

## Dionysus: God of Wine

Better known as the party god, Dionysus was the god of the vine, wine, and revelry.

Whereas most of the Olympians kept their distance and snubbed mortals,

Dionysus mingled with his mortal followers. His religious festivals turned into wild parties where everyone had a good time.

Dionysus is depicted as being a lover of peace. He felt



his greatest gift to bestow his loyal followers was that of wine: to be able to relieve a person of the burdens of the day – if only for a while. This isn't to say that he was never cruel – he was after all still a god. And those who opposed him were often met by the wrath of a god. Dionysus isn't associated with an animal or a plant (except of course the vine); he is most often associated with dance, music, wine, and madness.

## Hermes: Messenger of the Gods

Hermes was the god of commerce and flight. Informally, he was best known as the messenger of the gods. He brought luck to people, guided travelers and merchants, and became the patron deity of rogues and thieves. Hermes was quite the active god, known for his agility and athleticism.



In keeping with his messenger status, Hermes is normally describes as wearing a winged hat and winged sandals. He is also sometimes seen carrying either a golden herald's wand or a staff with two serpents' heads.