



Valencia

Cultural Guide



[Ve más allá](#)

Valencia

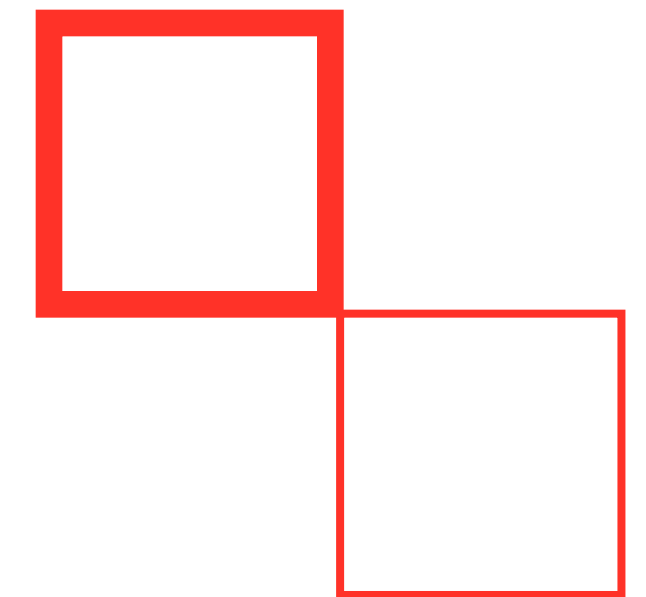
Where the Mediterranean
meets the city

Valencia is a city on the eastern coast of Spain that offers a **rich variety of leisure and culture options** for all tastes. Discover the **City of Arts and Sciences**, a prime example of futuristic architecture, go for a stroll through its bustling **old town**, explore the **Bioparc** or just relax on one of its many beaches, such as **La Malvarrosa**.

Valencia is also well-known for its food and popular festivals such as **Fallas**, where large-scale monuments depicting public figures are burnt in the streets.

The city also offers a number of **natural spaces** where you can relax and enjoy the great outdoors. In addition, its **warm year-round climate** is definitely a plus.

You're guaranteed to find something fun to do, whatever your taste.



Valencia

Areas and neighbourhoods

Valencia is divided into areas and neighbourhoods, each of which has its own personality. All of them offer **a variety of unique experiences that you can't miss**. Here are the ones most worth visiting.



Old town

It is one of the richest and largest in Europe and a **UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site**. It is a must-see and it will take you a whole day to visit it because of the sheer number of places and sites to discover: the Cathedral, **the Holy Grail** and **the Central Market** are just some of the main attractions.

El Carmen

It is one of the **busiest and liveliest neighbourhoods in Valencia** and home to sites including the **Serranos and Quart Towers**, ancient medieval gates that formed part of the city walls. It is full of **restaurants and shops**, while **at night it turns into one of the city's busiest areas**.





Marina, beaches and el Cabanyal

This is the best part of the city for sampling the fine **Valencian** gastronomy, with a seafront promenade surrounded by **shops that exudes a tranquil Mediterranean lifestyle**. Its large, open spaces are perfect for going for a walk and here you can partake in all kinds of **nautical activities**. And who could forget **El Cabanyal and Malvarrosa beaches**!

Regional festivals

Regional festivals are celebrations rooted in the culture of the city, reflecting the **customs, histories and significant events of the community**. Regional festivals provide an opportunity to come together and share their heritage.

Here are some of Valencia's most noteworthy festivities so that you too can partake in its traditions and customs.



Las Fallas

Fallas is Valencia's main festival, held each year at the beginning of March. As part of the festivities, **giant sculptures, called ninots**, satirising political and social figures, are built and scattered throughout the city.

The festival kicks off with the **Mascletà**, a spectacle of gunpowder and noise. **La Plantà** marks the date when all the sculptures have to be completed and the **winning figure is chosen**.

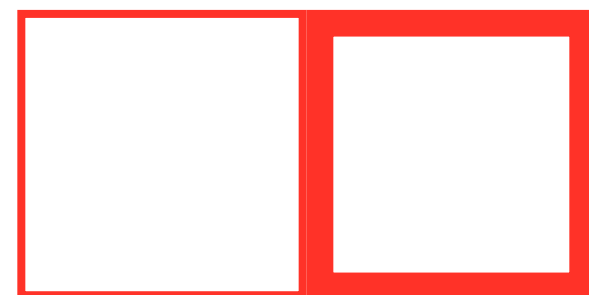
A **fireworks** display will dazzle you on **Nit del Foc**, while the **Cremà** is when all the fallas sculptures – except for the winner – are burnt.

La Tomatina

La Tomatina is another of the most popular festivals in Valencia, with people from all over the world heading to the town of **Buñol in August**.

