



Projet Erasmus+ Namur - Marsala

## " Patrimonia "



A la découverte du patrimoine historique, architectural et culturel

# Cathedral of Palermo



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# ABSTRACT

From July 3, 2015, the **Cathedral of Palermo** is part of the **Patrimony of the Humanity** (Unesco)

The Cathedral of Palermo is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Assumption.

It was built in the 12th century and precisely in 1184 and presents a mix of different shapes and styles.

The porch of the main facade is in Catalan Gothic style and dates back to 1400, the dome is in late Baroque style and the interior is in neoclassical Latin cross style.

Finally, the apse is characterized by Arab-Norman decorations.



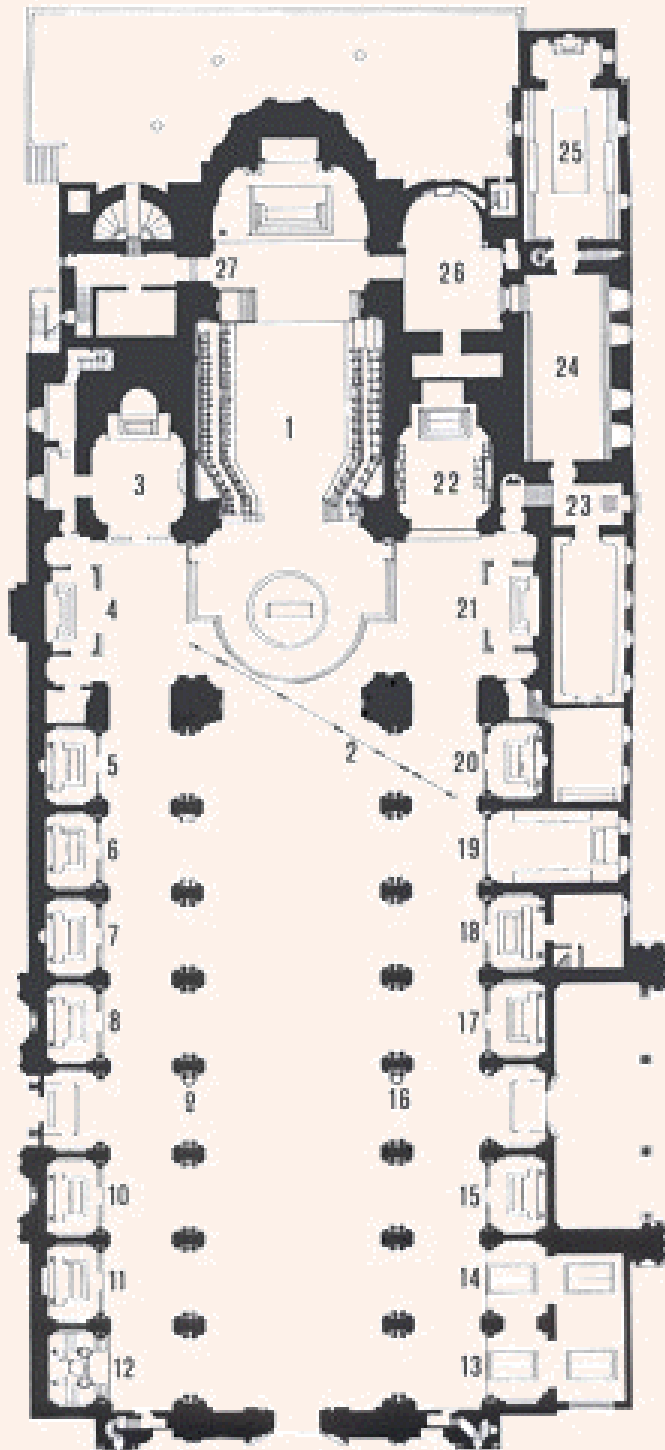
Il portico principale della Cattedrale



L'interno della Cattedrale

<https://www.lasiciliainrete.it/comuni-di-sicilia/pa/palermo/cattedrale-di-palermo/interni-cattedrale-di-palermo/>

