



### ***Tumulus construction***

Commonly known as *Mamoa do Madorro*, this *tumulus* construction is unequivocal proof of the Neolithic occupation of this territory during the 5th and 4th millennia BC.

Built as a sacred place, allowing the burial of prominent personalities of a certain Neolithic community, the *mamoa* has a strong relationship with the landscape and visual control of the surrounding lowland.

This artificial mound of earth is circular, has approximately 28 metres in diameter and about 2 metres high, topped by a recess that resulted from excavations by locals trying to collect the archaeological remains deposited within the dolmen.

For Neolithic communities, death was seen as the transformation of the individual into spirit and the creation of a connection to the soil, to fertility and to the growth of new life, which is why bodies were buried in the foetal position inside the dolmen chamber.

To date, this is the largest known *tumulus* in the Póvoa de Lanhoso territory.