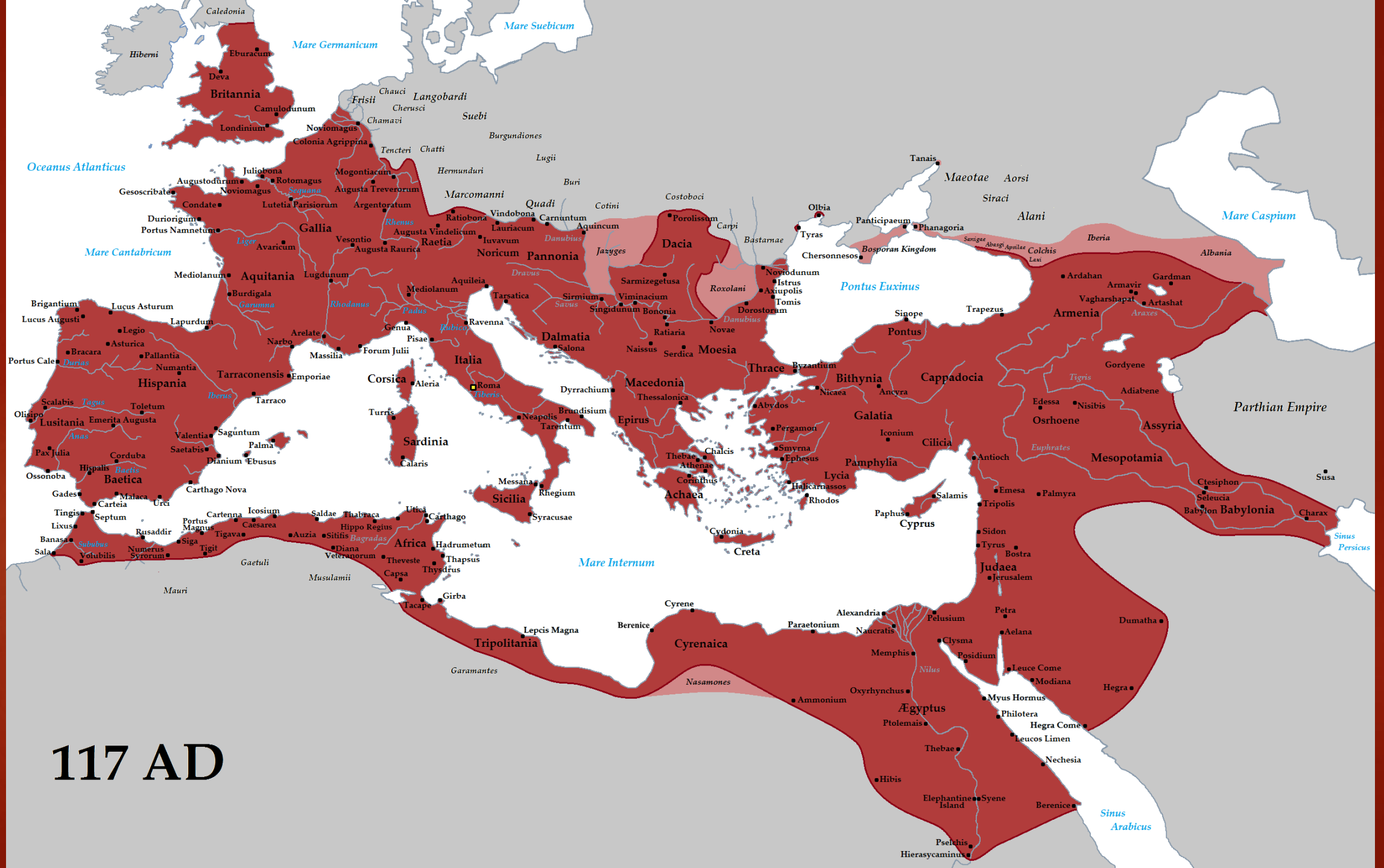


Life for the Romans

UNIT 1: THE ROMANS

- ▶ Rome is an empire and has an emperor leading it.
- ▶ An empire is a large political state that rules over multiple distinct territories, cultures, and peoples through a dominant central power.
- ▶ Lasted from 27 BCE to 476 CE (in the West).

