

LAND OF THE COMMANDERS



SOCUÉLLAMOS



Socuéllamos
AYUNTAMIENTO

www.socuellamosturismo.com



SOCUÉLLAMOS
Patria del Vino



SOCUÉLLAMOS

TOWN OF VINES AND TOWERS

Just under two hours from Madrid or Valencia and easily reached by road or rail, you'll find a town in the heart of Castile-La Mancha with a jam-packed calendar of celebrations and cultural events throughout the year. Here, you can enjoy the best our region has to offer, from restaurants and wineries to museums, heritage and nature, all set in a sea of vines.

OUR HISTORY



FROM THE PALAEOLITHIC PERIOD TO THE AGE OF THE GREAT COMMANDERS



Although there are traces of civilisations as far back as the Palaeolithic period in Socuéllamos, the earliest written records of the town date from the time of Ferdinand IV of Castile (thirteenth century), before it became the third Encomienda of the Military Order of Santiago.

In 1298, Juan Osórez, Grand Master of the Order of Santiago, granted the Socuéllamos Municipal Charter, exempting anyone who planted vineyards from paying taxes, linking the history of Socuéllamos to vine cultivation and wine production.

In the modern age, wine growing and the railway would leave their mark on this town, where tradition meets modernity.



VISIT SOCUÉLLAMOS

PLAZA DEL COSO, OUR PAST

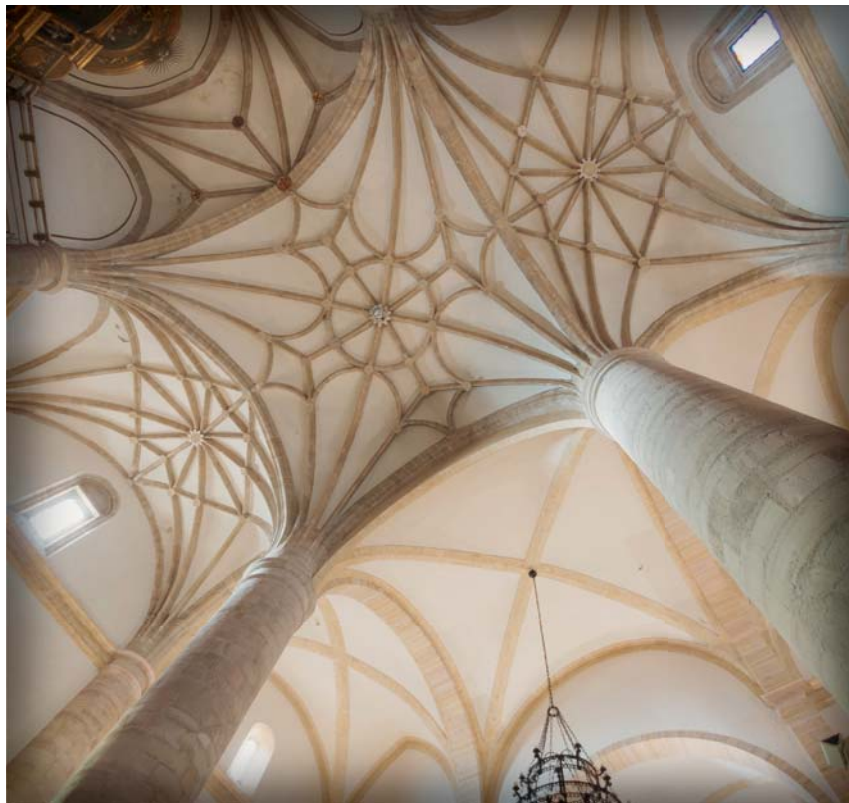


In the so-called Plaza del Coso or Plaza de la Iglesia, you'll find the town's oldest preserved buildings, evidence of the mark left by the Military Order of Santiago. These include the Church of Nuestra Señora de la Asunción, the Casa de la Encomienda, the Old Town Hall and the Shield of the Inquisition.

CHURCH OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA ASUNCIÓN

Built from numerous private donations, the earliest records of the church date from the middle of the fifteenth century. The church has undergone several alterations and extensions throughout its history, including the reconstruction of the lost tower in the twentieth century.

