

ROUTES OF EUROPEAN REMEMBRANCE



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INTRODUCTION

Europe is criss-crossed by traces of the past that often go unnoticed. Streets, buildings, landscapes, monuments and everyday spaces hold the memory of events that have profoundly marked our shared history: wars, dictatorships, exiles, resistance movements, human rights violations and collective struggles for freedom and dignity. However, much of this memory remains invisible or relegated to oblivion.

With the aim of bringing these stories closer to the public and promoting a critical understanding of the past, this eBook on Educational **Routes of European Remembrance** has been created. Through 15 memory routes designed with an educational and accessible approach, this material invites readers to travel through different European territories to discover significant sites of historical and democratic memory in situ.

The eBook includes 3 routes in Italy, 3 in France, 3 in Portugal and 6 in Spain (Catalonia and León), offering a diverse and transnational view of historical processes which, although they took place in different contexts, share common roots and consequences in European history. Each route offers a journey that combines historical information, critical reflection and education in values, promoting an active and situated learning experience.

This material is part of the European project **REFORE NETWORK – Youth Network for Recovering the Forgotten Remembrance**, coordinated by the Auryñ Association (León,



Spain), in collaboration with Association Intercultura (France), Associazione Culturale Link (Italy), La Víbria Intercultural (Terrassa, Spain) and Associação para a Igualdade Aequalitas (Portugal). The project is co-funded by the European Union through the **CERV programme (Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values)**.

This eBook has been designed as an educational and awareness-raising resource for young people, educators, trainers, social agents and the general public. The routes not only invite visitors to learn about historical events, but also to reflect on their impact on the present, the defence of human rights and the importance of an active democratic memory.

Visiting these sites is a way of learning from the territory, listening to silenced voices and understanding that memory does not belong only to the past. Discovering Europe's Forgotten Memory is an essential tool for strengthening democratic values and building a critical, committed and conscious citizenry.

This eBook is an invitation to walk through memory, understand history and never forget.



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ROUTES IN FRANCE



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Memorial Route in Brittany – Rennes

This route helps explain how the Second World War shaped the city of Rennes and, more broadly, the history of France. Each place reflects the German Occupation, the Resistance, the repression, and the remembrance work carried out after the Liberation.

1. Colombier Barracks – Place du Maréchal Juin L'Ajuntament

During the Second World War, this former military barracks was one of Rennes' strategic sites. It reflects the strong military presence in France during the German Occupation and helps explain how the army controlled the urban space and the population.

2. Colombier Monument (the 8 June 1944 executions)

This monument pays tribute to 32 Resistance members executed by German forces on 8 June 1944, two days after the Allied landings in Normandy. These executions illustrate the violence of Nazi repression against the French Resistance at the moment when Liberation began.

3. Memorial to the Martyrs of the Resistance and Deportation

This symbolic memorial evokes both executions and deportation to Nazi camps. It reminds us that thousands of people in France were arrested, deported, or killed for resisting the German Occupation or because they were considered enemies of the Nazi regime.

4. Square of the Martyrs of the Resistance – Place du 50e d'Artillerie

This place is dedicated to Resistance members from Rennes who died during the war. It shows how, after 1945, France chose to officially honour those who fought against the Occupation by embedding their memory in public spaces.

5. Quai des Déportés – Rennes Train Station

From this station, men and women were deported to Nazi concentration and extermination camps. This place recalls the role of the French railway network in deportation and highlights the brutality of a system that tore thousands of people away from their daily lives.

6. La Courrouze Site (former munitions factories)

During the war, this industrial site employed around 4,500 women to manufacture munitions. It helps explain the wartime economy and the essential role of civilians, especially women, in a context of shortages, constraints, and occupation.

7. Andrée Récipon's House (Laillé)

This house was a place of refuge and commitment to the Resistance. It shows how the French Resistance often relied on individual initiatives and the use of ordinary places, sometimes at great risk to the people who lived there.

8. Butte de la Maltière

Between 1940 and 1944, 79 Resistance fighters were executed here by the German occupiers. This site is one of the main places of repression in Ille-et-Vilaine and reminds us of the extremely high price paid by many French people for resisting.

9. Former Jacques-Cartier Prison

This prison was used to detain Resistance members and political opponents before their deportation or execution. It reflects the repressive system put in place during the Occupation to silence any form of opposition.

10. Thérèse-Pierre Square

This square pays tribute to Thérèse Pierre, a Resistance member arrested by the Gestapo and killed under torture in 1943. Her story gives the French Resistance a human face and recalls the brutality of Nazi methods.

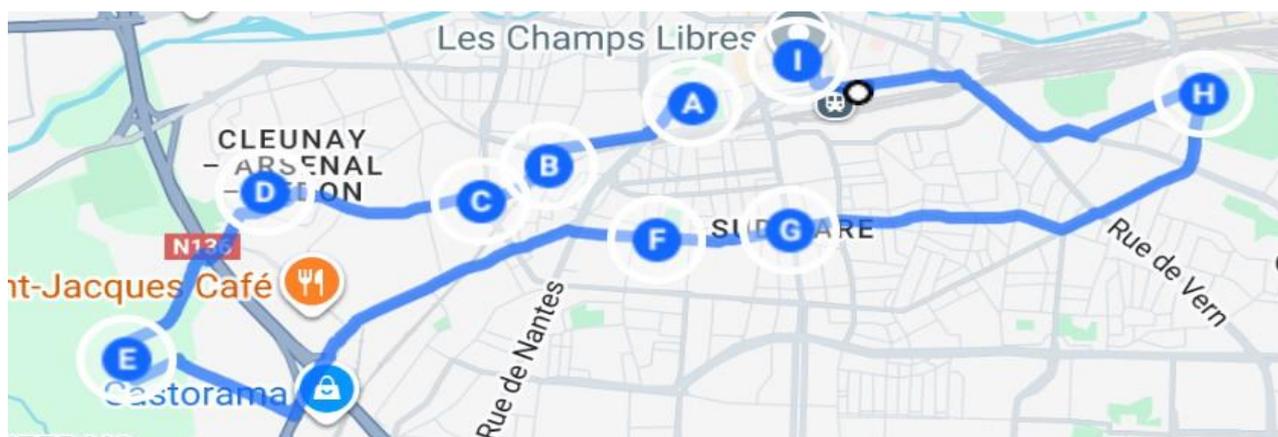
11. Eastern Cemetery – Commonwealth Military Plotment

This military plot contains the graves of Allied soldiers who died during the Second World War. It highlights that the Liberation of France was the result of an international effort led by the Allied forces alongside the French Resistance.

12. Brittany Museum – Les Champs Libres

The Brittany Museum preserves and explains the region's history during the Second World War. It helps place the sites visited into a broader context and shows how the memory of the war has been shaped since 1945.

Through these places, Rennes shows how the Second World War left a lasting mark on France, through occupation, resistance, repression, and remembrance. This tour helps explain why these events remain essential to French history and identity.



Memorial Route – Saint-Malo

This walk through Saint-Malo sheds light on the strategic role of this port city during the Second World War and the extent of the destruction caused by its Liberation in 1944.

1. Alet Citadel – Alet Headland (Saint-Servan)

Overlooking the bay and the Rance estuary, this headland was turned into a fortress by German forces as part of the Atlantic Wall. The remaining bunkers and batteries show how crucial this location was for coastal and maritime control.

2. Saint-Malo Intra-Muros Ramparts (Saint-Vincent Gate)

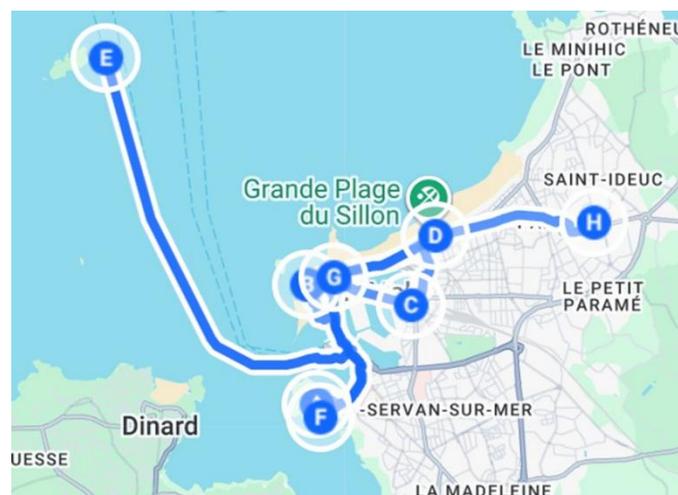
The ramparts protected a fortified town occupied by the Germans. In August 1944, Allied bombardments heavily damaged the city during the Liberation. The restored ramparts now help explain their protective purpose.

3. The Port of Saint-Malo (Vauban and Duguay-Trouin Basins)

Used by German forces as a military and logistical port, its position on the English Channel made it vital for maritime control. Today a leisure port, it still reflects memories of the Occupation.