It is known for being the largest tomato battle in the world. Thousands of people participate by throwing **tomatoes at each other in the streets of the town**.

The battle lasts for an hour and during this time **the tomatoes** can be **thrown**, creating a river of tomatoes and leaving the streets dyed red.



Places of interest

Valencia offers a **wealth of architectural and cultural riches** for visitors to enjoy, from the **Lonja de la Seda silk exchange**, declared a World Heritage Site, to the **Central Market** building, featuring attractive architecture with tiles and stained-glass windows. Keep reading to find out everything you need to visit.



La lonja de la seda

Declared **World Heritage Site**, it is one of the most beautiful **civil Gothic** buildings in Europe and one of the **city's top attractions**. Located in the heart of the city, you can find the Trading Hall, the Central Tower, and the Consulate of the Sea.

Church of San Nicolás de Bari and San Pedro Mártir

Also known as the **Valencian Sistine Chapel**, this Gothic-style building with marvellous decoration was declared a **National Historic and Artistic Monument**. Whether you are a lover of architecture or not, this simply has to feature in your plans. Get ready to travel back in time!





Cathedral, Miguelete and The Holy Grail

The Cathedral houses **one of the most important pictorial works of the Spanish Renaissance**, and the Holy Grail is also held within its premises. Its style features elements of Romanesque and Baroque, and don't forget to **climb to the top of the bell tower, El Miguelete**, to be rewarded with impressive views of the city.

Central Market

If you are a food lover, you must visit the market to try all the **typical tapas and dishes that the city has to offer**. Aside from the food, this building is an outstanding example of modernist architecture and **its vibrant walls are quintessentially Mediterranean**.



Museums in Valencia

Valencia has a rich collection of museums displaying everything from classical to contemporary and modern art. Each one of them offers a different and unique theme, and there's no doubt that their **varied exhibitions** will offer something for everyone.



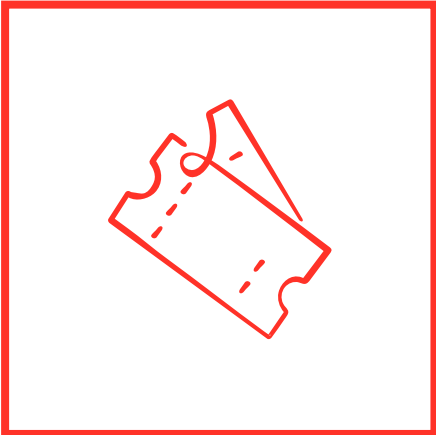
Museum of Fine Arts



Admire art dating from the **15th to the 19th century**, works dedicated to **Sorolla** and unpublished paintings by **Velázquez**, among others.

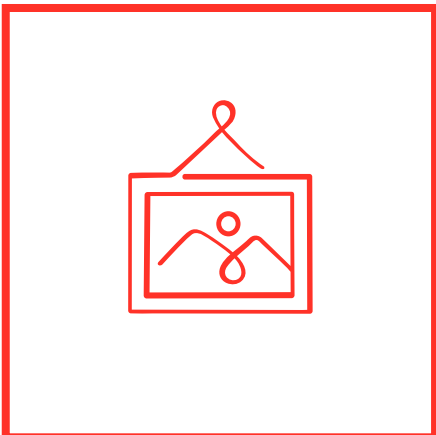


Tuesday to Sunday:
From 10:00 am to 8:00 pm



Tickets:
Free entry

Science Museum

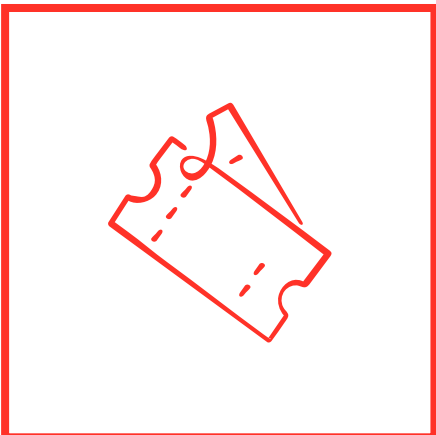


The museum is made up of three parts, each with a different theme:
Science Museum
Hemisfèric
Oceanogràfic.



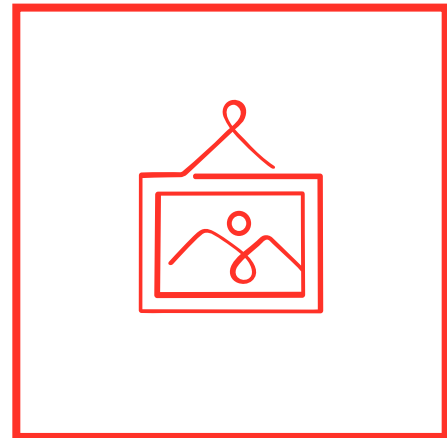
Opening times vary depending on the day and the part you wish to visit.

