



SILK ROAD

VALENCIAN COMMUNITY





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Since 2015, Valencia has been part of the UNESCO and World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) programs to popularize the Silk Road, a term coined by a German geographer in 1877 to identify a series of trade routes for goods such as silk, ceramics and spices from China to Europe. The Valencian quarter of Velluters (which means velvet weavers) was home to some 5,000 silk looms at the end of the 18th century.

Today, it still retains that same feel with large mansions, such as the Palace of Tamarit, and labyrinthine streets that provide an insight into the importance of this industry to Valencia between the 15th and 18th centuries. It is in this neighborhood where the Colegio del Arte Mayor de la Seda is located, established in 1686 and which today houses the Silk Museum.

Silk Museum, the place where the Valencian Silk Road begins

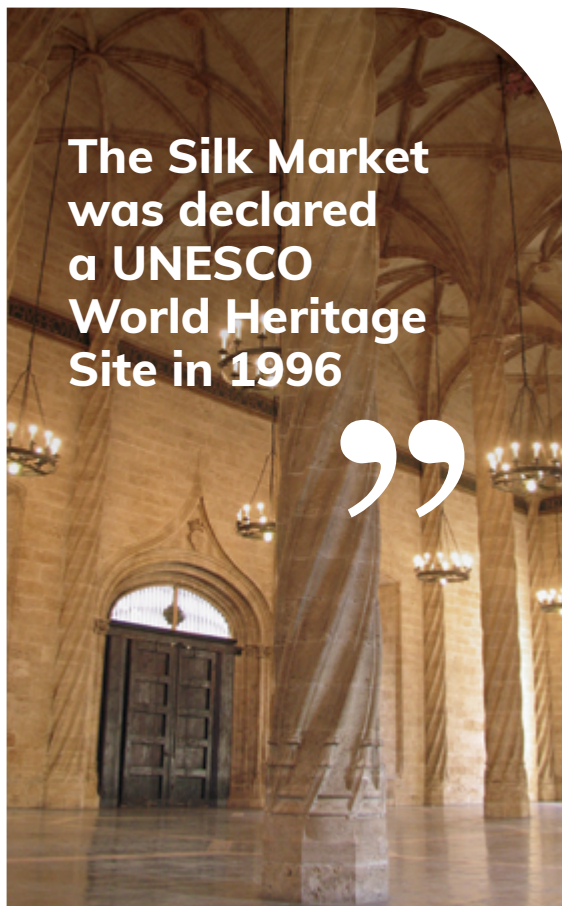
This Baroque building houses the largest guild archive in Europe, a fine collection of silk fabrics and looms from the 18th century that can be seen in operation. It is the place to start the Silk Road of Valencia, a tour with several stops that reveal the valuable historical, architectural and artistic legacy that the silk trade left in the city.



The silk trade in the Lonja in Valencia

Reproduction of a painting owned by the Orduña family.

Artist: Benardo Ferrandiz i Badenes. Year 1875 | Image courtesy of the Colegio del Arte Mayor de la Seda.



The Silk Market
was declared
a UNESCO
World Heritage
Site in 1996

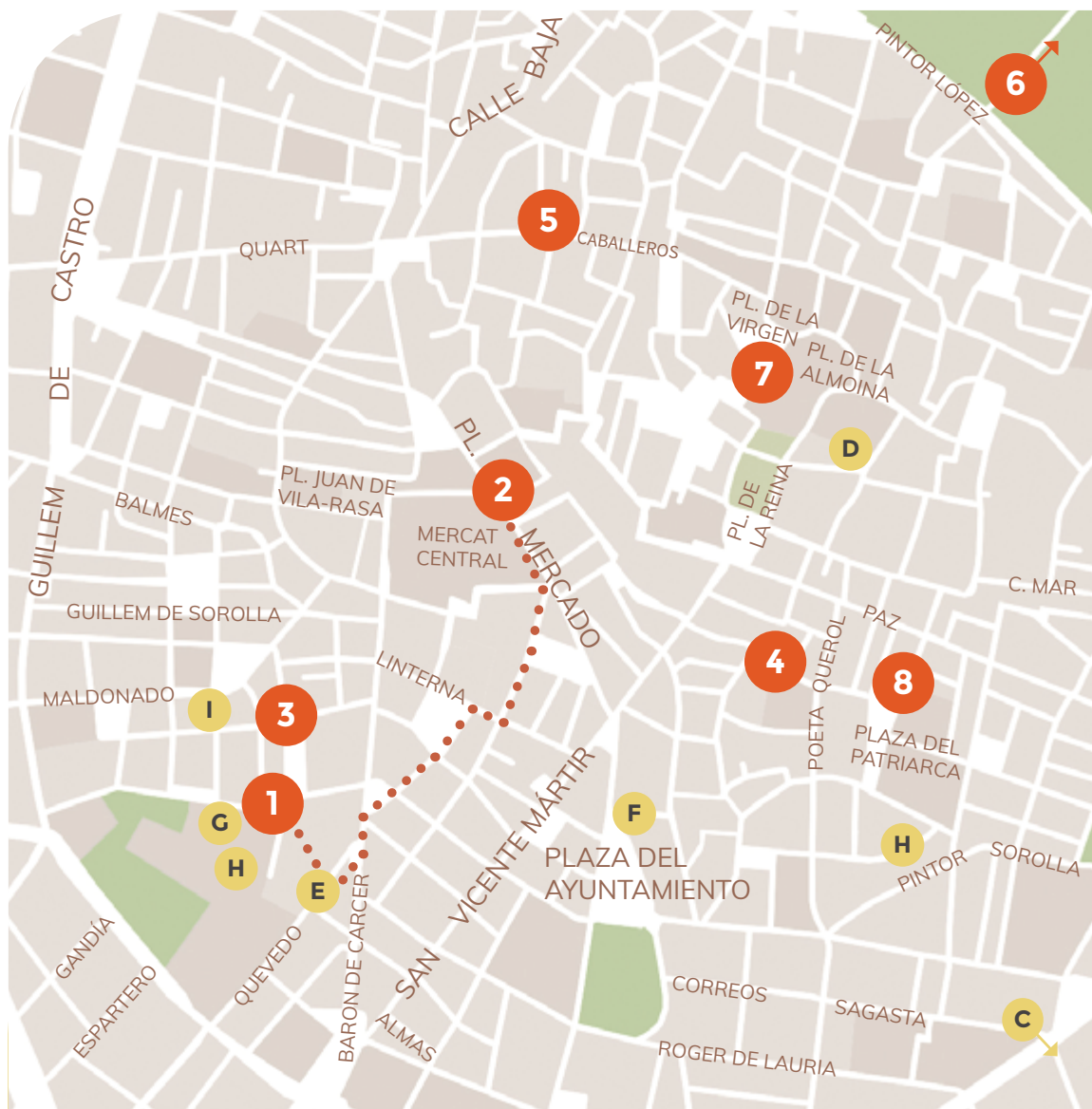
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It was the expansion of Islam in the Mediterranean that introduced silk to the Iberian Peninsula in the 8th century. Trade in this material soon became the city's main economic engine, generating an intense trading activity that led to the construction of the most important Gothic civil building in the city in 1483, the Silk Market, today the nerve center of the Valencian silk route. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996 and consists of four parts that are open to the public: the Hall of Columns, where the negotiations were held, the Consulate of the Sea, the Main Hall and the Patio of Orange Trees.

