

Roman Cities

Rome & Pompeii

Introduction to Rome

- The village of Rome was probably founded sometime in the 8th century BC, though it may go back as far as the 10th century
- The city of Rome is located in the central-western portion of the Italian Peninsula, on the Tiber river within the Lazio region of Italy.
- Rome's history spans over two and a half thousand years.
- It was the capital city of the Roman Kingdom, the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire, which was a major political and cultural influence in the lands bordering the Mediterranean Sea for over four hundred years from the 1st Century BC until the 4th Century AD.



Holy See (Vatican)

Città del Vaticano

Roma

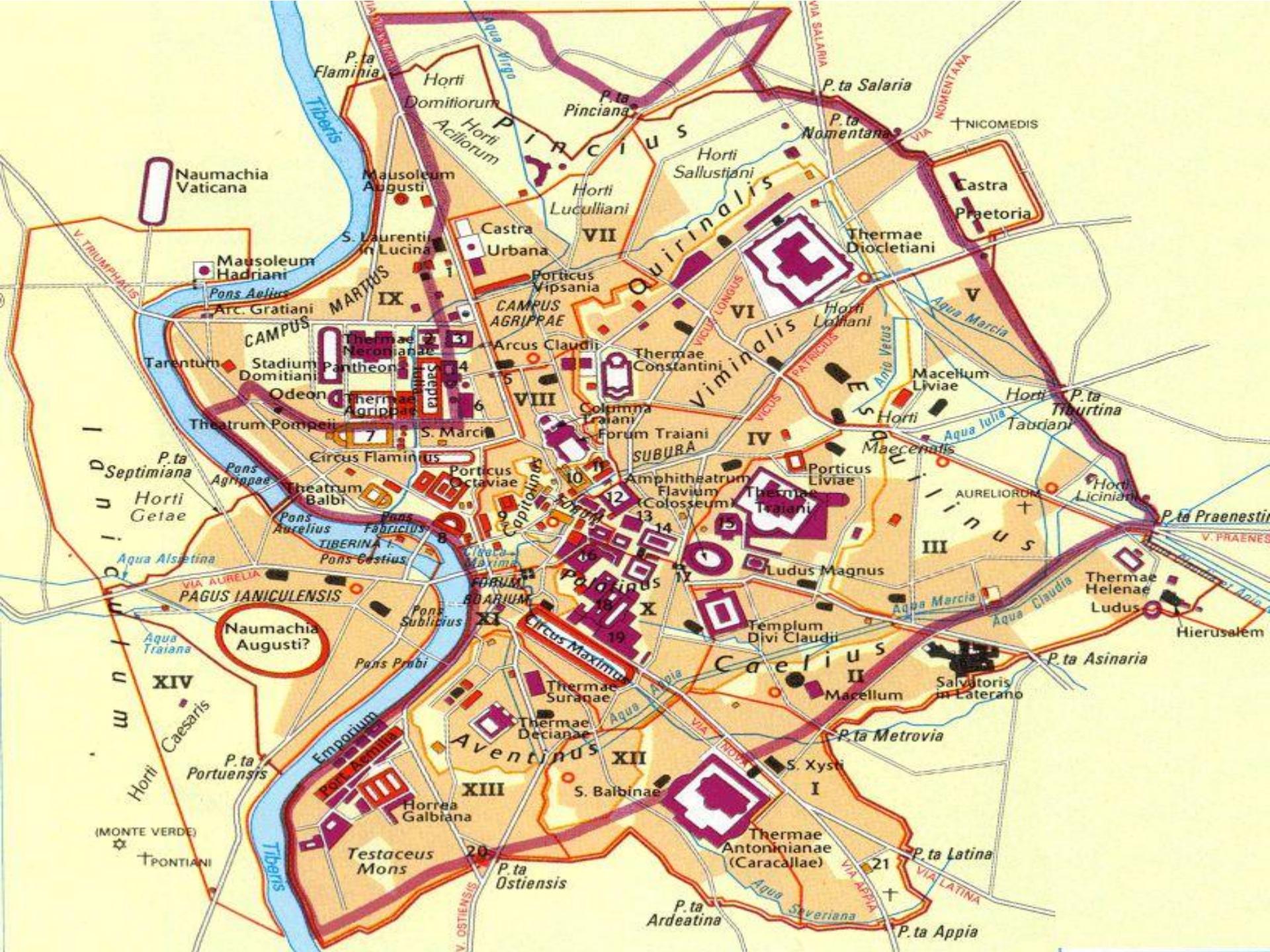
rome

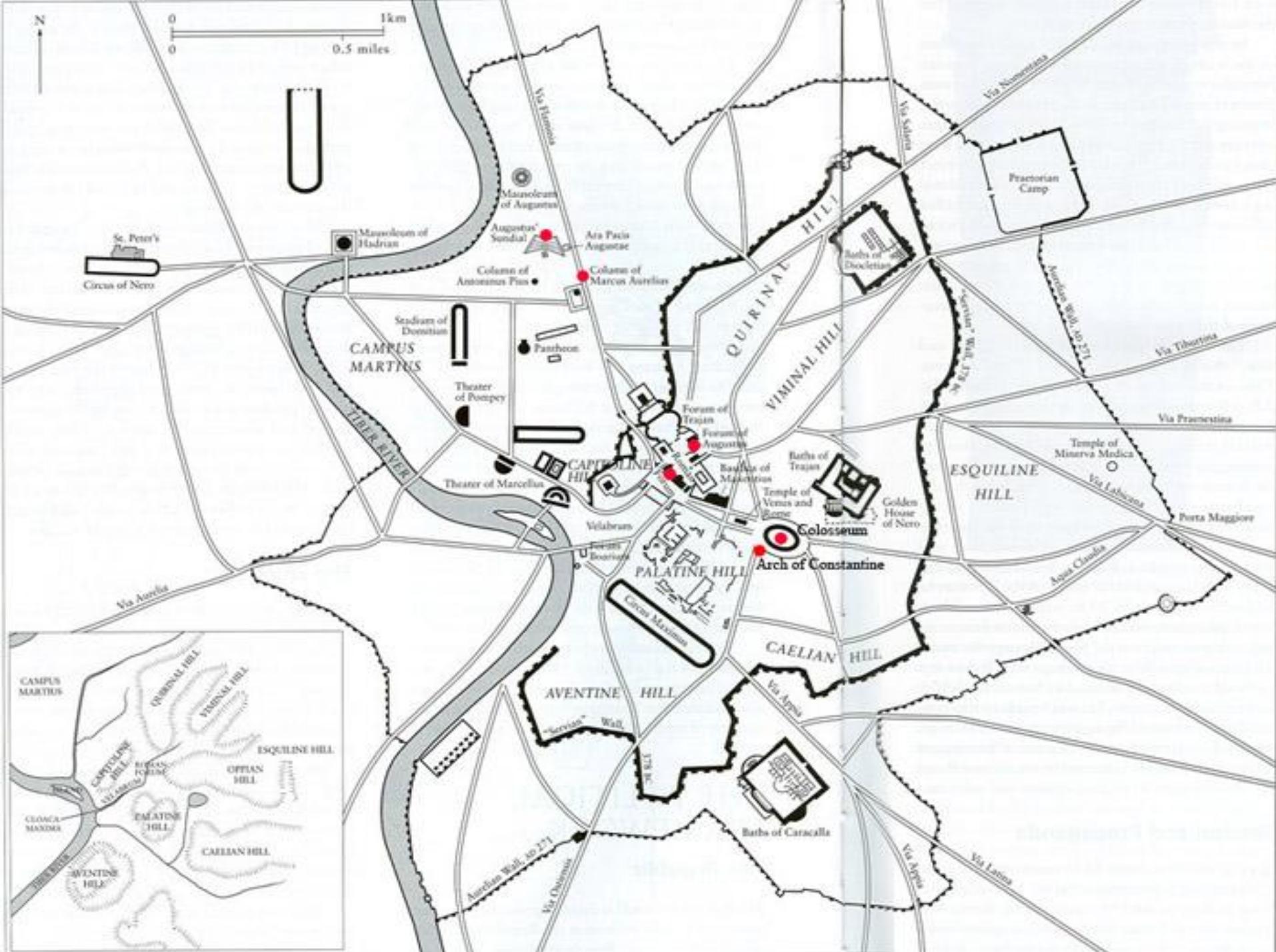
© 2010 Tele Atlas
© 2010 Europa Technologies

