THE SILK ROUTE
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 fascinating story of the Silk Route in Valencia, surrounded by historical architecture. This guided tour will take you back in time, exploring the rich history and culture of the Silk Route. You will visit the Silk Museum, the Silk Exchange, and other specialized locations along the route.

**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:**
1. Silk Museum
2. Silk Exchange (UNESCO world heritage site)
3. Palacio Tamarit
4. The González Martí National Museum of Ceramics and Sumptuary Arts
5. Museo L’Íber, Palacio de Malferit
6. Museo de Bellas Artes
7. Cathedral Museum
8. The Patriarca National Monument
9. Specialist locations on the Silk Route

**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**
   - Hours: Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 15:00, Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 to 19:00.
   - Entry: €6 - €4.50 (students, pensioners, large families, people with disabilities, unemployed people), free for under 5s. Includes audio guide.

2. **Silk Exchange (UNESCO world heritage site)**
   - Hours: 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**
   - Hours: 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.

4. **The González Martí National Museum of Ceramics and Sumptuary Arts**
   - Hours: 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: €5 - €3. Saturday afternoons and Sundays free admission.

5. **Museo L’Íber, Palacio de Malferit**
   - Hours: 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**
   - Hours: Tuesday to Sunday from 10:00 to 20:00.
   - Entry: Free of charge

7. **Cathedral Museum**
   - Hours: 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**
   - 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 Marí Factory (Chirivella)
   - C. Amparo Fabra dressmaker shop
   - D. Victoria Liceras 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
   - J. Hijas de Carmen Esteve fabric shop (Algemesí)
   - K. Compañía de la Seda silk clothing manufacturer

What to see: