Taormina's Roman thermal baths

The monument is visible behind Vittorio Emanuele's Square, going through the alley on the left of the Congress' Palace but it extends as far as Vico Zecca where we can find the ruins of the walls. The construction of the thermal building, in ancient times was situated on the northern side of the Roman Forum. The building took place during the earlier centuries of the Roman imperial age (end I-II sec. AD). The ruins of a former public building, perhaps a Bouleuterion of Hellenic age, were found below the thermal baths' level through excavations made on the western side of the area. In this site four pedestals of honorary statues dedicated to prestigious citizens were discovered. they date back to the Hellenic age. Two of these pedestals are visible from the Antiquarium of the Greek Theatre. What remains of the Thermal Baths are three big parts, these had the function of caldaria or tepidaria with floors made of marble warmed by praefurnia. The ruins of the columns made of rounded or squared bricks are still visible. Their main aim was to allow warm air circulate beneath the floor. The walls were plaster-coated. Some fragments of the Roman Calendar and a fragment of Fasti Consulares with a list of consoles are kept in the Antiquarium of the Theatre.