



# 1. ANTIGUA ESTACIÓN DE EL GRAU

## ERNEST HEMINGWAY TOURIST ROUTE

### GENERAL ROUTE PLAN

1. Antigua Estación de El Grau
2. Estación Marítima
3. Antigua Grúa Portuaria
4. Restaurante La Pepica
5. Merenderos
6. Platja de Les Arenes
7. Centro Cultural L'Escorxador
8. Museo del Mar – Casa dels Bous



Hemingway regularly visited this area of the city, giving details of how and what he did in *Death in the Afternoon*. 'In València (...) you can always go out on a bus or the tramway to the port of Grau at night and swim at the public beach or, when it is too hot to swim, float out with as little effort as you need and lie in the barely cool water and watch the lights and the dark of the boats and the rows of eating shacks and swimming cabins. At València too, when it is hottest, you can eat down at the beach for a peseta or two pesetas at one of the eating pavilions where they will serve you beer and shrimps and a paella of rice...'.

He went to El Grau to be seen, to bathe on the beach and eat with Chaves and Granero, two Valencian bullfighters of the time.

In *Death in the Afternoon*, he writes: 'Three of these eating shacks on the beach are named Granero, after the greatest bullfighter Valencia ever produced, who was killed in the ring in Madrid in 1922.' Granero, who is honoured at the bull ring with a sculpture standing outside, was from a well-off family, he studied music and played the violin, an instrument that Hemingway adored. In an interview with Waldo Peirce, he repeats the story of the three 'eating shacks' (he changes pavilion for eating shack) and, to praise his popularity, he says that Granero, who died in 1922



when a bull's horn destroyed his skull 'as if breaking a flower pot', he even had a 'pastry with his name'.

He considers Chaves, born in El Grau, to be a bullfighter who 'more than true bullfighting fans' only appeals to the people of València. In *Death in the Afternoon*, he speaks of how the people were first 'mad' about him and then 'turned on him'.

Of Neoclassical-Elizabethan architecture, the station was inaugurated in 1852 and, during the Civil War, was partially destroyed by bombing. It was rebuilt years later, respecting its original appearance, and was finally closed in 2005. An Asset of Local Relevance, in February 2025 it was announced that it will be turned into a cultural space.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Address:** 11 Manuel Soto Avenue.

### ACCESSIBILITY

**Access:** Accessible via ramps.

**Parking:** Spot reserved for PRM nearby at 46 Joan Verdeguer Street.

### IMAGES

