The Natural History: Book III

An Account of Countries, Nations, and Seas

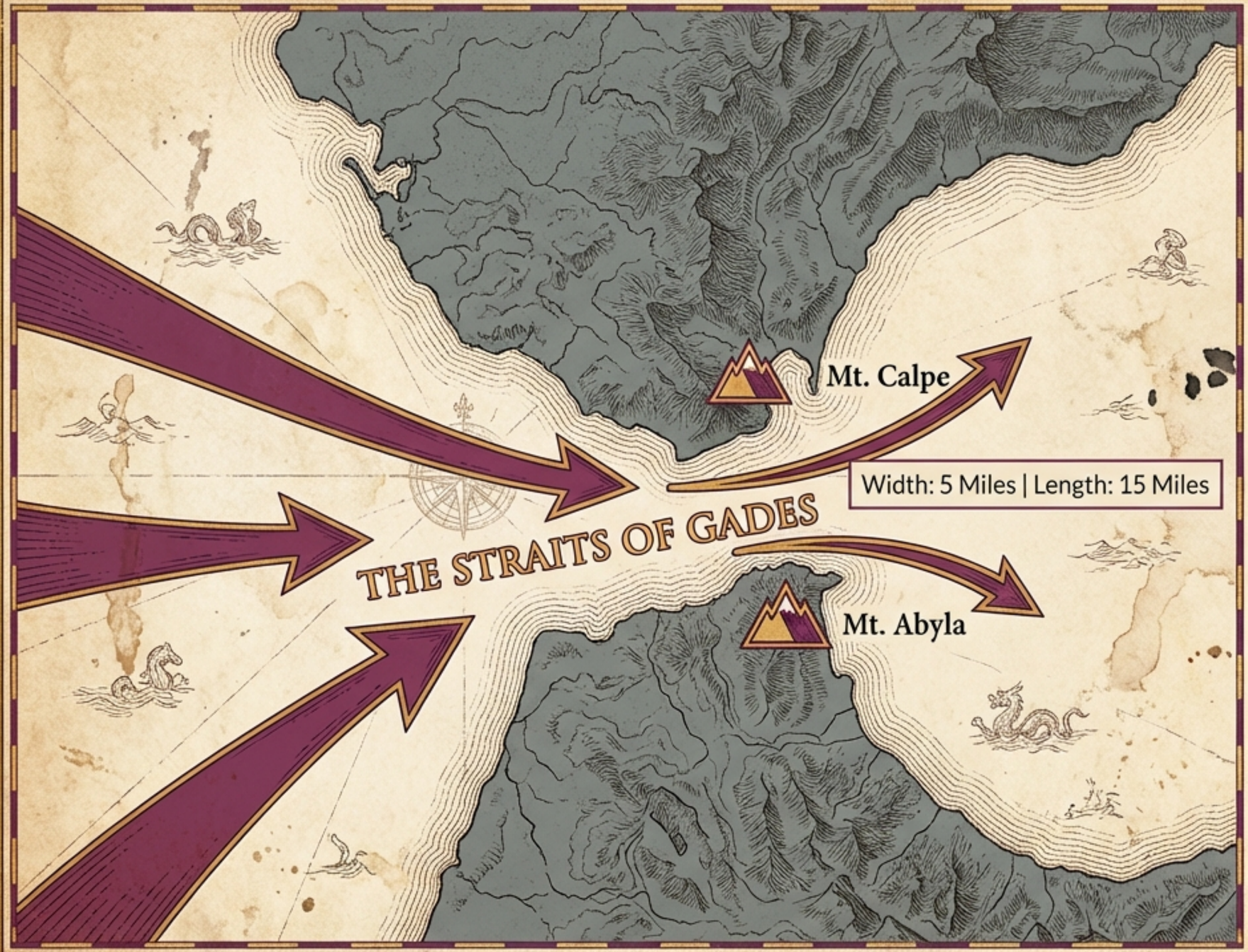


A Geographic Survey of Europe by Pliny the Elder

(Circa 77 AD)

The task is of an infinite nature... it is not surprising that a mere mortal cannot be acquainted with everything.

