



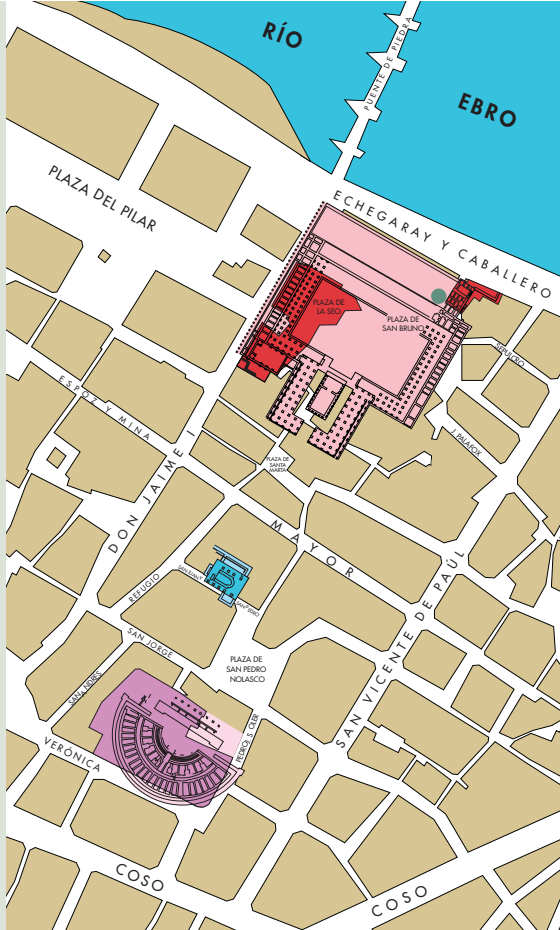
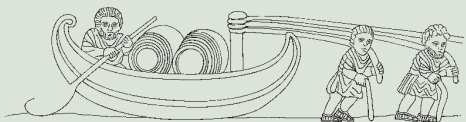
THE RIVER TRADE







During the Roman period a flourishing trade sprang up along the banks of the Ebro river.

The main ports were those of Vareia, now Logroño, Dertosa, present Tortosa and Caesaraugusta, the most important strategic site for the redistribution of merchandise in the centre of the Valley.

Imported goods were brought upstream from Dertosa, a combined sea and river port, which at the time did not have the Ebro delta. Pottery, marble, amphorae of wine and salted food, jewels, glass items, etc., all made the journey up river. The Valley's products: wool, leather, iron, linen, salt, wheat and wood were transported down river.

From the coins minted by Dertosa (Municipium Hibera Iulia Ilercavonia) we have an idea of the boats that sailed the Ebro in Roman times. These coins bear the image of the helm and the square sails that sped the boats along, although towropes were also used to pull them upstream following the method used on other southern European rivers.



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|  | FORUM MUSEUM AND RIVER PORT MUSEUM |  | THEATRE MUSEUM |
|  | AREAS OF THE FORUM NOT PRESERVED OR CURRENTLY COVERED |  | AREAS OF THE THEATRE NOT PRESERVED OR CURRENTLY COVERED |
|  | PUBLIC BATHS MUSEUM |  | YOU ARE HERE |

CAESARAUGUSTA RIVER PORT MUSEUM



CAESARAUGUSTA RIVER PORT MUSEUM

Plaza de San Bruno, 8
50001 Zaragoza
Tel./Fax: 976 39 31 57

OPENING HOURS:

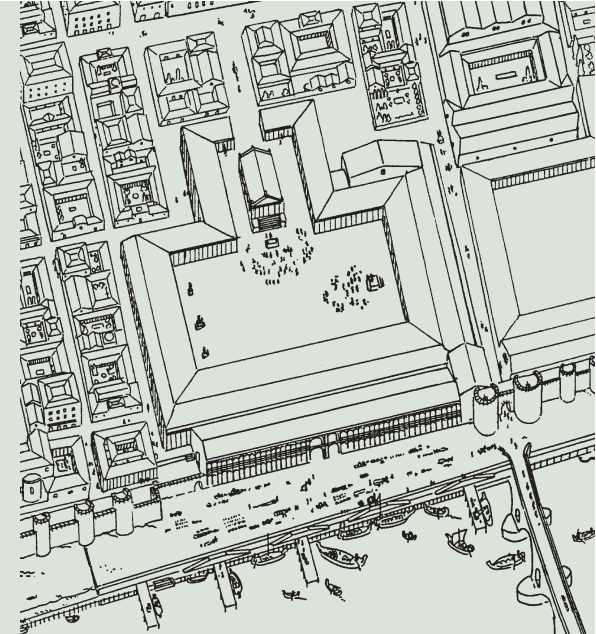
**Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
and from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday and bank holidays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Monday closed**

ARRANGED VISITS AND BOOKINGS FOR GROUPS:

Caesaraugusta Theatre Museum
San Jorge, 12 (50001 Zaragoza)
Tel. 976 20 50 88
Fax 976 20 49 36
e-mail: museoteatro@ayto-zaragoza.es

**Access and information adaptes to the needs
of the physically disabled, blind and deaf persons**

INFORMATION ON ZARAGOZA MUNICIPAL MUSEUMS:
www.zaragoza.es/museos
museosmunicipales@ayto-zaragoza.es
Helpdesk 010



CAESARAUGUSTA RIVER PORT MUSEUM

Texts: M. C. Aguaron and R. Erice. Map of the NE sector of the Forum: J.F. Casabona and J.A. Pérez Casas. Virtual reconstruction: J. M. Pérez Latorre and D. Sánchez. Cover drawing: F. Riart. Layout work: Aisa Publicidad. Published by: Zaragoza City Hall, Department of Culture. Printed by: Gráficas Mola. Legal deposit: Z-684-2000. © Zaragoza City Hall.