Visit this link for more information
Links



Tickets

González Martí National Museum of Ceramics and Decorative Arts

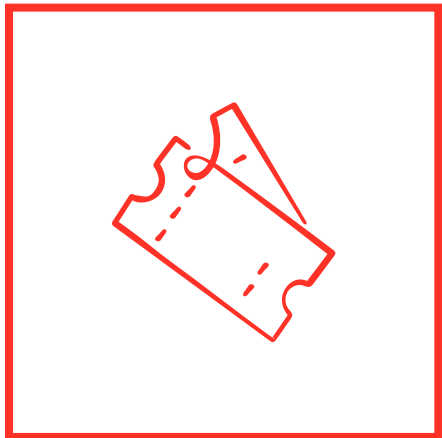


The largest collection in Spain of ceramics, with pieces **from the 8th century to the modern day**, and even some by Picasso.



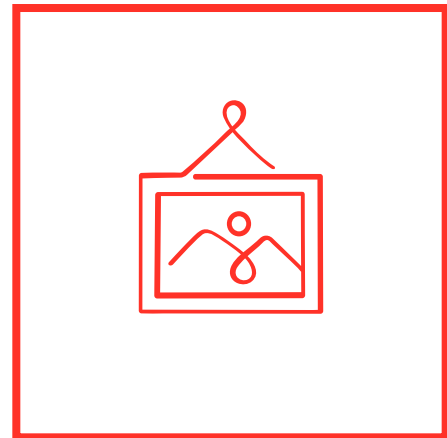
Martes a sábado:
12:00 a 16:00 h y
16:00 a 20:00 h

Domingos y festivos:
10:00 a 14:00 h



[Tickets](#)

Hortensia Herrero Art Center

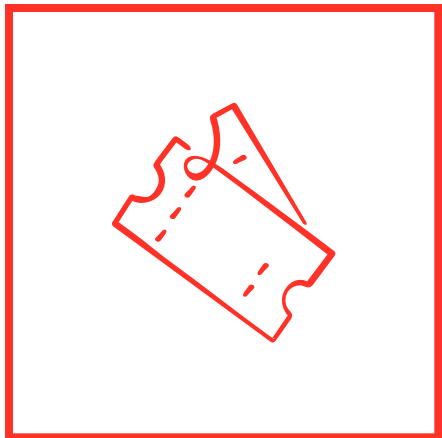


The finest collection of contemporary art, including work by **Anselm Kiefer and Anish Kapoor**.



Tuesday to Saturday:
From 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Sundays:
From 10:00 am to 2:00 pm



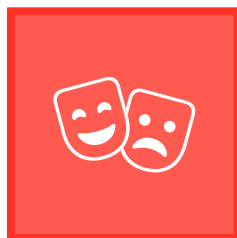
[Tickets](#)



Theatres in Valencia

Valencia is home to a number of theatres of all kinds, with there being something for all tastes. From **Teatro Principal**, the city's leading venue for **dance and opera**, to the multifunctional **Teatro la Rambleta**, which has performances of **all styles**. With such a vast array of options, you're bound to find a show that suits your taste.

Theatres in Valencia



Teatro la Rambleta

This theatre combines several spaces and puts on all kinds of events, such as **humour, music, exhibitions, gastronomy, talks, technology and cinema.**



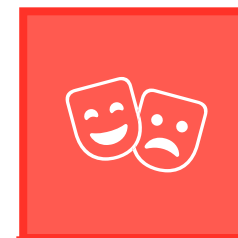
Teatro Principal

If you are a lover of **dance and opera**, this is the theatre for you.



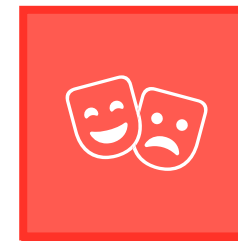
Teatro Olympia

Theatre with a wide variety of artistic disciplines, including **monologues, musicals and contemporary plays.**



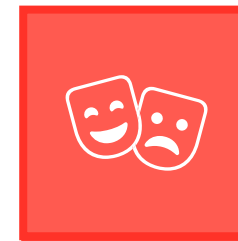
Teatro Talía

A venue focused more on **drama and dance.**



Teatro Flumen

If you like a more alternative atmosphere, this is the theatre for you, with everything from musicals to **magic and comedy.**



