

## How could we best summarise the history of Roman Savaria?

The exact date of Savaria's foundation is still rather obscure. It was founded by Emperor Claudius in c. 50 A.D., an act



*The town was developing briskly, and although it became to be regarded as the most important town in the province*

also bringing about Pannonia's organisation as a province and the introduction of public administration. Because there are only very few signs of indigenous communities living in this area prior to the Romans, we can regard the foundation of the town, with a current buzzword, as a "greenfield investment". We know very

little about the early days of Roman Savaria. The first settlers are likely to have determined the frontiers, a scene depicted later on a fragmented relief, and they must have selected the venue for the town centre (forum). The wall of the town, a wooden construction, was also erected during the early years of the community. The town was developing briskly, and although it may not have had a high population,



it became to be regarded as the most important town in the province. Savaria was the procuratorial seat of the province, and had a number of churches devoted to the emperors that the locals respected as gods. The earliest buildings must have been made of wood, wattle, cast mortar or daub. Not that the Roman, once settled in Pannonia, forgot how to build houses, but unluckily for them, the new province was not rich in quarries or brickworks to follow Roman building traditions. With time these simple constructions disappeared and were replaced by spacious buildings made of stone and brick with ornamented walls and floor heating; and the wooden ramparts were refortified with stones. The greatest development in the town's life was the implementation of public utilities: an aqueduct was erected from the catchments area up to the town, the streets equipped with a sewage system,



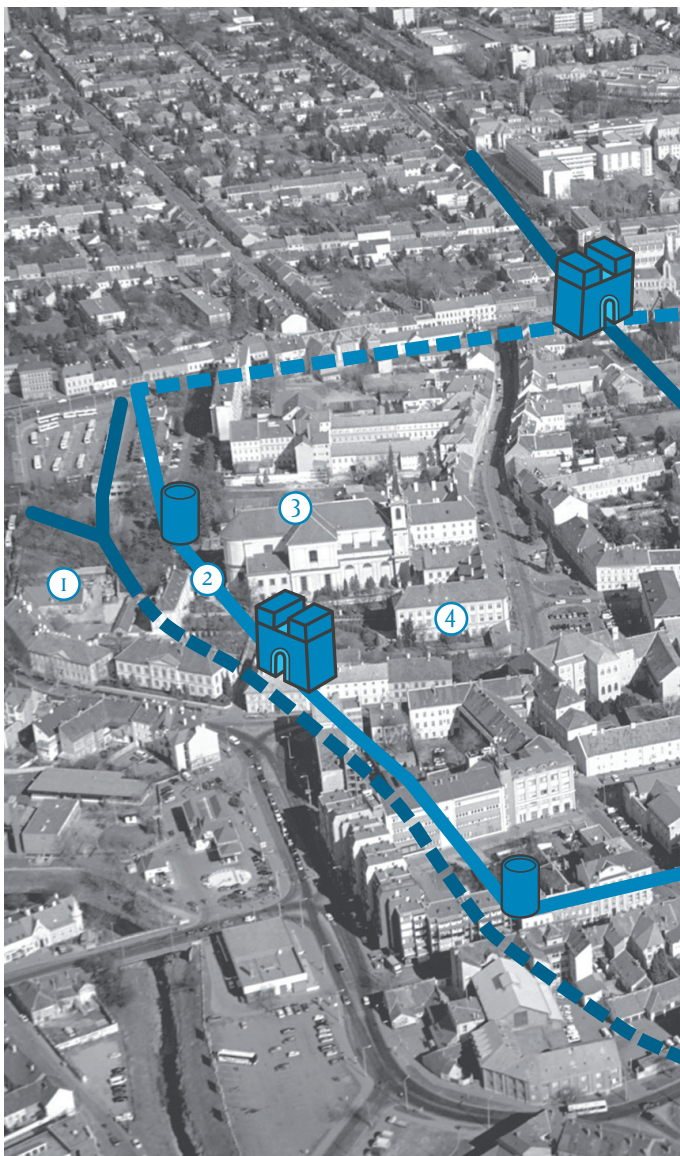
and the roads covered with massive basalt tiles weighing a few hundred pounds each. This relatively peaceful era ended when the war against the German tribes living to the north of the River Danube broke out in 167 A.D. The conflict brought



