

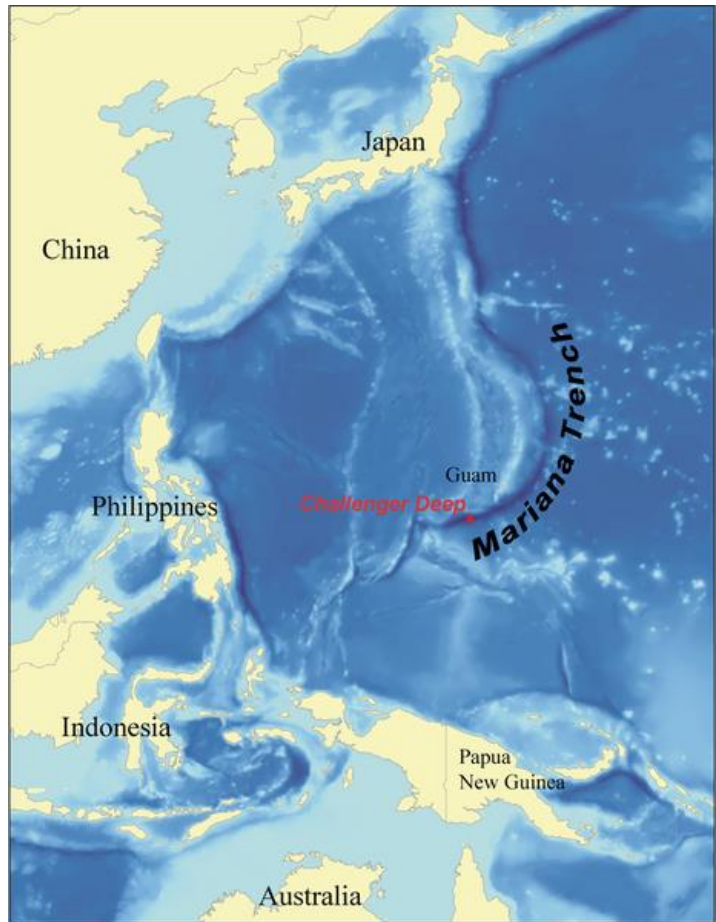
1. **How deep is the deepest point in the ocean, and where is it located?**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Challenger\\_deep](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Challenger_deep)

## Challenger Deep

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Challenger Deep is the deepest known point in the Earth's seabed hydrosphere, with a depth of 10,898 to 10,916 m (35,755 to 35,814 ft.) by direct measurement from submersibles, and slightly more by sonar bathymetry. It is in the Pacific Ocean, at the southern end of the Mariana Trench near the Mariana Islands group. The Challenger Deep is a relatively small slot-shaped depression in the bottom of a considerably larger crescent-shaped oceanic trench, which itself is an unusually deep feature in the ocean floor. Its bottom is about 11 km (7 mi) long and 1.6 km (1 mi) wide, with gently sloping sides. The closest land to the Challenger Deep is Fais Island (one of the outer islands of Yap), 287 km (178 mi) southwest, and Guam, 304 km (189 mi) to the northeast. It is located in the ocean territory of the Federated States of Micronesia, 1 mi (1.6 km) from its border with ocean territory associated with Guam.



The depression is named after the British Royal Navy survey ship HMS Challenger, whose expedition of 1872–1876 made the first recordings of its depth. According to the August 2011 version of the GEBCO Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names, the location and depth of the Challenger Deep are 11°22.4'N 142°35.5'E and 10,920 m (35,827 ft.) ±10 m (33 ft.).

