

 ENGLISH



CULTURAL
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ORIHUELA



01

Santo Domingo
Diocese College
BIC



Building began in the early 16th Century, under the patronage of D. Fernando de Loazes. It was a University from 1610 to 1824 and again, from 1998 onwards, with the creation of the Archbishop Loazes Chair, dependent on the University of Alicante.

The convent-college was designed in 1553 by Jerónimo Quijano and built during the second half of the 16th Century and throughout the 17th Century. Juan Inglés supervised the building process from 1553 until his death in 1563 and Agustín Bernardino took over in 1602. The building itself underwent significant changes in the first half of the 18th Century. It represents a fine example of the synthesis between the Renaissance, Mannerist and Baroque styles.

This large building is composed of a church, convent and university, all completed at different times. On the exterior, there are two striking renaissance doorways, featuring the founder's family coat of arms and the shield of the Dominican Order. The Baroque entrance to the University shows an allegoric figure representing wisdom. Human figures adorn the Baroque tower.

Inside there are two magnificent cloisters, the Renaissance one in the convent and the University's own Baroque example. The church is a renaissance building with later Baroque additions.

An interesting feature is the Renaissance doorway leading to the Sacristy and refectory, dating from the late 16th Century with a fascinating base covered in Valencian tiling from the 18th Century.

Miguel Hernández House Museum

Located in the Calle de Arriba (today C/ Miguel Hernández) near the Santo Domingo College (in the "Rincón Hernandiano", by the Miguel Hernández cultural centre and the Miguel Hernandez exhibition Gallery). In 1981 it was acquired by Orihuela Town Hall and opened again, after restoration, on 28th March 1985.

This house was home to the poet and his family between 1914 and 1934.

It was a farmhouse, much in line with others which existed in the same street in the early 20th Century.





The spaces inside adapt to the sloping ground, by means of a series of terraces, housing the house, the patio, the barn for the animals and the vegetable patch.

The house includes a number of areas: the dining room, sitting room, parents' bedroom, his sisters' (Elvira and Encarna) room, Miguel's bedroom which he shared with his brother Vicente and the kitchen.

The museum retains the furniture and fittings typical of the area's homes from the last century, together with photographs from different moments of the poet's lifetime.



Salvador and Santa Maria Cathedral

03

BIC

Built on the remains of the old Moorish mosque, it started out as a Parish Church, ascending in importance, as Archiprestal (1281), Collegiate (1413) and finally becoming a Cathedral in 1510.

Building started at the end of the 13th Century. It is of Levantine Gothic style, with three naves and a gallery, a transept transformed by Pere Compte at the beginning of the 16th Century and side chapels between the buttresses. Of note inside is the ironwork, the Baroque organ, the work of Jacinto Perales and the choir stalls, made by Juan Bautista Borja and Tomás Llorens (1716-1718). The sacristy is home to the relic cabinet and cupboard, the work of José Ganga (1732-1734), holding diverse relics within a carved bust.

On the outside, of note is the Tower, built between the late 13th Century and the mid-14th Century, the same as the three main gateways, The Puerta de Cadenas (14th Century), Puerta de Loreto (15th Century) and finally, the Portada de la Anunciación, completed by Juan Inglés in 1558.





04

Episcopal Palace

BIC

Built on the land occupied earlier by the Corpus Christi Hospital, one of the city's mediaeval hospitals. In 1558 the city exchanged plots with Archbishop Esteban Almeyda and the hospital was relocated to the Parish of Santiago. Building may have started in the 16th Century, soon after the establishment of the Orihuela bishopric.

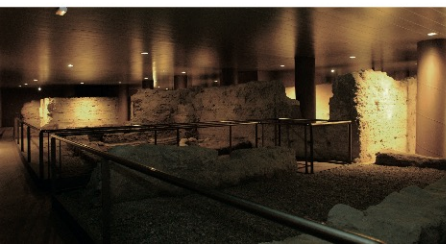
It underwent profound changes in the 18th Century under the reigns of Bishops José Flores Osorio and Pedro Albornoa Tapia. In the mid-20th Century it lost its original function, was restored at the beginning of the 21st Century and is currently home to the Diocese Museum of Sacred Art.

It is the city's largest palace, built to a rectangular design, with three patios. The main façade is of ascending size, reflected in the size of the window spaces and the materials used and their finish. Of note is the main doorway with the shield of Bishop José Flores Osorio.

At the back, facing the river, there is a gallery with semi-circular arches.

Inside, another striking feature is the cloister with heraldic decoration, the main staircase, of red Alicante marble and the dome built on an octagonal base, with exterior cobalt blue glazed tiles.





