



12. VALÈNCIA CATHEDRAL

HOLY GRAIL URBAN ROUTE

GENERAL ROUTE PLAN

1. The clock-keeper's house
2. Royal Monastery of the Holy Trinity
3. Museum of fine arts of València
4. Del Real Gardens
5. Convent of Saint Dominic
6. Royal College-Corpus Christi Seminary
7. Silk Exchange
8. Serranos Towers
9. Palau dels Borja
10. The Basilica of Our Lady of the Forsaken
11. L'Arquebisbe Square
12. Cathedral



València Cathedral: the epicentre of the Holy Grail

The relic is kept in València Cathedral. Consecrated in 1238 after James I conquered the city, it was erected over the former city mosque, beginning a long construction history that gave rise to a unique combination of styles: from Romanesque to Gothic, Baroque and Neo-classical.

The cathedral became a top-notch artistic benchmark over the centuries. One of its leading promoters was Cardinal Rodrigo de Borja, who backed some of the first and most outstanding Quattrocento paintings on the Iberian Peninsula.

Holy Grail Chapel

Inside the temple is the Holy Grail Chapel, the most significant space on the route. Built between 1356 and 1369, this hall was formerly a chapter house, theology classroom and meeting place for the Court. It was initially separate from the rest of the building, until architect Pere Compte integrated it with the

cathedral in the late 15th century.

With a square floor plan, the chapel stands out for its stunning eight-pointed-star ribbed vault. Its keystones depict the twelve apostles and the Coronation of the Virgin Mary, creating a space rich in symbolic wealth.

A striking gothic altarpiece presides over the space. It was created between 1441 and 1446 with renaissance reliefs by Giuliano Fiorentino. Originally part of one of the entrances to the main body of the cathedral, this piece today serves as a frame for the Holy Grail.

Although the relic was ordered to be deposited in the cathedral in 1437 by Alfonso V the Magnanimous, it was not worshiped in this chapel until 1916, when it was given its name.