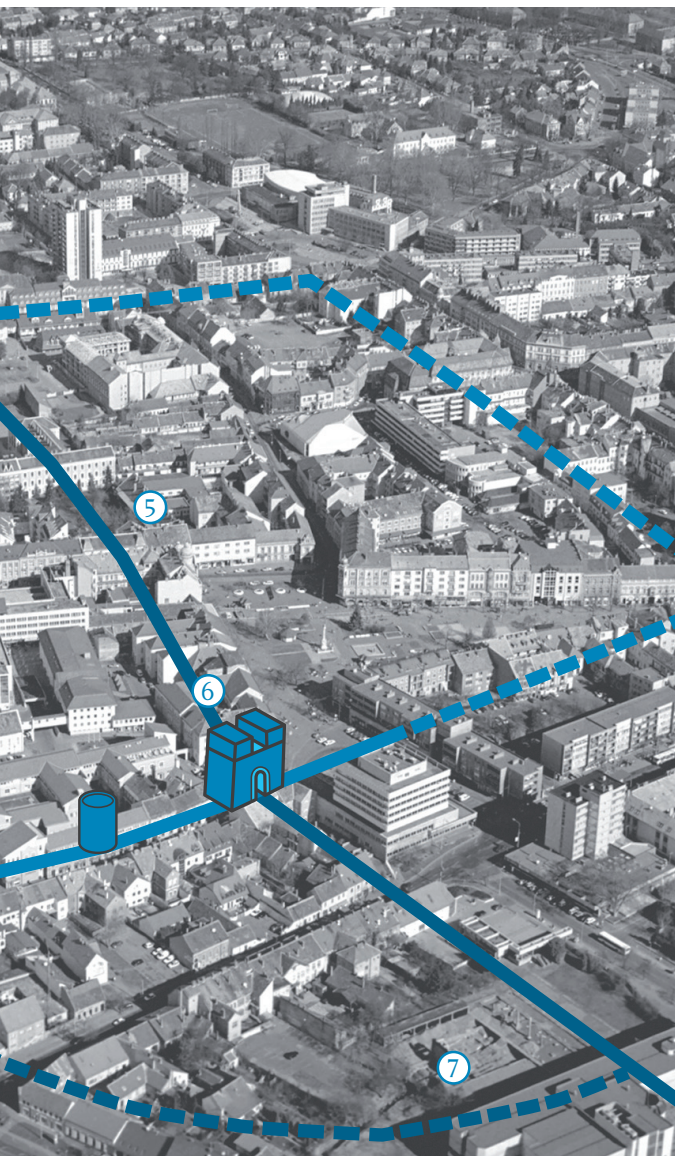


suffering and misery to the entire empire although we have no exact records as to the actual devastation of Savaria. The town was mainly affected by epidemics following the war, the majority of its inhabitants either perished or fled. Following a brief peaceful period, a civil war broke out in 192, and the citizens of Savaria, like those in many other towns in Pannonia, supported Septimius Severus. The century subsequent to the Severuses' reign brought about an urban decline for the province only temporarily restored by Emperor Diocletian's imperial reform at the turn of the 3rd and 4th century. Savaria became the seat of Pannonia Prima, one of the four provinces of divided Pannonia. During the persecution of Christians, here died St Quirinus as a martyr, and a decade later here was born St Martin who became the most popular saint in early mediaeval Europe. During the 4th century, Roman emperors would frequently visit Savaria; Emperor Valentinian spent part of the winter of 374 and 375 in the town. The 5th century saw another major halt in the town's already sluggish development when most of its citizens moved to Italy. Those few who stayed behind, however, did retain their Roman character, because the antique name of the town, Savaria, was continuously used and recognized all throughout the Middle Ages.



