



OUTPUT T2.3

Learning Interaction (P07)

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Topic

Living History means getting closer to the spirit and atmosphere of different historical periods, through the reconstruction of architectural spaces, by using ancient techniques and technologies, simulating historical events or thematic festivals.

Living History represents for the *Living Danube Limes* project, beyond a transnational touristic strategy for a new cultural route, also an important educational tool.

The built space, the landscape and the territory become important elements for authenticity of the historical atmosphere, enabling the discovery of the ancient Roman frontier. Travelling into the territory develops into a historical authentic experiment.

1. Objective/s

The territory, especially in Romania, offers a unique source of authenticity, as it preserves the original features. Using the original landscape as stage and scenography would enhance the value of a living history event.

The objectives develop on two main directions. First, the public could feel and experiment and live the harsh environment of ancient times, while following the footsteps of Romans into the wild territory surrounding archaeological sites. Second, the public could receive a complete image of the past through *living history* re-enactment events.

For a complete overview of the past, the public needs also to gain knowledge and historical information, beyond the physical direct experimentation. In this direction, the *living history* events are supported in parallel by thematic exhibitions, guided tours and virtual reconstructions.

2. Target Groups

The complexity of historical comprehension needs the support of both scientific and academic knowledge and elements of *living history*, easy to be transmitted to the large public. The target groups would range from the general public, to professionals in the field of archaeology, history, architecture, anthropology, etc.

As educational tool, the event should also be designed for the specific target group, children and schools. Children should be able to directly interact with ancient crafts, weapons, fight techniques, tools, etc.

Therefore we propose a combination of events, from live re-enactment scenes and direct contact with reconstructed ancient elements such as the Roman boat, to scientific exhibitions dedicated to the comprehension of history and contextualisation, professional guided tours and hi-tech 3D virtual reconstruction.

3. General Schedule

Following the objectives and the target groups, the general schedule should include a territorial visit of archaeological sites, but also of the surroundings, by reconstituting walks, paths and circuits. Guided tours should introduce both the general public and the professionals, into the authentic historical atmosphere with the support of historical data.

Other events, like exhibitions or conferences should follow after the territorial visit in order to build and structure the knowledge transfer.

In the end, *living history* events, such as re-enactment scenes including direct participation into certain activities, could become a final act to the complex types of experiments that the public already had accumulated, into a unique and authentic image of the ancient Roman times.

4. Implementation Approach

One implementation proposal is based on gathering the experience from all previous events that had focused on the archaeological pilot site of Sacidava during the *Living Danube Limes* Project and all connected events.

As the main event is the *living history* experience – re-enactment –, all other events should support and enhance the visibility and comprehension of the historical authenticity. Therefore the strategy of events presentation should be based on a cumulative information phase with the final goal of the *living history* event. At the moment of the re-enactment phase, the public should already have certain knowledge of historical information in order to enjoy and understand the scenes.

The entire implementation approach should also focus on the educational goal, therefore special activities for children should be organized.

5. Learning Approach

5.1. Knowledge gained

The learning approach is based on one hand on the traditional method: exhibition containing historical data, pictures, drawings, artefacts as support for contextualisation; guided tours, providing also historical data and precise information of the context.

As part of the Roman Danube Limes, the archaeological site or related events can only be understood in connection with the entire Limes, with the major historical events that had influenced its evolution and in connection with other major historical events that might be unknown to the large public.

Beyond the large public interest on discovering history, a presentation/exhibition focusing on very specific topics (Eg: the exhibition on the *Romanian Danube Limes* in the

Museum of Rasova, produce during the Living Danube Limes Project) could be an opportunity for a research basis dedicated to professionals in the field of archaeology and history.

One of the most important knowledge gained during the events could be the concentration and organisation of all existing information, into a unique comprehensive output, valuable both for the large public and for specialized visitors.

5.2. Knowledge transferred

Personal experience is one of the most important tools of transferring knowledge. Beyond scientific information, in the specific case of the Danube Limes in Romania, the direct contact with the territory, in its authentic and original version, is one of the most powerful methods of transferring the knowledge.

