



Museo Nazionale Etrusco Pompeo Aria Via Porrettana Sud 13 - Marzabotto (BO) - tel. e fax (+39) 051.932353 sba-ero.museonazionaletrusco@beniculturali.it www.archeobologna.beniculturali.it

## **Opening times**

1 April to 31 October: 9am-13pm | 15am-18,30 pm 1November to 31 March: 9am-13pm | 14,00-17,30 pm - Closed Mondays

Admission (Museum+ Archaeological Area)
Museum: full euro 3.00 - reduction euro 1.50 (Coop Card, Family Card)
free (Bologna Welcome Card)
Turist Guide (Bologna University)
Booking:tel 051 2097715-334930338 - fax: 051 2097700
www.storia-culture-civiltà.unibo.it/it

Free parking - The museum has good access for the disabled

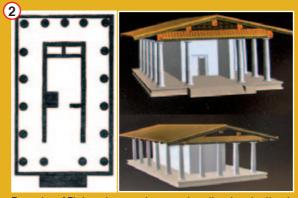




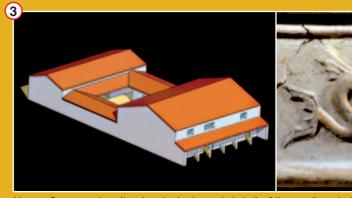
infomarzabotto@comune.marzabotto.bo.it tel 051 678028



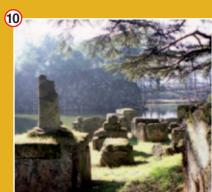
Plateia A from North

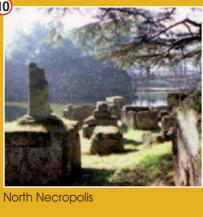


Temple of Tinia: plan and reconstructive hyphothesis

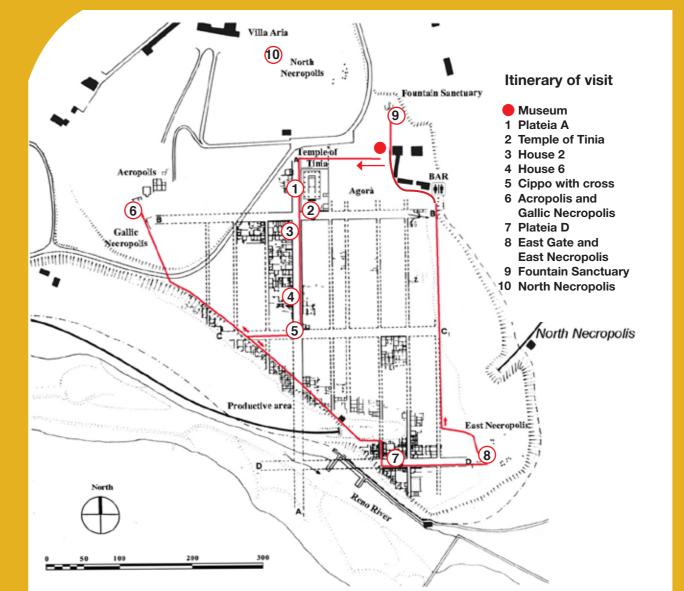


House 2: reconstructive hyphotesis and detail of the well-curb (in Museum)





Fountain Sanctuary





Town southern area: plateia A and House 6



Cippo with cross-mark in the town center







Plateia D





Acropolis: Altar B and Altar D

## The Etruscan Town of Kainua

The life of the old Etruscan town, which once occupied the Plain of Misano and the hill of Misanello, lasted nearly two hundred years, from the middle of the 6 th to the middle of the 4 th century B.C.

In ancient times the Reno River linked the socalled Tyrrhenian Etruria with Etruria Padana. For this reason the town, which overlooked that watercourse, had a very important role in trade. Especially, metals from Tuscany were vital for metallurgical activities. Thanks to the abundance of water, dammed in a capillary system of collection and disposal, also the manufacturing of ceramic objects (dishes, bricks, tiles etc.), was remarkable.

The prosperity of this centre ended in the middle of the 4 th century B.C. because of the Celtic invasion. In an altered scenario due to Roman settlement, a single farm was built over the ruins of the old town, which was abandoned later on.