NotebookLM



THE THRESHOLD

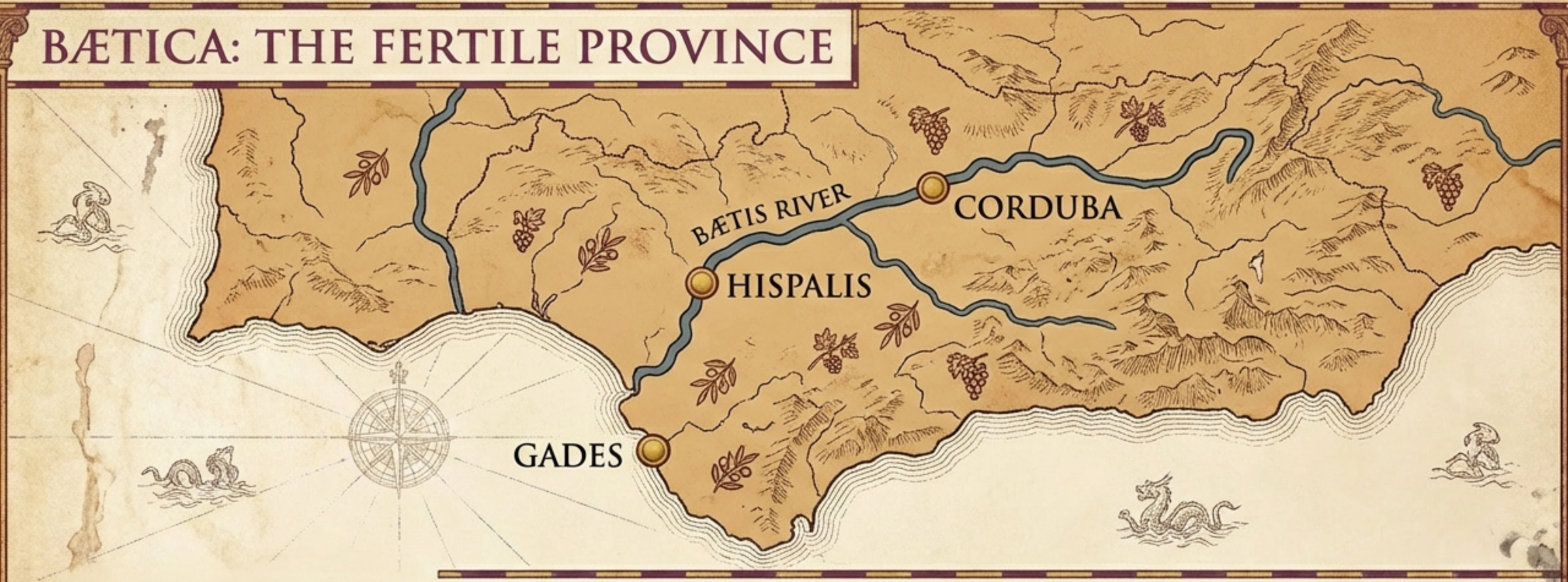
Pliny divides the globe into three parts: Europe, Asia, and Africa. Here, at the Pillars of Hercules, the ocean bursts into the land, changing the face of nature.

"From so small a mouth does so immense an expanse of water open upon us."

