

PALERMO

The Arab-Norman Side of Sicily

If you're looking to visit a town with a melting pot of historical, structural, and cultural influence, Palermo should be at the top of your list. Located on Sicily's northwestern coast, Palermo is the largest city on the island and also the capital. There's an opportunity around every corner for visitors to learn about Palermo's complex history.

Points of Interest:

Norman Palace

Identified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the oldest Royal Palaces in Europe, the Norman Palace used to serve as the seat of the Kings of Sicily. Today, this palace serves as the seat of the Sicilian Regional Assembly.

Palatine Chapel

Connected to the Norman Palace, this chapel serves as a perfect example of Byzantine architecture and artwork during this time. From floor to ceiling, the Palatine Chapel is covered in intricate mosaics unlike any you will find elsewhere.

Palermo Cathedral

This grand cathedral is the result of a combination of architectural styles over multiple centuries. Inside, be sure to explore the diverse artwork, as well as the treasury with its precious gold, silver, and enameled artifacts and the cathedral terraces with a breathtaking view of the cathedral domes and Palermo skyline.

Capuchin Catacombs

Travel underground to see nearly 8,000 corpses pinned to the walls, sitting on shelves, and resting in open caskets. The corpses are separated by their position in society at the time from priests to professionals, women to infants. These catacombs have a room for every type of person.

Fontana Pretoria

Located in Piazza Pretoria, this grand fountain depicts marble statues of 12 Olympians throughout ancient Greek mythology.

Teatro Massimo

This magnificent building is the largest Opera House Italy has to offer, and is among one of the biggest in all of Europe.

Parking:

There are plenty of parking options available in downtown Palermo, ranging from covered parking garages to paid street parking. Palermo has over 21 blue parking zones in its city centre, allowing visitors to enjoy all aspects of Palermo as they're evenly distributed throughout the main sections of the city.