

“The Silk Route begins at the Silk Museum”

The expansion of Islam in the Mediterranean was responsible for the introduction of silk into the Iberian Peninsula in the 13th century. Soon business involving this material became the main economic activity in the city, resulting in high levels of trade, which led to the **Lonja de la Seda** (Silk Exchange) being built in 1483. This is the most important civil Gothic building in the city and is the centrepiece of the tour today. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996 and has four parts that are open to visitors: the Salón Columnario (the Columned Hall), where deals were discussed, the Consulado del Mar (the Consulate of the Sea), the Main Hall and the Patio de los Naranjos (the Orange Tree Courtyard).

The **National Ceramics Museum** is the next stop. Here you can enjoy precious goods and the most important ceramics collection in Spain, and take in the best example of Baroque architecture in the country.

Then comes the **L'iber Lead Soldier Museum**, housed in Palacio de Malferit, another unique palace in the city. An entire room dedicated to the Silk Route awaits visitors there, nestled among the courtyards and Gothic-style rooms.

You can see other traces of the route in the paintings on show at the **Museum of Fine Arts** and the **Patriarca**, which feature people dressed in luxurious silk fabrics, and in the religious attire on display at the **Cathedral Museum. Traditional Valencian attire**, which has lived on through Las Fallas, the city's quintessential festival, is also a living artefact of Valencia's silk industry and can be seen in many shops in Valencia.

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
AEROPUERTO**
Arrivals floor
34 961 530 229

**TOURIST INFO
JOAQUÍN SOROLLA**
San Vicente, 171
(Estación del AVE)
34 963 803 623

**TOURIST INFO
MARINA DE VALÈNCIA**
Puerto de Valencia. Muelle
de la Aduana, s/n
(Between the Clock Tower
building and Tinglado 2)
34 961 207 745

TOURIST INFO PUERTO
Terminal ACCIONA,
Muelle de Poniente s/n
(Only during
cruise stopovers)
34 963 674 606



THE SILK ROUTE in the city of València

Since 2015, Valencia has been part of **UNESCO** and World Tourism Organisation programmes to promote the Silk Route, a term coined in 1877 by a German geographer to describe a series of trade routes from China to Europe for goods such as silk, ceramics and spices.

At the end of the 18th century, there were **nearly 5,000 looms for weaving silk** in the Valencian district of Velluters (which means 'velvet-weavers'). Nowadays, its former atmosphere is still alive through its large mansions, such as the Palacio de Tamarit, and its labyrinthine streets, meaning that you can see how important this industry was in Valencia between the 15th and 18th centuries. The **Higher Art College of Silk**, which was founded in 1686 and now houses the Silk Museum, is located in this district. This baroque-style building is home to the largest guild archive in Europe, a good collection of silk fabrics and 18th-century looms that you can see in action. This is the starting point for the **Valencia Silk Route**, a tour with various stops that reveals the invaluable historic, architectural and artistic heritage that the city now enjoys as a result of the silk trade.

“The Silk Exchange
was declared
Heritage of Humanity
by UNESCO in 1996”



VALENCIA, THE SILK CITY, GUIDED TOUR:

Discover the mysterious itinerary of the Silk Route which goes through Valencia, immersing you in the symbolism of the Silk Exchange (UNESCO world heritage site), where the merchants negotiated over the valuable material. You can discover the history and richness of this industry in the Silk Museum, and witness its current production in a clothes shop.

Tour Language: bilingual (Spanish-English).

Point of departure: The Tourist Office in Plaza del Ayuntamiento, 1
Times: Saturdays at 11:00.

Duration: 2 hours.

Itinerary: Silk Museum, Silk Exchange,
traditional Valencian clothing shop.

Price: €20 / Children 7-16 years, €10 /
Free for under 7s.

You can book this tour at any tourist office or at www.visitvalencia.com. You will find more information about this tour and other guided tours for the Silk Route here.



What to see:

1. Silk Museum

HOSPITAL, 7.

Monday and Sunday from 10:00 to 15:00

Tuesday to Friday from 10:00 to 19:00

Entry: €6 - €4.50 (students, pensioners, large families, people with disabilities, unemployed people), free for under 5. Includes audio guide.

2. Silk Exchange (UNESCO world heritage site)

LA LONJA, 2

Monday to Saturday from 10:00 to 19:00

Sundays and public holidays from 10:00 to 14:00

Entry: €2 - €1.

Sundays and public holidays: free entry.

3. Palacio Tamarit

ROGER DE FLOR, 13

4. The González Martí National Museum of Ceramics and Sumptuary Arts

PALACIO DEL MARQUÉS DE DOS AGUAS

RINCONADA GARCÍA SANCHÍS, S/N.

Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 to 14:00 and from 16:00 to 20:00

Sundays and public holidays from 10:00 to 14:00

Entry: €3 - €1.50.

Saturday afternoons and Sundays free admission.

5. Museo L'íber, Palacio de Malferit

CABALLEROS, 22

Saturdays from 11:00 to 14:00 and from 16:00 to 19:00

Sundays from 11:00 to 14:00

Closed Monday to Friday. Groups, by arrangement.

Entry: €5 - €3.

6. Museo de Bellas Artes

SAN PÓ V, 9

Tuesday to Sunday from 10:00 to 20:00.

Entry: Free of charge

7. Cathedral Museum

PLAZA DE LA REINA, S/N.

Monday to Saturday from 10:00 to 18:30

Sundays and public holidays from 14:00 to 18:30

Guided tours: Weekdays from 10:00 to 18:30 / Sundays from 14:00 to 18:30.

Entry: (including guide): €3 not including a visit to the Cathedral Museum + Cathedral visit: €7 and €5.50 (reduced).

8. The Patriarca National Monument

NAVE, 1

Entrance only with guided visits. Booking at www.patriarcavalencia.es

Duration: Approximately 50 minutes

Entry: €7- €6.

9. Specialist locations on the Silk Route

A. Garín Factory (Moncada)

B. Vives and Mari Factory (Chirivella)

C. Amparo Fabra dressmaker shop

D. Victoria Licerias dressmaker shop

E. Albaes made-to-measure clothing shop

F. Álvaro Moliner fabric shop

G. Espai Seda museum shop, Silk Museum

H. Comunidad Valenciana Centre of Arts and Crafts

I. Santamaria Silversmiths

F. Hijas de Carmen Esteve fabric shop (Algemesí)

G. Compañía de la Seda silk clothing manufacturer

• • • Route for the Silk Route Guided Tour