The National Museum of Ceramics is the next stop to find precious goods, as well as the most important collection of ceramics in Spain and the finest example of Baroque architecture in our country.

The tour continues in another of the city's unique palaces, Malferit, which houses the L'Iber Museum of Lead Soldiers. There, a complete room intended for the Silk Road awaits visitors, nestled between courtyards and Gothic-style rooms.

Other vestiges of the route can be found in the paintings on exhibit in the Museum of Fine Arts and El Patriarca, with characters wearing luxurious silk fabrics, and in the religious clothing displayed in the Museum of the Cathedral. Traditional Valencian clothing, which has survived thanks to the city's quintessential festival, the Fallas, is also a living heritage of Valencia's silk industry and can be seen in numerous shops in Valencia.



What to see

Guided Tour of the Silk Road ...

- 1. Silk Museum**
HOSPITAL, 7
- 2. Silk Market (UNESCO World Heritage Site)**
LA LONJA, 2
- 3. Tamarit Palace**
ROGER DE FLOR, 13
- 4. National Museum of Ceramics - González Martí**
MARQUÉS DE DOS AGUAS
RINCONADA GARCÍA SANCHÍS, S/N
- 5. L'Iber Museum, Palacio de Malferit**
CABALLEROS, 22
- 6. Museum of Fine Arts**
SAN PÍO V, 9
- 7. Cathedral Museum**
PL. DE LA REINA, S/N
- 8. The Patriarch National Monument**
NAVE, 1
- 9. Specialty spaces on the Silk Road**
 - A. Fábrica Garín (Moncada)
 - B. Fábrica Vives y Marí (Chirivella)
 - C. Amparo Fabra
 - D. Victoria Licerias
 - E. Albaes
 - F. Álvaro Moliner
 - G. Espai Seda, Silk Museum
 - H. Crafts Center of the Valencian Community
 - I. Santamaria Orfebres
 - J. Hijas de Carmen Esteve (Algemesí)
 - K. Compañía de la Seda (Beniparrell)

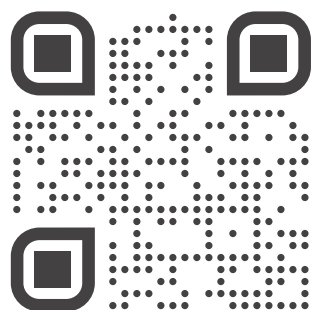


More info
on all the stops



Guided tour of Valencia, City of Silk:

Explore the mysterious sights of the Silk Road that runs through Valencia with a guided tour where you will discover the symbolism of the Lonja de la Seda (Silk Market, a UNESCO World Heritage Site), where merchants traded the precious material. Surprise yourself with the history and wealth of this industry in the Silk Museum, and bear witness to modern production in a clothing store.



You can get
→ **more information**
about this and other
guided tours of the
Silk Road here.

Language of the tour:
bilingual (Spanish-English).

Leaves from:
Tourism Office,
Plaza del Ayuntamiento, 1.

When:
Saturday at 11 a.m.

Duration:
2 hours.

Itinerary:
Silk Museum, Silk Market,
local clothing store.

Price:
€20 / Children ages 5-12, €13.

You can book this tour at any
tourism office or at:
www.visitvalencia.com



TOURIST INFO AYUNTAMIENTO

Plaza del Ayuntamiento, 1
+34 963 524 908

TOURIST INFO PAZ

Calle de la Paz, 48
+34 963 986 422

TOURIST INFO AIRPORT

Arrivals Floor
+34 961 530 229

TOURIST INFO BEACH

Paseo Neptuno, 3
(Next to Las Arenas Hotel)
+34 628 789 837

TOURIST INFO JOAQUÍN SOROLLA

San Vicente, 171
(AVE Station)
+34 963 803 623