7. CABANYAL MARKET

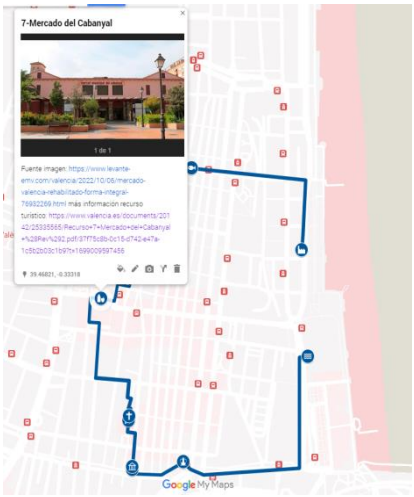
TOURIST ROUTE AROUND CABANYAL-EL CANYAMELAR-CAP DE FRANÇA

GENERAL MAP OF THE ROUTE



SITUATION OF THE TOURIST RESOURCE





The current Plaza del Dr. Lorenzo de la Flor, which housed the old El Cabanyal Market, is today one of the most important squares in the neighbourhood.

Before it was built, there were street markets, one in each district. Specifically, there were three stalls: those of Canyamelar in the old dockyards, those of Cabanyal in the wide street of San Andrés and those of Cap de França in the square of the bridge of Los Ángeles. Each market was made up of four guilds: meat sellers; wine, vinegar and spirits sellers; oil and soap sellers; and snow sellers (brought from the area of Requena or Utiel). The guilds were responsible for dealing with the Town Council for the annual payment for the right to occupy a stall.

In 1837, the town "Poble Nou de la Mar" was constituted, formed by Canyamelar, Cabanyal and Cap de França, with full autonomy for 60 years. The new municipality did not have a proper market, and the buying and selling activity had to be carried out in open-air street markets with dismountable installations.

In 1855, in view of the need for a stable market to supply the population, the Town Council began to plan its construction. It was in that same year when the first licences to build and urbanise the new neighbourhood were granted.

In order to carry out the Market project, the Diputación Provincial (Provincial Council) was involved, as its construction would be of great benefit to the population as a whole. In addition, the Town Councils had "the duty to take care of the supply of foodstuffs for their citizens and, consequently, to provide them with a suitable site for the establishment of the Markets".

The price of the construction was 11,995 escudos and 400 thousandths (=29,988 pesetas). The City Council paid the contractor Pedro Llorca, based on the rent charged to the vendors, which was finally paid off in 1876. The old market was the nerve centre of El Cabanyal between 1869 and 1958, the year in which the new market was inaugurated between Martí Grajales and Marino Sirera streets, after the flood. It occupies more than 3500 m2 with stalls that have belonged to several generations. This market, which will be the nerve centre of the Cabanyal for 89 years, had access from its four façades, the main one being the one facing Calle San Andrés, today Calle Escalante, in honour of the playwright who was born in this street.

On the outside we find the "Tira de Contar", where the produce is sold directly from the farmer to the consumer. Its origin dates back to the times of the Taifa of Balansiya: the magistrate who governed trade (who was called Muhtasib, and was in charge of controlling weights and measures, price policy and the supply of products) arranged the farmers in a row, one next to the other, and the sale was made by counting the pieces that were offered. The "Tira de Contar" is a foral institution unique in the world. Its name comes from the way in which garden produce was marketed in the foral era. The unit set the standard, and it was one, two, three, four or more tomatoes or any other vegetable that was offered to the public on the ground and demanded by the customer. It was just a matter of "counting" the pieces that were displayed in a row in a certain place in the market.

The speciality of the Cabanyal Market was always the fish, which was sold separately from the rest of the stalls. Its quality was one of the most highly regarded, together with the fish sold in the Central Market, normally also served by fisherwomen from the Cabanyal who have known its quality since their childhood. It has always been said that the people of the neighbourhood know, just by looking into the eyes of a fish, how to guarantee its quality and freshness.

PICTURES



Photo 1: The old market square. Source: https://valenciaplaza.com/escalante-el-seu- carrer-i-el-vell-mercat-del-cabanyal.

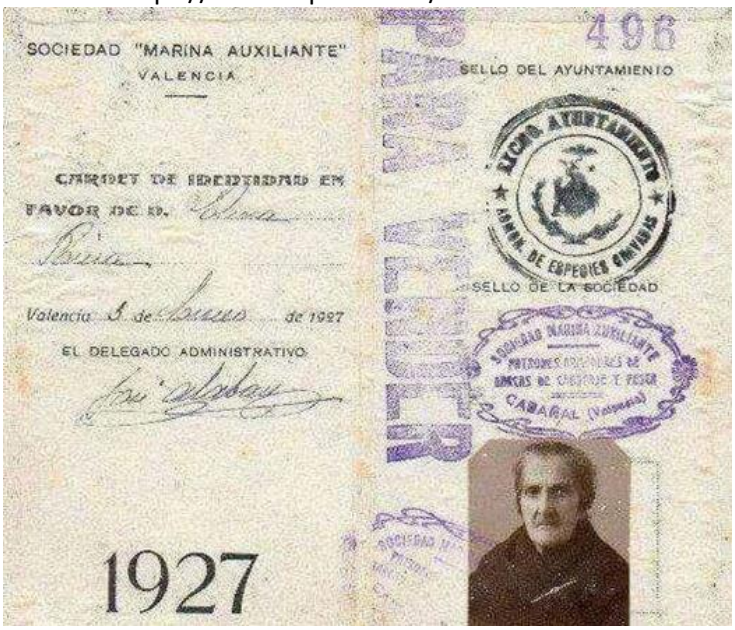


Photo 2: Fish sales card.



Photo 3: The Pueblo Nuevo del Mar in 1883. It is divided into the three traditional neighbourhoods of Cabañal, Cañamelar and Punta de Francia. Source: https://es.wikipedia.org/