

## Trapani

The ancient town of Drepanon was in the beginning inhabited by the Elimi, that used it as an emporium of Erice. The same thing was made by the Phoenicians that, realizing its important geographical location, made it become an efficient maritime and commercial landing-place. Then it came to Carthaginians' hands that populated it making the Erice inhabitants go downhill. After the battle of the Egadi Islands in 241 B.C. it began to be part of the Roman provinces and so it remained till the V century B.C. In 827 Arabs arrived in Sicily: the three centuries of their domination deeply marked culture, art and economy of Trapani. It came across a difficult period under the government of the Angioini to flourish again by the Aragoneses about 1200, because of tuna and salt trading, and of coral valued processing. Then it was followed by the long-lasting Spanish domination, that ended only in 1713. In the half of 1500, Charles V granted the town of Trapani



special privileges that allowed it to increase its own commercial and sea trades. Sicily then entered the Bourbons Kingdom until the coming of Garibaldi in 1860. The people of Trapani took part in the insurrectional risings of 1848 and this brought them the Golden Medal awarded by Umberto I of Savoy. During the II World War, the town was bombed many times. With the reconstruction, Trapani assumed a new disposition: new quarters and new streets were built. The vital fulcrum of the town is, up to and including today, the harbour, in the neighbourhood of the historical centre.

### Useful Information and Numbers

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**Provincia** 0923 806791 [www.provincia.trapani.it](http://www.provincia.trapani.it)  
**Ufficio Turistico** 0923 29000  
**Ospedale** "S. Antonio Abate" 0923 809111  
**Pronto Soccorso** 0923 809450  
**Polizia** 113 / 0923 598111  
**Carabinieri** 112 / 0923 27122  
**Vigili del Fuoco** 115 / 0923 555350  
**Emergenza in Mare** 1530  
**Aeroporto** "Vincenzo Florio"  
 Trapani - Birgi 0923 842502 [www.airgest.it](http://www.airgest.it)  
**Trenitalia** [www.trenitalia.it](http://www.trenitalia.it)  
**Ustica Lines** 0923 873813 [www.usticalines.it](http://www.usticalines.it)  
**Tirrenia** 0923 24968 / 593673 [www.tirrenea.it](http://www.tirrenea.it)  
**Siremar** 0923 24968 / 593673 [www.siremar.it](http://www.siremar.it)  
**ATM** (Trasporti urbani) 0923 559575  
[www.atmtrapani.it](http://www.atmtrapani.it)  
**AST** (Trasporti extraurbani) 0923 21021  
[www.aziendasicilianatrasporti.it](http://www.aziendasicilianatrasporti.it)  
**Segesta Autolinee** (Extraurbano) 091 304106  
[www.segesta.it](http://www.segesta.it)  
**Biglietteria Segesta** a Trapani 0923 21727  
**Museo Regionale** "A. Pepoli" 0923 553269  
**Luglio Musicale Trapanese** [www.lugliomusicale-trapanese.com](http://www.lugliomusicale-trapanese.com)  
**Biblioteche della Provincia** [www.opactrapani.it](http://www.opactrapani.it)

## What to see

In the town there are a great deal of **churches**. At the eastern extremity of the town centre, in via Pepoli, rises the big unit of the **Annunziata** (Our Lady of Annunciation), that is the most important town monument. At the back of main altar is located the **Cappella della Madonna** (Madonna Chapel), that you reach passing through a beautiful Renaissance arch, closed by a bronze grill of 1591.



Nearby you may also find the ex-convent that today lodges the major town museum, the **Museo Pepoli** (Pepoli Museum). But it is in the historical centre that you find a series of churches of considerable interest following one another, such as the church of **San Francesco d'Assisi** (St Francis of Assisi), the church of **Cappuccini** (Capuchins), the church of **San Pietro** (St Peter), that one of the **Purgatorio** (Purgatory), placed in the homonymous little square.

Very beautiful is the **Cathedral**, in **corso Vittorio Emanuele**, consecrated to St Lawrence, and erected on a former fourteenth-century building in the seventeenth century. One of the most charming streets in the town is **via Garibaldi**, lined with

eighteenth-century mansions and churches, among which **Riccio di Morana** mansion, crowned by statues, **Milo** mansion and **Badia Nuova** (S. Maria del Soccorso), one of the most ancient church in the town, stand out. The mansion, that close the street in a scenographic way, is "**Palazzo Senatorio**" (Senatorial Mansion) (or "Cavarretta"), the face of which is on two orders articulated by columns and statues, and it is crowned by two big clocks. Near by there is the clock tower of thirteenth-century origin.

To be visited is also the **via Libertà**, where are located the church of the **Carmine**, in Renaissance style, founded by Carmelites, **Fardella** Mansion and **Sanseverino** Mansion. The most important streets, destinations of long walks, are **Via Fardella**, that scours almost all the town, and **Corso Vittorio Emanuele**. Especially in the night, the streets crowd of people spending some hours in the various spots.

To be visited moreover: the **Museo della Preistoria e Archeologia Marina** (Prehistory and Sea Archaeology Museum), situated in the **Ligny Tower**, e la **Riserva Naturale delle Saline** (Natural Reserve of the Salinas), that follow one another in the coast-line between Trapani and Marsala, in a so incredible scenery where silence and stillness reign.



## Events

During the period of the **Holy Week**, that precede the Easter Sunday, **Trapani** offers a series of manifestations, services and rites, jealously



kept since remote ages. The **Via Crucis**, that occurs on **Palm Sunday** in **Buseto Palizzolo**, is very suggestive. On **Holy Tuesday** in **Trapani** the procession of "**Maria Addolorata**" ("Our Mary of Sorrows"), takes place. On **Holy Wednesday**, in **Trapani**, the "**Madonna della Pietà del Popolo**" (Our Lady of Pity of People), the order of greengrocers having the care of it, is made pass by still through the streets of the town centre. On **Holy Thursday**, in **Marsala**, the Procession of **Holy Thursday** takes place in the afternoon: some citizens of **Marsala** play the various characters and the crucial moments narrated by the Gospel. On **Holy Friday** you can see various rites in many cities. In **Trapani**, early in the afternoon, in the church of "**Santa Maria del Gesù**" ("St Mary of Jesus") the ancient service of the "**Descent of the Cross**". The **Procession of the Mystery** in **Trapani** takes place beginning from **Holy Friday** to the midday of Saturday: it is a rite of fundamental importance for the town recovering its own cultural identity. A smaller **Procession of the Mystery** takes place in **Erice** also. In Castelvetrano, in the morning of **Easter**, the traditional rite of **Aurora** celebrates the Resurrection of Christ. **Villa Margherita** houses the prestigious "**Teatro di Tradizione**" (Theatre of Tradition): one of the most established events of the town, strongly attracting, thanks also to the high level of the performances.

# La Cartina



[www.trapaniwelcome.it](http://www.trapaniwelcome.it)

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Informazione Turistica**

**LEGENDA, LEGEND, LEGENDE**

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	Farmacia, Chemist's, Pharmacie, Apotheke, Farmacia	<b>I</b>	Informazioni turistiche Tourist information, Information touristique, Informationsburo, Informaciones turisticas
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	Ospedale - Guardia medica, Hospital - First Aid, Krankenhaus - Ambulanz		ALISCAFI, Hydrofoil
	Stazione ferroviaria, Railway station, Gare, Bahnhof, Estacion		Museo, Museum, Musee, Museen

TRAPANI

Centro Storico, Historical centre  
Centre, Zentrum

PORTO