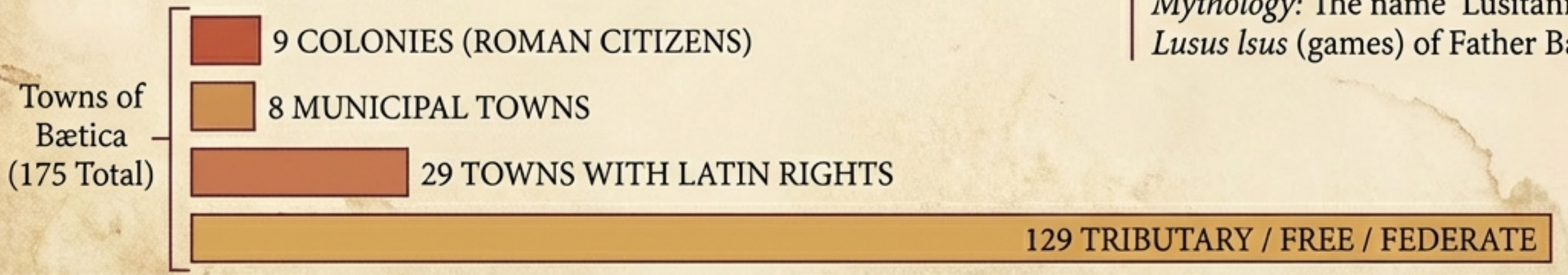


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BÆTICA: THE FERTILE PROVINCE



THE ROMAN LEDGER



Mythology: The name 'Lusitania' derives from the *Lusus lsus* (games) of Father Bacchus.

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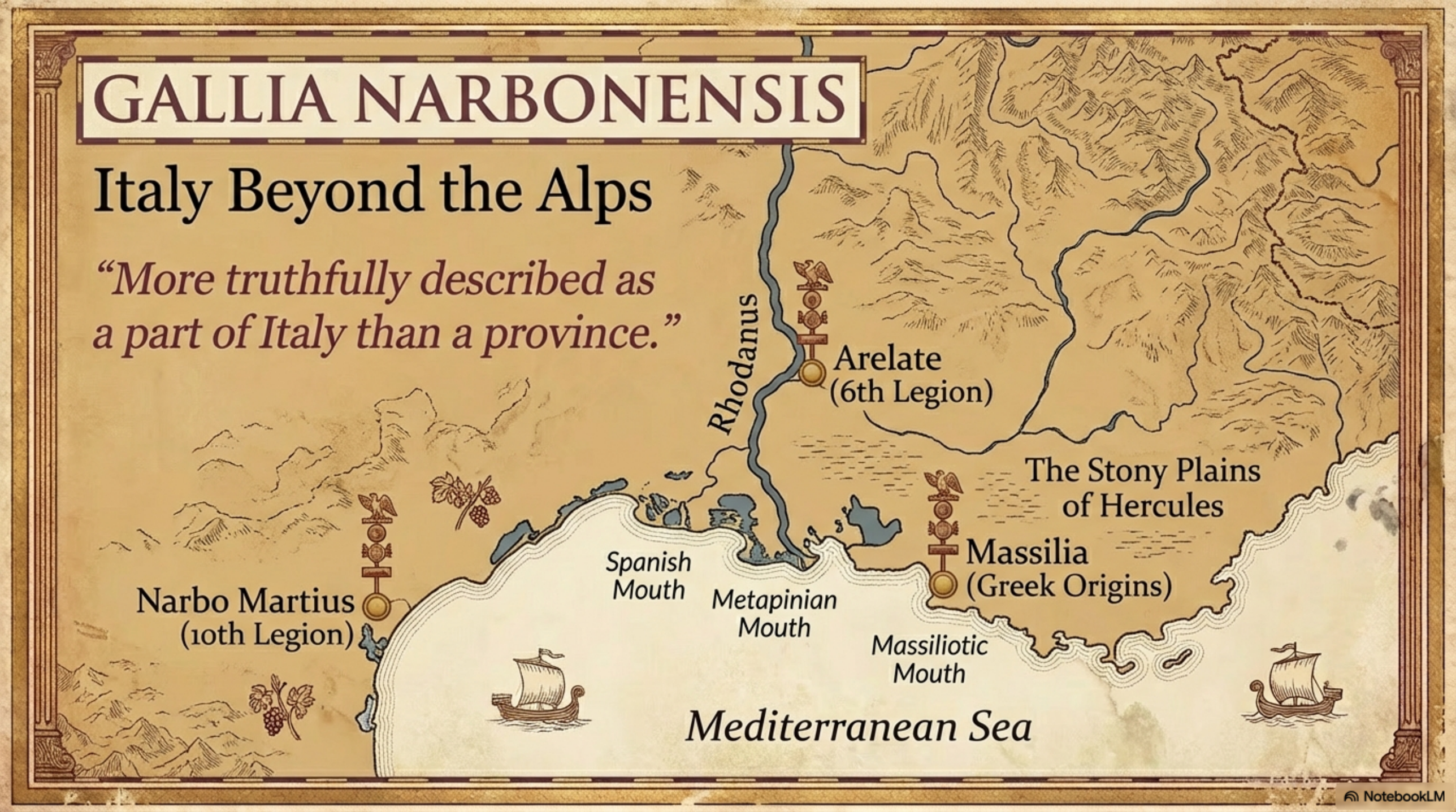
NEARER SPAIN: THE TREASURY

