

Q: How many scenes are carved on the Column of Trajan?

A: 155 scenes of the Emperor Trajan's Dacian campaigns were sculpted on the column. If the spiral containing the scenes were to be laid out flat, the whole strip would measure over 200 meters.

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Q: Does the famous Arc de Triomphe, in Paris, reference Roman monuments?

A: Yes, in fact. If you think it resembles Roman arches, you are right. The Arc de Triomphe was commissioned by Napoleon, and built in the early nineteenth century to commemorate fallen soldiers of the Napoleonic wars and the French Revolution. Napoleon was explicitly trying to make Paris a "New Rome" and show himself as an equivalent of a Roman emperor (himself head of the Napoleonic Empire). It is thus no coincidence that the French arch resembles ancient Roman arches.

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