



Philosophy of the National Ainu Museum

This museum respects the dignity of the indigenous Ainu people, promotes the proper recognition and understanding of the history, culture, etc. of the Ainu both inside and outside Japan, and contributes to the creation and development of a new Ainu culture.

Things you can see and experience at the museum

ITAK
〔language〕
→Our Language

KAMUY
〔great beings〕
→Our Universe

IKOR
〔treasures〕
→Our Universe

MAKIRI
〔knife〕
→Our Work

CISE
〔house〕
→Our Lives

CIP
〔boat〕
→Our Exchange



ACCESS

Access by air

- Tokyo→New Chitose Airport Approx. 1hr. 40min.
- Osaka→New Chitose Airport Approx. 2hr.

Access from major cities in Hokkaido by car or train

- From New Chitose Airport
Approx. 40min. via expressway
Approx. 40min. by limited-express train
- From Sapporo
Approx. 65min. via expressway
Approx. 65min. by limited-express train
- From Asahikawa
Approx. 2hr. 20min. via expressway
Approx. 2hr. 30min. by limited-express train
- From Hakodate
Approx. 2hr. 50min. via expressway
Approx. 3hr. by limited-express train



<https://ainu-upopoy.jp/>

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The Foundation for Ainu Culture

*The National Ainu Museum will open in April 2020.
*These illustrations are image designs and can be changed.



国立アイヌ民族博物館

National Ainu Museum

2020年4月オープン

Opening in April 2020



The National Ainu Museum will open beside Lake Poroto, Shiraoi town in April 2020.

The National Ainu Museum and Park ("UPOPOY") is located in Hokkaido. It promotes a broad understanding of Ainu history and culture and is a base for the inheriting of Ainu culture and the development and creation of new Ainu culture into the future. As one of its core facilities, the National Ainu Museum will open in April 2020.



Past, present, and future of Ainu culture

The National Ainu Museum and Park "UPOPOY"
The core area in the National Ainu Museum and Park at the side of the lake Poroto houses, in addition to the Museum, the National Ainu Park with a cultural exchange hall, workshop, and craft studio.



The northernmost national museum in Japan

Japan has seven national museums, in Tokyo, Kyoto, Fukuoka and so on. The National Ainu Museum will become the northernmost national museum and the first national museum in Hokkaido. We will transmit Ainu culture from Hokkaido to the world.



