

## The latest Sicilian entries in the Unesco List:

- Palazzo dei Normanni (Palace of the Normans): the Royal Palace of Palermo;
- Cappella Palatina (Norman Chapel): the private church of the Norman Kings;
- San Giovanni degli Eremiti (St. John of the Hermits): right next to the Royal Palace, the church is famous for its red Arab style domes;
- Martorana and San cataldo: two close churches overlooking Piazza Bellini;
- Zisa: the splendid Arab castle of the town;
- Ponte dell'Ammiraglio: an old Norman bridge;
- Cattedrale di Palermo (Cathedral of Palermo): the perfect example of different styles and cultures in a single monument;
- Duomo di Monreale (Cathedral of Monreale): one of the greatest examples of Norman architecture in the whole world;
- Duomo di Cefalù (Cathedral of Cefalù): especially known and admired for its mosaics and the dominant Christ Pantokrator.



### Palazzo Reale O Dei Normanni (Norman Palace)

This palace was originally built in the 10th century by the Arab Emirs but was upgraded by the Norman kings to be more luxurious. It's also called the Royal Palace of Palermo and was the seat of the Kings of Sicily.

### Cappella Palatina

The Palatine Chapel is the royal chapel of the Norman Palace. It's a building that is a mixture of Byzantine, Norman and Fatimid architectural styles. It has spectacular elements in gold and bronze colours.



## Arab-Norman Palermo and the Cathedral Churches of Cefalù and Monreale

Located on the northern coast of Sicily, Arab-Norman Palermo includes a series of nine civil and religious structures dating from the era of the Norman kingdom of Sicily (1130-1194): two palaces, three churches, a cathedral, a bridge, as well as the cathedrals of Cefalù and Monreale.

Arab-Norman itineraries vaunts the presence of fascinating monuments known worldwide for their peculiarity and unique beauty.





## Outstanding Universal Value

❖ The most important monuments were built: the Parthenon, built by Ictinus, the Erechtheon, the Propylaea, the monumental entrance to the Acropolis, designed by Mnesicles and the small temple Athena Nike.

❖ The Acropolis' monuments, having survived for almost twenty-five centuries through wars, explosions, bombardments, fires, earthquakes, sackings, interventions and alterations, have adapted to different uses and the civilizations, myths and religions that flourished in Greece through time.



## Universal symbol



➤ Arab-Norman Palermo and the Cathedral Churches of Cefalù and Monreale bears witness to a particular political and cultural condition characterized by the fruitful coexistence of people of different origins (Muslim, Byzantine, Latin, Jewish, Lombard, and French).

➤ The serial property includes all the elements necessary to express its proposed Outstanding Universal Value, including religious, civic, and engineering works, and is therefore of adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes that convey the property's significance.

## Opera dei Pupi, Sicilian puppet theatre

▪ Inscribed in 2008 on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (originally proclaimed in 2001)

▪ The two main Sicilian puppet schools in Palermo and Catania were distinguished principally by the size and shape of the puppets, the operating techniques and the variety of colourful stage backdrops.

▪ The puppeteers told stories based on medieval chivalric literature and other sources, such as Italian poems of the Renaissance, the lives of saints and tales of notorious bandits.