A land of immense mineral wealth and the vast interior.

- River Iberus: Navigable for 260 miles.
- Jurisdiction: 179 Towns.
- Key Cities: Tarraco, New Carthage, Numantia.

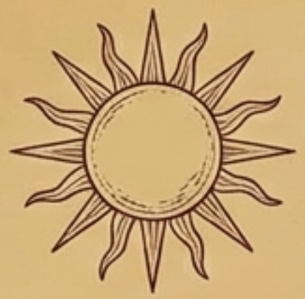


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GALLIA NARBONENSIS
Italy Beyond the Alps
"More truthfully described as a part of Italy than a province."
Rhodanus
Arelate
(6th Legion)
The Stony Plains of Hercules
Massilia
(Greek Origins)
Narbo Martius
(10th Legion)
Spanish Mouth
Metapinian Mouth
Massiliotic Mouth
Mediterranean Sea

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THE ENCOMIUM OF ITALY



Eternal Freshness



Sinewy Necks



Noble Wool



Fertile Fields



The foster-child and parent of all lands...
chosen by the providence of the Gods to
render even heaven itself more glorious.

Length: 1,020 Miles

Breadth: 410 Miles

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LIGURIA & ETRURIA



Hydrography Data

The River Tiber:
Navigable for 150 miles.
Receives 42 streams.

