



ZORITA CASTLE

OSTEOLOGY PROGRAM

1st Session July 7-21/ 2nd Session 21 July-3 August



- Location: Zorita de los Canes, Guadalajara Spain.
- Period: Late Medieval.
- Duration: 2 weeks.
- Accommodation: Hotel double-triple room.
- Program:
 - First week: Excavation in the cemetery of a Medieval castle of the Calatrava Military Order
 - Second week: Osteology Lab workshops: human skeleton, anthropometry
 - Determination of age of death, size and sex.
 - Paleopathologies



An intensive program dedicated to the study of the human remains of the castle cemetery is starting in 2024. This is a two weeks program, divided in two parts :

1. The excavation of the graveyard:

During the first week the team will continue the excavations at Zorita castle, to fully understand the process of the excavation of a burrial and the importance of the information taken during the excavation process.

The complexity of this graveyard makes of Zorita Castle the perfect site to start or to gain experience with the archaeology of the death. Once the grave has been located, the strategy for its excavation will be determined, in order to obtain all the information from the bones and their position, at the same time, the alterations that the extraction process could cause to the human remains are minimized.

The most delicate moment when excavating a grave is the extraction of the skeleton. Care must be taken not to cause damage to the bones and they should be classified for easy identification in the laboratory, packing and labelling them appropriately. The transportation of the human remains from

2. The study of the bones:

The second week will be dedicated to the study of the human remains discovered at Zorita Castle. After packaging, the bones will be transported to the laboratory where the inventory of each skeleton will be carried out as well as the registration forms for each tomb.

For the photographic record of the human remains the reconstruction of the skeleton will be necessary. This process will allow to obtain a first evaluation of the body. Later, the bones will be studied in detail and marks and pathologies will be analyzed.





ZORITA CASTLE OSTEOLOGY PROGRAM

Dr. Dionisio Urbina

A professional archaeologist since 1990 Dr. Urbina has directed over fifty archaeological excavations, has published several articles and divulgative books. He has taught numerous courses, conducted exhibitions, lectures and seminars. Currently runs Archaeospain, directing the investigations at the sites of Zorita Castle and Roman Pulpon.



Víctor Barrera.

Graduate in History and Archaeology from the Complutense University of Madrid and Master in Physical Anthropology: Human Evolution and Biodiversity by the Complutense University of Madrid, the University of Alcalá de Henares and the Autonomous University of Madrid. Specialist in Archaeology and Forensic Anthropology by the Institute of Professional Training in Forensic Sciences of Madrid.

Excursions

Toledo World Inheritance Town
Visigothic site of Recopolis

Daily Schedule

6,30h	Breakfast
07-13,30h	Excavation/lab
10,30-11,00h	Snack break
13,30-14,30h	Free time
14,30h	Lunch
15,30h	"Siesta"
18,00-20,00h	Lectures

Workshop on osteology

Introduction to osteology: the human skeleton

Anthropometry.

Systematic

measurements of

standard parameters

Determination of size and sex

Determination of age of death

Health of the population:

degenerative diseases,

deficiency diseases,

infectious diseases,

traumatic pathologies.

History Lectures

Zorita castle History

The Calatrava Military



ArchaeoSpain

International Archaeology Programs

41 Crossroads Plaza, Suite 133, West Hartford, CT 06117 USA

Tel: +1 (860) 881 2227 Spain: +34 687754256

<http://www.archaeospain.com> - programs@archaeospain.com

