



Ancient Rome

For Key Stage 2

This Pack contains:

5 ARTICLES

2 IMAGES

1 VIDEO

ARTICLE

ancient Rome

The ancient city of Rome was the centre of one of the largest and most powerful empires the world has ever seen. The Roman Empire was based in what is now Italy. As the Roman Empire took over more land and peoples, its influence spread throughout western Europe and into all the lands around the Mediterranean Sea. The achievements of the Romans influenced the languages, literature, laws, methods of government, roads and buildings of all of western Europe.



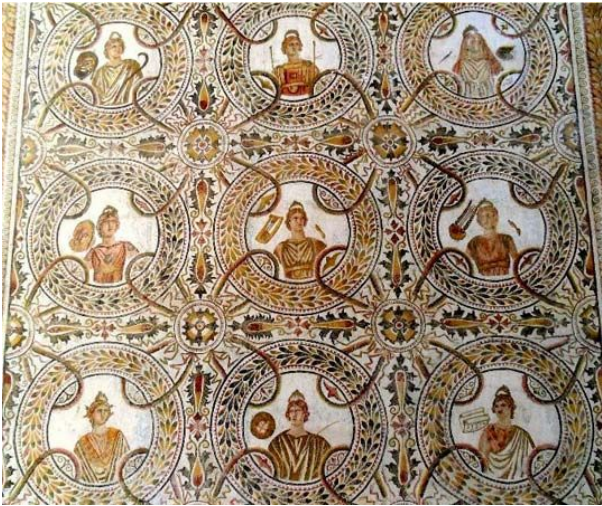
At the height of its power the Roman Empire covered all the lands surrounding the Mediterranean Sea.

Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Ancient Rome can be divided into two main periods. The Roman people established a republic in about 509 BCE. The republic became an empire in 27 BCE. That empire lasted for almost 500 years, until the 400s CE.

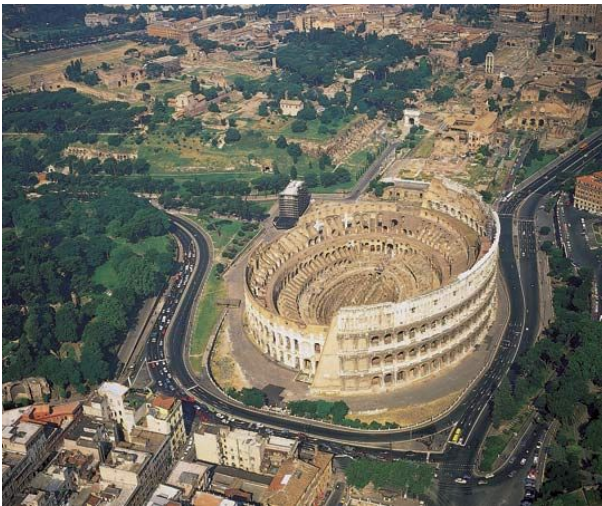
Roman Culture

Ancient Rome made many lasting contributions to world culture. But the Romans also absorbed the culture of the peoples they conquered. For instance, the Romans took many ideas about art from the ancient Greeks. Romans also worshipped many Greek gods, though they gave them new names. Later, Rome adopted Christianity, a religion from the Middle East.



An ancient Roman mosaic is displayed at the El Jem Museum in Tunisia.

© Ron Gatepain



The Colosseum, a giant amphitheatre in Rome, was completed in 82 CE. Among the spectacles presented there were hand-to-hand combats between gladiators.

Artephot/Publi Aer Foto

Painting, sculpture and other forms of art were important to the Romans. Architects built huge buildings that were central to Roman life, including the Colosseum.

Roman writers wrote history, comedy, tragedy and poetry. From Latin, the ancient Roman language, many other languages later developed. These languages, known as the Romance languages, include French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian and Romanian. People today use the Latin alphabet to write these and other western languages, including English.

History

Kingdom



A bronze sculpture shows twin boys named Romulus and Remus with a mother wolf. According to ancient Roman legend, a wolf cared for the boys after they were abandoned.

© mountainpix/Shutterstock.com

The first settlers of Rome were people known as Latins, and the region around the city was called Latium. According to legend, twin brothers named Romulus and Remus founded Rome in 753 BCE. Shortly before 600 BCE, warriors from Etruria, a region north of Rome, attacked the city. The warriors, called Etruscans, conquered Rome.