4. Sillon Beach

Facing the fortified town, this beach formed part of the Atlantic Wall defensive system, equipped with obstacles and mines. It was heavily bombed in August 1944 during the battle for the Liberation of Saint- Malo.



5. Cézembre Island (from the coast or by boat)

Cézembre Island was heavily fortified by the German army and intensely bombed by Allied forces in 1944. Because unexploded munitions remain, access is still strictly controlled.

6. The Saint-Servan District and Solidor Tower

Close to the Rance estuary, this district had strategic importance. Solidor Tower, dating back to the Middle Ages, was used during the war as a lookout to track maritime movements.

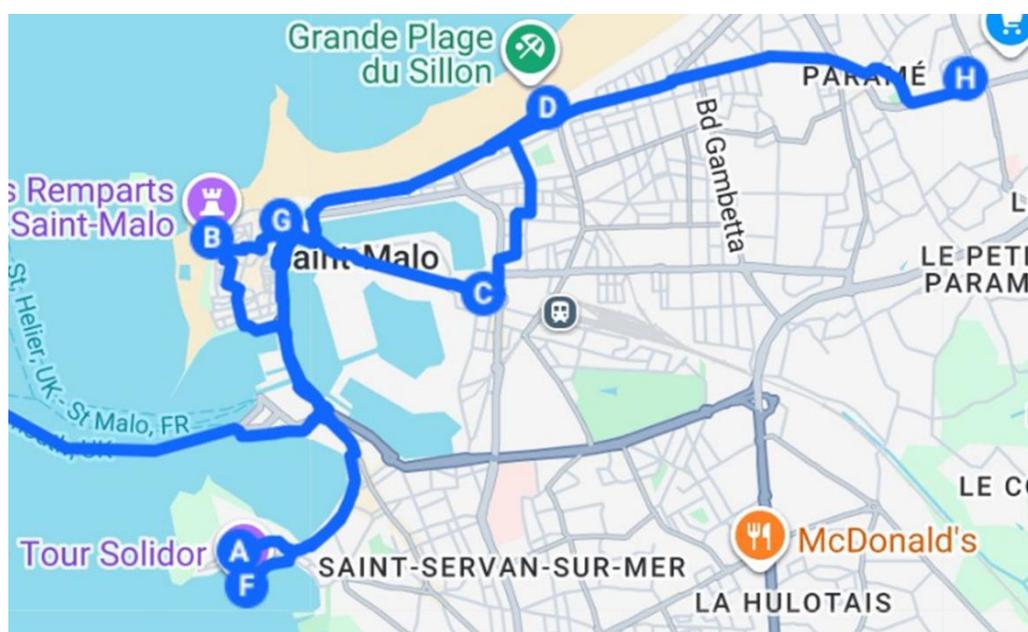
7. Chateaubriand Square (within the walls)

This zone suffered severe Allied bombing during the Liberation. Its identical post-war reconstruction reflects Saint-Malo's determination to preserve its historical identity.

8. Saint-Malo War Cemetery (Rocabey)

This cemetery gathers the graves of Allied soldiers who fell during the battles for the region's Liberation. It serves as a reminder of the human cost of World War II and the role played by Allied forces in France.

These remembrance sites show how Saint-Malo, a strategic city, was profoundly shaped by the war—through occupation, destruction, and reconstruction. They also highlight the essential part played by the Allies in France's Liberation.



Memorial Itinerary

The Liberated Rance (Dinan Area)

In August 1944, the Rance Valley served as a strategic corridor for advancing Allied troops after the Landings. Battles involved German forces, local resistance fighters, and Allied armies. In 2024, the towns of the Dinan area commemorated the 80th anniversary of the Liberation during the event “The Liberated Rance”.

1. Pleudihen-sur-Rance

Pleudihen-sur-Rance was liberated on 6 August 1944. This location helps explain the gradual arrival of American forces in the region. Re-enactments of an American military camp and a 1944 civilian village bring to life the daily experiences of soldiers and civilians.

2. Saint-Maden – La Sècherie

On 3 August 1944, resistance fighters and German troops clashed in La Sècherie. The memorial stone honours the local Resistance and the risks faced by its members. The site reflects the intensity of the confrontations before the Liberation.

3. Lanvallay

Lanvallay was the scene of fierce fighting on 6 August 1944. The town’s war memorial pays tribute to its soldiers and resistance fighters. It reminds visitors of the heavy losses suffered during the Liberation.

4. Dinan

Dinan was freed on 6 August 1944 by American troops of the 3rd Army. Place du Maréchal Leclerc is now a key site for commemorations. A walk through the historic centre symbolically traces the entry of Allied forces and reveals the event’s importance for the town’s population.

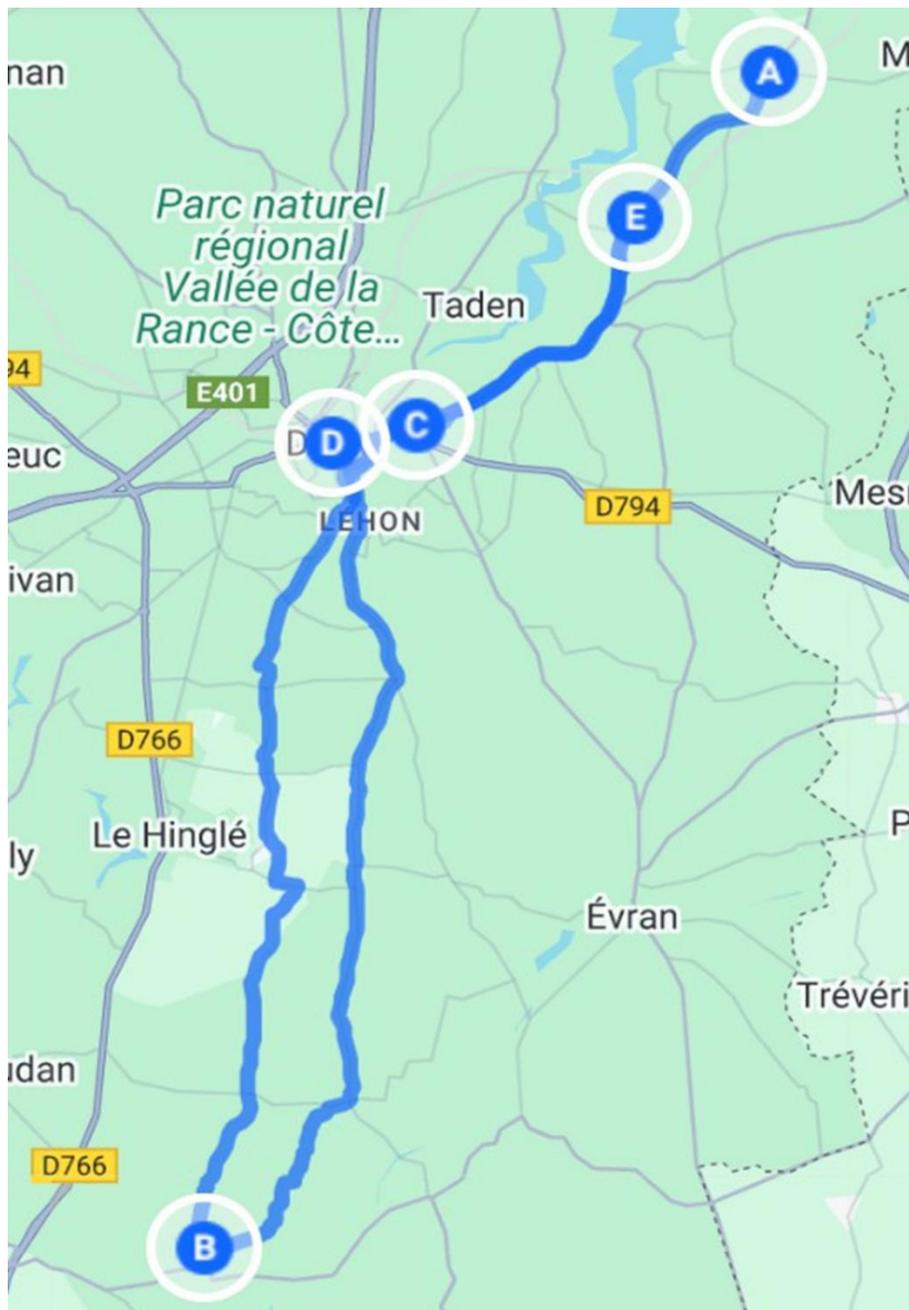
5. La Vicomté-sur-Rance

This town is associated with the airdrops carried out by the British 3rd Airborne Division. The Émile Bouetard monument commemorates the Free French SAS

paratroopers who joined operations aiding the Resistance. This place symbolizes the cooperation between Allied troops and French resistance fighters.

The Rance Libérée path shows how the Liberation of France took shape on a local scale, through battles, resistance actions, and Allied involvement.