Google

Introduction to Rome

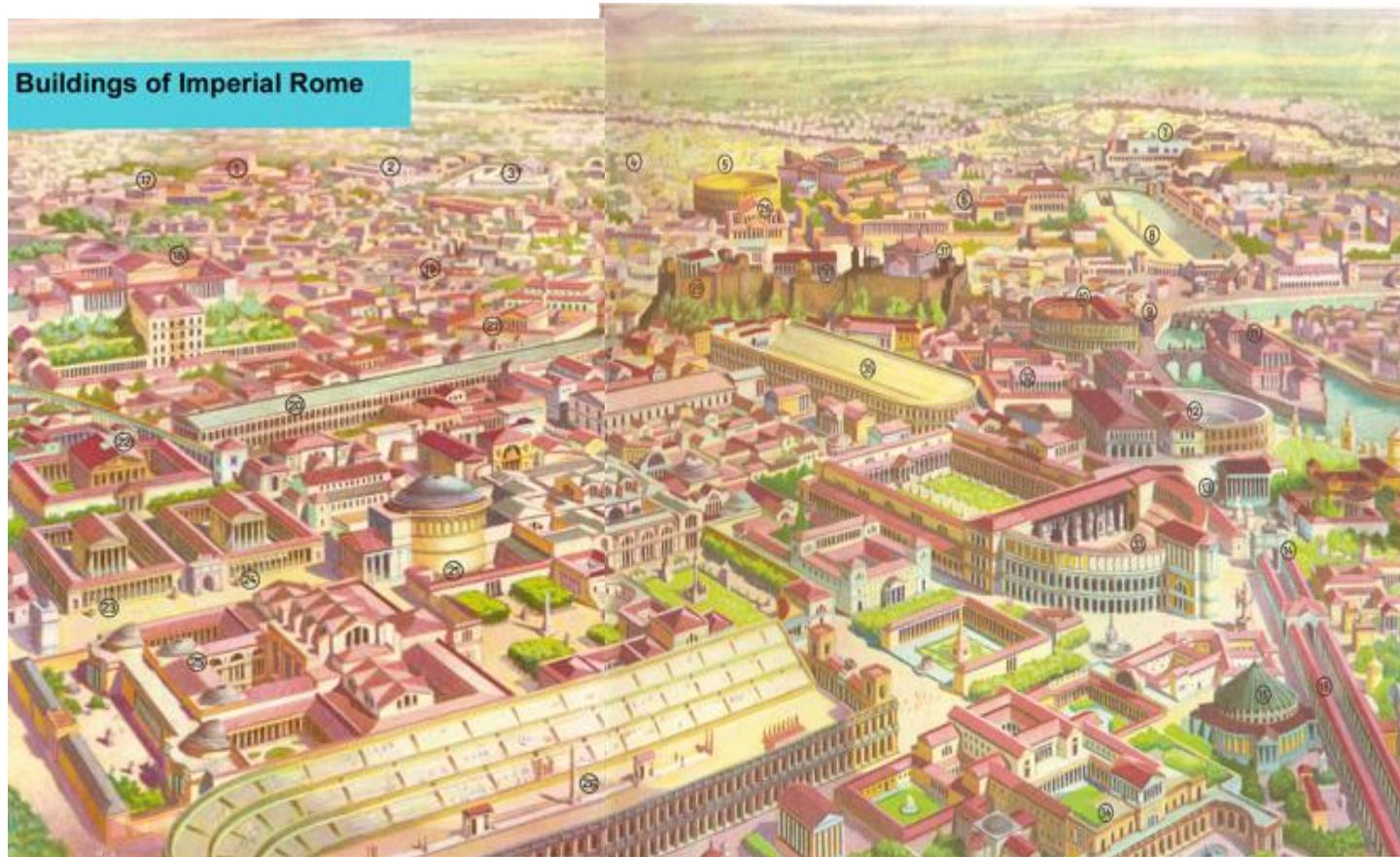
- Ancient Rome was the largest city in the then known world. It is thought that Rome's population was over 1 million people when the city was at the height of its power.
- From Rome, the heart of government beat; military decisions were taken and the vast wealth Rome earned was invested in a series of magnificent buildings.







Model of Ancient City of Rome



Model of Ancient City of Rome



Forum of Rome

- Many buildings in Rome were built around the forum.
- Traditionally, this had been a market place and an area where people met.
- It was the place to put government buildings, temples and palaces.
- As Rome grew the forum became more and more crowded.
- A second city centre was planned and built at some distance from the forum but still in Rome itself.

Forum of Rome



Buildings of Rome

- Rome itself had some magnificent buildings erected within the city. Some exist to this day, all be it in a less wonderful state.
- The most famous is probably the Colosseum where thousands of Roman citizens would gather for their entertainment – be it animals fighting or gladiators etc.
- Such grand buildings were constructed so that emperors would be remembered by future generations.
- Rome also had numerous triumphal arches constructed throughout the city to celebrate military victories.
- These served a dual purpose. First, they were a celebration of the military victories the Romans had and, second, they were a reminder to the people of Rome of how powerful the army was.

