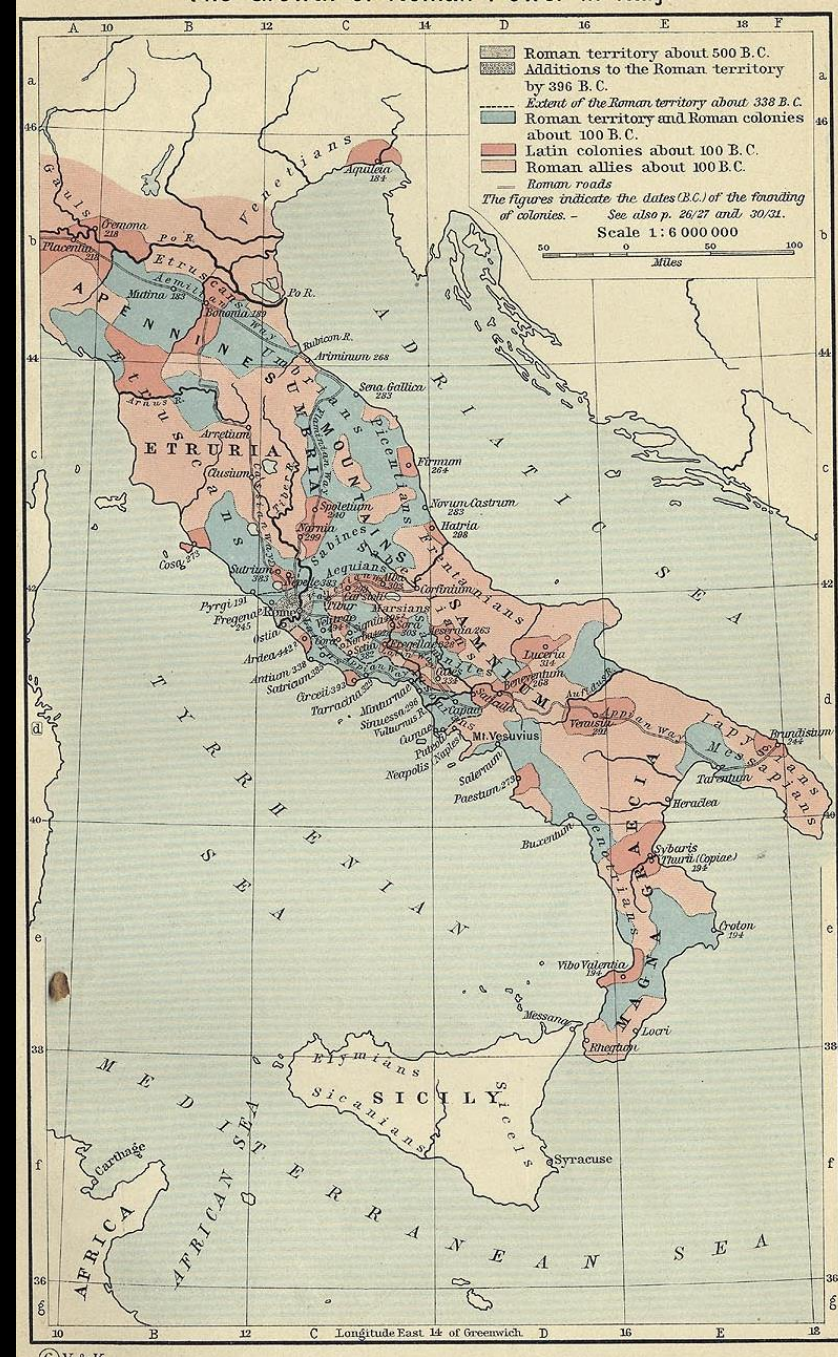


# The Social War and the Unification of Italy



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# The Languages of Ancient Italy 8th - 1st c. BC





Etruscan

Cippus Perusinus  
3<sup>rd</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> c. BC

Museo archeologico di Perugia  
Photo: G. Dall'Orto



Image courtesy of Félix Potuit. This image is in the public domain.  
Source: [Wikimedia Commons](#).

## Oscan

Pompei, Nola Gate  
200-150 BC  
BM 1867,0508.76

‘V. Popidius, son of V.  
*meddix tuticus*  
had (this) built  
the same person  
approved (it) as completed.’

# Umbrian

Tablets from Gubbio

2<sup>nd</sup> c. BC

Tablet 5a



This image is in the public domain.  
Source: [Wikimedia Commons](#).



★ Latin colonies  
 ★ Citizen colonies

# Velleius Paterculus 2.15

‘The fortune of the Italians was as cruel as their cause was just; for they were seeking citizenship in the state whose power they were defending by their arms.’

From *Velleius Paterculus and Res Gestae Divi Augusti*, translated by Frederick W. Shipley. This material is in the public domain.



# Appian, *The Civil Wars* 1.38

‘...as they [the Italian allies] saw no other means of acquiring citizenship they decided to revolt from the Romans altogether, and to make war against them with might and main.’

From *Appian: The Roman History*, translated by Horace White. This material is in the public domain.

# Increased tensions in 2<sup>nd</sup> century?

- Disproportionate manpower contributions
- Roman contempt for non-Romans
- Increasing equality in other areas
- Desire to influence Roman policy

# Velleius Paterculus 2.15

‘Every year and in every war they (the Italians) were furnishing a double number of men, both cavalry and of infantry, and yet were not admitted to the rights of citizens in the state which, through their efforts, had reached so high a position that it could look down upon men of the same race and blood as foreigners and aliens.’