#	ROMAN EMPEROR	From	To	Years relgn	#	ROMAN EMPEROR	From	To	Years relgn
1	Augustus	-31	14	45	43	Tacitus	275	276	1
2	Tiberius	14	37	23	44	Florian	276	276	0
3	Caligula	37	41	4	45	Probus	276	282	6
4	Claudius	41	54	13	46	Carus	282	283	1
5	Nero	54	68	14	47	Numerian	283	284	1
6	Galba	68	69	0	48	Carinus	283	285	2
7	Otho	69	69	0	49	Diocletian	284	305	21
8	Aulus Vitellius	69	69	0	50	Maximian	286	305	19
9	Vespasian	69	79	10	51	Constantius I	305	306	1
10	Titus	79	81	2	52	Galerius	305	311	6
11	Domitian	81	96	15	53	Severus	306	307	1
12	Nerva	96	98	2	54	Maxentius	306	312	6
13	Trajan	98	117	19	55	Constantine I	306	337	31
14	Hadrian	117	138	21	56	Galerius Valerius Maximinus	310	313	3
15	Antoninus Pius	138	161	23	57	Licinius	308	324	16
16	Marcus Aurelius	161	180	19	58	Constantine II	337	340	3
17	Lucius Verus	161	169	8	59	Constantius II	337	361	24
18	Commodus	177	192	15	60	Constans I	337	350	13
19	Publius Helvius Pertinax	193	193	0	61	Gallus Caesar	351	354	3
20	Marcus Didius Severus Julianus	193	193	0	62	Julian	361	363	2
21	Septimius Severus	193	211	18	63	Jovian	363	364	1
22	Caracalla	198	217	19	64	Valentinian I	364	375	11
23	Publius Septimius Geta	209	211	2	65	Valens	364	378	14
24	Macrinus	217	218	1	66	Gratian	367	383	16
25	Elagabalus	218	222	4	67	Valentinian II	375	392	17
26	Severus Alexander	222	235	13	68	Theodosius I	379	395	16
27	Maximinus	235	238	3	69	Arcadius	383	402	19
28	Gordian I	238	238	0	70	Magnus Maximus	383	388	5
29	Gordian II	238	238	0	71	Honorius	393	423	30
30	Pupienus Maximus	238	238	0	72	Theodosius II	408	450	42
31	Balbinus	238	238	0	73	Constantius III	421	421	0
32	Gordian III	238	244	6	74	Valentinian III	425	455	30
33	Philip	244	249	5	75	Marcian	450	457	7
34	Decius	249	251	2	76	Petronius Maximus	455	455	0
35	Hostilian	251	251	0	77	Avitus	455	456	1
36	Gallus	251	253	2	78	Majorian	457	461	4
37	Aemilian	253	253	0	79	Libius	461	465	4
38	Valerian	253	260	7	80	Anthemius	467	472	5
39	Gallienus	253	268	15	81	Olybrius	472	472	0
40	Claudius II Gothicus	268	270	2	82	Glycerius	473	474	1
41	Quintillus	270	270	0	83	Julius Nepos	474	475	1
42	Aurelian	270	275	5	84	Romulus Augustulus	475	476	1



117 AD



What was life like for the Romans?

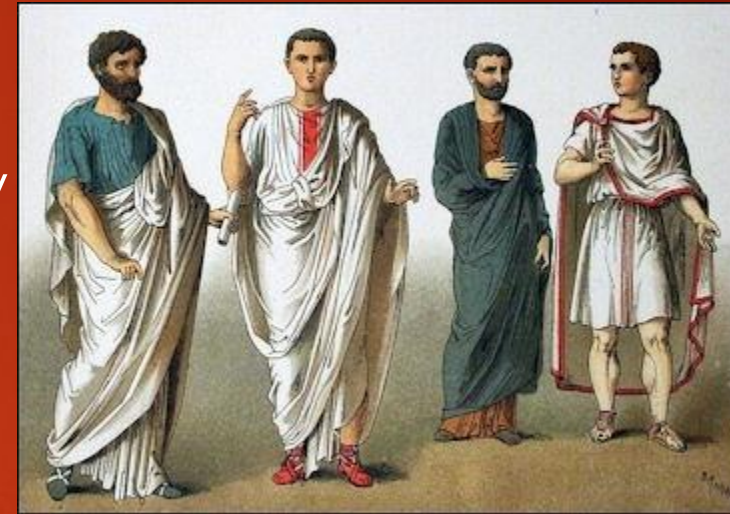
- ▶ The Romans had a class system similar to us today.
- ▶ You were either upper, middle, or lower class.
- ▶ Upper class:
 - ▶ Included the emperor, senators, other government officials, high-ranking military officers, and wealthy landowners.
 - ▶ Lots of money,
 - ▶ Very educated (expected to speak both Latin and Greek),
 - ▶ Taught math, literature, and reading,
 - ▶ Usually owned slaves.

