

# Universalmuseum Joanneum Press office

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## The Archaeology Museum

### A new look at treasures from the last 100.000 years

**The Archaeology Museum**, Schloss Eggenberg, Eggenberger Allee 90, 8020 Graz

Opening Times:

Apr-Oct, Wed-Sun 10am-6am

Nov-Dec, Tue-So 10am-4pm

Closed from January to March

Information: +43-316/58 32 64-9513

The Archaeology Museum is the second largest archaeological collection in Austria and has more than 1,200 objects on display. As “traces of human life”, they form starting points for looking at issues that have preoccupied humankind for millennia. Highpoints of the new permanent exhibition are Hallstatt-period objects of international importance such as the Strettweg Chariot and the Kleinklein Mask, plus the most valuable Roman period find from Styria, the silver Grünau Skyphos (wine cup).

The development of the new museum began with the closure of the Museum for Prehistory and Early History in 2004 and the Coin and Antiquities Cabinet in 2005, which had been accommodated on the ground floor at Schloss Eggenberg since 1971 and 1982 respectively. It was time for a new start. The departments had been housed since their foundation at various locations within the Joanneum. The collections in the Coin and Antiquities Cabinet, later called the Prehistoric Collection, Antiquities and Coin Cabinet, had remained in the Lesliehof, the ancestral home of the Joanneum, right from their first establishment until 1971. In 1889, the mediaeval and modern-era exhibits were relocated to the Prandstetter-Teimersche Building in Schmiedgasse because of a shortage of space. In 1965, the collection of Roman carved stones and mosaics was moved to Schloss Eggenberg, and on foundation day the same year put on display in a protected building in the palace park there. With the start of design work on a new archaeological museum by BWM Architects and Partners, work also began on the comprehensive classification and digital recording of the collection. Parallel to the scientific and architectural planning, extensive conservation and restoration work was undertaken on the exhibits. Right from the first, it was the declared wish of the scientific curators, to present them jointly again with the collections hived off in 1971 into a separate Museum for Prehistory and Early History and an Antiquities Cabinet. This aim has now been achieved in ideal fashion with the Archaeology Museum.

It has been the ambition of the designers of the exhibition above all to create a museum that appeals to everyone who is interested in mankind, human habitats, forms of religious expression and changing social conditions.

Additionally to that, the archaeology museum should also communicate how limited and fragmentary our knowledge about the past often is – which leaves many questions open.