

Self-guided itinerary

Characteristics

- · Free entrance.
- · Walking tour.
- · Accessible for people with reduced mobility.
- · Approximate duration of the tour: 24km / six-hour walk.
- · Information elements: an information panel in each chapel.

Instructions

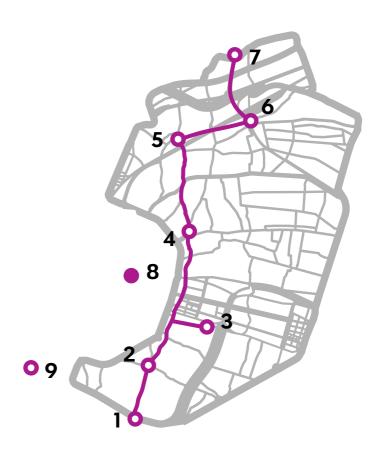
The itinerary can be completed using an audioguide and a map, a printed guide or the information panels.

- The audioguide and digital map and the guide pamphlet can be downloaded on a mobile device from the web <u>www.mucc.es/ermites</u>
- Access online to the audioguide and map of the route on: https://audioviator.com/en/audioguia/chapels-of-castello
- The printed guide must be requested at the Tourist Info office.



Chapels of Castelló Itinerary

Itinerary map



Rural chapels

1. Sant Jaume de Fadrell / 2. Sant Josep de Censal / 3. Sant Pere and Sant Isidre / 4. Mare de Déu del Lledó / 5. Sant Roc de Canet / 6. Sant Francesc de la Font / 7. Santa Maria Magdalena / 9. Mare de Déu del Carme

- Urban chapel
- 8. Sant Nicolau de Bari





Chapels of Castelló

Introduction

The district of Castelló is crossed by a large network of rural roads, among which Caminàs Road has particular relevance as one of the main ancient routes. Caminàs is a pre-Roman road, which crosses the entire area from north to south and goes through the immediate boundaries of the area until reaching the Roman Via Augusta. The area is dotted with a good number of chapels, most of them located along this road.

Chapels, some of which are more ancient and ancestral in tradition, devotion and history than others, are dedicated to holy and saintly protectors, as that is their purpose. They have diverse origins, such as discoveries of hidden images, in Lledó; favours received in times of plagues and disasters, in Sant Roc de Canet; ancient history of Castelló in Sant Jaume de Fadrell and La Magdalena, or the particular worship from guilds, brotherhoods or individuals that resulted in the construction of the chapels of Sant Francesc de la Font, Sant Josep, Sant Isidre or El Carme.

In the district of Castelló there are also some private chapels, such as Font de la Salut, Sant Roc de la Donació and Sant Joanet de Vora Riu.

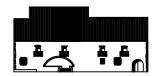


1 - Chapel of Sant Jaume de Fadrell

Rural chapel / Access from Caminàs, Partida Fadrell, next to CS-22 Port Access Road Site of Local Relevance

Built on a Roman settlement, Fadrell was the largest Muslim hamlet in the grounds of the Castelló castle. Donated by James I in 1233 to the order of Santiago, it became a minor encomienda subordinated to that of Montalbán. Towards the end of the 15th century, the country house was built around a central patio protected by a tower with a square floor layout. The property underwent numerous reforms throughout the centuries, but it still keeps the old chapel in the Reconquest style with Gothic influence, with pointed arch ceilings and the old altarpiece painting from 1545-work by the Aragonese painter Pedro Pertús. The new chapel was built in 1696 by the builder Ignacio Vilallave and the structure of the property was completed in 1704 with new rooms being added by Miquel Queralt. It is a big nave, without smaller chapels, decorated with ribs and rockwork, a barrel vault and a beautiful grand altarpiece with a moved ground plan, from the mid-18th century. The cemetery of the old encomienda is in front of the chapel, on the other side of the road.

The festivities of the chapel are held on the Sunday after 25th July, organized by the Junta de la Encomienda, an institution including landowners of the region, which continues to be governed by their own traditional bylaws.





