

Table of Contents

Legendary Etruria	5
Etruscan City-States	6
Etruria's Origins	7
Etruria's Literature	8
Time Capsule Tombs	9
Masters of the Sea	10
Religion	11
Tombs	12
Economy	13
Architecture & the Lively Arts	14
Weapons & Dress	16
Technology	17
Etruria's Time Line	18
A Collage Map of Etruria	20
Grid Map	22
City-State Labels	23
Etruscan Facts Scrapbook	24
An Etruscan Trading Ship	25
Tomb Site Fact Cards	27
Ship Patterns	29
Terra-Cotta Alphabet Tablet	30
Time Capsule Treasure Box	31
Etruscan Alphabet	33
Paint a Story	34
Design Buccero Pottery	35
Repeating Patterns	37
Design a Medallion Paperweight	39
Bucchero Pottery Forms	40
Design a Temple	41
Oatmeal Box Chariot	42
Temple Patterns	43
Aluminum Foil Jewelry	44
Jewelry Forms	46
Architectural Designs	47

Legendary Etruria



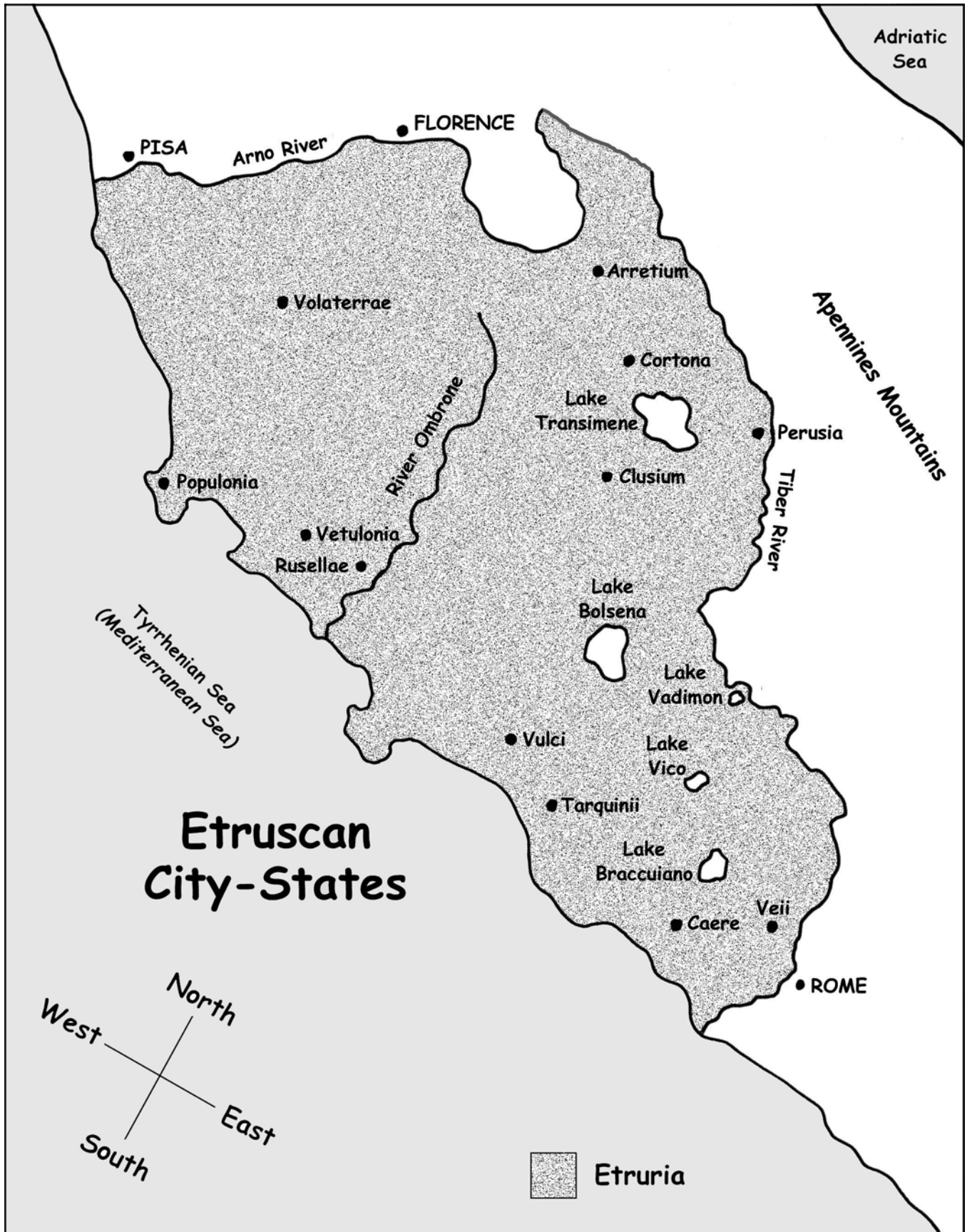
Drawing by Marilyn G. Barr.

Long ago, the region on the northwestern coast of the Italian peninsula, known today as Tuscany, was called Etruria. Etruria was just north of Rome and included the famous cities of Florence and Pisa. Its geographical boundaries were the Arno and Tiber Rivers, the Apennines Mountains and the Tyrrhenian Sea. Scholars believe the people of Etruria, called Etruscans, migrated from undetermined regions and settled in ancient Italy sometime after the Trojan War (1000 to 700 B.C).

Etruria grew and flourished for nearly 300 years. It was a confederacy made up of 12 city-states: Arretium (Arezzo), Caere (Cerveteri), Clusium, Cortona, Perugia (Perugia), Populonia, Rusellae, Tarquinii (Tarquinia), Veii (Veio), Vetulonia, Volaterrae (Volterra) and Vulci. Foreign invasions, war, disease and the lack of political unity between the city-states caused the decline of Etruscan power. Eventually, Etruria was absorbed into the Roman Empire between 200 and 80 B.C. The development of Etruria's city-states is believed to have influenced the development of other ancient as well as modern cities.



Etruscan City-States



Etruria's Origins



Courtesy of EarthStation1.com.

Little is known about the Etruscans' origins, their political structure, how the 12 city-states governed themselves and how they interacted with one another. Even less is known about the Etruscan alphabet and their language.

Some scholars believe the Etruscan people were a mixture of Italian Iron-Age farmers and Asian immigrants. There is no evidence to prove or disprove these beliefs. However, much of what we do know about the Etruscans is the result of archaeological discoveries of time capsule tombs filled with bold and colorful wall paintings, sculptures, vases and other objects. A few brief references made in ancient writings about Etruria's dealings with the Greeks and the Romans offer limited information about Etruscan politics.