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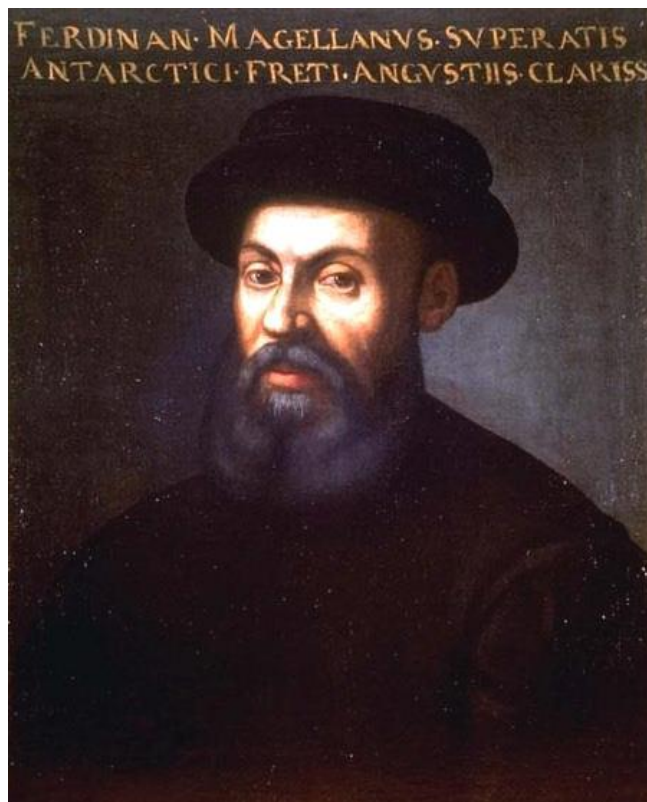
- 2. Who is the explorer that organized the expedition that made the first complete journey around the Earth? What are the names of the ships that were part of the voyage?**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand\\_Magellan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_Magellan)

## Ferdinand Magellan

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Ferdinand Magellan (Portuguese: Fernão de Magalhães; Spanish: Fernando de Magallanes; c. 1480 – 27 April 1521) was a Portuguese explorer who became known for having organised the expedition that resulted in the first circumnavigation of the Earth completed by Juan Sebastián Elcano. He was born in a still disputed location in northern Portugal, and served King Charles I of Spain in search of a westward route to the "Spice Islands" (modern Maluku Islands in Indonesia).



Magellan's expedition of 1519–1522 became the first expedition to sail from the Atlantic Ocean into the Pacific Ocean (then named "peaceful sea" by Magellan; the passage being made via the Strait of Magellan), and the first to cross the Pacific. His expedition completed the first circumnavigation of the Earth. Magellan did not complete the entire voyage, as he was killed during the Battle of Mactan in the Philippines.

The Magellanic Penguin was named for him, as he was the first European to note it; other memorials are the Magellanic clouds, now known to be nearby dwarf galaxies; the twin lunar craters of Magelhaens and Magelhaens A; and the Martian crater of Magelhaens.

## The fleet

The fleet provided by King Charles V included five ships: the flagship **Trinidad** (110 tons, crew 55), under Magellan's command; **San Antonio** (120 tons; crew 60) commanded by Juan de Cartagena; **Concepcion** (90 tons, crew 45) commanded by Gaspar de Quesada; **Santiago** (75 tons, crew 32) commanded by Juan Serrano; and **Victoria** (85 tons, crew 43), commanded by Luis Mendoza. (The last ship was named after the church of Santa Maria de la Victoria de Triana, where Magellan took an oath of allegiance to Charles V.) Trinidad was a caravel, and all others rated as carracks (Spanish carraca or nao; Portuguese nau).

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### 3. What is the largest terrestrial predator in the world?

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saltwater\\_crocodile](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saltwater_crocodile)

## Saltwater crocodile

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The saltwater crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*), also known as saltie, estuarine or Indo-Pacific crocodile, is the largest of all living reptiles, as well as the largest terrestrial and riparian predator in the world. The males of this species can reach sizes of up to 6.7 m (22 ft.) and weigh as much as 2,000 kg (4,400 lbs). However, an adult male saltwater crocodile is generally between 4.3 and 5.2 m (14 and 17 ft.) in length and weighs 400–1,000 kg (880–2,200 lbs), rarely growing larger. Females are much smaller and often do not surpass 3 m (9.8 ft.). As its name implies, this crocodile can live in salt water, but usually resides in mangrove swamps, estuaries, deltas, lagoons, and



lower stretches of rivers. They have the broadest distribution of any modern crocodile, ranging from the eastern coast of India, throughout most of Southeast Asia, stretching south to northern Australia, and historically ranging as far west as off the eastern coast of Africa and as far east as waters off the coast of Japan.

