

The Romans' religions

The Romans worship several gods: they are **polytheists**.
They practice different religions:

Traditional Roman religion honors many gods.

It is full of **rites** (actions performed for a god):

- The **family** cult (set of rites), for the Lares who protect the house and the Manes who protect the ancestors.



Lararium

House of Menander, Pompeii

- The cult of the main gods protecting **the city**, e.g. Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva (Capitoline triad):



Museo archeologico Moncello

or Venus :



Museo archeologico Napoli

- **Divination** (questioning the gods to discover the future).
The Romans consult augurs who read the will of the gods through signs.



Augurs

Galleria degli Uffizi, Firenze

The **cult for the emperor** is practiced by all Romans to demonstrate the **unity of the empire**:

- Prayers and sacrifices are made to protect him.
- Statues, altars and temples are built for him.



Sacrifice of pork, mutton, beef
Musée du Louvre, Paris

Certain divinities from conquered countries are adopted by the Romans:

- Especially **Greek** gods with their mythology.
- And **oriental** divinities, such as the Egyptian Isis, who provide answers to essential questions, such as that of life after death.



Apollo
Pompeii

1. Traditional Roman religion*1st quest:*

In the d....., the f..... of the family uses several ob.....
for the worship of the god Lare.

Forum quest:

In front of the temple of J, the au..... predicts the future.

What sign will the augur be looking for?

.....

What does the augur foretell?

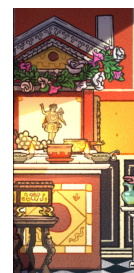
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Points of interest (sculptures in the forum and 2nd at the beginning of the decumanus):

Name gods whose statues can be seen:

What legend about Rome is told?.....

.....

**2. Cult for the emperor***Forum quest:*

At the f....., the priestess Eumachia will make the s.....
of a p..... on the al..... of the emperor.

The butcher tells him it is also possible to sacrifice an o.... or a sh.....

**3. Religions of conquered countries***Forum quest:*

The priest consults the oracle of A....., a Greek god.

Secondary quest of the gods (beginning of decumanus maximus):

Latin names of gods from Greece:

Zeus = J..... Hera = J..... Poseidon= N.....

Hades = P..... Ares = M..... Aphrodite = V.....

Oriental religion:

The Egyptian visited a t..... of Isis. This Egyptian goddess brings
h..... of l..... after death.

Points of interest (1st at the start of the decumanus and the one on the meridionalis to the right of the junction with the decumanus):

Which Greek myths are told over there?

.....

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