These locations help explain how the Liberation progressed in Brittany.





ROUTES IN ITALY



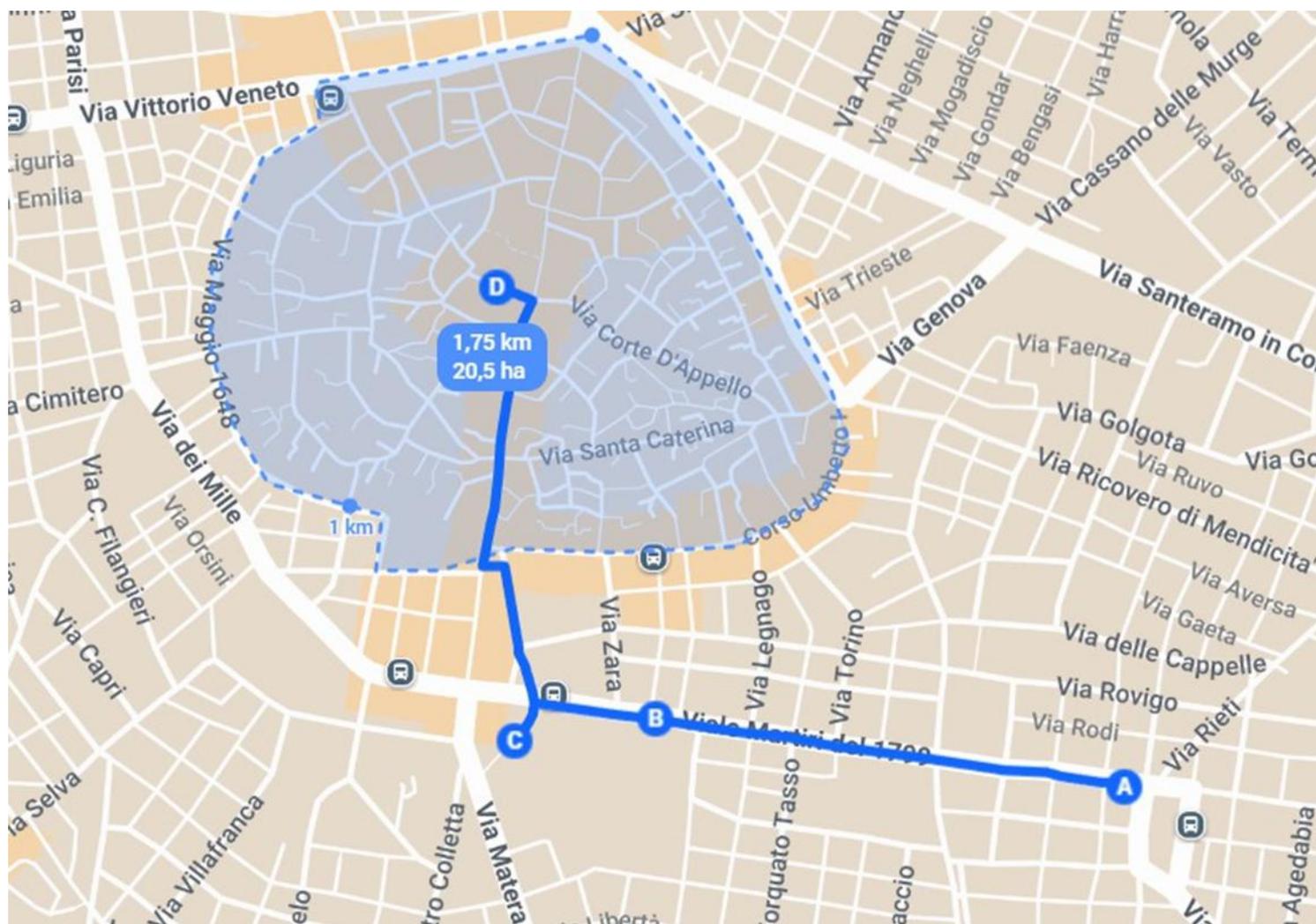
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THE TWENTY YEARS OF FASCIST RELATIONS (1922-1945) AND ITS IMPACT IN ALTAMURA (BA)

This short itinerary shows various sites in Altamura that represent traces of what was the twenty years of fascism and the Second World War.

The various locations are listed at the following link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/5/edit?mid=1Ovr5ppg6mLIG4lapvvKsBtv8GEk5DA&usp=sharing>



A) The aqueduct

The aqueduct was built in the 1930s in Altamura. The project, in reality, had its origins in a broader and more complex program of infrastructure modernization in Southern Italy, begun before the rise of Fascism, but later became a source of pride for the regime's propaganda.

Unconfirmed sources claim that during the Second World War, anti-aircraft guns were installed on the roof of the building, even though the city of Altamura had never been bombed.

After the armistice of September 8, 1943, and the subsequent German occupation, which lasted only a few months in Altamura, the occupiers decided to destroy the building. This plan, however, was thwarted by the then mayor of Altamura, who managed to convince German officials that destroying the aqueduct would have a negligible impact on the Allied advance into Italy and would instead be an act of needless cruelty towards the population, who were already frequently affected, especially in the summer months, by periods of intense heat and drought that compromised the city's water supply.

B) November 4th School

The school, built during the Fascist period, also served as a military hospital. Its distinctive structure features an "M"-shaped floor plan, the initial of Mussolini's name, conceived as a tribute to the dictator.

C) Monument to the fallen

A monument commemorating the fallen of the Great War. This square was the site of many military commemorations during the Fascist regime, which stemmed from widespread dissatisfaction with the outcome of the First World War, marked by enormous human sacrifice, and the supposed—according to the Fascist narrative—inadequate territorial and social concessions Italy deserved.

D) Symbols fascists on fountains and manholes

Symbols of the regime still remain throughout the streets of the historic center and in what constituted the city's territorial extension during the twenty-year Fascist period. Those on the fountains have largely been deliberately scratched away, while those on the manhole covers in the city center are mostly still intact and clearly visible. These are small

propaganda signs, designed to highlight the investments attributed to the Fascist regime, which, however, in many cases were part of projects begun previously and simply completed during the Fascist period.



E) Campo 65

Between 1942 and 1943, Campo 65, located between Altamura and Gravina in Puglia, in the province of Bari, hosted the largest Allied prisoner-of-war camp in Italy during World War II. A veritable city, consisting of approximately 80 barracks and service buildings, it spanned an area of approximately 30 hectares. It housed soldiers from the British Commonwealth (Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, etc.) captured by Axis forces (Italy and Germany) on the North African front. In total, approximately 12,000 people passed through Campo 65. In 1943, following the Allied advance from Sicily, the prison camp was decommissioned. Part of the facility was used to train partisans of the Yugoslav Liberation Army, traces of which still remain in some barracks. After the war, from the early 1950s until 1962, the camp welcomed refugees from Istria, Venezia Giulia, Dalmatia, and former Italian colonies. Currently, the area, located near State Road 96 and a protected historic site owned by the Municipality of Altamura, houses a dozen barracks, most of which are in very poor condition, including the command building, which is perhaps one of the best-preserved buildings.

