

# BHM AQUINCUM MUSEUM



Ticket office



Theatre



Toilets

## RECOMMENDED ROUTE

1. Esplanade
2. Exhibitions (Dénes Györgyi exhibition building)
3. House of the Painter
4. Aquincum millstones
5. Symphorus Mithraeum
6. Teglarium
7. Large dwelling house and its mosaic-decorated bath suite
8. Temporary exhibition (Two-pillared hall)
9. Double baths
10. Artisans' quarter
11. Macellum (Market)
12. Tabernae (Shops)
13. Large public baths
14. Forum
15. Old Lapidarium
16. Temporary exhibition (Old museum building)
17. Temporary exhibition (Dirce building)
18. Eastern Lapidarium
19. Southern Lapidarium

Amphitheatre,  
Aquincum HÉV suburban  
railway station (550 m)

34 134 106

Bus stop (250 m)



Kaszásdűlő HÉV suburban railway station (750 m)



## RECOMMENDED ROUTE

The BHM Aquincum Museum and Archaeological Park can be accessed via the **Esplanade 1**. Here, along the Roman main road (present-day Szentendrei Road), colourful stepping stones evoke the feel of ancient street crossings. The benches are decorated with stylised motifs from frescoes and mosaics found in Aquincum. The pavement markings indicate the location of the former town gate. The portraits of the emperors most important for the development of Pannonia are also displayed here. The monumental bronze gate presents the plan of the Aquincum Civil Town, and directly below it, an excavated road section can be seen through the grating. On the pavement of the path alongside the exhibited stone carvings, leading towards the ticket office, a funerary poem from a sarcophagus excavated in Aquincum can be read.

At the permanent exhibition **In the shadow of the Roman eagle – Military life along the Aquincum limes 2**, you can get to know the army defending the limes in Aquincum through the special artefacts, military equipment and weapons on display. As you find yourself in the middle of the **main street of a bustling legionary fortress**, you can look inside an army barrack block, a bathhouse, and even a fresco-decorated shrine, while the sounds of ancient instruments fill the exhibition with life. If you follow the flight of Salvius, the little eagle, along ten stages, from the egg to the grave, you can learn about the daily life and the careers of the soldiers stationed at Aquincum.

In the museum building **2**, on the ground floor, on the right, you will find the Visible Storage, where you can see the **Hercules mosaic**. The nearly 60 000 colourful mosaic pieces form a stirring image. On it we can see the hero Hercules on his honeymoon, which has just taken an ominous turn, as he aims his bow at the centaur attacking his wife.

Upstairs, you pass through the Organ room to the Governor's palace room, where you can see the luxurious objects of the ancient elite. Among the fascinating artefacts in the jewellery display case is a **gilded silver fibula** or brooch, depicting the final moments of a duel between two gladiators.

On the bricks and tiles at the Teglarium **6** you can see the various stamps and marks of the makers. The work of the maker of **curved roof tile no. 116 with the paw prints** must have been made difficult by the dog that left its mark behind when it walked over the raw clay.

When walking between points **10** and **11**, it is worth looking at the stones on the corners of the small streets to the right. On one of the corners, the stone slabs covering the sewer contain a deep rut: this is the **mark left by the wheels of carts** passing by day after day on their way towards the entrance of the Macellum, the meat market.

Between points **11** and **13**, you can find the **100-year-old magnolia tree** of the Archaeological Park, in what was once the shrine of Fortuna Augusta. The name of the goddess Fortuna can still be read on one of the altars at the shrine. In antiquity, those who entered could turn to her, the goddess of fortune, for help.

The Large public bathhouse **13** consists of rooms that open from one another. In the fourth room—counting from the changing room, marked with the figure of a Roman citizen entering the baths—as you go down the stairs, you can find a cross-section of the **Roman underfloor heating system**. You can see the volcanic rock pillars that held the floor. Between them circulated the hot air, mixed with soot, which then escaped to the open air through the hollow bricks that lined the walls.

Walking between points **16** and **9**, your path takes you through the narrowest alley

of the Archaeological Park. Imagine how uncomfortable it must have been to pass through here, when the walls were still standing on both sides. Especially if someone was coming from the other direction...

Sections XXII-XXIII of the Eastern Lapidarium **18** contain several **sarcophagi**. These large stone coffins with lids emulating house roofs, often decorated with carvings and inscriptions, come from the various cemeteries of the Aquincum settlement complex. Some are quite small; these serve as sad evidence of the high mortality of children. The sarcophagi, as the homes of the dead in the afterlife, take the form of a Roman house. Note how similar their shape is to that of the House of the Painter in Aquincum **3**. Do you want to know what road signs looked like in antiquity? Items 5 and 6 of section XIV, and 11, 12, and 13 of section XV are **milestones**, which marked the distance from Aquincum. They were erected as part of the Roman Empire's complex road network.



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## OUR EVENTS

### At the BHM Aquincum Museum:

- Floralia – Roman spring festival
- Night of Museums
- Ludi Olympici – activities for school groups
- Summer camps
- Barbarian Days
- Samhain – Celtic Halloween

### At the Nagyszombat Street amphitheatre:

- AmfiFeszt – When the arena comes back to life

For further details, please visit our website:



## MUSEUM CLASSES IN ENGLISH

- What do the ruins tell us?
- Become a master mosaic maker!
- City life in Aquincum

# BHM AQUINCUM MUSEUM

Guide map



Antiquity is closer than you think!