



The first traces of human settlement date back to the fourth and third millennium B.C. (Periods of the Neolithic and dell'Eneolithic) as shown by archaeological finds from the nearby Cave of Vecchiuzzo. In more recent time there must have been an indigenous settlement, strongly influenced by the near Greek colony of Himera, where archaeologists found a bronze coin, the Petrinon that derives its name from the city of Petra.

In the third century BC, with the Roman conquest, Petra became a "*civita decumana*", which followed the fate of the rest of the whole island, suffering the barbarian invasions and then the Byzantine reconquest.

With the Arab conquest in the ninth century, Petra was renamed "Batarlah" or "Bataliah" and became an important military stronghold and strategic market. The Normans conquered Petralia around 1062, and founded a castle. The town became, during the Swabian domain, territory of Ventimiglia from Geraci. It then came the time of Moncada, the Cardona and Alvarez de Toledo, until the abolition of feudalism in 1817.

Worth visiting: Mother Church, Municipal Museum, Former Convent of the Reformed



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