

# ANCIENT ROME

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## INTRODUCTION

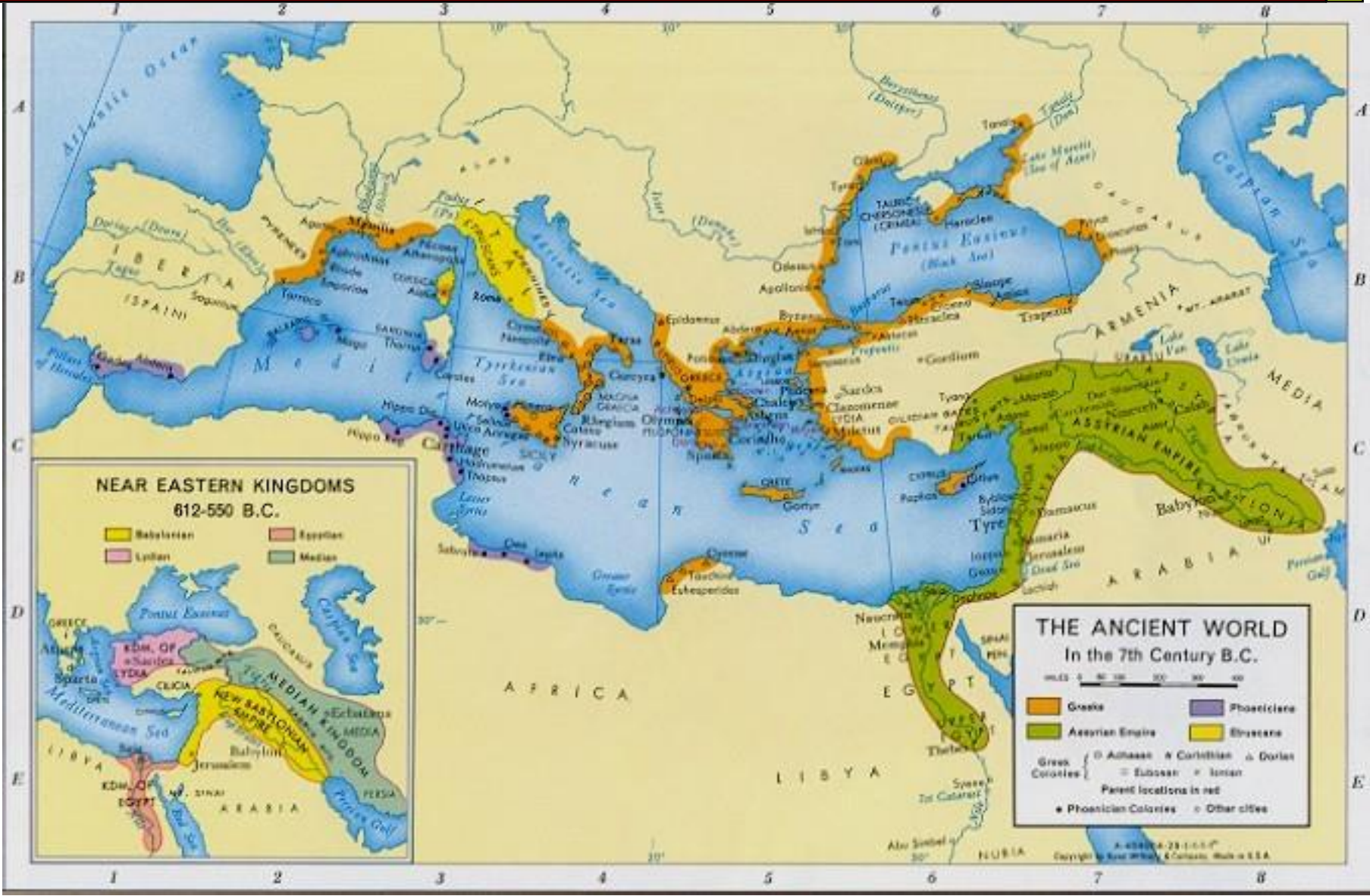




# WHAT DO WE ALREADY KNOW ABOUT ANCIENT ROME?

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People? Places? Gods/Goddesses?