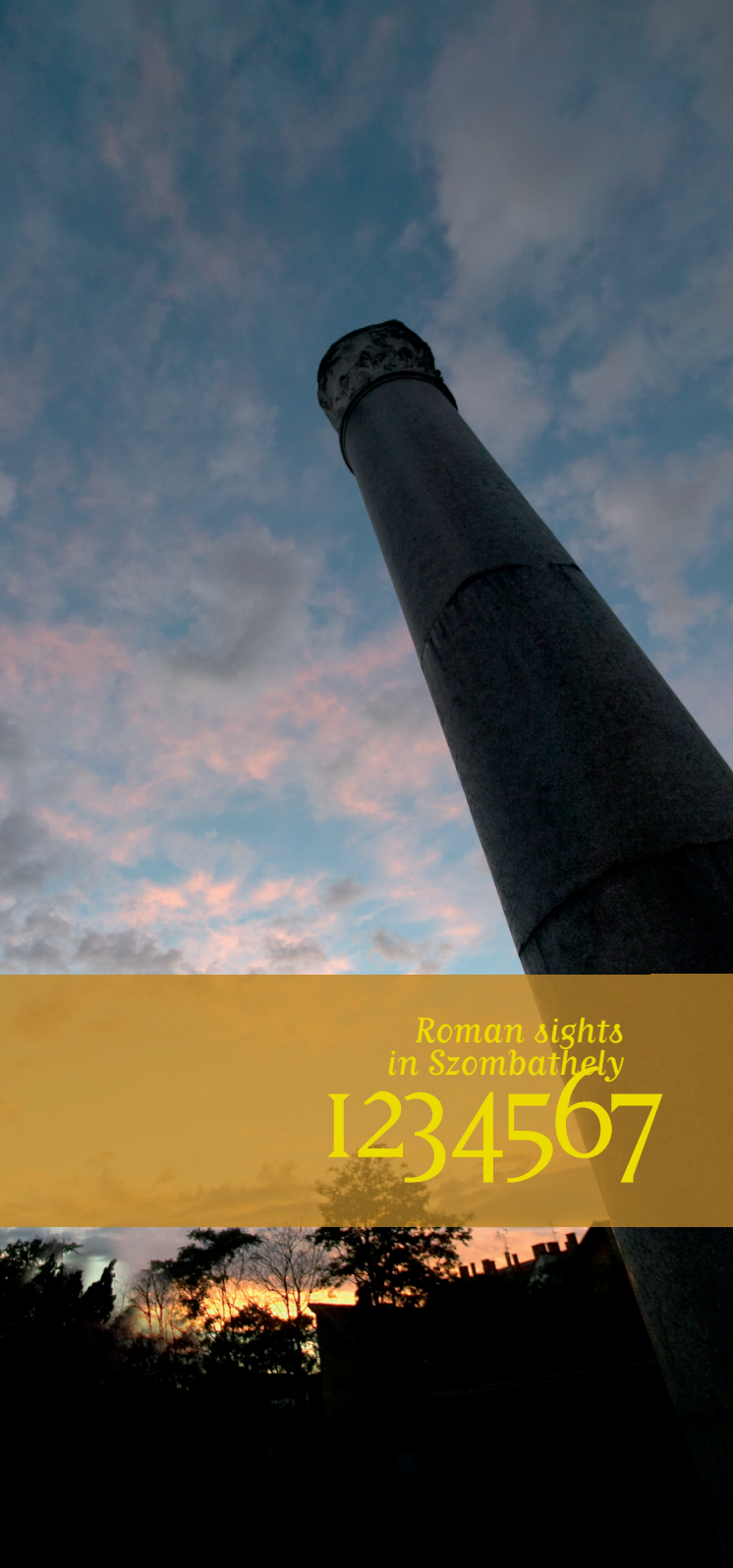


- ① Crossroad, potter workshops
- ② Town wall
- ③ Ruin Garden, Mosaic
- ④ Sala Terrena
- ⑤ Place of the forum
- ⑥ OTP crossroad, drain
- ⑦ Iseum



*The today-know buildup's  
of the old town*





*Roman sights  
in Szombathely*

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## The Temple of Isis

One of Szombathely's most prominent antique edifices is the Temple of Isis. The gigantic temple complex is recognized as the world's third largest Roman Temple of Isis excavated in full or in part to date, surpassed in size only by the basilicas in Alexandria and Rome. Owing to the archaeological field research presently conducted on the site, the Temple complex is now closed to visitors. It is expected to open to the public in the near future as a modern museum displaying the onetime sanctuary and introducing the religious history of Pannonia. Although local archaeologist Szentlélek, Tihamér carried out excavations in the 1950s, even the recent excavations, conducted between 2001 and 2007, cannot be regarded as complete. Nevertheless, this recent research has shed some new light on the temple; the enormous amount of new finds have broadened our knowledge concerning the chronology of its use and have provided valuable information as to the everyday life of the sanctuary and its vicinity. Prior to the building of the temple, this area used to be Roman Savaria's

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### Information:

*The Iseum will be probably open from the spring of 2010*

industrial centre with weaving, pottery-making and bronze-casting as the key activities. The majority of the industrial build-

ings were dismantled during the first third of the 2nd century A.D., and this site was selected to become the holy district dedicated to Egyptian Goddess of Magic, Isis, on an area of 42x70 metres. From the immense cross-shaped portico we



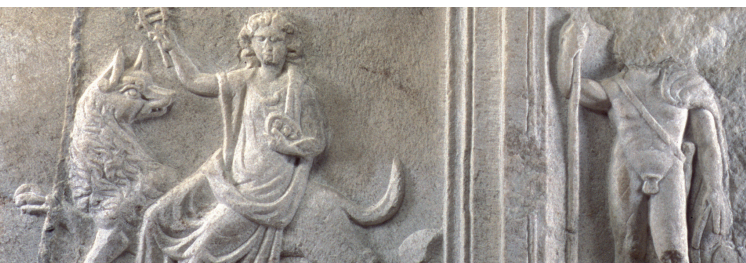
can walk among the still intact monumental granite columns and arrive at a cobbled inner courtyard flanked by pillars at the centre of which there used to stand the Temple of Isis on a tall podium structure. The large main front was decorated by elaborately carved white marble beams and moulds, and by the full-bodied figure of Isis riding on her dog Sothis, and



*Fragmented though they are, the cult sculptures are highly significant*

the figures of Serapis, Mars and Victoria. According to the current plan, the podium church will be reconstructed in its original form, while the buildings enclosing the courtyard will be built out of modern material but implying the original spatial proportions. Of all the finds, unearthed on the site of the Temple of Isis, emphasis should be put on the frontal

reliefs that are unique in Pannonia both in their size and their elaboration. Fragmented though they are, the cult sculptures are highly significant: a small Serapis-head, and the ornately carved torsos of Amor and Psyche that thought to be the two major figures of a Venus group sculpture. The well of the temple also hid important material remains: dishes, jingle bells and cow bells that may have played a key role in the rituals performed here. The temple was dismantled by the Romans themselves in the 350s A.D., and the site of the former pagan sanctuary was turned into a Christian cemetery.





