

The Roman Empire: Rise and Fall

- The Roman Empire lasted for over a thousand years beginning in 31 BCE and ending in 476 CE in the West and in 1453 CE in the East.
- At its height, it covered all the lands around the Mediterranean Sea and parts of northern Europe, Africa, and the Near East.
- The five emperors are referred to as the Julio Claudian dynasty from the two family names that each of the emperor's were descended from Julius.
- The fall of Rome only refers to the Western part of the empire which fell in 476 CE. The decline took about 300 years however there are many factors that ought to be mentioned.
- The introduction of Christianity has been noted as a pivotal factor in the decline of the Roman Empire.
- The last Roman Emperor, Romulus Augustus, was deposed by the Germanic king Odoacer in 476 CE between 962 and 1806 CE.
- The Western Roman Empire was reinvented as the Holy Roman Empire but was only an empire in name in the East.
- The empire continued as the Byzantine Empire until around 1453 CE with the death of Constantine XI and the fall of Constantinople (the Ottoman Turks).