The Etruscans lived in central Italy at the time of the founding of Rome. The Etruscan people were eventually absorbed by the Roman Empire, but many features of Etruscan culture were adopted by the Romans. This figure of a warrior's head was created by an Etruscan.

Nixdorf

Rome grew steadily under Etruscan kings. It became the largest and richest city on the Italian peninsula. In about 509 BCE the Romans forced the last Etruscan king out of the city. Rome then became a republic. This meant that the Roman people elected the government.

Republic



The Senate was a powerful group of Roman men during the time of the Roman republic.

© DeAgostini/Getty Images

The most important Roman leaders were called consuls. There were two consuls. Assemblies, or groups, of adult male Roman citizens chose both consuls. At first the consuls had to be patricians, or members of upper-class families.

An important group called the Senate gave advice to the consuls. The members, called senators, were patricians. They met in a building in the Forum, an area of Rome that was the centre of public life. The Senate grew more powerful over the years.

Most Romans were not patricians but plebeians, or common people. The plebeians staged an uprising in 494 BCE. They gradually won more power. By 367 BCE one of the two consul positions was set aside for the plebeians.

Rome suffered some setbacks as it slowly expanded its territory. In about 390 BCE a northern group called the Gauls took over the city. They would not leave until the Romans paid them a large amount of gold. Another group called the Samnites defeated the Romans in 321 BCE. In general, however, Rome's conquests could not be stopped. By 275 BCE Rome had forced the Greeks to give up their colonies in Italy.

By 260 BCE Rome's last remaining rival in the western Mediterranean was the city of Carthage in northern Africa. For more than a century the Romans fought Carthage for power. It took three wars – called the Punic Wars – before the Roman forces totally destroyed Carthage in 146 BCE.

Rome then turned to other areas, including Sicily, Spain, Macedonia, Greece and Asia Minor (now Turkey). Governors called proconsuls managed most of the conquered lands. They had great power. The Romans taxed the conquered people heavily. They also enslaved many conquered people. The Romans put these captives to work on farms and as personal servants in cities. Slaves were used in Rome until about the 300s CE.

Empire



Augustus was the first emperor of Rome. Many statues were made to honour the emperor.

© Pcphotography69/Dreamstime.com

In about 133 BCE Rome entered a period of unrest and civil war. Peoples in Italy rebelled against Rome's strict rule in 90 BCE. During 73–71 BCE a gladiator, or professional fighter, named Spartacus led an army of runaway slaves in a war against Rome. Rome defeated both of these rebellions.

Meanwhile, Rome continued to expand its empire. The most successful general was Julius Caesar. He won victories in far-off areas and then took power in Rome. However, his enemies assassinated him in 44 BCE. This set off another period of civil war.

Peace finally came under the leadership of Julius Caesar's grandnephew Octavian. Octavian defeated his rivals for power, including the Roman general Mark Antony and the Egyptian queen Cleopatra, by 30 BCE. He was crowned Rome's first emperor in 27 BCE. He became known as Augustus Caesar. During Augustus' rule, the emperor gained absolute control over the state and came to be worshipped like a god.

Two centuries of peace and progress followed. The empire's frontiers expanded all the way to Britain and the Arabian Peninsula. The Romans built roads, bridges and aqueducts, or water pipes, throughout their vast empire. They also brought their laws to conquered lands.

The emperor Tiberius ruled from 14 to 37 CE. During this time the Roman government in Palestine put Jesus to death. Some of Jesus' followers, called Christians, later set up a community in Rome. At first the Romans did not agree with the Christian religion. They mistreated and killed many Christians. But in 312 CE the emperor Constantine I became a Christian himself. Christianity eventually became the main religion of the Roman Empire.

Downfall

By this time, the empire was weakening. Constantine believed he could strengthen the empire if he moved its centre away from Rome. In 330 he created a new capital in the Greek colony of Byzantium. He renamed the city Constantinople (now Istanbul, Turkey).