The ancient frontier was a defensive structure, therefore visibility and protection were the keys in selecting a site and developing military buildings. The direct experience in contact with the archaeological site and the surrounding territories would explain many historical, architectural and strategic features. Battlefields, elements of protection such as walls, ditches, harsh environments or weather conditions could be only understood through personal experience.

Traditional art crafts, fighting methods, weapons, armours are historical elements that could be transmitted to the public through direct contact. All these elements represent a very valuable tool for knowledge transferring.

6. Case Study: Living History Event

6.1. Contribution to Project Objectives:

The results of the events were aimed, first of all, to enhance the visibility of the Connecting Cruise and almost unknown pilot site of Sacidava, with the small Museum of Rasova, that was created and organized during the *Living Danube Limes* Project.

With the occasion of the *living history* event, the exhibition *The Danube Limes in Romania* created during the LDL Project for the *Roman Danube Limes Days*, was inaugurated and promoted with this occasion in the Museum of Rasova and it will become part of the permanent exhibition.

The virtual reality 3D reconstruction, the hologram & the QR codes of the LDL Application on Sacidava were also an important part of the events, being revealed and promoted to the public.

6.2. Recapitulation of Organisers

With the occasion of the *Danuvina Alacris* arrival on the Romanian shores and at the pilot site of Sacidava and the following stops, a series of events were organised in order to mark the end of the Connecting Cruise and to enhance the visibility of the Danube Limes.

(15.10.2022) A guided tour, held by the archaeologist Adriana Panaite, to *Trajan's Wall*, was organised on the first day, in the morning. A long walk in the very particular and original landscape of Dobrogea marked the beginning of the *Connecting Cruise* activities and the contact with the atmosphere of the preserved territory.

After a short coffee brake, the exhibition *The Danube Limes in Romania* (created by UAUIM & INCDT) was inaugurated. In the centre of the exhibition the 3D hologram, as result of the LDL Workshop (*Enhancing the Visibility & Physical Reconstruction on Archaeological Sites* Workshop from Mai 2022) was presented to the public.

Following to the *vernissage* of the exhibition, all participants took a short walk on the Danube's shores to the Danuvina Alacris docking place. The members of the *Cultural Association Tomis* prepared a short reenactement moment (LEG -XI - CLAVDIA), including weapons, fight and armour presentation and a small market. All participants had the opportunity to visit the boat and to row for a short distance. The event ended with a feast.

(16.10.2022) The following day, school children & teacher together with the Major of Rasova participated to a presentation held by Rodica Trifănescu (INCDT) about the *Living Danube Limes*, the *Connecting Cruise* and were welcomed on the board of *Danuvina Alacris*.

(17.10.2022) The *Connecting Cruise* continued to the city of Cernavodă, with a city tour.

(18.10.2022) The next stop was at at Roman archaeological site of Capidava, where a guided tour was organised with the ASP National Museum of History and Archaeology, Constanța, by the archaeologist Tiberiu Potârniche.

The City of Hârșova, welcomed in the end of the *Connecting Cruise*, the sailing team, with the Romanian traditional bread and salt, including festive elements of local traditions: music and children with traditional costumes. The Vice-mayor of Hârșova, Mrs. Dumitra Stan held a welcome speech.



The visit of Hârșova continued with a guided tour of the Roman archaeological site of Carsium, guided by Rodica Trifănescu, based on the supporting material of the archaeologist Adriana Panaite.

6.3. Annex A: Event Report of Respective Living Danube Limes Event


6.4. Annex B: Supporting Material (e.g, photos, etc.)


LIVING DANUBE LIMES


Oct. 13	Izvoarele	<h2 style="color: #0070C0;">Danuvina Alacris</h2> <p style="color: #0070C0;">Mooring Points on the territory of Romania</p>
Oct. 14-15	Rasova	
Oct. 16	Cernavodă	
Oct. 17	Capidava	
Oct. 18	Hârșova	

Partners


National Institute for
Research and Development
in Tourism


University of Architecture
and Urbanism "Ion Mincu"