Built in the late Gothic style, various interesting carvings have been preserved, some of which were crafted by local stonemasons and image-makers. The original seventeenth-century coffered ceiling can still be found in the sacristy.





OLD TOWN HALL

The town hall granted to Socuéllamos through a repartimiento (a special tax) completes this square where military, ecclesiastical and civil powers sat side by side.



CASA DE LA ENCOMIENDA

Built in 1440 as the residence of the Commanders of the Order of Santiago, it maintains the old structure of a large manor house or palace, where the rooms are situated around a large central courtyard. The rooms on the upper floor include the guest quarters, where St. Teresa of Ávila apparently stayed. On the left are the oldest rooms of the house and what used to be the wine cellar.

Two coats of arms appear on the facade, one of which belongs to Antonio de Mendoza, Viceroy of Mexico and Peru.



SHIELD OF THE INQUISITION

Adjacent to the square is what was once the home of a member of the Inquisition. Today, only the coat of arms and its emblems—the olive tree, the cross and the sword—remain.

PLAZA DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN



OUR
PRESENT

The current Town Hall on Plaza de la Constitución and the adjacent streets are the beating heart of Socuéllamos, where most of the shops and businesses are located.

Outside the Town Hall, on one side, you can see the façade of an old nunnery built by order of Pedro Gómez de Mena around 1560. This would later become the convent of the Barefooted Trinitarians founded by Saint John Baptist of the Conception in 1603.



CARMEN ARIAS CENTRE



Enjoy the painting, photography and archaeology exhibitions, attend events at the Queen Sofía Auditorium, or browse the shelves of the Library. This multicultural centre is housed in a mansion typical of the region, where tradition meets modernity. There is even a *chimeneón* or chimney from a former distillery in the entrance courtyard, one of the most characteristic architectural examples of Socuéllamos' industrial past.





OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

CHAPEL OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LORETO

A seventeenth-century building where the Virgin of Loreto -patron saint of the municipality and the Air Force- is worshipped (there is also a fantastic Mirage F1 aircraft outside). The Wine Harvest Festival is celebrated in the gardens, where the first grape juice is offered to the Virgin.



BULLRING

Built with the remains of demolished buildings and waste materials such as railway sleepers, the bullring stands on a mound surrounded by trees, giving it a unique character.



CHAPEL OF SAN ISIDRO

This chapel is located in the Paraje de Titos park and hosts one of the town's most popular festivals on the saint's feast day.

ADOLFO SUÁREZ MUNICIPAL PARK

Located at the foot of the Wine Tower Museum, this sprawling park is a green space where you can enjoy nature at any time of day, including plenty of references to the world of wine.



A

WINE TOURISM: WINE AS A WAY OF LIFE



With 16 wineries producing some of the world's most renowned and award-winning vintages and the dedicated Wine Tower Museum, Soduéllamos is the perfect place to enjoy the world of wine.

From the landscape -a sea of vineyards- to the life and culture of its people, the numerous wineries and delicious cuisine, everything speaks of wine in this town, so it's no surprise that it's known as **La Patria del Vino** (the home of wine).

Many of our wineries are open for visits, offering various activities by appointment, the perfect complement to a visit to the Wine Tower Museum.

The Vice-President of La Mancha Wine Route is even from Soduéllamos!



WINE TOWER MUSEUM



LA MANCHA WINE TOWER



With its 30-metre, eleven-storey-high viewing tower, equalled in majesty only by the belfry of Nuestra Señora de la Asunción, the Wine Tower Museum is a meeting place where wine lovers can share their passion and knowledge. Here, you can learn all about its history as well as enjoy wine-related activities throughout the year, including special events such as *MANCHAVINO*, *El Patio del Vino* and *Vino Bajo las Estrellas*, as well as tastings, workshops, guided tours, training and much more, all of which pair perfectly with visits to wineries in and around Socuéllamos.



