

## **Komakino Stone Circle**

Thousands of stones are arranged in concentric circles on a purposefully leveled plateau at the Komakino Stone Circle site in Aomori. Three complete rings and a partial fourth ring form a stone circle 55 meters in diameter. The stone circle dates from around 2000 BCE and is one of several large prehistoric monuments in northern Japan.

Archaeological surveys have revealed burial pits, the sites of pit dwellings, and deposits of ritual items.

The stone circle can be viewed close up from multiple points. There is a path leading into the center for close inspection of the stones and their arrangement, and a mound to the south for viewing it from above. Close to the Komakino Stone Circle Conservation Center, at the entrance to the archaeological site, there is a lookout with views of Mutsu Bay, the Aomori Plain, and the western foothills of Mt. Hakkoda.

### *Komakino Site Preservation Museum*

Information about the Komakino Stone Circle is available at the Komakino Stone Circle Preservation Museum, 1.5 kilometers from the archaeological site. Exhibits give an overview of life in the Jomon period and introduce some of the artifacts unearthed at the Komakino Site. Exhibits provide information in English and include hands-on elements for younger visitors. Entrance is free.

### *Related archaeological sites*

Other large prehistoric monuments in northern Japan include the stone circles of Omori Katsuyama [\[link\]](#) (Aomori), Isedotai [\[link\]](#) (Akita), Oyu [\[link\]](#) (Akita), and Washinoki [\[link\]](#) (Hokkaido).