

Albania 3

Butrint ([Latin: Buthrōtum](#)) was an [ancient Greek](#) city, then a [Roman](#) one and the seat of a late Roman [bishopric](#). After a period of abandonment it was occupied by the [Byzantines](#), the [Angevins](#) and the [Venetians](#). It was finally abandoned in the late Middle Ages. Prominent archaeological sites include a Greek theater, a [late-antique baptistery](#), a ninth-century basilica, and fortifications from the period of the Greek colony to the Middle Ages.

[Berat](#) and [Gjirokastër](#) are inscribed as rare examples of an architecture typical of the [Ottoman period](#). Berat bears witness to the coexistence of various religious and cultural communities down the centuries. It features a [castle](#), most of which was built in the 13th century, although its origins date back to the 4th century BC. The [citadel](#) area has many [Byzantine](#) churches, mainly from the 13th century, as well as several mosques built in the 15th century. Gjirokastër features a series of two-storey houses which were built in the 17th century. The town also retains a [bazaar](#), an [18th-century mosque](#), and two churches of the same period. Gjirokastër was originally listed individually in 2005, Berat was added to the site in 2008.

Algeria 7



In a mountainous site of extraordinary beauty, the ruins of the first capital of the Hammadid emirs, founded in 1007 and demolished in 1152, provide an authentic picture of a fortified Muslim city. The mosque, whose prayer room has 13 aisles with eight bays, is one of the largest in Algeria. Beni Hammad Fort is near the town of Maadid (aka Maadhid), about 225 kilometres (140 mi) southeast of Algiers.



Djémila (formerly known as Cuicul) was a Roman town in a mountainous site, comprising a forum, temples, basilicas, triumphal arches and religious buildings and other structures, each adapted to a location 900 m (3,000 ft) above sea level.



A vast plateau on the edge of the [Sahara](#), Tassili n'Ajjer contains more than 15,000 cave engravings that record climatic changes, animal migrations, and the evolution of human life, dating from 6,000 BCE to the first centuries CE. It is also noted for its eroded [sandstone](#) landforms



Established by Emperor [Trajan](#) in 100 CE as a military colony, Timgad features [cardo](#) and [decumanus](#) streets, constituting a typical example of Roman town-planning.



Previously a [Carthaginian](#) trading centre, Tipasa was conquered by the Romans and converted into a military base. The site also bears witness to [paleochristian](#) and [Byzantine](#) influences

Bosnia and Herzegovina 3



This site encompasses the Old Bridge and the surrounding area. The [Ottoman](#) bridge, which crosses the [Neretva](#) river, was commissioned by [Suleiman the Magnificent](#) and completed in 1566/67. In 1993, during the [Bosnian War](#), it was deliberately shelled and destroyed by the [Croatian Defence Council](#). After the war, the bridge was rebuilt using traditional construction methods and local materials, and reopened in 2004



The Mehmed Paša Sokolović Bridge, which crosses the [Drina](#) river, was completed in 1577 by the Ottoman court architect [Mimar Sinan](#) on the orders of the [Grand Vizier Mehmed Paša Sokolović](#). The bridge is 179.5 metres (589 ft) long and has 11 arches. The bridge also has a symbolic significance as the meeting place between [Christianity](#) and [Islam](#).

Croatia 10



This property consists of six components of defence works in Italy, Croatia, and Montenegro, spanning more than 1,000 kilometres between the Lombard region of Italy and the eastern Adriatic Coast. The introduction of gunpowder led to significant shifts in military techniques and architecture. Croatian sites include the defensive system of Zadar and [St. Nicholas Fortress](#) in Šibenik



The Stari Grad Plain is an agricultural landscape that was set up by the [ancient Greek colonists](#) in the 4th century BC, and remains in use today. The plain is generally still in its original form. The ancient layout has been preserved by careful maintenance of the stone walls over 24 centuries.¹



