

Founding of Rome

In 1200 BC, after the fall of Troy, the gods ordered Aeneas to lead his people to the promised land. Aeneas's group joined forces with Latins in Italy. Groups with iron weapons invaded lands around the Mediterranean. One group invaded Egypt and ended the New Kingdom. Another moved into the Balkan Peninsula. A third, the Latins, settled on Palatine about 1000 BC.

Latins

The Latins built some of the earliest farming settlements. The area where the Latins settled had a pleasant climate and fertile soil. They had dense forests that supplied them with timber. They built roads to bring salt from the coast. By 775 BC, Rome was a village of about 1,000 people. Farming was the main occupations of the Latins. They lived in wooden huts. Their main crops were wheat and barley.

Romulus and Remus Story



In 800 BC, Romulus & Remus were born. The legend says, Rome was founded on Palatine Hill by Romulus & Remus. According to legend, Rome was founded in 753 BC by twin brothers Romulus and Remus. Abandoned by their uncle, they were rescued by a she-wolf. They were found and raised by a shepherd. The brothers vowed to build a city to honour the she-wolf on the hill where they had been found. Romulus & Remus quarreled about the city boundaries. Remus was killed and Romulus became the first King of Rome - which was named after him.

The Etruscans

History



Around 800 BC, Etruscans settle in Etruria, north of the Palatine. Historians believe first that they came from Lydia in Asia Minor.

Famine Story

In Lydia they did not have enough food. They ate only on the even numbered days. The famine continued so one-half the people left. they were led by the king's son, Tarquin.

Now, it is generally thought that their civilization developed in Italy from the Villanovan culture

They built cities high on hilltops, each surrounded by a thick wall. They were known as "the people from the sea." As pirates they were feared and envied. As traders they were admired and respected. By 600 BC, they dominated all of northern Italy. That included the Latin village on Palatine hill.

Organization

League of Twelve Peoples.

Formed for religious purposes but evidently having some political functions.

They met annually at Fanum, the chief sanctuary of the Etruscans.

Lauchme (Latin *lucumo*) was the Etruscan word for "king."

The cities that composed the Etruscan *Dodecapoli* or league of "twelve cities"

- Arretium (modern Arezzo)
- Caisra, Cisca (Caere or modern Cerveteri, and its *frazione* Cere)
- Cleusin, (Clusium or modern Chiusi)
- Curtun (modern Cortona)
- Perusna (Perugia)
- Pupluna, Fufluna (Populonia)
- Veia (Veii or modern Veio)
- Tarch(u)na (Tarquinii or modern Tarquinia-Corneto)
- Vetluna, Vetluna (Vetulonia)
- Felathri (Volaterrae or modern Volterra)
- Velzna (Volsinii, presumed modern Orvieto)
- Velch, Velc(a)l (Vulci or modern Volci).

Farming

Grew barley, millet, wheat, grapes, and other fruits.

They raised pigs, goats, sheep, ducks, chickens, and cattle.

Cattle was used for food and to pull plows and wagons.

In the 9th century, the Etruscans introduced wine to Italy.

Metalworking

Etruscan miners dug copper, lead, iron, and tin.

Metal workers and sculptors turned metals into weapons, utensils, and jewelry.

Bronze statuary was common.

They were also experts in the art of ironworking.

Etruscan goldwork was among the finest anywhere in the ancient world.



Art



Etruscans brought the art of bronze working to a very high level of achievement.

Most Etruscan sculpture, however, was executed in clay.

Noted for their black *bucchero* pottery.

Experts with the potter's wheel.

The principal centers of Etruscan art were Caere (Cerveteri), Tarquinii, Vulci, and Veii (Veio).

Trading

Metals and finished goods were traded with Syria, Greece, and other Mediterranean countries.

Merchants traded for luxury items of gold, silver, and ivory.

Language and Writing

No Etruscan books remain.

Names of gods and funeral writings remain.

Best example was a linen book cut into strips and used to wrap a mummy.

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Army

Etruscans had a strong army.
Their infantry formed a phalanx.
Soldiers wore heavy leather shoes that laced around the ankle.

Entertainment



Etruscans gambled with ivory dice.
They played board games similar to chess and backgammon.
They watched and took part in sports.
They loved music and dancing.

Musical Instruments

Double flute.
7-stringed lyre.
Bells and castanets were used by dancers.

Dancing

Dancing was connected to religion.
Both men and women danced.



Social Classes of People

UPPER CLASS

Wealthy landowners, Nobles, and Priests

MIDDLE CLASS

Farmers, Traders, and City Workers

LOWER CLASS

Enslaved people

Fashion

Men wore a robe that gave way to a "Tunica" with a colorful cape over the shoulder.
Women wore a long tunic, decorated on the edges, down to the feet.
Robes of the patrician women were finished off with exquisite jewelry.
Over this was worn a heavier colorful mantle.
Footwear was high sandals and ankle boots.
Women wore a great variety of hairstyles.

Houses



Houses were laid out in streets.
Rich lived in rectangular one-story home.
It was made of sun-dried brick on a frame of heavy timbers.
Drains led to a main sewage drain located under the road.
Had a open air courtyard.
A center room was used for business and for entertainment.
A form of underfloor heating was used.

Religious Beliefs

Etruscans had many gods.
They first worship gods outdoors on platforms made of stone or dirt.
Later, they built temples of wood, mud-brick, and clay on stone foundations.
Soothsayers predicted events.
Omens were signs of what was going to happen.

Tombs of Gold

Outside each Etruscan city was a cemetery

Dead were buried in tombs called catacombs.

They filled their tombs with works of art and treasures of gold, silver, bronze, and ivory.

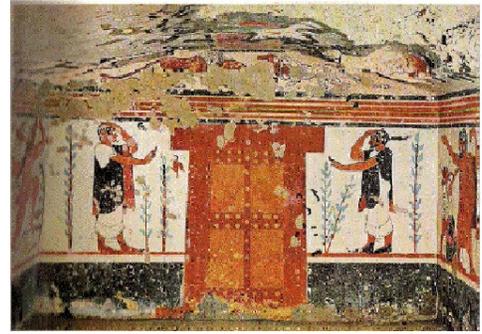
After a funeral, the relatives of the deceased were treated to a banquet. (A custom in the USA too.)

Lavish receptions were laid on.

The guests; men and women of high social standing, reclined on couches.

They were waited on by numerous servants.

They were entertained by musicians and dancers.



Etruscans and Romans

In 616 BC, Tarquinius took throne from Latin king.
Latins were more advanced than the Romans.
Taught the Romans how to use the arch.
Etruscans laid the foundations for the first sewer system.

Forum

Drained the swamp at the foot of Palatine Hill.
This place became the Forum.
Forum housed a palace, government buildings, and law courts.

Romans borrow from the Etruscans

They borrowed the Greek alphabet.

Gladiator Games

Etruscans were models for Roman gladiatorial games.
Fights between armed men.
Fights between men and animals.
Between women and dwarfs.
Between Animals.

Fasces

Etruscan symbol fasces was borrowed by the Romans.
Built the first temple on the Capitoline.

Founding of a City

Romans founded their cities according to Etruscan ritual.
Soothsayers read omens that told where the boundaries should be.
Bronze bladed plow marked the boundaries.
Priests laid out the main street and the principal cross streets.