



Trinacria

Trinacria is a female head with three bent legs connected directly to the head.

It is the symbol of Sicily and is represented in its official coat of arms.

Its history is shrouded in mystery. It is thought that the head is that of the Gorgons: Medusa, Steno and Euriale, with a monstrous appearance, boar fangs, golden wings and snakes instead of hair, able to petrify men with a single glance. As for the spikes on the Medusa's head, these represent abundance and fertility.

According to another version on the origin of the name Trinacria and its symbol, it is said that the three promontories at the three vertices of the island would have arisen thanks to three nymphs. These three splendid creatures danced around the world taking handfuls of earth, small stones and fruit from the most fertile areas.

At a certain point, they stopped and the dance became more elegant, so that the three nymphs could throw everything they had collected for the world into the sea. The sea lit up like a rainbow and a whole new land emerged from the waves, rich, fragrant, shining with a triangular shape

As already said, it has three folded legs, arranged in a circular way, which could stand for a possible rotation that could go back to the oriental religious symbology or to that of the moon. Trinacria is also present in the coats of arms of various noble dynasties and has been at the centre of the flag of Sicily since 2000.

Its name derives from the Odyssey, precisely from the Greek *treis* and *akrà* (three promontories) and refers to the triangular shape of the island.



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