## The Járdányi-Paulovics Ruin Garden

The largest integral part of Roman Savaria, the Ruin Garden, is a key local attraction named after the first researcher of the area, István Járdányi-Paulovics. The former Bishop's Garden located adjacent to the Cathedral was discovered by sheer chance: during the extension works of the Seminary in 1938, large mosaic fragments were unearthed. Realising the beauty of the mosaics greatly exceeding the standard of the Danube region, the constructors suspended the building operations and called for the excavation and restoration of the site. To obtain the necessary financial resources and directing the work itself, vice rector and papal prelate Gyula Géfin deserves credit. There was a national campaign launched to receive contributions to cover the costs of the excavation and restoration, during which even composer Béla

Bartók gave a charity concert.

Following World War II, the work was suspended for a long period of time but the excavation resumed in 1952. The excavation site in the Ruin Garden revealed a large number of residential buildings and numerous public buildings. Archaeologists found and displayed some impressive fragments of basalt-covered Roman streets; the ruins of a small

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*The statue of Mercurius  
(God of Trade and Travel)*



**2. Information: The Járdányi–Paulovics Ruin Garden**  
Szombathely, Mindszenty József tér 1., Tel.: 0036 (94) 313-369

temple erected in honour of Mercurius, God of Trade and Travel; a longer section of the town wall; and the workshops of the potters' borough located outside the town. The most famous and greatest attraction of the Ruin Garden, however, is the already mentioned 4th century mosaic floor, the largest mosaic-covered area known in Pannonia even in its fragmentary state. The decorated flooring was once the greatest gem of the 48-metre-long and 18-metre-wide Governor's Palace. To our greatest misfortune, the majority of the tiles were destroyed when a moat was dug to protect the mediaeval castle built above the Roman ruins. The mosaics decorated with



*At the Y-shaped junction there stands a simple building with a driveway, the function of which can only be guessed on the basis of a unique find unearthed there: a bronze custom stamp*

geometric forms and encircled by acanthus tendrils, similar in style to those preserved in the Old Christian basilicas in Aquila and Grado, still make a large impact on visitors. The two latter ones, however, are a century older and their elaborate decoration cannot be matched with the ones in Savaria. The other frequently visited sight in the Ruin Garden

is the restored section of the basalt-covered crossroads.

Visitors are welcome to saunter on the large basalt tiles that were once walked by Roman citizens' leather sandals. The





*The exhibition area, placed under a building at the far end of this reconstructed road, displays the heritage of Savaria's ceramic craftsmanship*

stone masonry on the left-hand side of the broad street leading to the North might have been the base of a milestone that used to show the distance to the next settlement on the road. At the Y-shaped junction there stands a simple building with a driveway, the function of which can only be guessed on the basis of a unique find unearthed there: a bronze

custom stamp unparalleled anywhere else in the world, which helped researchers identify the tollhouse already mentioned in ancient resources. Behind the building, we can see the only visible section of the protective wall of the Roman town, fortified with a rectangular watch-tower; a construction probably built during the first decades of the 2nd century. The exhibition area, placed under a building at the far end of this reconstructed road, displays the heritage of Savaria's ceramic craftsmanship. The majority of the finds were manufactured here, in the local potters' workshops. The potters of Savaria also prepared copies of dishes from remote regions, and made devotional candles, crustulum forms and small terracotta statuettes. Their exquisite and durable handiwork was sought in the entire province.



### **Sala Terrena — Episcopal Museum and Treasury**

The Roman exhibition, arranged on the ground floor of the Bishop's Palace standing adjacent to the Ruin Garden, will be a unique experience to visitors. The grandiose exhibition room, housed in Bishop János Szily's palace and hailed as the first Hungarian archaeological museum, is ornate with Stephan Dorffmeister's paintings prepared in 1784. The paintings were made on the basis of Roman fragments unearthed from Savaria, and the engravings of an 18th-century Italian master, Piranesi. The displayed reliefs and inscriptions have a superb background: godly figures and allegoric characters of Roman mythology and paintings of some genuine Roman buildings,

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*Today Sala Terrana is open to visitors as part of a permanent exhibition displaying the treasures of the Szombathely Episcopacy*

such as the Arch of Emperor Titus or one of Rome's city gates, Porta Maggiore. The exhibited relics are mentioned, without exception, in Professor István Schönvisner's

book published in 1791 and known as Hungary's first town monograph. The frescoes are fine masterpieces but they are also important sources for archaeologists mostly because the original carvings frequently disappeared or decayed with time.