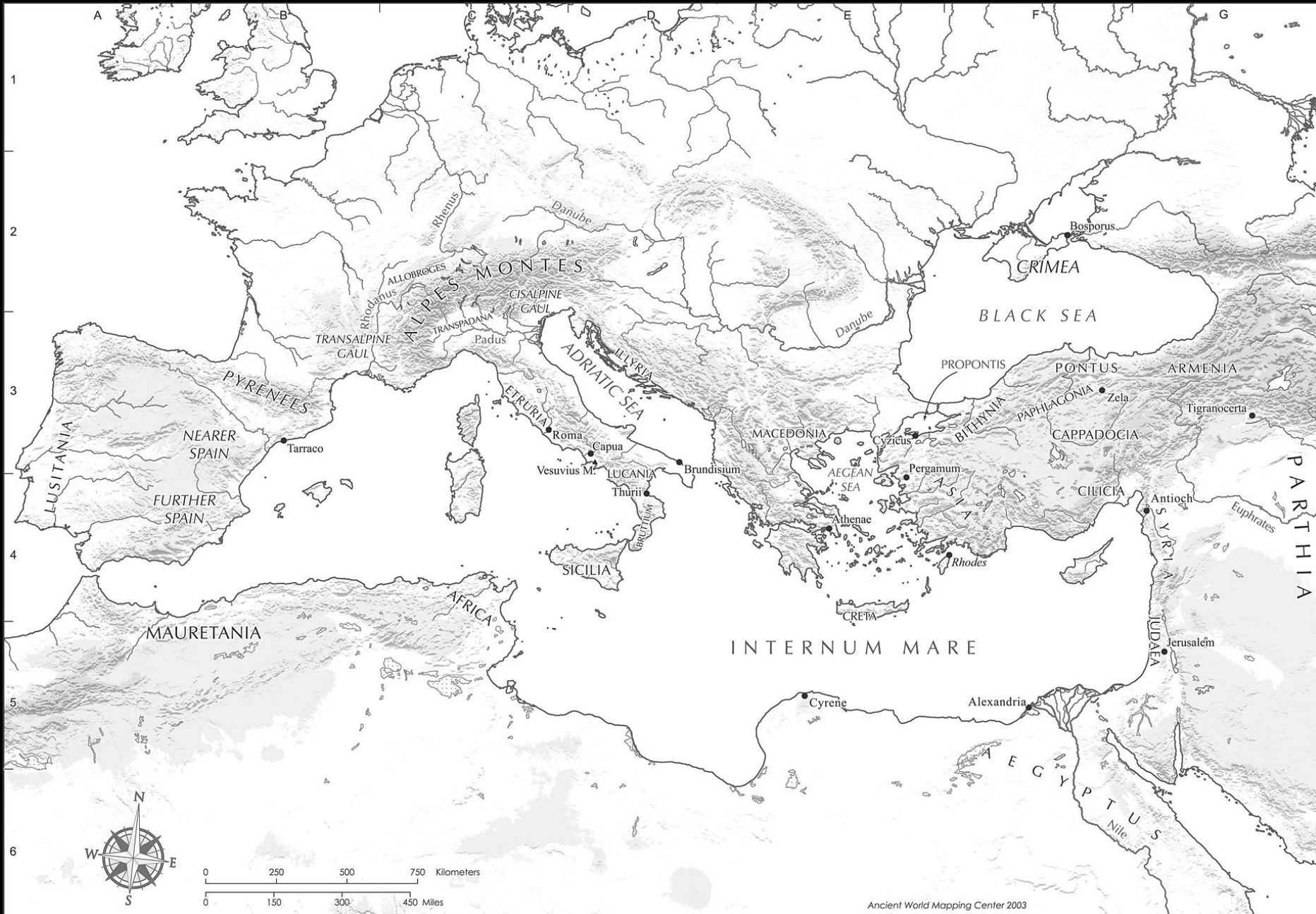
From *Velleius Paterculus and Res Gestae Divi Augusti*, translated by Frederick W. Shipley. This material is in the public domain.

# Diodorus 37.12.2-3

‘His name was Saunio, and he was of Latin origin. He was a very clever clown...the Picentes, wishing to deprive the Romans of the entertainment given by this humorous actor, determined to kill him. Saunio, informed of the fate that awaited him, stepped onto the stage where the comedian had just been murdered, and, addressing the audience, he said. “My spectators, the omens are favourable! May this evil turn into good fortune! I’m not a Roman, and I’m subject to the fasces just like you.”’

From *Diodorus Siculus: The Library of History, Vol. XI*, translated by F.R. Walton. This material is in the public domain.





Ancient World Mapping Center 2003

# Cicero, *de Legibus* 2.5

‘In reply to your question, I should say, that Cato, and municipal citizens like him, have two countries, one, that of their birth, and the other, that of their choice. Cato being born at Tusculum, was elected a citizen of Rome, so that a Tusculan by extraction, and a Roman by election, he had, besides his native country, a rightful one.’

From *The Political Works of Marcus Tullius Cicero: Comprising His Treatise on the Commonwealth; and His Treatise on the Laws*, translated by Francis Barham. This material is in the public domain.

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Spring 2016

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