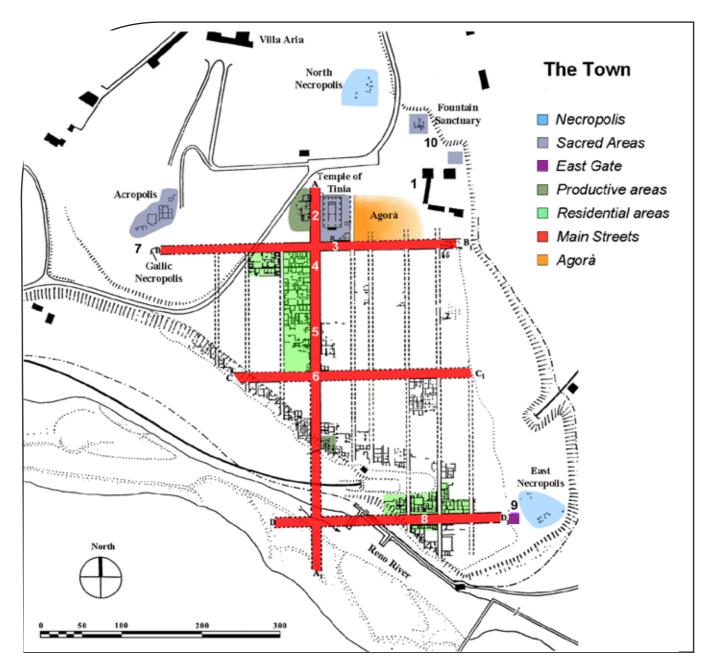
L'Etruria padana

### **Discoveries**

We have no news from Greek and Latin texts about this site. The importance of this centre comes from its rich archaeological documentation. Following initial findings of remains of walls and artefacts in the late 18th century, significant discoveries were made a few decades later, during the arrangement of the park around the villa, owned by Counts Aria. Since 1862 distinguished archaeologists such as Gozzadini, Chierici and Brizio, who first put the findings into windows inside Villa Aria, have undertaken the excavations of the town. In 1933 the archaeological site of Marzabotto and its collection were bought by Italian State. The museum was moved to the present location, on the Plain of Misano, and was enriched with the materials found in the following excavations.



Necropoli Nord, scavi ottocenteschi



# Archaeological Area

The extraordinary preservation of the urban system of Marzabotto, a unique case in Italy, is a great example of the Etruscan civilization. The orthogonality of streets and the set-up of residential, commercial and cultural areas come from the Greek town planning, but the signs of its foundation seem to be deep-rooted in the Etruscan religious rules. The four main streets, unusually wide and with pavements covered by arcades, divided the buildings of the Lower Town in regular blocks. From the planimetrical point of view, all the houses (4-5) present a clear uniformity: they are placed around a central, open-air court in which sometimes it is possible to find a well. There was not a real division between productive and residential areas: in fact, as the houses, even the workshops, discovered up to now, overlook the wide Plateia A. A recently discovered Greek-cross plan temple, dedicated to the worship of the god Tinia (3), shows the multiple functions of the urban space. From the area of this temple become

one fragmentary cup with the name of the town (Kainua) inscribed on the bottom.

Overlooking the town from North-West, the Acropolis was built on two different levels. On the lower one we can find ruins of three temples and two altars (7). On the higher one instead, were found ruins of the Auguraculum, a place where the augur officiated the foundation rites of the town.

The religiousness of Etruscan Marzabotto also extends to sacred areas just outside the city boundaries. In the north-eastern part of the city, near a water spring wich was believed to have healthy power is located the fountain-sanctuary (10), where the excavations founded especially numerous bronze statuette. Extraordinary in size and workmanship is a female statue, similar to the Greek korai, come from another sacred area, recently discovered near the fountain-sanctuary At the extreme North and East edges of the town we find the ruins of two necropolis characterized by large lithic boxes marked with stony signs of different shape. Only the eastern one is open to the public (9).

## The Museum

The finds coming from the excavations, are displayed in a composite arcade building in the eastern part of the wide archaeological area. The museum was named after Count Pompeo Aria, who, following his father's footsteps Giuseppe, organised the first nucleus of the collection.

### The four exhibition rooms.



In the first room are displayed the general characteristics of the area together with the finds, coming from the necropolis, that survived the damage done by Second World War: Attic figured vases, bronzes(vessel and statuette), funeral markers, glass and alabaster unquentaria



In the second exhibition room we can find the materials from older excavations and numerous of bronze votive statues, coming from the Acropolis and the fountain-sanctuary. They represent devotees' offerings and prays, or parts of the body, such as arms and feet, which collectively attest to the healthy power of these sacred sites.



In the third room are many terracotta remains founded in the Acropolis and in the houses (roofing-tiles, cover-tiles, clay pipes, ruins of columns etc.). These remains allow a reconstruction of the principal features of the entire building. There is also a display of the most significant materials from recent excavations and, in particular, a celebrated Kouros head, made of Greek marble.



In the fourth room we can admire two funeral assemblages, which were found in the nearby centre of Sasso Marconi, together with a selection of Etruscan bronze and Attic pottery that show the full agreement with the funerary ideology of the afterlife banquet. A new section of the museum is getting ready, thanks to the contribution of EU and CARISBO Foundation.