

DISCOVER SASSARI

monuments and places of cultural interest



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OUTSIDE MAP AREA

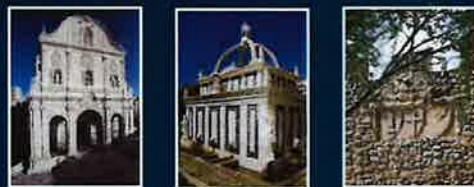
- 9 Monte d'Accoddi Prenuragic Village
Ex SS 131, Km 222
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VISIT THE TOWN, EXPLORE ITS HERITAGE AND PAST, EXPERIENCE ITS EVERYDAY LIFE.

THE 13TH CENTURY WALLS OF THE OLD TOWN OF SASSARI ENCLOSE MONUMENTS OF GREAT ARCHITECTONIC VALUE.

THE CULTURAL NETWORK THAMUS OFFERS VISITORS AN ITINERARY THAT TAKES IN THE MOST REPRESENTATIVE MONUMENTS AND PLACES OF CULTURAL INTEREST OF THE CITY: THE NEOCLASSICAL PALAZZO DI CITTÀ, WHICH HOSTS THE CITY MUSEUM "MUSEO DELLA CITTÀ", THE PALAZZO DUCALE, THE BARBICAN OF THE OLD ARAGONESE CASTLE, THE FONTANA DI ROSELLO AND THE MONTE D'ACCODDI PRENURAGIC VILLAGE.



thamus | The museums and culture of Sassari

1 City Museum PALAZZO DI CITTÀ
Palazzo di Città lies in the same area which was occupied from the second half of the 13th century onwards by the Town Hall, the centre of power and headquarters for the institutions of the city of Sassari. The reconstruction work, following a project by Giuseppe Cominotti, started in 1826 and finished in 1829. The display rooms of Palazzo di Città, which today hosts the City Museum, offer the visitor a representation of the places, the memories and the identities of the city. It hosts Teatro Civico, designed on the model of Teatro Carignano in Turin.



2 PALAZZO DUCALE
Built between 1775 and 1805, mainly by master craftsmen from Lombardy, the Palazzo of the Duke of Asinara is now the Town Hall. From the typical 18th century hall, a lovely staircase leads to the first floor or "piano nobile", with a succession of fine rooms and a chapel; the original ballroom/reception room has been adapted as a Council Chamber.



City Museum THE DUKE'S ROOMS AND CELLARS
The section of the museum called "the Duke's rooms" completes and enriches the visit to the building, illustrating the history of the most important civic building in Sassari, its predecessors, and life as it went on within during the first half of the 1800s. The itinerary aims to re-enact the organisation and use of the rooms in the Duke's era. The section of the museum called "the Duke's cellars" consists of five cellar rooms beneath the floors of Palazzo Ducale, probably belonging to buildings from the 1500s, revealed by archaeological excavations (in 1985 and 2006). An itinerary passes along a catwalk suspended above the cellars of the palace, the unusual architecture of which makes the place particularly evocative.

3 City Museum PALAZZO DELLA FRUMENTARIA
This late 16th century building served as a granary to hold a supply of wheat in case of siege or famine until 1833. Built in two different phases (1597-1598 and 1607-1608), it has two separate structures with large rectangular rooms. Nowadays the building is the exhibition section of the Museo della Città and hosts temporary exhibitions.



THE ARAGONESE CASTLE. THE BARBICAN
The Castle of Sassari was built by the Aragonese over a period from 1331 to 1342. In 1564, after losing its military function, the Castle became the headquarters of the Inquisition. Recent archaeological excavations have unearthed the Barbican. This defensive structure was built between 1500 and 1503 in a fosse underneath the façade of the castle. It was built to protect the castle from attack from the newly invented firearms and consisted of two overlapping 80 meter-long passageways, each with twenty-six gun ports for arquebuses.



5 PALAZZO D'USINI
Palazzo d'Usini was built in Piazza Tola in 1577 for Don Jaime Manca over a pre-existing late-Gothic structure. It constitutes the first expression of civic Renaissance forms in Sardinia; the interior underwent several modifications and the second floor was added later. The building now houses the Municipal Library.



6 PALAZZO DELL'INSINUAZIONE
The building took on its current appearance after the underlying 16th century structures underwent considerable extension and renovation from 1874 onwards. The Archives of the "Insinuazione" were assigned by the Municipality to the Public Notary Council and converted into the Notarial Archive (Archivio Notarile). It became municipal property again in 1985, and today hosts the town's Historical Archive.



7 PALAZZO INFERMERIA SAN PIETRO
This building is close to the site of the first settlement of medieval Thathari (the old name for Sassari), a densely populated and busy area. The first part of the building already existed in 1662. The palazzo was built to assist the ill and help the poor and needy. The refectory and the chapel were built in this first phase, featuring an ornate entrance portal still visible today. Recently restored, it hosts the Municipal Department of Culture and Tourism.



