

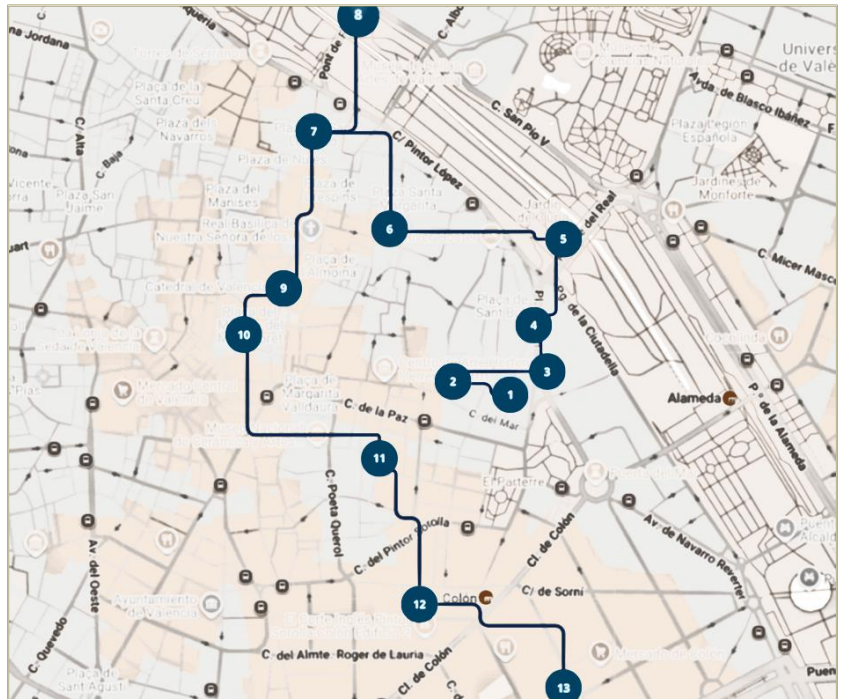
# 9. CATHEDRAL, CHAPEL AND THRONE

## SAINT VINCENT FERRER ROUTE



### GENERAL ROUTE PLAN

1. Birthplace El *pouet*
2. Ceramic Altarpiece La Mar Street
3. Convent of Preachers
4. Statue of Saint Vincent Ferrer in Tetuan Square
5. Statue of Saint Vincent Ferrer on Pont del Real
6. Parish Church of Sant Esteve
7. Dormitories
8. Santa Mònica Square
9. Cathedral, chapel and throne
10. Miracle del Mocadoret Square
11. Church of Corpus Christi
12. Colegio Imperial Niños Huérfanos
13. Basilica of Saint Vincent Ferrer



The first stone of the new cathedral was placed on 22 June 1262, suffering numerous transformations over the years. There is evidence of the existence of a Christian temple dating from the 5th-6th century that appeared among the ruins of the Almoina, as well as part of a Roman temple and a mosque. Entering through the 'Iron Door', to the left, the third side chapel is dedicated to Saint Vincent Ferrer. In the central altar is an oil painting by Vicente Inglés on the Virgin Mary appearing to the saint. The other two paintings —depicting the conversion of jews and the resurrection of a deceased woman— are by the same artist. The various stucco details show scenes from his life; they also depict allegorical figures of Eloquence, with an outstretched hand, and Temperance, watering down wine. This chapel also features a silver wooden image of the saint by Francisco Eva, which is paraded on the day of his festivity.

On this same side of the cathedral, current presbytery, under a painting of Saint Vincent (copy of a canvas dated circa 1500) the gothic pulpit from which he preached in 1413 is preserved, popularly known as '*la trona*' (the throne), as indicated by a plaque. It is said that the Archbishop of València, Saint Juan de Ribera, was to preach in 1609 and did not want to as he "*no s'trobava digne de predicar en la trona que havia predicat Sant Vicent Ferrer*" (did not feel worthy of preaching from the throne where Saint Vincent Ferrer had preached). From 1390 to

1395 the saint was in charge of lessons for the Chair of Theology funded by this cathedral in the former Chapter House, today the chapel of the Holy Grail.

A Valencian ceramic altarpiece in the *socarrat* style was installed on the exterior wall of the cathedral, next to its beautiful 'Romanesque Palace door'. Created by Jaime de Scals, it recalls Saint Vicent's peace-making efforts by preaching the gospel among the powerful and warring Centelles and Vilaraguts families in this city. The text says: '*Vosotros, si queréis recibir el Espíritu Santo, que haya concordia unos con otros (...) dejad las malas costumbres y odios, y amad al prójimo*' (You, if you wish to receive the Holy Spirit, let there be harmony (...) leave behind bad habits and hate, and love thy neighbour). Testimony of the saint's important work in the places he passed through.

The saint's relationship with Mercedarian friar Gilabert Jofré is worthy of mention; as well as being friends, they professed great admiration for each other, preaching and evangelising together. It is therefore of no surprise that Saint Vincent Ferrer would collaborate with Father Jofré in his project to found the world's first psychiatric hospital, known as "*Hospital de Ignoscents, Folls e Orats*" (Hospital of the Innocent, Fools and Madmen).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Address:** L'Almoina Square unnumbered.

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

**Access:** pedestrian square.

**Parking:** parking spaces for people with reduced mobility at 28 Les Avellanes Street.

