

# Ancient Rome On Five Denarii A Day Philip Matyszak

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The Roman Empire Philip Matyszak 2014-04-03 No other political entity has shaped the modern world like the Roman Empire. Encompassing close to a quarter of the world's population and 3 million km2 of land, it represented a diverse and dynamic collection of nations, states and tribes, all bound to Rome and the ideal of a Roman identity. In the lively and engaging style that he's known for, Philip Matyszak traces the history of the Roman Empire from the fall of the Assyrians and the rise of the Roman Republic through to the ages of expansion, crisis and eventual split. Breathing new life into these extraordinary events, Matyszak explains how the empire operated, deploying its incredibly military machine to conquer vast territory then naturalizing its subject peoples as citizens of Rome. It was a method of rule so sophisticated that loyalty to Rome remained strong even after its collapse creating an expansive legacy that continues to this day.

24 Hours in Ancient Rome Philip Matyszak 2017-10-05 Walk a day in a Roman's sandals. What was it like to live in one of the ancient world's most powerful and bustling cities - one that was eight times more densely populated than modern day New York? In this entertaining and enlightening guide, bestselling historian Philip Matyszak introduces us to the people who lived and worked there. In each hour of the day we meet a new character - from emperor to slave girl, gladiator to astrologer, medicine woman to water-clock maker - and discover the fascinating details of their daily lives.

The Classical Compendium Matyszak 2009-09-29 Collects whimsical stories, jokes, and anecdotes from the ancient world that reflect period life, values, and personal relationships, in a volume that features entries ranging from quips by the emperor Augustus to the wry observations of the philosopher Socrates.

Legionary Philip Matyszak 2013-09-02 Combining the latest archaeological discoveries with modern-day reconstructions, this book (written by a leading expert, the author of 'Chronicle of the Roman Republic', 'The Enemies of Rome', 'The Sons of Caesar' and 'Ancient Rome on Five Denarii a Day') provides a vivid picture of what it meant to be a Roman Legionary. How to be accepted into the legions and which legion is for you; What to wear - and what not to wear - while on campaign; Who's Who in the Roman army, and how to tell a Berber from a Pict: How to wield a gladius and fire a catapult; How to storm a city and survive; How to act when Rome is honouring your legion with a triumph. "A very interesting, original and well structured work for anyone who enjoys Roman military themes ... a fun and easy read" - Ancient Warfare

Ancient Rome in 5 Denarii Philip Matyszak 2018-03-22 Here is an informative and entertaining guide to everything that any tourist needs for a journey back in time to ancient Rome in AD 200. You need only pack your imagination and a toothbrush - this guide provides the rest, describing all the best places to stay and shop, what to do, and what to avoid. Brought to life with wonderful computergenerated reconstructions of ancient Rome, this highly original, witty book will appeal to tourists, armchair travellers and history buffs.

Ancient Magic Philip Matyszak 2019-03-12 An accessible historical exploration of the methods and motivations behind using magic in ancient Greece and Rome. In the ancient world, magic was everywhere. The supernatural abounded, turning flowers into fruit and caterpillars into butterflies. In a time before scientists studied weather patterns and figured out what caused the Earth's most mysterious phenomena, it was magic that packed a cloud full of energy until it exploded with thunderbolts. It was everyday magic, but it was still magical. In Ancient Magic, author Philip Matyszak ushers readers into that world, showing how ancient Greeks and Romans concocted love potions and cast curses, how they talked to the dead and protected themselves from evil spirits. He takes readers to a world where gods interacted with humans and where people could not only talk to spirits and deities, but could themselves become divine. Ancient Magic presents us with a new understanding of the role of magic, combining a classical historiography with a practical how-to guide. Using a wide array of sources and lavish illustrations, this book offers an engaging and accessible way into the supernatural for all.

Lives of the Romans Philip Matyszak 2013-11-18 A vibrant portrait of a lost world, 'Lives of the Romans' reveals the mightiest civilization of antiquity through the eyes of 100 of its citizens. The book gives a voice not just to Rome's most famous generals and rulers, such as Caesar and Caligula, but also to her builders and sculptors, her poets, historians, gladiators, shepherds, slaves and courtesans. Exploring every level of society and using the latest archaeological evidence as well as ancient texts, the authors build up a picture of what it meant to be a Roman citizen. Note: The ebook edition includes the complete text of the printed book without illustrations

The Greek and Roman Myths Philip Matyszak 2010 An introduction to the Greek and Roman myths and tales that lie at the heart of Western culture includes intriguing facts and stories, including the labors of Hercules and the voyage of Odysseus.

