

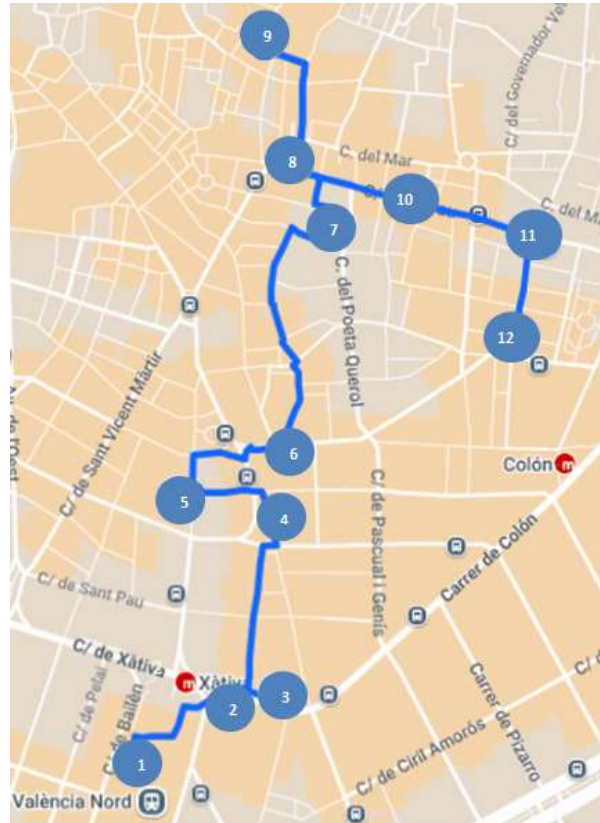


## 4. EDIFICIO DE CORREOS - PALACIO DE LAS COMUNICACIONES

### ERNEST HEMINGWAY TOURIST ROUTE

#### GENERAL ROUTE PLAN

1. Estació del Nord
2. Plaça de Bous
3. Hotel Metropol
4. Edificio de Correos
5. Ajuntament de València
6. Hotel Reina Victoria
7. Hotel Inglés
8. Café El Siglo
9. El Micalet
10. Café Ideal
11. Hotel Vincci Palace
12. Hotel Royal



An essential space in Hemingway's career. It was from here that he sent his letters and personal messages. In one, perhaps the most popular, he announced that he had finally started one of his novels to his father, Doctor Clarence Edmonds Hemingway. The message, as he acknowledged in later interviews, was sent on 21 July 1925, the day of his 26th birthday. 'I have 60,000 words', he wrote in a letter sent from Edificio de Correos, in L'Ajuntament Square. Words that were the start of what would eventually become *The Sun Also Rises*, the novel that converted him into one of the main authors of his time. A novel based on the figure of bullfighter Cayetano Ordóñez.

During the era that Hemingway was in València, now with the name of Palacio de las Comunicaciones, the building was a symbol of resistance and played a vital role as a communications hub as it housed both the post office and the telegram service, essential for transmitting information between the Republican government, the front and diplomatic delegations. Despite the bombings, the building inaugurated in 1923, designed by architect Miguel Ángel Navarro Pérez, was not destroyed and was operational throughout the war.

Five years after it began operating (in 1928), Hemingway sent a letter to his friend Waldo Pierce from this building writing that in València it is 'damnably wonderful to eat a juicy melon on the beach or in the city; all along with a jar of cold beer.'

The building continued to operate as a communications centre after the war but, under the Franco regime, correspondence was censored in the context of repression and control of information.



Considered an Asset of Local Relevance, its façade features sculptures representing the five continents and the stained-glass windows inside the building depict the coats of arms of the Spanish provinces. It has suffered no external aesthetic modifications since it opened, although its use has changed.

In 2021, the four-storey building with a floor area of more than 9,400 square metres was purchased by the Generalitat Valenciana to 'preserve, protect and make it available to citizens'. For the start of the Year of Sorolla, the ground floor was fitted out to house the exhibition *De la foscor a la llum: cinc segles d'art*. Hemingway was also present at that time as the first floor simultaneously offered the exhibit *Robert Capa. Retrospectiva*, in collaboration with the Magnum agency, with photos dating between 1932 and 1954, several of which depicted the US author who was a close friend of the photographer. For example, in one he is with his youngest son Gregory who suffered from mental health problems and alcoholism, losing his medical licence and who began the transition to become a transgender woman at the age of 63.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Address:** 24 L'Ajuntament Square.

### ACCESSIBILITY

**Access:** Accessible via ramps and no steps.

**Parking:** Spots reserved for PRM nearby at 3 Roger de Lloria Street and 25 L'Ajuntament Square.

### IMAGES



Detail of the façade of Edificio de Correos or Palacio de las Comunicaciones

