



UNIONE EUROPEA



REPUBBLICA ITALIANA



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA DE SARDIGNA  
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

# Port and coastal towers of Arbatax

Patrimonio culturale  
**SARDEGNA** Virtual Archaeology



## ■ Church of Sant'Andrea

The 18th century church dedicated to Sant'Andrea stands in the historical centre of Tortolì and is the parish church. From 1824 to 1927 it was the cathedral of the Diocese of Ogliastra (fig. 1).



**Fig. 1** - Detail of the main facade of the church of S. Andrea (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

As can be seen in documents from the 14th century, the place where the monument stands already had a place of worship on it dedicated to Sant'Andrea, which stood to the left of the current one.

Building on the new church began in the last decades of the XVIII century and ended around 1790.

The building, in a classical style, has a Latin cross plant, with a central body and three naves with arches on square pillars and an octagonal dome at the transept crossing (figs. 2-3).



**Fig. 2** - The church of S. Andrea seen from the outside (photo M.G. Arru).

On the main facade, with lesenes and cornices, there are three archivaults and three large rectangular windows. The facade has an upper cornice with a dual-curved apex, while the belltower is built to the left of the building.

The presbytery, which is slightly raised compared to the floor of the main hall (fig. 3) holds the large altar in polychrome marblend the central niche were the wooden statue of Sant'Andrea is kept, which dates back to the 18th century. The wooden Choir, in walnut, stands behind the altar.



**Fig. 3** - The interior of the church of S. Andrea (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

One of the oldest rooms in the church is the chapel of the Baptistry (16th century), made at the base of the bell-tower. It is entered through a pointed arch, and has a cross vault, with tufa rock ribs. It houses the baptism font, comprising a marble tub from the 18th century, with a wooden inlaid canopy above it (fig. 4).



**Fig. 4** - Church of S. Andrea, the chapel with baptistery (photo Unicity S.p.A.).

The crypt, under the presbytery, contains the graves of some of the bishops of Ogliastro. Since 2010, the remains of Mons. Emanuele Virgilio have been kept in a sarcophagus in the church's right-hand nave.

## ■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Maria Grazia Arru

## ■ Bibliography

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## La Sardegna cresce con l'Europa



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Progetto cofinanziato dall'Unione Europea  
Programma Operativo FESR 2007-2013

FESR - Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale - Asse I, Linea di Attività 1.2.3.a