

FOUNDATION MYTHS



*Shepherd Faustulus bringing
Romulus and Remus to his
Wife*

Nicolas Mignard

1654

Image courtesy of Dallas Museum of Art, gift of Mr. and Mrs. Algur H. Meadows and the Meadows Foundation, Incorporated. This image is in the public domain.

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THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS



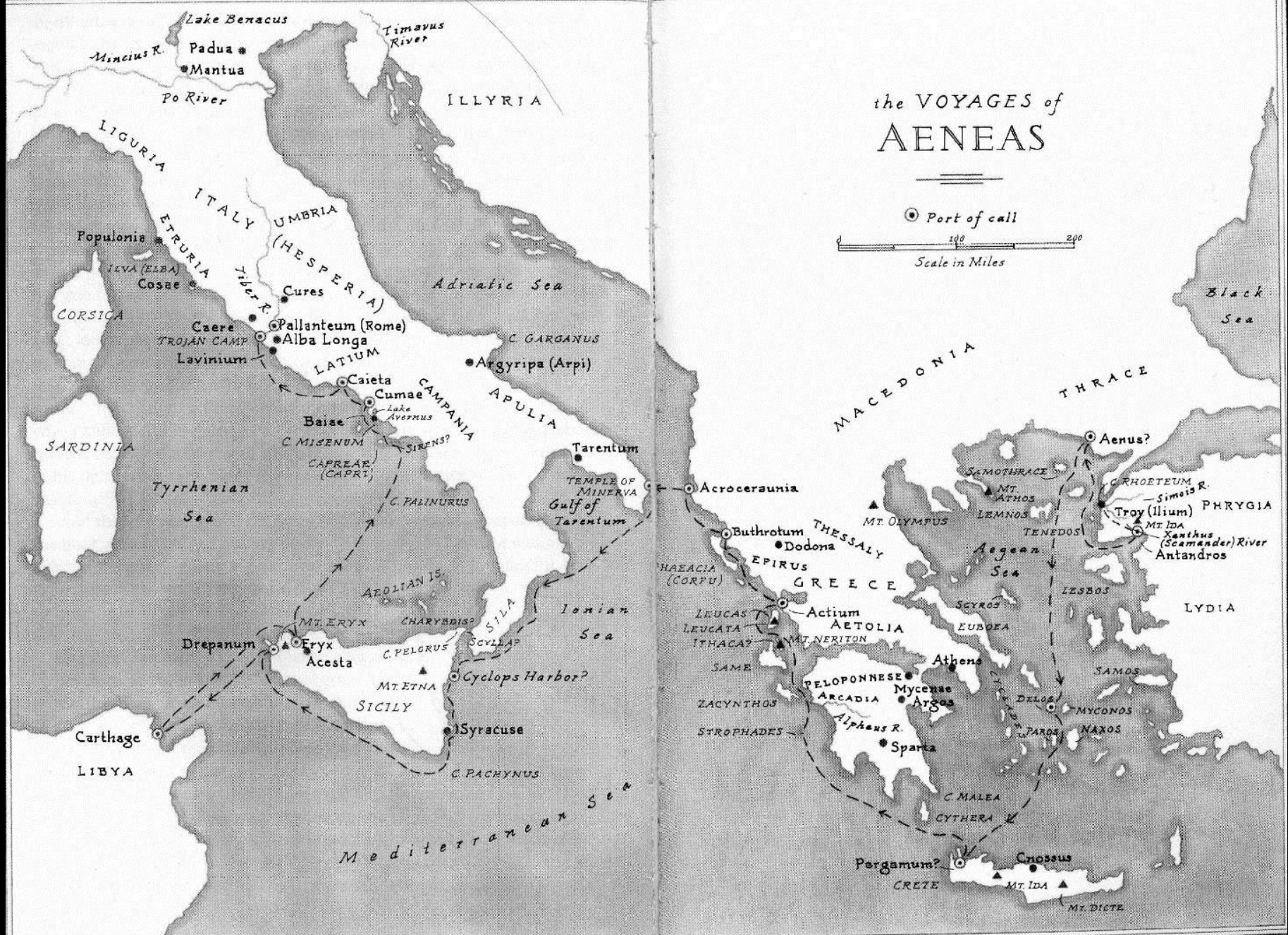
Image by Bibi Saint Pol. This image is in the public domain.
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Attic Black Figure Amphora
ca. 510BC.



