

# Mozu Kofungun Exhibit Area

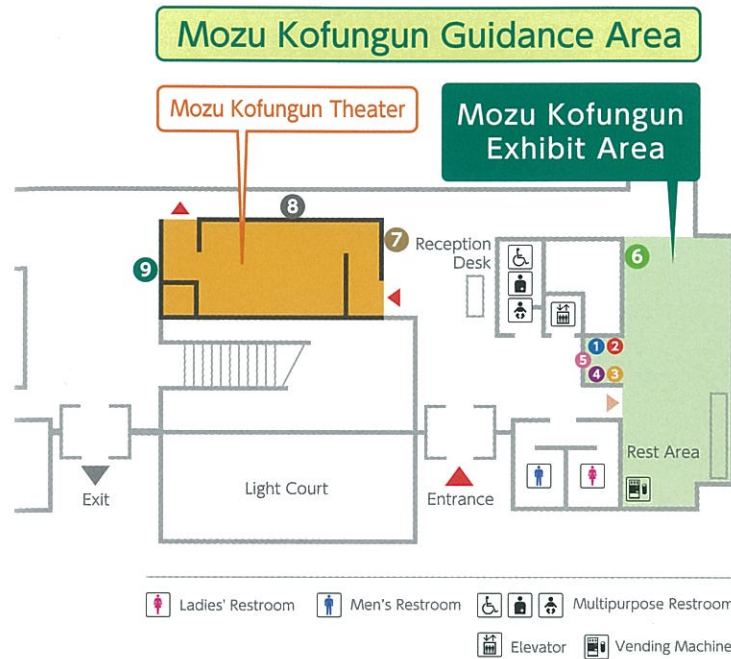
## Further deepening understanding of the Mozu Kofungun and World Heritage

The Mozu and Furuichi Kofungun are two large groups of ancient mounded tombs (*kofun*) which jointly form a candidate for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List as the Mozu-Furuichi Kofungun (Ancient Mounded Tomb Group).

The Mozu Kofungun includes Nintoku-tenno-ryo Kofun which is the world's largest burial mound by area. Besides constituting a precious legacy that is the pride of Sakai, it symbolizes the mounded tomb culture of ancient Japan. The Mozu Kofungun Guidance Area helps visitors to feel the majesty of the tomb group and learn about its historical value and appeal.

The exhibit area describes the major tombs in the Mozu Kofungun, profiles the Mozu-Furuichi Kofungun, and provides information on World Heritage and the procedural flow for inscription on the list.

Through the windows, which look out on a glittering pond, visitors can enjoy the natural beauty of Daisen Park. The park makes for a scenic view in any season.



### 1 The Mozu-Furuichi Kofungun – aiming for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List of cultural sites

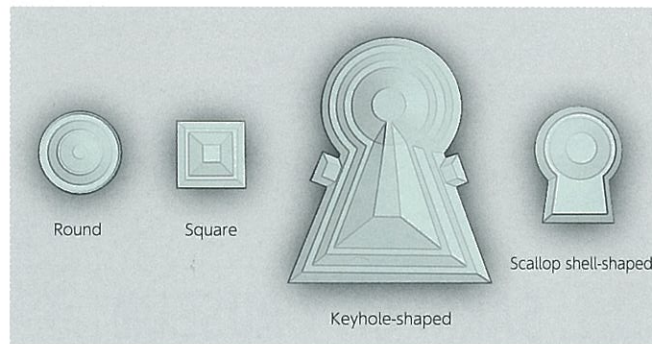
Sakai City is joining with Osaka Prefecture and the cities of Habikino and Fujiidera in efforts aimed at having the Mozu-Furuichi Kofungun inscribed on the World Heritage List. In November 2010, the cultural property was added to the Tentative List as a candidate for World Heritage status.

### 2 About World Heritage

World Heritage properties are "common heritage of all humankind", are inscribed on the World Heritage List in accordance with the World Heritage Convention, upon recognition of having "Outstanding Universal Value." They are categorized into three types: cultural, natural and mixed heritage.

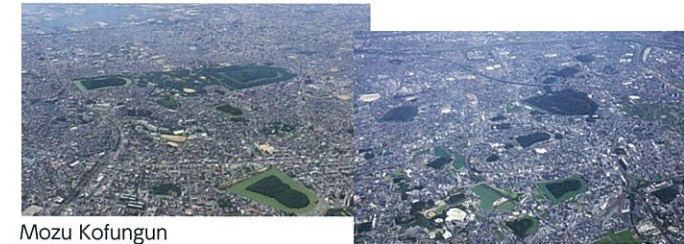
### 3 About ancient mounded tombs

For a period of about 400 years beginning in the middle third century, many tombs made by heaping earth in mounds were constructed throughout the Japanese archipelago. Such tombs are referred to as *kofun* (ancient mounded tombs). They vary in size and are of various shapes, including round, square, keyhole-shaped, and scallop shell-shaped mounds.



### 4 About the Mozu-Furuichi Kofungun

The Mozu and Furuichi Kofungun are among the largest mounded tomb groups in all Japan. These two groups are thought to have been built in an integrated manner as their construction continued from the late fourth century to the early sixth century and the tombs of the kings of Wa were built alternately at the two sites. The large keyhole-shaped tombs in Mozu and Furuichi present the typical appearance of ancient mounded tombs from the Middle Kofun period (late 4th to 5th centuries); they have a double or triple mound around their mounds and are surrounded by many satellite tombs, called *baicho*.



Mozu Kofungun

Furuichi Kofungun

### 5 Mozu Kofungun distribution map

The map shows the locations of 44 mounded tombs remaining in the Mozu Kofungun along with a chart of their name. The major keyhole-shaped mounds are profiled with photos, descriptions, and red relief image maps based on the latest laser survey data.

### Mozu Kofungun Theater

The theater is equipped with a large screen (with a size of about 200 inches) and shows virtual reality (VR) programs that uses high-definition computer graphics to give visitors a look at the past and present appearances of Nintoku-tenno-ryo Kofun, which is one of the world's largest burial mounds, and other tombs in the Mozu Kofungun.

