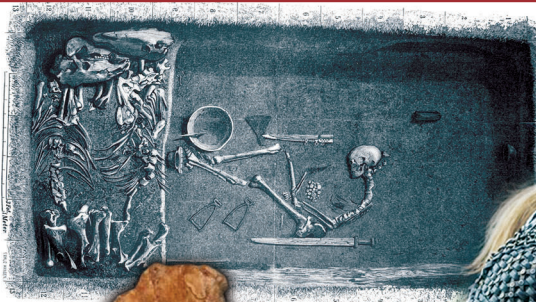


# Archaeological discoveries of 2017

## 1. SWEDEN – Female Viking warrior

DNA analysis of remains found in a 10th-century grave at Birka provided the first genetic confirmation of a female Viking warrior. The tomb, containing weapons, two horses, and gaming pieces, shows it belonged to a high-ranking warrior



## 2. MOROCCO – Oldest Homo sapiens

Fossils unearthed at **Jebel Irhoud** were found to be over 300,000 years old – 100,000 years older than any other known remains of **Homo sapiens**. The finding goes against the idea that modern people evolved in a single “cradle of humanity” in East Africa some 200,000 years ago



## 3. PACIFIC OCEAN – WW2 warship

The **USS Indianapolis**, lost for 72 years, was found at a depth of more than 5.5km. The cruiser was returning from a secret mission to deliver parts for the Hiroshima atomic bomb when it was sunk by a Japanese torpedo on July 30, 1945. Only 316 of the 1,196 men on board survived in the largest loss of life at sea in U.S. naval history

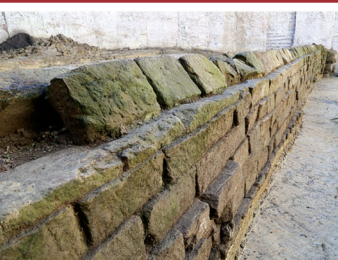


## 4. MEXICO – Tower of skulls

Archaeologists found over 650 skulls caked in lime near the **Templo Mayor** in what was the Aztec capital **Tenochtitlan**, today's Mexico City. They are believed to be part of the **Huey Tzompantli**, a massive tower of skulls that struck fear into the Spanish conquistadores when they captured the city in 1521



## 5. ITALY – Oldest aqueduct



Workers constructing a new metro line in Rome uncovered what is believed to be part of the **Aqua Appia**, Rome's oldest aqueduct, which dates back to 312 BC. The section, 332 metres long and 2m high, was found near the Colosseum

## 6. EGYPT – Great Pyramid “void”

Scientists using imaging technology based on cosmic rays detected a large, mysterious “cavity” inside the **Great Pyramid of Giza**. The void, 30 metres long and hovering just above the Grand Gallery, is the first large structure discovered within the 4,500-year-old pyramid since the 1800s

King's Chamber

Grand Gallery

Queen's Chamber

New void

## 7. ANTARCTICA – Super fruitcake

Scientists restoring Antarctica's oldest building on Cape Adare found a fruitcake thought to have been left in 1911 by members of Britain's Terra Nova expedition, led by **Robert Falcon Scott**. The tin holding the **Huntley & Palmers** fruitcake was rusted but the cake itself looked and smelt (almost) edible



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