

# VILLA DELLE MERAVIGLIE



## Museo Enzo Cammarata



*Villa delle Meraviglie - Museo Enzo Cammarata*  
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Far only about 300 metres in a bee-line from “Villa del Casale” of Piazza Armerina, “Villa delle Meraviglie” overlooks the valley where there are the finest late-Imperial Roman mosaics in the world, which were proclaimed “heritage of mankind” by UNESCO

The 18<sup>th</sup> century building - surrounded by variegated trees generous with flowers and scents all over the year- dominates the course of the river Gela. Its sinuous lines interweaving in the magnificence of a temple-like structure, witness a style that is peculiar to Sicily, the guardian - in the course of millennia- of a civilization unique in the world for the perfection of any form of art.

The outdoor area, on different levels, offers the extraordinary sight of a landscape which, in its rare beauty, places the archaeological site on the foreground.

Inside the Villa, they exhibit the collections of “Enzo Cammarata Museum”, opened in October 2008. The design of the house is typical of 18<sup>th</sup> century aristocratic dwellings which, between 1700 and 1800, fascinated great travellers coming from all over Europe to visit the charming sites sung by ancient Graeco-Roman authors.

Here, besides pieces of furniture dating back from the Renaissance up to Neoclassical Period of the second half of 19<sup>th</sup> century, visitors can admire remains of Roman sculptures and works created in both 1700 and 1800, sculptures reminding ancient Greek works, pottery and slate marquetry of the Bourbon Age, paintings representing ancient Greek myths, micromosaics, collections of marbles and semi-precious stones, objects with refined wooden marquetry, works of Eastern art, and different types of collections ranging from sculptures to furniture, from books to paintings, from seals to ancient prints, all of which can be connected to the different cultures in touch with Sicily as time went by.

A specific sector is devoted to pottery dating back to the early Middle Ages, the late Middle Ages, the Renaissance and 1800.

The Museum Villa stands out against a background of gardens and self-sown vegetation which perfectly blends with the surroundings and can offer visitors the best conditions to appreciate the charm of eighteenth-century architecture in central Sicily

The surrounding area is wholly enjoyable and made more pleasant by fountains waterworks. The thick shadow of trees allows to take either a break or a walk nearby.

Located a Kilometre beyond the fork leading to the Roman Villa del Casale, Villa delle Meraviglie offers a large parking area for the easy accomodation of both cars and coaches. The structure is equipped with comfortable reception facilities for the groups of visitors who choose to spend a pleasant day in Piazza Armerina

Terraces, half-open areas and a large hall for banquets, congresses and parties are suited to welcome visitors willing to allow themselves the pleasure of a break among the so many suggestions of a cultural visit to the incomparable Sicilian Land.

