature techniques that were used in ancient Asuka.

Asuka Historical National Government Park Kitora Tumulus Area

Learn about Kitora Tumulus and Ancient Asuka

① Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum

Shijin no Yakata

Kitora Tumulus (special historic site) was built between the end of the 7th century to the beginning of the 8th century, and is a tumulus that has a stone chamber that uniquely displays mural paintings drawn in the style of continental Asia. Thus far, the mound, stone chamber, and mural paintings of the tumulus have been studied in detail, and repair work has been applied for their preservation. The Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata is a hands-on facility where visitors can learn about Kitora Tumulus and its mural paintings in an easy-to-understand, enjoyable manner. It also provides an introduction to the Ancient Asuka period, when Kitora Tumulus was built.



What's special about Kitora Tumulus mural paintings?

Kitora Tumulus mural paintings have been drawn on the plastered walls inside the tumulus's stone chamber with delicate brush movements. They depict a full-scale celestial map that is believed to be the oldest such map that exists in East Asia, the four directional deities, and Chinese zodiac images with animal heads on human bodies. They are the oldest such examples in East Asia, are cultural properties that have high academic value.



● Directional deity on south wall: Red phoenix



● Directional deity on north wall: Black snake-tortoise



● Directional deity on east wall: Blue dragon



● Directional deity on west wall: White tiger



● Ceiling: Celestial map

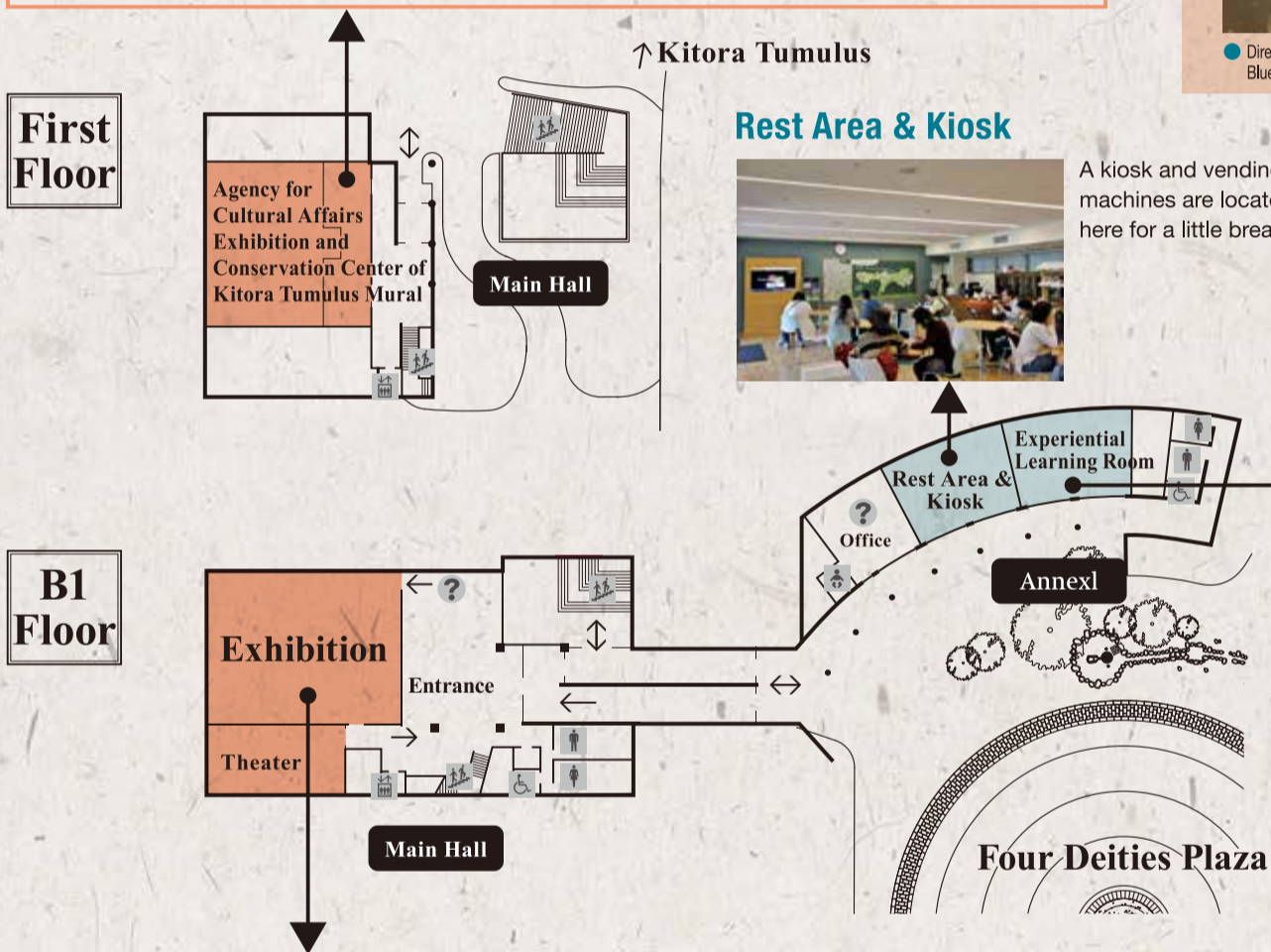
Agency for Cultural Affairs Exhibition and Conservation Center of Kitora Tumulus Mural



● The mural painting can be viewed through a glass showcase located along the tour route.

On the first floor of Shijin no Yakata, a real mural painting that has been removed from the stone chamber of Kitora Tumulus for conservation is on display for a limited time. To appreciate the mural with even more awareness and interest, gain basic knowledge about Kitora Tumulus and its background period in the exhibition room on the B1 floor before viewing the real mural painting.

* Kitora Tumulus mural paintings are on display for a limited time. Advance registration is required.
* Closed on Wednesdays



Experiential Learning Room



Magatama bead making workshops and other hands-on programs related to Kitora Tumulus and ancient Asuka are offered on weekends and holidays (for a fee). Visitors may attend by registering for a desired program before it begins each day.

Legend

- Information
- Restroom
- Multipurpose Restroom
- Elevator
- Nursing Room
- Stairs

Exhibition Enjoy Kitora Tumulus and Ancient Asuka to the Fullest!

The exhibition rooms are filled with exciting exhibits, including high-precision images of Kitora Tumulus mural paintings on four screens, a real-size model of the stone chamber of Kitora Tumulus, a diorama showing people's lives in ancient Asuka, and a documentary display of the history of Kitora Tumulus, from its discovery to its examination, research, repair and reburial of its pathway. They shed light on Kitora Tumulus and ancient Asuka from diverse perspectives.

(No prior registration is needed. Enter/exit any time during museum hours.)

- Experience the world of mural paintings through powerful images <4-screen high-precision images>



● Real-size stone chamber <Kitora Tumulus model stone chamber>



● See what people's lives were like in ancient Asuka in 3D <Diorama>



● Learn about the four directional deities and celestial map in detail <Kitora Tumulus mural painting touch panel>

● Simulate the making of Kitora Tumulus's stone chamber <Stone chamber puzzle>



● Watch videos on Kitora Tumulus and ancient Asuka <Theater>