After the death of the emperor Theodosius I in 395, the Roman Empire split in two. The Eastern Roman Empire was based in Constantinople. The Western Roman Empire was based in Rome. Several groups of outside peoples, including the Vandals and the Huns, attacked the western empire. A group called the Visigoths attacked the city of Rome in 410. The last western emperor fell in 476. This brought an end to the Western Roman Empire. The eastern empire continued as the Byzantine Empire until 1453.

Citation (MLA style):

"Ancient Rome." *Britannica LaunchPacks: Ancient Rome*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 20 Aug. 2024. packs-learn.eb.co.uk. Accessed 23 Sep. 2024.

While every effort has been made to follow citation style rules, there may be some discrepancies. Please refer to the appropriate style manual or other sources if you have any questions.

ARTICLE

gladiator

Gladiators were professional fighters in ancient Rome. Their fierce battles – sometimes to the death – thrilled stadium crowds and became one of the empire's most popular forms of entertainment.



The Colosseum in Rome is a giant amphitheatre where thousands of gladiators fought. The inner circle is where the gladiators were kept until they were needed to fight. It was originally covered by the amphitheatre's floor.

© Ron Gatepain

The Fighters

Gladiators were usually slaves and criminals. Some were men of high social standing who had fallen on hard times and started fighting to earn a living. There were various classes of gladiators. They were distinguished by

their weapons and way of fighting. Gladiators used everything from knives and nets to chariots and lassos in the battles. Most fighters trained for combat at gladiatorial schools.

The Shows

The shows took place in amphitheatres, which were huge round arenas that could seat thousands of people. The gladiator shows began with a parade of the gladiators through the arena. Then a fake fight with wooden swords and javelins occurred. The signal for real fighting was given by the sound of the trumpet. Gladiators who refused to fight were driven into the arena with whips and red-hot irons.

The reward for victory was palm branches and sometimes money. A gladiator who won many combats might be allowed to stop fighting if he so desired. Sometimes gladiators were employed by emperors as bodyguards. A successful gladiator became famous and popular.

History

The term gladiator comes from Latin word for 'sword'. Gladiators originally performed at funerals, perhaps to give the dead man armed companions in the next world. These fights were usually to the death. Eventually, these battles grew popular and became public exhibitions. As a result, the battles increased in size from three pairs of fighters at the first known exhibition in 264 BCE to 5,000 pairs under the emperor Trajan (107 CE). Although most of the major shows took place in Rome, contests occurred throughout the empire.

As Christianity became more popular, the number of shows began to decline. The emperor Constantine I abolished gladiatorial games in 325 CE. They continued on, however, until the emperor Honorius (393–423 CE) again outlawed them. Even then, they may have continued on for another century.

Citation (MLA style):

"Gladiator." *Britannica LaunchPacks: Ancient Rome*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 20 Aug. 2024. packs-learn.eb.co.uk. Accessed 23 Sep. 2024.

While every effort has been made to follow citation style rules, there may be some discrepancies. Please refer to the appropriate style manual or other sources if you have any questions.

ARTICLE

Julius Caesar

The Roman general and dictator Julius Caesar helped to make Rome one of the greatest of all ancient empires. He was also an accomplished scholar and writer. His work was cut short when he was assassinated in 44 BCE.



Julius Caesar was a leader of ancient Rome. He built a mighty empire. This marble bust of Caesar is in the Capitoline Museum in Rome.
Alinari/Art Resource, New York

Early Life

Julius Caesar was born on 12 or 13 July, probably in 100 BCE. His father, Gaius Caesar, died when Caesar was 16. Caesar's mother, Aurelia, influenced her son greatly.

Caesar's clan, or family, was patrician, meaning that Caesar was a member of Rome's aristocracy, or upper class. Despite its noble background, Caesar's family supported the common people in politics.

Caesar studied public speaking on the Mediterranean island of Rhodes. On his way to Rhodes, Caesar was captured by pirates who demanded he pay them a ransom of gold. Caesar quickly raised not only the ransom but also a small navy. He then captured the pirates and had them killed.

Caesar Enters Politics

After Caesar returned from Rhodes, he began his political career. In 69 or 68 BCE he became a Roman financial official known as a quaestor. Caesar soon moved up to the next rung of the Roman political ladder. As overseer of holidays and religious festivals, he organised spectacular games that made him popular with the public.