8 FONTANA DI ROSELLO
The fountain of "Gurusello" was first mentioned in the 13th century Code of Statutes. Later remodelled, it was given late Renaissance features (Mannerist style) in 1605-1606. The fountain represents an allegory of the flow of time, with four marble statues representing the seasons and the lion-head waterspouts symbolizing the months of the year.



9 MONTE D'ACCODDI PRENURAGIC VILLAGE
About 13 km from Sassari, this archaeological site includes an altar and a village; nearby is a necropolis, with eight burial chambers carved in the rock (hypogea). The altar is unique not only in Sardinia, but in the whole West Mediterranean Basin. The settlement dates back to the Neolithic Age (Cultura di Ozieri, 3200-2800 BC), although this site later underwent several rebuilding phases and seems to have been abandoned in about 1800 BC, during the early Nuragic Age.



10 DOMUS DE JANAS DI MONTALÈ
About 7 km from Sassari, this area is a burial site (necropolis), dating back to the Neolithic Age (Cultura di Ozieri-3200-2800 BC); the so-called "domus de janas" (fairy house) tombs were carved out of the rock; bull-horn decorations are carved on the walls of the antechamber.



11 SAN NICOLA (CATHEDRAL)
The bell tower is all that remains of the original 13th century Romanesque building. Faithful to Catalan-Gothic style the cathedral was rebuilt in the 15th century (1480-1500); the Baroque façade dates to the early 18th century. Within one may admire a 13th century panel of the Madonna with Child and the neoclassical Conte di Moriana funerary mausoleum. Behind the main altar is a valuable wooden choir gallery, carved by local craftsmen in the second half of the 18th century.



12 DIOCESAN MUSEUM
The Sacristy of the Cathedral leads to a section of the Diocesan Museum, dedicated to gold and silver liturgical artefacts and vestments. The painting collection (Pinacoteca) and the archaeological section are in the nearby church of San Michele.



13 SAN GIACOMO
Built in the 1200s, San Giacomo features a simple façade with external buttresses; the interior has one barrel-vaulted nave (16th - 17th c.), with two 18th century altars flanking the side walls; a rare example of the Baroque style in the town are two rococo stucco altars (rocaille style), the work of Genoese craftsmen towards the end of the 18th century (1780).



14 MUS'À - CANOPELLO PAINTING GALLERY
This painting gallery is in a building that was originally a Jesuit College, and later the Canopello boarding school. It was built between the 16th and 17th centuries, together with the church of Holy Jesus and Mary, today dedicated to Saint Catherine. The display contains more than 400 works of art from the Middle Ages to the 20th century.



15 SANTA CATERINA
This church, originally dedicated to Holy Jesus and Mary, was built by the Jesuits between 1580 and 1607 in late Renaissance style, typical of the Counter Reformation. Late Gothic influences are still present, particularly in its vaulting. Inside, there is a painting representing "The crowning of the Virgin", with the Fontana di Rosello in the background (17th century).



16 MONACHE CAPPUCCINE
This complex, dating to the 17th century, includes the only cloistered nuns' convent in the city. The adjoining church, completed in 1695, has an impressive Baroque interior featuring some 17th century works of art including a copy of Caravaggio's Saint Matthew.



17 SANT'APOLLINARE
In the historic heart of Sassari, this was one of the first parish churches in Sassari, already existing in 1278. Enlarged towards the middle of the 17th century, it was soon afterwards severely damaged by fire (1651). Demolished and rebuilt in the 19th - early 20th century, almost no trace remains of the original church. Inside the church is a Gothic crucifix which survived the fire. It is deeply venerated in Sassari.



18 SANT'ANTONIO ABATE
This church was erected outside the medieval walls, opposite "Porta Sant'Antonio", demolished in 1866. Part of the old Catalan-Gothic building was preserved during the early 18th century rebuilding work (1700-1707). Inside, the main altar features an ornate tableau, with paintings by Ruffino and an "Ecce homo" of gilt wood with lavish decorations (18th century).



19 THE WALLS
The city's medieval walls were built following the Tuscan model in the 13th century to defend the city. They were about 2 km in length, with four gates and 36 towers. Sassari maintained its fortified aspect until the middle of the 19th century. The only surviving remnants are in Corso Trinità, in Via Torre Tonda and in Piazza Sant'Antonio, where one can see the only completely crenellated tower.



20 SANTISSIMA TRINITÀ
The church and adjacent convent of the Holy Trinity was built in the first quarter of the 18th century in an area that the town administration had donated to the Order of the Holy Trinity in 1640. Within the church is the chapel of the Holy Cross and the statue of Christ that is used in the rites of Holy Week.



