

ASCÓ

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ASCÓ, tourist and commercial map

CA ESTISORA

The main street is narrow and winding, like all the old streets in this small town, with strategic corners, an easy defence against any invader. Ca Estisora almost centres the street and forces you to make a perfect four.

A small tower, with crushed stone embrasures and a round hole in the wall, which is assumed to have corresponded to a door or an apparatus that closed the street; it was the watchtower of the Moorish Quarter.

CAL CAVALLER

Ancestral home of the lineage of Salvador, with the family coat of arms on the façade, built from 1632. Here ended the walled section of Ascó, the enclosed small town.

Bertomeu Blai Salvador built this house to turn it into his stately residence when he was appointed by King Philip IV of Castile as a knight with a right to a coat of arms. It is located in the square of the same name.

SNOW WELL

From the second half of the 17th century, the Ascó snow well is the only one left in these areas. Located in the foundations of a house, it is constructed with crushed stone and has a pointed vault, with a circular floor plan and in the shape of an acorn. The upper beams rest on ridges at different heights for the snow conservation, which was poured out from a window. Its purpose was to fill it with snow or ice and have it available for the rest of the year. During that time the storage and distribution of ice became an important business that involved a significant part of the rural population.

CARRER SEQUERETS

With the expulsion of about 800 Moriscos by Philip II of Aragon (III of Castile) that occupied 154 houses, the Morisco period would end in Ascó.

This zigzag shaped street was ceded to the university by the Knights Hospitaller, who in turn converted it into a dryer for fruit such as figs and raisins. The diminutive name of "sequers" (driers) remained as a place name.

MOLÍ DEL CAVALLER

At the beginning of the 20th century, Ascó had twenty oil mills working simultaneously. The considerable concentration of these industries was due to the fact that the peasantry, and in particular the cultivation of olive trees, constituted the main economic source of the small city.

Nowadays most of these mills have disappeared. The mill of Cavaller, recently restored and renovated, offers visits where you can learn more about what this industrial heritage has meant for the municipality.

CARRER DE LA MOLA

Without a doubt it is, along with Sequerets Street, one of the most typical streets in Ascó. This balcony over the Ebro follows the old layout of the walls of Ascó. On Mola Street, the houses leave the corridor of walls free that were destroyed by bombings from the other side of the river during the Spanish Civil War of 1936–1939. Nowadays you can still see some of these walls on Mola, Nova Square and on the streets of Cavaller and Trinquet. The walls of the squares and houses are made of stone and mud or, simply, of mud.

Mola Street, shaped like a horseshoe, retains the typical doorways of houses of fan-shaped bricks, clearly a Moroccan influence. From this location there is a magnificent view of the Ebro, Illes, Pas de l'Ase and Montsant in the background.

VOLTES I SITGES

In the Plaça Major (Main Square) the old Muslim mosque was established, later the university, thereafter town hall until 1987 and, at present, the municipal music school can be found there. Above the entrance arch of this building we can read the date of 1610, which corresponds to the year of expelling the Moors.

This square is built on top of some stone vaults which are accessed down the alley known as Secanella. This place is called Voltes i Sitges. Inside, some silos recall the function of cereal storage that Ascó restored from the Muslim period.

LES PERXES

This is what the ancient porches were called that gave access to the wall of Ascó. On Baix Street we can find the porches of Ciego, Baijunca and Cavaller; On Hospital Street, and attached to the house of the same name, we find the Peresans perxe; on the street of Plaça Nova, the perxe of Santo Domingo, and Pla de Vallxiqué, Porta de la Tarda, nowadays disappeared.

On Placeta you will find another one of the gates of the small city and on Mola Street the Portetes (small doors) are still preserved, a narrow alley or passageway for the clandestine entrance and exit of the town.

CASTLE

At the top of the hill overlooking the river, the remains of the castle of Ascó are preserved. During the centuries of Muslim occupation it was the residence of the Wali of Siurana. From the Christian reconquest carried out by Ramon Berenguer IV, it has remained in the hands of the Catalan counties. Subsequently, his son Alfons the Chaste, in 1182, gave the castle and the villages of Ascó and Riba-roja to the order of the temple. The Templars occupied the castle until their dissolution in 1312. The castle of Ascó also suffered a siege ordered by King James II who, in 1318, gave it to the Knights Hospitaller. This order was present in Ascó until the 19th century, although the castle served as a fortress during the Catalan Revolt (1640) and suffered severe destruction. Later, in the War of the Spanish Succession and thereafter with the Carlist Wars, the castle was dismantled.

EBRO BATTLE AREAS

Once the republican offensive was stopped, the Francoist army recovered the lost land little by little and forced the republicans to retreat. Before this unstoppable advance, a staggered defence of the last republican positions was organized that had to allow the withdrawal of the troops. The last line of resistance was located in the Fatarella, Riba-roja d'Ebre, and Ascó sector, where the 15th Army Corps was also installed because it was well defended, camouflaged and with a great visual command over the river, which allowed continuous contact with the Republican rearguard.

The camp of the 15th Corps of the Republican Army and the General Quarter of the General Staff were located on four cultivated terraces, oriented from east to west and delimited by high margins used to support the cabins and outbuildings necessary for the everyday life of the troops, such as warehouses, offices, latrines, kitchens, infirmary, etc., as well as excavated refuges to guarantee the safety of those in the camp.

The Reguers Bunker is a Francoist defensive construction that was part of the permanent fortification system called "Fortified Line of the Bridge Head of Riba-roja - Flix - Ascó", which had a double objective: to control the area close to the river to prevent a possible republican attack and defend the railroad track.

CHURCH

The earliest written reference to the existence of a church in Ascó dates back to 1151, when the population still remained under Islamic control.

