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Isis in CAMPUS
MARTIUS in ROME

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Isis

The revered mother goddess of Egypt patron goddess of medicine fertility Isis is one of the most significant deities in the Egyptian pantheon an Ancient deity who was the queen of Heaven and considered to be the Source of life and divine motherhood in the Egyptian mythology based in the Heliopolis genealogy called the daughter of Geb the earth God. Her siblings were the gods Nephthys. She was considered as the mother of the mortuary deity. Isis usually appeared as a woman sometimes with long wings wearing a crown in the form of a throne or cow horns encircling a solar disk which is the hieroglyphic sign of her name although she is often shown in human form her sign is the symbol of life and immortality. Astronomically speaking Isis is represented in the sky as the star Sirius. Isis was among women credited for inventing agriculture and all manner of useful crafts and institutions known to the early Egyptians. She was cleverer than a million gods and a better guardian of Egypt's borders. Isis was also Seth's sister she wavered during the eventual battle between Horus and Seth. Isis took pity on Seth and was consequently beheaded by Horus and that's how she died.

Iside's cult

- Iside's cult was introduced to Rome in the 1st century B.C., with some resistance from the traditional aristocracy, aka the Senate. In Rome there were 2 temples dedicated to Iside, one on Via Labicana and the other one at the Campo Marzio, later these 2 indicators of the goddess' influence were destroyed but there are other remnants of the goddess' cult: a cat's statue on a street named after it, and a big marble statue of a foot (which may have once been a part of a statue depicting the goddess) at Campo Marzio.

Isaeum et Serapeum in
Rome: Egyptian gods in
Urbe



Temples of Isis

- The first temple of Isis can be found on via Labicana, its name is Isium Metellinum.
- The Isium Metellinum, is said to have been the first ever temple to be dedicated to the goddess, constructed by Quintus Caecilius Metellus Pius, for the sole reason of having a goddess on his side.
- The second temple we have is the Iseum Campense, built for the goddess Isis and her consort Serapide.
- This temple has a very difficult history, having gone through many hardships, in 50 a.C, 54 a.C and 48 a.C. the Senate ordered for the destruction of the sanctuary, successively in 43 a.C. the triumvirs (Marcus Antonius, Octavius Augustus, Marcus Aemilius Lepidus) promised to consecrate a temple for the goddess but it is uncertain whether this promise was kept or not. In 28 a.C., Gaius Julius Caesar Augustus, prohibited the cult of Isis, and his successor Tiberius Julius Caesar Augustus had all of the temples demolished and threw the statue of the goddess in the Tiber river. But we do have some good news for the temple, for example in 80 a.C. after a fire demolished the temple and its surroundings, Caesar Domitianus Augustus Germanicus, had it remade, Hadrian, in 126 a.C. inaugurated a sanctuary to Isis at Luxor, Caracalla readmitted the cult into the city, Diocletianus was the emperor that probably had the Iseo of the III Regio of Rome built, this happy era ended with the beginning of Constantine's reign.

Oriental Divinity from
Egypt







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https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_KanTJvNR-wCb564bLV_JOrLrGWICkRz/view?usp=sharing



THIS IS THE PLACE!!

ASCLAEPIUS at Tiberia Island. The God speaks with us, tourists in Rome.....

“You there! Yes, you, on the shore of the lake, stop feeding the ducks and listen to me!

You do not know me? In my days I was very famous. Okay, don't worry, I'll make up for your ignorance by telling you my story. I was born in Greece a long time ago. My father was the God Apollo. Do not be surprised, in those days it was normal for gods to have sons from humans. While i was alive i became such a good doctor, that i could heal once bounds and even raise the dead. Incredible, isn't it? Buf for this I aroused the wrath of Zeus and Hades, who killed me. But faced with the anger of my father Apollo, Zeus decided to bring me back to life as the god of medicine and healing. In Greece my cult was very widespread. But I want to tell you instead how I came here, in the great Rome.

In 293 BC, under the consuls Spurio Carvilio Massimo and Lucio Papirio Cursore, the city was hit by an epidemic of plague. After a meeting of the Senate, it was decided to send a delegation to Greece, to bring to Rome a statue of me, so that I would protect the citizens from the disease. After a sea voyage, the delegation arrived at my largest shrine in Greece, which was in Epidaurus, Argolis. Here, while they were loading me onto a ship, a snake, an animal sacred to me, got on the boat. Then the Romans, taking it as a sign, interpreted it as my will to follow them to Rome. As they went up the river, however, the snake crawled out of the ship and took refuge on an islet in the middle of the river, Tiberina Island. And it was there that the Romans built my temple.

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In this city I then assumed the name of Aesculapius. The Romans changed the shape of the island, transforming it into a large ship, in memory of my arrival in Rome. In my temple were received the sick and the wounded, who were treated by the doctors by my priests who lived on the island. A lot of them spent the night in the temple, so that I might heal them by my miraculous gifts.

This is why even today on the island there is a hospital, the San Giovanni Calibita Fatebenefratelli.

I am very glad that medicine is still practiced in the place where my temple used to be.

After Many happenings brought me here, to Villa Borghese, where I continue to observe the lives of the Romans. So what do you think of my story?

Hey! When did you fall asleep?!

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