

PRESSE RELEASE

Roman Festival Carnuntum 2016

Petronell-Carnuntum, 1 June 2016 – **The first festival weekend with over 5.000 visitors and 200 reenactors at the Roman City Carnuntum made a big splash among guests and media alike. Meanwhile, gladiators, legionaries, artisans, tradesmen and barbarians prepare to conjure up ancient Roman times again on 4, 5, 11 and 12 June. Spectacular gladiator fights and the play „Carnuntum and the Roman Emperors“ (in German language) are among the audience’s favourites.**

Evolution of a new event format

In 1997, Carnuntum staged its very first Roman Festival: legionaries, artisans and merchants created a vivid atmosphere of ancient Rome. Seven years later, the event was complemented by a Gladiator Festival which was to become equally popular. Upon completion of the reconstructed Roman City Quarter in 2011, the necessity of reconceptualizing the festival presentation and dramaturgy arose.

On occasion of its 20-year anniversary as a cultural institution, the Roman City Carnuntum planned an opulent Roman Festival incorporating all three major venues simultaneously: the Roman City Quarter, the Military City’s Amphitheatre and the Museum Carnuntinum in Bad Deutsch-Altenburg. A variety of carefully studied reenactments revive Roman history. Visitors can explore civil and military life, experimental handicraft, gladiator fights, fierce barbarian tribes, Roman delicacies, a delightful children’s program and much more. „The purpose is to make the ancient city of Carnuntum palpable in its entirety“, says CEO Markus Wachter. „A large number of programme items offer visitors a new perspective on Roman everyday and professional life.“

Two main attractions not to be missed are the arena fights carried out by the Familia Gladiatoria Carnuntina at the military Amphitheatre and an elaborately staged play performed at the Roman City Quarter: “Carnuntum and the Emperors of Rome” recounts the glorious past of ancient Carnuntum when it was as hub for trade and capital of the Province of Upper Pannonia often visited by Roman Emperors. On Saturday evenings Roman female dancers and ancient Roman music beguile visitors in the picturesque garden of the Museum Carnuntinum followed by classics of Roman period films.

Fees	Day ticket	Weekend end pass
Adults	€ 22	€ 36
Reduced	€ 18	€ 30
Children 11-14 years	€ 12	€ 18
Children under 11 years	free admission	free admission
Pupils in classes	€ 8	€ 14
Roman dances and open air cinema (in German language; only Saturdays)	€ 5	/
Roman Delicacies (Fridays)	€ 95 (adults); € 76 (children)	/

Getting there

Carnuntum is situated 45km from Vienna, 25 km from Bratislava, 90 km from Győr and 210 km from Budapest. From Vienna, the Roman City can be reached by public transport via the regional train S 7 or in 45 min. with the HOP ON HOP OFF-Bus departing directly from the city centre.

Roman City Carnuntum: The past begins here.

In Carnuntum, the time of the Romans does not lie in the long-ago past, which can be seen only by a few remains of walls, but it is the present which can be experienced with all one's senses. Visitors can saunter in the footsteps of Roman emperors who wrote world history 1700 years ago.

Public baths heated all year round entice guests in the reconstructed Roman city quarter, while the amphitheatre and gladiator school take them back to the world of gladiators. In the Museum Carnuntinum, timeless treasures are witness to the former inhabitants' zest for life and culture.

In 2014, the European Commission honoured Carnuntum's importance and its unique presentation by awarding the European Heritage Label.

Further information: www.carnuntum.at/en/whats-on-in-carnuntum/5-roemerfestival?set_language=en

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