The saltwater crocodile is a formidable and opportunistic hypercarnivorous "apex" ambush predator capable of taking almost any animal that enters its territory, including fish, crustaceans, reptiles, birds and mammals, including other predators. Due to their size and distribution, salties are the most dangerous extant crocodylian to humans.

### **Examples of large crocodiles**

The largest size recorded of a saltwater crocodile is the subject of considerable controversy. The reason behind unverified sizes is either the case of insufficient/inconclusive data or exaggeration from a hunter's point of view. This section is dedicated to examples of the largest saltwater crocodiles recorded by any individual, amateur or professional, with the aim of satisfying the public interest without creating data pollution. Below, in the order starting from the largest, are some examples of large crocodiles, confirmed or unconfirmed, recorded throughout history.

James R. Montgomery, who ran a plantation near to the Lower Kinabatangan Segama Wetlands in Borneo from 1926–1932, claimed to have netted, killed, and examined numerous crocodiles well over 6.1 m (20 ft.) there, including a specimen he claims measured 10 m (33 ft.). However, no one scientifically confirmed any of Montgomery's specimens and no voucher specimens are known.

A crocodile shot in the Bay of Bengal in 1840 was reported at 10 m (33 ft.). This specimen is unconfirmed and no voucher remains are known.

A crocodile shot in Queensland in 1957, nicknamed Kris the croc, was reported to be 8.63 m (28.3 ft.) long, but no verified measurements were made and no remains of this crocodile exist. A "replica" of this crocodile has been made as a tourist attraction.

A crocodile killed in 1823 at Jalajala in the province of Rizal on the main island of Luzon in the Philippines was reported at 8.2 m (27 ft.).

The skull of crocodile shot in Odisha, India, was claimed to measure 7.6-metre (25 ft.) in life, but when given scholarly examination, was thought to have come from a crocodile of a length no greater than 7 m (23 ft.).

A reported 7.6-m crocodile was killed in the Hooghly River in the Alipore District of Calcutta. However, examinations of the animal's skull actually indicated it ranged from 6.0–6.7 m (19.7–22 ft.).

Recently, Guinness has accepted a 7.1-metre (23 ft.), 2,000-kg (4,400-lb) male saltwater crocodile living within Bhitarkanika Park in Odisha.

The record size for a crocodile from Papua New Guinea to be considered authentic by Guinness was a 6.32 m (20.7 ft.) specimen shot in May 1966 along the northeastern coast. This specimen had a belly girth of 2.74 m (9.0 ft.)

Another seemingly authentic notable New Guinea giant, which drowned after entanglement in a fisherman's net in 1979, measured 6.2 m (20 ft.), with a skull length of 72 cm (28 in).

In September 2011, a 6.17 meters (20.2 ft.) specimen was captured alive in the Philippines, making it one of the largest specimens ever reliably measured snout-to-tail. This specimen, nicknamed "Lolong" and weighing roughly 1,075 kg (2,370 lb), had a past as a possible man-eater and was being kept alive as an attraction in a local zoo. Lolong died on 10 February 2013 due to stress and infection.



The official, authentic record length for a crocodile from Australia was 6.15 m (20.2 ft.) for a specimen killed in the McArthur River in June 1960.

Another confirmed Australian giant shot 16 years after that, an old male nicknamed "Big Gator" (despite actually being a crocodile, not an alligator) that had become a habitual predator of local cattle, was found after being shot to have measured 6.1 m (20 ft.) and weighed 1,097 kilograms (2,420 lbs).

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#### 4. Who wrote the novel which was previously entitled “The Social Cancer”?

