

YOUR FAMILY TOUR OF CIUDAD REAL



with children

You're about to travel back in time to a city of kings and knights! Ciudad Real is the perfect setting for your family holiday: a cosy place, steeped in history and full of magical spots that will spark your imagination.

Más información:

<https://turismo.ciudadreal.es/que-visitar-en-ciudad-real/>

TOLEDO GATE



Welcome to the secret entrance to the city! Hundreds of years ago, Ciudad Real was protected by a giant wall with eight gates like this one and a slightly smaller wicket. They were built so strongly so that the knights could defend the city from enemy attacks and control trade.

This house-museum, gifted to us by Doña Elisa, looks just like a time machine!

Here you can discover what life was like over 100 years ago.

You'll see objects, furniture and decorations very different from those you have in your home today. Although some, like the fans, will surely look familiar to you!

ELISA CENDRERO MUSEUM



DID YOU KNOW...?

In the glass-covered courtyard of the Elisa Cendrero House-Museum there is a model showing what Ciudad Real used to look like, with its great wall and its most important churches and buildings.

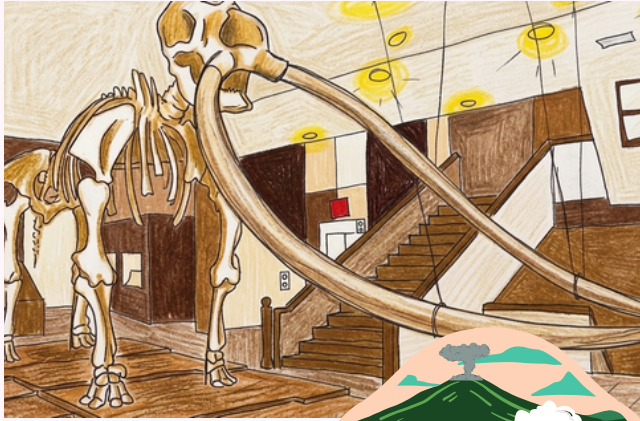


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CIUDAD REAL MUSEUM



The highlight is here: meet the 'grandfather' of elephants! This museum is home to the bones of a giant prehistoric animal that lived here millions of years ago: the mastodon.

This mastodon was trapped by a volcano!

But how could this have happened right in the heart of La Mancha?

"The centre of our province has up to 300 maars/volcanoes, so one day, while the animals were drinking peacefully at a lagoon (Las Higuieruelas), one of these volcanoes erupted and covered them in ash.

Thanks to that, their bones were preserved underground for centuries until archaeologists unearthed them."

If you like archaeology, this is the museum for you!

The Cathedral of Santa María del Prado is a vast stone building whose construction began a very long time ago, in the Middle Ages.

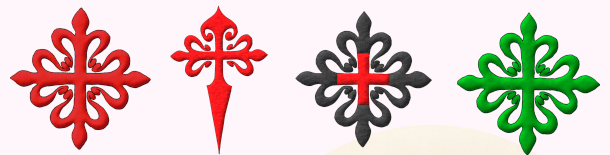
It has a single, enormous nave—the second largest in Spain—and serves as the seat of the Military Orders.

Legend has it that the Virgin Mary appeared right there in an oak tree in these meadows, which is why she was named the Virgin of the Prado and became the patron saint of the city.

Another interesting fact is that they say the rose window with coloured glass is identical to that of the Hermitage of the Virgin of Alarcos, the other patron saint of Ciudad Real, which is located at the Archaeological Site of Alarcos.

Look for the coat of arms of the Order of Santiago on the ground along the Paseo de los Jardines del Prado, and then go to the square of Santiago Church

CIUDAD REAL CATHEDRAL



DID YOU KNOW...?

Military orders were groups of knights who protected people and territories, and also adhering to religious rules. One of the most important was the Order of Calatrava.

The most important orders in Ciudad Real were: Calatrava, Santiago, Alcántara and Montesa.