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LATIUM & THE ETERNAL CITY



SCALE OF ROME

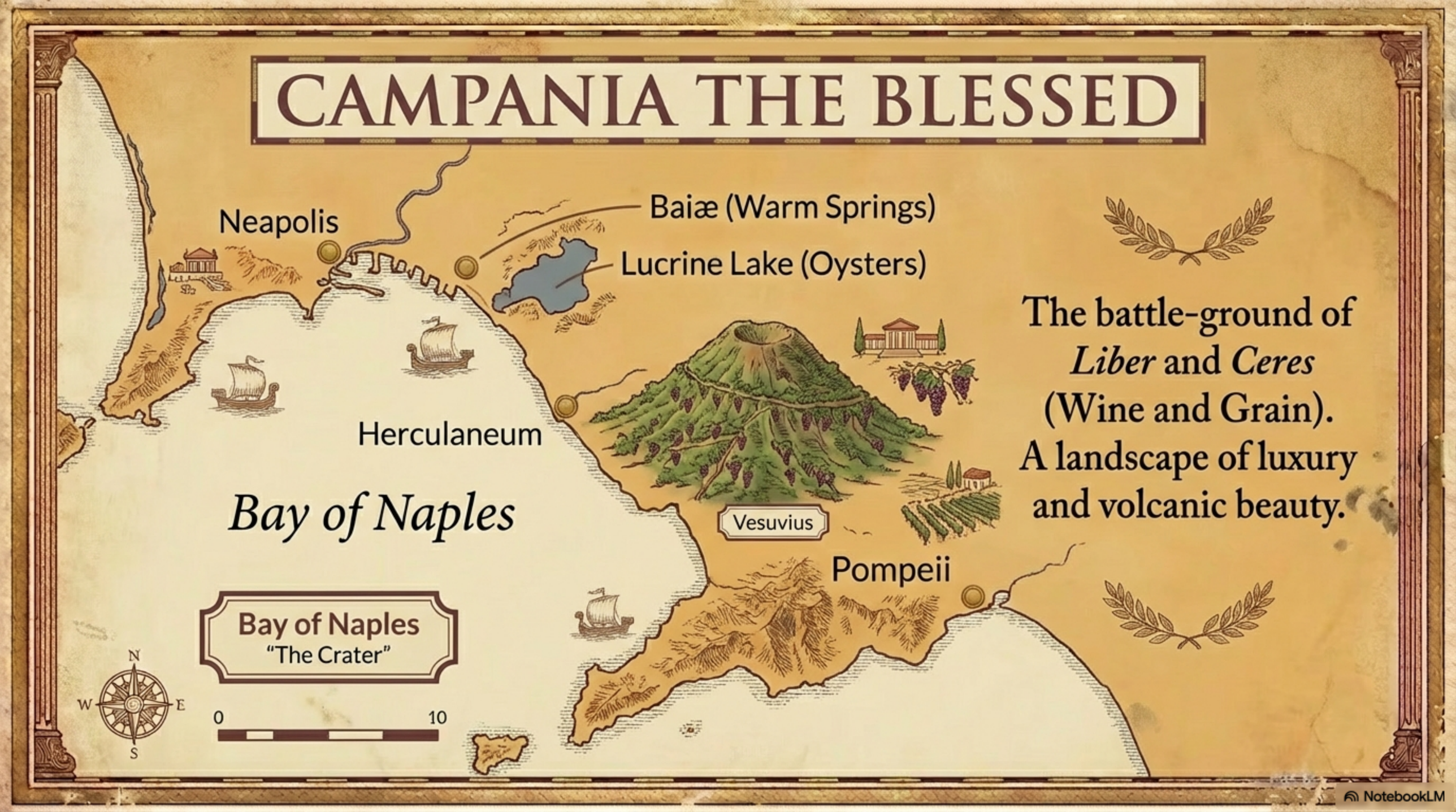
(Year 826 of the City)

- **Circumference:** 13.2 Miles (Walls)
- **Gates:** 37
- **Streets:** 70 Miles total length

Pliny notes a 'Secret Name' of Rome, forbidden to be spoken.

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CAMPANIA THE BLESSED



The battle-ground of *Liber* and *Ceres* (Wine and Grain). A landscape of luxury and volcanic beauty.

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ISLANDS OF THE TYRRHENIAN SEA

CORSICA

Famous for slingers and a plague of rabbits.

SARDINIA

THE BALEARICS
(Majorca/Minorca)

