

Gladius from Landesmuseum, Mainz.

We made a replica of this Mainz for the needs of our club with which to bring variety to our equipment for this early Roman historical period.



Our club replica does not claim to be an exact copy of the original! Although this gladius model does not shine with great elegance, but nevertheless it also carries the spirit of ancient masters which are very difficult to imitate!



The shape of this model is wedge-like and clean in shape.

Information about this archeology find is scarce and not much is known, but there are still some good photos circulating in the internet that give a good idea of this subject as a whole. This gladius bears the marks of a sword from probably the end of the BC and the beginning of the AD. or simply put Julius Caesar, Octavian (and later the August) period. A feature that is seen for more experienced eyes is the lack of a pyramidal structure of the blade. The blade is flat in the middle, which is not typical of classical archeology for Roman swords. This is of course not an exception! There are several publications with similar gladii of this model about the period which also have a flat middle part of the blade.

<https://www.roma-victrix.com/summa-divisio/armamentarium/pugiones-gladii-et-spathae/gladii-hispanienses-mainz-iii-sec-a-c-ii-sec-d-c.html?jij=1619035303701>



The gladius is very functionally constructed without unnecessary luxury. It is impressive that on the back of the pommel the iron tail (of the the neck)of the sword is riveted directly on the pommel! For the most part as a Roman archeology there the masters use decorative often beautiful tubes that serve as washers, as a transition between iron and the pommel. Of course these are small details that can only be seen by the experienced eye! The sword has a beautiful pommel, handle and guard made of bones, most likely from the large joints of a calf or cow. Is that how the gladius left the workshop in antiquity ? I doubt it! Most likely, this beautiful and expensive bone work belongs to a craftsman who was located his workshop around the together with legionnaire's vicus.Or by masters inside the legion castrum itself!? It will remain a secret for us!



The scabbard (the original)of this sword is missing! So I chose to make a base scabbard without any decorations! Of course equipped with brackets typical of archeology for this period.



I also selected the rings and the end of the scabbard be archeology from this period.



Even the buckle for the strap I have chosen to be classic, neutral and suitable for all Roman historical periods.