The cathedral is a triple-nave [basilica](#) with three apses and a dome (32 metres (105 ft) high inside) and is also one of the most important [Renaissance](#) architectural monuments in the eastern Adriatic.¹



Trogir's rich culture was created under the influence of old Greeks, Romans, and Venetians. It is the best-preserved Romanesque-Gothic complex not only in the [Adriatic](#), but in all of [Central Europe](#). Trogir's [medieval](#) core, surrounded by walls, comprises a preserved castle and tower and a series of dwellings and palaces from the Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque periods.¹



Over time, water has flowed over the natural [limestone](#) and chalk, creating natural dams which in turn have created a series of connecting lakes, waterfalls, and caves. The nearby forests are home to bears, wolves, and many rare bird species.

Cyprus 3



Worship of pre-[Hellenic](#) fertility deities in Cyprus began in the [Neolithic period](#) (6th millennium BCE). Paphos was the site of one of the oldest [Mycenean](#) settlements. In the 12th century BCE, they built a dedicated temple to [Aphrodite](#), the goddess of love and beauty, who was born on the island, according to [classical mythology](#). The archaeological site includes the remains of the villas, palaces, fortresses, and rock-hewn [peristyle](#) tombs. The villas were richly adorned with mosaic floors, with motifs representing themes from mythology and from everyday life. These mosaics of high artistic quality span from the [Hellenistic](#) to the [Byzantine](#) period.



This site comprises ten rural churches and monasteries built in the [Troodos Mountains](#) from the 11th to the 16th century. Churches, such as [Panagia tou Araka](#) and [Church of St. Nicholas of the Roof](#), are richly decorated with [murals](#). They document over 500 years of Byzantine and post-Byzantine painting and serve as examples of the development of styles under international influences. Nine churches were originally listed in 1985, one more church was added in 2001, and an additional one is considered on the tentative list



Choirokoitia is one of the most important prehistoric sites in the eastern [Mediterranean](#). It was occupied between the 7th and 4th millennium BCE, in the Neolithic period. The settlement consisted of circular houses built from [mudbrick](#) and stone with flat roofs, and it was protected by successive walls. The agricultural society was [aceramic](#) (without pottery). Among the findings were [flint](#) and bone tools, animal and plant remains, stone vessels, and [anthropomorphic](#) figurines in stone (one in clay). Only part of the site has been excavated. A minor boundary modification took place in 2012

Egypt 7



The ruins of the former Christian holy city contain a church, a baptistery, basilicas, public buildings, streets, monasteries, houses, and workshops, and were built over the tomb of [Menas of Alexandria](#)



The former capital of Egypt and the city of [Amun](#), Thebes contains temples and palaces at [Karnak](#) and [Luxor](#), as well as the [necropolises](#) at the [Valley of the Kings](#) and the [Valley of the Queens](#), bearing witness to the height of the Egyptian civilization



One of the world's oldest Islamic cities and in the middle of urban Cairo, the site dates from the 10th century and reached its golden age in the 14th century. It contains mosques, [madrasahs](#), [hammams](#) and fountains.



The capital of the Old Kingdom of Egypt has some extraordinary funerary monuments, including rock tombs, ornate mastabas, temples and pyramids. In ancient times, the site was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World



Located in western Egypt, Wadi Al-Hitan contains fossil remains of the now extinct [Archaeoceti](#), mapping the [evolution of the whales](#) from a land-based to an aquatic mammal.

France 33



[Arles, Roman and Romanesque Monuments](#)



[Palais des Papes](#), Episcopal Ensemble and [Pont Saint-Bénézet](#)



Historic site of [Lyon](#)



[Roman Theatre](#) and its Surroundings and the "[Triumphal Arch](#)" of [Orange](#)



Gulf of Porto: [Calanche of Piana](#), Gulf of Girolata, [Scandola Reserve](#)



[Decorated Cave of Pont d'Arc, known as Grotte Chauvet-Pont d'Arc, Ardèche](#) 30,000–28,000 BCE



Nice bears witness to the evolution of the winter resort due to the city's mild climate and seaside location at the foot of the Alps.