To strengthen his reputation, Caesar formed a political alliance with the two most powerful men in Rome – the wealthy Marcus Licinius Crassus and the popular general Pompey the Great. This alliance became known as the First Triumvirate. In 59 BCE Caesar was elected to be consul, the highest public office in ancient Rome. As one of two consuls, he ruled the Roman state for one year.

After his year in office Caesar left Rome to govern Gaul, a province that is now France. He spent the next nine years bringing Gaul under Roman rule. In Gaul, Caesar worked and fought alongside his soldiers. Conquering tribe after tribe of peoples in western Europe, he earned a reputation as an organised leader and a great warrior.

Caesar Takes Rome

Meanwhile, Caesar's old ally Crassus was killed while fighting in Asia. Caesar and Pompey then became rivals for power. Pompey persuaded the Roman Senate to order Caesar to give up his power, but Caesar was unwilling to do that. He marched back from Gaul towards Italy at the head of his army, ready to fight Pompey.

In January of 49 BCE Caesar hesitated at the bank of the Rubicon River, which divided Gaul and Italy. He knew that crossing it would mean he was declaring war on Pompey and Rome. At last he 'crossed the Rubicon', a phrase still used today to describe an irreversible decision. When Caesar crossed the river, he reportedly exclaimed, 'The die is cast!'

The Romans sided with Caesar, so Pompey fled across the sea to Greece. Caesar seized the treasury in Rome and set up a temporary government with himself as dictator. Five years of civil war between Caesar's forces and the supporters of Pompey followed.

Caesar pursued Pompey to Egypt, but Pompey was murdered before Caesar could catch him. To prove his power, Caesar continued to fight and win battles. After one victory in Asia, he sent back the message, '*Veni, vidi, vici*', which means 'I came, I saw, I conquered'.

When Caesar returned to Rome he pardoned those who had sided with Pompey. He became the permanent head of the government and gained many powers and honours. A statue of him labelled 'To the Unconquerable God' showed that some Romans even compared him to a divine being.

The Ides of March

Not all Romans believed in Caesar, however. Many people thought that the empire should still be governed by a group of people rather than by one man alone.

On 15 March (the Ides of March in the Roman calendar), 44 BCE, 60 senators joined in a conspiracy to assassinate Caesar at a meeting of the Senate. Leading the conspirators was Caesar's friend Marcus Junius Brutus.

Caesar's Legacy

The murder of Caesar deprived Rome of perhaps its greatest statesman and soldier, but his legacy remains. Caesar instituted the Julian calendar, which became the basis for the calendar now used in most parts of the world. The Roman month Quintilis, in which Caesar was born, was renamed July in his honour. The drama of Caesar's death is depicted in the play *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare.

Citation (MLA style):

"Julius Caesar." *Britannica LaunchPacks: Ancient Rome*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 20 Aug. 2024. packs-learn.eb.co.uk. Accessed 23 Sep. 2024.

While every effort has been made to follow citation style rules, there may be some discrepancies. Please refer to the appropriate style manual or other sources if you have any questions.

ARTICLE

mythology

Britannica Note:

See the section on Collections of Myths.

Mythology is the rich collection of traditional tales called myths from cultures all over the world. Many myths date back to ancient times. They are stories about how the world was created and why certain things happen. Today the word myth is often used to describe something that is not true. But myths are much more than pure fiction. They tell of gods or other supreme beings, heroes and events that a group believes, or at one time believed, to be true.



Many different cultures have created myths to explain the world around them.

Judie Anderson/Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Background

Thousands of years ago, humankind did not have the sciences to help them understand life. They did not know why the Sun rises each morning, why the moon changes shapes or why the seasons change. Ancient peoples witnessed sickness, death and natural disasters, but they did not understand what caused them.

Groups of people developed their own stories and beliefs to explain the world around them. These stories, sometimes quite imaginative, were usually not written down. Instead, they were part of an oral tradition, meaning they were passed from one generation to another through telling stories. Upon hearing the stories, people accepted them as the truth. In this way, myths became beliefs. It is for this reason that mythology is closely associated with religion.

Types of Myths

Since each group of people developed their own explanations, mythology differs from culture to culture. But all myths try to answer basic questions such as: How was the world created? How did life on Earth begin? Why is there evil in the world?