# Sitemap of the Cathedral



1. Presbiterio
2. Meridiana
3. Cappella del SS. Sacramento
4. Altare del Crocifisso
5. Cappella della Madonna Libera degli Infermi
6. Cappella di S. Pietro e S. Agata
7. Cappella dell'Immacolata Concezione
8. Cappella di S. Cristina
9. Acquisantiera
10. Cappella di S. Antonino da Padova
11. Cappella di S. Maria degli Angeli
12. Cappella del Battistero
13. Tombe Reali (Enrico VI)
14. Tombe Reali (Federico II)
15. Cappella Madonna della Lettera
16. Acquisantiera
17. Cappella di S. Ignazio
18. Cappella del Beato Pietro Geremia
19. Cappella delle Sacre Reliquie
20. Cappella di S. Francesco di Paola
21. Cappella di Maria SS. Assunta
22. Cappella di S. Rosalia
23. Antisacrestia
24. Il Tesoro (Sacrestia dei Canonici)
25. Il Tesoro (Sacrestia Nuova)
26. Cripta

<https://www.lasiciliainrete.it/comuni-di-sicilia/pa/palermo/cattedrale-di-palermo/interni-cattedrale-di-palermo/>

# Description of the Cathedral

From July 3, 2015, the Cathedral of Palermo is part of the Patrimony of the Humanity (Unesco), as part of the Palermo Arab-Norman site and the cathedrals of Cefalù and Monreale.

The facade of this church is framed between two steeples referring to Islamic themes. The oldest part of Palermo Cathedral is represented by the presbytery, which consists of three narrow apses between two small towers, the large wooden door dates back to 1400, while the walls are decorated with paintings representing Carlo III di Borbone e Vittorio Amedeo II of Savoia, both crowned in the Cathedral.

The exterior is decorated by four Norman towers. This set of elements makes the cathedral similar to a castle.

In the right wing, the tombs of the kings who reigned over Palermo, such as Ruggero II and Federico II, are divided into two chapels.

To the right of the apse, it is possible to access the anti-sacristy and from there to the Sala Del Tesoro where there are precious sacred objects, such as the golden diadem covered with precious stones and pearls belonging to Constance of Aragon, first wife of Federico II of Swabia.

On the left side of the cathedral, one enters the crypt, where are sarcophagi and tombs of the Roman time.



## The royal tombs (13 – 14)

One of the main tourist attractions of Palermo Cathedral are the Royal avellis. In the first room, we find the tomb of Emperor Henry VI and the tomb of his wife Constance d'Altavilla. In the second room is the sepulchral monument of Frederick II, all in red porphyry resting on a base formed of two pairs of lions supporting the urn.

The sarcophagus contains two other bodies, that of Peter III of Aragon and that of a young woman whose identity is still surrounded by mystery.

Behind Federico's tomb, one can find the sarcophagus of Roger II, the first king of Sicily.



<http://www.palermoviva.it/la-cattedrale/>

## The Meridian (2)

A sundial was built in the central part of the church and was inaugurated in the early nineteenth century. It is made of marble decorated with decorations that symbolize the zodiac signs.



## The Crypt (26)



## statues around the Cathedral

The cathedral was completed in 1185. Initially, it was not as it currently appears. On the front we find the Planum Ecclesiae, an initially free space adorned by the archbishop of Palermo with the statues of the six rapporteurs of the Blessed Virgin. From left to right: Santa Cristina, Santa Silvia, Sant'Agata, Santa Rosalia, Santa Ninfa, Sant'Oliva; finally, six other statues of Saints were placed: Sant'Agatone, San Sergio I, San Giuseppe, San Pietro, San Paolo and San Francesco di Paola. In all, there are 20 statues around the cathedral.

<http://www.cattedrale.palermo.it/visitavirtualemobile2018/02%20planum%20ecclesiae.htm>

## GASTRONOMY....

The typical street-food of Palermo.

