La Seu â€“ the Cathedral of Valencia

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The Cathedral of Valencia, also known as La Seu, is located in the Reina Square of the Old Quarter of the city.

The earliest vestiges of the first Cathedral of Valencia are Roman and Visigoth and can be seen in parts of the apse and in a chapel dating from the sixth century. The mosque of Balansiya was constructed during the eighth century by the Moors, and further on used by the Christians after James I The Conqueror took over Valencia. In 1262, the first stone for the actual Gothic cathedral was laid by the Bishop Albalat.

The first floor is in the shape of a Latin cross. Narrow windows and not too high ceilings are typical from the mendicant orders.

The Renaissance saw some improvements like the decoration of the major chapel by Francis Pagano in 1472 and throughout history almost all different styles have left some imprint on this cathedral.

This medieval cathedral has three distinct doors, each one in a different architectural style. The Puerta Del Palau is in the Romanesque style, the Puerta de Hierros, Baroque style, and the Puerta de los Apostoles in clear Gothic style.

The Water Tribunal

One interesting fact about the Puerta de los Apostoles is that for more than 1000 years to the present day, the local farmers dressed in typical folk clothes, meet to solve irrigation problems in what is known as The Water Tribunal.

A visit to the cathedral is free, but if you want a guided tour including the museum, there will be a small contribution.

El Micalet of Valencia

The Micalet is a bell tower 63 m high in the shape of an octagon, annexed to the cathedral. Parts of the tower were used as a prison, while the top section was the bell founderâ€™s abode. There are 207 steps all the way to the bell top, and from the roof you can have a stunning view of Valencia.

Benidorm is also popular among the visitors because of plenty of theme parks like Terra Mitica, Mundomar and Aqualandia etc. The town has many animal and marine parks as well which are crowded by the visitors every year.

The Holy Grail of Valencia

History and modern investigations and research, have traced the chalice that Jesus used to drink wine at the last supper in Jerusalem, all the way through 2000 years, and is now revered and in the custody of the Cathedral of Valencia. The cup is made of polished agate stone and may have been given to Jesus by the rich family that allowed Him and his Apostles to use their upper room to celebrate the Passover.

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