## **Contents**

Illustrations	xi
Abbreviations	xiii
Introduction: Rome and the Distant East	1
1 Ancient Evidence for Eastern Contacts	7
2 Roman Egypt and the Sea Routes to India	23
3 Rome and the Arabian Trade Routes	61
4 Trade Routes through Asia and the Silk Road Connection	83
5 Diplomatic Contacts with the Distant East	111
6 The Economic Impact on the Roman Empire	141
Appendix A: The Products of the Roman Empire	179
Appendix B: Eastern imports into the Roman Empire	181
Appendix C: The Prices of Eastern Goods	182
Notes	183
Concerning the Ancient Sources	219
Select Bibliography	220
Index	231