



ROYAL ARMOURIES



BRONZE SAKER XIX.23

Built to last, this amazing Saker was originally cast during the reign of Elizabeth I in about 1601.

However, in the Far East in about 1800 the barrel was inscribed in Chinese recording its fine quality and 'intimidating power'. The Saker was captured from the Chinese by the Royal Navy during the First Opium War (1839-42), being returned to Britain and entering the Royal Armouries collection. With your help we can continue to preserve this well-travelled gun, providing the permanent home it undoubtedly deserves after over 400 years and 10,000 miles.

Date	1601
Calibre (mm)	95
Barrel Length (m)	2.946
Weight (kg)	1,000
Projectile Weight (kg)	2.3-2.7
Range (m)	330
Crew	6
Fire Rate (rounds per min)	1-2



BRONZE LICORNE XIX.815

Every cannon cast was expected to see action at some point in its career and this Russian gun has certainly 'been in the wars'.

Cast in 1793 with a specially designed barrel to allow it to be fired at a high angle or horizontally, it saw action in the Crimean War (1854-56). The damage to its barrel was caused by British or French shells or shot. Imagine the horror and noise of battle with gunners on both sides exchanging fire: 'Cannon to the right of them, cannon to the left of them... volley'd and thunder'd'.

Date 1793

Calibre (mm) 205

Barrel Length (m) 2.8

Weight (kg) 2,768

Projectile Weight (kg) 16.3

Range (m) -

Crew 6

Fire Rate (rounds per min) 0.3

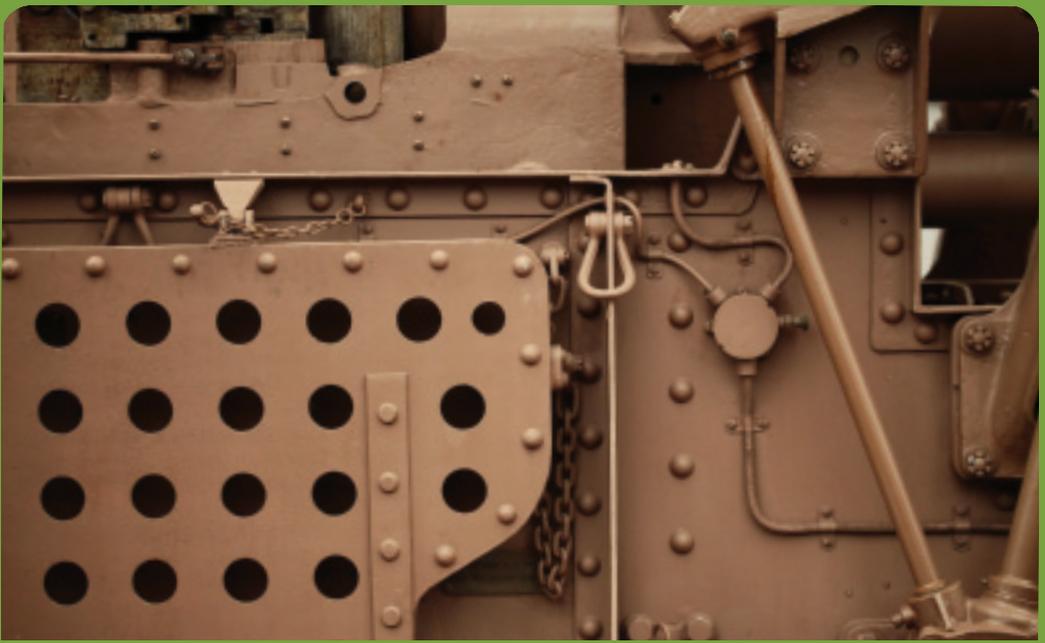


TURKISH BOMBARD XIX.164

Made in 1464, this is one of the oldest and most extraordinary cannon in our collection.

The Turkish Bombard, with its two giant tubes screwed together, can be seen as a forerunner of the Iraqi Supergun. Beautifully inscribed in Arabic text, this Bombard is one of the jewels of the Royal Armouries collection. Unlike the Supergun, this mighty weapon was used - to hurl a 300 kg stone cannonball against its enemies.

Date	1464
Calibre (mm)	635
Barrel Length (m)	5.2
Weight (kg)	16,800
Projectile Weight (kg)	304
Range (m)	1,600
Crew	10+
Fire Rate	15 per day



3.7-INCH ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN & SEARCHLIGHT

XIX.840/XXIII.165

During the grim nights of the Blitz the skilled crews of the 3.7-inch anti-aircraft guns worked closely with their spotters who scanned the sky and directed their searchlight.

All the ammunition for these anti-aircraft batteries along part of the South Coast was supplied directly from Fort Nelson. These guns gave a sense of hope and of fighting back to the civilian population awaiting the fall of Hitler's bombs.

Date 1943

Calibre (mm) 94

Barrel Length (m) 6.54

Weight (kg) 8,120

Projectile Weight (kg) 12.7

Range (m) 9,754

Crew 9

Fire Rate (rounds per min) 8



BOFORS 40MM ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN XIX.861

With one of the most rapid rates of fire, this versatile light anti-aircraft gun was used on both land and sea for over 30 years and was particularly effective against low flying attack aircraft.

Whether operating in the North African desert campaign or on a convoy in the Atlantic Ocean, the Bofors' firepower inevitably saved countless Allied lives during the Second World War.

