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兵庫県立考古博物館 加西分館
古代鏡展示館
Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Ancient Bronze Mirrors

The Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Ancient Bronze Mirrors (Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Archaeology Kasai Branch) was opened in the Hyogo Prefectural Flower Center in April 2017, prompted by a donation of a collection owned by Mr. Sengoku Tadashi, an art collector living in Kasai City.

In April 2021, a new exhibition room was added to accommodate new donations, allowing visitors to view more items.

Sengoku Collection

Mr. Sengoku Tadashi built up a collection of Chinese arts and crafts over many years. Since 2014, 500 items have been donated to Hyogo Prefecture.

The collection, rich in quality and quantity, primarily consists of over 300 ancient Chinese bronze mirrors from the Erlitou culture period (Xia dynasty – approx. 3,700 years ago) through to the Song dynasty (approx. 1,000 years ago). It is an extremely important resource for understanding the culture of mirrors with a wide variety of items, including bronze ware from the dynasties of Shang (Yin) and Zhou, as well as copper-tin-lead alloy ware and pottery figures from the Tang dynasty. A number of items with high artistic and historical value make up this collection.



Exhibition Room 1

Themed Exhibition “The Bronze Age”

The room exhibits bronze ware and mirrors from the Erlitou culture period, when the bronze culture bloomed in China, to the Han dynasty.



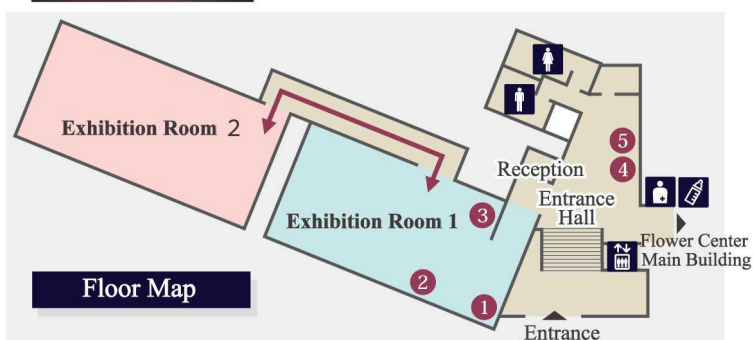
1 Introductory Exhibition

The development of mirrors is shown on the wall. This exhibition includes displays of makeup tools used with bronze mirrors, showcasing how bronze mirrors were used in China.



2 Special Exhibition

The museum hosts special exhibitions related to ancient Chinese bronze mirrors and other bronze ware twice a year.



Exhibition Room 2

Opened in April 2021

Themed Exhibition “Quintessence of the Tang Dynasty”

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The room exhibits many items from the dynasties of Sui and Tang as the second golden age of bronze culture. They feature the fusion of excellent craft skills and exoticism and are reminiscent of the court culture.



3 Image Search Corner

Visitors can enlarge and rotate photos of ancient bronze mirrors owned by the museum, and search X-ray and 3D images to closely observe the technology of ancient times, including elaborate patterns and skillful works.

Entrance Hall



4 Video Corner

The videos introduce the collection's highlights and how the mirrors were produced.



5 Hands-on Learning Corner

Can you see your face in a bronze mirror? How heavy is a bronze mirror? The best way to learn is to experience. Enjoy the journey to the world of ancient bronze mirrors.

Lectures, Explanatory Sessions and Events

The museum hosts lectures and explanatory sessions that correspond to the special exhibitions. Please also enjoy various events related to ancient Chinese mirrors.

