

# OUTPUT T2.3

## Learning Interaction (P07)

---

**Title** Learning Interactions

Final version  
11/2022

---

**Author(s)** FAU  
Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg

**Project ID** DTP3-1-359-2.2

Project co-funded by European Union Funds (ERDF, IPA, and ENI).



## Contents

Topic.....	2
1. Objective/s.....	2
2. Target Groups .....	2
3. General Schedule .....	2
4. Implementation Approach.....	3
5. Learning Approach .....	3
5.1. Knowledge gained .....	3
5.2. Knowledge transferred.....	4
6. Case Study: Living History Event (name) or Video Concept (name).....	4
6.1. Contribution to Project Objectives.....	4
6.2. Recapitulation of Organisers .....	4
6.3. Annex A: Event Report of Respective Living Danube Limes Event .....	4
6.4. Annex B: Supporting Material (e.g, photos, etc.) .....	5

## Topic

Living History Event “Start of the Connecting Cruise in Ingolstadt”

### 1. Objective/s

The Living History Event in Ingolstadt was intended to generate attention for the Living Danube Limes project and the Connecting Cruise with the Danuvina Alacris. Also, reenactment groups were to be made aware of the project. Knowledge of the Roman antiquity and Roman antiquity itself should be brought to life to a certain extent: Through authentic replicas and the involvement of reenactors. Rides on the Roman boats were also planned, so that the public could have slipped into the role of a Roman soldier themselves. However, this could not be realised due to the low water level of the Danube. However, spectator rides were possible during all later stops of the Connecting Cruise.

### 2. Target Groups

General Public

NGOs (reenactors)

### 3. General Schedule

#### Initial schedule:

#### 15 July

from 3 p.m. Living History Programme, including a Batavi unit from Ruffenhofen ("Roman Navy Seals") and a unit of the 3rd Italian Legion from Ingolstadt

from 4 p.m. Roman boat trips

approx. 5:30 p.m. End

#### 16 July

8 p.m. Departure of the Danuvina Alacris: the Batavi wish a happy voyage with a sacrificial ceremony and accompany the boat to Kelheim.

#### Realised schedule:

#### 15 July

from 3 p.m. Living History Programme, including a Batavi unit from Ruffenhofen ("Roman Navy Seals") and a unit of the 3rd Italian Legion from Ingolstadt

approx. 5:30 p.m. End

## 4. Implementation Approach

The Living History Event in Ingolstadt on 15 July 2022 was not only intended to generate attention for the Living Danube Limes project and the Connecting Cruise on the Danube, but also to invite people to engage with the Roman past. Central to this was the method of the living history and re-enactment approach. Knowledge should not simply be communicated, as is the case when reading a text, for example, but the knowledge offered should be directly experienceable, tangible.

Aspects of the Roman past were interpreted and reconstructed in compliance with scientific standards. This applies above all to the reconstruction of a late antique Roman patrol boat of the Lusoria type, the Danuvina Alacris, but also to the reenactors themselves. For although amateurs are at work here, it is precisely those reenactors who place great emphasis on authenticity who have been chosen. It is obvious that the decisions of the reenactors in favour of a certain dress or behaviour were not, and cannot be, compelling. But this fact also applies to the work of historians. The work of historians generally cannot reach unambiguous conclusions because the source base is too meagre for this. This means that the reconstruction of the past is generally subject to a certain lack of clarity. Also, the output of living history, re-enactment and experimental archaeology should not be adopted uncritically. Rather, the recipient is asked to deal with the offered reconstruction of the past. This necessity is not to be understood as a deficit, but rather initiates a deeper encounter with the past and earlier culture.

The approach taken included demonstrations of replicas of Roman boats, the Danuvina Alacris and the Fridericiana Alexandrina, of three re-enactment groups and of various objects such as shields and clothing. These offerings were supplemented by informational materials such as essays, which not only provided information about the project, but also shed light on the background and standards that led to the reconstructions. After these demonstrations, the participating spectators were able to talk to representatives of the FAU and the reenactors. The replicas could be viewed up close and touched. Spectators could also try out certain behaviours themselves under the guidance of the reenactors and handle pieces of equipment.

## 5. Learning Approach

### 5.1. Knowledge gained

In preparation for the event, knowledge about late Roman boatbuilding was gained in a variety of ways. Every step of the boat-building process was reconstructed under ancient conditions. The tools used were reconstructed for ancient conditions in cooperation with an art smith. The boat building was done in cooperation with boat builders and archaeologists, experts in ancient shipbuilding. The same standards were followed in the reconstruction of the shields for the crew of the Danuvina Alacris. Here, too, a scientific examination of the ancient sources took place. There was also cooperation with experts in organic chemistry.

Reenactors showed their interpretation of aspects of the Roman past, also at a high, authentic level. This applies not only to the choice of clothing, but also to the performance of various manoeuvres and rituals and generally to the behaviour during the staging.

## 5.2. Knowledge transferred

This described knowledge was offered to the recipients in different ways. By showing and explaining the reconstructions, and by allowing the recipients to slip into an ancient role themselves. Unfortunately, boat trips could not be organised in Ingolstadt due to the low water level of the Danube, but this could be made up for on the Connecting Cruise from Kelheim onwards. Nevertheless, the experts were available to the public on site for explanations and for instructions on how to perform certain ancient actions themselves, e.g. using a shield or marching with Reenacter legionaries. Throwing a pilum could also be tried out, authentic equipment could be tried on or used. The boats could be walked on. The knowledge gained was not just imparted, but made tangible. This enabled a more in-depth engagement.

## 6. Case Study: Living History Event (name) or Video Concept (name)

### 6.1. Contribution to Project Objectives

The results of the respective Living Danube Limes event contribute to the following project deliverables/outputs/general incentives:

D.T2.5.1

O T2.3

P07

### 6.2. Recapitulation of Organisers

Unfortunately, a few days before the event, rowing on the Danube was prohibited by the authorities due to low water. As a result, the planned spectator trips with the Roman boats could not be undertaken. Nevertheless, a positive conclusion can be drawn. The place found, a few metres from the Danube and the originally planned venue away, provided an appropriate setting: not far from the city centre in a district with museums with a historical connection and yet with sufficient green space for the demonstrations. The offerings made, the two Roman boats Danuvina Alacris and Fridericiana Alexandrina, three re-enactment groups etc., were quite impressive. The success was reflected in the very positive response according to the survey conducted (see Annex A).

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

Attached.

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

Attached.

All photos are taken by Alexander Hilverda, who renounces all associated rights. The photographic material may be used freely.