The Roman Empire Philip Matyszak 2014-04-03 No other political entity has shaped the modern world like the Roman Empire. Encompassing close to a quarter of the world's population and 3 million km2 of land, it represented a diverse and dynamic collection of nations, states and tribes, all bound to Rome and the ideal of a Roman identity. In the lively and engaging style that he's known for, Philip Matyszak traces the history of the Roman Empire from the fall of the Assyrians and the rise of the Roman Republic through to the ages of expansion, crisis and eventual split. Breathing new life into these extraordinary events, Matyszak explains how the empire operated, deploying its incredibly military machine to conquer vast territory then naturalizing its subject peoples as citizens of Rome. It was a method of rule so sophisticated that loyalty to Rome remained strong even after its collapse creating an expansive legacy that continues to this day.

Mithridates the Great Philip Matyszak 2009-04-20 A military biography of Mithridates VI the Great of Pontus, Rome's most persistent enemy. The Mithridatic wars stretched over half a century and two continents, and have a fascinating cast of pirates, rebels, turncoats and poisoners (though an unfortunate lack of heroes with untarnished motives). There are pitched battles, epic sieges, double-crosses and world-class political conniving, assassinations and general treachery. Through it all, the story is built about the dominant character of Mithridates, connoisseur of poisons, arch-schemer and strategist; resilient in defeat, savage and vindictive in victory. Almost by definition, this book will break new ground, in that nothing has been written on Mithridates for the general public for almost half a century, though scholarly journals have been adding a steady trickle of new evidence, which is drawn upon here. Few enough leaders went to war with Rome and lived long to tell the tale, but in the first half of the first century BC, Mithridates did so three times. At the high point of his career his armies swept the Romans out of Asia Minor and Greece, reversing a century of Roman expansion in the region. Even once fortune had turned against him he would not submit. Upto the day he died, a fugitive drive to suicide by the treachery of his own son, he was still planning an overland invasion of Roman itself.

Gladiator Philip Matyszak 2011 An entertaining yet factual insider's guide on how to become a gladiator, hone your fighting skills, and thrill the crowds in the Colosseum.

Expedition to Disaster Philip Matyszak 2013-01-19 This thrillingly vivid history recounts a pivotal battle of the Peloponnesian War, bringing the drama and personalities of the Sicilian Expedition to life. The Athenian expedition

to conquer Sicily was one of the most significant military events of the classical period. At the time, Athens was locked in a decades-long struggle with Sparta for mastery of the Greek world. The expedition to Sicily was intended to win Athens the extra money and resources needed to crush the Spartans. With the aid of new archaeological discoveries, Expedition to Disaster reconstructs the mission, and the ensuing siege, in greater detail than ever before. The cast of characters includes Alcibiades, the flamboyant, charismatic young aristocrat; Nicias, the ageing, reluctant commander of the ill-fated expedition, and Gylippus, the grim Spartan general sent to command the defense of Syracuse. It was he who turned the tables on the Athenian invaders. They were surrounded, besieged, and forced to ask for mercy from a man who had none. Philip Matyszak's combination of thorough research and gripping narrative presents an episode of ancient history packed with colorful characters and dramatic tension.

**Chronicle of the Roman Republic** Philip Matyszak 2008-09-08 New in paperback, here is a highly readable account of 56 of the extraordinary characters whose lives were the defining threads in the great adventure and final tragedy that was the Roman Republic. In this history we see the best and worst of the Roman élite superstitious, brutal and utterly uncompromising, but often men of great honour and principle. This highly readable and authoritative account is ideal for home or school reference, and as a companion to the bestselling Chronicle of the Roman Emperors.

