

METTHE, The Slave Woman



If you were a slave living
and working at Oplontis,
what would your life be
like?

Turn over to learn and
explore!

Who Are You?

If you had been a slave woman at Oplontis . . .

You might have cleaned, cooked, tended children, gardened, served food, entertained, helped your mistress get ready for the day, and more. Some slaves had more status than you, depending on their job. Your life was better than the life of a field worker, but you were still property.

- Your primary task in Villa A is as a cook. Look to the right– this is the cooktop where you prepare food.
- Your owner throws elaborate dinner parties featuring your specialties: stuffed dormice, bread with *garum*, roast tuna, seasoned mussels, lentils with coriander, and more.

- The kitchen in Villa A had bare walls, but the back hallways of the villa were painted with “zebra” stripes. Those stripes told you where you supposed to go– and where you were not!



How would you use these objects?



Explore the exhibition to find these objects and learn more about them.

Things to See and Do

Find someone with the Matron (Elite Woman) scroll:

Compare and contrast your life as a slave woman and the life of the Matron. What is the same? What is different?

Try this Roman Recipe at Home!



Milk omelet (serves 4)

Eggs	4
Milk	2 cups
Oil	1 tablespoon
Honey	plenty
Pepper	plenty

Mix the eggs, the milk, and the tablespoon of oil. Heat a little oil in an omelet pan, then pour on the milk and egg mixture. Let it thicken and, when it has reached the necessary consistency, turn it over and cook on the other side. Slip it onto a serving plate, drench it with honey and sprinkle with pepper.

-Dining as a Roman Emperor by

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