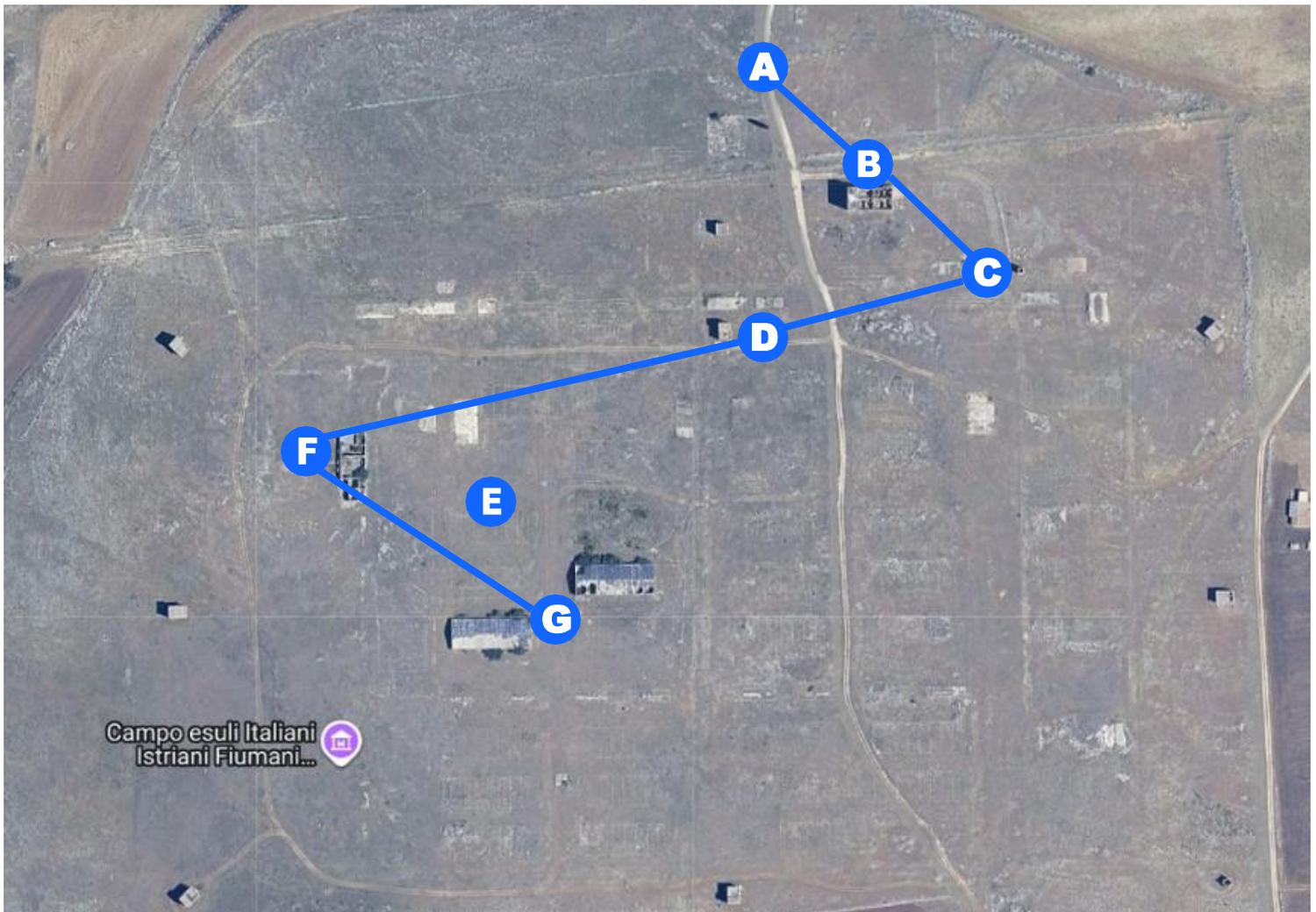
Camp 65

The construction works for Prisoner of War Camp No. 65 (PG 65 Gravina) were completed in 1942. The camp was built between the towns of Altamura and Gravina, along State Road 96, on an area of approximately 31 hectares.

The 36 barracks could accommodate up to 12,000 Allied prisoners of war—British, South African, New Zealanders, Canadians, Cypriots, and Palestinians—mainly captured on the North African front, making PG 65 the largest Italian prisoner-of-war camp of the Second World War.

After the area was liberated by the Allies, the camp was converted into a training center for Yugoslav soldiers, whose objective was to return to their homeland to fight, which at the time was still occupied by Nazi-Fascist troops.

A third phase in the camp's history coincided with its use as a reception center for Istrian-Dalmatian refugees, who were later redistributed to various regions of Italy. Given the existence of a structure already suitable for accommodation, it was therefore decided to adapt it for this purpose.



A) Entrance of the camp

Access to the camp is through the original entrance. The remains of the entrance gate, consisting of four tuff stone columns, are still visible. A little further ahead are the ruins of a small guardhouse, which once controlled what was the only access point to the camp. In addition, this area once housed several residential buildings, which are no longer present today.

B) Command building

One of the best-preserved structures is the command building, the administrative center of the camp, which housed the offices and the living quarters of the commander and officers. It is currently unusable due to internal collapses and structural instability, having never undergone any restoration work.

C) Reservoir tower and other buildings

In this area are the ruins of other buildings, including a water tower intended for the camp's water supply, originally topped with a pair of large cylindrical tanks on its summit.

D) Watchtower Nord

This is the northernmost watchtower. The surveillance structures are all very similar: they have a rectangular layout and extend over three floors. Eight of them are still clearly visible, positioned to enclose the entire area of the prisoner-of-war camp.

E) Prisoner area

This was the area where the barracks and buildings used by the camp's prisoners were concentrated. The entrance was located near the northern watchtower. The area was divided into six north-south sectors, separated by barbed wire fences. Today, only three barracks remain standing in this zone.

F) Kitchens

The kitchens have collapsed roofs and are accessible only with great difficulty; on the southern exterior wall, the word "kitchens" is still legible.

F) Barracks and Latrines

The only remaining barracks have retained much of their original appearance despite the partial collapse of the floors: tuff stone walls and concrete beams; the portion of the roof still intact is covered with asphalt but is in very poor condition.

Inside, the barracks are divided into bays, separated by large masonry partitions equipped with doors featuring semicircular arches.

In one of them, extraordinary evidence remains from the brief period when the camp was converted into a training center: in one of the bays, several paintings are still visible, although in very poor condition, created using a very simple technique. These include a map of the Mediterranean, with Italy at the center and, above it, four flags—the British, Yugoslav, Soviet, and American—and another map depicting part of the eastern Balkan Peninsula and the Soviet Union.

From the collapse of the regime to freedom. Bari (1943-1945)

The various locations are listed at the following link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/5/edit?mid=1L9Rp5E5vW3fmPOisbUPYPFGatyvwJul&usp=sharing>



A) The “Monumento ai caduti” (war memorial)

The enthusiasm for regained freedom following the fall of the Fascist regime in Bari was brutally crushed in blood as a result of harsh military orders issued by General Mario Roatta, though in fact inspired by the head of government, Pietro Badoglio, and circulated to all army commands. On 28 July 1943, the city witnessed a violent repression targeting university and secondary school students, teachers, and ordinary citizens who had taken to the streets to demand the release of anti-fascist prisoners and the removal of Fascist symbols. The demonstrators were surrounded between Piazza Umberto I and Via Niccolò dall’Arca by an army unit led by an officer and positioned in front of the headquarters of the National Fascist Party (PNF). Suddenly, while Professor Fabrizio Canfora was attempting to explain the peaceful nature of the protest, the troops opened fire on the young demonstrators, supported by other armed individuals shooting from inside the PNF building. The outcome was devastating: twenty people were killed and around seventy were wounded. In an article published in *L’Italia del Popolo*, the weekly newspaper of the Action Party, Professor Canfora harshly condemned the repression, stating: “The surge of joy following Mussolini’s fall on 25 July was quickly suppressed in our city as well, as elsewhere, but here in an even more tragic way, in a sea of blood.”

B) Former Postal Palace

On 9 September 1943, at the same time as the destruction of the port was taking place, German forces also attacked the Telecommunications Building in Piazza Cesare Battisti, located behind the University. The building was nonetheless firmly defended by militarized postal workers and by the Carabinieri. A few blocks away stood the headquarters of Radio Bari, at 247 Via Putignani, in a building adjacent to the Church of San Rocco. This major Bari-based broadcaster, one of the most important facilities of the EIAR (Italian Radio Broadcasting Authority), entered a completely new phase thanks to the efforts of its technicians and the active support of anti-fascist intellectuals, breaking away from the propaganda role it had played during the Fascist period.

Only a few days after the armistice, Radio Bari, under the direction of Ian Greenlees—an English officer and noted scholar of Benedetto Croce, who had landed in Taranto with the first units of the British Eighth Army—was able to broadcast its first political commentaries. These were delivered by Judge Michele Cifarelli, secretary of the National Liberation Committee (CLN), and marked a turning point in the national information landscape following the collapse of the regime. Within a short time, the radio station of the Apulian capital became a focal point for writers, actors, musicians, and journalists from Italy and abroad. Through its broadcasts, including *Italia Combatte*, hosted by the writer Alba De Céspedes, the EIAR station distinguished itself for its support of fighters and of the forces of anti-fascism and the Resistance in Italy, the Balkan Peninsula, and the Greek islands.

C) Laterza Library

Under the intellectual leadership of Benedetto Croce and Giovanni Laterza, the founder of the renowned publishing house, this place became a crucial stronghold of cultural resistance to the Fascist regime. It served as a meeting point for a cohesive circle of Bari-based intellectuals—including Tommaso Fiore, Fabrizio Canfora, Michele Cifarelli, and Ernesto De Martino—who went on to establish the liberal-socialist movement and openly opposed both the racial laws and the war. Beginning in 1938 and continuing throughout the conflict, the publishing house and its bookshop were subjected to intense repression by the regime, marked by systematic book seizures and legal actions against authors, translators, and collaborators. This campaign reached its peak in the spring of 1943 with the arrest of leading liberal-socialist figures and of Nino Laterza, who managed the bookshop at the time.

D) Theater “Nicolò Piccinni”

Radio London presented the conference of anti-fascist forces, held at the Piccinni Theatre on 28 and 29 January 1944, as the “first democratic gathering to take place on the European continent since Hitler had extinguished democracy there”. This interpretation was widely echoed by the press of liberated Italy, including *La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno*, which described the event as “the first anti-fascist congress of liberated Europe.” The proceedings were opened by Benedetto Croce, the philosopher of freedom and a symbolic figure of cultural and moral opposition to Fascism. The Bari Congress thus marked the emergence of the first independent and public expression of political forces opposed to the dictatorship, while also representing one of the earliest democratic experiences in a continental Europe still largely under Nazi domination.

