Ancient Rome is defined as the Roman civilization from the founding of Rome in the 8th century BC to the collapse of the Western Roman Empire in the 5th century AD.

It includes the Roman Kingdom (753–509 BC), the Roman Republic (509–27 BC), and the Roman Empire (27 BC–476 AD).

Rome was traditionally founded in 753 BC beside the River Tiber in the Italian Peninsula.

The settlement of Rome grew to control its neighbors through treaties and military strength.

Rome assimilated Greek and Etruscan cultures and became dominant in the Mediterranean region.

At its height, the Roman Empire covered about 5 million square kilometers and had an estimated population of 50 to 90 million.

The Roman state evolved from an elective monarchy to a classical republic and then to an autocratic military dictatorship.

Ancient Rome is often grouped with ancient Greece as part of the Greco-Roman world.

Roman civilization has significantly contributed to modern language, religion, society, technology, law, politics, and art.

Rome professionalized its military and created a government system called res publica, influencing modern republics.

The early settlement around Rome dates back to approximately 1000 BC, with large-scale organization emerging around 800 BC.

The first graves in Rome's necropolis and a clay and timber wall date to the middle of the 8th century BC.

By the sixth century BC, Romans began draining the valley that would become the Roman Forum.

The Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus was constructed on the Capitoline Hill by the sixth century BC.

The founding myth of Rome attributes its origin to Romulus and Remus, sons of Mars and a princess.

Romulus became the sole founder of Rome after killing his brother Remus during a dispute.

The story of Rome's founding dates back at least to the third century BC.

The legendary Aeneas, according to Virgil's Aeneid, led Trojans to found a new Troy on the banks of the Tiber.

There were kings in Rome during its early history, as evidenced by fragmentary texts from the 6th century BC.

The Romans believed their monarchy was elective and attributed it to seven legendary kings.

By the end of the sixth century BC, Rome controlled a territory of approximately 780 square kilometers.

The Regia, a palace, was constructed around 625 BC in early Rome.

The Romans extended their control over their Latin neighbors, creating a shared culture.

The Roman Republic was established around 509 BC after the deposition of Tarquin the Proud.

The Roman Republic was characterized by annually elected magistrates and various representative assemblies.

The most important magistrates were the two consuls, who exercised executive authority.

The Senate initially served as an advisory council of the ranking nobility, or patricians.

Other magistrates included tribunes, quaestors, aediles, praetors, and censors.

Initially, the magistracies were restricted to patricians but were later opened to plebeians.

The comitia centuriata and comitia tributa were important voting assemblies in the Republic.

The Gauls attacked Rome in the 4th century BC, culminating in the Battle of the Allia on 16 July 390 BC.

The Gallic army looted and burned Rome before besieging the Capitoline Hill for seven months.

The Romans eventually defeated the Gauls after noticing they were using false scales to weigh gold.

The Romans gradually subdued other peoples on the Italian peninsula, including the Etruscans.

Tarentum, a major Greek colony, enlisted the aid of Pyrrhus of Epirus in 281 BC but ultimately failed against Rome.