



The Ligeion of Alexandria

Description

The Ligeion was an ancient hippodrome in Alexandria, Egypt. The hippodrome was a large, open-air stadium used for horse racing and other sporting events. It was located near the city's eastern harbor. The name Ligeion was given in honor of "Lagos", the ancestor of the Ptolemies. The track was a simple oval, and the horses raced around it twice to do a full lap. The Ligeion also featured a large, ornate entrance gate and a grandstand where the wealthy and important people of Alexandria could sit and watch the races. The Tethrippon was the most prestigious chariot race organized in the Ligeion, using four horses instead of two; the racers would compete during twelve laps. The most desirable prize was to be acknowledged in the works of famous poets of the time, such as Kallimachos.

Metadata

- City: Alexandria
- Country: Egypt
- GPS Coordinates: 31.2106° N, 29.9187° E
- Landmarks: Lost Worlds
- Cadastral Number: EG.L.LW.A.4