Colosseum of Rome



Arches Built by Kings



Streets of Rome

- Roads were built in straight lines. Many had gutters. Along the side of road, the Romans built road signs called milestones. Milestones did not give any information about other towns in the area. Milestones told how far it was back to Rome.
- The streets in Rome were crowded and narrow. Freight was delivered by wagons at night, as wagons were banned from the city by day because of the congestion.
- Travel within the cities was often done on foot by rich and poor alike. The proper way for a wealthy woman to travel was by a large four wheel covered coach. Additionally, she could travel by litter, just like the men.

Streets of Rome



Streets of Rome



Housing at Rome

- Rome obeyed no rules of town planning in antiquity.
- As with any city, Rome had its rich and poor areas.
- The poor could only afford to live in wooden houses which were a serious fire risk in a hot country like Italy.
- On a number of occasions, Rome suffered severe damage as a result of fires starting in the city's slums.
- The slums were also dangerous places to go to if you had any money as crime was very common.
- The Emperor Augustus created a police force to patrol the city but the poor areas remained all but untamed.
- However, for the influential people of Rome, this was of little importance as they never visited such areas.

Housing styles

- By 2nd century the city attained its peak prosperity and population in excess of a million.
- Housing demand was met by development of multistorey blocks to such an extent that soon their proportion was twenty to one with flatted dwellings
- The height limit of 60 feet was imposed by Trajan
- Apartment blocks of second century were of solid construction and good finish.
- The owner lived in self contained and comparative luxury on the ground floor and his tenants on upper floors without individual piped water supply or heating system
- But rich and poor occupying same apartment block or houses along the same street did not seem unduly conscious of social inequalities
- Common citizenship was more apparent than class distinction

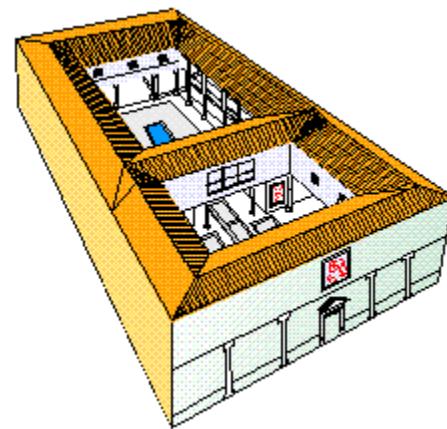
Apartment Buildings

- In the apartment houses, or flats, an entire family (grandparents, parents, children) might all be crowded into one room, without running water.
- They had to haul their water in from public facilities. Fire was a very real threat because people were cooking meals in crowded quarters, and many of the flats were made of wood. They didn't have toilets. They had to use public latrines(toilets).

Single Family Homes

- The upper class Romans (patricians) lived very differently. Their homes were single family homes, which in ancient Rome meant the great grandparents, grandparents, parents, and kids of one family lived in a home together.
- Homes were made, quite often, of brick with red tile roofs, with rooms arranged around a central courtyard.
- The windows and balconies faced the courtyard, not the street, to keep homes safe from burglars.
- There were painting on the walls and beautiful mosaics on the floor. There was very little furniture, and no carpeting.
- Wealthy Romans might have a house with a front door, bedrooms, an office, a kitchen, a dining room, a garden, a temple, an atrium, a toilet, and a private bath.

Rome City Houses



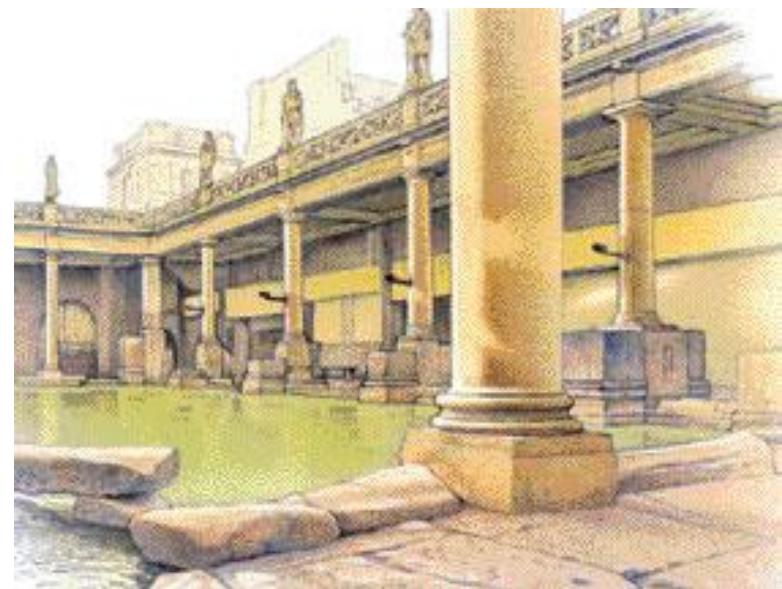
Places of Amusement

- The city was more than a showpiece for artists and builders.
- It offered many amusement for even the poorest Romans.
- There were public baths theaters, Colosseum, and circus houses.
- The forum was also a popular meeting place where rich and poor gathered to discuss important events or simply exchange gossip and can buy a snack from a passing peddler.