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noli\\_Me\\_T%C3%A1ngere\\_%28novel%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noli_Me_T%C3%A1ngere_%28novel%29)

## *Noli Me Tángere* (novel)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Noli Me Tángere (Touch me Not / Don't touch me) is a novel written by **José Rizal**, the **national hero of the Philippines**, during the colonization of the country by Spain to expose the inequities of the Spanish Catholic priests and the ruling government. The title, in Latin meaning “Touch me not”, refers to John 20:17 in the Bible (King James Version) as Mary Magdalene tried to touch the newly risen Jesus. He said "Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father." Early English translations of the novel used titles like *An Eagle Flight* (1900) and **The Social Cancer** (1912), disregarding the symbolism of the title, but the more recent translations were published using the original Latin title. It has also been noted by French writer D. Blumentritt that “Noli me tangere” was a name used by ophthalmologists for cancer of the eyelids. That as an ophthalmologist himself Rizal was influenced by this fact is suggested in his dedication, “To My Country”.



Originally written in Spanish, the book is more commonly published and read in the Philippines in either Filipino or English. Together with its sequel, *El Filibusterismo*, the reading of *Noli* is obligatory for high school students throughout the archipelago.

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## 5. What is the largest passenger airplane in use today? How fast can it go?

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airbus\\_A380](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airbus_A380)

# Airbus A380

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



**The Airbus A380** is a double-deck, wide-body, four-engine jet airliner manufactured by Airbus. **It is the world's largest passenger airliner**; many airports have upgraded their facilities to accommodate it because of its size. Initially named Airbus A3XX, Airbus designed the aircraft to challenge Boeing's monopoly in the large-aircraft market; the A380 made its first flight on 27 April 2005 and entered commercial service in October 2007 with Singapore Airlines.

The A380's upper deck extends along the entire length of the fuselage, with a width equivalent to a wide-body aircraft. This gives the A380-800's cabin 478 square meters (5,145.1 sq ft) of floor space, which is 40% more than the next-largest airliner, the Boeing 747-8, and provides seating for 525 people in a typical three-class configuration or up to 853 people in an all-economy class configuration. The A380-800 has a design range of 15,700 kilometers (9,800 mi), sufficient to fly nonstop from Dubai to Los Angeles, and **a cruising speed of Mach 0.85 (about 900 km/h or 560 mph; 490 km at cruising altitude).**

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## 6. Who is the literary character introduced in 1887 that is known for his ability to solve mysterious crimes and cases?

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sherlock\\_Holmes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sherlock_Holmes)

# Sherlock Holmes

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Sherlock Holmes is a fictional detective created by Scottish author and physician Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. A London-based "consulting detective" whose abilities border on the fantastic, Holmes is famous for his astute logical reasoning, his ability to adopt almost any disguise, and his use of forensic science skills to solve difficult cases.

Holmes, who first appeared in publication in 1887, was featured in four novels and 56 short stories. The first novel, *A Study in Scarlet*, appeared in Beeton's Christmas Annual in 1887 and the second, *The Sign of the Four*, in Lippincott's Monthly Magazine in 1890. The character grew tremendously in popularity with the first series of short stories in *The Strand Magazine*, beginning with "A Scandal in Bohemia" in 1891; further series of short stories and two novels published in serial form appeared between then and 1927. The stories cover a period from around 1880 up to 1914.

All but four stories are narrated by Holmes's friend and biographer, Dr. John H. Watson; two are narrated by Holmes himself ("The Blanched Soldier" and "The Lion's Mane") and two others are written in the third person ("The Mazarin Stone" and "His Last Bow"). In two stories ("The Musgrave Ritual" and "The Gloria Scott"), Holmes tells Watson the main story from his memories, while Watson becomes the narrator of the frame story. The first and fourth novels, *A Study in Scarlet* and *The Valley of Fear*, each include a long interval of omniscient narration recounting events unknown to either Holmes or Watson.

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## 7. What is the oldest known monument or sculpture in the world?

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great\\_Sphinx\\_of\\_Giza](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Sphinx_of_Giza)

# Great Sphinx of Giza

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



The Great Sphinx of Giza (Arabic: الهول أبو و Abū al-Haul, English: The Terrifying One; literally: Father of dread), commonly referred to as the Sphinx, is a limestone statue of a reclining sphinx (a mythical creature with a lion's body and a human head that stands on the Giza Plateau on the west bank of the Nile in Giza, Egypt. The face of the Sphinx is

generally believed to represent the face of the Pharaoh Khafra.