21 MUSEUM OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART CARMELO CONVENT
The old Carmelite Convent, dating back to the second half of the 17th century, houses the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art currently dedicated to temporary exhibitions.



22 CARMELO
Dating to 1637, its façade opens onto the "Archivoito del Carmine", erected in the second half of the 1800s, almost a separation between the old and the new town. The interior has a single nave which is barrel-vaulted with side chapels. The baroque high altar, in marble and stucco (18th century), has a valuable painting representing a "Madonna con Bambino" by Sassoferato.



23 ROSARIO
Built by Dominican friars between 1633 and 1682, the façade dates to 1759. The baroque altar screen, lavishly decorated in gold and pale grey, is one of most precious late 17th century "retabli" (wooden altars) in Sardinia. The façade is quite simple, the bell tower has a little maiolica dome.



24 HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF THE BRIGATA SASSARI
The museum is on the site of the 14th century Aragonese castle demolished between 1877 and 1880. Realized in 1992, on the ground floor of the "Caserna Lamarmora", the Museum houses an exhibition of historical relics dating to World War I, when the Brigata Sassari distinguished itself for its courage and military valour.



25 PIAZZA D'ITALIA AND PALAZZO DELLA PROVINCIA
Built in 1872, it is the largest piazza in Sassari (with an area of about 1 hectare), in the middle is the statue of King Vittorio Emanuele II (1899). Palazzo della Provincia, designed in Neoclassical style, was erected between 1873 and 1880.



26 "G. A. SANNA" NATIONAL MUSEUM
Inaugurated in 1931, it houses a valuable archaeological section: on display are finds from the Palaeolithic to modern times. The Museum also holds interesting ethnographic and painting collections. Of great interest are the rooms dedicated to the archaeological area of Monte d'Accoddi and the Nuragic civilisation.



27 UNIVERSITY
The first University in Sardinia, formerly known as "Estudio General" of the Jesuit Order (1562). Officially declared a "Royal University" by King Philip III of Spain in 1617, it was run by the Jesuits until 1765. The posterior side facing the public gardens is all that remains of the original 17th century building (1611-1651).



28 SANTA MARIA DI BETLEM
This is a monastic church, dating to the beginning of the 12th century; the Romanesque structure underwent several alterations in a mixture of styles, which retrace the history of Sassari. The sacristy leads to the 12th century cloister featuring a fountain called "Brilladore" (14th century). This church houses the "Candelieri", which represent the medieval guilds and are carried through the old town in a thanksgiving procession on the 14th August in honour of the Virgin "Assunta".



29 "F. BANDE" ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM
This is a private collection of original typical musical instruments and costumes, collected by maestro Bande, an accordion player. Some items date to the 18th century.



30 SAN PIETRO IN SILKI
This church, which was part of a Benedictine monastery, was built in the Romanesque style in the 12th century. In 1425, together with the monastery, it was passed over to the Franciscans, who in 1475 built the chapel dedicated to the Holy Virgin of Graces. The statue of the latter is the most highly venerated in the city. Great changes in the church's structure were carried out between 1580 and 1677.



USEFUL NUMBERS

MUNICIPALITY OF SASSARI Department of Culture and Tourism 079 279 970/954 Infosassari - Tourist Information 079 2008072 infosassari@comune.sassari.it Public Relations Office 079 279837	RADIO TAXI 079 260060 079 251515 079 253939
MUSEUMS City Museum (Museo della Città) Palazzo di Città Corso V. Emanuele II, 35 079 2015122	MUSEUMS The Duke's Rooms and Cellars Palazzo Ducale Piazza del Comune 331 4377156
EMERGENCY SERVICES Medical Emergency 118 First aid station Pronto Soccorso 079 2061621 Carabinieri 112 Police 113 Fire Brigade 115 Town Police 079 274100 Emergency breakdown service-ACI 803 116 Forest Rangers Corps 800 865 065	MUSEUMS Palazzo della Frumentaria Via delle Muraglie 079 200345 "G. A. Sanna" National Museum Via Roma, 64 079 272203 Mus'À Canopello Painting Gallery Piazza Santa Caterina, 4 079 231560 Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Carmelo Convent Viale Umberto I, 11 079 3758226 Historical Museum of the "Brigata Sassari" Piazza Castello, 9 079 2085111 Diocesan Museum Piazza Duomo 347 0007882 347 2174128
PUBLIC TRANSPORT TRAINS Ferrovie dello Stato Italian Railways 892021 F.d.S. Ferrovie della Sardegna Sardinian Railways 079 241301 ARST Gestione FdS (Trenino verde - Tourist ticket) 800 460 220 Sassari Railway Station 079 260362	BUSES ARST Sardinian Transport Company 800 865 042 F.d.S. Ferrovie della Sardegna Sardinian Railways 079 241301 ATP Public Transport Company 079 2008115 079 2638037