

## WHV – International Tourist Assistance, Promotion and Accessible Tourism Monitoring

### Arab-norman Palermo and the Cathedral Churches of Cefalú and Monreale, Italy

Cultural property inscribed on the List of World  
Heritage since 2015

16/07/2017 – 02/08/2017



Located on the northern coast of Sicily, Arab-Norman Palermo includes a series of nine civil and religious structures dating from the era of the Norman kingdom of Sicily (1130-1194): two palaces, three churches, a cathedral, a bridge, as well as the cathedrals of Cefalú and Monreale. Collectively, they are an example of a social-cultural syncretism between Western, Islamic and Byzantine cultures on the island which gave rise to new concepts of space, structure and decoration. They also bear testimony to the fruitful coexistence of people of different origins and religions (Muslim, Byzantine, Latin, Jewish, Lombard and French).

#### Project objectives:

The main objectives of the project are promoting the site and raising awareness toward its outstanding universal value at local, national and international levels by involving volunteers, the local community and foreign tourists, in order to valorise it and exchange about it during activities. Another objective is to raise awareness among young volunteers and the community about the accessibility and sustainable use of a cultural heritage, with special attention to people with disabilities.

#### Project activities:

The volunteers will be engaged at the UNESCO Visitor Centers of Cefalù and Palermo where they will take care of tourists' reception, distributing and explaining the information materials. They will also be involved in the translation of informative-tourist materials in their own native languages and in the creating a "handbook" ( a small guide for tourists about good sustainable tourism practices). The volunteers will take part in specific awareness raising activities, such as working on a short monitoring plan about accessible tourism for people with disabilities to improve the management and enhancement of the property in relation to these issues. The volunteers will also realise a promotional video about the World Heritage site.



## Partners:

City of Palermo, City of Cefalù, Regional Institute for the Right to University Education of Palermo (ERSU), Observatory on Tourism in the European Islands (OTIE)

**UNESCO Sicily Heritage Foundation**

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