Greece 18



The temple, dedicated to [Apollo](#) Epicurius, was built in the 5th century BCE in the mountains of [Arcadia](#). It is considered by UNESCO to be one of the best preserved monuments of [classical antiquity](#). It is the earliest monument that features all three [classical orders](#), [Doric](#), [Ionic](#), and [Corinthian](#). After falling out of use, the temple was forgotten for nearly 1700 years. It was rediscovered in the 18th century, attracting the attention of scholars and artists



Delphi, located at the foot of [Mount Parnassus](#), was the site of the [Temple of Apollo](#), a [Panhellenic sanctuary](#), and in Greek view the "navel of the world" (the [Omphalos](#)). [Pythia](#), the oracle, resided in the temple, receiving pilgrims from all Greece. In the 6th century BCE, Delphi was seen as the religious centre and symbol of unity of the ancient Greek world



Situated on a narrow peninsula, Mount Athos has been governed as an [autonomous entity](#) since Byzantine times. An [Orthodox](#) spiritual centre since the 10th century, it is home to about 20 active monasteries. Mount Athos has exerted lasting influence on the development of religious architecture and monumental painting.



Meteora is a rock formation of [sandstone](#) peaks, hosting 24 Orthodox monasteries. Many of them were built on the almost inaccessible peaks during the revival of the [eremeric](#) ideal in the 15th century. The monasteries are decorated by 16th century frescoes, which represent a key stage in the development of [post-Byzantine](#) painting



The island of [Rhodes](#) was occupied by the Order of St John of Jerusalem ([Knights Hospitaller](#)) from 1309 to 1523, who transformed the city of Rhodes into a stronghold and surrounded it with a 4 kilometres (2.5 mi) wall. The [fortifications](#) were built upon the existing Byzantine ones. The Upper town features several buildings from the [Gothic period](#), including the [Palace of the Grand Masters](#), the Great Hospital, and the Street of the Knights. When the [Ottomans](#) took the island, they converted most churches to mosques. Reconstruction took place during the [Italian occupation](#) in the early 20th century.



The town of Mystras developed around the fortress erected in 1249 under the [Prince of Achaia, William of Villehardouin](#), on the slopes of Mount [Taygetus](#). In 1262, it was surrendered to the [Byzantines](#) and saw a great prosperity during the [Palaeologan Renaissance](#) era. It was later taken first by the [Ottomans](#) and then by the [Venetians](#). After 1834, the inhabitants started leaving Mystras for the modern town of [Sparta](#), and Mystras became a ruin.

Israel 9



A holy city for three of the world's major religions, Jerusalem contains more than 200 historic monuments, including the [Dome of the Rock](#), the [Wailing Wall](#) and the [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](#)



[Bahá'í Holy Places](#) in [Haifa](#) and the [Western Galilee](#)



[Incense Route – Desert Cities in the Negev](#)



[Masada](#)



[Old City of Acre](#)



[Caves of Maresha and Beit Guvrin in the Judean Lowlands as a Microcosm of the Land of the Caves](#)

Italy 54



[Valcamonica](#) is home to one of the largest collections of [petroglyphs](#) in the world. Over 140,000 carvings were created in the valley over a period of 8,000 years from the [Epipalaeolithic](#) to the [Middle Ages](#). They depict scenes from agriculture, navigation, war, and magic



This site comprises two districts of Matera, with cave dwellings first occupied in the [Paleolithic](#). People inhabited the natural caves in the [karst](#) plateau of [Murge](#) and later started carving and building more elaborate structures, including churches, monasteries, and hermitages. The [Romanesque Matera Cathedral](#) dates to the 13th century



[Naples](#), founded in 470 BCE by Greek colonists, was one of the most important cities of [Magna Grecia](#), of the [Roman Republic](#), and the capital of the [Kingdom of Naples](#) under several royal houses. It was highly influential on European arts and architecture. Some of the important monuments include the [Church of Santa Chiara](#) from the 14th century, the [Castel Nuovo](#) from the 13th century (pictured), and the [Royal Palace](#) from the 17th century. A minor boundary modification took place in 2011.



