

# Contents



- 5 Your challenge
- 6 How the army is organized
- 8 Marching camp
- 10 Into battle!
- 12 Building a fort
- 14 Inside the fort
- 16 Daily life in the fort
- 18 Ruling the land



- 20 Building an aqueduct
- 22 Bath-house and town house
- 24 A Roman province
- 26 Timeline
- 28 Glossary
- 30 Index



# Your challenge



**T**HE ROMAN EMPIRE is getting bigger by the day. Its great success in conquering new lands is due mainly to the superb organization and fighting skills of its army, and the leadership abilities of its generals. Rome wants new lands in its Empire to bring in wealth such as food and natural resources – copper, tin, iron and precious metals – as well as slaves, goods and taxes.

**Y**our challenge, as a general in the Roman army, is to conquer a barbarian region and make it part of the Empire. If you are successful, the rewards will be great. Victorious army leaders can become governors of their conquered provinces. As a governor you will be very rich and powerful. But you will be expected to govern wisely, keep the peace, collect fair taxes and build new, civilized towns for people to live in.

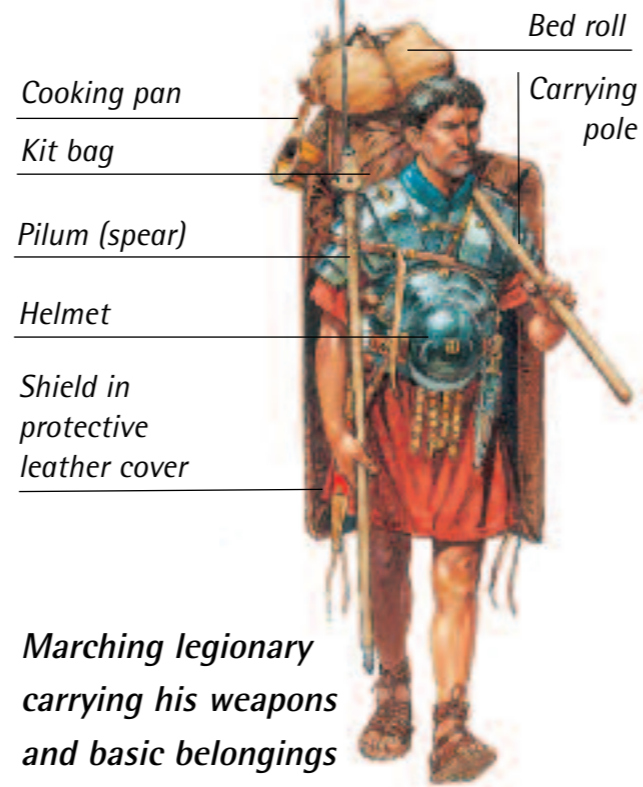


**T**his book will guide you in conquering your province. You will meet the different types of soldiers under your command and see how your army is organized. You will be shown how to plan your attack on the barbarians, how to march with your large army, and how to set up camps and forts for your men. Once victory is yours, learn how to build proper roads and towns in your province, and how to deal fairly with the people you have conquered. Finally, if all goes well, you'll see your province prospering and bringing wealth to the glorious Roman Empire.

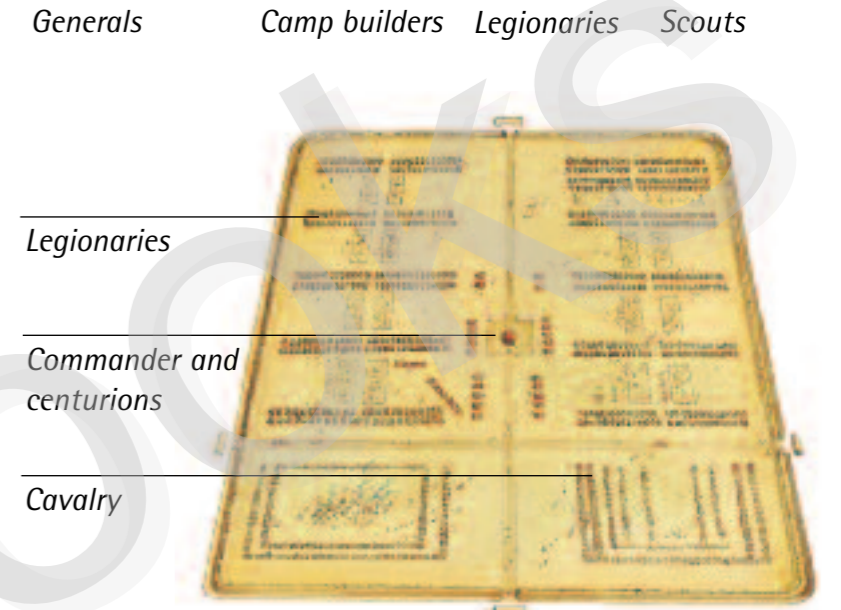


# Marching camp

You should aim to march 30 kilometres a day to get your army to its destination. Any more and you risk over-tiring your men. Each day, as evening approaches, send out scouts to find and mark out a suitable site to make camp. Remember, it will take about two hours to set up camp, and ideally you want to complete this while it is still light. Your men will carry most of the things they need and should be well drilled in what they have to do. For maximum efficiency, ensure the layout of the camp is the same each night. This also means the men will be always able to find their way around after dark.