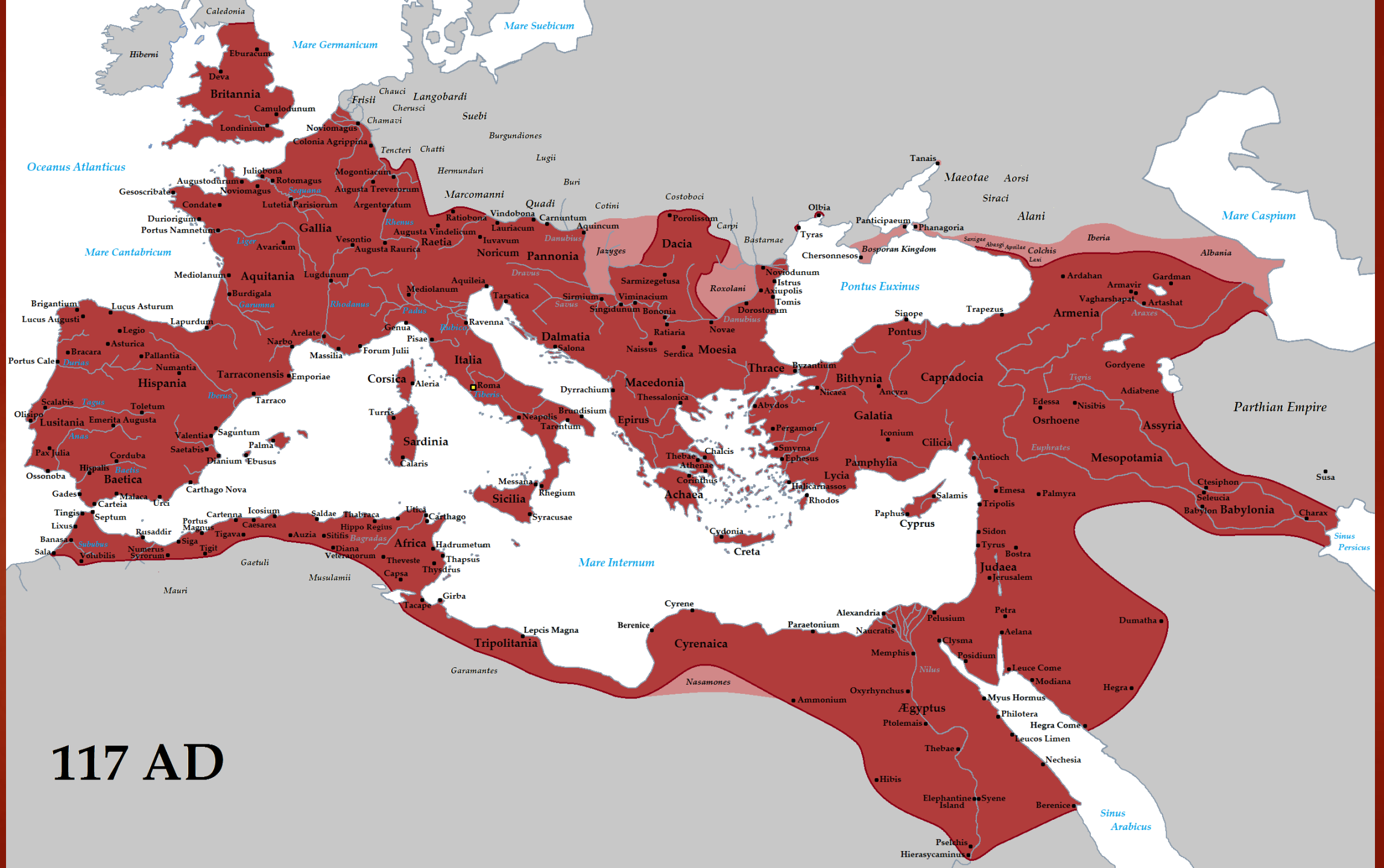


What was life like for the Romans?