The octagonal castle was built by Emperor [Frederick II](#) in the 13th century. It blends northern European [Cistercian Gothic](#), Muslim architecture, and elements from [Classical antiquity](#) in a perfectly symmetrical design



This large scale palace complex was commissioned by the [Bourbon King of Naples Charles III](#) in the mid-18th century. It was designed by the architect [Luigi Vanvitelli](#) and inspired by palaces in [Versailles](#) and [Madrid](#). Following the ideas of the [Enlightenment](#), the complex is well integrated into the landscape. The site includes an aqueduct and the industrial complex of San Leucio where silk was produced



The [cultural landscape](#) along the [Ligurian](#) coast has been shaped by humans over the past millennium. There are several scenic small towns built among the steep rugged terrain, and the land has been converted to terraces. There are also three islands off the coast with remains of early monastic buildings. A minor boundary modification took place in 2021. A church in Porto Venere is pictured



Su Nuraxi is the finest and the most complete example of [nuraghe](#), a defensive [megalithic](#) structure of the [Bronze Age Nuragic civilization](#) of the 2nd millennium BCE. Unique to [Sardinia](#), nuraghi are circular defensive towers in the form of truncated cones with internal chambers. The one at Su Nuraxi was originally over 18.5 m (61 ft) high. The site was abandoned in the 6th century BCE and most nuraghi went out of use after [Roman](#) colonization in the 2nd century BCE.



This site comprises nine buildings, constructed during the time of the [Norman Kingdom of Sicily](#) (1130–1194) in a style that incorporates features of [Arab, Byzantine, and Western art](#). Two palaces, three churches, three cathedrals ([Palermo Cathedral](#) pictured), and the [Admiral's Bridge](#) are listed

Jordan 5



Established on three closely-spaced hills in the [Balqa \(region\)](#), As-Salt was the main settlement on the [East Bank](#) of the [Jordan River](#) that served as a cultural, commercial and financial hub. This prosperity allowed for the influx of people from the region who settled in As-Salt, creating a distinct city built with yellow [limestone](#) that had European Art Nouveau and Neo-Colonial styles combined with local traditions.



Situated on the [Jordan River](#), Al-Maghtas is considered the location of the [Baptism of Jesus](#) by [John the Baptist](#). A Christian pilgrimage site, it contains remains of Roman and Byzantine churches, chapels, a monastery, caves and pools



The [Nabataean](#) city of Petra was a major trading hub between Arabia, Egypt and Syria-Phoenicia, famed for its [rock-cut architecture](#) as well as its mining and water engineering systems



The desert castle of Quseir Amra was built in the early 8th century, and had served both as a fortress and an [Umayyad](#) royal palace. The site also noted for its extensive [frescoes](#), constituting an important and unique example of early [Islamic art](#)



Situated in southern Jordan, Wadi Rum features a great variety of desert landforms including sandstone valleys, natural arches, gorges, cliffs, landslides and caverns. The site also contains extensive rock art, inscriptions and archaeological remains, bearing witness to more than 12,000 years of continuous human habitation

Lebanon 5



Established in the early 8th century, the city of Anjar was quickly abandoned following the fall of the [Umayyad Caliphate](#), leaving behind ruins of walls, towers, palaces, mosques and baths, constituting an example of Umayyad period town-planning



Previously known as Heliopolis, the Phoenician city of Baalbek hosts some of the largest and best preserved Roman temples, including the Temples of Jupiter, Venus and [Bacchus](#)



The Qadisha Valley has provided shelter for Christian communities since the beginnings of Christianity, hosting a large number of monasteries and hermitages. The Forest of the Cedars of God is among the last locations where [Cedrus libani](#) still grows, historically one of the most prized construction materials



The ancient Phoenician city of Tyre was one of the foremost maritime powers in the eastern Mediterranean and reportedly where [purple dye](#) was discovered. Extant archaeological remains mainly date back to Roman times, including baths, an arena, a colonnaded road, a triumphal arch, an aqueduct and a hippodrome.