{ *The Town Wall Museum*

The Wall Museum is located in the basement of the "Casa del Paso" building, on the Salesas Campus of the Miguel Hernández University.

It also houses an interesting and well organised archaeological site, set up after various stages of excavation between 1998 and 2000.

Significant architectural heritage sites are well conserved: the town wall, four watch-towers dating back to the Almohad era (Designated Cultural sites since 14/12/1998), Arab baths, Islamic and early mediaeval streets and homes, a Gothic palace and architectural remains of the Casa del Paso (17th Century). Furthermore, remains dating back from the second half of the 12th Century to the 20th Century have been recovered.

During the visit, around the perimeter path and glazed walkways, there is also a variety of complementary resources to help interpret the findings, such as display panels, scale models, signposts, display cases and a video.



06

Royal Monastery of "Visitación de Santa María" (Salesian Monastery)

BIC

It was built on the site of a Jesuit college. It was a foundation, set up by clerics from Madrid's Royal Monastery (Monasterio de la Visitación), under the patronage of the princes Carlos María Isidro de Borbón and his wife, María de Asís de Braganza y Borbón.

Built in neoclassical style, between 1826 and 1832.





On the outside, the façade is made from black and red marble, featuring the shields of Spain and Portugal, and images of Saint Francis of Sales, Saint Charles Borromeo, Saint Jane of Chantal and Saint Francis of Assisi.

Inside the church, built in the shape of a Latin cross, there is an interesting collection of religious paintings by the Court painter, Vicente López and his school (Valencia).





Parish Church of Saints Justa and Rufina

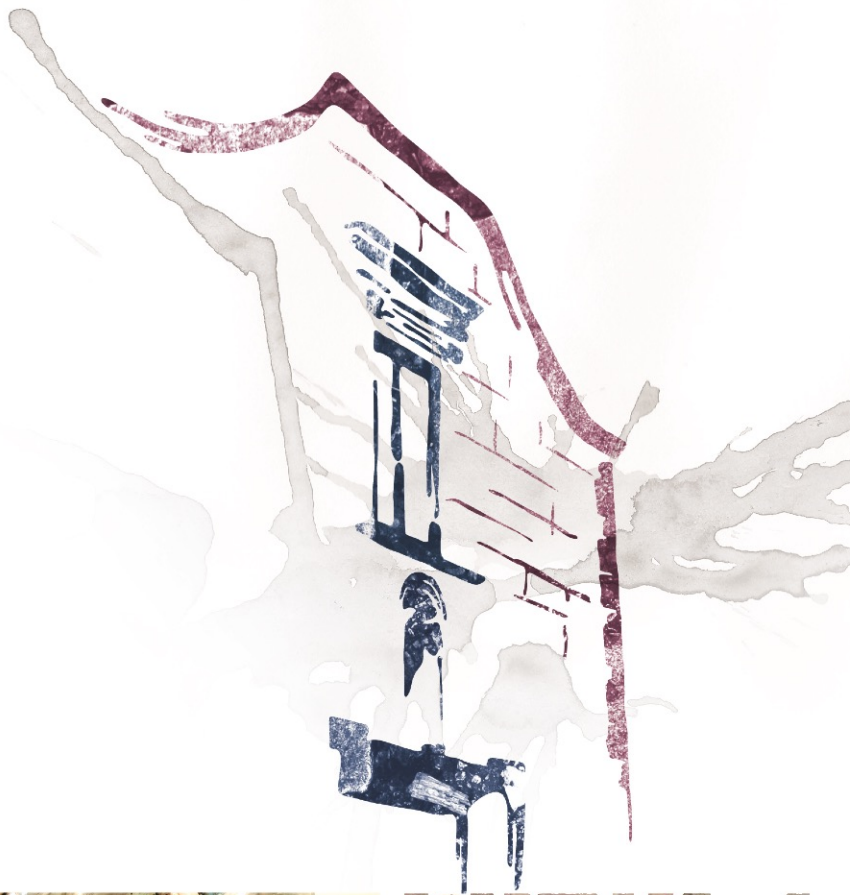
BIC

Built on the remains of one of the Islamic city's mosques. It is dedicated to the city's patron saints, since the date of their martyrdom coincides with the "Reconquista" of the city, which traditionally is believed to have taken place on 17th July 1243.

Single nave gothic temple, with side chapels between the buttresses, dating back to the 14th and 15th Centuries. The presbytery is in Renaissance style, as is the side doorway, known as the Anunciación. Parallel to the nave is the Communion Chapel, of Baroque style. The main façade includes the Gradas doorway, also Baroque, the work of Antonio Villanueva and Cristóbal Sánchez, in the borrominesca style.