**Forgotten Peoples of the Ancient World** Philip Matyszak 2020-07-02 The ancient world saw the birth and collapse of great civilizations. In mainstream history the Classical world is dominated by Greece and Rome, and the Biblical world is centred on the Hebrews. Yet the roughly four-and-a-half thousand years (4000 bcad 550) covered in this book saw many peoples come and go within the brawling, multi-cultural mass of humanity that occupied the ancient Middle East, Mediterranean and beyond. While a handful of ancient cultures have garnered much of the credit, these forgotten peoples also helped to lay the foundations of our modern world. This guide brings these lost peoples out of the shadows to highlight their influence and achievements. Forty-five entries span the birth of civilization in Mesopotamia to the fall of the Roman Empire in the West, offering an alternative history focusing on the names we aren't familiar with, from the Hurrians to the Hephthalites, as well as the peoples whose names we know, such as the Philistines and the Vandals, but whose real significance has been obscured. Each entry charts the rise and fall of a lost people, and how their culture echoes through history into the present. Important ancient artefacts are illustrated throughout and fifty specially drawn maps help orientate the reader within this tumultuous period of history. Philip Matyszak brings to life the rich diversity of the peoples founding cities, inventing alphabets and battling each other in the ancient world, and explores how and why they came to be forgotten.

**The Sons of Caesar** Philip Matyszak 2006 The story of one of the most colorful dynasties in history, from Caesar's rise to power in the first century BC to Nero's death in AD 68. This engaging new study reviews the long history of the Julian and Claudian families in the Roman Republic and the social and political background of Rome. At the heart of the account are the lives of six men: Julius Caesar, Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, and Nero—men who mastered Rome and then changed it from a democracy to a personal possession. It was no easy task: Caesar and Caligula were assassinated, Nero committed suicide, and Claudius was poisoned. Only Augustus and Tiberius died natural deaths and even that is uncertain. The Julio-Claudian saga has a host of other intriguing characters, from Cicero, the last great statesman of the Republic, to Livia, matriarch of the Empire; the passionate Mark Antony and the scheming Sejanus; and Agrippina, mother of Nero and sister of Caligula, who probably murdered her husband and was in turn killed by her son. Set against a background of foreign wars and domestic intrigue, the story of Rome's greatest dynasty is also the story of the birth of an imperial system that shaped the Europe of today. 80 illustrations.

**Gladiator** Philip Matyszak 2014-05-12 Experience at first hand the spectacular, brutal life and savage death of the most iconic figure of ancient Rome. This manual will take the reader from the first faltering steps over the threshold of gladiator school, and through training to become a man of the sword. Find out how to get thousands to idolize you as the strongest, meanest fighter in the Roman empire. Learn why you should become a gladiator, how to join the profession, who will try to kill you (and what with), which arena of the empire is right for you, when and how often you will fight and what happens before, during and after the bout.

**Legionary** Philip Matyszak 2009 From keeping one's armor in top form to training for new techniques, this informative "manual" provides insight on the day-to-day rules, regulations, and operations that kept this powerful force constantly prepared for battle and always ready to fight.

**Eleanor Roosevelt** Russell Freedman 1993 A sympathetic and sensitive portrayal of the remarkable Eleanor Roosevelt captures the life and times of a woman who continues to offer inspiration, guidance, and hope to people of all ages. Reprint. Newbery Honor Book.

**Sparta: Fall of a Warrior Nation** Philip Matyszak 2018-06-30 The author of Sparta: Rise of a Warrior Nation continues his revealing history of the Ancient Greek city-state in this chronicle of its decline and defeat. Universally admired in 479 BC, the Spartans became masters of the Greek world by 402 BC, only for their state to collapse in the next generation. What went wrong? Was the fall of Sparta inevitable? In Sparta: Fall of a Warrior Nation, Philip Matyszak examines the political blunders and failures of leadership which combined with unresolved social issues to bring down the nation—even as its warriors remained invincible on the battlefield. The Spartans believed their society was above the changes sweeping their world. And by resisting change, they were doomed to be overwhelmed by it. But the Spartans refused to accept total defeat, and for many years their city exercised influence far beyond its size and population. This is a chronicle of political failure—one rich in heroes, villains, epic battles and political skulduggery. But it is also a lesson in how to go down fighting. Even with the Roman legions set to overwhelm their city, the Spartans never gave up.

**Ancient Egypt on Five Deben a Day** Donald P. Ryan 2010 More reliable than Herodotus and more upbeat than The Book of the Dead, this is the essential guide for the discerning time-traveller. This new addition to Thames & Hudson's successful Time Travel series takes the reader to Ancient Egypt in the time of Ramesses II (1250BC). Egyptologist Donald Ryan guides the time-travelling tourist on a journey up the Nile, and en route he offers useful advice on everything from deciphering hieroglyphics to mummifying household pets. So leave the protective amulets at home and banish all fear of being sold as a galley slave: this imaginative guide is all you need to survive and enjoy your visit to Egypt in its golden age.