Libya 5



The formerly Greek colony of Cyrene was Romanized and transformed into a capital, until it was destroyed by the [365 Crete earthquake](#). The thousand-year-old ruins have remained renowned since the 18th century.!

The Roman city of Leptis Magna was enlarged by Emperor [Septimius Severus](#), who was born there. Public monuments, a harbour, a marketplace, storehouses, shops, and homes were among the reasons for its induction into the list



Founded as a Phoenician trading post, Sabratha was briefly ruled by [Masinissa](#) of [Numidia](#) before its Romanization and reconstruction in the 2nd and 3rd centuries.



The massif of Tadrart Acacus contains thousands of cave paintings in different styles, dating from 12,000 BCE to 100 CE, reflecting changes of flora and fauna in the region as well as different lifestyles of successive populations in the Sahara

Malta 3



The [hypogeum](#) is a large subterranean structure that was used as an underground cemetery between 4000 BC and 2500 BC and was discovered in 1902. Three superimposed levels of chambers were carved into soft [globigerina limestone](#), with some chambers imitating the architecture of the contemporary above-ground megalithic temples. The hypogeum initially contained the remains of about 7000 individuals. The excavations provided insight into neolithic burial rituals, which likely had several stages. Pottery vessels and stone and clay amulets were recovered from the site, as well as stone and clay human figures, including a famous statue depicting a woman lying on a bed or couch, called The Sleeping Lady.



The city of Valletta was founded in 1566. The [Knights of St John](#) conceived and planned the city as a single, holistic creation of the late [Renaissance](#), with a uniform grid plan within fortified [city walls](#). Although experiencing renovations and an extensive damage during [World War II](#), a high proportion of the urban fabric has been preserved or restored. Some of the Valletta's 320 monuments include [Saint John's Co-Cathedral](#), the [Grandmaster's Palace](#), the [Auberge de Castille](#), the [Auberge de Provence](#), the [Auberge d'Italie](#), the [Auberge d'Aragon](#), and the churches of [Our Lady of Victory](#), [St. Catherine](#) and [il Gesù](#), as well as the 18th century constructions such as the [Auberge de Bavière](#), the [Church of the Shipwreck of St Paul](#), and the [Manoel Theatre](#).



The site contains seven prehistoric temples at six sites (originally, the site only listed the two Ġgantija temples and was extended in 1992) that were constructed during the 4th and 3rd millennium BC. These temples are among oldest stone free-standing structures in the world and likely had important ritual significance for a highly organized society. Although each temple is different in architectural design, they usually contain an elliptical forecourt in front of a concave façade. The surviving horizontal masonry courses indicate that the monuments had [corbelled roofs](#), which was a remarkably sophisticated solution for its time. Decorative features of the temples include panels with drilled holes and [bas-relief](#) panels depicting spiral motifs, trees, plants and various animals.



The Bay of Kotor, a strategic natural harbour in the Eastern [Adriatic](#), was an important center of arts and commerce during the Middle Ages. The value of the region is embodied in the quality of the architecture in its fortified and open cities, settlements, palaces and monastic ensembles, and their harmonious integration to the cultivated terraced landscape on the slopes of high rocky hills. The site includes the cities of [Kotor](#), [Perast](#), and [Risan](#), as well as the [fortifications of Kotor](#). Between 1979 and 2003, the site was listed as [endangered](#) due to the damage caused by the [1979 Montenegro earthquake](#). Minor modifications of the site boundaries took place in 2012 and 2015.