THE FORUM AND PORT OF CAESARAUGUSTA

The Forum of Caesaraugusta was formed by a large central square with porticoes, surrounded by public buildings and presided by a large temple, whose remains are underneath La Seo cathedral.

In the subsoil of today's city two sectors of its constructions, which have been preserved, can be visited: Caesaraugusta's Forum Museum (whose entrance is in La Seo square), with a large sewer, part of the porticoes, shops and public buildings on the south eastern boundary; and Caesaraugusta's River Port Museum (entrance in San Bruno's Square), which marks the north eastern boundary of this complex with the remains of the building that led from the banks of the Ebro to the Forum.

The Ebro river was navigable in ancient times from the city of Vareia (present Logroño). Its banks boasted wharves and large ports ; Caesaraugusta's port probably occupied most of the right bank of the city along a straight section, well-protected and with still waters after a sharp meander.



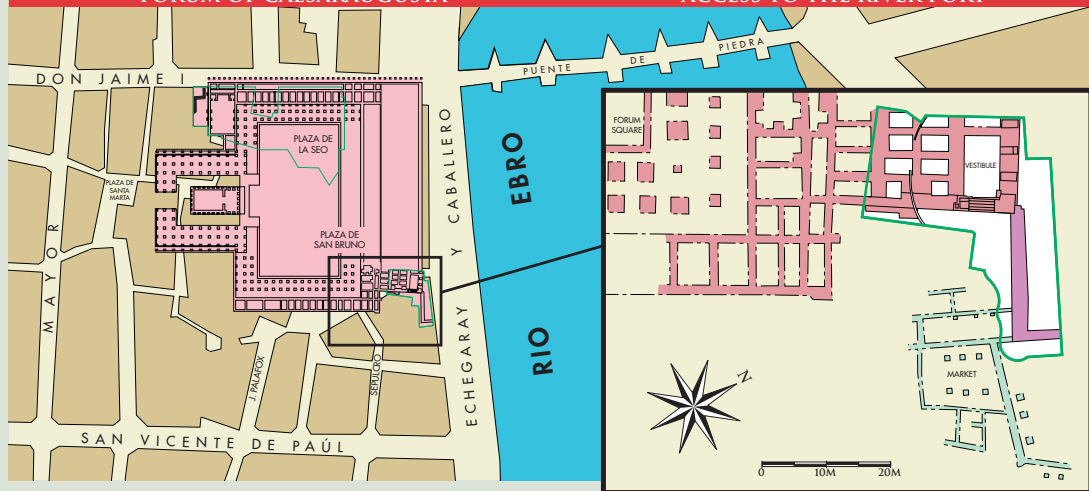
Virtual reconstruction of the vestibule of the monumental building

THE MONUMENTAL BUILDING

Amongst the structures that form the north eastern limits of the Forum there are the remains of a large building which was probably used as a warehouse and which linked the banks of the Ebro with the Forum.

Facing the river there was a beautiful facade with archways which led to the vestibule of the monumental building, overcoming, by means of a stairway, the difference in height between the port and the Forum's large square.

In some of the ashlarwork of this building, constructed around the turn of the Era, there are still quarry marks made by the builders: soldiers belonging to the 6th Victrix legion, the 4th Macedonia legion and the 10th Gemina legion, founders of the city of Caesaraugusta.



STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION

- I BEGINNING OF 1ST CENTURY A.D.
- II SECOND HALF OF 1ST CENTURY A.D.
- III END OF 1ST CENTURY A.D. BEGINNING OF 2ND CENTURY A.D.

SUGGESTED VISIT

The visit begins with an audio-visual projection narrating the changes that have occurred on the Ebro River since ancient times, explaining aspects of river navigation and the port of Caesaraugusta. We are invited to accompany a merchant from Caesaraugusta on one of his journeys.

Visitors then go on to see several displays that explain the architecture of the remains preserved in situ. There is a showcase with different examples of amphorae, the main container used in the food trade in Roman times as well as a model of a river boat.

Another model, accompanied by audio information, offers us a faithful representation of the building that provided access from the port of Caesaraugusta to the city's Forum around the middle of 1st century A.D.

Finally, on one of the museum's walls, there is a measuring scale which we have called the Ebro-meter and which marks two of the greatest river floods recorded and also shows the differences in height between current ground level, that of the Forum Square, and the vestibule of the monumental building.