*3. Information: Sala Terrena Szombathely,  
Mindszenty József tér 1. Tel.: 0036 (94) 312-056*

## Roman street fragment beneath a bank on the Main Square

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*Between 1991 and 1998 before the site was built in, as a result of which a large area of a former Roman residential district was unearthed*

There was a large-scale archaeological excavation launched on a vacant site flanked by Szombathely's Main Square and Hefele Menyhért Street between 1991 and 1998 before the site was built in, as a result of which a large area of a former Roman residential district was unearthed. The finds were moved to the local museum, while the unearthed building gables were partly reburied and partly fell victim to the building operations that followed. A

little restored part of Roman Savaria can be viewed through the floor in the bank building on the western side of Szombathely's Main Square, which was an excellent novel idea

to introduce to the public what the local archaeologists found in the 1990s. Through the glass floor of the bank we can clearly see the old Roman crossroads that also reveal one of the hubs of the town's ancient sewage system. By the road, covered by basalt transported here from Mount Ság, near the town of Celldömölk, there stands a superb Corinthian column carved of limestone looking down at us from its original height. The excavated ruins used to stand on the southern part of Savaria's central area; one of the streets in the exhibition area is the Amber Route, running through the centre of the town, and a 20 Roman feet (c. 6 metres) wide main street joined the route forming a T-shape. Beneath both streets there stretched an arched, man size sewage, a part of Roman Savaria's public utility works.





### **Savaria Museum: the keeper of Roman relics**

One of Hungary's largest and oldest regional museums was established in 1908 but its legal predecessor, the Vas County Archaeological Society, founded in 1872, was the one first exhibiting Roman finds in the Sala Terana of the Bishop's Palace. The history of a Savarian collection of Roman relics, however, goes back to much longer ago: King Matthias' court historian, Pietro Ransano reports of Roman relics collected in Szombathely in as early as the late 15th century. The museum has

been housed in the same building since its foundation, in an edifice with a historic character planned by Győző Czigler. The institution can boast an exceptionally rich Roman collection with a large number of rarities including the golden treasure from Katafa, the jewellery found in Balozsamegyes, and a number of bronze

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*The institution can boast an exceptionally rich Roman collection with a large number of rarities*



*5. Information: Savaria Museum Szombathely,  
Kisfaludy S. u. 9. Tel.: 0036 (94) 500-720*





*The institution can boast an exceptionally rich Roman collection with a large number of rarities*

and marble statuettes. The most valuable items of the collection are on permanent display in the exhibition hall on the first floor and have been taken on travelling exhibitions to Cremona, Heidelberg, Aalen, Constance, Brno, Lyon, Vienna and Graz. Savaria Museum's lapidarium in the basement offers the second richest collection of Roman stones after the one in Aquincum, Budapest.

There are some unique items that deserve special mention such as the tombs of town founder veterans, the fragment of a triumphal monument from the early imperial period, a colossal sculpture depicting the Capitoline Triad, Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, an extraordinary milestone, and the unique altars devoted in honour of the gods of itinerary.



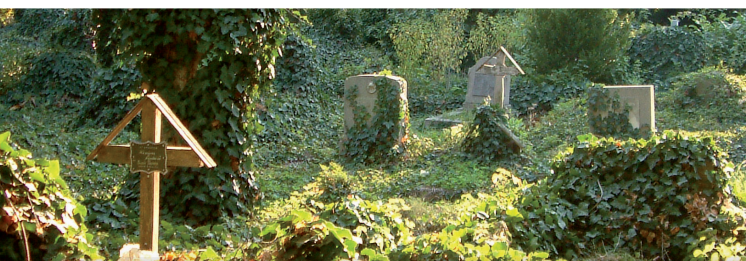
### **St Martin cemetery and Savaria's old Christian relics**

One of Hungary's most ancient cemeteries, also known as one of Eastern and Central Europe's oldest public graveyards is St Martin Cemetery in Szombathely, located by the road running eastward out of Szombathely. The graveyard, situated adjacent to today's St Martin Church, served as the Romans' burial ground from the 1st century onwards. The cemetery also had a large Christian burial place during the 4th century, at the centre of which most probably stood the tomb of Quirinus, Bishop of Siscia, (today Sisak, Croatia) who died as a martyr in Savaria. This site yielded the richest collection of Old Christian tombs partly preserved today in Savaria Museum and partly in the Hungarian National Museum. The cemetery's importance as a burial ground might be due to the fact that the Roman building

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*The graveyard served  
as the Romans' burial ground from  
the 1st century onwards*

standing in the graveyard was  
thought to be the birthplace of St  
Martin, Bishop of Tours.



*6. Information: St Martin cemetery: open at all times;  
Visitor's Centre: Szent Márton Plébánia Szombathely,  
Szent Márton u. 40., Tel.: 0036 (94) 505-570*



The St Martin Visitors' Centre opened recently to the public displays a large number of Roman relics including a finely carved tomb erected for local travelling painters, the epitaphs of siblings that passed away in early childhood or that of a Methuselah-aged sexton from the 5th century. Besides

*Besides the valuable collection of Old Christian stones, there are other finds suggesting that Savaria had numerous followers of Christ over 1500 years ago*

the valuable collection of Old Christian stones, there are other finds suggesting that Savaria had numerous followers of Christ

over 1500 years ago. One find deserves mention in particular; a tiny disc embellished with the initials of Jesus Christ, which must have been used as a pin on a clerical garment. Another valuable relic, a lamp suspender inwrought with bronze may have belonged to a 4th century church or chapel and may have served liturgical purposes.