It is the largest monolith statue in the world, standing 73.5 meters (241 ft.) long, 19.3 meters (63 ft.) wide, and 20.22 m (66.34 ft.) high. It is the oldest known monumental sculpture, and is commonly believed to have been built by ancient Egyptians of the Old Kingdom during the reign of the Pharaoh Khafra (c. 2558–2532 BC).

The ancient historian Pliny The Elder mentioned the Great Sphinx in his book, *Natural History*, commenting that the Egyptians looked upon the statue as a "divinity" that has been passed over in silence and "that King Harmais was buried in it".

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## 8. Who is the Roman god of war?

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars\\_\(mythology\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars_(mythology))

# Mars (mythology)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

In ancient Roman religion and myth, Mars (Latin: *Mārs*, *Martis*) was the god of war and also an agricultural guardian, a combination characteristic of early Rome. He was second in importance only to Jupiter and Neptune and he was the most prominent of the military gods in the religion of the Roman army. Most of his festivals were held in March, the month named for him (Latin *Martius*), and in October, which began and ended the season for military campaigning and farming.

Under the influence of Greek culture, Mars was identified with the Greek god Ares, whose myths were reinterpreted in Roman literature and art under the name of Mars. But the character and dignity of Mars differed in fundamental ways from that of his Greek counterpart, who is often treated with contempt and revulsion in Greek literature. Mars was a part of the Archaic Triad along with Jupiter and Quirinus, the latter of whom as a guardian of the Roman people had no Greek



equivalent. Mars' altar in the Campus Martius, the area of Rome that took its name from him, was supposed to have been dedicated by Numa, the peace-loving semi-legendary second king of Rome. Although the center of Mars' worship was originally located outside the sacred boundary of Rome (pomerium), Augustus made the god a renewed focus of Roman religion by establishing the Temple of Mars Ultor in his new forum.

Although Ares was viewed primarily as a destructive and destabilizing force, Mars represented military power as a way to secure peace, and was a father (pater) of the Roman people. In the mythic genealogy and founding myths of Rome, Mars was the father of Romulus and Remus with Rhea Silvia. His love affair with Venus symbolically reconciled the two different traditions of Rome's founding; Venus was the divine mother of the hero Aeneas, celebrated as the Trojan refugee who "founded" Rome several generations before Romulus laid out the city walls.

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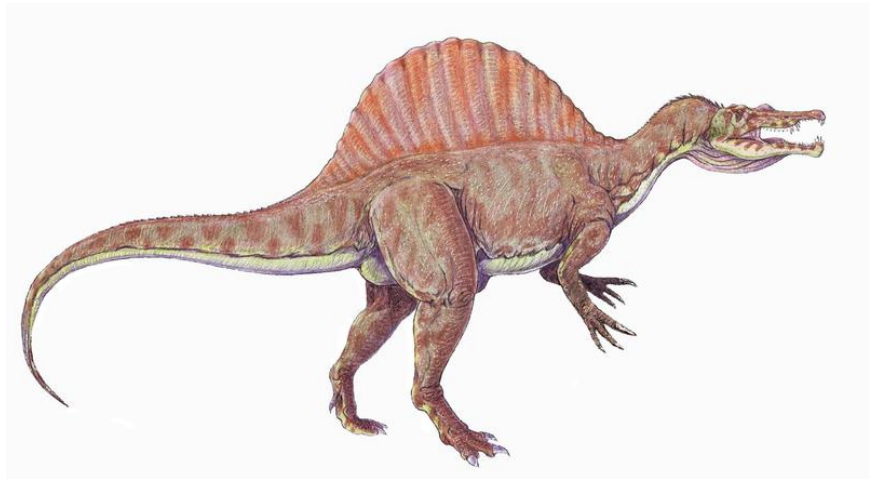
## 9. What is the biggest predatory dinosaur? How big was it?

