

SUMMARY

**ROMAN VILLAS AND HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE AGER OF PULA.
SOME EXAMPLES**

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Roman villas, which have been dated from the 1st century BC to late antiquity in the ager of Pula, are divided into two main groups: residential and rural villas. Their remains reveal basic architectural elements and interior equipment and decorations, and particularly mosaic floors executed as *spicae*, *reticulatum*, *sectilae* and classic mosaic executions (*musivum*).

Residential villas and buildings which have been discovered and investigated in the last hundred years include: the site in front of the Amphitheatre in Pula, the villa on one of the Brijuni islands (Verige or Valcatena Bay), so-called Schwalb's villa in Barbariga, the maritime complex on Vižula near Medulin, and the villa in Pomer. The recovered mosaic floors, fluted columns with capitals, reliefs, frescoes and stuccos can best demonstrate the building development potential, and the social and economic status of the owners of these patrician villas.

The archaeological remains of the buildings do not provide sufficient elements to determine their respective interior decoration. Cisterns, a water supply system with pipes, a peristyle and a fountain observed at the villa in Barbariga, Brioni, Vižula near Medulin and Pomer, together with similar examples observed at other rustic villas in the ager of Pula, all point to different criteria applied to the building and equipping of production complexes in the area of Pula in Roman and late antique times.