Myths explain the origins of Earth in many different ways. Many cultures believe that an all-powerful god created the world. For example, the Polynesians, a Pacific islands people, believed a supreme god they called Io formed the world out of water and darkness. People living in the cold lands of what is now northern Europe believed that

the mist was created first. According to the ancient Scandinavian tradition, the mist flowed through 12 rivers and froze, filling the emptiness of the world with many layers of ice, which was later melted by a warm wind. Other cultures, including the Arapaho of North America as well as civilisations in Egypt and Japan, thought of humans as descendants of a sun god.

To explain the origin of the human race, an ancient story from India described a being called the Self in the shape of a man. When the Self became lonely, it divided into two parts, creating man and woman. Their children became the human race. Many myths from western Africa tell that the first beings were a pair of twins. The Sumerians, an ancient Middle Eastern people, believed that the god of the waters told his mother to take bits of clay and mould them into the shapes of men and women. These are only a sample of a great variety of myths about the beginnings of human life.

Many cultures also have myths explaining why there is evil in the world. For example, an ancient Greek myth tells the story of Pandora, the first woman on Earth. She opened a jar filled with all kinds of evil and released them on the world. A great variety of other myths explain the origins of animals, plants and events in nature.

Many other myths tell of the gods. Stories discuss their births, special powers and victories over monsters or enemies. Many cultures also have myths about heroes with amazing strength or cleverness. For instance, ancient Greek myths tell that the brave warrior Heracles completed 12 nearly impossible tasks. The Chinese hero Yü is said to have saved China by draining the land after a huge flood.

Collections of Myths

Many groups of people developed complex collections of myths, especially in ancient times. Their stories describe a group of gods and the world that the gods live in.

The ancient Egyptians had many gods. Some looked like people and some looked like animals. The doglike god Anubis was the god of the dead. Re was the sun god. For a time a ruler named Amenhotep made the Sun the only god. He called the god Aton, and he changed his own name to Akhenaton, or Ikhnaton. But after he died the other gods were worshipped again.

Some figures of Egyptian mythology

name	description
Amon	one of the chief gods
Bastet	goddess of music and pregnant women; cat-headed
Hathor	goddess of women and love; cow-headed
Horus	god whose eyes were the Sun and the Moon; appeared as a falcon
Isis	important goddess; wife of Osiris and mother of Horus
Khnum	god of fertility; ram-headed
Mont	god of war; falcon-headed
Nut	goddess of the sky
Osiris	important god of the underworld
Re	chief Sun god
Seth	god of disorder; had some features of a dog
Thoth	god of the moon, wisdom, and writing; ibis-headed

The ancient Greeks also worshipped many gods. They believed that a group of major gods lived on Mount Olympus. The members of this group are often called the 12 Olympian gods. Some of the members changed over time. But Zeus was always the king of the gods.

Some figures in ancient Greek and Roman mythology

Major gods and goddesses		
Greek name	Roman name	description
Aphrodite	Venus	goddess of love and beauty
Apollo	Apollo	god of music, healing, light, prophecy, and the Sun
Ares	Mars	god of war
Artemis	Diana	goddess of wild animals, hunting, and the moon
Athena	Minerva	goddess of war, wisdom, and handicrafts
Demeter	Ceres	goddess of grain and farming
Dionysus	Bacchus	god of wine and merriment
Hades	Pluto	god of the underworld
Hephaestus	Vulcan	god of fire
Hera	Juno	queen of the gods; goddess of marriage and women's lives
Hermes	Mercury	messenger of the gods
Hestia	Vesta	goddess of the home and architecture
Poseidon	Neptune	god of the sea
Zeus	Jupiter	king of the gods
Other figures		
name	description	
Atlas	Titan who carried the heavens on his shoulders	
Daedalus	inventor who made wax wings for himself and his son, Icarus	
Helen of Troy	beautiful woman who caused the Trojan War	
Heracles (Hercules)	hero who completed 12 nearly impossible tasks	
Midas	king whose touch turned everything to gold	
Muses	nine sister goddesses who inspired people in the arts and sciences	
Narcissus	handsome young man who fell in love with his own reflection	
Orpheus	musician who tried to rescue his wife, Eurydice, from the underworld	
Pandora	the first woman; she opened a jar that released evil into the world	
Pegasus	winged horse who brought thunder and lightning to Zeus	
Perseus	hero who killed Medusa, a monster with snakes for hair	
Prometheus	Titan who stole fire from the gods and gave it to humans	
Titans	giants who once ruled the world; included Cronus (god of farming) and Prometheus (god of fire)	