## Historical Theme Park

Szombathely's most recent tourist attraction, open to the public since 2007, is the Historical Theme Park, created in the Franciscan Garden (Ferencs Kert), on nearly 1 Ha central green area. The park has regularly been used during the

Savaria Carnival as the site for the demonstration of ancient Roman traditions, i.e. the shows performed by legionaries and gladiators. The park also gives home to the international assemblies of those cherishing Roman Traditions every other year. But the garden is an exciting place even when it is not carnival time. Its key attraction is a reconstructed Roman fortress from the 1st century A.D., built by the



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*The park also gives home to the international assemblies of those cherishing Roman Traditions every other year*



7. Information: Carnevaloffice Szombathely,

Aréna u. 8. Tel.: 0036 (94) 510-160

savariakarneval@t-online.hu, [www.savariakarneval.hu](http://www.savariakarneval.hu)



*The Theme Park will also offer an exhibition on Roman weapons and military equipment*

hosts of the events, the members of the Savaria Legion Association. Opposite the fortress gate, there is a colonnade and a pool of a Roman garden surrounded by the recent copies of some of the great inventions of ancient times such as pulleys and cranes. The Theme Park will also offer an exhibition on Roman weapons and military equipment in the building opposite the park, in a

ground floor room of the former Batthyány brewery. (Address: Aréna u. 8). The collection is expected to be expanded by the reconstructions of other instruments such as a water wheel or various mechanic machines, and, according to recent plans, the historical town area will be further expanded: a footpath will lead up to the renovated Temple of Isis.







*Relics and finds in the  
small region of Szombathely*

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### A Roman aqueduct near Bucsú

The Romans supplied water for Savaria from the nearby Kőszeg Hills through a vaulted underground system carefully planned by skilled engineers. The 26-km-long aqueduct, built of stones and brought from Csatár, collected the crystal-clear water from the wells of Velem, Bozsok and Rohonc, and carried it to the Roman colonia. Surprisingly, the trail of the vaulted aqueduct did not follow the shortest path but its builders had taken the topography of the terrain into account and diverted the route to move along the ridge towards Savaria. The aqueduct was constructed to have the capacity not only to cater for the needs of Savaria, then a town of four to six thousand, but also of a larger community. At the far end of the system, near Savaria, there stood an enormous tower, which distributed the water to different communities. This tower was responsible for taking the water first to the public wells, then to the community baths and, only after providing these with the necessary amount of water, did they permit private consumers to use the system. Archaeologists have researched a large number of sections of the Savarian aqueduct, a shorter unearthed and restored part of which can now be

*The aqueduct can still be regarded as the finest public utility ever built in Savaria. To erect such a unique edifice, the excellent architects may have used no less than 25,000-30,000 m<sup>3</sup> of stone*

seen by the main road No. 8721 near Bucsú, in the vicinity of a watchman's house (now a memorial place) once standing by the railway lines leading to Rechnitz.



## Roman relics in Zanat and Sé

In these two nearby villages, nothing seems to remind us of the Romans yet the local excavations have enriched Savaria's archaeology to a great extent. In Sé, on a site near a currently built residential park, archaeologists found a fragmented limb

(a lower leg) that once belonged to a man-size marble statuette of a woman. It is still questionable whether this superb carving was once a gem of a Roman villa, or part of the decoration on a still unearthed building of the Roman aqueduct running below the home park. This section of the aqueduct is the continuation of the one found near Bucsú.



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*The local excavations have enriched Savaria's archaeology to a great extent*



*The villa revealed not only tiny sculptures and personal belongings but also farming tools including iron sickles and vine shears*

The road bypassing Zanat from the west stretches above the farm buildings of a large Roman villa. Each of the buildings found

here are timber framed pile houses, the most significant of which is a low-floored bakehouse with a furnace. The villa revealed not only tiny sculptures and personal belongings but also farming tools including iron sickles and vine shears. Perhaps the most unique find is a bronze foot treading on the head of a bearded barbarian warrior, which once belonged to a hand-sized statuette. Near the villa, two intersecting Roman dirt roads with water channels on both sides were excavated. Extraordinarily, they have preserved the tracks of carts and carriages throughout the centuries. Another interesting site was a family graveyard with nine tombs, which revealed cosmetic equipment, perfume bottles and bronze mirrors.



### Gold coins from Herény and Dozmat

A unique find was discovered in the northern district of Szombathely, in the vicinity of an already known Roman villa. While planting trees in the summer of 1992, two fortunate young men found gold coins (aurei, in Latin) of Roman origin.

After they reported their finding, the museum conducted authorized excavations on the site, which brought further coins to light. The collection of 38 gold coins in total has an interesting history: they had been dug before the monetary reform implemented by Emperor Nero in 64 A.D. He collected and melted his predecessors' coins to

make 45 pieces instead of 42 from one pound of gold. The find consists of gold coins preserved in excellent condition minted by Emperor August, Tiber, Claudius and Nero. The exact reason for the owners hiding their money is still obscure.

