







# A Tour of the city

## **1. PLAZA DE LOS FUEROS**

The Plaza de los Fueros was built between 1687 and 1691, outside the medieval emplacement on higher ground above the basin of the river Queiles. The municipality built it to hold bullfights, which had previously been held in the Plaza Vieja next to the Cathedral; this is why you can see ceramics featuring bull-fighting scenes on some of the facades.

## 2. CATHEDRAL OF SANTA MARÍA

After Muslim Tudela was re-conquered in 1119, the early Collegiate Church of Santa Maria La Blanca was built on the site formerly occupied by the Great Mosque (9th century), which became the Cathe-dral in 1783. It has three entrances; the North (or Saint Mary's) door, whose capitals feature scenes from the New Testament; the South (or Virgin's) door which is Romanesque with scenes from the New Testament and geometric and plant motifs, with a very interesting portal sheltering it which features a wooden ceiling where you can still see Mudejar paintings. The main entrance is known as the "Judgement Door" because of the subject matter of its dowels: scenes from Genesis, the resurrection of the dead, and the blessed and the condemned on the Last Judgement Day. The choir boasts stalls which are regarded as the pinnacle of Flamboyant Gothic art in Navarre. The choir grille, though sculpted by the same artist -Esteban de Obrayfeatures Renaissance decoration. Gothic art can also be found in the tomb of Chancellor Villaespesa, and also in the altarpieces of Esperanza and Santa Catalina. Renaissance and Manierism appear in the chapel of St. Peter and the altarpiece of St. Martin as well as in the two frescoes, in the canon's choir, of the Final Judgement. The Sacristy and the Capitular Hall date from the 17th century, not forgetting the New Tower. The Baroque chapels of the Holy Spirit and Santa Ana are 18th century. We would also highlight the High Altar, in Hispanic-Flemish style, which was the work of Pedro Díaz de Oviedo. Of the sculptures, it is worth noting the polychrome Romanesque figure of the Virgen Blanca [White Virgin] (12th century).

## 3. TUDELA MUSEUM - PALACIO DECANAL

Construction of this palace started back in 1477. Don Pedro de Villalón, the most famous of the Tudelan deans, was responsible for enlarging the palace and it was the chosen accommodation for Kings and Popes passing through Tudela. The decoration and coat of arms on the main facade date from this period. The building is attached to the Cathedral and gives access to the Romanesque cloister. The set of capitals is very rich in detail, showing scenes from the Old Testament and the life of Jesus. The Jewish Culture Exhibition Room shows the legacy of Jewish culture in the city

#### 4. MUÑOZ SOLA MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Housed in the Palace-Residence of the Beráiz family, it contains a varied collection of French painting from the 19th century

which Tudelan painter César Muñoz Sola (1921–2000) collected throughout his life. It also displays temporary art collections.

## 5. CITY HALL

The administrative centre of the city, standing on Plaza Vieja next to the Cathedral, has been housed since 1490 in a 15th century building that was erected over the "Casas del Almudí". Successive renovations, reconstructions and modifications carried out since its origins until the end of the 20th century have resulted in its present appearance, which was finally completed in 1994

#### 6. PALACE OF THE MARQUIS OF SAN ADRIÁN (UNFD and FOI)

The masterwork of Renaissance civil architecture in the Ribera region. This noble urban residence from the 16th century is a monumental brick building with wooden eaves carved by Esteban de Obray. The palace is structured around a square patio with a staircase whose walls are painted in oils using the 'grisaille' technique, attributed to Pietro Morone and featuring mythological imagery.

## 7. PALACE OF THE MARQUIS OF HUARTE

(Municipal Archive and Public Library) A Baroque palace built in the 18th century. Notable features of the interior are the double Imperial staircase and ceiling with its elliptical dome forming a slender lantern. There are archaeological pieces from Tudela on display and an 18th century car-

riage which belonged to the Marguises of San Adrián.

#### 8. CHURCH OF THE MAGDALENE

A national monument, built in the 12th century in the Romanesque style. The main entrance is very interesting, with its scenes from the New Testament, mythological animals and plant emblems. The slender tower provides a noteworthy example of Romanesque architecture in Navarre.

## 9. CHURCH OF ROYAL ST. GEORGE

It was taken as a reference by many other churches that the Jesuits (settled in Tudela in 1600) built on the Iberian Peninsula. After 1776, following the Jesuits' expulsion, the current name was adopted as the church was placed under the patronage of St. George and attached to the Royal Patronage of Carlos III. whose alabaster coat of arms was affixed at that time. Inside the church, it is worth noting the high altar and various canvases by Vicente Berdusán. It houses the conservatory.

## **10. BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER EBRO**

A structure of medieval origin with seventeen arches. In the past it was crowned by three towers which can be seen in the city's coat of arms

#### **11. MONREAL TOWER**

Tradition says that it was a watch surveillance tower in IX century, when muslims fortified Tudela. After the last restoration works of 2003, a veiled chamber (camera obscure) has been set up inside the tower. It is an optical device that is used to project a "live" panorama of Tudela in real time.

## 12. SANTA BÁRBARA HILL AND MONUMENT TO THE HEART OF JESUS

Built on the ruins of the old medieval castle of Tudela, today it offers one of the best panoramic views of the city, the river Ebro and the market gardens of La Mejana.