Danube Transnational Programme
Living Danube Limes

Poster of the *Connecting Cruise* in Rmania

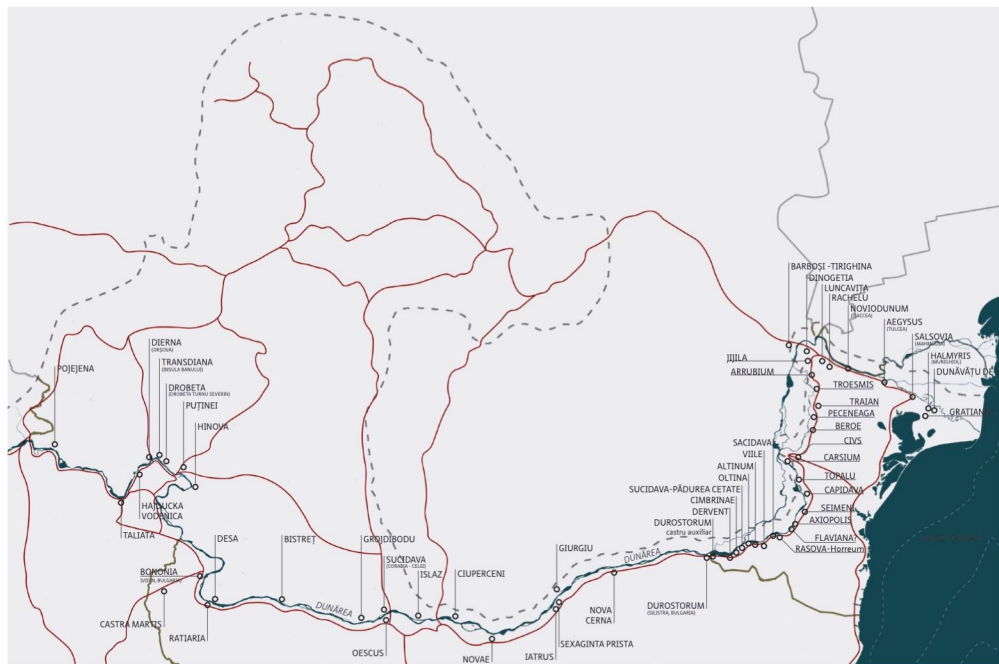
LIMESUL DUNĂREAN ÎN ROMÂNIA

THE DANUBE LIMES IN ROMANIA

EXPOZIȚIE

MUZEUL RASOVA

VERNISAJ
15.10.2022



UNIVERSITATEA DE ARHITECTURĂ ȘI URBANISM ION MINCU
&
INSTITUTUL NAȚIONAL DE CERCETARE ȘI DEZVOLTARE ÎN TURISM



Poster of the Exhibition: *The Danube Limes in Romania*, Museum of Rasova

Agenda

The Connecting Cruise / Living History Event/

Exhibition: The Danube Limes in Romania

Rasova/Cernavodă/Capidava/Hârșova

15-18.10.2022

15.18.2022 **Rasova**

10:00 Vizita ghidată la Valul lui Traian, cu arheolog Adriana Panaite

Guided tour at Trajan's Wall with the archaeologist Adriana Panaite

11:30 Pauza de cafea - *Coffee brake*

12:00 Vernisajul expoziției: "Limesul Dunărean în România", la Muzeul din Rasova

Vernissage of the exhibition: "The Danube Limes in Romania", in the Museum of Rasova

13:30 Vizita la galera Danuvina Alacris și o scurtă navigare pe Dunăre

Visit of the Danuvina Alacris boat and a short sailing on the Danube

14:00 Eveniment de *Living History*: Asociația Culturală Tomis Constanța prezintă:

Living History Event – The Cultural Association Tomis Constanta presents:

LEGIO - XI - CLAVDIA

- Mic târg de artefacte - *small artifact market*
- Prezentarea echipamentului și a armelor - *weapon and armour presentation*
- Scene de luptă și defilare - *Fighting and parade re-enactement*

16:00 Festin / *Feast*

16.10.2022 **Rasova**

10:00 Prezentare și vizită a galerei Danuvina Alacris realizată de Rodica Trifănescu (INCDT), în prezența primarului din Rasova, Dl. Neamțu Mihalache, pentru elevii școlii generale din Rasova

