

Fun Facts about the Colossus of Rhodes

Colossus of Rhodes

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280 BCE

Is when the statue was
finished after 12+ years
of construction



Architecture



The Colossus of Rhodes stood 33 meters tall! It stood on a white marble pedestal. The body had a bronze outer shell but was supported by internal rods and weighted stones



Statue Base Inscription...

"To you, Helios, yes to you the people of Dorian Rhodes raised this colossus high up to the heaven, after they had calmed the bronze wave of war, and crowned their country with spoils won from the enemy. Not only over the sea but also on land they set up the bright light of unfettered freedom."

Location

Myth: The statue straddled the harbor entrance



Actual Location: Near the Mandraki Harbor



Purpose

The statue served as an offering to Helios and stood guard over the Mandraki harbor



Statue Figure



The Colossus is a statue of the sun god Helios.

Helios was worshipped at Rhodes. He was their most important deity and honoured at festivals



Panhellenic Games

Statue Name



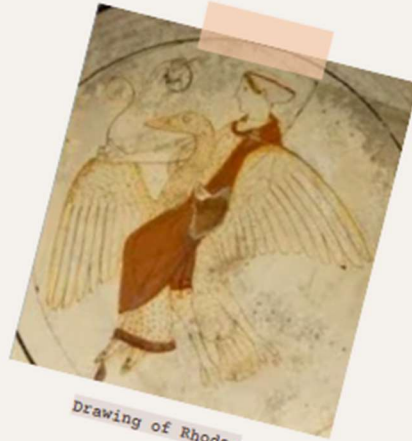
The name Rhodes comes from the location of the statue. Rhodes was the largest of the Dodecanese Islands

Rhodes was of the most important trading ports in the ancient Mediterranean



Helios & Rhodos

The name Rhodes derives from the nymph Rhodos who bore seven sons to Helios. The sons are known as the Heliabai.



Drawing of Rhodos

The Colossus Falls

The statue was toppled by an earthquake in 228-226 BCE. It snapped at the knees and the pieces cluttered the docks of Rhodes before being melted down and reused as metal the mid-7th century



Exciting News!

In 2015, plans were drawn up
to rebuild the Colossus!

<https://www.thecivilengineer.org/news-center/latest-news/item/931-colossus-a-lost-wonder-of-the-ancient-world-could-be-rebuilt-in-rhodes-greece>

Sources:



<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Colossus-of-Rhodes>

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