**Forgotten Peoples of the Ancient World** Philip Matyszak 2020-08-18 A chronicle of forty forgotten ancient civilizations which highlights the important contributions that each has made to modern society. The ancient world of the Mediterranean and the Near East saw the birth and collapse of great civilizations. While several of these are well known, for all those that have been recorded, many have been unjustly forgotten. Our history is overflowing with different cultures that have all evolved over time, sometimes dissolving or reforming, though ultimately shaping the way we continue to live. But for every culture that has been remembered, what have we forgotten? This thorough guide explores those civilizations that have faded from the pages of our textbooks but played a significant role in the development of modern society. Forgotten Peoples of the Ancient World covers the Hyksos to the Hephthalites and everyone in between, providing a unique overview of humanity's history from approximately 3000 BCE–550 CE. A wide range of illustrated artifacts and artworks, as well as specially drawn maps, help to tell the stories of forty lost peoples and allow readers to take a direct look into the past. Each entry exposes a diverse culture, highlighting their important contributions and committing their achievements to paper. Forgotten Peoples of the Ancient World is an immersive, thought-provoking, and entertaining book for anyone interested in ancient history.

**Lives Of The Romans** Philip Matyszak 2008-10-28 Shares brief profiles of one hundred key figures from ancient Rome, from Constantine and Cicero to Pliny the Elder and Amazonia, in a reference that is lavishly illustrated with reproductions of portraits, sculptures, and Renaissance paintings of Roman scenes.

**The Servant of Aphrodite** Philip Matyszak 2015-11-06 After returning from the dead - or at least from the river Arausio - Lucius Panderius finds himself back in Rome, and an unwilling participant in the snake-pit of Roman politics. Whether dodging assassins in the back-alleys, or ducking missiles at political rallies, our hero finds that the streets of his home city can be just as dangerous as the battlefield. And on the battlefield, at least you know who your enemies are ... Rome, 104 BC is a city on edge; torn by social conflict and threatened with destruction by a massive barbarian invasion. To survive the turmoil, Lucius Panderius needs to be every bit as ruthless and duplicitous as his shadowy and powerful enemies. "The Servant of Aphrodite" is the second of the Panderius Papers, and as with its predecessor, this novel combines detailed historical research with non stop action and adventure. ABOUT THE AUTHOR Philip Matyszak has a doctorate in Roman history from St John's College, Oxford University and is the author of many books on Ancient History, including the best-selling "Ancient Rome on Five Denarii a Day" and "Legionary: The Roman Soldier's (Unofficial) Manual." He teaches e-learning courses in Ancient History for the Institute of Continuing Education at Cambridge University. "The Servant of Aphrodite" is

the sequel to "The Gold of Tolosa" and is the second novel in his 'Lucius Panderius' series. For more information visit: [www.matyszakbooks.com](http://www.matyszakbooks.com)

**Ancient Rome On 5 Denarii A Day** Philip Matyszak 2007-05-29 "History buffs (or, indeed, anyone with a vivid imagination) will enjoy this witty and erudite—and most unusual—travel guide."—Chicago Tribune This entertaining guide provides all the information a tourist needs for a journey back in time to ancient Rome in AD 200. You just have to pack your imagination and a toothbrush! Here is advice on arranging the sea journey to Italy, how to negotiate the road to Rome, and what to see on each of the city's famous seven hills. You'll learn what to take to a fancy dinner party (dining robe, your own napkin, and indoor shoes) and where to find the best markets and public baths. A series of walks takes in all the sights of the eternal city, from the opulence of the imperial palace on the Palatine hill through the bustle of the Forum to the grandeur of the Pantheon and the Temple of Jupiter. The largest and most populous city in the ancient world has over one hundred spectacles to offer, including chariot races and events at the Colosseum where gladiators fight to the death. Philip Matyszak's ingenious book will appeal to anyone who has ever wondered what it would have been like to visit the greatest city of ancient times.