E) Port and Old City

In the aftermath of the armistice of 8 September, the inhabitants of the Old Town immediately grasped the danger posed by the retreating German forces and their intention to devastate the port. The alarm raised by women and youths living close to the harbour prompted the swift intervention of General Nicola Bellomo and a group of young officers, who joined sailors, engineers, customs guards, and former servicemen already engaged in a spontaneous and improvised resistance against the attack. Despite these efforts, the Nazis managed to place explosive charges on several piers and to sink a number of small vessels, including the *Genepesca II*, the steamship *Frosinone*, and the motor vessel *Vanda M9*.

The clash, which lasted several hours, also saw the active involvement of the sons of dock workers. Casualties were significant: on the Italian side there were several losses, including five soldiers from different branches of the armed forces and one civilian, while the Germans suffered seven fatalities and around twenty wounded. Regarded by historians Roberto Battaglia and Giorgio Rochat as one of the earliest acts of armed Resistance against the Germans in Italy, the episode ended with the capture of approximately two hundred Wehrmacht soldiers, who were later released that evening on orders from the Italian high command.



ROUTES IN PORTUGAL



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Lisbon during World War II, in between refugees and spies

In 1939, on the 1st of September, World War II started and our country controlled by Salazar, immediately and unilaterally declared neutrality. Lavish in diplomatic relations with the allies and the axis countries (Italy, Germany and Japan), Portugal became a shelter for wealthy families fleeing from the war, safe harbour for refugees. The capital city particularly became the stage for espionage stories and plays, a Lisbon of spies.

Salazar's dictatorship neutrality, and using the country as a departure place for America, brought the best spies of the time to Portugal, who mingled amongst them with others posing as secret agents or selling fake intel to everyone.

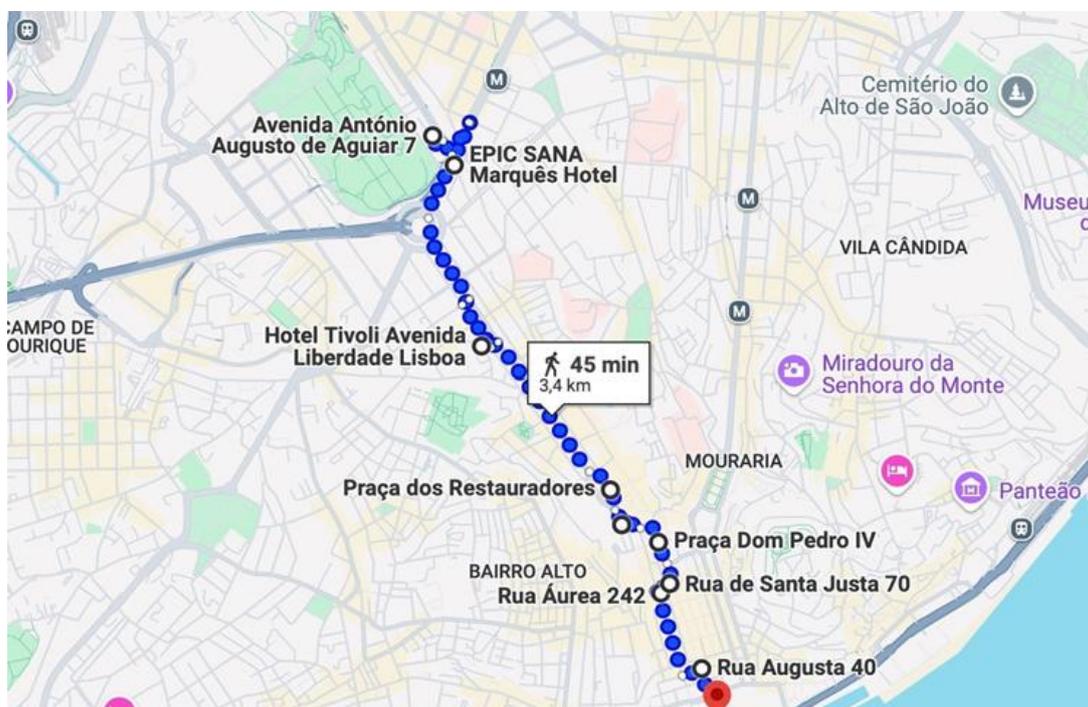
On the other hand, during World War II, Portugal could be a country of passage but never a permanent destination for those trying to escape Hitler.

In the 20s and the 40s of the 20th century, Portugal was the stage for a big wave of refugees. New York Times described the center of the Portuguese capital city as

the hot core for refugees, specially in “Café Lisboa” and “Avenida da Liberdade”, where they could comfort each other mutually, and “Rossio” square as the main one where news bulletins kept them updated about the war.

There were frequent ships and planes, the so called “clippers” from Pan American that connected Lisbon and New York, and the BOAC that did Lisbon and London. The Portuguese tungsten - or wolfram - was vital for both sides of the war, and supervising it's extraction, transport and delivery was needed, either for the allies of the axis. Besides that, the risk for espionage is less in neutral countries, hence choosing Lisbon as a passing point.

This itinerary is meant to help us getting into the atmosphere of that time, through stories, memories and specially places that were safe haven for many and keeping secrets too.



ITINERARY

Starting point: Avenida Augusto de Aguiar 7

Ending point: Praça do Comércio

Duration: 2h30m

Route:

1 – Building at the “Avenida Augusto de Aguiar 7”

On the 7th of May 1945, the Portuguese streets and villages got crowded with people celebrating the end of World War II. To the German still in the country was a time for uncertainty that had began when defeat became irreversible. It's on the fourth floor of this building that PVDE discovered the secret hiding spot of 2 “unwanted” nazis, under special surveillance.

2 – Avenida Fontes Pereira de Melo corner

Here was built the legendary “Aviz Hotel”, the in the 40s received kings, movie actors, great writers and spies that would not live without the luxury of one of the most exquisite hotels of Lisbon. Calouste Gulbenkian was one of the guests, which resided there for a long period in his final years of life, along with Amália Rodrigues, Marcello Mastroianni, Frank Sinatra, Ava Gardner, Eva Perón and Maria Callas. It was in this hotel that during one dinner, on the 31st of July 1940, the Duke of Windsor rejected the offer from Germany of repositioning him in the English throne as a “puppet king”. It was also here that the triple agent “Dusko Popov” (tricycle) was hosted.

3 – Hotel Tivoli

The soviet secret services base was set in Hotel Tivoli, and in 1974 it had 14 operatives. The presence of the KGB in Lisbon was not very detailed. The importance of Portugal in the last years of the Cold War, many times underestimated, was never so clear at that time.

4 – Praça dos Restauradores – Glória's lift corner

Here the “Café Paladium”, was very well attended by writers, reporters, actors and scholars, much of them against the “Estado Novo”, and also high class ladies that enjoyed the fine service of their tea being served in between 17h and 19h, and after the shows and movie sessions. It was also attended by Jewish refugees, that were in Lisbon waiting for their visas for safer destinations, like Canada and the US.

5 – Palácio Foz

Old place for the “Maxim's” cabaret, icon of a life of lust and scandals but also an unexpected place for high level espionage.

6 – Avenida Palace Hotel

On the fourth floor of the Avenida Palace hotel there is a door that brings the memory of World War II alive and the Salazar's dictatorship. If we go back in time to 1939-1945, and part of the 50s there are reasons to why that door was open, even if hidden. Old memories assure the existence of a corridor connecting the Rossio train station and the Avenida Palace hotel on that famous fourth floor. A great way to arrive without anyone knowing and no police control. Aristocracy and wealthy bourgeoisie, ministers, both national and foreign went through there, many German, few English, rarely Americans, so mainly who didn't want to be seen.

7 – Rossio train station

Most of the refugees got to Lisbon by train to this station. Many of the trains came sealed, and this is where the most wealthy and the ones with espionage missions arrived, from both sides of the conflict using the secret corridor of the Avenida Palace hotel.

8 – Rossio – place for the old Café Suiço pastry shop and Chave D'ouro café

The streets and squares of the city filled with refugees, and the Café Suiço pastry shop became the first place having the famous terraces, since indoors was not enough for everyone. At the Chave D'ouro café bargainings took place for train tickets after visas got approved, some paid by the organization of aid to the refugees, the HICEN. A true influence and corruption game.

9 – Old headquarter for the “Diário de notícias”

The latest news for the political and military events were displayed at the windows of the news agencies for the biggest newspapers around. Big groups of people gathered at certain times of the day to be updated about the developments of the War.

10 – Old socks shop in “Praça D. Pedro IV”

With this big wave of refugees, Lisbon starts to keep an eye on fashion. The “Socks shop” was the favourite one for the wealthy foreign ladies who brought new habits to the city.