Theatres at Rome



Bath House and Circus



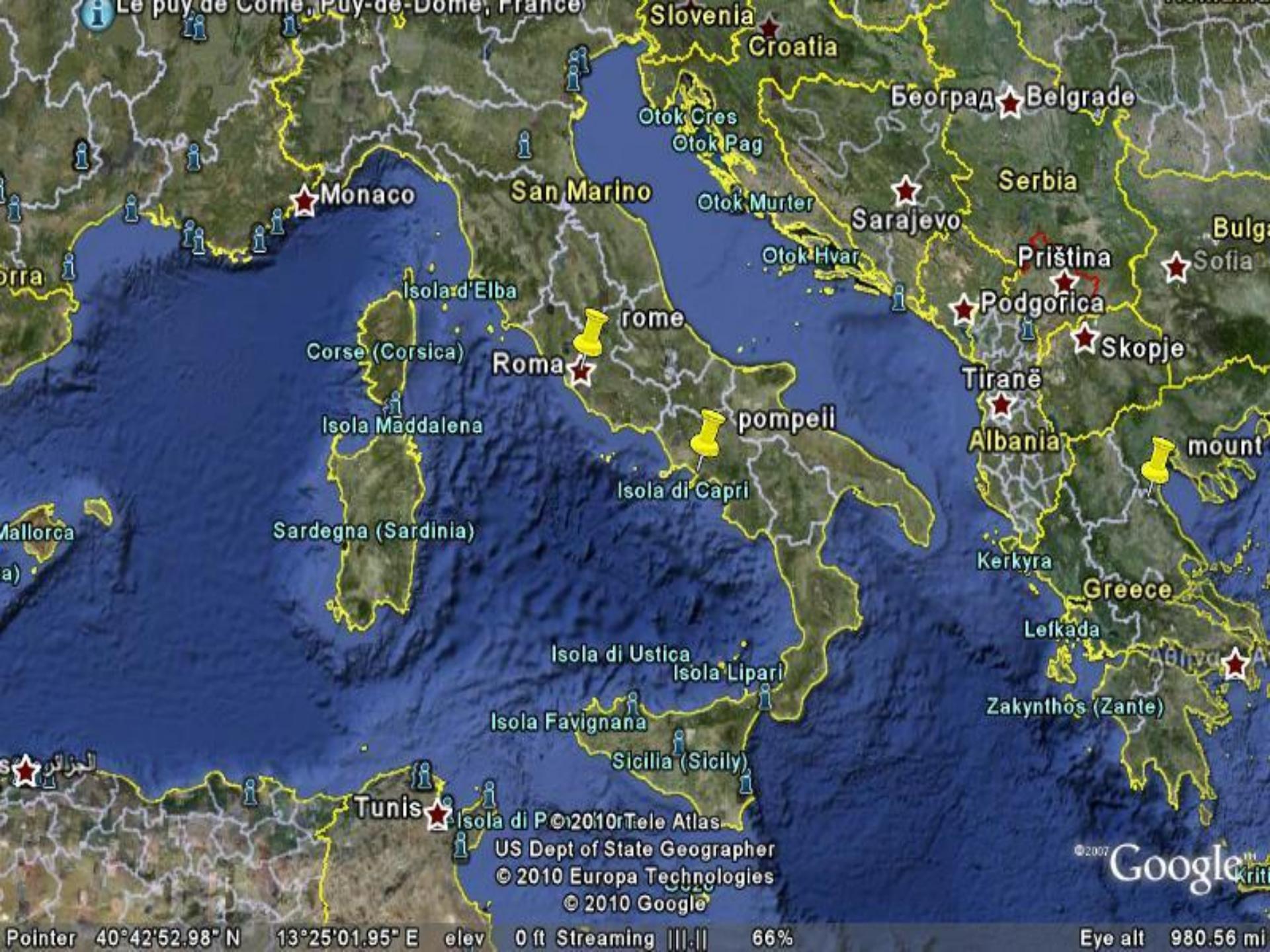
Disasters to Rome

- Fires and plagues took heavy toll of lives
- Augustus who was responsible for much of monumental buildings and some efforts at introducing local administration of city districts also organized fire brigades to combat frequent and disastrous conflagrations.
- Nero endeavored to improve standards of construction and of light air and space about buildings.
- His building regulations required that permanent materials be used for all new works, and no new building should be of greater height than twice the width of the street along which it stood and that street should be widened and straightened when redevelopment took place.

City of Pompeii

Introduction to Pompeii

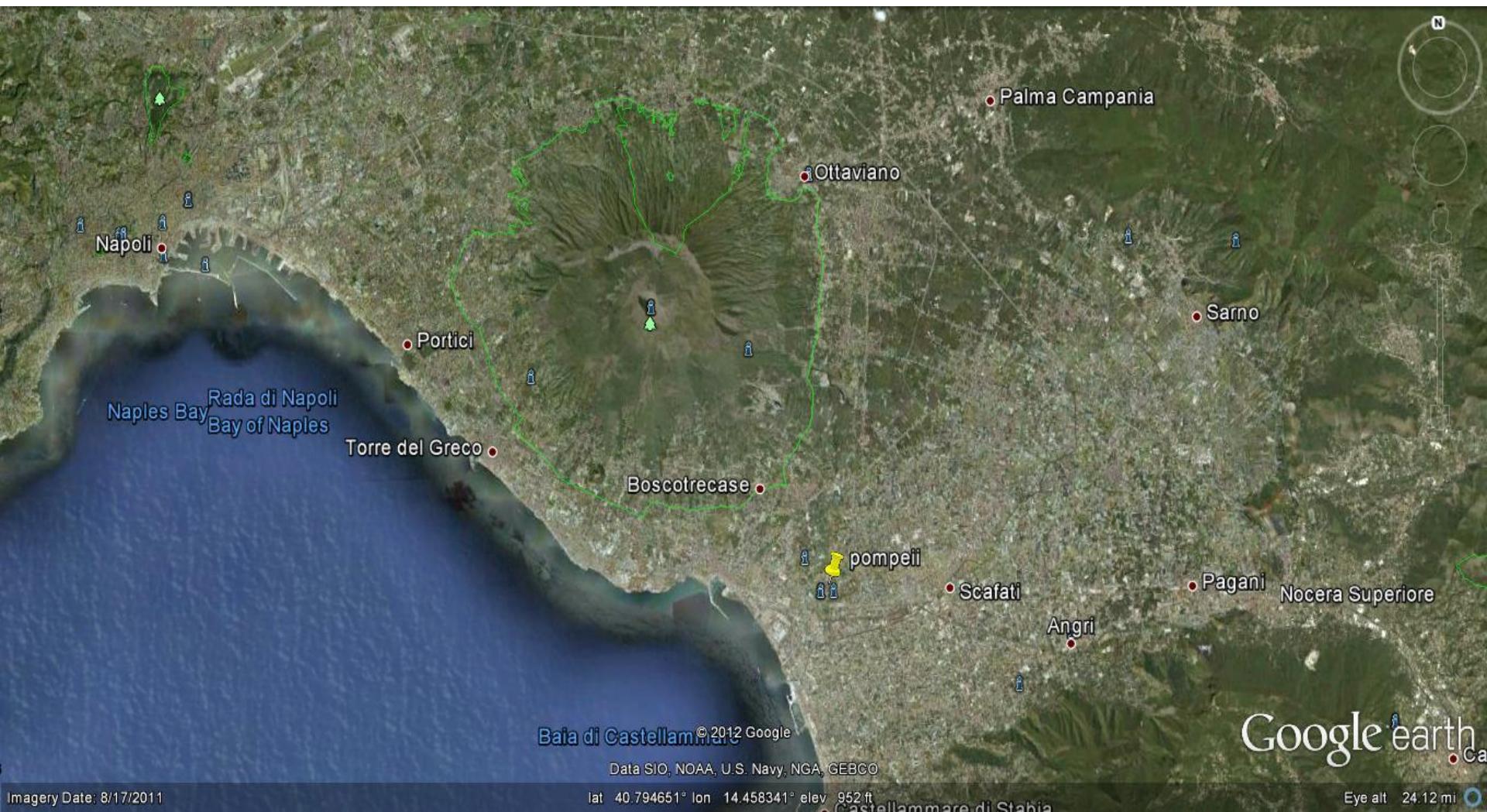
- The town was founded around the 7th-6th century BC by the Oscans, a people of central Italy.
- Pompeii is in the Italian region of Campania, near Naples. Pompeii is close to the Bay of Naples.
- Romans took control of Pompeii around 200 BC.
- On August 24, 79 AD, the volcano Vesuvius erupted, buried the nearby town Pompeii under 66 ft of ash and soot, killing 20000 people, and preserving the city in its state from that fateful day.
- Pompeii is an excavation site and outdoor museum of the ancient Roman settlement.
- This site is considered to be one of the few sites where an ancient city has been preserved in detail - everything from jars and tables to paintings and people were frozen in time, yielding an unprecedented opportunity to see how the people lived two thousand years ago.