The Mykonos Pithos ca. 670 BC

Mykonos Archaeological Museum
(2240)



Virgil. *The Aeneid*. Translated by Robert Fagles. Penguin Classics, 2006. © Penguin Classics. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <https://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.

People & Places:

Aeneas

Latinus

Lavinia

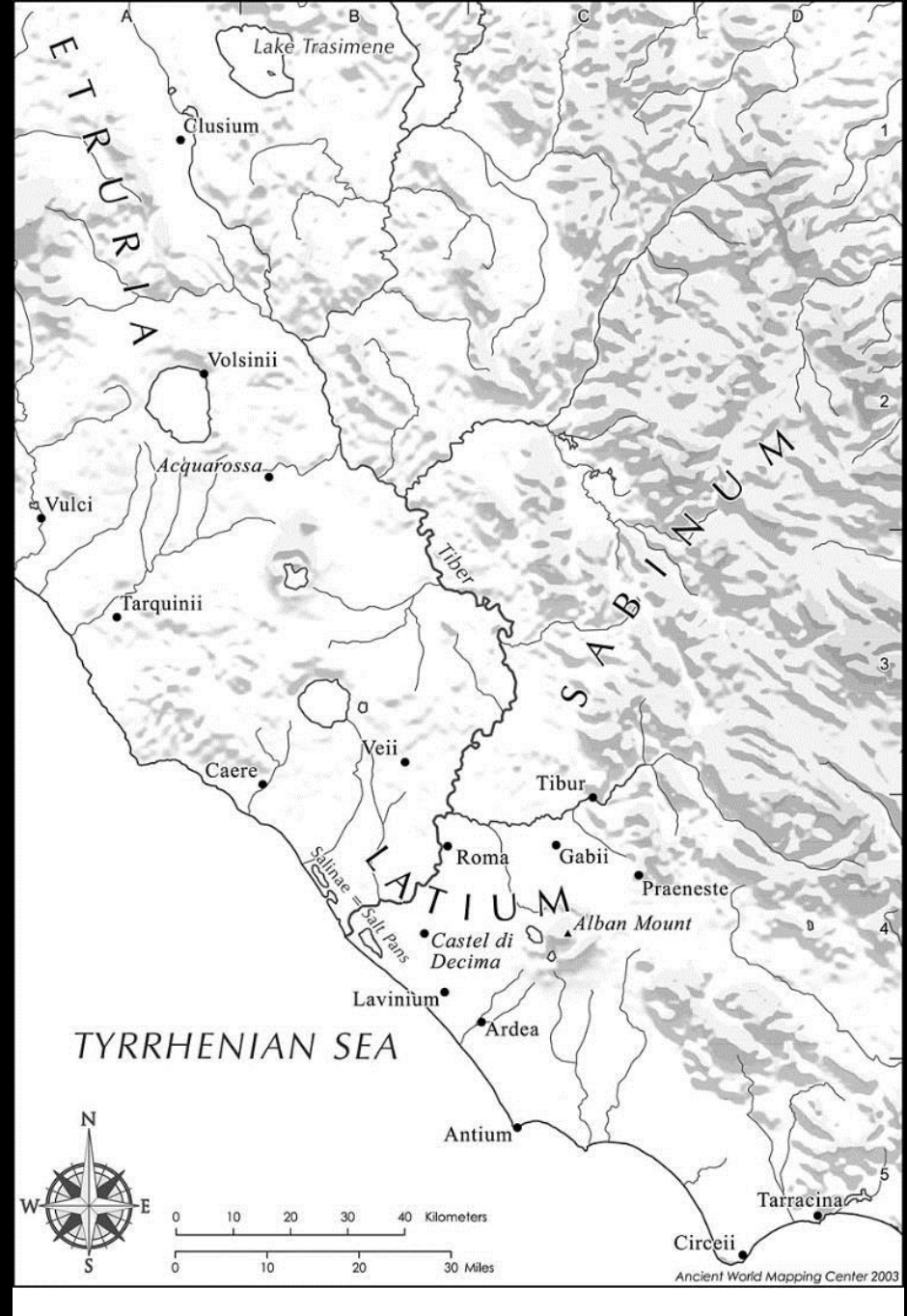
Ascanius

Lavinium

Turnus

Rutulians

Alba Longa



More People & Places:

