ancient Rome: TIMELINE

The Roman Empire was one of the greatest and most influential civilizations in world history. It began in Rome in 753 BC and lasted almost 1000 years. It grew to rule much of Europe, Northern Africa, and Western Asia. Below are some of the key events that occurred throughout ancient Rome.

end of the Roman Republic.

44 BC



753 BC	Rome is founded. The legend states that Romulus and Remus , twin sons of Mars , the god of war, founded the city. Romulus then killed Remus and became the king of Rome. For the next 240 years Rome was ruled by a king .					
509 BC	Rome becomes a republic after the last king is overthrown. Rome is ruled by elected officials called senators . A constitution with laws and a complex republic government is created.					
218 BC	Hannibal, the leader of the Carthage army, leads an invasion of Italy in his famous crossing of the Alps to attack Rome during the Second Punic War.					
73 BC	Gladiator, Spartacus , leads slaves in an uprising. He is eventually defeated, but not before causing Rome a lot of trouble.					
45 BC	Julius Caesar becomes the first dictator of Rome. He famously crossed the Rubicon to defeat Pompey in a civil war to become the supreme ruler of Rome. This victory signals the					

Caesar is assassinated by Marcus Brutus, who hoped to

bring back the republic. However, civil war breaks out.

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Caesar Augustus becomes the first Roman Emperor after prevailing in the civil war. The Roman Empire begins.
Much of Rome burns while supposedly Emperor Nero watched while playing his lyre .
Mt. Vesuvius erupts
The Colosseum , one of the greatest examples of Roman engineering, is finished. It seats 50,000 spectators.
The Hadrian Wall , a long wall across northern England , is built to keep out the barbarians .
Constantine becomes Emperor and converts to Christianity. Rome becomes a Christian empire after previous Romans had persecuted Christians.
Theodosius I declares Christianity to be the sole religion of the Roman Empire.
Rome splits into two empires .
The Visigoths sack Rome . This is the first time in 800 years that Rome has fallen to an enemy.
The Western Roman Empire falls, marking the end of Ancient Rome. Emperor Romulus Augustus is defeated by the German Goth Odoacer . The Dark Ages in Europe starts.
The Byzantine Empire ends as it falls to the Ottoman Empire .

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IDENTIFY: Use the word bank to identify each description.

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Brutus N		lero	Ottoman	Spartacus	J. Caesar			
Romulus	Theo	odosius I	senators	Colosseum	Dark Ages			
Constantine	Visigoths		Caesar Augustus	Vesuvius	Hadrian			
		I. Stadiu	ım that seated	d 50,000 spect	ators			
		2. Grou	p who defeate	d Rome				
		3. Twin	who defeated	his brother to	found Rome			
4. Took control of the Byzantine Empire								
		5. Assa	ssinated Caesc	ır				
		6. Empe	eror when mos	st of Rome bu	rned			
7. Period that followed the fall of ancient Rome								
		8. Rome was ruled by these starting in 509 BC						
		9. First Roman Emperor						
		10. Gladi	ator who led a	slave rebellion				
		II. Declared Christianity the sole religion of Rome						
		12. Wall built in northern England						
		13 First	Roman dictat	or				
		14. Emperor who converted to Christianity						
		15. Erup	ted in 79 AD					

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the best answer.

- 16. Which event occurred FIRST in Ancient Rome?
- A. The Byzantine Empire fell to the Ottoman Empire.
- B. Christianity was declared Rome's main religion.
- C. The Roman Colosseum was completed.
- D. Caesar Augustus becomes the Emperor of Rome.
- 17. Which Roman leader was the **first** dictator of Rome?
- A. Caesar Augustus
- B. Julius Caesar
- C. Hannibal
- D. Romulus Augustus
- 18. What is the **main** reason the Hadrian Wall was built?
- A. To keep Hannibal out of Rome.
- B. To keep the Visigoths out of Rome.
- C. To keep barbarians out of England.
- D. To keep barbarians out of Rome.
- 19. Which best completes the analogy?

509 BC: Republic :: 27 BC: _____

- A. Empire
- B. Dictatorship
- C. Communist
- D. Monarchy
- 20. Which would be **LEAST** necessary to include in a summary of Ancient Rome's history?
- A. The Ancient Roman government changed leadership many times.
- B. Ancient Rome ruled much of Europe, Northern Africa, and Western Asia for almost 1000 years.
- C. Rome split into two empires in 395 AD.
- D. Ancient Rome was one of the most influential early civilizations.

