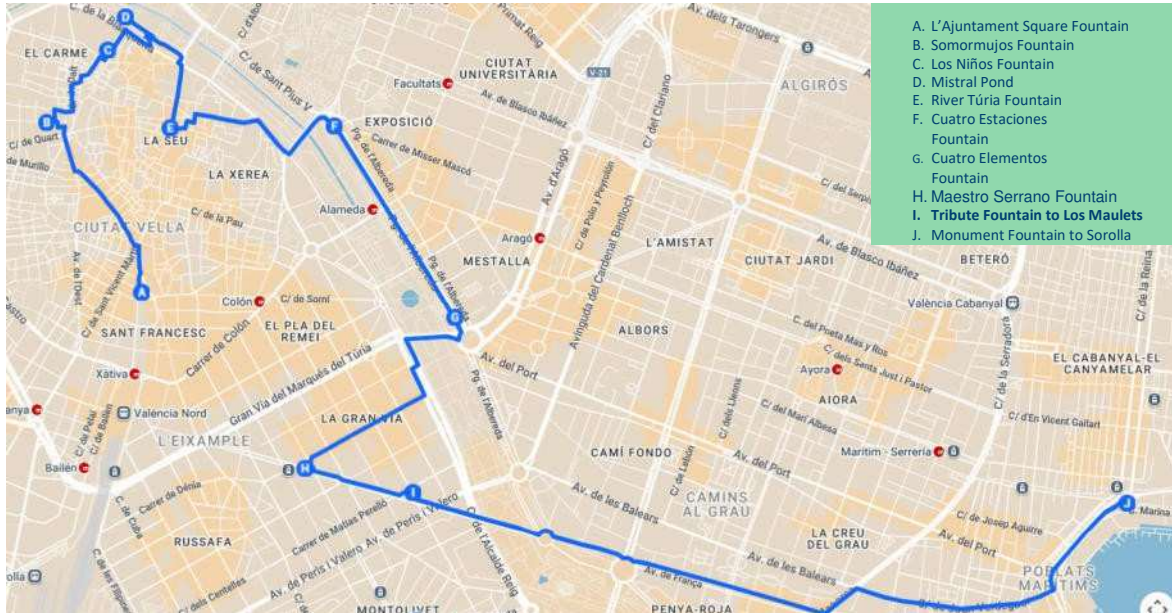




# TRIBUTE FOUNTAIN TO LOS MAULETS

## ORNAMENTAL FOUNTAIN TOURIST ROUTE

### GENERAL ROUTE PLAN



The monument stands in the same place as a former statue in honour of José Antonio Primo de Rivera, which was removed in 1979. The current monument is by Vicente Galián Miquel and was installed in its location on 25 April 1994.

The ensemble consists of a prism-shaped stone monolith at the centre of a round pool. Behind it, five columns with octagonal shafts in the shape of a semicircle from the former underground flower market from the current L'Ajuntament Square (Goerlich's '*tortada*'). The columns around the monolith once surrounded the fountain that stood there and has been in La Saïdia since 1961, year in which the flower market was dismantled.

A panel on the front of the monolith bears the following inscription under the *señera* (regional flag of València) and surrounded by laurel leaves: '*Valencia, Cap i Casal del Regne als Maulets, patriotes valencians que defenieren les llibertats nacionals del Regne de Valencia en la guerra de successió que finalisà en la batalla d'Almansa el 25 d'abril de 1707 i va supondre la pèrdua del Fus i l'autogovern dels valencians*'. (València, capital of the Kingdom to the 'Maulets', Valencian patriots who defended the national freedoms of the Kingdom of València in the war of succession that ended in the battle of Almansa on 25 April 1707 and meant the loss of the charters and self-governance of the Valencians.)

The Battle of Almansa is part of the War of Succession, in which two contenders for the Spanish crown —Archduke Charles and Philip of Anjou— fought to reign over Spanish territories. The kingdoms of the former Crown of Aragón, which included the

Kingdom of València, mostly supported the archduke (from the House of Habsburg) as it meant respect for the institutions and laws of each nationality and, in the case of València, respecting its Charters. On the other hand, Philip of Anjou represented a centralising, French-style monarchy with no interest in respecting the freedoms of the people.

The people of València were not united in the war. They were divided into two sides: those willing to die to defend our regional freedoms (Maulets) and those who, for economic and class reasons, had no problem with selling out our people (Botiflers). The first group logically supported the archduke, while the second supported the French prince.

The Maulets, who wore a white ribbon as a symbol, was a group comprised of the lower classes of Valencian society, but not just of agricultural workers as could be inferred from the etymology of the word *maulet* (diminutive of '*maula*', which referred to a person of low social standing, who is in a relationship of subordination to another person). This group also included the low-level secular clergy, bourgeoisie, guilds and middle nobility, especially in urban settings. In short, a group of national heroes who fought alongside the Habsburgs, supporters of maintaining the Charters and freedoms of the Valencian people.

Meanwhile, the *Botiflers*, who wore yellow as a symbol, was a group primarily comprised of high landed nobility, but also the highest tiers of the ecclesiastical hierarchy and royal farmers. The name *Botifler* comes from the French '*beautéfleur*', the Bourbon fleur-de-lis.

The war was a success for supporters of Philip V; his troops, comprised mainly of French and Castilians, managed to defeat the Habsburg supporters.

Every 25 April, date that commemorates the Battle of Almansa (and subsequent loss of the Charters of València), Valencian organisations hold various tributes and commemorative gatherings at this monument.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Address:** El Regne de València Avenue.

## ACCESSIBILITY

**Access:** Accessible square with dropped curbs.

**Parking:** No spots reserved for PRM nearby.