

Ancient Rome Timeline for Kids

753 BC to AD 476

Rome began as a small village in Italy. It grew into one of the biggest empires the world has ever seen. The Romans built roads, bridges and arenas that still stand today. This timeline shows how Rome rose and fell.

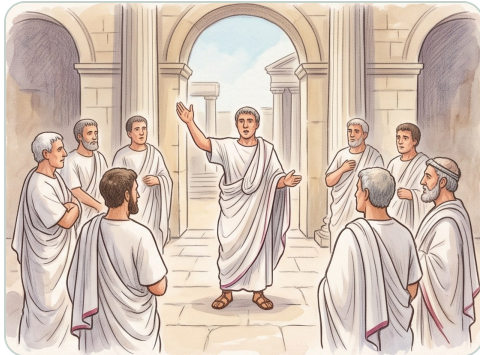


753 BC

A Village on Seven Hills

An old story says Rome was started this year by a man named Romulus. At first it is a small village of huts on hills beside a river.

Why it matters: The little village grew into a great city.



509 BC

Rome Becomes a Republic

The Romans send away their last king. From now on, they choose leaders by voting. This kind of government is called a republic.

Why it matters: The idea of voting for leaders is still used today, in the United States and many other countries.



312 BC

Roads and Water

The Romans build their first great road, the Appian Way. They also build their first aqueduct, a channel that carries water to the city.

Why it matters: Roman roads joined cities together. Some of them are still used.



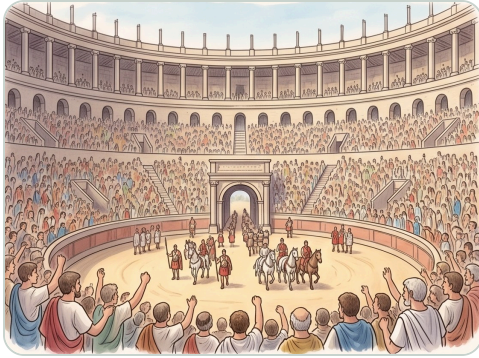
27 BC

The First Emperor

A leader named Augustus becomes the first emperor of Rome. An emperor rules for life. Rome is now called an empire.

Why it matters: Augustus brought a long time of peace.

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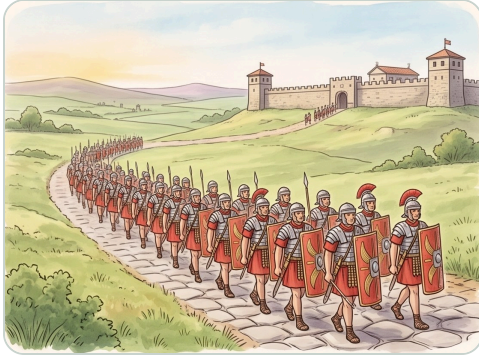


AD 80

The Colosseum Opens

A huge stone arena called the Colosseum opens in Rome. It holds about 50,000 people. They come to watch shows and contests.

Why it matters: The Colosseum is still standing. Millions of people visit it every year.



AD 117

The Empire at Its Biggest

Under Emperor Trajan, the Roman Empire is as big as it will ever be. It reaches from Britain in the north to Egypt in the south.

Why it matters: Roman language, laws and buildings spread across three continents.



AD 476

The Fall of Rome

Rome has grown weak. Armies from the north take over. The last emperor in Rome loses his throne.

Why it matters: The empire in the west was over, but Roman ideas lived on.

Words to know

republic: a country where people vote for their leaders

emperor: a ruler of an empire, who rules for life

empire: many lands ruled by one leader

aqueduct: a channel built to carry water over a long way