

Catacomb of Villagrazia di Carini (PA)



With an area covering more than 2,500 square metres, the Villagrazia di Carini catacomb, recovered thanks to a modern technique in musealisation, promises an interesting journey to the underground Carini and the fifth century AC, prevalent in a Sicily grappling with Roman culture and Christian religion.

The cemetery served as the ancient centre of Hyccara (Roman Carini), mentioned in the *Ininerarium Antonini* as a *statio* on Via Valeria, dating to the fourth century AC. The fertile land and abundance of water, determines its favourable location, already popular from late antiquity and through to the early Middle Ages; in the sixth century, in fact, it became the seat of a rural diocese mentioned in the epistles of Pope Gregory the Great.

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