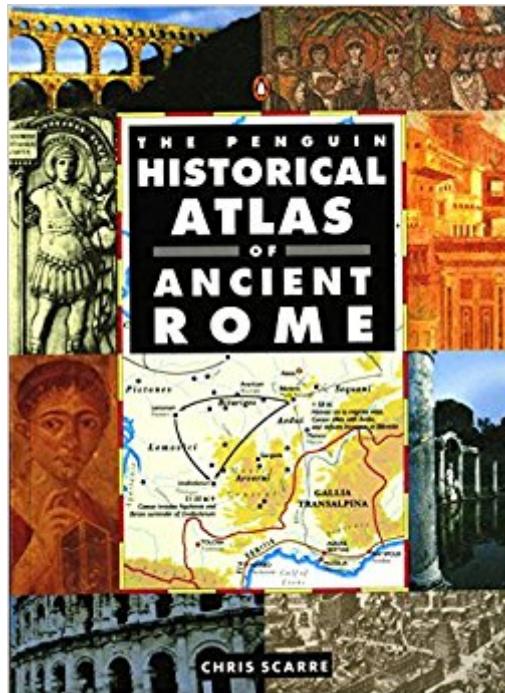




The book was found

The Penguin Historical Atlas Of Ancient Rome (Hist Atlas)



Synopsis

More than fifteen centuries after its fall, the Roman Empire remains one of the most formative influences on the history of Europe. Its physical remains dot the landscape from Scotland to Syria. Its cities are still the great metropolises of the continent. Its law and institutions have shaped modern practice, and its ideal of a united Europe has haunted politicians ever since. Fully illustrated and featuring more than sixty full-colour maps, this atlas traces the rise and fall of the first great multinational state. It looks at its provinces and cities, its trade and economy, its armies and frontier defences; follows its foreign wars and internecine struggles; and charts its transformation into a Christian theocracy and its fall in 476.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Matching clear graphics with informative text, Christopher Scarre's atlas gives a fine overview of Roman history from the emergence of the first city-state in the eighth century B.C. to the rise of Christian theocracy a millennium later. The Penguin Historical Atlas of Ancient Rome is especially helpful in showing the growth of the Roman empire through successive centuries of military campaigning from Scotland to Arabia and in delineating the networks of trade, transit, and communication that bound the far-flung outposts to the imperial capital. Scarre notes that many of those networks still survive in one form or another.

Chris Scarre is Professor of Prehistory in the Department of Archaeology at the University of

Durham.

This amazing book and actually the complete series of the Penguin Historical Atlases are greatly recommended by me. As a historian, geographer, professor, author and a journalist, I shall state that this is a great series. If you are a history buff, history student or simply a history fan, this is your food! Chris Scarre has done a great job on this. The book is loaded with colorful maps, charts, illustrations, photos and narratives. Great amount of compact information with accurate historical data, dates and events are all over the book. The book is historically accurate, well designed, well formatted, fun to read and maps are amazing and make you busy studying them for hours. The book specifically focuses on the Roman history from the beginning (Early City State) all through the years (Roman Empire) until the Late Era (Fall of Rome). The book covers Rome and her relation with her enemies with vast amount of historical maps and illustrations (over a 140). I truly enjoyed reading this book and analyzing the maps. To own this complete series is a must for a history buff. Unlike many other disappointing Atlases and historical atlases, this series is amongst the great atlases available on (read my other reviews). Enjoy it because I test drove it and it passed my finicky and perfectionist taste.

This was a pretty good little overview of ancient Rome. Understanding the history of Rome is a part of our Western heritage, and is quite important. I enjoyed the pics of the ancient buildings. This book is just a taste of Rome, but much more than one gets in a high school textbook. One negative is that it has pictures of naked statues, mainly male ones; be advised before sharing this book with children for that purpose. I think this book retails for \$21, and sells for about \$15. I bought a used copy through an seller, and paid much less. It really should be a \$10 (new) book in my opinion.

This book permits to follow the history of Rome through colorful maps. Visual learner will find great advantage out of this approach. However, this is only an overview and does not add more than that compared to any other book of ancient Roman history. As a previous reviewer has noticed, the battle of Pharsalus was in Thessaly and not in Thrace as mistakenly placed by the author at page 32. Thrace is mainly in today Bulgaria, but overlaps also Turkey and Greece. Thessaly is in central Greece. However, to give Caesar what is Caesar's, another reviewer allegedly claimed to have discovered a mistake at page 16 related to the Temples of Castor and Pollux. In fact, the Penguin's text is correct: the temples were rebuilt by Tiberius (before he became emperor), under Augustus. Augustus adopted Tiberius, who later became Emperor. The practice of adopting would-be

emperors was a pragmatic way to ensure a suitable persona for Rome, instead of a inept natural son. However, the book does not cover the Eastern Roman Empire (lasting for further more centuries) after the fall of the western part. Moreover, the author does not provide useful maps concerning the pressure from barbarians on the borders. Goths were Germanic tribes that moved from the Baltic sea to the Black sea, but this Atlas does not mention it. Why and where the pressure along the borders was mounting is not satisfactorily mentioned either. It is a shame for an historical atlas.

This book has some interesting maps and charts but comes up short on meaningful information about historical events. Overall, it seems to be just another over-simplified 'Readers' Digest' account of a very dynamic and complicated time.

Very important for anyone interested in ancient Roma.

If you are already familiar with the broad outlines of Roman history and are looking for a visual reference to further your explorations, keep looking. This volume appears to be the outcome of an effort guided primarily by concern for today's short attention spans and budget limitations. The text is adequate enough as the briefest of introductions to its subject, but in fact this is an ATLAS, not a history per se, and its usefulness as such depends on the quality of its maps, which I found sadly disappointing. For one thing, there are surprisingly few maps in this volume. If you are interested in the growth of the city itself, if you hope to trace the movements of particular military campaigns, or if you seek a better understanding of trade routes, you will not find this volume helpful. Only the tired highlights (which can be found in any number of books) are covered. Furthermore, the maps are small--to the point of silliness--and the editors have in a number of instances alluded to events separated by a wide gulf of years on the same map. This renders even the few maps in the atlas muddled and is sure to confuse rather than inform neophytes, though these would seem to be the primary target audience. On the plus side, the book contains a number of interesting photographs, and the captions to these are surprisingly informative--the best thing about the book. All in all, a great disappointment and a surprising one as I remember Penguin's excellent pocketbook atlases of world history. Unfortunately, the narrowed focus of this Roman atlas was not matched by a corresponding increase in the quality of information offered.

thanks

The Penguin Historical Atlas of Ancient Rome (Hist Atlas) – My husband is a scholar of ancient Roman history, has a lot of books on the subject, and likes trying to pinpoint the location of the events he reads about. Current maps and our globe just don't show the countries and boundaries that existed back then. I've been looking for maps that would give him this information, and this atlas does it. He was very happy to receive this book as a birthday present.

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