

## Exploring Etruscan Sacred Boundaries

The establishment of sacred space in the physical world was an incredibly important activity for Etruscan society. The Etruscans delineated the world of the sacred, where their pantheon of gods and demons lived, and the physical world in which they lived through a variety of methods. While some of these methods may seem simple and easy to perceive and understand, others are far more complex. A few of these unique Etruscan rituals continued through cultural diffusion to the Romans, who provide some insight into the intimate customs of these central Italian cultures. This paper will explore the questions of how and why Etruscan sacred spaces were defined by identifying the different methods the Etruscans used to establish religious boundaries in physical space and tracing Roman adoption of these distinctive Etruscan rituals.