▶ Middle class:

- ▶ Included merchants, artisans, shopkeepers, doctors, and lawyers.
- ▶ The empire's stable trade networks, particularly from around 30 BCE to 200 CE, meant that they could live fairly comfortably.
- ▶ Goods like olive oil, spices, and wine were readily available, and there were opportunities for social advancement.
- ▶ Could travel to places like Gaul or Egypt for opportunities.
- ▶ The Roman middle class received a meaningful education as well, with most knowing how to read and write.

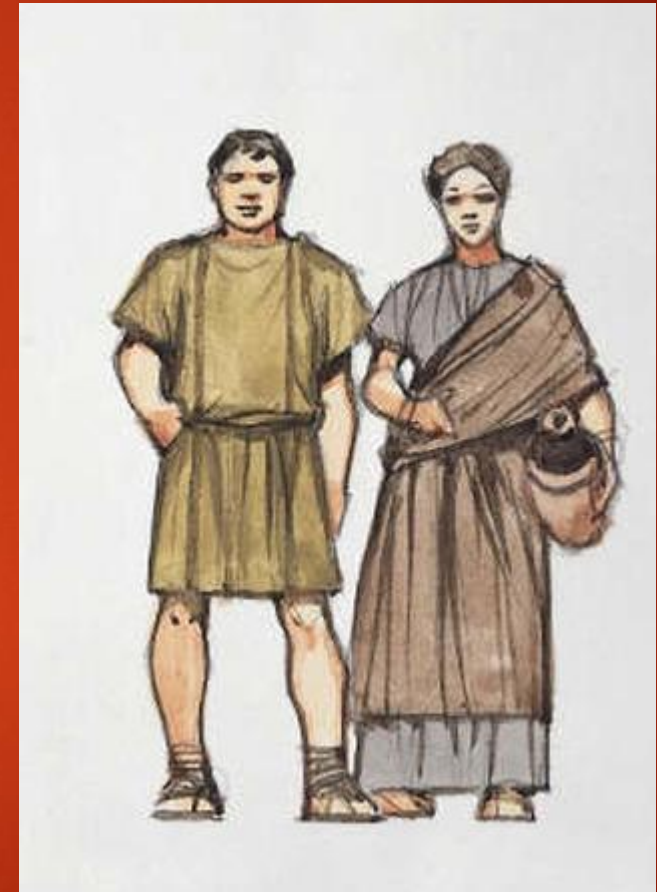




117 AD

What was life like for the Romans?

- ▶ Lower class:
 - ▶ Two types: Urban poor or rural farmers.
 - ▶ The urban poor lived in apartment buildings called insulae. Small and cramped, they were dangerous due to poor sanitation and fire risks.
 - ▶ The city offered many opportunities for entertainment, including gladiatorial games, chariot races, theatre performances, and festivals.



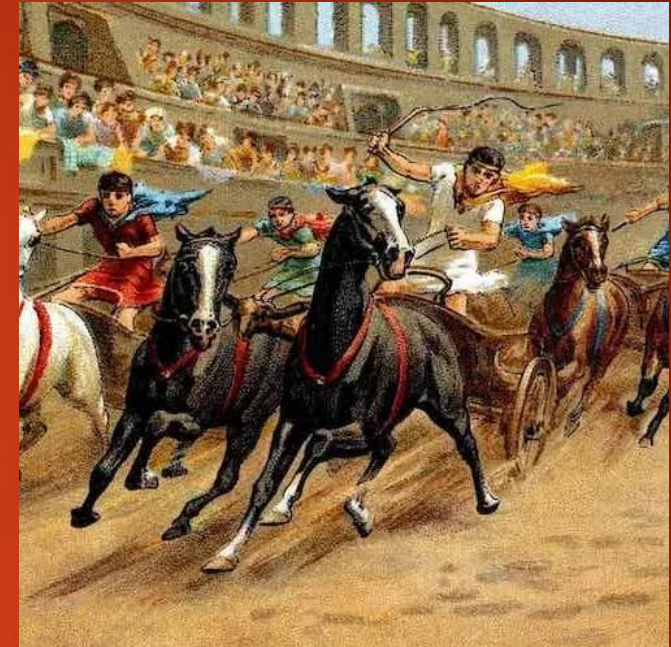
What was life like for the Romans?

