

i PUPI

there are
more ways to Sicily
than one ...
(a brief history)

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*You are in the north-west part of Sicily,
next to many historical sites but far enough from Etna...*

*The first inhabitants of Sicily
were single-eyed*



the Cyclops
1400 BC

*Also those living in Sicily in the Neolithic
were quite peculiar*

Sicilians (1200 BC)



Neolithic
painting in
Levanzo

The first historical people of Erice were the Elyms

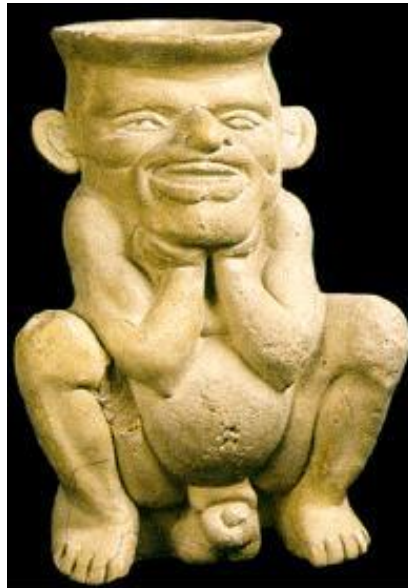


the Elyms (Eryx & Segesta)



The Elyms living in Segesta in the times of Greek colonies liked their style very much!

The Phoenicians, navigating from Syria across the Mediterranean sea (and beyond), created prosperous colonies in Carthage and Sicily (Motya, Erix, ...)



Don't miss the museum in Motya!

the Phoenicians
(900 BC)



Motya

The Greeks established even more prosperous colonies (cities) in Sicily (e.g., Trapani, Agrigento, Selinunte, Syracuse, etc)

the Greeks



Selinunte: temple E

VIII – III century BC



Agrigento: Concord temple

The Phoenicians in Carthage (Carthaginians), profiting of the disputes between philo-Athens and philo-Sparta Greek cities, occupy Selinunte in 409 BC



A Carthaginian
(Punic) warship

The Romans defeat the Carthaginians at the end of the 1st Punic War (Egadi Islands battle, 241 BC);

in 212 BC Romans conquer Syracuse (Archimedes killed by accident) and rule Sicily until 476 AD, introducing the bikini



Roman mosaic
in Piazza Armerina (Sicily)

A Punic warship can be seen in Marsala archeological museum

The Vandals, who established a kingdom in north-west Africa, obtain from Rome part of West-Sicily in 455 (just 21 years before the end of the (West) Roman Empire) and rule Erice until ...



Geiseric, the most prominent of Vandal kings

... the Byzantins defeat the Vandals and re-conquer Sicily to the (East) Roman Empire (533)



Justinianus I

The Arabs, in their expansion to West, start occupying Sicily in 827, bringing many new good things (including new numbers and architectural masterpieces) until the Normans (5 years before Hastings!) start conquering Sicily (full control in 1077)



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The Normans prove to be excellent rulers, dreaming to re-establish the classical world, and leaving magnificent monuments of art

king Roger II (1095-1154)



The puppet (Pupi) theater in Palermo tells the gestures of Normans against the Arabs

*The Normans get related to the Swebian
Staufer dynasty: with Frederick II
(1194-1250), called *Stupor Mundi*,
South Italy knows a first renaissance*



The University of Naples is
dedicated to Frederick II

Frederick spoke good Arabic: his
crusade was actually a friendly
agreement with the Sultan al-Malik
al-Kamil (here meeting in
Jerusalem)

Charles I d'Anjou (1226-1285)



The Pope calls the French against the Swabian king. Manfred is defeated and killed in the battle of Benevento (1266). This and the defeat and death of Konrad (1268) mark the end of the Hohenstauffer domain in South Italy (and of the Weiblingen parties in Italy!).

1266-68:
end of the
Swabian
kingdom in
South Italy



Manfred

The Anjous are bad administrators: after only 12 years the Sicilians organize a revolt against the Anjous (Sicilian Vespers), but make a big mistake; they ask the aid of the King of Aragon. The Spanish will rule South Italy until the XVIII century!



*The Sicilian Vespers (1282)
& Pedro III Aragona*



*until the Bourbons: Carlos I (or III: depends on which brandy you like more!)
king of the Two Sicilies (1734)*



and other “foreign” rulers (Savoy & Austria) until

...1860: Garibaldi



and unification of Italy (1861)

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welcome to Sicily
to all new visitors!