

A rewarding life

It is a well-known fact that being in the army is a tough job. There is always a risk of death and it is inevitable that you will get hurt. So why did people want to join the Roman army?

One of the main reasons men chose to join the army was for the pay. Being in the Roman army was a good job and paid well. Each position in the army was paid at least 225 denarii a year and the men were allowed as much food as they wanted, ration free!

Along with this, if you were lucky enough to work in the Roman army for 20 – 25 years then you were allowed to retire. Evidence shows that once a soldier retired, they could choose from a luxurious 3000 denarii as a pension or they could have a plot of land. This was complimented with citizenship in the Roman empire, as many soldiers were acquired when they took over new countries

This however, was not the only reason that some men joined the army. Soldiers were highly admired by the women in Rome. Any man who returned from battle alive, would be treated like royalty and the nation would look up to them.