It is a building where three different styles coexist. A Romanesque style chevet transitioning to Gothic with a pentagonal floor plan, ogival vaulting and buttresses on the outside but with a series of Renaissance details, such as the use of a midpoint arch, Tuscan columns at the angles of the presbytery and classical cornices. The most important historical event in the small city of Ascó in the early 16th century was the conversion of its inhabitants from the Islamic religion to Christianity, which promoted the expansion of the church in order to accommodate all parishioners. This nave that expands from a Gothic keystone is Tuscan in style and was finished in the year 1702. Finally, in 1901, in order to include the birthplace of St. Pere Màrtir Sans Jordà, bishop, in its interior, the last enlargement of the church was carried out and the core was built.

At the end of the church stands a Romanesque bell tower with two levels and three openings, following the style of churches in the Pyrenees. The walls are made of squared ashlars, and the roof of Arab tiles, except for the apse section, which is made from flat slabs. The gargoyles are notable.

PLACES OF CULTURAL INTEREST

- A** PERXE DE PERE SANS
- B** FORMER HOSPITAL
- C** SANT JOAN BAPTISTA PARROCIAL CHURCH
- D** CA ESTISORA
- E** FORMER CA LA VILA
- F** PERXE DE SANTO DOMINGO
- G** EBRO BALCONY
- H** CARRER SEQUERETS
- I** LES PORTETES
- J** CARRER DE LA MOLA
- K** VIEWPOINT
- L** VOLTES I SITGES
- M** CAL CAVALLER
- N** SNOW WELL
- O** PERXE DE LA PLACETA
- P** PERXE DE LA BAIJUNCA
- Q** CAVALLER MILL
- R** CASTLE
- S** PERXE DE CAL CAVALLER
- T** EBRO BATTLE AREAS

URGENCES

- E1** FIRE DEPARTMENT
- (I)** MUNICIPAL POLICE

SERVICES

- E2** POST OFFICE
- E3** TRAIN STATION

CHAPELS

- E4** SANT MIQUEL SMALL CHAPEL
- E5** MARE DE DÉU DEL CARME SMALL CHAPEL
- E6** STATIONS OF THE CROSS SMALL CHAPEL
- E7** SANTA PAULINA HERMITAGE

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

- 1** TOWN HALL
- 2** PUBLIC LIBRARY
- 3** MUNICIPAL STADIUM
- 4** SHOOTING RANGE
- 5** SANT MIQUEL ELDERLY CENTRE
- 6** MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY CENTRE
- 7** NEURALGIC CENTRE
- 8** MEDICAL CLINIC
- 9** ASCÓ MUNICIPAL MUSIC SCHOOL
- 10** SANT MIQUEL SCHOOL
- 11** MAGISTRATES' COURT
- 12** YOUTH CENTRE
- 13** NURSERY



- 14** LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
- 15** TOURISM OFFICE
- 16** SPORTS PAVILION
- 17** SWIMMING POOLS
- 18** GERIATRIC RESIDENCE
- 19** EXHIBITION HALL
- 20** CAMPER AREA
- 21** VÍDEO ASCÓ TELEVISIÓ
- 22** JOSEP MUR TRAINING CENTRE

BARNS AND RESTAURANTS

- 23** EL CALIU BAR - RESTAURANT
- 24** ANITA BAR
- 25** FLORIDA BAR
- 26** NÚCLEO BAR
- 27** CASAL D'AVIS SANT MIQUEL BAR
- 28** PUEQUEÑO JOHNNY BAR - RESTAURANT

- 29** DOT BAR

BUTCHER SHOPS

- 30** M. DEL CARME BUTCHER'S SHOP
- 31** MONJA BUTCHER'S SHOP
- 32** PAULINA BUTCHER'S SHOP

BANKS

- 33** LA CAIXA
- 34** BBVA

FLOUR MILL

- 35** FARINES POQUET

PHARMACY

- 36** M. TERESA PALLARÉS PHARMACY

HARDWARE STORE

- 37** BIARNÉS HARDWARE STORE

BAKERY AND PASTRY SHOPS

- 38** MONTAÑA BAKERY AND PASTRY SHOP
- 39** GRA BO BAKERY AND PASTRY SHOP

PHOTOGRAPHY

- 40** FOCUS

REAL ESTATE AGENCY

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PRINTING

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LIBRARIES

- 43** CAN SOLFA BOOK AND STATIONARY SHOP

FASHION STORE

- 44** GALERIA PALLEJÀ

MILLS AND WINERIES

- 45** CELLER SERRA
- 46** NOVA AGRÍCOLA SANT ISIDRE D'ASCÓ

HAIRDRESSERS AND BEAUTY CENTERS

- 47** PINK STYLE BEAUTY CENTRE
- 48** ESTILS HAIRDRESSERS
- 49** M. CARME HAIRDRESSERS
- 50** ROSA M. RAMOS HAIRDRESSERS
- 51** DÚNIA HAIRDRESSERS

PROFESSIONALS

- 52** IOLANDA MÀDICO PODIATRY CENTRE
- 53** EMILIO ARRANZ PHYSICAL THERAPY CENTRE
- 54** MONTENDENT, SL DENTAL CLINIC

GROCERY STORES

- 55** ALIMENTACIÓ FINA SERRA

- 56** CAL MARCOS

- 57** SPAR

GIFTS

- 58** COMERCIAL ORTIZ
- 59** COMERCIAL MAJOR

CAR REPAIR SHOP

- 60** AGRÍCOLA MIQUEL
- 61** DOTAUTO
- 62** TALLER BLADÉ

TAXI

- 63** TAXI MIQUEL BIARNÉS

TOBACCO SHOP

- (43)** CAN SOLFA TOBACCO SHOP

DRUGSTORE

- 64** CLAREL