2 - Chapel of Sant Josep de Censal

Rural chapel / Caminás, Partida Censal, 127, 12005 Castelló de la Plana Site of Local Relevance

Located in the crossing of Caminàs Road with Vinamargo Road, in the Censal lot, a place named after the taxes paid in return for the land cultivation. It was built from 1685 and blessed in 1689, in a party with the sermon of the Carmelite Andreu Caperó i Agramunt (1645-1719), son of Castelló, who became provincial and general vicar of the Order of the Mount Carmel and bishop of Lugo.

Small in dimensions, the chapel was built from stone masonry, showing a simple facade crowned with a belfry and a veranda with three arches. It has an interior structure integrated by a nave with two square sections and an arched dome roof with nothing particularly remarkable about it, except for two small late 19th century fresco medallions, a very popular style of art, with scenes depicting Christ's Birth and the flight to Egypt.

The chapel festivities are celebrated on 19th March, and are paid for by the guild of carpenters and cabinetmakers, who were its guardians.





3 - Chapel of Sant Pere and Sant Isidre

Rural chapel / Camí vell de la Mar, 7, 12100 Castelló de la Plana Site of Local Relevance

In the old Sea route, joining farmland and marshland, the chapel of Sant Isidre appears from the transfer of lands which, in 1628, the farmer Antonio Castell made to the courts, foremen and farmers of the district who worshipped Saint Michael Archangel as their patron saint.

On 10th June 1630, the first stone was laid, and the works were completed in 1644. At the end of the 19th century it was renovated and in 1973 it was restored by the agricultural cooperative societies. It has a front veranda and an adjoined house for the hermit. The chapel has a single nave with three sections and high altar, with a pitched wooden roof on supporting arches. The most interesting part is the high altar; rectangular, lower than the nave and accessed by a large triumphal arch on adjoined semi-columns, covered by ribbed Gothic tracery creating an interlacing pattern that ends with central rosette and the image of Saint Isidore. All this is unique among the Castelló farmland chapels, showing Gothic remains that survived for centuries. It keeps part of the main altar tableau, made in 1652 by the sculptor Antonio López, also author of the high altar key stone with the image of Saint Isidore.

The main festivities are celebrated in the chapel on the first Sunday after 15th May, organised by the agricultural organisations of Castelló.





4 - Basilica of Mare de Déu del Lledó

Av. Mare de Déu del Lledó, s/n - 12003 Castelló de la Plana Site of Local Relevance

Spring-summer opening hours: from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

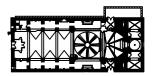
Autumn-winter opening hours: from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

At the same place where, according to tradition, the devoted image of Our Lady of Lledó was discovered in 1366 by the farmer Perot de Granyana's Piedmontese plough at the bottom of a hackberry, stands the temple of the patron saint of the city, pontifically and canonically crowned in 1924.

It is known that, from the end of the 14th century, there was a small chapel attended by pilgrims and worshippers from all over the region. Extended and transformed throughout the 15th and 16th centuries, the first Brother-hood of Lledó was founded in 1559, and in 1572 the current church doorway was completed. New works carried out during the 17th century lead to a church with three naves, a dome and a lantern. But it was in the 18th century, between 1724 and 1768, when Lledó makes its great change in acquiring its current form, which makes it the largest Valencian rural sanctuary.

It still has an interesting set of art pieces, some installed in a small museum in a room under the choir and others in altars, sacristy and accesses to the shrine. The most important of them is an image of the Virgin in alabaster, dating back to the lóth century, perhaps from Italian workshops, adapted for use as a prayer box. The collection of cloaks for the Virgin is also interesting, particularly the one for the coronation.

The festival of Lledó, celebrated from undated times on the Sunday leading up to the 15th of August, was moved to the first Sunday of September in 1703 and now, since 1912, it is celebrated on the first Sunday of May.