Special mention must be made of the bell tower, of Gothic style and remarkably slender, which must have been completed in the mid-15th Century. In the corners, there are gargoyle-shaped drains and sculptures of mythical beasts. Also of interest is the clock, which was commissioned by the town council in 1439.





San Juan de Dios Local Archaeological Museum

The Orihuela Archaeology Museum is successor to the old Santo Domingo Museum of Antiquities, founded in 1902 by the Jesuit priest, Julio Furgús who donated a number of pieces. It was created by the Orihuela Town Council (thanks to the authorisation of the Ministry of Education and Culture, on 16th February 1970) and was housed at various times, in the "Palacio de Teodomiro", at the Municipal Hospital, at the Rubalcaba Palace and since 1997, at its present site, the Church of San Juan de Dios, itself built in the mid-18th Century.

The Archaeological Museum houses materials spanning a lengthy period, from the Paleolithic to the early 19th Century. The majority is from the town and its surroundings and were discovered at excavations and prospections by the Museum itself.

The same building is also home to the Exhibition Hall, which is the former hospital's Men's ward, a spacious rectangular room, covered with barrel vaulting. This is where temporary exhibitions and diverse cultural acts are held.



Santiago Parish Church

09

BIC

Built upon the remains of one of the Islamic city's mosques, dating back, according to the oldest documentary evidence, between 1402 and 1417.



A single nave church, with side chapels between the buttresses. The original Gothic structure was heavily modified due to restoration and extensions built between the 16th and 18th Centuries.

Of note inside is the Renaissance presbyter, in the shape of a triumphal arch and the chapel dedicated to the "Holy Family" (1765-1766), by the school of Francisco Salzillo, Sculptor.

Its main entrance, in the Isabelline Gothic style, has, at its apex, the Shield of the Catholic Kings. In more Baroque style is the adjoining communion chapel, with its entrance, which was constructed from 1726 to 1735.

Our Lady of Montserrat Sanctuary

10

BIC

According to tradition, it was built over the former gothic Parish of Saint Julian, after unearthing the image of the Virgin Mary once the city had been recaptured from its Moorish occupiers.

It is a Baroque temple in the shape of the Latin Cross with a Neoclassic facade featuring the anagram of Our Lady of Montserrat.

The interior features the Hallazgo chapel, which houses a cave, the site on which the image of the Virgin Mary appeared and above her, the old niche, today dedicated to the Cristo de la Buena Muerte. The high altar houses the niche with the Virgin of Montserrat, the city Patron Saint.





SANTO SEPULCRO
CULTURAL CENTRE



SAN ISIDRO
MURALS

C/ SAN FRANCISCO

CAPUCHINOS
SQUARE

C/ CAPUCHINOS

10

OUR LADY OF MONSERATE
SANCTUARY

MONSERATE
SQUARE

09

C/ FRANCISCO DIE

SANTIAGO PARISH
CHURCH

SALUD
SQUARE



PUBLIC LIBRARY
MARIA MOLINER

08

SAN JUAN DE DIOS
LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MUSEUM

C/ MARQUES DE ARNEVA

07

TOWN HALL

C/ SANTA JUSTA

PARISH CHURCH OF
SAINTS JUSTA AND
RUFINA

TOWN WALL
MUSEUM

C/ DEL RIO

06

REAL MONASTERIO DE LA
VISITACION DE SANTA
MARIA MONASTERY

C/ MANCERBERIA

C/ COLÓN

C/ JOSÉ M^o SARGET

C/ RAMÓN Y CAJAL

05

SAN SALVADOR AND
SANTA MARIA
CATHEDRAL

EPISCOPAL
PALACE

04

PUENTE VIEJO

C/ SAN AGUSTÍN

C/ SAN PASCUAL

AV. DE ESPAÑA

AV. DE TEODOMIRO

GLORIETA
GABRIEL MIRÓ

SAN MIGUEL DIOCESE SEMINARY



THE RISE OF
SEMINARIO

C/ CALERA



- 01 SANTO DOMINGO DIOCESE COLLEGE
- 02 MIGUEL HERNÁNDEZ HOUSE MUSEUM
- 03 SAN SALVADOR AND SANTA MARÍA CATHEDRAL
- 04 EPISCOPAL PALACE
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- 07 PARISH CHURCH OF SAINTS JUSTA AND RUFINA
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- 10 OUR LADY OF MONSERRATE SANCTUARY

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