

WELCOME, TRAVELERS!

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SCHEDULE FOR “BARBARIANS RISING” on the History Channel*

“Barbarians Rising” comes to the History Channel this month. Check your local cable or satellite networks for channel designations. Below are episode synopses and times to plan your tailgate invasions. The series is a dramatic account of the Barbarians’ 700-year-long fight for freedom against Rome: the most powerful empire the world had ever known. Legendary battles, heroes of resistance and an ancient world in turmoil, all reimagined with a new perspective for a contemporary generation.

- Featuring high impact battle scenes and fully dramatized portrayals of barbarian heroes and their Roman nemeses to tell the real stories behind the iconic names: Hannibal, Spartacus, Boudica, Alaric, Arminius, Attila and more.
- A bold new take on one of history’s most epic sagas, Barbarians Rising turns on its head the trope of Rome as the mighty conqueror, to look at the nature of power through the lens of those on the outside. The barbarians are known as fierce warriors, but they’re also a people who are outmatched by a cruel and violent force bent on wiping them from the face of the earth.
- A story that’s both timeless and timely, Barbarians Rising examines the simple truth that the fight for freedom is a universal human struggle that unites mankind across all eras and cultures.
- Contributors include world-renowned historians and notable figures from modern America to reflect on the barbarians’ ideals, power and legacy.

BARBARIANS RISING tells the epic saga of the rise and fall of the Roman Empire from the perspective of the barbarian leaders who brought it down; a high-impact, visceral journey into the heart of their rebellions against absolute power. The Roman Empire called them “barbarians” – tribes beyond the fringe of civilization that live a primitive, savage existence. But they are also some of the fiercest warriors in history – men and women who rose up to resist so that they might live free, or die. The four-part docu-drama reveals the true story of the 700-year battle for supremacy, a fight for freedom that would shape the world to come. Featuring fully dramatized portrayals of barbarian icons including Hannibal, Spartacus, Arminius, Boudica and Attila, and an eclectic group of experts and contributors to reveal the true history behind the legends.

EPISODE ONE: Airs on Monday, June 6 at 9/8c. The battle for supremacy begins as the

ancient world divides in two: Roman vs. Barbarian. Hannibal of Carthage (Nicholas Pinnock) builds the first great barbarian alliance to defeat Rome before it becomes unstoppable. The general launches an audacious and unprecedented campaign to strike at the heart of the Republic, conquering the Alps and leaving a trail of death across Italy as he aims for the capital city. But while Hannibal wins the battles, he loses the war. With no viable adversary remaining to stop its advance, Rome marches across the barbarian world, pillaging the land and its people, and reaping a bloody revenge on the tribes that fought alongside Hannibal. When Lusitania comes under the Roman sword, one man emerges to drive them back. This time it's not a military strategist but a simple shepherd, Viriathus (Jefferson Hall), who unites his people to fight against Rome's overwhelming might, the first wave of resistance in an epic 700-year struggle for freedom.

EPISODE TWO: Airs on Monday, June 13 at 9/8c. Rome rules the Mediterranean with an iron fist and embarks on a strategy of domination through expansion, conquering and enslaving barbarians from every new territory it claims. But the larger it grows, the more enemies it brings within its borders -- a vast, dormant barbarian army, waiting for its leader to rise. Spartacus (Ben Batt), the barbarian slave forced to fight as a gladiator, becomes the reluctant commander of an uprising that is the greatest threat to Rome in a century. The Republic becomes an Empire and continues a policy of Romanization aimed at civilizing the barbarians, but even the first emperor, Augustus Caesar, is blind to the enemies rising within Rome's own ranks. Arminius (Tom Hopper), the son of a Germanic barbarian chief is surrendered to Rome as a boy and becomes one of the highest ranked barbarian officers in the Imperial army, but when he's sent to his homeland to crush the rebellion underway among his own people, he must decide where his loyalties lie. The Battle of Teutoburg Forest pushes the Empire to the brink.

EPISODE THREE: Airs on Monday, June 20 at 9/8c. Barbarian resistance escalates into a do or die confrontation with the Empire. The Germanic tribes unite for the first time under a single leader, Arminius (Tom Hopper), who engineers an ingenious ambush attack designed to drive Rome out of their homeland. The Empire needs to expand to survive and sets its sights on the barbarian stronghold of Britannia where the Celts fight back against the invasion with an unprecedented ferocity. Boudica (Kirsty Mitchell) becomes leader of the Iceni; when she and her daughters are brutally humiliated by the Empire, the warrior queen unleashes a murderous vengeance against the occupiers, uniting the Celtic clans in an uprising against Roman tyranny. Boudica tries to beat Rome at its own savage game in one of the bloodiest rebellions in history. Centuries of costly barbarian wars take their toll on the Empire, ending the age of expansion. But a dark and dangerous menace rising from the east throws the Roman frontier into chaos. Fritigern (Steven Waddington) and his Goths seek refuge in the arms of their enemy, Rome, but find only betrayal, a fatal miscalculation by the Empire that ushers in an apocalypse of their own making at Adrianople.

EPISODE FOUR: Airs on Monday, June 27 at 9/8c The Roman Empire is the world's first superpower, but it has grown so large that its size is now more of a weakness than an asset, and the high cost of keeping the barbarians at bay, both in gold and manpower, strains the once mighty military. Rome divides into two empires with two emperors: East and West. But as Rome's leaders turn on each other, the Goths are once again caught in the middle. Alaric (Gavin Drea) leads his people to the gates of Rome, striking the first in

a series of fatal blows against imperial power. The Huns emerge in the east and throw the ancient world into turmoil; Attila (Emil Hostina) seizes power and begins a reign of chaos and destruction as wave after wave of barbarian avengers strike back against an Empire now fighting on too many fronts. Amid the chaos, the last great barbarian leader Geiseric (Richard Brake), the calculating and cunning King of the Vandals, becomes the architect of Rome's destruction.

*The above is on the TV, Education, and Sports lanes on The Mid-South Tribune and the Black Information Highway at www.blackinformationhighway.com . For more information detour to the History Channel at [History Channel.com](http://HistoryChannel.com). *Welcome, Travelers!*