

Bones to pick, for \$8M: Stan the T rex goes up for auction

September 17 2020



Stan, one of the largest and most complete Tyrannosaurus rex fossil discovered, is on display, Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020, at Christie's in New York. The T. rex named after the paleontologist who first found the skeleton's partially unearthed hip bones, will be auction on Oct. 6, 2020 and will be on public view from Sept. 16 - Oct. 21, 2020 to pedestrians through Christie's floor-to-ceiling gallery windows and a limited number of in-gallery viewings by appointment. Stan's head on the display is a casting of the original, which is too heavy for the display. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

He weighed at least 7 tons and had eyes the size of baseballs. His bite could have crushed a car. He bore scars from fierce prehistoric battles.

All this could be yours for as much as \$8 million.

The legend of the Tyrannosaurus rex nicknamed Stan is getting fresh life thanks to Christie's. The auction house put his bones on display starting Wednesday through floor-to-ceiling windows at its midtown Manhattan gallery in advance of putting them up for auction.

"He is 37 feet long and one of the fiercest killing machines that has ever roamed the earth," said James Hyslop, head of the auction house's science and natural history department.

About 67 million years after Stan did all that roaming and killing, his remains were discovered in 1987 by paleontologist Stan Sacrison in a geological area in the Midwest known as the Cretaceous Badlands.

The fossils became known for forming one of the most intact dinosaur skeletons ever discovered. Researchers also marveled at how the skull had large puncture wounds, speculating that they were the result of T. rex warfare.

The skeleton—being put up for sale by the Black Hills Institute in South Dakota—will remain on display through Oct. 21 at Christie's flagship location at Rockefeller Center. The [auction](#) is set for Oct. 6.

Hyslop assured potential buyers that Stan "is being offered with no reserve. So absolutely everyone has a shot at him."



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The skull of Stan, one of the largest and most complete Tyrannosaurus rex fossil discovered, is on display, Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020, at Christie's in New York. The T. rex named after the paleontologist who first found the skeleton's partially unearthed hip bones, will be auction on Oct. 6, 2020 and will be on public view from Sept. 16 - Oct. 21, 2020 to pedestrians through Christie's floor-to-ceiling gallery windows and a limited number of in-gallery viewings by appointment. Stan's head on the completed display of is a casting of the original, which is too heavy for the display. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

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