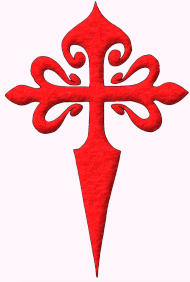


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SANTIAGO CHURCH



Look at the ground in front of the church – does that cross look familiar? It's the Cross of the Order of Santiago that you've seen in the Prado and in the Cathedral.

You're standing in front of the oldest church in the city – it's been standing for over 700 years!

The most impressive feature of this church is its polychrome coffered ceiling, a wooden ceiling decorated with colours, designs and medieval figures such as the blue and red eight-headed dragon above the altar, which was said to bring good luck and protection to anyone who saw it.

SAN PEDRO CHURCH



It is one of the oldest and best-known buildings in Ciudad Real.

It was built in the Middle Ages and, from the outside, it almost looks like a fortress due to its thick walls and buttresses.

Inside, you can see the Chapel of the Coca family, which houses the tomb of the famous Chantre de Coca, confessor to Isabella the Catholic, made of alabaster, just like the altarpiece of the small Virgin of Loreto.

Go to the Puerta del Sol and look for the sundial, which used to mark the hours with a metal hand that has since disappeared.

DID YOU KNOW...?

The enormous buttresses of San Pedro, which stand next to the Umbría Gate, were built to reinforce the church, which was beginning to lean in that direction due to the enormous weight of the vaults.

If you look closely inside, you'll see that the building is slightly lopsided, yet it still stands despite the Lisbon Earthquake of 1755.



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MAIN SQUARE AND CARILLON CLOCK



The Main Square is the heart of the city and the perfect place to take a break. It is dominated by a rather unusual Town Hall, and right opposite stands the famous carillon, from which Don Quixote, Sancho Panza and Miguel de Cervantes emerge to the sound of music. A very special moment you simply mustn't miss!! The secret is that you need to know what times the doors open... I'll tell you! It's three minutes before 12:00, 13:00 and in the evening at 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm. The evening times change from 12 May to 30 September to 8.00 pm and 9.00 pm.

A special place where you can discover the story of Don Quixote. Cervantes himself, the famous writer who brought to life the world's most widely read literary work, welcomes you. Listen carefully, as he will tell you some very interesting facts about himself and his work. Discover the Don Quixote museum in a fun way, by searching for the mouse hiding in the windmill or looking for Don Quixote, Sancho or Dulcinea amongst the paintings on display in the museum. Oh! And don't miss out on seeing how books were written and made hundreds of years ago

DON QUIXOTE MUSEUM



DID YOU KNOW...?

At the foot of the Carillon, our king, Alfonso X the Wise, sits on a throne, with his sceptre and crown. A king who, setting out from a small village called Pozuelo de Don Gil, built the great town of Villarreal, which would eventually become our present-day Ciudad Real.



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GASSET PARK



Gasset Park is over 100 years old and is a lovely place where you can discover some really interesting trees and plants.

If you look closely, you'll also find little creatures hiding!

Look for the insect hotel, where some very interesting little creatures live, and head over to the dovecote to see the pigeons. There's also an open-air library where you can pick up a book and read surrounded by nature.

And best of all: there's plenty of space to run and play to your heart's content. It's the perfect park for having fun!



PILAR PARK



Pilar Park is the perfect place for running and playing. It has grass, paths and a huge lake with water jets that look magical.

There are plenty of trees, play areas and space for cycling or walking. Climb up to the bow of that boat-shaped viewing platform to feel like a captain sailing across the lake.

JUAN PABLO II PARK



The Volcano Park is a very special place because it's built on ancient dormant volcanoes. Although there used to be fire and craters here, it's now a safe park for playing, running and cycling.

It has play areas, tables and a fountain, as well as a hill that used to be a volcano and from which you can see the whole park.

It's a fun and fascinating place where you can play whilst discovering a spot with a rich history

DID YOU KNOW...?

Our city has 130 hectares of green spaces. That's like having around 182 football pitches all together!

Green spaces are important because they help us breathe more easily, provide places to play and relax, and are home to plants and animals. They also make the city healthier and more pleasant.