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*The coins has an interesting history: they had been dug before the monetary reform implemented by Emperor Nero*





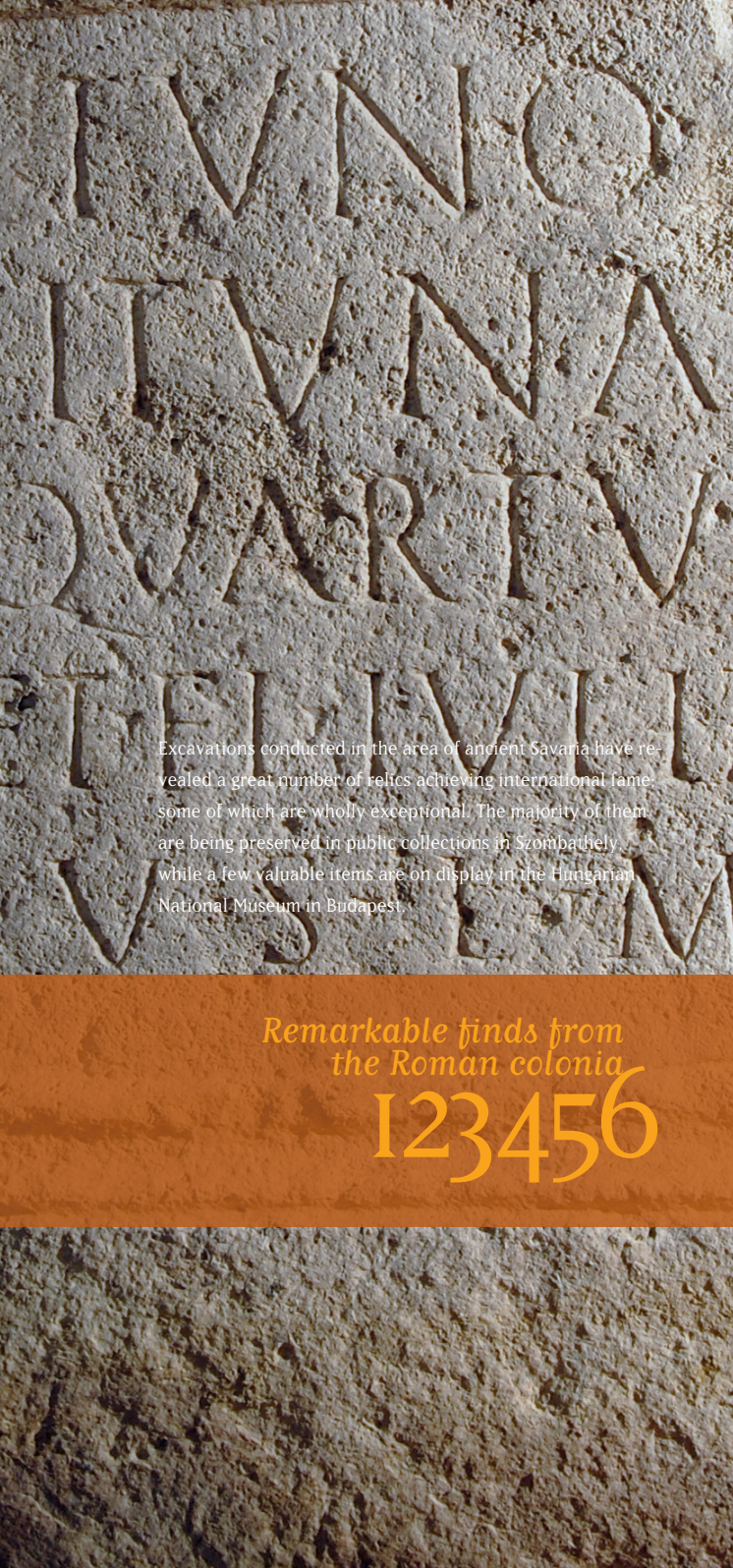
*There was another find of coins  
excavated near Dozmat*

Because there was another find of coins excavated near Dozmat that since has disappeared, it is fair to assume that the reason and the time of their hiding coincide. It is probable that owing to an unexpected event

or an uncertain situation many locals decided to hide their property. However, their owners may have perished as they never returned to collect their valuables. Today, both gold treasures are kept in a safety box in Savaria Museum.





The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of a weathered stone inscription. The text is carved in a bold, serif font, typical of Roman epigraphy. The visible portions of the text include 'IVANO', 'IVANA', 'DVARIV', 'ETELIV', and 'VS'. The stone is light-colored with some darker, recessed areas.

Excavations conducted in the area of ancient Savaria have revealed a great number of relics achieving international fame; some of which are wholly exceptional. The majority of them are being preserved in public collections in Szombathely, while a few valuable items are on display in the Hungarian National Museum in Budapest.