SOCUÉLLAMOS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

JANUARY

Saint Anthony
and
"luminarias"



FEBRUARY

Carnival.
Masks, dance troupes,
parades



MARCH

Unveiling of new
Socuéllamos vintages.
Tasting and Wine Gallery



APRIL

Easter.
Heritage,
culture and devotion



MAY

May Crosses Festival.
Saint Isidore Pilgrimage.
Tradition and folklore



JUNE

Socuéllamos en Vela,
historical recreation,
10K race



JULY

Vino bajo las Estrellas,
International Folklore
Festival



AUGUST

Feria y Fiestas, from 8 to 14 August.
Cultural and sporting activities,
concerts, etc



SEPTEMBER

Wine Harvest Festival,
MANCHAVINO, Patio del Vino,
from 1 to 8 September



OCTOBER

All Saints Festival.
National Theatre
Exhibition



NOVEMBER

WINE TOURISM DAYS.
Visits to wineries,
wine tastings, etc



DECEMBER

Cultural Christmas.
Christmas
Market





FOOD, QUALITY AND KNOW-HOW

Frugal yet full of quality ingredients, some of La Mancha's best-known dishes appeared in Don Quixote.

Thick and savoury *gachas* is a well-loved winter warmer, while dishes made with grapes or grape must are popular during harvest. Hunting season is all about *gazpachos manchegos* stew or pickled partridge, while chickpea and vegetable stew, cod in all its forms, Spanish-style toast and sweet rice pudding are consumed at Easter. And then there's Spanish ratatouille, Manchego cheese, lamb stew, preserved pork loin, freshly baked *Pan de Cruz* bread, homemade desserts, and the popular Sangria-like *zurra*, which delight visitors at any time of year. Each of these dishes pairs perfectly with local wines, naturally.

Last but not least, our Moorish tomatoes are unique in their flavour and quality.



A DAY IN SOCUELLAMOS



A day in Socuéllamos allows you to enjoy numerous activities, from a guided winery visit, where you can sample and purchase the wines, to a tour of the Wine Tower Museum, where you can learn all about the history of wine and how to pair it with delicious local dishes or take in the sunset from the viewing tower. You can also enjoy tapas and the finest wines on the bustling main square or dine in one of the fabulous restaurants offering authentic, high-quality fare. Follow this with a stroll around the Old Town, with buildings that speak of the splendour of the Order of Santiago, as well as the Church of Nuestra Señora de la Asunción and the Old Town Hall. All of which makes for a truly unforgettable day.

WHERE TO STAY

HOSTAL CALCIMACU**

Address: C/ Del Rosario, 123
Telephone: 00 34 926 531 038

HOSTAL GENARO**

Address: C/ Pablo Bustos, 2
(On the corner of Paseo de la Concordia)
Telephone: 00 34 926 500 981
www.hostalgenaro.es

HOSTAL EL PORTÓN^{TTT}

Address: Pº. Calvo Sotelo, 11
Telephone: 00 34 926 531 422
00 34 652 887 271

HOSTAL SANTA BÁRBARA**

Address: Ctra. de Las Mesas, 3
Telephone: 00 34 926 530 949

CASA RURAL LA POSADA

Address: C/ Manzanares, 43
Telephone: 00 34 917 650 337

POSADA LEPANTO

Address: C/ Campo de Criptana, 20
Telephone: 00 34 685 206 966
00 34 615 271 615
www.posadalepanto.com



Socuéllamos Tourism

SOCUÉLLAMOS TOWN COUNCIL

Plaza de la Constitución, 1.
13630 Socuéllamos, C. Real, CLM, Spain.
Phone number: 00 34 926 539 410

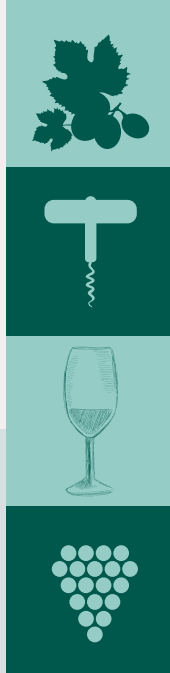
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WINE TOWER MUSEUM - TOURISM OFFICE

C/Ferial, s/n. 13630 Socuéllamos, C. Real, CLM, Spain.
For information and bookings, please call the following
phone number: 00 34 926 674 905
turismo@ayto-socuellamos.es

torredelvino@ayto-socuellamos.es
www.torredelvino.es - www.torredelvino.com

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