

The vertebral foramen at the lumbar levels is **triangular in shape**. They are larger than the vertebral foramina at the thoracic levels and smaller than the vertebral foramina at the cervical levels. Each foramen is enclosed anteriorly by the posterior surface of the vertebral body, by the pedicles laterally and by the laminae posteriorly.

The foramina contain the **cauda equina** (lumbar, sacral and coccygeal spinal nerve roots), filum terminale and spinal meninges, spinal arteries and venous plexuses.