

Places of interest in Salerno

Museo Archeologico Provinciale

Via San Benedetto 28 – Phone +39 089 231135, mail: info@museoarcheologicosalerno.it

Opening from Tuesday to Sunday 9.30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Archaeological Museum is an excellent showcase for the excavated history of the surrounding area, dating back to cave dwellers and the colonising Greeks. The pièce de résistance is the 1st-century BC Testa bronzea di Apollo (bronze head of Apollo). The head is thought to have been part of a larger statue; it was found by a fisherman in the Gulf of Salerno in 1930. The upper floor also houses centuries' worth of findings from the nearby necropolis of Fratte (dating from the 6th century BC).

The Church of San Giorgio

Via Duomo 19 – Phone +39.089.228918

San Giorgio is the most beautiful Baroque Church in Salerno, full of high quality frescoes.

The Church of San Benedetto

Via San Benedetto

The church was originally part of the homonymous monastery, founded between the VII and IX centuries. The monastery was connected to the famous aqueduct, traces of which can still be seen today in Via Arce. Destroyed in 884 AD during a Saracen attack, the monastery was rebuilt by Abbott Angelario and in a short time became the reference point for the whole religious world of Southern Italy.

The Gardens of Minerva

Via Ferrante Sanseverino 1 – Phone +39.089252423

The Minerva Garden was the first botanical garden in Europe for cultivation of plants for therapeutical use. Situated in the heart of the old town, close to the Fusandola stream and the ancient medieval walls, the garden appears as a terraced – walled orchard.

These gardens are located in the heart of the old town centre of Salerno and are walled in and terraced.

The Church of Santa Maria de Lama

Gradoni della Lama, 2

Ticket price: free

The church of Santa Maria de Lama is one of the oldest one of Salerno. Probably born as a chapel of a private foundation of some noble, the church was built when the city was in the midst of the Longobard domination, between the tenth and eleventh centuries. The name de Lama is due to the creek that runs in front of the building even now below street level. Initially the church was to be built on an old Roman building of the second century (perhaps the spa), of which there are some walls in opus reticulatum, and had to submit a square plan (typical of buildings of Byzantine worship): what remains of this early period is the actual crypt, where you can still see the remains of some frescoes of Benevento invoice.

Monumental complex of San Pietro a Corte

Largo Antica Corte - Angolo Via Canali, Phone +39 089.337331 or +39 338.1902507

Ticket price: free

The Monumental Complex of San Pietro a Corte is the most important Longobard construction in Salerno. The monumental remains represent the main architectural emergences of Medieval Salerno and as regards the Longobard architecture in Europe, they are the only example of a Palace building complex. It was the most prestigious seat of the Longobard Court in Campania. As regards its structure, the pilasters of the upper room (official room) stand on a frigidarium of a spa building complex dating back to the imperial age (the end of the 1st –beginning of the 2nd century a.C.), after reused as graveyard by the Cristian communities in Salerno. Between the 13th and 16th centuries a chapel devoted to the cult of the Virgin Mary was made. Among the different uses it has had up to now, it was also seat of the Salernitan Medical School.

Pinacoteca Provinciale Museum

Via Mercanti, 63, Phone +39 089 258 3073

Spread throughout six small galleries, Salerno's multi-era art museum houses a collection dating from the Renaissance right up to the first half of the 20th century. There are some fine canvases by local boy Andrea Sabatini da Salerno, who was notably influenced by Leonardo da Vinci, plus a diverse selection of works by foreign artists who were permanent residents around the Amalfi Coast. These include etchings by the Austrian-born Peter Willburger and a picture of a local market by Polish artist Irene Kowaliska.

Salerno Harbour station - Zaha Hadid Architect

Via Molo Manfredi,

In 1999 it was announced by the City of Salerno an international ideas competition to draft the project of a new maritime station that would accommodate the flow of cruise passengers. The competition was won by the Anglo-Iraqi architect Zaha Hadid.

The new terminal for the ferry port at Salerno, marks the transition from land to sea, from solid to liquid, both visually and functionally – strengthening the intimate relationship between city and waterfront through innovative design. The new building echoes the oyster its hard shell enclosing soft, fluid elements within; a 'nerved' roof forming a protective shell in the intense Mediterranean sun. By night, the terminal's 'glow' functions almost as a lighthouse for this ancient port, its history reaching back to Norman and Saracen times.

In 2013 the Ministry of cultural heritage and cultural and tourism activities has entered the maritime station in the selected group of high-quality architectural interventions.