

ROMAN EMPIRE VS. NATURE

HOW ROMAN ENGINEERING FACED THE FORCES OF NATURE

The Romans pushed human engineering to the limits like never before, across every part of their civilisation. Roman engineers doggedly refused to take a step backwards when faced with a challenge from Mother Nature, even when others would have turned away from such clashes with the natural elements.

Often misunderstood or associated with ancestral legends, these are real Roman wonders which have been incorporated and hidden across Europe by the wild nature of the continent. Innovative engineering allowed the Romans to build in the most challenging environments and ensured their structures would survive centuries.



HISTORY
Docuseries
6 x 60'

In Association with:



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Series Elements

1. Events and mysteries of the Roman Empire – never previously explored in television documentaries.
2. A setting within Europe's wild nature – where archaeological mysteries appear as an enigma to be deciphered.
3. Contextualisation in the natural environment – showcasing the extraordinary engineering skill of the Romans.
4. The elements' effects upon Roman artefacts – shaping their architecture across the centuries.
5. A comparison of science and myth – both in archaeological and ecological fields.
6. In order to answer the question of how the engineers of Rome were able to create works of such scale in such hostile natural environments, the series will explore the ecological and geographical individualities of different environments.
7. Thanks to high-end 3D graphics and impressive accurate historical reenactments, "Roman Empire vs. Nature" will show how natural environment influenced both famous historical events and the ways of construction and survival of Roman architecture till today.

Episode 1 - The Origin of Everything

Location: Central Italy – Gorges of Velino, Plain of Saint Vittorino, Rieti.

As the old adage goes, Rome wasn't built in a day. This episode will reveal some of the historical events and associated mythology which, while unknown to the general public, were at the basis of the birth and development of the majesty of Rome.



Episode 4 - Litus Saxonicum

Locations: United Kingdom and France – English Channel, English southern coast and French northern coast, Wales and the Orkney Islands.

The conquest of Britain places the English Channel in Roman hands. This episode explores the lengths the Empire takes to protect it from attack or interference. For the first and only time, this narrow stretch of sea will be armoured with a system of fortresses and bases located on both its shores – with a mighty fleet created specifically to garrison it.

Episode 2 - Where Emperors Walked

Location: Southern Italy – Baia, Gulf of Naples.

An entire imperial city, loved madly by the first Emperor of Rome but then swallowed by the sea and forgotten for over 1,500 years. This episode explores the coastline of the Gulf of Naples and dives underwater to discover the secrets of the city of Baia.

Episode 5 - The Way of the Gallies

Locations: Italy and France – Aosta Valley, Little St. Bernard Pass and Great St. Bernard Pass, Alpine Savoy, Rhone Valley to Vienna and Lyon, Martigny.

Each of the great communication routes of the Empire was a huge engineering feat in itself. But when Augustus orders a consular road to pass from one side of the Alps to the other, Roman engineers are faced with a challenge bordering on the impossible.

Episode 3 - Rome's Revenge

Locations: Germany and Holland – Roman fleet harbours on the Rhine River and North Sea, battle site of Pontes Longi, Idistaviso and Angrivarian Wall.

After German barbarians treacherously massacre Roman legions in Teutoburg, the Empire goes as far as to plan the largest naval operation in its entire history. This episode dives into Rome's revenge as devastation arrives in the heart of Germany aboard more than 1,000 warships.

Episode 6 - The End of Empire

Locations: England, Scotland – Hadrian's Wall, the Antonine Wall and Roman sites on the Highlands.

Hadrian's Wall in northern England and the Antonine Wall in Scotland are iconic markers of the expansive territory of the Roman Empire. But although they appear similar in appearance, beneath their surface they are vastly different in both construction and purpose. This episode, through Roman relics in Great Britain, shows how the Empire's architecture forever changed the landscape and ecology of the regions in which they were built.