

Code:	SVIEK011
Name:	IRUÑA-VELEIA I
Workcamp location:	Iruña Oka (Álava. Basque Country)
Accommodation address:	State schools of the village of Nanclares de la Oca
Project:	ARCH – Archaeology
Initial Date: 14/07	Final Date: 30/07
Min Age: 20	Max Age: 26
Places: 20	

DESCRIPTION OF WORKCAMP:

Project: Collaboration on archaeological excavation and structure consolidation tasks in Veleia, city from the Roman era, situated 10 km from the city of Vitoria-Gasteiz, capital of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country. Products from all the corners of the Roman Empire (Gaul, Italy, Germania and Africa, etc.) arrived in the city which became a centre for delivery and redistribution of goods. Veleia covered an area of around 100 hectares with hundreds of *domus* or urban dwellings and also public buildings such as a theatre, thermal baths, a forum, temples, etc. The wall of Veleia is the largest architectural construction of the Roman era in the Basque Country and one of the most important in the North of the country. The recent discovery of inscriptions from different areas around the city are definitely revolutionary, providing new information about Alava daily life, languages and beliefs in ancient times.

Task: Volunteers will work in the following areas under the supervision of professional archaeologists: Domus of the Roses Mosaic, a large urban residence dating back to the days of the High Empire; and the wall's main gate. From a scientific point of view, the most important point now is to study and define the rectangular hall of the dwelling, discover its layout in detail and, if possible, establish the purpose for which it was built. With respect to the gate, the aim is to discover the main access to the city in detail and depth and to find out its evolution from the High Empire to the Late Roman era. This will be done using the following methodology:

- An archaeological excavation in the open air with thorough archaeological documentation (current state, stratigraphic sequence, etc.).
- Identification of the buildings' ground plans and their evolution.
- Once research tasks are finished, consolidation, "museumisation" and sector enhancement work.

Location: The municipal area of Iruña de Oca is made up of five villages (2.093 inhabitants). Nanclares de la Oca is the main village in the municipal area, and also the place where participants will be hosted. It is situated just 10 km from the city of Vitoria-Gasteiz, capital of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country.

The old quarter of Vitoria-Gasteiz has kept its Gothic design intact, with its elliptic, steep, narrow streets, restored old palaces and all the charm of yesteryear. The Cathedral of Santa María (or Old Cathedral) is "Open for works". The restoration work on this Cathedral has won the 2002 Europa Nostra Award. Furthermore, Vitoria-Gasteiz has an excellent International Jazz Festival (in July). The new "ARTIUM" Basque Centre-Museum of Contemporary Art offers a magnificent collection of Basque and Spanish art dating from the early 20th century up to the present day, and considered one of the most important modern art centres of the Spanish state.

How to get there: <http://www.turismoa.euskadi.net>

Nearest airports: Foronda (Vitoria-Gasteiz), Loiu (Bilbao), Donostia-San Sebastián (Hondarribia)

Nearest train station: Nanclares de la Oca (Álava), Vitoria-Gasteiz (Álava)

Meeting point: 14/07/2008 at 6 pm outside the Town Hall in the village of Nanclares de la Oca (Álava)

Accommodation: State schools in the village of Nanclares de la Oca (Álava), furnished with bunk beds and mattresses. Sleeping bag compulsory.

Languages: English