**NEAR EASTERN KINGDOMS  
612-550 B.C.**

- Babylonian
- Lydian
- Egyptian
- Median

**THE ANCIENT WORLD  
In the 7th Century B.C.**

0 10 20 30 40

- Greeks
- Assyrian Empire
- Phoenicians
- Etruscans

Greek Colonies:  Adriaean  Carthian  Doric  
 Sibaritan  Ionian

Parent localities in red  
 Phoenician Colonies in blue  
 Other cities in black

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# THE LAND OF THE ROMANS

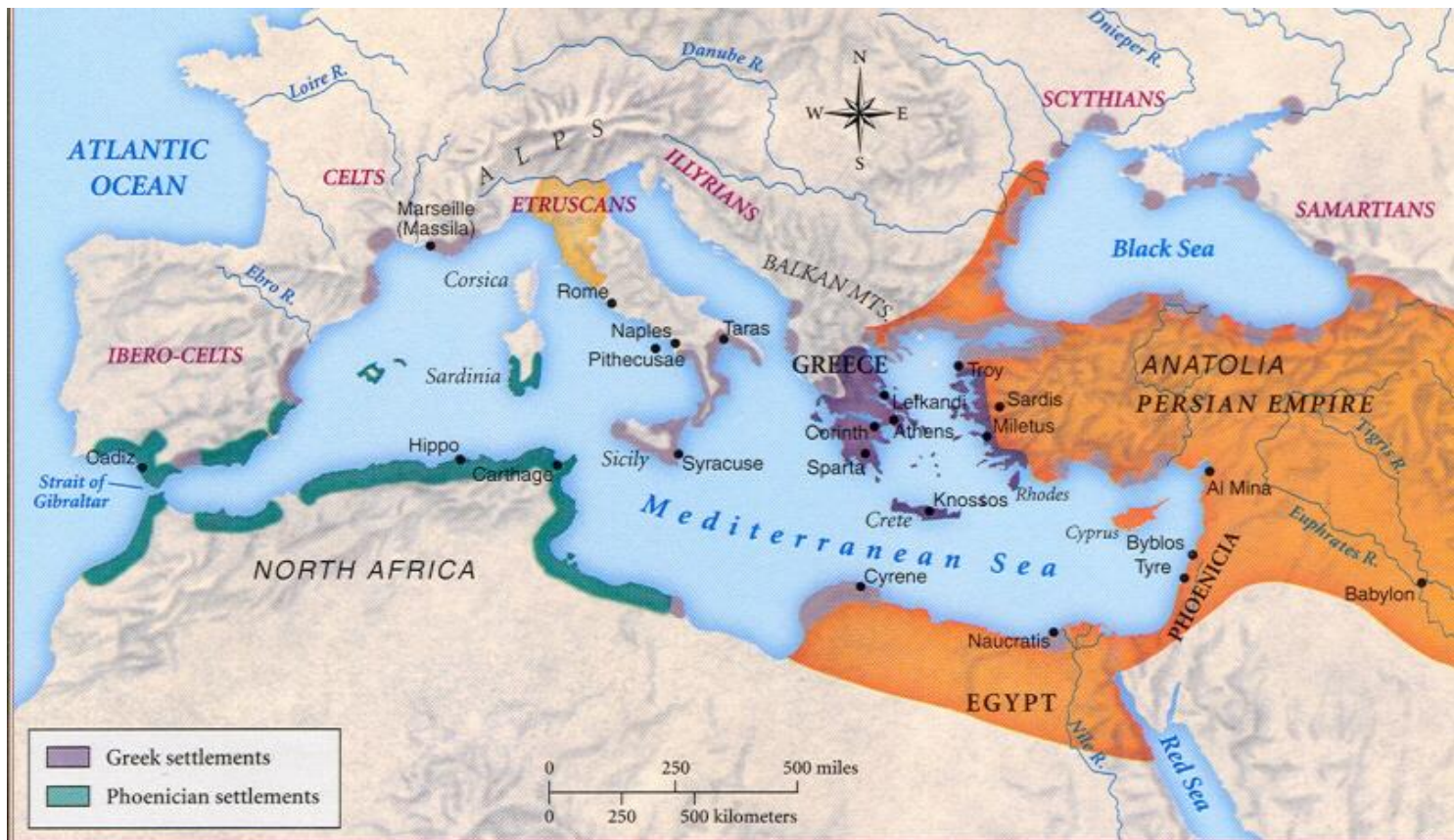
- The land of the Romans was about 3x larger than that of the Greeks.
- Hilly and mountainous - made transport and communications difficult.
- Rome's economy depended on agriculture and was lucky to have large areas of fertile land ideal for farming.