Numitor

Amulius

Rhea Silvia

Romulus

Remus

Faustulus

Larentia

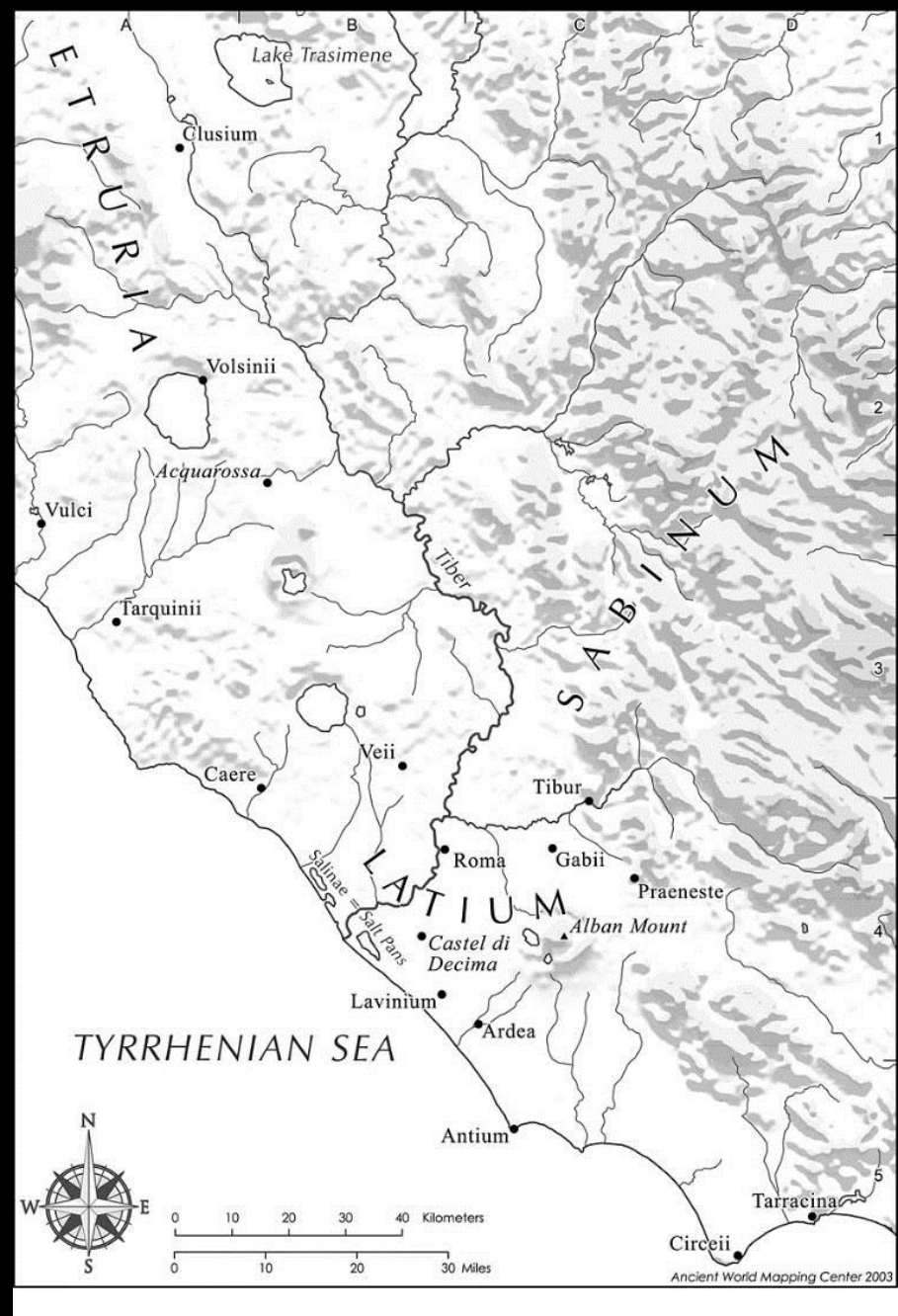




Image by Marie Lan Nguyen. This image is in the public domain.
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Altar of Mars, Venus, and Silvanus from Ostia

- AD 124
- Palazzo Massimo alle Terme, Rome

EARLY KINGS

753 BC (April 21) - Foundation of Rome

509 BC – Birth of Republic

REPUBLIC

27 BC - Augustus

LIVY
(59? BC – AD 17)

EMPIRE

AD 284 – Reforms of Diocletian

LATE EMPIRE

AD 476 – Deposition of Romulus Augustulus

Homer, *The Iliad* 20.349-356

Composed ca. 700 BC

Poseidon's prophecy:

“[Aeneas] is destined to survive.
Yes, so the generation of Dardanus will not perish,
Obliterated without an heir, without a trace...

Now [Zeus] has come to hate the generation of Priam,
And now Aeneas will rule the men of Troy in power –
His sons' sons and the sons born in future years.”

Dionysius of Halicarnassus

Roman Antiquities 1.72.2

But the author of the history of the priestesses at Argos and of what happened in the days of each of them (i.e. Hellanicus of Lesbos, mid-5th c. BC) says that Aeneas came into Italy from the land of the Molossians with Odysseus and became the founder of the city, which he named after Romê, one of the Trojan women. He says that this woman, growing weary with wandering, stirred up the other Trojan women and together with them set fire to the ships. And Damastes of Sigeum (ca. 400 BC) and some others agree with him.

Wall painting from Pompeii, 1st c. AD



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Source: [Wikimedia Commons](#).

Federico Barocci
Aeneas' Flight from Troy, 1596
Galleria Borghese, Rome

Gianlorenzo Bernini
Aeneas, Anchises, and Ascanius
1618-19
Galleria Borghese, Rome



Image courtesy of [Hemant Bedekar](#) on flickr. License CC BY.

Bronze wolf from Rome, 6th c. BC?