Although most myths were not recorded, the Greeks wrote about them in poems and dramas. The oldest of these writings are *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, epic poems from the 700s or 800s BCE. The poet Homer is said to have written these sources, which focus on events surrounding the Trojan War. They also tell of the activities of the gods. Myths about the Greek gods describe their births, their victories over monsters or rivals and their special powers. The Greeks viewed their myths as divine or timeless truths. These truths influenced not only literature, but the thoughts of Greek philosophers as well.

Later, the Romans adopted Greek myths, assuming them as their own. However, they changed the names of many gods and goddesses. For example, Zeus became known as Jupiter. The great Roman poet Ovid preserved these myths in his works. The stories became the source of poetry, drama, paintings and other works of art that are familiar to people in Europe and the Americas.

Norse mythology developed long ago in northern Europe. Its main god was Odin. He and the other gods lived in Asgard. A palace called Valhalla was part of Asgard. After dying in battle, human warriors were taken to Valhalla by warrior women called Valkyries.

Some figures of Norse (northern European) mythology

name	description
Balder	god of light and peace
Freyja	goddess of love, fertility, battle, and death
Freyr	god of fertility, rain, and sunshine
Frigg	goddess of marriage; wife of Odin
Hel	goddess of the dead
Loki	god of mischief
Odin	chief god
Thor	god of thunder
Tyr	god of war and justice
Ull	god of hunting
Valkyries	female messengers of Odin who took the souls of heroes to Valhalla (heaven for warriors)

Citation (MLA style):

"Mythology." *Britannica LaunchPacks: Ancient Rome*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 20 Aug. 2024. packs-learn.eb.co.uk. Accessed 23 Sep. 2024.

While every effort has been made to follow citation style rules, there may be some discrepancies. Please refer to the appropriate style manual or other sources if you have any questions.

ARTICLE

Pompeii

Pompeii was an ancient city in southern Italy. In 79 CE a volcano called Mount Vesuvius erupted close by. Thousands of people died, and the city was buried. Archaeologists later cleared away much of the rubble. They uncovered ruins that gave historians a look at life in the Roman Empire. At the time of its destruction Pompeii had between 10,000 and 20,000 inhabitants.



Pompeii was declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1997.

Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.



A bakery with a brick oven and mill are among the ruins at Pompeii, Italy.

© Ron Gatepain

Location

Pompeii was a village in the Campania region of southern Italy situated at the base of Mount Vesuvius. It was near the mouth of the Sarnus River, which is now called the Sarno River. Located about 23 kilometres (14 miles) south-east of Naples, Pompeii was built on a ridge formed by prehistoric lava flow.

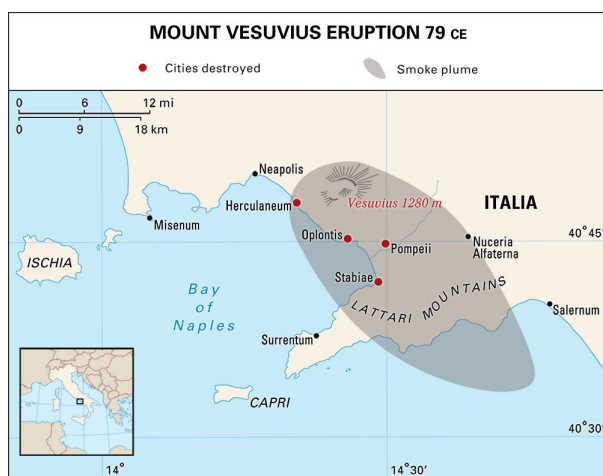
History

People

Pompeii and a few nearby towns were probably first settled during ancient times by the inhabitants of Campania. Pompeii came under the influence of the Greeks in the 700s BCE. Various other nations took control of the region at different times until finally it became part of the Roman world in about 290 BCE. Latin was established as the official language, and the town soon reflected the Roman influence in its society, art and architecture. An earthquake in 62 CE greatly damaged Pompeii and neighbouring areas.

Between 10,000 and 20,000 people lived in Pompeii at the time of its destruction.

