

# Near perfectly preserved Roman gladiator school discovered in Austria

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By [aniskhan26](#)

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Austrian archaeological experts have unveiled what one local official is calling a “world sensation” in terms of scientific discovery – the only problem is that it’s trapped underground. The ruins of a gladiator school have been discovered in the ancient Roman city of Carnuntum in Austria, a major military and trade outpost linking the far-flung Roman Empire’s Asian boundaries to its central and northern European lands. The ruins of the school, like much of the city, are trapped underground beneath thousands of years of mud. However, it is due to its subterranean nature that the ruins of the school are so well preserved, rivalling even those of the famous Ludus Magnus – the largest of the gladiatorial training schools in Rome. “(This is) a world sensation, in the true meaning of the word,” said Lower Austrian provincial Governor Erwin Proell.

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The ruins are “unique in the world ... in their completeness and dimension”, Carnuntum archaeological park officials agreed, adding that they dated back to at least the third century. Carnuntum was once a large city in which 50,000 people lived. Thus far, the archaeological park covers just ten square kilometres of the site and just 0.5% has been excavated. It is located 28 miles (45 kilometres) from Vienna, the Austrian capital.

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The gladiator school was found using underground radar and once fully excavated will likely become the main attraction of the park, which is already visited by hundreds of thousands of tourists per year. Wolfgang Neubauer, director of the Ludwig Boltzman Institute, which participated in the discovery, said it will likely be several months before excavation begins, as scientists will need to have extremely precise information in order not to damage the ruins.

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Gladiator schools in Roman times were a mixture of military barracks and prison, where slaves, criminals and other unfortunates were sent for training before facing off against an opponent in deadly odds in one of the Roman Empire’s iconic coliseums. Those who survived could received anything from freedom to superstardom, but most died painful, gruesome deaths for public entertainment.

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aniskhan26 is based in Rāwalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan, and is a Stringer for Allvoices.

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Archaeologists in Austria claim they have discovered the remains of a large well-preserved school for gladiators East of Vienna. The remains were discovered by the employ of radar imagery. The school was part of a Roman City which was an important military and trade outpost 17 centuries ago. Though

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was found by underground radar is provided by the Ludwig Boltzmann institute for archaeology in Carnuntum, Austria, on September 5, 2011. A team of...

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