

Visigothic Spain 409–711

Roger Collins

Contents

List of Maps	vii
Introduction: Visigothic Spain in the Twenty-first Century	1

Part I A Political History

1 From Empire to Kingdom, 409-507	11
<i>A Turning Point</i>	11
<i>The Visigoths</i>	15
<i>The Gothic Conquest of Hispania, 456-507</i>	26
2 The Imposition of Unity, 507-586	38
<i>A Fractured Kingdom</i>	38
<i>The Reign of Leovigild, 569-586</i>	50
3 The Catholic Kingdom, 586-672	64
<i>Conversion and Reaction, 586-590</i>	64
<i>Changing Dynasties, 590-642</i>	69
<i>Kings and the Political Elite, 642-672</i>	81
4 The Visigothic Twilight, 672-710	92
<i>Court Conspiracies, 672-681</i>	92
<i>The Uneasy Throne, 681-710</i>	102
5 The End of the Visigothic Kingdom	117
<i>The Coming of the Arabs</i>	117
<i>The Last Kings, 710-713</i>	130

Part II Society and Culture

6 Books and Readers	147
<i>The Legacy of Africa</i>	147
<i>A Golden Age</i>	161

7	Archaeology: Cemeteries and Churches	174
	<i>Goths in the Ground</i>	174
	<i>A Visigothic Architecture?</i>	186
8	Archaeology: Rural and Urban Settlements	197
	<i>Country Dwellers</i>	197
	<i>Towns in Transition</i>	213
9	Law and Ethnic Identity	223
	<i>The Fog of the Law</i>	223
	<i>Gothia and Hispania</i>	239
	Bibliographical Essay	247
	Index	254