Danuvina Alacris boat presentation by Rodica Trifănescu (INCDT), with the presence of the mayor of Rasova, Neamțu Mihalache, for the elementary school children from Rasova

17.10.2022 **Cernavodă**

10:00 Vizita centului orașului Cernavodă – *Visit of the Cernavodă city center*

18.10.2022 **Capidava**

10:00 Vizita ghidată a sitului arheologic Capidava cu arheolog Tiberiu Potârniche (MINAC)

Guided tour of the archaeological site of Capidava with the archaeologist Tiberiu Potârniche (MINAC)

13:00 Primire tradițională cu pâine și sare a echipajului galerei Danuvina Alacris, în prezența vice-primar Dna. Stan Dumitra, a copiilor de la școala primară și muzică tradițională

Traditional welcome with bread and salt of the Danuvina Alacris rowers, by the vice-mayor of Hârșova, Mr. Stan Dumitra, primary school children and traditional music

15:00 Vizita ghidată a sitului arheologic de la Carsium, cu o prezentare de Rodica Trifănescu (INCDT) cu sprijinul arheolog Adriana Panaite

Guided tour to the Roman archaeological site of Carsium, with a presentation from Rodica Trifănescu (INCDT) with the support of the archaeologist Adriana Panaite

19:00 Cina festivă finală – *Ending Feast*

Pictures of the event:



Evening landscape in Rasova, © Adrian Rădulescu



Arrival of *Danuvina Alacris* in Rasova, © Adrian Rădulescu



Descending from the boat in Rasova, © Adrian Rădulescu



Early morning in Rasova, © Adrian Rădulescu



Guided tour to *Trajan's Wall* with archaeologist Adriana Panaite © Adrian Rădulescu



Guided tour to *Trajan's Wall* with archaeologist Adriana Panaite © Adrian Rădulescu



Exhibition: *The Danube Limes in Romania*, Museum of Rasova © Ana-Maria Machedon



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Exhibition: *The Danube Limes in Romania*, Museum of Rasova © Ana-Maria Machedon



Exhibition: *The Danube Limes in Romania*, Museum of Rasova © Ana-Maria Machedon



Exhibition: *The Danube Limes in Romania*, Museum of Rasova, Hologram of Sacidava © Ana-Maria Machedon



Short sailing trip on board of *Danuvina Alacris* © Ana-Maria Machedon



Re-enactment stage along Danube © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene on board of *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene on board of *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene on board of *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene © Adrian Rădulescu



Learning fighting techniques © Adrian Rădulescu



Small artifact market © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene © Adrian Rădulescu



Re-enactment scene on board of *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



Armour and weapon presentation © Adrian Rădulescu



Presentation of the *Centurion* © Adrian Rădulescu



Fighting techniques presentation © Adrian Rădulescu



Fighting techniques presentation © Adrian Rădulescu



Fighting scene © Adrian Rădulescu



Fighting scene © Adrian Rădulescu



Feast in front of the Museum in Rasova © Adrian Rădulescu



Feast in front of the Museum in Rasova © Adrian Rădulescu



Presentation of *Danuvina Alacris* in front of school children and the Mayor of Rasova © Adrian Rădulescu



Presentation of *Danuvina Alacris* in front of school children and the Mayor of Rasova © Adrian Rădulescu



Presentation of *Danuvina Alacris* in front of school children and the Mayor of Rasova © Adrian Rădulescu



School children from Rasova visiting *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



School children from Rasova visiting *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



School children from Rasova visiting *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



School children from Rasova visiting *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



School children from Rasova and the Mayor visiting *Danuvina Alacris* © Adrian Rădulescu



Guided tour in *Capidava* with the archaeologist Tiberiu Potârniche © Adrian Rădulescu



Guided tour in *Capidava* with the archaeologist Tiberiu Potârniche © Adrian Rădulescu



Danuvina Alacris in front of the archaeological site of Capidava © Adrian Rădulescu



Guided tour in Capidava with the archaeologist Tiberiu Potârniche © Adrian Rădulescu