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spinosaurus>

# Spinosaurus

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Spinosaurus** (meaning "spine lizard") is a genus of theropod dinosaur which lived in what is now North Africa, from the lower Albian to lower Cenomanian stages of the Cretaceous period, about 112 to 97 million years ago. This genus was first known from Egyptian remains discovered in



1912 and described by German paleontologist Ernst Stromer in 1915. The original remains were destroyed in World War II, but additional material has come to light in recent years. It is unclear whether one or two species are represented in the fossils reported in the scientific literature. The best known species is *S. aegyptiacus* from Egypt, although a potential second species, *S. maroccanus* has been recovered from Morocco.



**Spinosaurus may be the largest of all known carnivorous dinosaurs, even larger than Tyrannosaurus and Giganotosaurus.**

Estimates published in 2005 and 2007 suggest that it was 12.6 to 18 meters (41 to 59 ft.) in length and 7 to 20.9 tons (7.7 to 23.0 short tons) in weight. The skull of Spinosaurus was long and narrow like that of a modern

crocodilian. Spinosaurus is known to have eaten fish; evidence suggests that it lived both on land



and in water like a modern crocodilian. The distinctive spines of Spinosaurus, which were long extensions of the vertebrae, grew to at least 1.65 meters (5.4 ft.) long and were likely to have had skin connecting them, forming a sail-like structure, although some authors have suggested that the spines were covered in fat and formed a hump. Multiple functions have been put forward for this structure, including thermoregulation and display.

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## 10. How big is the longest snake ever recorded?

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reticulated\\_python](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reticulated_python)

# *Python reticulatus*

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



**Python reticulatus**, also known as the (Asiatic) reticulated python, is a species of python found in Southeast Asia. Adults can grow to 6.95 m (22.8 ft.) in length but normally grow to an average of 3–6 m (10–20 ft.). They are the world's longest snakes and longest reptile, but are not the most heavily built. Like all pythons, they are nonvenomous constrictors and normally not considered dangerous to humans.

Although large specimens are powerful enough to kill an adult human, attacks are only occasionally reported.

An excellent swimmer, *Python reticulatus* has been reported far out at sea and has colonised many small islands within its range. The specific name, *reticulatus*, is Latin meaning "net-like", or reticulated, and is a reference to the complex color pattern.

This species is the largest snake native to Asia. More than a thousand wild reticulated pythons in southern Sumatra ranged in length from 1.5 to 6.5 m (4.9 to 21 ft.) in length and in weight from 1 to 75 kg (2.2 to 170 lbs.). In general, reticulated pythons with lengths of more than 6 m (20 ft.) are rare, though according to the Guinness Book of World Records it is the only extant snake to regularly exceed that length. A reticulated python of the same length as a Green anaconda may weigh only half as much as the bulkier anaconda. **One of the largest scientifically measured specimens, which was from Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, Indonesia, was measured under anesthesia at 6.95 m (22.8 ft.) and weighed 59 kg (130 lbs.)** after not having eaten for 3 months. Widely published data of specimens that were reported to be several feet longer have not been confirmed.

Even the specimen once widely accepted as the largest-ever "accurately" measured snake, that being Colossus, a male kept at the Highland Park Zoo (now Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, during the 1950s and early 1960s, with a peak reported length of 8.7 m (29 ft.), recently turned out to be wrong. When Colossus died on April 14, 1963, its body was deposited in the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. At that time its skeleton was measured and found to be 20 ft., 10 in (6.35 m) in total length, significantly shorter than the measurement previously published by Barton and Allen. Apparently, they had been adding a few extra feet to the measurements to compensate for "kinks", since it is virtually impossible to completely straighten an extremely large live python. Too large to be preserved with formaldehyde and then stored in alcohol, the specimen was instead prepared as a disarticulated skeleton. The hide was sent to a laboratory to be tanned, but it was either lost or destroyed.

Numerous reports have been made of larger snakes, but since none of these were measured by a scientist nor any of the specimens deposited at a museum, they must be regarded as unproven and possibly erroneous. In spite of what was for many years a standing offer of \$50,000 for a live, healthy snake over 9.1 m (30 ft.) long by the New York Zoological Society (NYZS), known since 1993 as the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), no attempt to claim this reward was ever made.

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