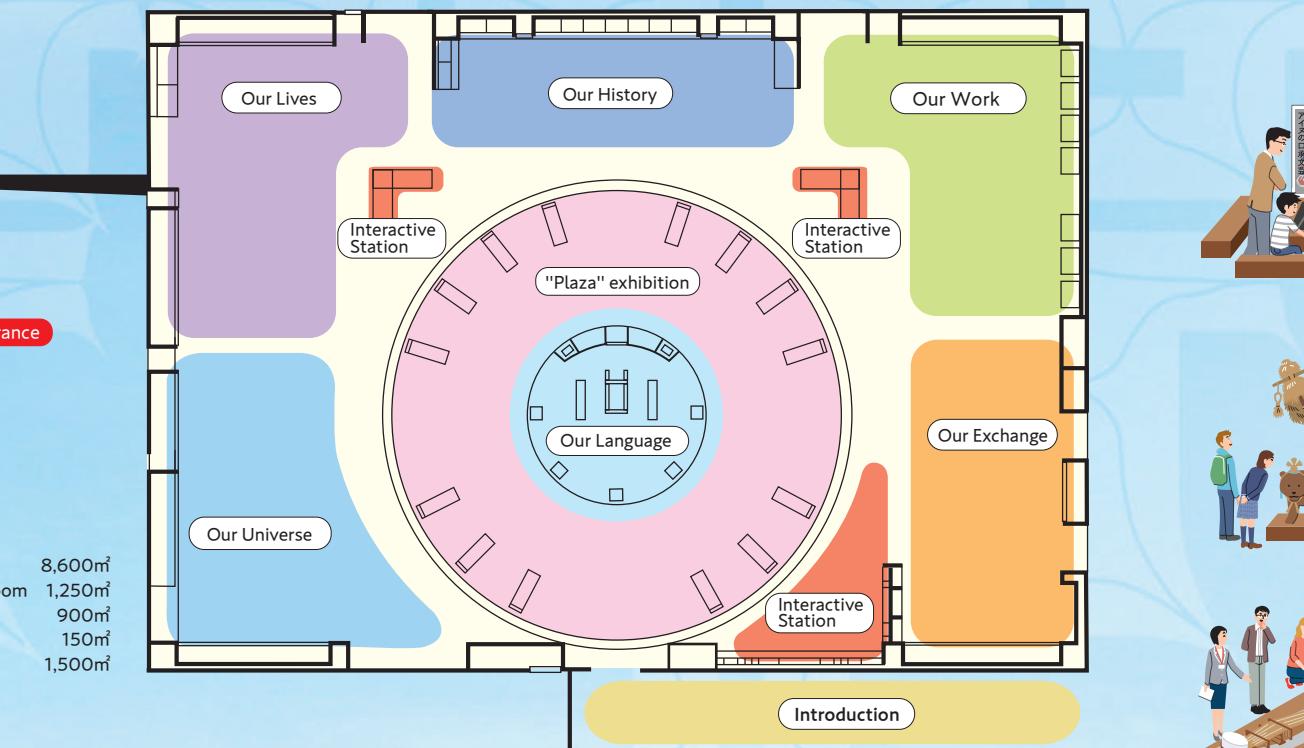


Ainu people are indigenous people who lived mostly on Hokkaido, but also part of the Tohoku region of northern Japan, Sakhalin Island, and the Kuril Islands.

The exhibition of National Ainu Museum consists of six themes. The exhibition introduces the history and culture of Ainu to visitors from home and abroad.

[About the permanent exhibition of National Ainu Museum]

- From the panoramic view lobby beside the Lake Poroto to "Introduction".
- The "plaza" exhibition gives an overview across objects representing six themes.
- The permanent exhibition has the exhibition on the six themes of "language," "universe," "lives," "history," "work" and "exchange," and introduces Ainu culture from various viewpoints
- The Interactive Station "tempatempa" provides visitors with a chance to learn about and deepen their understanding of Ainu culture and history by enjoying and experiencing interacting with kits.
- The contents of the exhibition will be updated by incorporating new research results.



The permanent exhibition has six themes from the Ainu perspective and their titles all begin with "Our..."

■ Our Language
What kind of language is the Ainu language? We introduce the Ainu language through its relation to the Japanese language, place-names derived from the Ainu language, and some other things. The display will also include oral literature of Ainu and the revitalization of the Ainu language, one of the endangered languages.

■ Our History
This section provides an easy-to-understand visual introduction to the history of the Ainu in both time and space, using the "History wall" that incorporates a map and a chronological table.

■ Our Universe
We introduce the way of thinking of *kamuy* ("great beings"), views of nature, views of life and death, etc., that are the core of the Ainu view of the world. You will explore the Ainu worldview through the meaning and tools for rituals such as *iomante* (a festival to send the *kamuy* back to their homes).

■ Our Work
This section highlights traditional Ainu livelihoods, such as hunting, fishing, gathering and farming, and the various occupations. Moreover, this section exhibits how traditional culture has changed and connected up to the present day, through showing livelihoods from the past to the present.

■ Our Lives
We introduce the characteristics of Ainu culture such as food, shelter and clothing, people's lives, music, and dance, and regional diversity among Ainu culture, through various objects and AR technology. We will also introduce the current Ainu people who undertake to hand down the Ainu culture.

■ Our Exchange
Exhibits here, including items obtained from trade, will help visitors retrace the footsteps of Ainu people in their exchanges with surrounding peoples. Exhibits also indicate how the multicultural coexistence that continues today should be in the future.