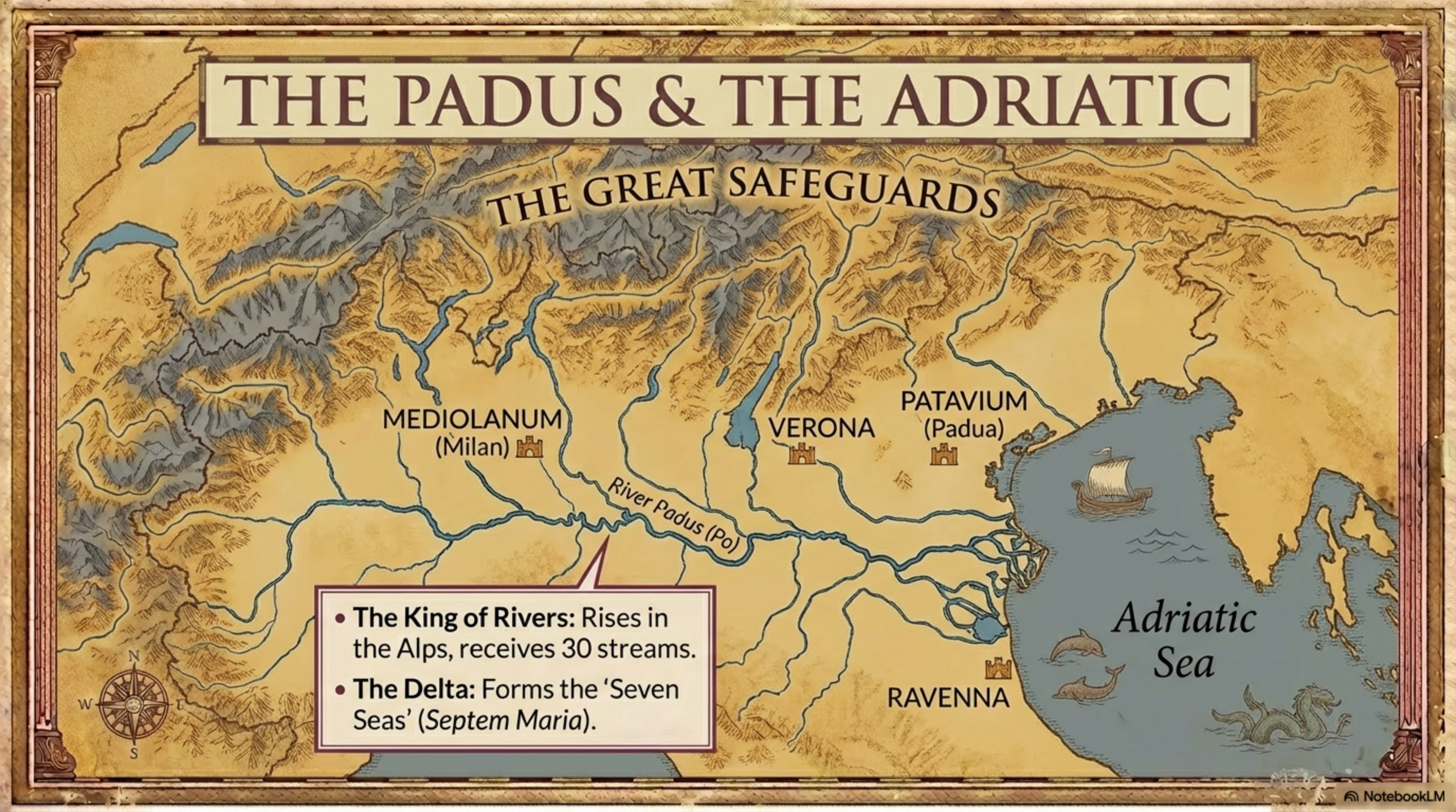
Wondrous flames by night.

SICILY
Trinacria - 1.5 miles from Italy

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MAGNA GRÆCIA
The Greek Footprint
BRUNDUSIUM
Gateway to the East
TARENTUM
50 Miles to Greece
Gulf of
Taranto
Hydruntum
METAPONTUM
CALABRIA
Ionian
Sea
BRUTTIUM
N
W
E
S

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THE PADUS & THE ADRIATIC
THE GREAT SAFEGUARDS
MEDIOLANUM
(Milan)
VERONA
PATAVIUM
(Padua)
River Padus (Po)
RAVENNA
Adriatic Sea
• The King of Rivers: Rises in the Alps, receives 30 streams.
• The Delta: Forms the 'Seven Seas' (Septem Maria).
N
W
E
S

ILLYRICUM: THE FRONTIER

A coast of 1,000 Islands.

TRIBAL LEDGER

Slate Grey Lato

- ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS (Decuries)
  - The **Dalmats**: 342 Decuries
  - The **Mazæi**: 269 Decuries
  - The **Deuri**: 22 Decuries

Adriatic Sea

N
W
E
S

ILLYRICUM

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THE ISTER: THE NORTHERN LIMIT
The hard border of the Empire. Pliny corrects the myth that a branch of the Danube flows into the Adriatic.
Eravisci
River Ister (Danube)
PANNONIA
Scordisci
MŒSIA
Dardani
N
W
E
S
ISTER

THE ROMAN INVENTORY

326
Writers Consulted



3,059
Miles - Circuit of Italy



77 AD
Date of Survey



Pliny's mission was not just geography, but an inventory of the Roman achievement. A world connected by law, language, and the immense majesty of the Roman Peace.

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