**Hercules** Philip Matyszak 2015-12-11 Hercules the superman, the monsterslaying machine, the myth - who was the man beneath the lionskin headdress, and does he really live up to his legend? This unique biography tells the story of the first superhero from his traumatic birth to his dramatic death. Hercules was more than just his twelve famous labours. He was a father, a lover, a leader of armies and a fine strategist. He was also a cattlethief, a murderer and a rapist. Using ancient sources from early Greece to the Late Roman Empire, this detailed biography fleshes out the character of one of the most complex and flawed heroes of Greek mythology. Philip Matyszak has a doctorate in Roman history from St John's College, Oxford University and is the author of many books on Ancient History including the best-selling "The Greek and Roman Myths: A Guide to the Classical Stories," "Ancient Rome of Five Denarii a Day" and "Legionary: The Roman Soldier's (Unofficial) Manual." He teaches e-learning courses in ancient History for the Institute of Continuing Education at Cambridge University. For more information visit: [www.matyszakbooks.com](http://www.matyszakbooks.com)

**Sertorius and the Struggle for Spain** Philip Matyszak 2013-09-09 The epic battle to liberate Spain from Roman rule is a masterclass of ancient guerilla warfare, recounted by the author of Ancient Rome on 5 Denarii a Day. In the year 82 BC, after a brutal civil war, the dictator Sulla took power in Rome. But among those who refused to accept his rule was the young army officer Quintus Sertorius. Sertorius fled, first to Africa and then to Spain, where he made common cause with the native people who had been savagely oppressed by a succession of corrupt Roman governors. Discovering a genius for guerilla warfare—and claiming to receive divine guidance from Artemis—Sertorius came close to driving the Romans out of Spain altogether. Rome responded by sending reinforcements under the control of Gen. Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus, who would go on to become Pompey the Great. The epic struggle between these two commanders, known as the Sertorian War, is a masterclass of ancient strategy and tactical maneuver. Massively outnumbered, Sertorius remained undefeated on the battlefield, but was eventually assassinated by jealous subordinates, none of whom proved a match for Pompey. The tale of Sertorius is both the story of a people struggling to liberate themselves from oppressive rule, and the story of a man who started as an idealist and ended almost as savage and despotic as his enemies. But above all, it is the story of a duel between two great generals, fought between two different styles of army in the valleys of the Spanish interior.

**The Enemies of Rome** Philip Matyszak 2009 An assessment of the rise and fall of the Roman empire argues that such groups as the Celts, Hebrews, and Phoenicians were civilizations in their own right in spite of beliefs about Roman superiority and examines the impact of leadership ambition, political choices, and rivalry on the empire's downfall.

**So You Want to be a Roman Soldier** Philip Matyszak 2019-12-10 An essential guide for wannabe legionaries—and fair warning to those brave, or stupid, enough to sign up. In this highly entertaining adventure, Kate, Eddie, and Angus travel back in time to see if they have what it takes to be a Roman soldier. Under the guidance of an ancient career counselor and one of the Roman Empire's most intimidating centurions, they are inducted as newbie legionaries and discover firsthand the highs (sacking a city!) and lows (sharing a bum sponge) of life in the Roman army. After passing their initial training challenges, our young crew discover how to use a shield as brass knuckles, how to operate a catapult, and how to avoid a javelin in the skull. These, and many other handy lessons, are now available to children dreaming of a career as an ancient Roman warrior. **So You Want to Be a Roman Soldier?** draws on the latest scholarship by noted author Philip Matyszak and is illustrated throughout with zany drawings by Japanese cartoonist Takayo Akiyama. Quizzes, training challenges, pros-and-cons lists, and more will help readers personalize their journeys to soldierhood. The result is a book that brings to life the experience of a Roman soldier in 100 CE.

**Ancient Rome On 5 Denarii A Day** Philip Matyszak 2007-05-29 A lighthearted reference to "visiting" ancient Rome identifies the period's top accommodations, activities, and things to avoid, in a reference that profiles a sea journey to Italy, a tour of the famous seven hills of Rome, and the opulence of an imperial Palatine Hill palace.

