

## **Palladio**

Manfred Wundram



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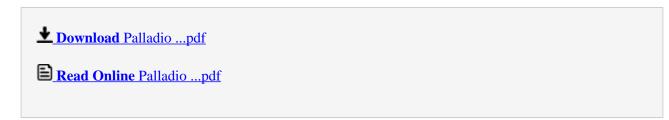
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Palladio Manfred Wundram
The classical starchitect
Understanding the influence of Andrea Palladio

**Andrea Palladio** (1508–1580) is largely considered the father of Western architecture. Strongly influenced by formal temple designs in Ancient Greece and Rome, he pioneered a revival of Classical symmetry and perspective, and with it created a **universal architectural language**.

From his humble beginning as a stonemason's apprentice, Palladio rose to become **Chief Architect of the Republic of Venice**, at the time the epicenter of European innovation. There, he designed the church of the **Redentore** and **San Giorgio Maggiore** on the landmark promontory between the Giudecca canal and the greater Venetian lagoon. In nearby Vicenza, Palladio built the world-famous **Basilica**, the **Villa Rotonda**, the **Teatro Olimpico**, and in the surrounding Veneto countryside numerous **rural villas** noted for their inclusion of local, vernacular architecture within a Classical scheme and the use of porticos to provide liminal spaces between the interior and exterior. Both the Palladian villas and the City of Vicenza are today both designated **UNESCO World Heritage sites**.

Overtime, Palladio's architecture evolved into the Palladian style, a universal language of cool, calm elegance that informed buildings from **Capitol Hill** in Washington, D.C.; to Thomas Jefferson's home in **Monticello**, Virginia; to **St Paul's Cathedral**, London. This foundational book from TASCHEN Basic Art 2.0 collates Palladio's most significant structures into one dependable introduction, documenting his development into **one of the most influential architects of all time**.



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