Durmitor is a [limestone](#) massif that is part of [Dinaric Alps](#). It was shaped by the glaciers and is traversed by river canyons, of which the [Tara River Canyon](#) has the deepest river gorges in Europe, at about 1,300 meters (4,300 feet). There are 18 glacial lakes in the park, the largest is the [Black Lake](#). Durmitor is also an important biodiversity spot.^[4] Following the inscription to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1980, the borders of the site were modified in 2005 to be in line with the national park boundaries.



his property comprises six components of defence works in Italy, Croatia, and Montenegro, spanning more than 1,000 kilometres (620 mi) between the [Lombard region](#) of Italy and the eastern Adriatic Coast. The design of the fortifications (termed *alla moderna*) was marked by the introduction of gunpowder to warfare, which led to significant shifts in military techniques and architecture. The [fortifications of Kotor](#) is the part of the site in Montenegro.

Morocco 9



The important Roman outpost of Volubilis was founded in the 3rd century BCE as the capital of [Mauretania](#), later becoming the capital of the [Idrisid dynasty](#). It contained many buildings, the remains of which have survived extensively to this day



The former capital of the [Alaouite dynasty](#) was founded in the 11th century by the [Almoravids](#) and turned into a city with Spanish-Moorish influence during the 17th and 18th centuries.[[]



The Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou is an example of a traditional pre-Saharan habitat in southern Morocco, surrounded by high walls and reinforced with corner towers



Fez was founded in the 9th century and reached its apogee as the capital of the [Marinid dynasty](#) in the 13th and 14th centuries, from which its urban fabric and major monuments date. It also hosts the world's oldest university, the [University of Al Quaraouiyine](#).



Morocco's most complete medina at Tétouan served as the main point of contact between Morocco and Andalusia during the 8th century. The town was rebuilt by Andalusian refugees following the [Reconquista](#), the influence of which is evident in its art and architecture.

Palestine 3

Portugal 15



The town was founded in the late 15th century during the [Age of Discovery](#). For 400 years, until the advent of [steamships](#), it served as a [port of call](#) for ships heading to [equatorial Africa](#) and the [East](#) and [West Indies](#), and back to Europe. The town's defence systems include the forts of [São Sebastião](#) and [São João Baptista](#). There are several [Baroque](#) churches. The town was significantly damaged in a [1980 earthquake](#) but has since been substantially restored.



The [Dominican](#) Monastery of Batalha was built in the early 15th century to commemorate the Portuguese victory over the [Castilians](#) at the [Battle of Aljubarrota](#) in 1385. The monastery is a masterpiece of [Gothic architecture](#), with later additions in the [Manueline](#) style. For more than two centuries, it served as an important workshop for the [Portuguese monarchy](#), as a site where the characteristic features of national art were determined.



The city of Évora is the finest example of a city of the golden age of Portugal (as [Lisbon](#) was largely destroyed in the [1755 earthquake](#)). The city is home to monuments from different periods, including the [Roman Temple](#) (pictured), [Moorish](#) fortifications, and churches and palaces built after the 15th century when Évora became the residence of Portuguese monarchs. A typical feature of the city are the whitewashed houses from the 16th to the 18th century. They are decorated with painted tiles (the [azulejos](#)) and wrought-iron balconies. The monuments of Évora have inspired the Portuguese colonial architecture in [Brazil](#).



This property comprises two sites with open-air rock carvings. The Portuguese site, listed in 1998, is located in the [Côa Valley](#). The Siega Verde site in Spain was added as an extension in 2010. The carvings, representing especially animals (over 5000 figures), were made over the course of several millennia, from the [Upper Paleolithic](#) to the [Magdalenian/Epipalaeolithic](#) (22,000 to 8,000 BCE).



The University of Coimbra was founded at the end of the 13th century on the hill overlooking the town (Alta). In 1537, it moved to the Royal Palace of Alcáçova and later developed a series of colleges. It served as a template for universities in the [Lusophone](#) world. The city of Coimbra is strongly intertwined with the university. Some of the key buildings include the 12th-century [Old Cathedral](#), the [Baroque Joanine Library](#), [Chapel of São Miguel](#), and colleges along the Sofia street in the city. A minor boundary modification of the site took place in 2019.