Traditional welcome festivities with bread and salt in Hârșova © Adrian Rădulescu



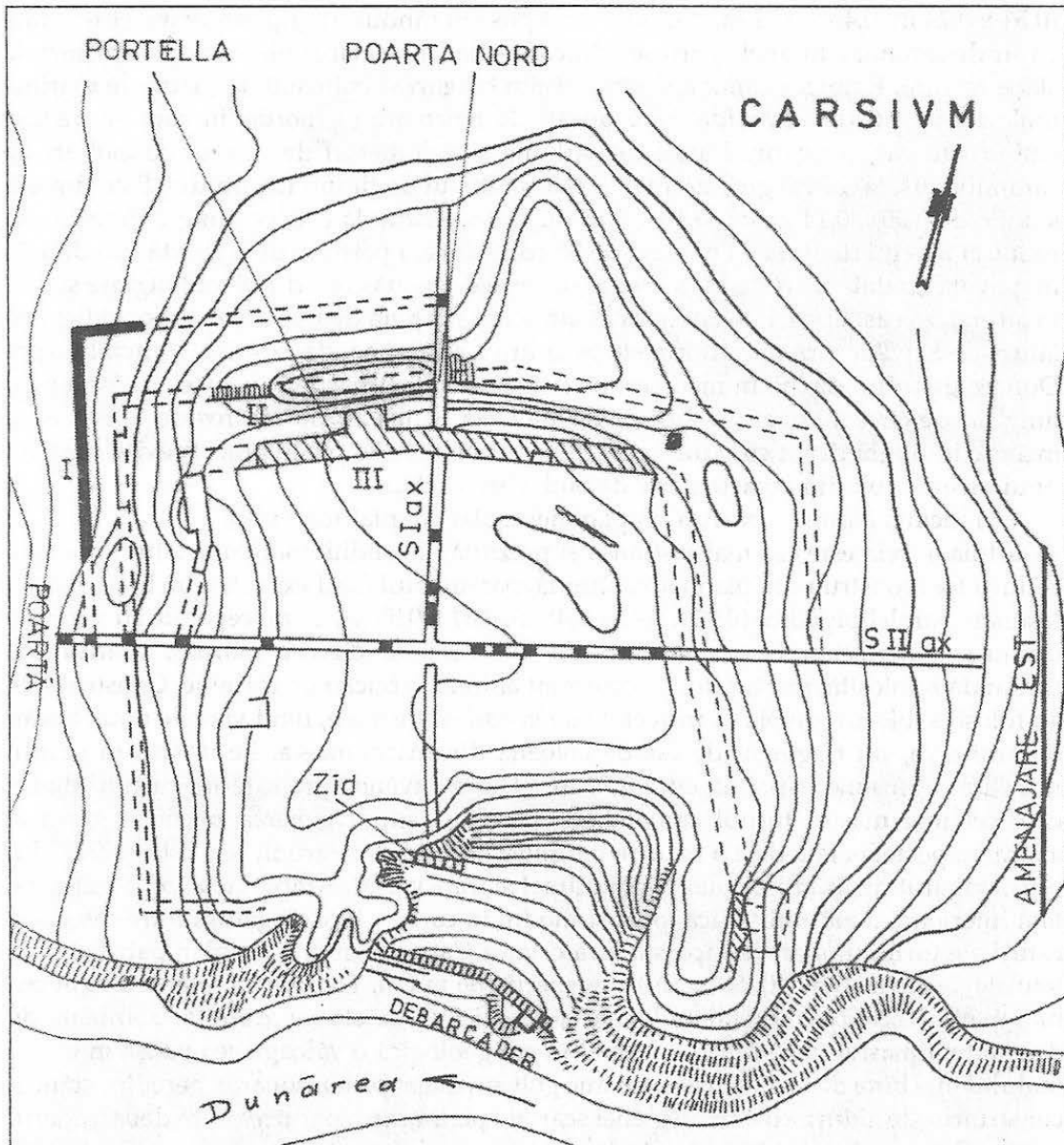
Traditional welcome festivities with bread and salt in Hârșova © Adrian Rădulescu