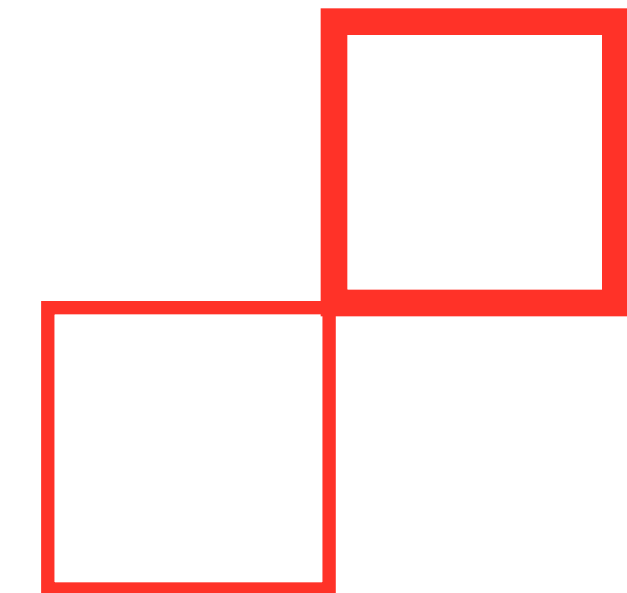
Sala Carme Teatro

International and national shows, with preference given to works from the Valencian Community.



Teatro Círculo

Expect **all types of art** here, from dance to painting and sculpture exhibitions.



Outdoor spaces

Valencia is also home to plenty of open-air spaces where you can escape from the city and **enjoy a long walk**.

Keep reading to find out about some of the most notable spots to visit.



Turia Garden

The Turia Garden is **one of the largest and most visited parks in Spain**, and perhaps Valencia's greatest symbol. Stretching over 9 km, it winds through the city and offers visitors endless delights.

From a cultural perspective, it has **18 bridges packed with centuries of history**, and in terms of nature, you can lose yourself in its long gardens, practice **sport and breathe fresh air**.



Parque Central

Located in the **Ruzafa area**, this is another park you can't miss if you want to get away from the bustling city. **Designed by landscape designer Kathryn Gustafson**, the goal was to give prominence to **light, water and greenery** as the main attractions. There are long separate walkways in different areas creating different atmospheres and **canals** running through the park.



Parque de Cabecera

Parque de Cabecera is another must-visit thanks to its over **100,000 square metres** of natural space.

In its grounds you will find an **open-air auditorium, a jetty** where you can rent a boat, as well as plenty of room to go for a walk and **a number of restaurants**. We know that it'll be one of your favourite places



Royal gardens

Another space you simply must visit is the Royal Gardens. Built during **Arab rule**, its **monuments and sculptures** make it one of the most visited places in the city. Some of the most important statues include ones of **Venus, Diana, Apollo and Cronus**, carved in white marble by Baroque sculptor Giacomo Ponsonelli.



Monforte gardens

Monforte Gardens, with its **open-air bonsai tree exhibition**, is another place that's sure to make your list of favourites. It's also home to a **Rococo palace**, with its main floor in the shape of a Greek cross and its interior decorated with allegorical figures. It's the perfect combination of **art and culture with well-tended green spaces**.



El Saler beach

This 5 km-long beach is **just a ten-minute drive** from the city of Valencia. It's the perfect choice for those who prefer more natural surroundings, and it is a less-crowded option than the beaches in the city itself. Flanked by dunes, it is a favourite spot of **kitesurfing and windsurfing** enthusiasts.

Valencia's surroundings

Here are some of the best places that you can visit **less than two hours away** and where you can find fine **architectural, gastronomic and natural gems**.

Find out more about the region's culture and enjoy yourself on one of our proposed tourist routes.



San José caves

This is one of the most visited destinations in Valencia. It has an **underground river where you can take a boat** trip and see beautiful galleries, which are well worth a stop.



V-21 and AP7
42 min drive



C6 train
59 min journey



Bus 320
1 hour journey



Sagunto Castle

Located to the north of Valencia, it is of great historical value due to its **Roman theatre and the remains of the temple of Diana**, which are not to be missed.



V-21
32 min drive



C6 commuter train
58 min journey



Bocairent

This beautiful **medieval village** has been declared a **Historic and Artistic Site**.



A-7
50 min drive



C1 commuter train
1 hour 50 min journey



Chelva

It is one of the **most charming** destinations in the area. The different cultures that have passed through it have left us with the **Arab quarter of Benacacira**, **Azoque Jewish quarter** and the **Mudejar quarter of Arrabal**.



C-V-35
53 min drive



Bus L1B
1 hour 25 min journey



Buñol

Known worldwide for its **Tomatina festival**, this beautiful medieval village is located in a natural enclave, and its principal sites include **the main square**, **castle** and **San Luis Beltrán hermitage**.



A3
37 min drive



C3 commuter train
1 hour journey

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