# ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREA OF TINDARI

# THE HISTORICAL LIVING MATTER

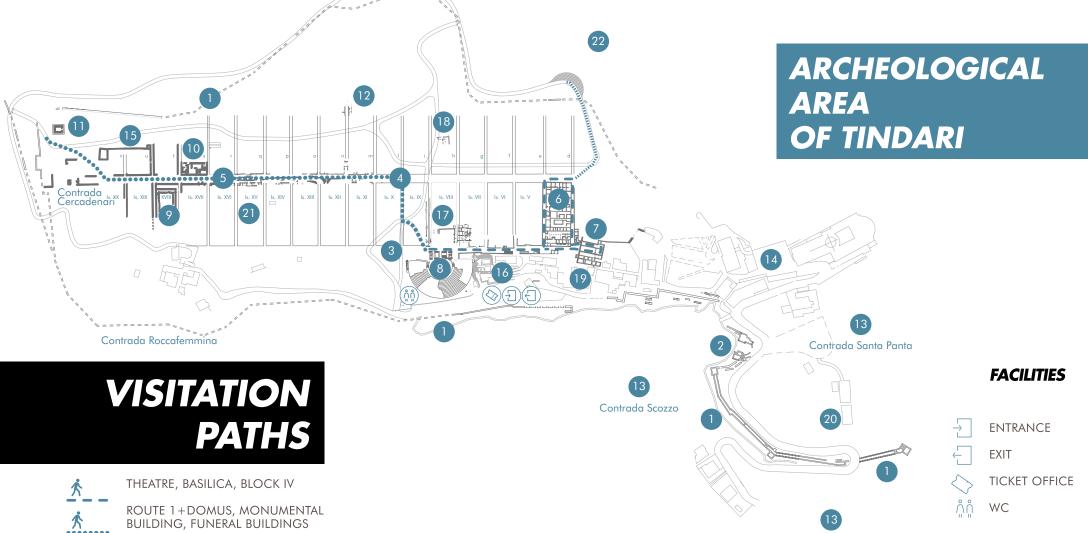
# AN IDEAL CITY FACING THE SEA

aid on a plateau overlooking the Golfo of Patti, in front of ■the Aeolian Islands, the ancient city of Tindari is one of the symbolic places of the Sicilian natural and cultural landscape. The extraordinary position, the millennial history, the fascinating strong and luxuriant landscape has been the inspiration for poets and painters for centuries. Visitor, let the beauty seduce you and lose yourself in an interior dialogue with mythical and poetical time. To turn back to find the civilization sources, to investigate the values and the ancient lifestyles, it's a moment of pure wonder.

Salvatore Gueli Director of the Tindari Archaeological Park



ounded by the Syracusan Dionigi I in 396 BC, during the First Punic War, Tyndaris turned into a Carthaginian base and then, from the III century BC, into a faithful ally of Rome benefitting of wide freedoms and privileges. The city rises on the top of a ridge with a regular layout characterized by powerful walls and large linear decumanus, oriented from east to west, and by orthogonal short cardines. Flourishing during the imperial age, in the 36 BC it became Colonia Augusta Tyndaritanorum. Unfortunately, in the I century AD, part of the city slides off into the sea. The main public buildings, the Church and the Baths with their precious figurative mosaics and the Theatre face the decumanus, embodying the harmony of an ancient model city.







ROUTE 1+MARINELLO AND AEO-LIAN ISLANDS PANORAMIC SQUARE

- **CITY WALLS**
- PINCERS DOOR
- SUPERIOR DECUMANUS
- CENTRAL DECUMANUS
- CENTRAL DECUMANUS
- **BLOCK IV**

- **BASILICA**
- THEATRE
- MONUMENTAL BUILDING
- 10 DOMUS OF CERCADENARI
- FUNERAL BUILDING
- **EXCAVATION AREA**

- **NECROPOLIS**
- ACROPOLIS AREA
- 15 **ROMAN TOILET**
- **ANTIQUARIUM**
- PUBLIC RESERVOIR
- CISTERN

- **BUILDING ALREADY "REGIA** SOPRINTENDENZA"
- EX VILLA AMATO

Contrada Vignazza-Carruba

- FRONT OF THE BLOCK XV
- SQUARE WITH VIEW ON MARINELLO LAKES (R.N.O.)

# THE BIG GAME OF POLITICS

In the history, Tindari knows how to play its cards right. In 344 BC when the city lined up with the general Timoleonte, arrived from Corinth to dismiss the Syracusan tyrant Dionysus I, and obtained six decades of peace and prosperity. Or that time when, in 204 BC and 146 BC, it joined Romans against Hannibal, gaining gifts and privile-

ges. The earthquakes of the fourth century AD mark the beginning of a long decline through the years.

Tindari's myth rises again in the XVIII century with the Grand Tour of European intellectual travellers, and becomes one of the most coveted place of the north-east Sicilian coast along with Lipari and Taormina.



# AN EXTRAORDINARY MONUMENTAL HERITAGE



### **GREEK THEATRE**

Built at the end of the IV century with a capacity of 3000 spectators, the theatre was revised during the Roman age in order to favour the circus performances. It's perfectly set in the hill dip. From 1956 a theatral, dance and music festival takes place here.

# THE BASILICA



It's an imperial age building, probably a propylon (monumental door), used also as a "meeting room" through the big central space. It houses the gold statue of Mercury donated by Scipio Africanus, and close there is the equestrian monument of the consul Marco Claudio Marcello.

# WITNESSES OF AN ANCIENT CITY

### THE DOMUS

A Roman Domus occupies the front of block XVII on the central decuman. There are eight rooms with cocciopesto floors, except the triclinium with geometric T-shaped mosaic in black and white and coloured walls. The structure of the domus, originally on two floors, dates back to the late republican age, its restoration in the I/II centuries AD.



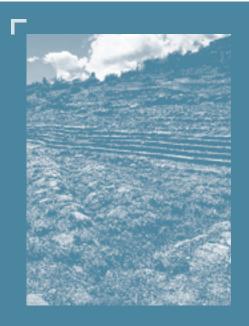
# PLAN YOUR VISIT

- Vicketz	tacilities
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# THE MONUMENTAL BUILDING

A rectangular building from the Imperial Roman age occupies the front of the block XVIII on the central decuman. Plundered in ancient times, the monument retains a high access stairway, a portico with pillars, delimiting an open area, an external corridor, originally covered, paved in cocciopesto. Despite the peripheral location, the monument seems to be destinated to religious purposes or to public functions.



# How to get here

### Car

Highway exit Falcone taking SS113

(Messina-Palermo)

towards Tindari

## Bus

Line AST, Magistro-TAI towards Tindari

### Train

Olivieri-Tindari Railway station

### Plane

Airport Vincenzo Bellini of Catania - Fontanarossa

# Come comportarsi



Do not introduce animals.



Do not use flash photography.



Do not bring backpacks.



Do not touch artworks or finds.



Do not bring any food or drinks.



# **DISCOVER MUSEUMS** = AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS OF EASTERN SICILY

Castle Maniace **Ancient Theatre of Taormina** 

Regional Gallery of Palazzo Bellomo

Museum and Archaeological Area of Naxos

Archaeological Regional Museum Paolo Orsi

Aeolian Archaeological Park - Museum Luigi Bernabò Brea

Interdisciplinary Regional Museum of Messina

Naturalistic Regional Museum of Isolabella

Monumental Area of Neapolis

Archaeological Area of Tindari

Roman Villa of Patti