Location of Pompeii



Pompeii



Ruins of Pompeii



Introduction to Pompeii

- Pompeii is one of the most significant proofs of Roman civilization and, like an open book, provides outstanding information on the art, customs, trades and everyday life of the past.
 - It's economy was based mainly on agriculture and maritime trade.
 - In both respects, Pompeii was blessed by its natural setting.
 - The surrounding Campian soil was extremely fertile, while its close proximity to the sea allowed it to become a harbor for the whole area around Vesuvius.
 - These attributes led to Roman occupation beginning in 310 B.C.E.
 - By 79 C.E., Roman culture and law had become completely absorbed within the Pompeian way of life
 - It was lost for nearly 1,600 years before its accidental rediscovery in 1592. Since then, its excavation has provided an extraordinarily detailed insight into the life of a city at the height of the Roman Empire.
 - Today, this UNESCO World Heritage Site is one of the most popular tourist attractions of Italy, with approximately 2,500,000 visitors every year.

Introduction to Pompeii

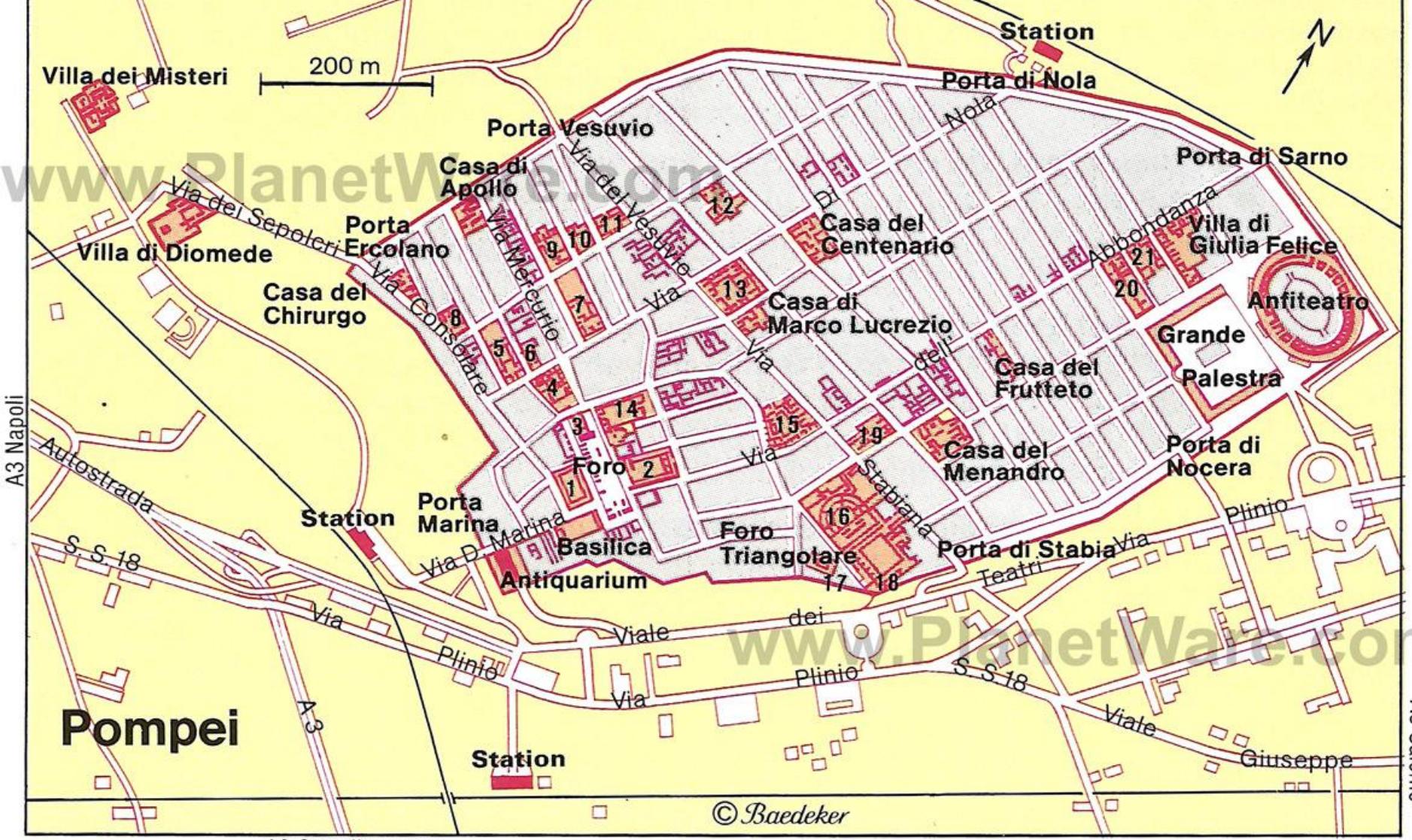
- Pompeii was considered a large city for the time, and even more cosmopolitan than Rome, which was several days' journey from Pompeii.
- Because of Pompeii's long and varied history of ownership, foreign influences—such as the practice of Egyptian religious rites and the use of Greek architecture—are evident everywhere in the city.
- It held administrative control over the neighboring suburbs, and was a center for trade in crops and olive oil.
- When Vesuvius erupted, much of Pompeii was still recovering from the great earthquake of AD 62, and evidence of massive reconstruction efforts were found during excavations.

Layout Features of Pompeii

- Despite its strong and lasting Roman domination, Pompeii's city planning was strongly influenced by the Greeks.
- The town itself was laid out in a Greek manner, with long, narrow rectangular residential blocks divided by narrow side streets running perpendicular to the main avenues.
- While there are many irregularities in some sections of the city, the overall layout is well planned and rationally thought out.