Date	1940
Calibre (mm)	40
Barrel Length (m)	2.25
Weight (kg)	1,920
Projectile Weight (kg)	1
Range (m)	5,000
Crew	6
Fire Rate (rounds per min)	120

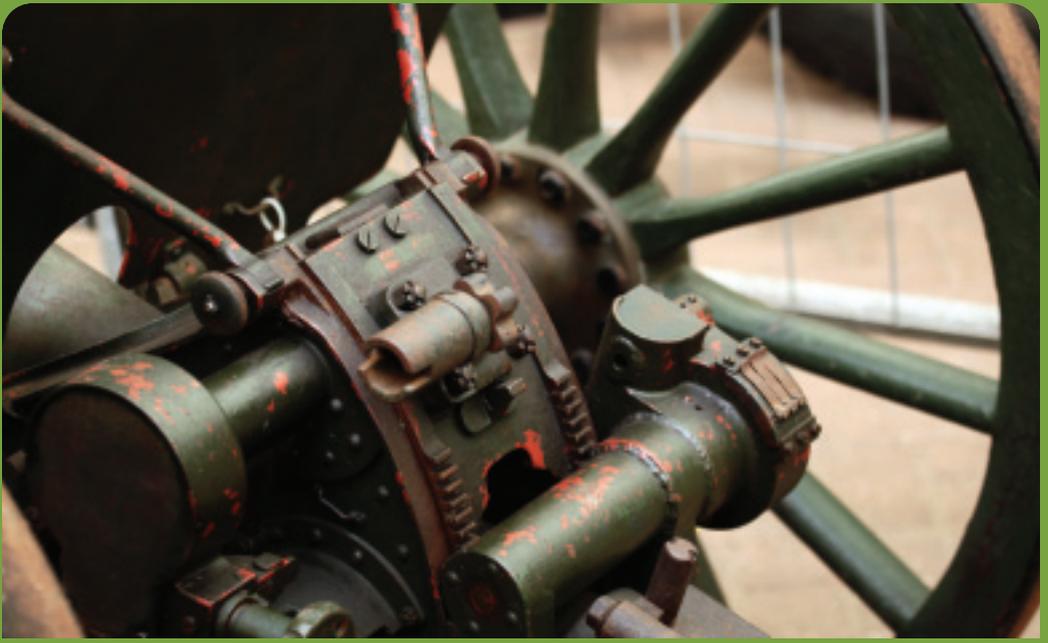


IRAQI SUPERGUN XIX.842-3

One of the most infamous pieces of artillery of the 20th century, the development of the Iraqi Supergun was shrouded in secrecy.

If all its tubes had been fully assembled it would have stretched over 150 metres and been able to send a projectile into a low orbit. These pieces of the Supergun's barrel were seized by British Customs officers in March 1990 just before despatch to Iraq. The gun's inventor, Gerald Bull, was found mysteriously murdered in his Brussels apartment several days earlier.

Date	1988
Calibre (mm)	1,000
Barrel Length (m)	156
Weight (tonnes)	2,100
Projectile Weight (kg)	-
Range (m)	960km
Crew	-
Fire Rate (rounds per min)	-



TYPE 94 QUICK FIRE GUN

XIX.949

Artillery is usually thought of as heavy guns, but the Japanese showed that sometimes 'small is beautiful' by producing a simple, quick-firing weapon that was easily taken apart and re-assembled.

This allowed them to carry this effective killing machine through or over terrain often thought impassable, giving them the element of surprise as well as the power of the gun despite thick jungle or steep mountains.

Date 1941

Calibre (mm) 37

Barrel Length (m) 1.68

Weight (kg) 324

Projectile Weight (kg) 1.23

Range (m) 4,572

Crew 4

Fire Rate (rounds per min) 10-20



BRONZE 6-POUNDER FIELD GUN, L'AVOCAT

XIX.352

During the Napoleonic Wars (1799-1815) French field guns like this inflicted heavy casualties on British officers and men.

Made in 1813, 'L'Avocat' (The Lawyer) was captured by the Duke of Wellington's troops at the battle of Waterloo in 1815.

Date	1813
Calibre (mm)	95.8
Barrel Length (m)	1.68
Weight (kg)	383
Projectile Weight (kg)	2.7
Range (m)	546
Crew	8
Fire Rate (rounds per min)	2



LIGHT FIELD HOWITZER

XIX.532

With this gun German ingenuity solved the puzzle of combining two weapons - field gun and howitzer - in a single weapon.

Previously gunners needed a howitzer to fire shells at a high angle and drop them into the enemy's trenches but a field gun to shoot directly at enemy targets. This 10.5 cm field howitzer made in the last year of the Great War, 1918, pointed a way forward for 20th-century artillery.

Date	1918
Calibre (mm)	105
Barrel Length (m)	2.31
Weight (kg)	1,525
Projectile Weight (kg)	14.81
Range (m)	9,225
Crew	6
Fire Rate (rounds per min)	4-5



25-POUNDER GUN/HOWITZER XIX.911

The 25-pounder gun/howitzer is one of Britain's most iconic artillery weapons used effectively throughout WW2 when its six man crew would have travelled with it from the beaches of Normandy to the outskirts of Berlin.

Most artillerymen during the period, including famous names such as Spike Milligan and Harry Secombe, would have used one of these guns during its 30 years service. A 25-pounder is still fired every day at Fort Nelson as part of our public display.

Date	1943
Calibre (mm)	87.6
Barrel Length (m)	7.9
Weight (kg)	2,030
Projectile Weight (kg)	11.34
Range (m)	12,250
Crew	6
Fire Rate (rounds per min)	5