11 – Joint Rua do Ouro 242

JOINT, American Jewish Committee was one of the associations that helped the refugees of the Great War. These associations were established in Portugal because of the country neutrality and the privileged geographical location. They were extremely important in financial and visas support. They were the ones negotiating close to the Portuguese authorities for visas, medical aid, releasing imprisoned refugees as well the increasing number of refugees that were able to enter Portugal.

12 – Frankfurt hotel (Rua de Santa Justa 70)

The hotels, hostels or private homes were filled with people looking for shelter to sleep, and when the beds were not enough, mattresses were laid in the corridors or wherever possible.

13 – Duas Nações hotel (Rua da Vitória 41)

German agents tried to be close to the Portuguese political police, where supporters of the axis and British agents looked for informants in customs and the railways, so that they could get a hold of the numbers pertaining to the exportation of tungsten from Portugal to Germany. Artists – generally supporters of communism – that fled from the countries occupied by the Germans, as well as Jewish refugees, like Arthur Koestler, Hungarian Jewish in 1936 running from nazists.

14 – Pensão Glória – Rua dos Fanqueiros

Placed in Fanqueiros street, with cheaper prices than the 5 star hotels of Avenida de Liberdade, was home for spies and also the author Alfred Döblin and his family, German refugee with Jewish background, while they awaited for ships that would take them to America.

15 – Pan America – Rua Augusta 40

Lisbon was the only city that assured regular connections with America and Africa. One would have to get a Portuguese transit visa to get here, and it turned possible to get also a exit French visa along with a Spanish transit visa. Portugal was strategically positioned to allow escaping from an Europe at war, and get to places where peace was still a reality.

16 – Praça do Comércio

The post and mail offices were some of the places where refugees most relied to get daily news of their loved ones, or an escape route beyond the Atlantic Ocean. Portugal presented itself as a paradise for most refugees, that Saint Exupéry, himself passing through Lisbon as well called a “sad paradise”. Hospitality, generosity and the absence of antisemitism was well marked In the memories of the refugees.



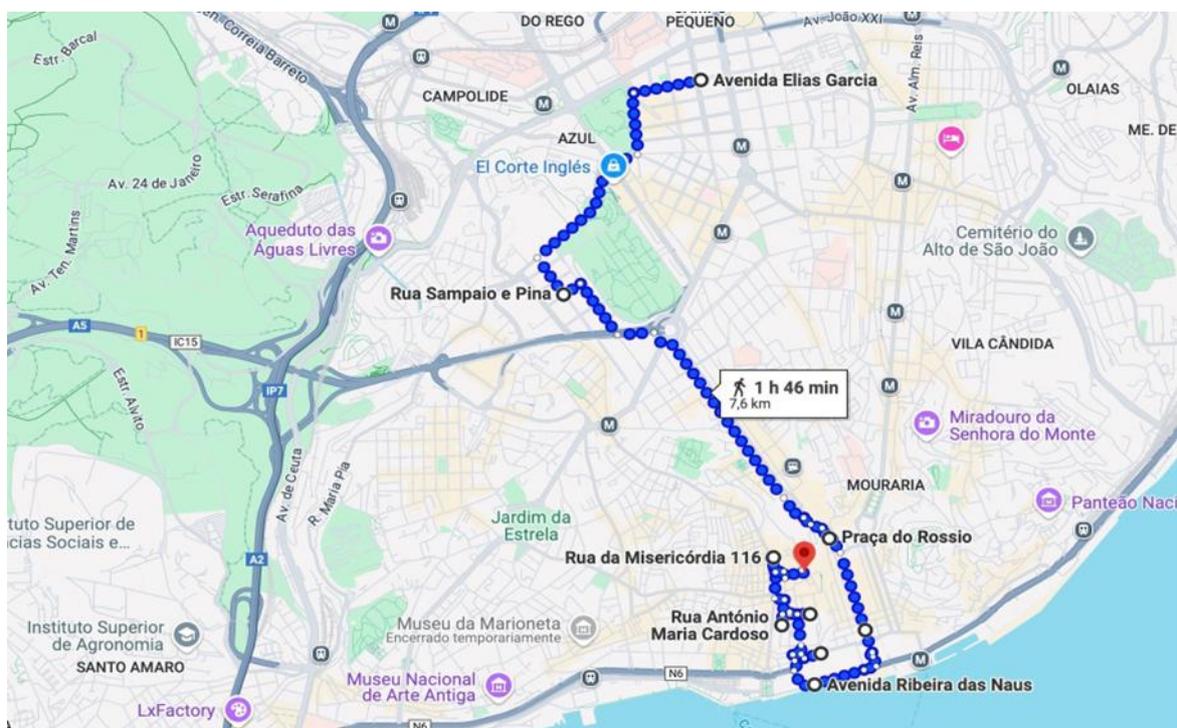
25th of April 1974: The places of the Revolution

On the 25th of April 1974, the Armed Forces Movement (MFA) accomplished a Coup d'état through military action, overthrowing the "Estado Novo" dictatorship, and giving birth to a process that implemented the democracy in Portugal.

Different locations in the city of Lisbon were linked to the MFA and the conquest of freedom, ranging from the planned ones that were part of the operations plan, along with where clashes with the dictatorship forces took place as well as unexpected ones that became famous because of the revolution happening. Military forces gathered in Lisbon from different parts of the country, together with the already existent ones in the city, where the mains developments took place for the liberation of the Portuguese and the country.

At the break of dawn, different ranking military forces brought the dictatorship to an end on the 25th of April 1974, which were also the same that implemented it in 1926. Mainly they refused to continue the colonial war (1961-1974) and were joined by a huge number of civilians that were craving for the well awaited freedom to be restored.

This tour goes through some of the most important places in the city, where the relevant events took place, and analyses what happened in that revolution that changed the history of the country after 48 years.



ITINERARY

Starting point: Avenida Elias Garcia 162

Ending point: Largo do Carmo

Duration: 2h30/3h

Route:

1 – EMISSORES ASSOCIADOS DE LISBOA Avenida Elias Garcia, 162, 7.º

24th April 22h55

On the 24th of April 1974, in this building there was the “Emissores Associados de Lisboa”, which was chosen by the MFA to broadcast the “password” that marked the beginning of the military operation against the dictatorship.

So at 22h55, the song “E depois do Adeus”, from José Niza, sang by Paulo de Carvalho was aired.

2 – Headquarters of the General Military Government / Largo de S. Sebastião da Pedreira, Palácio Vilaiva

25th of April 4h30

Since this was the Headquarters of the General Military Government, and communications as well, the operations plan considered it’s occupation by the 5th Frontline Battalion, whom

arrived at 3h30 of that day, which consisted of 100 units of military personnel, led by Captain Bicho Beatriz.

3 – Portuguese Radio Club – RCP Rua Sampaio e Pina 25th of April 4h26

In Sampaio e Pina street there was the Portuguese Radio Club, which was part of the operations plan to fulfil all the announcements from the MFA. The aforementioned Battalion helped upon the occupation of this location, led by the officers Major José da Costa Neves, Major Delfim Campos Moura, Major João Sacramento Gomes, Captain Artur Mendonça de Carvalho, Captain José Correia Pombinho, Captain José Santos Coelho, Captain Nuno dos Santos Ferreira and Captain Nuno dos Santos Silva. Overtaking of it was confirmed at 3h20 and the first announcement was broadcasted at 4h26 by the reporter Joaquim Furtado.

4 – Praça do Rossio 25th of April 12h

Also known as Pedro IV square dresses as a true icon for the confirmation of the revolution happening with all the Lisbon inhabitants being part of it. There were huge numbers of people in the streets when the military column of Salgueiro Maia, coming from Praça do Comércio went through, all the way until it reached Largo do Carmo around noon. It was also in Rossio that Celeste Caeiro delivered a carnation to one of the military soldiers, placing it into the rifle, making it the icon of the revolution and it would be known forever.

5 – Banco de Portugal Rua do Comércio 148 25th of April 3h30

The MFA included the Bank of Portugal as a relevant place to defend on their plan of operations, with the endgame of preventing it's use by the dictator supporters or any outside intervention. The action took it's course through a group from the EPC (Escola Prática de Cavalaria) after the Terreiro do Paço occupation. The main goal which had the codename BRUXELAS was achieved and confirmed by the MFA command post at 6h10.

The military column goes out towards Lisbon under the command of captain Salgueiro Maia with the mission of controlling the accesses to the Bank of Portugal, the Portuguese Radio Club, Marconi and Terreiro Do Paço. It was composed by a Recon Squadron with 10 armored vehicles, 160 men units using 12 transport vehicles, 2 ambulances and an off road one truck.