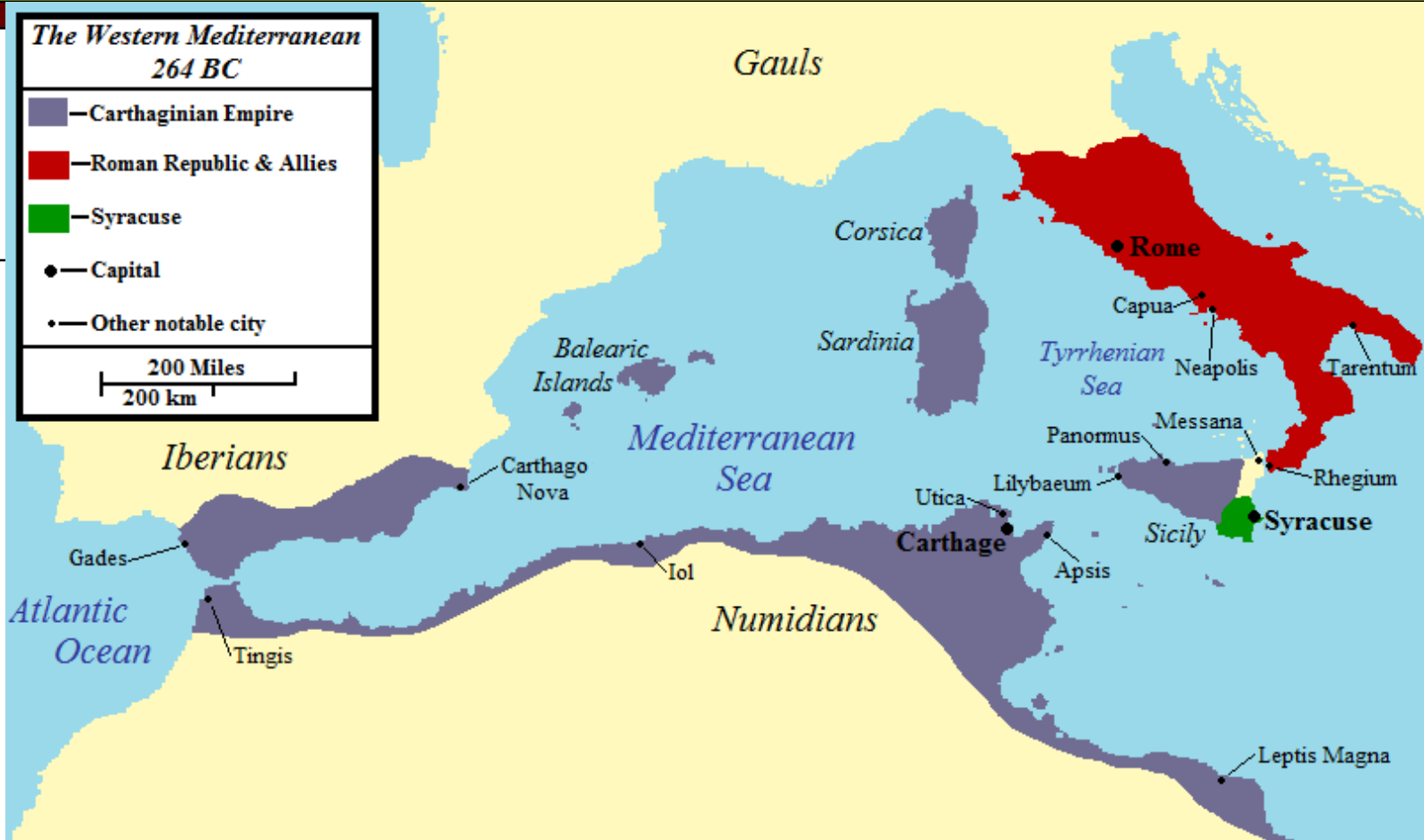




# Location, location, location!

- ❑ Trade was lively because of its geographic location.
- ❑ Romans could reach the Middle East, Greece, Spain and North Africa by sea.