The sanctuary is located on the slopes of Mount Espinho above Braga, and is an example of a sacred mount pilgrimage site. The main buildings were built in the [Baroque](#) style, the most emblematic being the Stairway of the Five Senses (pictured).

Slovenia 3



The cave system of Škocjan Caves and its surroundings represent some of the most significant [karst](#) topography phenomena, including one of the world's largest known underground river canyons. It is located in the [Karst Plateau](#) which is of special importance in the history of [Earth sciences](#)



Idrija had one of the two largest [mercury](#) mines in the world, with mercury being first discovered there in 1490. The site features the infrastructure and technology related to mining and mercury production and bears testimony to the intercontinental trade in mercury, which generated important exchanges

between Europe and America over the centuries. The entrance to Antonijev rov mine is pictured. The site is shared with the mining town of [Almadén](#), Spain.



The site encompasses some of the most prominent works of Slovenian architect [Jože Plečnik](#) in Ljubljana. During the [interwar period](#), Plečnik worked to transform Ljubljana from a provincial city to the capital of the Slovenian nation by creating a series of public spaces and public institutions and integrating them into the pre-existing urban fabric. Sites include the [St. Michael's Church](#) in [Črna Vas](#), and the following sites in Ljubljana: the promenade along the embankments of the [Ljubljanica](#) River and the bridges crossing it ([Triple Bridge](#) pictured), the "Green promenade": Vegova Street with the [National and University Library](#) from French Revolution Square to [Congress Square](#) and Star Park, [Trnovo Bridge](#), Roman Walls in Mirje, the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, and the All Saints Garden in [Žale](#) Cemetery.

Spain 48



The Cave of Altamira contains examples of [cave painting](#) from the [Upper Paleolithic](#) period, ranging from 35,000 to 11,000 BC. The original listing contained seventeen decorated caves. The caves are well-preserved because of their deep isolation from the external climate.



The original listing was the [Great Mosque of Córdoba](#), a 7th-century Catholic Church converted to a mosque in the 8th century; restored to a [Roman Catholic](#) cathedral in the 13th century by [Ferdinand III](#). During the high period of the Moorish rule of the region, Córdoba had over 300 mosques and architecture that compared to that of [Constantinople](#), [Damascus](#), and [Baghdad](#).



The [Gothic-style](#) cathedral was constructed between the 13th and 16th centuries. It is the burial place of Spanish [national hero](#), [El Cid](#)



The [defensive wall](#) surrounding the original town was constructed in the 11th century. It features 82 semicircular towers and 9 gates, and is one of the most complete examples of town walls in Spain.¹



The monastery is home of [Our Lady of Guadalupe](#), a [shrine to Mary](#) found in the 13th century after being buried from Muslim invaders in 714. The Virgin of Guadalupe and the monastery served as important symbols during the [Reconquista](#), culminating in 1492, the same year as [Columbus'](#) discovery of America. The Guadalupe Virgin became an important symbol during the [evangelization](#) of America.



La Lonja (or Llotja in [Valencian language](#)) *de la Seda* means Silk Exchange in English, and the group of [Gothic](#) buildings demonstrate the wealth of Valencia as an important Mediterranean and European mercantile city in the period.¹



The prominent Roman city of Tàrraco at the site of modern-day Tarragona served as the capital of the provinces of [Hispania Citerior](#) and later [Hispania Tarraconensis](#). The [amphitheatre](#) was constructed in the 2nd century. Most remains are only fragments or preserved under more modern buildings



The cultural landscape of Serra de Tramuntana on the north western coast of Majorca has been transformed by a millennia of agriculture involving water management devices such as agricultural terraces, interconnected water works -including water mills - and dry stone constructions and farms. This landscape revolves around farming units of feudal origins

Syria 6



Formerly a [Nabataean](#) settlement, Bosra was conquered by the Romans in the 2nd century CE and made capital of [Arabia](#). It came under Islamic rule in the 7th century. Remains of the ancient city include a theatre, a basilica, a cathedral, a mosque and a madrasa, among others



Established the 3rd millennium BCE, Damascus is considered to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. As the capital of the [Umayyads](#), it has been of significant influence to the Arab world. The [Great Mosque](#) is among the largest in the world and the oldest sites of continuous prayer since the beginnings of Islam.!



