

### Ancient Italy, c. 600 B.C.

The story of Italy begins in the city of Etruria, which occupies the part of Italy that now is Tuscany. Sometime around the start of the Iron Age (around 750 B.C.), Etruscans would probably have been driven to the north by the Celts. The Etruscans were a people who had built a complex, well-organized society. Symbols and signs of their culture include the Etruscan alphabet, which was based on the Greek alphabet. The Etruscans were also known for their art, including bronze and iron work, and their architecture, which included temples and public buildings. The Etruscans were a powerful people who controlled much of central Italy. They were eventually absorbed into the Roman Empire.

Although the Etruscans were not associated with the same agricultural products as the Greeks, they were associated with the same: olives and wine. The Etruscans were also known for their art, including bronze and iron work, and their architecture, which included temples and public buildings. The Etruscans were a powerful people who controlled much of central Italy. They were eventually absorbed into the Roman Empire.

**Critical-Thinking Question:** What does the map tell you about the Etruscans? Why do you think the Etruscans were expert ironworkers?

### Ancient Rome

According to the legend of Romulus and Remus, Rome was founded in 753 B.C. in a small, fertile valley. The city was built on the Palatine Hill, which was a natural fortification. The city grew rapidly, and by the time of the Etruscans, it was one of the most powerful cities in Italy. The Etruscans ruled Rome for about a century, but they were eventually driven out by the Romans. The Romans then built a great empire that lasted for centuries. The city of Rome was the center of this empire, and it was one of the most important cities in the world.

The city of Rome was best known for its system of paved roads, its aqueducts and courtyard fountains, and its monuments and great structures such as the Colosseum, the Pantheon, and the Forum. The city was also known for its art, including sculpture and painting. The city of Rome was the center of the Roman Empire, and it was one of the most important cities in the world.

Roman politicians loved a great comfort, refinement, and security in a city of literally monumental beauty and splendor—a sharp contrast to the narrow, winding, and muddy streets of the city. Most of these structures were completed during the Pax Romana.

**Critical-Thinking Question:** From the structures shown on the map, what can we infer about the values of the citizens of Rome?

### Roman Britain

This map shows the Roman province of Britain, which was conquered by the Romans in 43 A.D. The map shows the Roman province of Britain, which was conquered by the Romans in 43 A.D. The map shows the Roman province of Britain, which was conquered by the Romans in 43 A.D. The map shows the Roman province of Britain, which was conquered by the Romans in 43 A.D.

As they did elsewhere in their empire, the Romans laid down good roads to the British Isles. They also introduced a system of law and order to the British Isles. The Romans laid down good roads to the British Isles. They also introduced a system of law and order to the British Isles.

**Critical-Thinking Question:** Why do you think the Romans were deployed to Britain such as Chester and Caerboron?

### The Roman Empire to A.D. 117

After Rome's conquest of Carthage in the Third Punic War (146 B.C.), the Roman Republic became a world power. The Roman Republic was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world. The Roman Republic was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world.

With the support of the Roman Senate, Augustus became Rome's first emperor in 27 B.C. During this time, the Empire gained or regained control of most of Asia Minor, Syria, Egypt, and the coast of North Africa. The first century of the Common Era saw Roman rule extend to Britain in the west, to the Caspian Sea in the east. In 117 A.D., the Roman Empire reached its greatest extent. The Roman Empire was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world.

**Critical-Thinking Question:** Judging from the map, what forces seemed to stop Roman expansion?

### Roman Division of Provinces

This map shows the Roman Empire at its greatest extent, divided into provinces. The map shows the Roman Empire at its greatest extent, divided into provinces. The map shows the Roman Empire at its greatest extent, divided into provinces. The map shows the Roman Empire at its greatest extent, divided into provinces.

The Roman Empire was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world. The Roman Empire was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world. The Roman Empire was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world.

**Critical-Thinking Question:** Why do you think this region was valued highly and hotly contested?

### The Roman Republic 509 B.C.–133 B.C.

Between the expansion of the Etruscan king in 509 B.C. and the restoration of the Roman monarchy in 510 B.C., Rome was a republic. The Roman Republic was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world. The Roman Republic was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world.

Slowly, however, the tide turned. Hannibal's supply lines dried up. Then an attack by the Gauls forced Hannibal to retreat to defend the city. The Roman invasion of North Africa led to victory at the Battle of Zama in 202 B.C. Carthage had to accept Rome's peace terms, which included withdrawal from Spain, Sicily, and the Aegean Sea. The Roman Republic was a democracy, and it was one of the most important cities in the world.

**Critical-Thinking Question:** What challenges did Carthage face in attacking Rome via a route across Spain and the Alps?