

# MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE EVOLUTION

A Chronological Reference Guide (500 - 1500 AD)

**500 - 1000 AD**

## **Pre-Romanesque**

**Key Characteristics:**

- Merging of Classical and Germanic styles
- Small, thick-walled stone structures
- Simple basilican layouts

*Notable Examples:*

*Palatine Chapel (Aachen), San Juan de Bañoz (Spain)*

**1000 - 1150 AD**

## **Romanesque**

**Key Characteristics:**

- Rounded arches and barrel vaults
- Massive piers and small windows
- Cruciform ground plans

*Notable Examples:*

*Durham Cathedral (UK), Cluny Abbey (France)*

**1150 - 1250 AD**

## **Early & High Gothic**

**Key Characteristics:**

- Pointed arches and ribbed vaults
- Flying buttresses (Increased height)
- Rose windows and stained glass

*Notable Examples:*

*Notre-Dame de Paris, Chartres Cathedral*

**1250 - 1500 AD**

## **Late Gothic (Rayonnant & Flamboyant)**

### **Key Characteristics:**

- Ornate tracery and flame-like motifs
- Fan vaulting and slender columns
- Maximum light and verticality

### *Notable Examples:*

*Sainte-Chapelle (Paris), King's College Chapel (Cambridge)*