

Name: _____

Circus Maximus



The Circus Maximus was built sometime between 600–500 B.C.E. It was the first stadium built in Rome. At 2,037 feet long by 387 feet wide (621 meters by 118 meters), it was also the largest. We think at least 150,000 people fit in the stands. That's not even counting the people who watched from nearby hills. In fact, it's one of the biggest stadiums to this day!

The Circus Maximus was mostly used as a chariot racing track. Sometimes it had gladiator fights. It was also used for hunts, plays, and festivals. Today, it's used as a park, free to the public. Sometimes concerts and rallies are held there too.

Preview
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3. How much longer than wider was the Circus Maximus? _____
4. What are two things you might have seen there in ancient Rome?

5. What are two things you might do there today?

6. About how long ago was the Circus Maximus built?
 - a. 600 years ago
 - b. 1,400 years ago
 - c. 2,000 years
 - d. 2,600 years

ANSWER KEY

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