Presentations & Supporting Materials for guided tours:

CARSIUM

Hîrșova, Romania, Dobruja region, on the shore of the Danube; Constanța county

Site plan (map):



Site description:

Carsium was an auxiliary camp, located on the high bank of the Danube, in the area where the river Ialomița flows into the Danube, at the point "Dealul Cetății". In this area the arms of the Danube meet, at the end of Ialomița Island, where the mentioned river flows into the Danube. The site is located in the city, with a direct connection to DN 2A - E 60. The fortress of Hârșova represents a set of remains of walls spread over a good part of the current territory of the locality dating from antiquity to the beginning of the modern era. The limits of the fortification from the

Roman and Roman-Byzantine period are not known. The whole ensemble is placed on the Danube on limestone rocks with the status of natural and landscape reservation, which amplifies the image and value of the site. The land of the fortress from Hârșova is public property, part of the archeological material being exhibited in the “Carsium” Museum.

From a chronological point of view, several constructive phases can be distinguished: a supposed castrum of earth and wood from the Flavian era (for which, however, there are no archaeological elements); restoration in stone of a massive castellum during Trajan's time; repair phase in the middle of the century II; restoration of the foundations at the end of the 3rd century – beginning of the 4th century AD, which last until the VI century AD; X century phase; XIII – XIV centuries phase; from XVI century until the XIX century. It occupies a very strategic position marking the connection between the Romanian Plain and Dobrudja, a place where a main road coming from the Black Sea coast with the West-Pontic Greek cities will be used for 18 centuries, until the destruction of the fortress during the conflicts of the Ottoman Empire, in the first half of the XIX century.

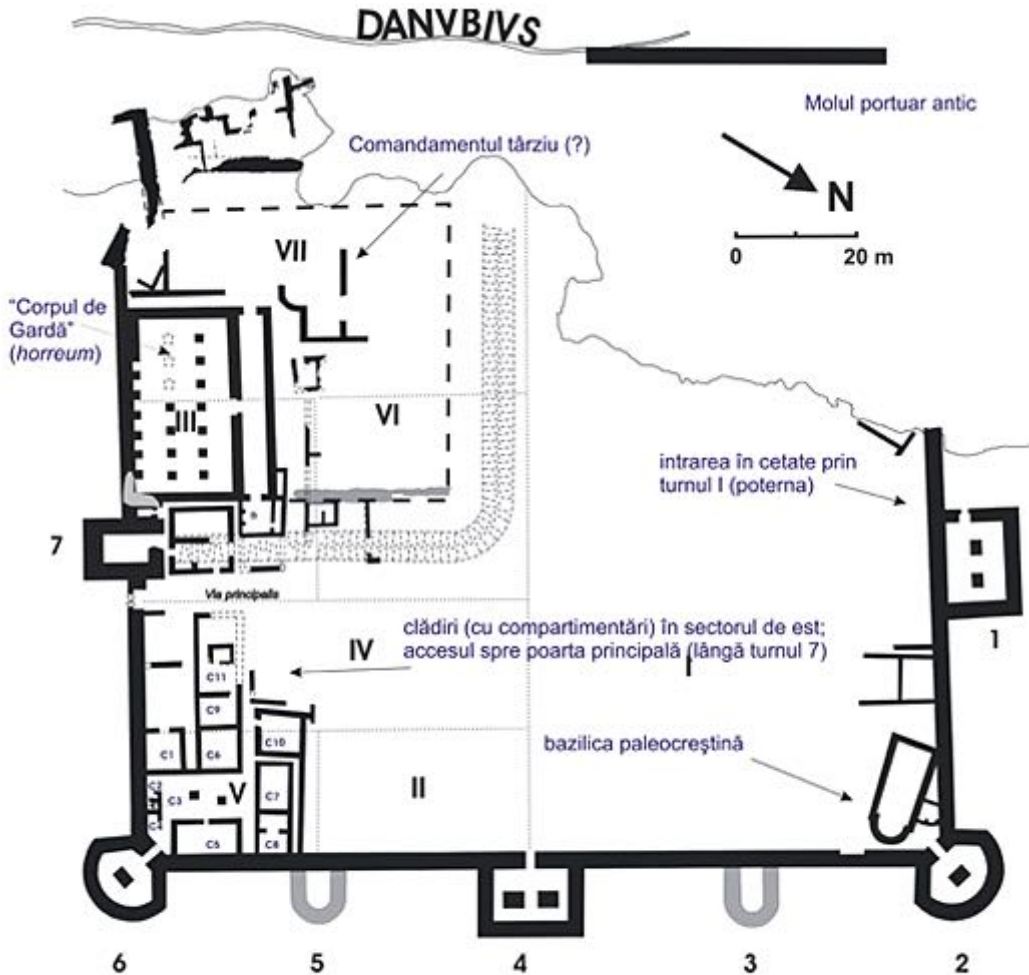
The Roman fortification was built by Trajan, as can be seen from the constructive inscription discovered here and dated to the year 103 AD.