Layout Features of Pompeii

- Pompeii covers an area of 66 hectares, surrounded by defensive stonewalls (12 towers and eight gateways). These walls lost their importance when taken over by the Romans. Some parts of the walls were pulled down to make way for housing.
- Irregular in shape and built on terrain that slopes from 10 meters to 40 meters above sea level.
- Earliest developments were around the Forum and were heavily influenced by the Greek principle of urban planning.
- The grid pattern used in other Roman towns was not as regular in Pompeii.
- City gates were at the end of the main thoroughfares.



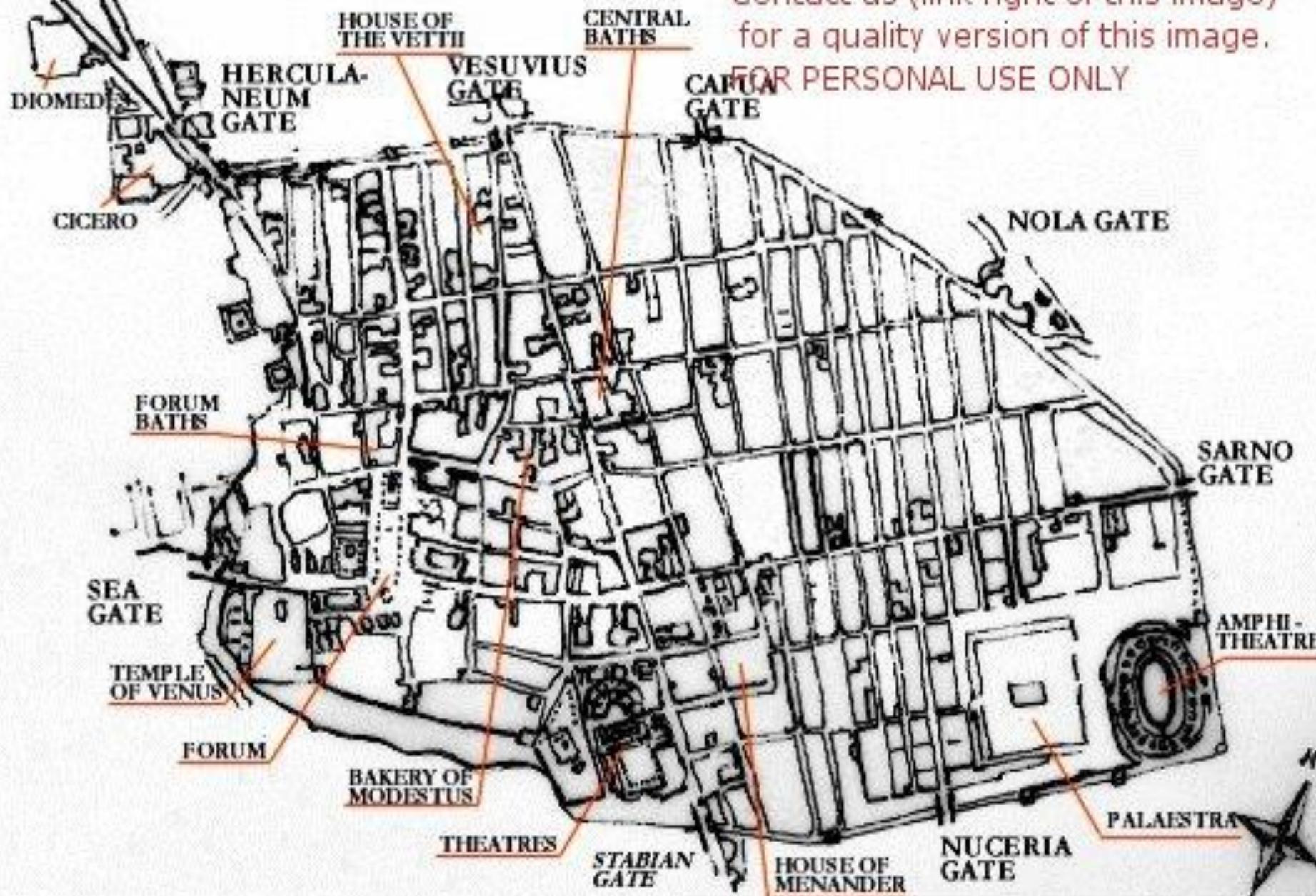
- | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Temple of Apollo | 7 House of Faun | 13 Central Baths | 19 Casa del Citarista |
| 2 Building of Eumachia | 8 House of Sallust | 14 Macellum | 20 House of Marcus Loreius Tiburtinus |
| 3 Temple of Jupiter | 9 House of Labyrinth | 15 Stabian Baths | 21 House of Venus |
| 4 Forum Baths | 10 House of Vettii | 16 Large Theatre | |
| 5 House of Pansa | 11 House of Gilded Cupids | 17 Doric Temple | |
| 6 House of Tragic Poet | 12 House of Silver Wedding | 18 Gladiators' Barracks | |

VILLA OF THE
MYSTERIES

MAP OF POMPEII

Contact us (link right of this image)
for a quality version of this image.

