

ACCUSATIVES, ABLATIVES, AND LOCATIVES OF PLACE

PLACE TO WHICH is generally expressed by the **accusative** with the preposition **ad**. But names of towns (like *Roma*, *-ae*; *Tarentum*, *-i*; *Carthago*, *-ginis*), small islands, *domus* (“home”), and *rus*, *ruris* (neuter, “country”) **omit** the preposition and express place to which with the **bare accusative**. Compare the common English construction, ‘I’m going home’ (but ‘I’m going to Rome’, never ‘I’m going Rome’). The word *home* in this construction is identical to the Latin *domum*; it is an old accusative of place to which. So:

- a. *Ad Italiam ambulo*. I am walking to Italy.
Romam ambulo. I am walking to Rome.
- b. *Ad villam ambulo*. I am walking to the farmhouse.
Domum ambulo. I am walking home.
- c. *Ad urbem ambulo*. I am walking to the city.
Rus ambulo. I am walking to the country.

PLACE FROM WHICH is generally expressed by the **ablative** with the preposition **ab** (or *ex* with nouns for roads, water, buildings, i.e., things that one gets ‘out of’). Again, the names of towns, small islands, *domus* (“home”), and *rus* (“country”) **omit** the preposition and express place from which with the **bare ablative**. Hence:

- a. *Ab Italia ambulo*. I am walking from Italy.
Roma ambulo. I am walking from Rome.
- b. *Ab villa ambulo*. I am walking from the farmhouse.
Domo ambulo. I am walking from home.
- c. *Ab urbe ambulo*. I am walking from the city.
Rure ambulo. I am walking from the country.

PLACE AT WHICH is generally expressed by the **ablative** with the preposition **in**. But some nouns (again, the same towns, islands, *domus* and *rus*, with a few additions) express place at which with a special case, the **locative** (from *locus*, “place”). Its characteristic endings are:

FIRST DECLENSION	locative singular: <i>-ae</i> (=genitive singular)
	locative plural: <i>-is</i> (=ablative plural)
SECOND DECLENSION	locative singular: <i>-i</i> (=genitive singular)
	locative plural: <i>-is</i> (=ablative plural)
THIRD DECLENSION	locative singular: <i>-i</i> or <i>e</i> (=ablative singular)
	locative plural: <i>-ibus</i> (=ablative plural)

- a. *In Italia vitam egi*. I lived my life in Italy.
Romae vitam egi. I lived my life in/at Rome.
- b. *In villa vixi*. I lived in the farmhouse.
Ruri vixi. I lived in the country.
- c. *In urbe remansi*. I remained in the city. (remaneo, -ere, -si, -sus, ‘to remain’)
Domus remansi. I remained at home.

Other commonly used locatives are:

belli, ‘at war’; *militiae*, ‘in service, at war’; *humi*, ‘on the ground’; *foris*, ‘out of doors, outside’;