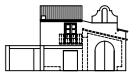
5 - Chapel of Sant Roc de Canet

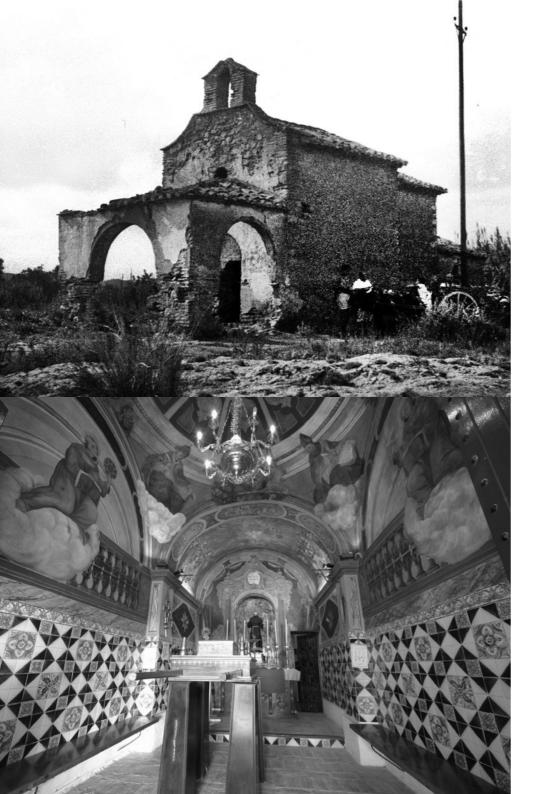
Rural chapel / Caminàs, Partida Canet, 12004 Castelló de la Plana Site of Local Relevance

This chapel, a small construction with a popular style erected from 1652, has a rectangular ground plan, single nave with a single section, covered with flat roof like the sacristy, and has a small house adjoined. The main door, at the front of the building, has a semi-circular arch and it is covered by a veranda and crowned by a single belfry made of brick.

Since medieval times, the devotion to Saint Roc has very clear origins in Castelló. However, it is in the middle of the 17th century (1647-1650), when the plague was declared in the regions of La Plana and, then disappeared through religious intercession and protection of Saint Roc and Saint Christopher, when both saints were declared patron saints of Castelló by the Council.

Sant Roc de Canet, a place name that refers to the mass cane growing in the area, is the traditional stop of the *Romeria de les Canyes* ("Pilgrimage of the Canes"), both on the way there and on the way back. Since 1989, the Colla El Pixaví has its annual festivities on the third Sunday of September.





6 - Chapel of Sant Francesc de la Font

Rural chapel / Camí de les Vil·les, Partida de la Font, 42B 12004 Castelló de la Plana Site of Local Relevance

The chapel of Sant Francesc was built in the first half of the 18th century at the Cap plot -the head of the Main Canal, where its waters flow into the nearby Molí de la Font- as well as next to the old royal road of Benicàssim, just where the dry lands become the farmland of Castelló, an area already inhabited during the Neolithic, Iberian-Roman and Arab periods. The name of Sant Francesc de la Font refers to Font de la Reina, one of the main springs that provides the water for the aforementioned Molí de la Font.

Reformed in 1976 by Germandat dels Cavallers de la Conquesta (the Gentlemen's Brotherhood of the Conquest) and the City Council of Castelló, it has a hall church ground plan with a vault and dome, rear sacristy and a front portico. The chapel is decorated with fresco paintings (1750-1760) with a marked baroque and illusionistic character -altarpiece painted in the high altar, doctors of the Church in the pendentives and balconies on the sidesclose to the art of the Guilló family, and shows a skirting board made from Valencian tiles. In a recess of the main altar, a dressed image of Saint Francis of Assisi from the 18th century is worshipped.

The festivities are celebrated around 12th October and they are organised by Germandat dels Cavallers de la Conquesta.

