



THE ROMAN FORUM OF VALERIA

July 15 - August 3



- Location: Valeria, Cuenca, España
- Period: Roman
- Duration: Three weeks
- Accommodation: double room
- Program: Excavation of a Roman city
Classifying and processing artifacts
Seminars on roman Spain
Roman architecture
Excursions:
Cuenca/Segobriga/Toledo

Valeria was an important Roman city founded on the land conquered to the Celtiberians by Valerius Flaccus. Its impressive ruins are located at a spectacular site near the modern town of Valeria (Cuenca, center of Spain). The city was planned and constructed on a narrow plateau very well defended between two streams with high cliffs.

Valeria's splendor spans from the time of Augustus to the Flavians. It was during their time when an ambitious building program was designed to give monumentality to the heart of the city. The Forum, the administrative, political and religious center, was formed by a large arcaded square surrounded by the main public buildings. It was well paved and this pavement was covering 4 large cisterns. The height of the Forum over the surrounding area, allows the layout of cryptoporticus to extend its surface to the West. This is where the investigations are currently taking place.





LATII VETERIS OPPIDUM



Excursions

Day trip excursion to Toledo (World Heritage City). Its historic quarter still preserves its original medieval layout, making it a fascinating place to visit. We will visit Segobriga, one of the best preserved Roman cities in the western Roman Empire, with public baths, theater, amphitheater and forum. Half day trip to the World Heritage City of Cuenca and its archaeological museum where objects from the Valeria excavations are located.

In 2024 we will continue excavating the western cryptoportico of the Valeria Forum. In this place important archaeological elements have been discovered in previous years: bases of columns, capitals, pedestals of statues with inscriptions, as well as a fragment of a bronze torch attributed to the goddess Ceres and a small figurine of Anadyomene Venus. Apart from these findings, the objective of the excavation is to discover the lower levels of the cryptoportico, where we hope to find elements that will help us understand its use and the causes and dates of its abandonment.



Daily Schedule

6:30 am Breakfast

7:00am-2:00pm Excavation with a snack break

2:30pm Lunch

3-6pm siesta and free time

6-8pm Laboratory/Lectures/Afternoon excursions

8:00pm Dinner



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