**A History of Ancient Rome in 100 Lives** Philip Matyszak 2023-02-02 One hundred vivid portraits of real-life characters bring to life the highs and lows of Rome's dramatic history. A vibrant portrait of a lost world, **A History of Ancient Rome in 100 Lives** reveals the mightiest civilization of antiquity through the eyes of one hundred of its citizens. The book gives a voice not just to Rome's most famous generals and rulers, such as Caesar and Caligula, but also to its builders, sculptors, poets, historians, gladiators, shepherds, enslaved people, and courtesans. The book begins with Faustulus, the fosterfather of Romulus and Remus, and closes with the final emperor, Romulus Augustulus. The stories of Roman women are given their due as well—from Servilia, Caesar's lover; to Agrippina, the murderous wife of Claudius; Amazonia, the sword-swinging gladiator; and Hypatia, philosopher, astronomer, and mathematician. Exploring every level of society and using the latest archaeological evidence as well as ancient texts, the authors build up a picture of what it meant to live in Ancient Rome.

**Shopping in Ancient Rome** Claire Holleran 2012-04-26 This volume provides the first comprehensive account of the retail network in ancient Rome and investigates the diverse means by which goods were sold to consumers in the city. Holleran places Roman retail trade within the wider context of its urban economy and explores the critical relationship between retail and broader environmental factors.

**Imperial General** Philip Matyszak 2012-02-02 Petilius Cerealis is one of the few Imperial Roman officers, below the level of Emperor, whose career it is possible to follow in sufficient detail to write a coherent biography.

Fortunately his career was a remarkably eventful and colorful one. With a knack for being caught up in big events and emerging unscathed despite some hairy adventures (and scandal, usually involving some local wench) he appears to have been a Roman version of Blackadder and Flashman combined. Cerealis was in Britain when Boudicca's revolt erupted (60 or 61 AD) and marched to confront her. He lost most of his force but narrowly escaped with his own skin intact. In 69 AD, the infamously tumultuous 'year of the four emperors', he was in Rome, the seat of conspiracy. When his uncle, none other than Vespasian, decided to make his own bid for the imperial purple (he was to become the fourth emperor that year), Cerealis was in danger of losing his life as a traitor and had to escape from the city to join his uncle who was marching to force his way in. A short while later he was commanding a force on the Rhine when the Batavian mutiny broke out. This time he only escaped death because he was in bed with a local girl rather than in his own tent. And so it goes on... 'Imperial General' is both a fascinating insight into the life of an imperial Roman officer during the period of the Principate, and a rollicking good tale told in Philip Matyszak's trademark lively style.

**Are We Rome?** Cullen Murphy 2008-05-05 What went wrong in imperial Rome, and how we can avoid it: "If you want to understand where America stands in the world today, read this." —Thomas E. Ricks The rise and fall of ancient Rome has been on American minds since the beginning of our republic. Depending on who's doing the talking, the history of Rome serves as either a triumphal call to action—or a dire warning of imminent collapse. In this "provocative and lively" book, Cullen Murphy points out that today we focus less on the Roman Republic than on the empire that took its place, and reveals a wide array of similarities between the two societies (The New York Times). Looking at the blinkered, insular culture of our capitals; the debilitating effect of bribery in public life; the paradoxical issue of borders; and the weakening of the body politic through various forms of privatization, Murphy persuasively argues that we most resemble Rome in the burgeoning corruption of our government and in our arrogant ignorance of the world outside—two things that must be changed if we are to avoid Rome's fate. "Are We Rome? is just about a perfect book. . . . I wish every politician would spend an evening with this book." —James Fallows

**Prostitution, Sexuality, and the Law in Ancient Rome** Thomas A. J. McGinn 2003 This is a study of the legal rules affecting the practice of female prostitution at Rome approximately from 200 B.C. to A.D. 250. It examines the formation and precise content of the legal norms developed for prostitution and those engaged in this profession, with close attention to their social context. McGinn's unique study explores the "fit" between the law-system and the socio-economic reality while shedding light on important questions concerning marginal groups, marriage, sexual behavior, the family, slavery, and citizen status, particularly that of women.

**Chronicle of the Roman Republic** Philip Matyszak 2003 Profiles the lives of nearly sixty rulers of the ancient Roman Republic, including Gaius Marius, Pompey the Great, and Mark Antony, and portrays the events taking place

throughout history with timelines, illustrations, artwork, and maps.

