

PART 2: HISPANIA–LIBYA

Note: Information about the earliest period of Greek contact with Iberia may be contained in the fourth century A.D. poem by Rufus Festus Avienus, *Ora Maritima*. It takes the form of a *periplus*, or coasting narrative, around the peninsula from the northwest, south through the Straits of Gibraltar, and on east and north up the Mediterranean coast, naming places and peoples along the way. The archaic date of Avienus' information has been stoutly defended by many, but it remains more likely that he was engaging in antiquarian creative invention. Hence, names attested only in Avienus are not marked on the maps, and appear in a separate list in each Directory. There is no such special treatment, however, for names known from Avienus *and* from another source.