The site comprises some 40 villages, dating from the 1st to 7th centuries and abandoned in the 8th to 10th centuries. They provide an insight into rural life in [Late Antiquity](#) and during the [Byzantine period](#)



The Crac des Chevaliers and the Qal'at Salah El-Din are regarded as two of the most prominent examples of castles during the Crusader period, demonstrating an evolution of fortifications and exchange of influences in defensive technology



Palmyra came under Roman rule in the 1st century CE, and grew to become one of the most important cultural centres of the ancient world. Its extensive ruins include remains of the [Great Colonnade](#), the [Temple of Bel](#), the [Camp of Diocletian](#) and the [Roman Theatre](#).

Tunisia 8



Founded in the 9th century BCE, Carthage developed into a trading empire spanning the Mediterranean. The city was destroyed in 146 BCE in the [Punic Wars](#) at the hands of the Romans, but was later reestablished



The site features the ruins of Dougga, a former capital of a [Libyan–Punic](#) state, which flourished under the [Romans](#) and the [Byzantines](#), but went into decline in the Islamic period



Built during the 3rd century, the Amphitheatre of El Jem is North Africa's largest amphitheatre, and the largest one built outside of Italy, with a capacity of 35,000 spectators, regarded as among the most accomplished examples of Roman architecture of its kind.^[8]



Founded in 670, Kairouan was the former capital of [Ifriqiya](#) and flourished in the 9th century. Its heritage includes the [Mosque of Uqba](#) and the [Mosque of the Three Gates](#).^[1]



The Medina of Tunis contains some 700 monuments, including palaces, mosques, mausoleums, madrasah and fountains, testifying to Tunis' golden age from the 12th to the 16th century

Turkey 18



The site consists of Aphrodisias itself (featuring the 3rd-century BCE Temple of Aphrodite) and the ancient marble quarries nearby, which had brought wealth to the ancient Greek city.^[4]



Located close to the Turkey-Armenia border, the medieval city of Ani reached its golden age in the 10th and 11th centuries as the capital of [Bagratid Armenia](#), before going into decline from the 14th century on following a [Mongol](#) invasion and a major earthquake.



The first capital of the [Ottoman Empire](#) in the 14th century, Bursa, with its innovative urban planning, became a major source of reference for future Ottoman cities. The nearby village of Cumalıkızık, exemplar of the [vakıf](#) system, provided support for the development of the capital



The ancient Greek city of Ephesus was famed for one of the [Seven Wonders of the Ancient World](#), the [Temple of Artemis](#), which now lies in ruins. After coming under Roman control in the 2nd century BCE, the city flourished, leaving behind monumental structures such as the [Library of Celsus](#). The [House of the Virgin Mary](#) and the [Basilica of St. John](#) became major Christian pilgrimage sites from the 5th century on.



Dating back to the [Pre-Pottery Neolithic](#) age between 10th and 9th millennium BCE, the site was likely used by hunter-gatherers for ritualistic purposes.



Constructed during the 16th century, the Selimiye Mosque complex at [Edirne](#) is considered by the architect [Mimar Sinan](#) to be his masterpiece and represents the highest achievement of [Ottoman architecture](#)



The site consists of two neighboring settlements. Xanthos, the centre of the [Lycian](#) civilization, exerted significant architectural influences upon other cities of the region, with the [Nereid Monument](#) directly inspiring the [Mausoleum at Halicarnassus](#) in [Caria](#). Letoon, an important religious centre in Lycia, hosts the [Letoon trilingual](#), which provided the key in deciphering the long-extinct [Lycian language](#).