Who Were the Ancient Greeks?

Greece was one of the most important places in the ancient world – there is evidence of settlers from around 40,000BC, but the influential period was around 2,500BC onwards.

These ancient Greeks were fantastic thinkers, writers, actors, artists, athletes, warriors, architects and politicians.

The Greeks called themselves ‘Hellenes’ and their land was ‘Hellas’. The name ‘Greeks’ was given to the people of Greece later by the Romans. They lived in mainland Greece (which was split into city-states including: Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Olympia) and the Greek islands, but also in colonies scattered around the Mediterranean Sea, including: Italy, Sicily, Turkey, North Africa, and even France.

They sailed the sea to trade and find new lands, spreading their knowledge and ideas around the world.

Quick Questions

1. What was the true name of Ancient Greece?

2. Which word tells us that the Ancient Greeks were spread out?

3. Name four things the Ancient Greeks were talented in.

4. How were the Ancient Greeks influential?
Who Were the Ancient Greeks?

Greece was one of the most important places in the ancient world – there is evidence of settlers from around 40,000BC, but the influential period was around 2,500BC onwards. These ancient Greeks were fantastic thinkers, writers, actors, artists, athletes, warriors, architects and politicians.

The Greeks called themselves ‘Hellenes’ and their land was ‘Hellas’. The name ‘Greeks’ was given to the people of Greece later by the Romans. They lived in mainland Greece (which was split into city-states including: Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Olympia) and the Greek islands, but also in colonies scattered around the Mediterranean Sea, including: Italy, Sicily, Turkey, North Africa, and even France.

They sailed the sea to trade and find new lands, spreading their knowledge and ideas around the world.

Answers

1. What was the true name of Ancient Greece?
   Hellas

2. Which word tells us that the Ancient Greeks were spread out?
   Accept ‘scattered’

3. Name four things the Ancient Greeks were talented in.
   Accept any of the following: thinkers, writers, actors, artists, athletes, warriors, architects and politicians

4. How were the Ancient Greeks influential?
   Accept a reasonable explanation that focuses on the fact that they travelled, spreading their knowledge and ideas around the world.