## 13. EL PRADO PROMENADE

A park running parallel to the banks of the river Ebro as it flows through Tudela.

## 14. CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

What remains today dates from its reform in 1733. Sometime between 1234 and 1236 King Sancho VII 'the Strong' was buried here, having lived and died in the Castle of Tudela. The Romanesque church's tympanum is worthy of note. The tower, dating from the 16th century, was topped off in the 18th century with the bulbous spire you can see today.

15. HOUSE OF IBÁÑEZ LUNA (16th century)

#### 16. ADMIRAL'S HOUSE

Standing on Calle la Rúa, it was built during the first half of the 16th century. It has a large three-storey facade whose notable features are the two main balconies with Renaissance ornamentation. Today houses the Foundation María Forcada and the Castel Ruiz Cultural Centre, which organises various exhibitions and cultural events.

#### 17. 'LA ENSEÑANZA' CHURCH

It belongs to the Collegiate of the Company of Mary and is regarded as one of the finest examples of Baroque religious architecture in Navarre.

## 18. LA MEJANA MARKET GARDENS

La Mejana, the most famous market gardens in Tudela, started being cultivated during the Arab era; this is where the famous Tudela lettuce hearts, artichokes and other vegetables are still grown today.

## 19. OLD CHURCH OF SAN ANTÓN

## 20. RUINS OF THE CHURCH OF SAN PEDRO

#### 21. TARAZONICA GREENWAY

The Greenway follows for 22 kilometres the track of the old railway which ran from 1885 to 1970 between Tudela and Tarazona along the lower section of the River Queiles valley.

- 22. CHURCH OF THE DOMINICANS. Baroque altarpiece (17th century).
- 23. CONVENT OF THE CAPUCHINS (18th century)

#### 24. EL CARMEN (17th century)

- 25. PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
- HOSPITAL OF OUR LADY OF GRACE (16th century) 26. HOUSE OF MERCY
- 27. MONUMENT TO THE HEART OF MARY
- **28. MONUMENT TO THE THREE CULTURES**
- 29. THE CLOCK HOUSE

## 30. EL MOLINAR CIVIC CENTRE. MARKET GARDEN INTERPRETATION CENTRE.

## THE EARLY JEWISH QUARTER

Almost since the origin of the city itself, around the middle of the 9th century, it seems that the Jews settled in an area to the south-east of the walls near the river Queiles, where you can now find the streets of Benjamín de Tudela. Plaza de la Judería. Hortelanos, Fuente del Obispo and the now-vanished Calle de las Vueltas. The narrow streets in this area and the building style of high, narrow houses still evoke the way the Jews used to live. They were adobe or brick houses built on top of an ashlar stone plinth. The facades were topped off with indented eaves evoking Mudejar decoration.

In this early neigh-bourhood it would seem there were three synagogues: one was probably on Calle de San Julián, another in the proximity of the Puerta de Zaragoza (at the end of Calle Verjas), and the third adjacent to the eastern section of the Cathedral cloister. The Mudejar Chapel, known as Chapel of San Dionis, is reminiscent of the shape of the synagogues: a rectangular layout, a flat altar, a raised choir, reserved for women's prayer, a wooden gabled ceiling lavishly decorated with paintings.

## THE NEW JEWISH OUARTER

In 1170, King Sancho VI 'the Wise' of Navarre decreed the transfer of the Jewish Quarter to a new location, next to the castle walls, the custody and repairs of which he charged them with in exchange for tax exemptions and the concession of other prerogatives, as well as providing them with greater protection. It seems that the new neighbourhood was structured around the current Paseo del Castillo, stretching downwards along the street of San Miguel and also upwards, with houses clustering next to the walls of the royal castle.

The gradual increase in the population during the 13th and 14th centuries led to the extension of the neighbourhood. There is documentary evidence of at least two synagogues: Higher and Lower, although their location is unknown.







Tudela festivities: The patron saint festival of Tudela is held at the end of July, in honour of Santa Ana: a seven-day-long party, with bull runs, bullfights in the bullring, parades of cer-emonial Giants and Big-Heads, concerts, firework displays... and the "Revoltosa" dance around the bandstand in the Plaza de los Fueros.

Holy Week is very significant in Tudela; in fact, there are two traditional ceremonies, originated in the 14th century, de-clared "Festivals of National Tourist Interest": the 'Descent of the Angel' and the 'Volatin'.



Eating in Tudela: Tudela restaurants featuring traditional cuisine offer the most popular and well-known dish in the region, the **"menestra"** (mixed vegetable stew), which comprises asparagus, artichokes, peas and beans. Artichokes and lettuce hearts both boast their own Tudela designation of origin. As a main course, you shouldn't miss the lamb "jarretes" (hocks) and lamb cutlets as well as the typical "calderete" (stew).

Every May Tudela celebrates the vegetables produced in its market gardens with its Tribute to Vegetables Week: gastronomic routes with special menus and vegetable tapas, compe-titions for new recipes, seminars... and the vegetable festival itself involving the general public and mass tasting sessions. November-December is when the "Inverdura" are celebrated days held in homage to winter vegetables.