



EPIACUM 2026:

Invitation to join our archaeological dig at
Epiacum Roman Fort (Whitley Castle), 18th-30th May 2026



Epiacum Heritage invites you to participate in an archaeological dig to be held in May 2026 at the spectacular Roman Fort of Epiacum (Whitley Castle), near Alston in south-west Northumberland.

Although set just outside of the Fort, this will be the first major excavation since the 1950s to be held on remains associated with it.

By investigating earthworks long-considered to be associated with Roman civil settlement or earlier phases of occupation, we aim to help inform the future management of the site. The project will take place between 18th-30th May.

If you'd like to volunteer, please get in touch by 20th March. Since volunteer numbers are limited, it may not be possible to attend on all the days you would like, but we will respond with confirmation of available dates by the end of the month. Given the nature of the site, preference will be given to volunteers with excavation experience, although we hope also to accommodate those new to archaeology.

Please respond by email to - info@archaeologicalpractice.co.uk - telling us your preferred dates between 18th-30th May (excluding Sunday 24th) and giving a brief indication of any previous archaeological experience you may have. Please note that for insurance purposes, participants must be over 18 years old.

Once your volunteer days have been confirmed, we'll send you further information about the dig, along with access information and welfare advice, etc. All tools and equipment will be provided, but feel free to bring your own digging kit and please come prepared for all weather conditions.

The project will be run by staff from *The Archaeological Practice*, Newcastle on behalf of *Epiacum Heritage*, the charity responsible for managing the site.

For more information about *Epiacum* Roman fort see: <https://epiacumheritage.org/>