Legionaries have to carry all their personal supplies and equipment, such as rations, a pick axe, weapons, shield, basket, water bottle, cooking pan, razor and comb. Their heavy leather tents are carried by mules. An army column includes scouts, which go ahead of the main army, standard bearers, camp builders, legionaries, generals, baggage mules, cavalry and auxiliaries – additional soldiers recruited for the campaign.

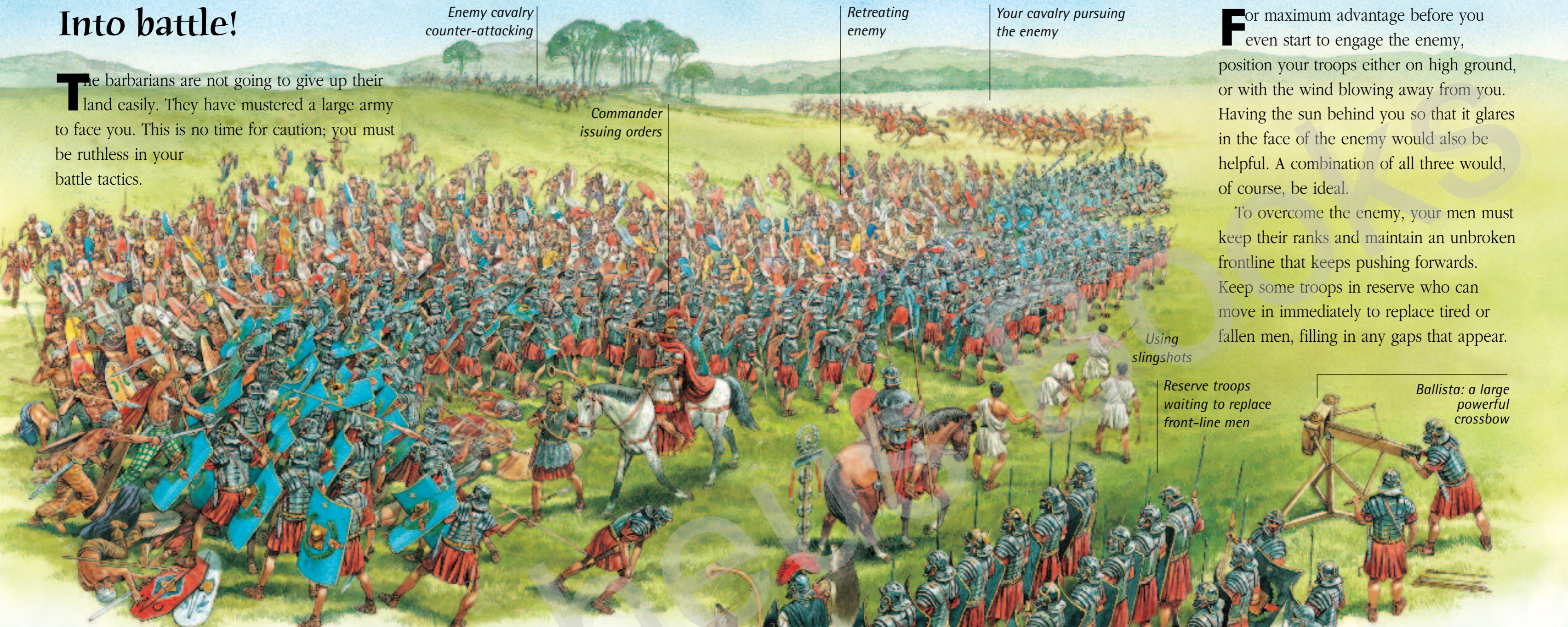


## Plan of marching camp for one legion

If you plan to camp for several days, make the camp secure by clearing turf and digging a defensive ditch around it. Build ramparts from the turf and set a palisade of sharpened stakes on top. For a temporary defence on overnight camps, create a barrier with bundles of sharpened stakes around the camp edge to deter intruders. Detail one century to stand guard overnight. Check supplies and get the cooks busy – your men need to be well fed to march and fight.

# Into battle!

The barbarians are not going to give up their land easily. They have mustered a large army to face you. This is no time for caution; you must be ruthless in your battle tactics.



Enemy cavalry counter-attacking

Retreating enemy

Your cavalry pursuing the enemy

Commander issuing orders

Using slingshots

Reserve troops waiting to replace front-line men

Ballista: a large powerful crossbow

Pilum (throwing spear)

Scutum (shield)

Gladius (sword)

Belt with apron of studded leather strips

Dagger

All men use their weapons in their right hand and their shield in their left. There isn't room in tight fighting formations to have some the other way round. Javelins can be launched at the enemy over the heads of your own men. Sword fighting is for combat at close quarters. The shield protects the body so that only the fighting arm is exposed.

Cuirass (body armour)

Tunic

Sandals

Overlapping shields

Enemy arrow

Swords drawn ready for action

Shields creating an impenetrable barrier

This is the testudo, which means tortoise. Your men march in close formation, overlapping their shields both over their heads and in front of them. This forms an almost impenetrable barrier, protecting the men from arrows and spears as they advance towards the enemy. The testudo is very useful during a siege to get close to the target.