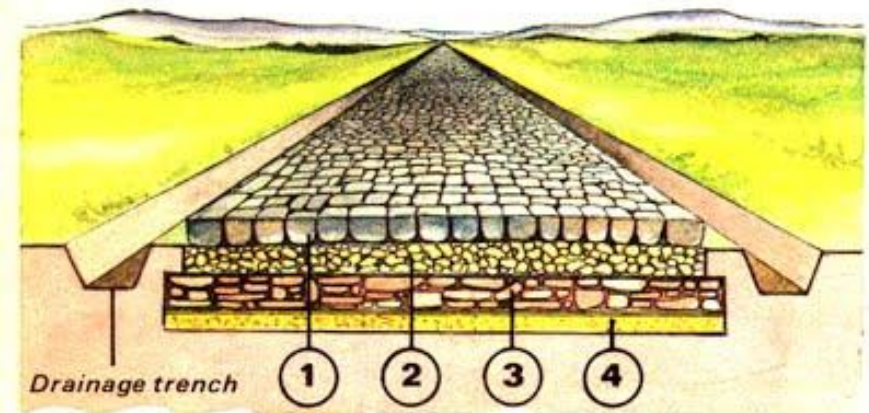
- Because the major natural ports were found on the western side of the peninsula and Rome was located only 24 km from the Mediterranean most trade was experienced with civilizations to the west of Rome.

# All Roads Lead To Rome

- The emperors of Rome recognized the importance of trade and often constructed an extensive network of well paved, well drained roads that connected the sprawling empire together.



Cross-section of a Roman road



1. The surface was made of blocks of stone in concrete.

2. Concrete, made of gravel or coarse sand mixed with lime.

3. Lime concrete mixed with broken stone.

4. Lime mortar or sand laid to form a level base.



# Rivers

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- Italy has three major rivers that influenced the growth of Roman civilization: the Po River in the far north, the Arno River in Etruria and the Tiber River which flows through the city of Rome.





Po River

Arno River

Tiber River

100 km

60 mi

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It's important to notice how early civilizations were heavily dependent on rivers and other bodies of water to help with trade and communication.

# Influences on Rome:

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- Two influential groups occupied the Italian Peninsula: The Greeks and the Etruscans.
  
- GREEKS
  - Built colonies there around 750-550 BCE), which grew into prosperous city-states
  - Also occupied Sicily and the southern tip of the peninsula.
  - Greek culture flourished and they passed on their alphabet and artistic and cultural influences.



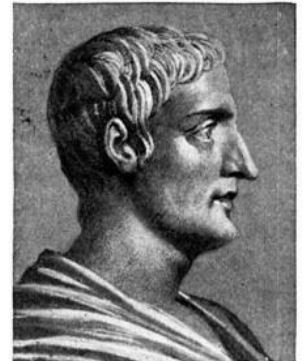
# Greek Influence



# Etruscans

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- Developed a civilization just north of Rome.
- Highly sophisticated society.
- Expanded into Rome around 650 BCE and ruled for almost 100 years.
- Ruled by the Tarquin family.
- The last King, known as Tarquin the Proud, was overthrown by the Romans in 509 BCE.





# Etruscan Influence

- During the 100 years under the Etruscan monarchial rule the Romans learned about the arch, aqueducts, harbour building, urban drainage, and metal working.
- In addition to these influences the Romans also adopted the idea of compulsory military service as well as a view of governmental rule, in simple terms: oppressive kings are not welcomed.



Tomb painting of Etruscans  
wining and dining.

# Video: Etruscan influence on Rome