- ▶ Lower class:

- ▶ The other poor Romans were small farmers who lived in the countryside.
- ▶ Due to the sheer size of the empire, this group was larger than all other social classes combined.
- ▶ These farmers lacked the lavish estates and slave labour of the wealthy landowners and therefore often struggled to survive.
- ▶ The hours were long, and their lives revolved around animal husbandry, seasonal labor, and growing crops.
- ▶ One bad harvest could mean starvation, since they often lacked sufficient food surpluses.

What was life like for the Romans?

- ▶ Most Romans worked a six-hour day, beginning at dawn and ending at noon, although, occasionally some shops might reopen in the early evening.
- ▶ The city's forum would be empty because the afternoon was devoted to leisure - attending the games (gladiatorial competitions, chariot races, or wrestling), the theatre or the baths.
- ▶ Even during times of crises, the citizens of Rome were kept happy with bread and games.



Public Bathhouses

- ▶ The public baths were arguably the most important of these leisure options.
- ▶ Somewhat resembling modern-day spas, they contained activities like sunbathing, swimming, and massage.
- ▶ Crucially, the baths functioned as a social space where people from all classes interacted.
- ▶ People talked, gossiped, made plans for future engagements, and even developed romantic relationships.



Roman Roads

- ▶ With so much land and so many people, there needed to be a way to move everything.
- ▶ The Romans built more than 80,000 kms of roads in their territory.
 - ▶ PG to Vancouver is 743 km.
- ▶ These roads helped bring in exotic goods and made travel much easier.
- ▶ Many Roman roads survive today.





THE ROADS OF ANCIENT ROME



THE ROMAN ROAD NETWORK, c.125 CE

TYPES OF ROMAN ROADS

Based on technology of execution:

VIA TERRENA, Roads of leveled earth

VIA GLAREATA, Earthed roads with a graveled surface

VIA MUNITA, Road paved with cobblestone

Roman Senate classification:

MAIN public roads, financed with public money, connecting cities, rivers and sea shores, for movement of legions, also open to private traffic.

SECONDARY, private or rural roads, financed by private persons, connecting places to the main roads

COMMUNAL, connecting villages, public / private funding.

FOSSA (DITCH)

dug with ploughs or spades to bedrock or to firm ground
1.8 - 3 m (6 - 9 feet) deep

"SCOOP-DITCHES"

parallel trenches as storm drains
about 12 m (40 feet) apart

MILLIARIA OR LAPIDES (MILESTONE)

1,000 paces apart, 1 Roman mile = 1,480 m (4,850 feet)

made of marble or granite

inscriptions of the distance from the start of the road (caput viae), the official in charge of the construction (or repairs), and the name the current consul or emperor

CURB STONES

hold the paving stones
create a channel for rain water

SUMMUM DORSUM

curved surface
large stone slabs in lime mortar
fitted on top of wet concrete
at least 15 cm (6 inches) thick

NUCLEUS

concrete from small gravel or coarse sand and lime in layers
each layer compacted with a roller
about 30 cm (12 inches) thick, sometimes used as top layer

RUDUS

shards of pottery or stone in lime mortar
20 cm (9 inches) thick

STATUMEN

crushed rock or fist-sized stones
25 - 60 cm (10 - 24 inches) thick

PAVIMENTUM

compacted sand or dry earth
to level the surface

NATIVE EARTH

material from the drains and the dig
leveled and rammed tight
about 1 meter (3 feet) thick

Running Water

- ▶ Major Roman cities had running water.
- ▶ Rome had 11 aqueducts supplying it with running water in certain areas.
- ▶ Aqueducts were built over very long distances at a slight downward angle to carry water to the citizens.
- ▶ The most famous area to get water is the Trevi Fountain of Rome.
- ▶ Fresh water being easily accessible made the citizens healthier.



Roman Concrete

- ▶ While the Roman's didn't invent concrete, theirs was better.
- ▶ Roman concrete was easy to pour and made building quick.
- ▶ It also “self-healed” when exposed to water, preventing major cracking.
- ▶ The secret was using volcanic ash.
- ▶ Made for excellent mortar for brickwork.