6 – Terreiro do Paço / Rio Tejo 25th of April 6h10

Center of the political power of the "New State" (dictatorship regime), the Terreiro do Paço was one of the main places for the military action of the revolution. The MFA decided to occupy it not only for symbolic reasons, but also because the ministries of the Army and the Navy were there, and they could interfere with the ongoing operations. According to the 25th of April Association, the occupation was achieved by 220 military units of the EPC

of Santarém under the command of Captain Salgueiro Maia. Nevertheless everyone taking part in the revolution face the opposition of the supporters of the dictatorship, specially with the frigate Gago Coutinho, that on that dawn was preparing to set sail to carry out an OTAN exercise, and was commanded to come back, so that it could open fire over the armored vehicles fulfilling orders for Salgueiro Maia, even though there are different versions about this moment.

Achieving this goal also allowed the occupation of the Bank of Portugal and the Portuguese Radio Club, which was transmitted to the Command Post of the MFA at 6h10 by Captain Salgueiro Maia – ““We occupied TOLEDO, BRUXELAS and VIENNA””.

7 – Ribeira das Naus Avenue, Lisbon 25th of April 6h30

First confrontations between the forces of the MFA, EPC and the government forces of the 7th Cavalry Unit.

In this place there were several actions resulting from the opposition between the revolting forces of the EPC of Santarém and the supporting forces of the dictatorship regime, in between 6h10 and 10h30. In this confrontation, Captain Salgueiro Maia risked his life and some military units refused to open fire against the revolting people. Some of the supporters of the regime ended up joining the Revolution forces.

8 – Rua do Arsenal 25th of April 7h

According to information released by the 25th of April Association, in the Rua do Arsenal, close to the Paços do Conselho, there were some fights between the revolting forces of the EPC and the 7th Cavalry, faithful to the regime, and coming from the West surprised the troops under the command of Salgueiro Maia, who were surrounding the Terreiro do Paço. “It was in this moment that Lieutenant Alfredo Assunção was distinguished negotiating with the opposing forces, with arms wide open in front of the armored vehicle, staying very calm, even after being assaulted by and official (Coronel Romeiras) from the regime forces. These happenings took place between 7h and 10h30. Besides the tension felt during the morning, there was no shootings e there are people who say that the revolution was decided on that street and the Ribeira da Naus.

9 – Rádio Renascença – Rua Capelo 5, 2º 25th of April 00h20

On the 25th of April of 1974, the studios of the Rádio Renascença were operating and the MFA choose this broadcasting station to send out the password of confirmation regarding the military operation against the regime. So at 00h20 on that day the sone “Grândola Vila Morena” from, José Afonso was aired during the “Limite” program.

10 – Headquarters of PIDE/DGS Rua António Maria Cardoso 22 25th of April (between the morning of the 25th 9h and the 26th)

The headquarters of the DGS (General Security Management) which was the former PIDE (International State Defense Police) was surrounded by civilians and military personnel at the break of dawn and during the morning of the 25th. During the siege various elements of the PIDE shoot over the population around 20h15 of the 25th, killing 4 people, the only casualties of the revolution. By order of the PC from the MFA, and after various failed attempts, a group of Marines joined by the 3rd Cavalry unit of Estremoz were able to occupy the PIDE headquarters around 9h of the 26th.

11 – Headquarters of the Republic Newspaper Rua da Misericórdia 116 25th of April 11h

In this building the newspaper “Republic” had its headquarters, where Commander Martins Guerreiro delivered the program of the MFA at 11h, which was approved by the directors of the newspaper. This did not become the official version presented to the Portuguese people, since it was altered in the evening of that same day after a meeting with the MFA Command Post in Pontinha, involving the people directing the MFA and Generals António de Spínola and Francisco da Costa Gomes.

12 – Carmo Headquarters and Square 25th of April 18h30

Carmo’s headquarters is the most iconic place for this revolution since it was there that the surrender of Marcelo Caetano (the Prime Minister at that time) happened, and is also where he tried to hide since 6h. He demanded that the power would not fall to the hands of the revolting military and civilians and would pass onto General Spínola, act that was done around 18h30 turning the revolting people victorious.

A well prepared Coup d’état, executed almost without injured or dead people besides the aforementioned 4 casualties. These days are a true testimony of military and civilian acts involving immense bravery and solidarity, and are a very important part of the country history.

This way the 48 year lasting dictatorship ended, allowing the country to turn a page in its history.



The repression of PIDE and clandestinity: walking tour and Aljube museum

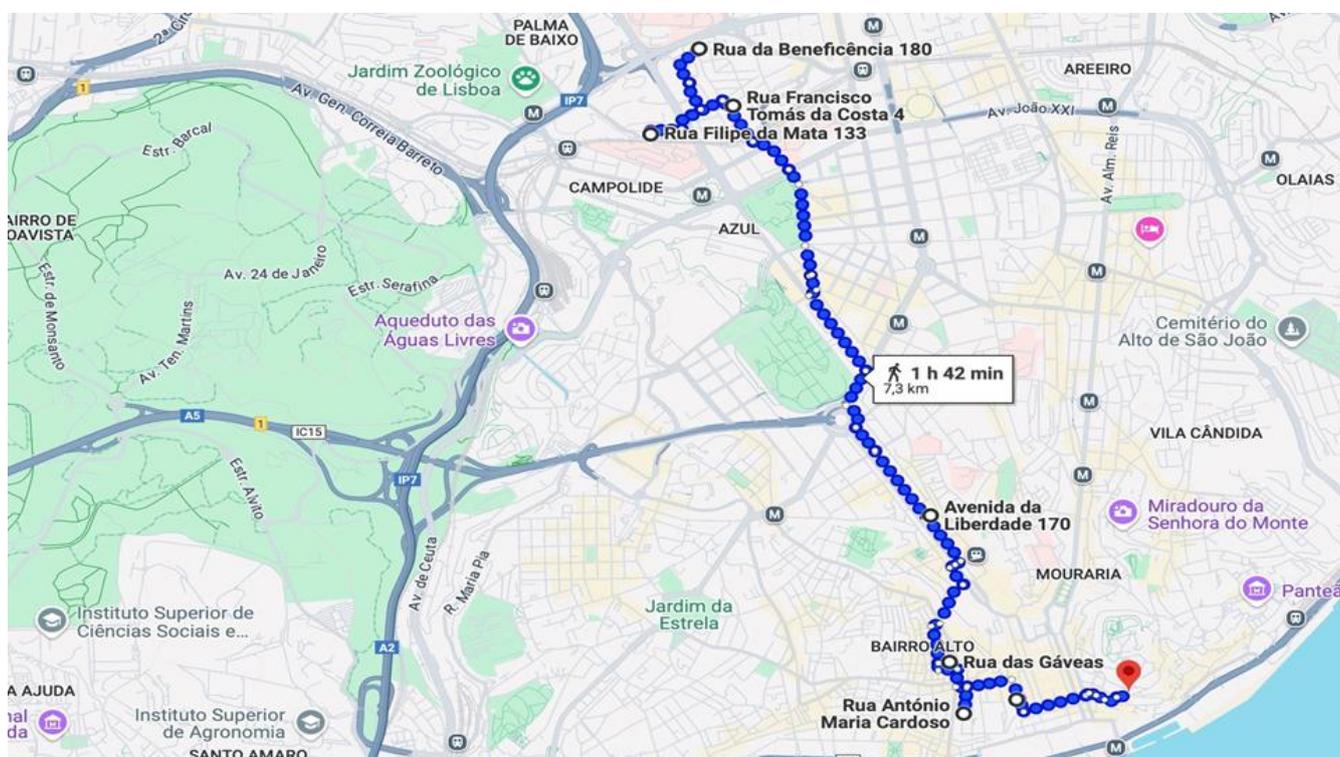
The “New State”, assembled under the command of António de Oliveira Salazar, created various State supporting entities with the endgame of conditioning, controlling and eliminate all forms of free speech and the possibility of creating opposing forces to his own agenda, as well as anyone who would disagree with him, even within being under his command. One of the controlling mechanisms aiming to limit any kind of meetings, expression and political organizations was the PIDE (International State Defense Police).

With the end of World War II and the beginning of the Cold War, Salazar modernizes the Secret Services, creating PIDE in 1945, assigning it with the mission of defending the regime against all clandestine operations, specially the Portuguese Communist party, using the most diverse methods, ranging from surveillance of suspects to imprisonment with no proven cause. Intercepting mail, telephone communications and having an informant network at his disposal were also methods that were enforced, culminating in presenting the detainees to trials and therefore legitimating all the imprisonments and investigations.

The political prisoner was detained, with no warrant or any evidence against them, and subjected to physical and psychological torture, with no limit for how long they would stay detained in the prisons of Aljube, Caxias and Peniche.

This police had exceptional power, directing censorship. All news had to go through censoring services before being published, and could be entirely censored, with noticeable white spaces in the newspapers. Works of art as cinema, literature and other forms would also subject to this censorship. The person used the so called “blue pencil”, scratching the “non authorized” parts. Clandestinity was then born, and the opposing people to the regime tried to defend themselves against PIDE and keep on fighting for the lost freedom.