The sites of Sant Francesc de la Font have mythological connotations for the people of Castelló, since they are described in the book *Tombatossals*. Likewise, the Molí de la Font is identified with the primitive spring of Castalia.





7 - Chapel of Santa Maria Magdalena

Rural chapel / CV-147, 2, 12004 Castelló de la Plana Site of Cultural Interest

On the hill of the Magdalena, 4 km from the city, among vestiges of the primitive Castelló – the Castell Vell – and settled on Iberian remains, the chapel of the Magdalena, a symbol for the people of Castelló, can be found.

By the 15th century, there was already documentary evidence of the municipality's concern for preserving and improving the chapel, and in 1451, the presence of a friar named Antonio is noted, as he was trying to build a chapel under the invocation of Mary Magdalene. He finished the works in the first months of 1456. The chapel was built by taking advantage of a cistern located in the albacara of the castle; the bell tower of the chapel was originally used as an Islamic defense tower. The temple has two parallel naves of unequal length, separated by arches supported on two pillars at the ends and on two columns in the centre. The roof is a half-barrel vault. On one of the walls there are mural paintings that scholars date to around 1320-1337.

Although renovated in later years, it was not until 1758 when the master builder Vicente Pellicer reconstructed the whole chapel and left it with the current shape: chapel, inn and adjoined tower.

As it is documented, from 1374, there is a pilgrimage that starts in town and goes up to the chapel of La Magdalena on the third Sunday of Lent. Originally, to celebrate the end of the plague and later, as a reminder of the huge move of the people from the hills to the lowlands.





8 - Chapel of Sant Nicolau de Bari

Urban chapel / Calle Alloza, 143, 12001 Castelló de la Plana Site of Local Relevance

Opening hours: Monday: from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

From Tuesday to Friday: from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays closed

Built between 1560 and 1565, over what was once a mosque, in the Moors neighborhood. It underwent renovations in later centuries and, in 1686, master Pere Vilallave Candau built a new temple, which is the one we see today, although the section of the high altar was transformed in 1736. A single nave with three sections, side chapels, big choir at the bottom and a rectangular head with sacristy on the left, all with a popular style of Baroque influence. The nave is covered with a barrel vault, while the head turns with a dome and a tambour, a unique style throughout the city of Castelló. The main altar lost the altarpiece made by Cristóbal Maurat in 1808 and it is dominated by a set of images carved by Joan Baptista Folia Prades in 1941. The façade, with its mixtilinear appearance, has a lintelled doorway from 1828.

After prohibiting religious practices in all churches in the city in 1937, the management commission of the City Council gave the chapel to the Masonry of Castelló, which used it as a temple for his liturgy until 1939, when it returned to the Catholic worship.

Every 28th of October, the local residents and clavarios board of Alloza Street, historically known as *Carrer d'Amunt*, meet to organise the Saint Nicholas' festivities, which are celebrated on 6th December.





9 - Chapel of Mare de Déu del Carme

Rural chapel / Partida Estepar, next to CS-22 Port Access Road

In the Estepar district, so called due to the abundance of thicket, to the south of the current City of Transport and on a site donated by Vicente Pachés' family, the chapel was built in 1948 as an initiative of the families in country houses and other properties found in this setting, the Estepar: place of old dry land crops in which the rockrose probably abounded, judging by the name of the area. The building was handed over to the City Council of Castelló in 2002 in a state of neglect, and it was restored and blessed for worship in 2004.

The chapel has a single nave with a wooden pitched roof and flat head. It has a small sacristy and a small entrance with 9 semi-circular arches and a pitched roof. The image of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is worshipped in a simple altarpiece made of stone masonry and on the side walls the images of St. Joaquim and St. Anne, parents of the Virgin Mary, are enshrined. The chapel shrine was donated by the Galician Cultural Centre of Castelló and it is made in the style of the Galician road crosses.

The festivities are celebrated on the Sunday following 16th July.



Credits

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More information

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Opening hours

From Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., uninterrupted Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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Arranged tours: consult www.mucc.castello.es