Worth noting in the current stage of research is the port facility, a massive wall of approx. 40 m (3rd century – beginning of the 4th century AD), with several subsequent restorations, until the Ottoman era, respectively the western part of the Roman-Byzantine enclosure wall, on which a late U-shaped tower was identified. In the last decade it was identified (in 2009) and researched the northern gate, endowed with two symmetrical towers (T1-T2), of the same shape, over 300 m from the Danube, towards the interior of the modern city.

CAPIDAVA

Romania, Dobruja region, on the shore of the Danube; Constanța county, Topalu commune;

Site plan (map):



Capidava - plan general (sec. IV-VII p.Chr.)

Site description:

The place chosen for the construction of the fortification is a very important one from a strategic point of view, being a rocky massif, surrounded by three parts of the water (Danube) and a natural ditch, which led to the installation of the military station and the development of a civilian center. The shape of the rocky massif on which the fortress is located also imposed the quadrilateral plan of the camp.

The most important objectives researched at Capidava are: the Roman-Byzantine church (6th century), the main south gate and the adjacent buildings (Building C1), the Guard Corps (actually horreum), the Late Roman Principle and the Late Roman / Roman barracks -Byzantine, port, necropolis and early military baths (II-III centuries), located 100 m East of the fortification.

At each of these points, all the construction phases listed above were researched, and where possible, including the first phase, that of the second century.

Vestiges of the early period are less well known, it is assumed that the fortification had the approximate dimensions of 105 x 125 m, and based on the epigraphic material we know that the fortification was successively occupied by cohort I Ubiorum, and then by cohort I Germanorum, beginning with the reign of Hadrian. Stamps of the XI Claudia, V Macedonica and I Italica legions were also discovered.

Around the fortification, it developed an indigenous civitas that gives the very name of the place, a military vicus, partially known from an archaeological point of view. Capidava was also a customs station. Capidava was the centre of a territory with several villae rusticae and rural settlements, all of them attested by inscriptions.

In the late period, the fortification was rebuilt after the mid- IIIrd century AD Gothic destruction, sometime between the reigns of Aurelian, Probus and the Dominate period, being occupied by new military troops: cuneus equitum Solensium and vexillatio Capidavensium. The dimensions of the fortification, in late period, they were about 127 x 105 m, the west corner and much of the south-west side being destroyed by a limestone quarry from the beginning of the XXth century, exploited until the 1920s. In an even later period, at the end of the VI century AD – beginning of the VII century, the fortification was reduced to the area of the South corner for a short time (post 594/595 - 612/613 or a little later). The resumption of habitation in Capidava takes place in the mid-Byzantine period, between the 9th and 11th centuries, as a mud-dwellings settlement fortified with a stone and earth wall, above the old Roman citadel and its walls of defence. Six dramatic destructions and reconstructions of the settlement (with 7 different occupation levels) have been documented for 200-250 years of existence of this new settlement.

The archaeological excavations identified more than 100 dwellings per level, each occupying 12-16 m², for a population estimated at around 700-1000 inhabitants inside a fortified area of approx. 1.5 ha. The mid-Byzantine Capidava was definitively destroyed in the middle of the XI century.