

The Terracotta Army

What are they?

- The Terracotta Army is a collection of over 7000 larger than life Chinese terracotta figures of warriors and horses located near the tomb of the First Qin Emperor. The figures vary in height according to their rank; the tallest being the Generals. The heights range is 184-197cm, or more than a full foot taller than the average soldier of the period. The figures were discovered in 1974 near Xi'an, Shaanxi province, China.

Some facts about the Terracotta Army

- No two warriors are the same, each one is unique.
- They vary in hairstyle, height and uniform according to rank.
- They were made in the same way as terracotta drainpipes of the time.
- They were reported to have suffered from “nine different types of mould” as they were exposed to the air and the tourists’ breath.

How they were discovered

- The Terracotta Army was discovered in March 1974 by local farmers drilling a water well to the east of Mount Lishan. One of the farmers found a terracotta head lying near the hole.

Why they were built

- Qin Shi Huang wanted to rule forever so ordered that a set of terracotta soldiers be buried with him so he could rule in the afterlife.
- Over 7000 warriors have been found so far but there may be more as the Emperor's tomb has yet to be uncovered.

Pictures of Terracotta Warriors