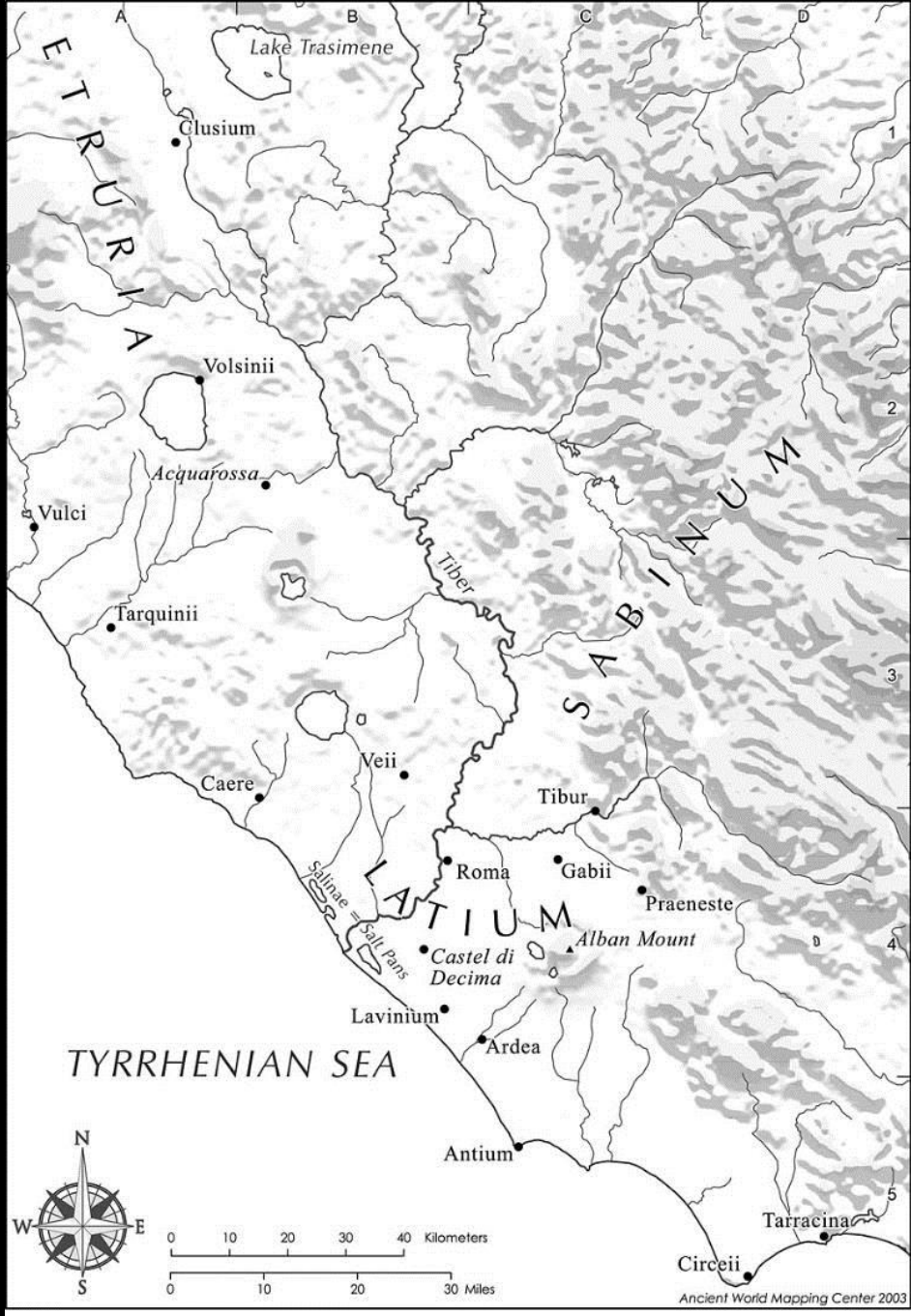


Image courtesy of [Ken and Nyetta](#) on flickr. License CC BY NC.

Livy 10.23.11-12

In the same year (296 BC) the curule aediles Gnaeus and Quintus Ogulnius put several moneylenders on trial and, when their property was confiscated, used the share which came to the public treasury to provide bronze thresholds for the Capitol and silver vessels for the three tables in the shrine of Jupiter. They also set up a statue of Jupiter in a four-horse chariot on the roof, and at the fig-tree of Romulus and Remus a statue group showing the infant founders of the city being suckled by the wolf.

Livy. *Rome and Italy: Books VI-X of the History of Rome from its Foundation*. Translated by Betty Radice. Penguin Classics, 1982. © Penguin Classics. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <https://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.



The Origin Stories

Romulus and Remus

- An invention of the 6th c. BC?

Aeneas

- An invention of the 3rd c. BC?

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21H.132 The Ancient World: Rome
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