Mount Vesuvius Erupts



The eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 CE burying Pompeii and a number of other cities.

Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Mount Vesuvius erupted on 24 August 79 CE. A vivid eyewitness report is preserved in two letters written to a Roman historian. Just after midday on 24 August pieces of ash, volcanic glass and rock began pouring down on Pompeii. The town was covered to a depth of more than 3 metres (9 feet). The roofs of many houses caved in. Waves of burning material and heated gas reached the town on the morning of 25 August. Many residents escaped, but those who were still there could not breathe. Additional flows of melted lava and rains of ash followed, adding at least another 3 metres of rock pieces and preserving everything in a covering of ash. Pompeii remained buried under a layer of volcanic stones and ash 6 to 7 metres (19 to 23 feet) deep. This sudden burial served to protect it for the next 17 centuries from robbery and destruction by the effects of the climate.

Study of the Ruins

Domenico Fontana, an Italian architect, discovered the ruins at Pompeii in the late 1500s. Archaeological work, however, did not begin until 1748. In 1763 an inscription was found that identified the site as Pompeii. The work at this site in the mid-1700s marked the start of the modern science of archaeology.

Early excavations, or digs, were often done without much planning and were frequently carried out by treasure seekers or other untrained workers. The Italian archaeologist Giuseppe Fiorelli became director of the project in

1860. He brought order to the work. Areas lying between excavated sites were cleared and carefully documented. The work has been ongoing since then except for an interruption for World War II. By the 1990s, about two-thirds of the city had been excavated.

Historians have been able to learn a great deal about Pompeii from the excavations. The city that was uncovered was remarkably well-preserved. Streets lined with stores and homes, as well as everyday items in those buildings remained as they were when the ash started falling.

European artists, architects, potters and other craftsmen were greatly inspired by the artistic traditions discovered in Pompeii. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared Pompeii a World Heritage site in 1997.

Citation (MLA style):

"Pompeii." *Britannica LaunchPacks: Ancient Rome*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 20 Aug. 2024. packs-learn.eb.co.uk. Accessed 23 Sep. 2024.

While every effort has been made to follow citation style rules, there may be some discrepancies. Please refer to the appropriate style manual or other sources if you have any questions.

 IMAGE

Colosseum



The Colosseum, a giant amphitheater in Rome, was completed in AD 82. Among the spectacles presented there were hand-to-hand combats between gladiators.

Artephot/Publi Aer Foto

Citation (MLA style):

Colosseum. Image. *Britannica LaunchPacks: Ancient Rome*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 20 Aug. 2024. packs-learn.eb.co.uk. Accessed 23 Sep. 2024.

While every effort has been made to follow citation style rules, there may be some discrepancies. Please refer to the appropriate style manual or other sources if you have any questions.

 IMAGE

lyre: woman playing a lyre



A painting from ancient Rome shows a woman playing a lyre.

Photograph by Stephen Sandoval. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, Rogers Fund, 1903 (03.14.5)

Citation (MLA style):

Lyre: woman playing a lyre. Image. Britannica LaunchPacks: Ancient Rome, Encyclopædia Britannica, 20 Aug. 2024. packs-learn.eb.co.uk. Accessed 23 Sep. 2024.

While every effort has been made to follow citation style rules, there may be some discrepancies. Please refer to the appropriate style manual or other sources if you have any questions.

 VIDEO

Travel ancient Rome's lava-paved Appian Way, stretching across southeastern Italy



Video Transcript

NARRATOR: The Appian Way was the first of the great roads built by the ancient Romans, who called it the Via Appia. Paved with blocks of lava, the Appian Way stretched for hundreds of miles between Rome and southeastern Italy. Parts of the famous road can still be seen near Rome, where monuments to ancient Romans still line the roadside.

Learn about the Appian Way, the first great Roman road, parts of which can still be seen.

Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Citation (MLA style):

Travel ancient Rome's lava-paved Appian Way, stretching across southeastern Italy. Video. Britannica LaunchPacks: Ancient Rome, Encyclopædia Britannica, 20 Aug. 2024. packs-learn.eb.co.uk. Accessed 23 Sep. 2024.

While every effort has been made to follow citation style rules, there may be some discrepancies. Please refer to the appropriate style manual or other sources if you have any questions.