

The two **sympathetic trunks** are longitudinal chains of pre and postganglionic neurons situated either side of the vertebral column. Each trunk extends from the base of the cranium to the coccyx where they are united at the ganglion impar. The **sympathetic ganglia** are located along the trunk as a series of swellings.

Each trunk is found alongside the carotid sheath and passes over the transverse processes of the cervical vertebrae, anterior to the heads of the ribs in the thorax, antero-lateral to the lumbar and sacral bodies and medial to the sacral foramina before passing in front of the coccyx where they meet.