FOR PERSONAL USE ONLY





©2010 Tele Atlas

Google

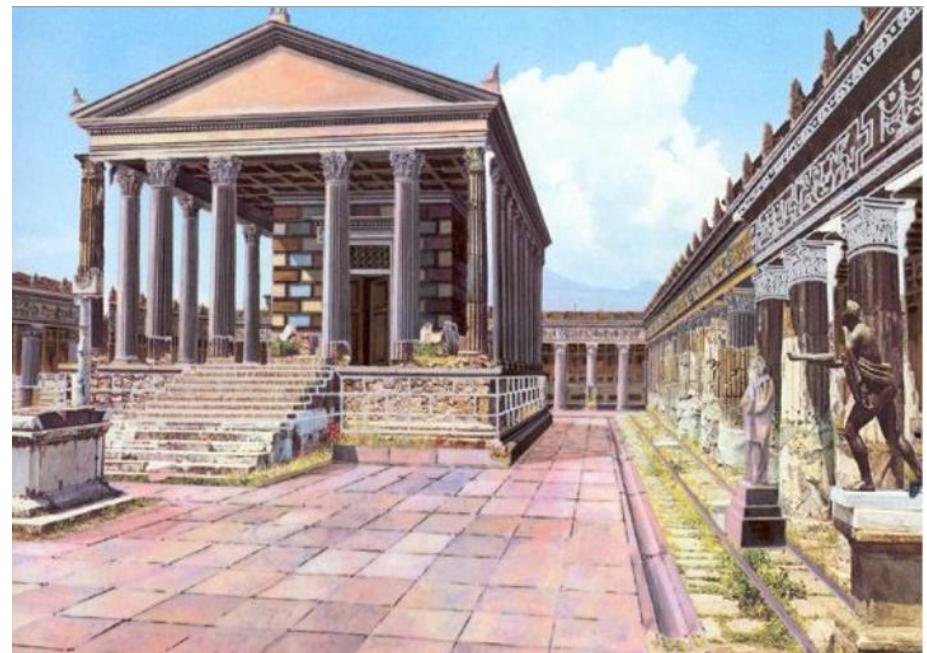
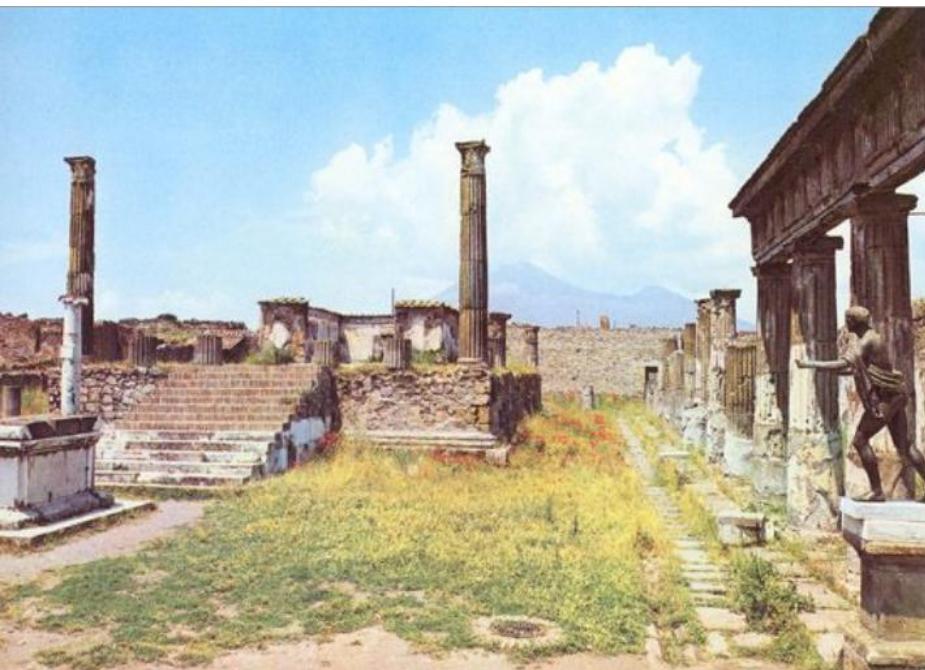
Pointer 40°45'03.17" N 14°29'20.06" E elev 104 ft Streaming 100%

Eye alt 3886 ft

Forum of Pompeii

- The Pompeian Forum was the center of the city's social, political, economic, and religious life.
- At the opposite extreme of the city lay the Amphitheater, the center of sporting events and civic festivals.
- All of Pompeii's public buildings, such as the Basilica (Pompeii's largest building), the Municipal Offices, and the Comitium, lay south of the Forum.
- While to the north of the Forum stood the Temple of Jupiter.

Remodeling of Jupiter Temple



Forum of Pompeii



The Eumachia

- The Eumcahia building in the Pompeii forum was the headquarters of one the most influential of trade guilds, the Fabric Dyers and Washers.
- The building itself was built by the guild's patron, the priestess Eumachia.
- The building was comprised of a courtyard surrounded by a two-story colonnade.
- The actual trading took place within the courtyard, which is also where the fabrics themselves were stored or on display.