**24 Hours in Ancient Athens** Philip Matyszak 2019-04-18 Spend 24 hours with the ancient Athenians. See the city through their eyes as it teeters on the edge of the fateful war that would end its golden age. Athens, 416 BC. A tenuous peace holds. The city-state's political and military might are feared throughout the ancient world; it pushes the boundaries of social, literary and philosophical experimentation in an era when it has a greater concentration of geniuses per capita than at any other time in human history. Yet even geniuses go to the bathroom, argue with their spouse and enjoy a drink with friends. Few of the city's other inhabitants enjoy the benefits of such a civilized society, though - as multicultural and progressive as Athens can be, many are barred from citizenship. No, for the average person, life is about making ends meet, whether that be selling fish, guarding the temple or smuggling lucrative Greek figs. During the course of a day we meet 24 Athenians from all strata of society - from the slave-girl to the councilman, the vase painter to the naval commander, the housewife to the hoplite - and get to know what the real Athens was like by spending an hour in their company. We encounter a different one of these characters every chapter, with each chapter forming an hour in the life of the ancient city. We also get to spy on the daily doings of notable Athenians through the eyes of regular people as the city hovers on the brink of the fateful war that will destroy its golden age.

**Ancient Rome** Nicolas Guillerat 2021-10-12 A revealing history of ancient Rome, told through visually stunning, state-of-the-art infographics. Ancient Rome: Infographics tells the story of a great empire through graphic design. This book offers readers a new way to conceptualize ancient Rome from the birth of the empire to the Punic Wars, and from the Roman political system to the role of women, slaves, and public entertainment. Cleverly designed infographics bring alive the complex history and structure of this ancient empire for the general reader while still satisfying demands for the rigorous approach of a historian. Drawing on the best international sources, this volume charts ancient Rome's social, political, and cultural histories with breathtaking data visualizations. The result is an extraordinary new approach to Rome's history, and is sure to appeal to those looking for an overview of the period and to history buffs alike.

**Invisible Romans** Robert C. Knapp 2011-06-16 Robert Knapp seeks out the ordinary people who formed the fabric of everyday life in ancient Rome and the outlaws and pirates who lay beyond it. They are the housewives, prostitutes, freedmen, slaves, soldiers, and gladiators who lived commonplace lives and left almost no trace in history - until now. But their words are preserved in literature, letters, inscriptions and graffiti and their traces can be found in the histories, treatises, plays and poetry created by the elite. A world lost from view for two millennia is recreated through these, and other, tell-tale bits of evidence cast off by the visible mass of Roman history and culture. Invisible Romans reveals how everyday Romans sought to survive and thrive under the afflictions of disease, war, and violence, and to control their fates under powers that both oppressed and ignored them. Their lives - both familiar and foreign to ours today - are shown against the tumult of a great empire that shaped their worlds as it forged the wider world around them.

**Ancient Athens On 5 Drachmas a Day** Philip Matyszak 2008-10-14 A lighthearted tour of ancient Athens profiles such locations as Delphi, the site of the Battle of Marathon, and the city of Athena while surveying the philosophers, artists, and gods who shaped famous sites, in a reference that also explores the hedonistic side of Athenian life. Original. 15,000 first printing.

**The Gods and Goddesses of Greece and Rome** Philip Matyszak 2022-11-22 The essential illustrated guide to the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece and Rome by renowned author and historian of ancient life Philip Matyszak, who vividly retells their stories and explores their origins. Who were the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece and Rome? What did they mean to the people who worshipped them? Although their time of widespread worship is long gone, the Greek and Roman gods have fascinated and inspired writers and artists for millennia. From Aphrodite to Apollo, Poseidon to Zeus, these are some of the most recognizable characters in Western culture, yet there is rich, unknown lore behind these famous figures who regularly feature in art and writing. The Greek and Roman gods are enthralling characters in the enduringly powerful Iliad, Odyssey, and Metamorphoses, as well as in modern retellings like Circe and the Percy Jackson series. They are immortal and powerful, yet also vain, vindictive, and vulnerable. Moreover, as manifestations of death, fertility, love, and war, the gods are also our key to understanding how the Greeks and Romans saw their world. Philip Matyszak presents this pantheon in all their complexity, guiding us from Mount Olympus to the depths of Hades. Each chapter focuses on an individual god or goddess, beginning with their "biography" as understood by the Greeks and Romans and exploring the origins of the legends. Matyszak mixes history with vivid retellings of the myths in which the gods have a starring role, from stories of cosmic creation and universal war to disastrous weddings and freak discus accidents. This sumptuously illustrated guide to the gods of Greece and Rome is a must-have for anyone interested in mythology and classical civilization.