*Remarkable finds from  
the Roman colonia*

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## The torsos of the Capitoline Triad

In the lapidarium of Savaria Museum, visitors are captured by the view of three gigantic marble figures. The monumental sculptures, more than twice the size of a human, undoubtedly depict deities. The figure on the left is easy to identify: she is Minerva, Goddess of Wisdom and Sciences, the Roman equivalent of Pallas Athena. The muscular male body in the middle, judging from its built and posture may belong either to Heracle, or Jupiter, Supreme God of the Romans. The

**I** *The monumental sculptures, more than twice the size of a human, undoubtedly depict deities*

fragments on the right side are more problematic to interpret; we do not even know how they belong together. According to the

interpretation outlined above, the three figures may portray Jupiter, Juno and Minerva. This allegation is based on the fact that pieces, similar in size and shape, have been brought to light in Sopron, Roman Scarbantia, that undoubtedly show the three Supreme deities of the Romans known as the Capitoline Triad. However, in Sopron, the finds were excavated on a single site, from the temple on the Forum, while the venues of the discoveries in Savaria are largely obscure. The current exhibition arranged in Savaria Museum's lapidarium bear a resemblance to the original setting by István Paulovics in 1938 where the figures were traditionally interpreted as the supreme deities of Roman mythology.



### An extraordinary milestone

A seemingly unimportant yet rather significant inscription fragment was found during the excavations conducted under a branch of the National Bank on Szombathely's Main Square in 1998. Research has since confirmed that the stone relic, an 80-cm fragment of a cylinder-shaped milestone, is not merely one of the several hundred milestones from the province but a highly important remnant of the history of Savaria and Pannonia. Unlike other stones indicating the name of the communities next on the itinerary, this milestone showed the distance between Rome and Savaria; it reads "Savaria is 675 miles

from Rome". The distance is 1000 kilometres, exactly the length measured when following Roman routes to the Empire's capital. The milestone, hailed as the oldest in Pannonia, was erected at the southern gate of the town, by the Amber Route, at the time of Savaria's foundation. The stone, which has travelled most of the renowned exhibition rooms of Europe, is undoubtedly the most frequently cited archaeological relic ever found in Savaria.



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*The milestone, hailed as the oldest in Pannonia, was erected at the time of Savaria's foundation*



### Pocket knives with pictures of gladiators

In the freezing cold of February, 2006, Roman tombs were excavated in the courtyard of the local Secondary School of Arts. The researched area turned out to be a part of Savaria's most significant graveyard established during the 1st and 2nd century A.D., and situated along the section of the Amber

Route leading northwards out of Savaria. Fifty tombs were already dug up in as early as 1950 and now 91 other tombs have become available for research. One of the tombs has proved to be especially rich in finds. Near the cremated body, archaeologists found 38 objects including extraordinary ones such as the two iron knives

with a carved bone handle and decorated with pictures of Roman gladiators. According to the inscriptions on their shields, the pictures show two famous gladiators of the age, Pardus and Senilis who gained popularity on the arenas of amphitheatres. A keen supporter of the heroes took their portraits with him into his grave. The items are regarded as precious relics of Pannonian bone carving, as only few such remnants have come to light in the area of the entire Roman Empire.

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*The items are regarded as precious relics of Pannonian bone carving*



### The sculpture of Venus

Under the building of the Vas County Archives, an excavation was conducted in the summer of 1992 when a late Roman layer of ruins revealed a small, 33-cm-tall, finely chiselled marble statuette. Despite being a torso, the sculpture is believed to be Savaria's most beautiful fragment, which



depicts Venus, Goddess of Love and Beauty, emerging from her bath. The item, made by a skilled Italian sculptor of the 2nd and 3rd century A.D., followed the Hellenistic traditions. The carver master used exceptionally fine marble for his work, most likely originating from the island of Paros. The Venus, known as Savaria's most magnificent depiction, may have been kept in a tabernacle in the house of an affluent Savarian citizen.

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*The Venus, known as  
Savaria's most magnificent depiction*



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*The figure was believed to be the young Bacchus, but more recently it is taken as the Autumnus*



### **An ivory sculpture found in Savaria**

In 1877, archaeologists were surprised by a valuable find when excavating the site of today's Hotel Pannonia: an ivory sculpture depicting a young boy holding a fruit basket was unearthed. The find was a genuine scarcity, as so large and such finely carved ivory

relics were unprecedented in the whole of the former Empire. Earlier, the 40-cm tall figure was believed to be the young Bacchus, but more recently it is taken as the Autumnus, the impersonator of Autumn. The sculpture, made in the 2nd or 3rd century A.D. is preserved in the Hungarian National Museum.





## 6

**Altars devoted to the Gods of Itineraries**

In 1992, a site was excavated on the corner of today's Kossuth Lajos and Hefele Menyhért Street. During the works, two altar-stones were discovered hidden in the earthworks of

Savaria's southern town wall.

Unfortunately, both stones were found injured because they had been damaged during the digging of a canal shaft. The inscriptions, however, astonished the experts since the names of the three quoted Gods had been unknown to historians studying ancient religion. The inscriptions mention the male and female Gods of Travel, Itunus and Ituna respectively, quoted together as

Dii Itinerary (Gods of Itinerary). The stone relics, hidden with a bronze hand-bell, were presumably kept in a Roman sanctuary standing by the Amber Route.



*During the works, two altar-stones were discovered hidden in the earthworks of Savaria's southern town wall*