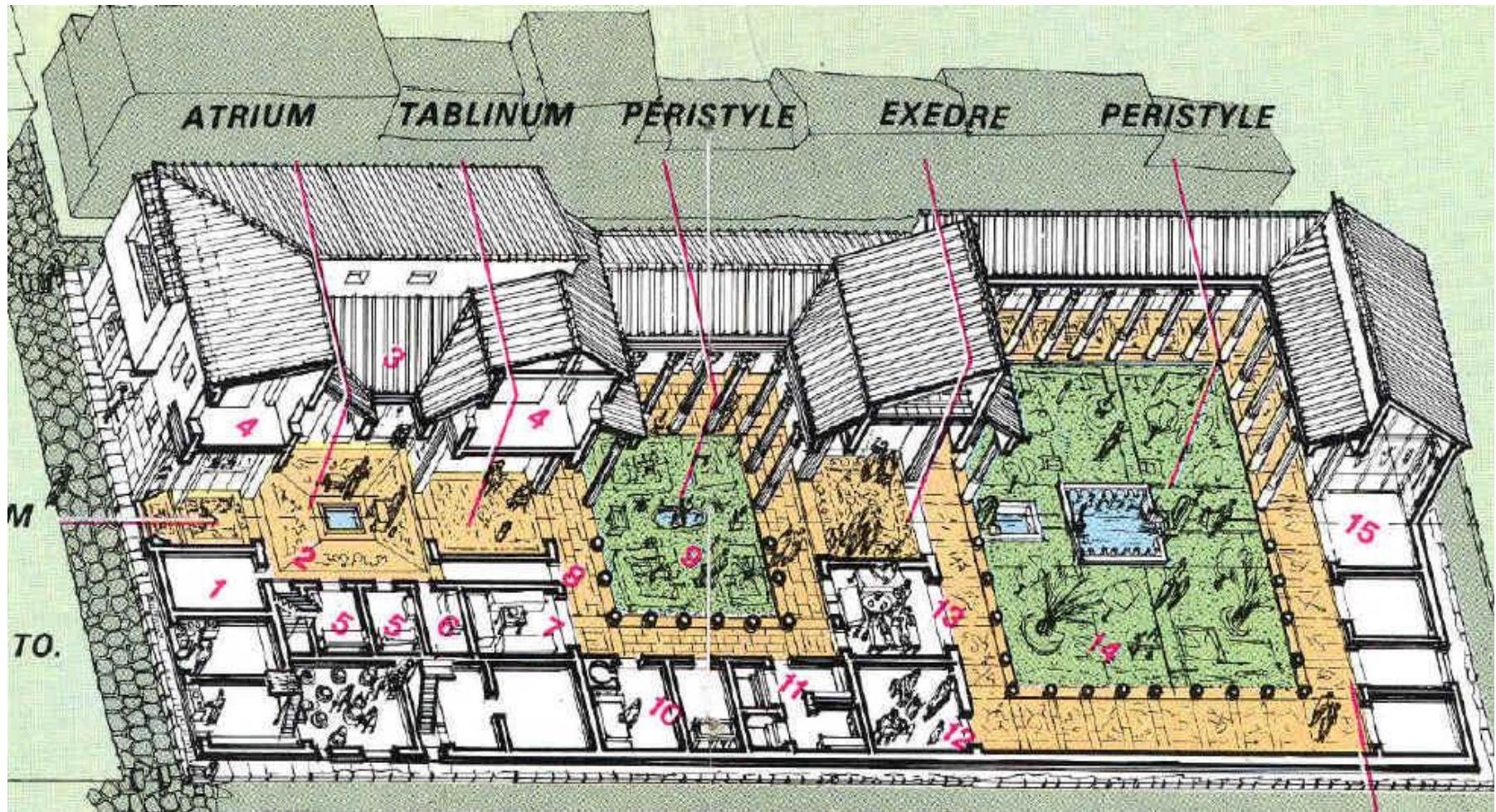
The Eumcahia



Housing at Pompeii

- Alongside the elegant villas belonging to the nobility and the luxurious residences of the middle class, stand modest houses where several families lived.
- The peasant dwellings on the other hand are situated around vegetable gardens or small plots of land.
- The houses still contain furniture, ornaments, gold and silverware, work tools, kitchenware, bronze and terracotta lamps, foodstuffs of all kinds, counters for serving drinks, grain mills and grindstones, workshops for manufacturing cloth, smithies and outlets selling groceries, fruit and vegetables.
- There is a remarkable record of Roman painting, of which, without the finds made in Pompeii, virtually nothing would be known.

Roman Houses of Pompeii



Large House at Pompeii



Small House at Pompeii



Streets of Pompeii

- There are tracks for the carriages in the street for a smoother ride.
- There are also stone blocks in the street for pedestrians to step onto to cross the street.
- The sidewalks are higher than the modern sidewalk because the streets had water and waste flowing through them.
- The stone blocks in the street were also as high as the sidewalk, so people did not walk in the waste and water.
- The stone blocks were also used for what we now call speed bumps.
- When the carriages were going through the city, they were going fast.
- To avoid people from getting splashed by the water and waste they had stone blocks in the street. This would make the driver slow down when they were speeding, so they could get through the blocks.

Water Source

- Early inhabitants had water from the river Sarno, deep wells and rain collecting cisterns.
- At the time of Augustus the imperial aqueduct had a branch to supply Pompeii. This water flowed into a water tower and was then sent to three main pipes. Sloping terrain gave good water pressure. Many private homes had fresh, running water.
- 42 public fountains, usually at crossroads. Sometimes the fountains obstructed the roadway.
- Most Pompeians lived within 80 metres of a fountain.

Streets of Pompeii

- Pompeii is proof of Roman engineering skill and accuracy in road building.
- They used polygonal blocks of basalt, raised footpaths on either side of the road. Kerbing made of basalt.
- Stepping stones used to allow pedestrian crossing of streets but also were not a hindrance to wheeled traffic. Stepping blocks allowed crossing of streets without stepping into sewerage that overflowed in the gutters when it rained.
- Deep groove marks show the volume of traffic.
- Pompeian street names are not known. They have been given modern Italian names e.g. Via del Abbondanze (Street of Abundance). A Via was a main highway.
- Decumani were roads running from east to west and they met at right angles. Shrines and water fountains were often placed at these intersections.
- Romans legislated that roads were to be a minimum of five metres wide. At Pompeii most streets conformed. Some streets were for pedestrians only.
- Sometimes stone barriers were erected to prevent wheeled traffic.

Streets of Pompeii



Streets of Pompeii



Streets of Pompeii



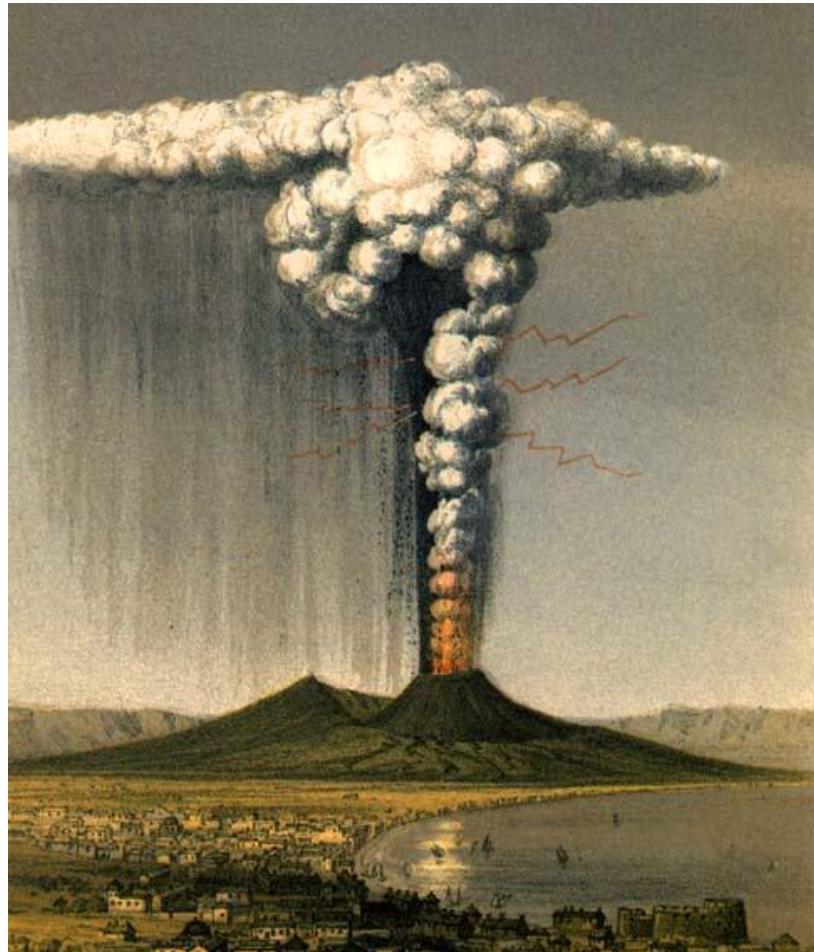
Theatres of Pompeii



Last day of Pompeii

- 24th august 79 AD was the last day of Pompeii.
- The scale of the tragedy was appalling: in what had been one of the most active and splendid Roman centres, life came to a permanent standstill.
- The thick layer of volcanic material which submerged it, made up to a large extent of ash and non-hard material, has meant that the city has remained intact until the present day, not only as far as its buildings are concerned, but also as regards the contents inside the houses and shops, providing an absolutely fascinating picture of "daily" life.

Imaginary Pictures of Eruption



Plaster Cast of Ruined Bodies