This route has two parts: a first one which is a walking tour, in which we will visit the places related to the repression felt in Portugal and the clandestinity ones used to fight the dictatorship. On the second part, a visit to the Aljube museum, former political prison, with documents, images and reconstructed events we will be able to know how it all happened, bringing the remnants of this place and the suffering of the prisoners, alive.



ITINERARY

Starting point: Rua da Beneficência 180

Ending point: Museu do Aljube

Duration: 1h40 walking tour + 1h20 Aljube museum = 3h

Route:

1 – Rua da Beneficência 180 – 3º floor

Clandestine house inhabited by Francisco de Oliveira “Pavel” and Francisco Miguel, in which the publication “Avante!” was made, invaded by PIDE on the 10th of January of 1938, when the imprisonment of “Pavel” happened. Documents are seized, propaganda flyers addressed to the youngsters, teenagers and women, as a small library of books in Spanish, French and English. Francisco Miguel is imprisoned in the same day in a street meeting nearby Marquês de Pombal, by the brigade of José Gonçalves. The political police action is identified by the press as “The fight against Communism”.

2 – Rua Filipe da Mata 133 – C/v Esq

Clandestine house inhabited by Caetano Rebelo and his wife, Joaquina Gomes Martins, and where Joaquim Pires Jorge would remain for some time, one of the participants of the reorganizing movement of the Portuguese Communist Party.

The couple would assemble a typography in Algueirão (Sintra), in which Joaquina Martins would be imprisoned on the 24th of November 1942. About the first years of the “Reorganization”, Joaquim Pires reminds us “We would go to places that would makes us struggle a lot and created our organizations, called each of our comrades (...) Would facilitate some situations. It was a clandestinity that was no clandestinity at all” (Joaquim Pires Jorge, “Com uma imensa alegria”, “Avante!” 1984 p40)

3 – Rua Francisco Tomás da Costa 4 R/C

Considered the first typography of the PCP inhabited by Francisco de Oliveira “Pavel”, member of the management of the PCP and Francisco Miguel, responsible for the Regional Committee of Lisbon. These years had an investment in propaganda, as an increase on the numbers of published “Avante!”, that now had a weekly distribution. In the words of Francisco Miguel “The press of the party had the largest numbers of newspapers in clandestinity, as was out more often”.

4 – Through Avenida da Liberdade

Reading of some testimonials of the women who fought against the dictatorship. For instance Helena Pato, author of the book “The longest night of all nights”, who fights still today, so that the “night” of the fascism will never come back to Portugal. Helena Pato reminds us of the sleep deprivation torture, the hallucinations, the pursuits and the departures of Portugal for political reasons.

Maria Teresa Horta who told us about her beating in the streets by fascists led to the writing of the book “New Portuguese Letters”, that had a “bomb effect” against the regime and Marcello Caetano saying on public television that “there are three women that are not worthy of being Portuguese, Maria Teresa Horta, Maria Isabel Barreno and Maria Velho da Costa”.

Helena Neves also had two seized books by PIDE and had to dodge the “blue pencil” in times of censorship. She was in jail in Caxias on the 25th of April for the third time, and told us about the battles she fought during the dictatorship and the tortures she suffered at the hands of PIDE.

5 – PCP Headquarters Avenida da Liberdade 170

The PCP was founded in 1921, and in 1922 it established contacts with the International Communist (Comintern), becoming the Portuguese section of the Comintern in 1923. Turned illegal in the late 20s, PCP had an instrumental role in the opposition against the regime lead by Salazar and Marcello Caetano. During the five decades of the regime, PCP participated very actively against it and was the strongest party of the opposition. Constantly suppressed by the PIDE, which forced it's members to live in clandestinity under the menace of being imprisoned, tortured or murdered. The Avante! Newspaper, being their official publication was the most frequent one and that lasted longer resisting censorship and being published in a clandestine way.

6 – Former headquarter of the censorship – Central Commission First Exame Rua das Gáveas

The censorship lasted the whole entirety of New State, being abolished after the revolution. The infamous “blue pencil” being the most important tool (along other colors) was used to cut out what the regime didn't want to be public, so reporters had to use their imagination and be creative to go around that. In 1926, Law number 12 008 prohibited the selling of posters, billboards, announcements, pictures, drawings or any other kind of publishings if they contained any kind of offense against the President of the Republic, or that would advise or encourage the citizens failing to abide to their military duties, or any not patriotic acts that could mean going against the regime.

7 – Former headquarter of PIDE Rua António Maria Cardoso 22

The Portuguese Secret Services under the control of Salazar reached all aspects of life within the national territory even defying the State itself, including the Armed Forces and converted his control into a State within the State.

8 – Old Plenary Court Largo da Boa Hora

It's one of the most intentionally forgotten aspects of the revolution and military dictatorship of 1926, and that led to the New State creation and Salazarism in Portugal. No one could attend the trials, so only PIDE members would be present. With the excuse of all seats being taken, police would not allow any family, friends or reporters in.

9 – Aljube Museum

Aljube prison through where thousands of political detainees were held – accused of resisting the regime for the fight for freedom of speech and thought – is where an exhibition shows us the main goal of this place, and tells us all the history of who was held there, the tortures, humiliations being suffered until the last page of this black book was turned on the 25th of April 1974



ROUTES IN SPAIN

(CATALONIA AND LEÓN)



Co-funded by
the European Union

In the first months of the conflict, the City Hall and the Republican government played a secondary role, limiting themselves to protecting buildings and people, while unions and workers' organizations exercised real power. This situation began to change before October 1936 with the creation of the first government *Unitat Popular*, which combined Republican legality with the *Comitè d'Enllaç*. Both this government and the *Unitat Sindical* used the *Casa de la Vila* as their headquarters, as did the *Junta de Seguretat*, a continuation of the *Comitè d'Enllaç*.

The building also witnessed internal tensions and repression experienced in the city during the war. For example, marks remain from bullets fired by the army and the Civil Guard during the anarchist occupation of February 1932.

After the war, the *Casa de la Vila* continued to be a symbol of Terrassa's political history. Today, the building is a locally recognized cultural heritage site and forms part of the city's architectural heritage.

B) The Casa del Poble

The *Casa del Poble* of Terrassa, acquired in 1903 by the *Fraternitat Republicana*, was a meeting center for local republicanism, hosting cultural activities, schools, and public events. During the Civil War, the building hosted conferences, concerts, charity dances, and visits from representatives of Catalan and Spanish republicanism.

With the arrival of Francoist troops, the *Casa del Poble* was expropriated by the Franco regime and occupied by regime organizations, including the CNS, which in 1961 built a later union building. Today, only the façade remains, and the site has structural problems. Historically claimed by the ERC, the building symbolizes the political and social life of Terrassa's republicanism during the Civil War.

C) The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit

The *Catedral del Sant Esperit* in Terrassa was built between the 16th and 17th centuries, during a period of demographic and urban expansion in the town.

During the Civil War, it was subjected to two major attacks on July 21 and 30, 1936, and was almost completely destroyed. As a symbol of the Church's complicity with the local oligarchy, the altarpiece, main altar, and the *Llimona* sculptural group were burned. The FAI flag flew from the bell tower, and the CNT Transport Unions turned the church into a garage; the convent of Sant Francesc was also used to store vehicles. Earlier, there had been plans to use it as storage for straw, coal, or even as a wine cellar.

After the conflict, the building was restored, with Manel Viusà Camps collaborating with the FNC and hiding clandestine propaganda within the scaffolding. The destruction of the *Catedral del Sant Esperit* stands out for its symbolic motivation and the extent of the damage, which other churches in Terrassa did not suffer.

D) Casa Alegre de Sagrera

The *Casa Alegre* in Terrassa was the residence of the Alegre-Sagrera family. Francesc Alegre i Roig renovated the entire building in an eclectic style with Modernist influences, highlighting the façade on Font Vella Street with the family crest and the construction date, 1912. Inside, murals by Joaquim Vancells and Pere Viver remain, as well as a mural by Alexandre de Riquer and historic furniture such as the table where the last council of ministers of the Second Republic was held and the chair used by Franco during a later visit.

At the beginning of 1936, the Alegre-Sagrera family lived there with two children and servants, but they had to flee the city during the coup. During the Civil War, the house was occupied by the Workers' Party of Marxist Unification (POUM), which established its press office, *FRONT*, and the Maurín Institute, a cultural center open to the public with a library and conference room. Activities included talks on women's emancipation in the context of the anti-fascist struggle. In the gardens, POUM installed the newspaper's printing press, considered the most modern of the time, staffed by about 10–12 people. The press *FRONT* was shut down by the government in June 1937.

After the Civil War, the family recovered the residence, but the textile crisis severely affected their business. The house was acquired by the City Hall in 1972 to convert it into a museum, preserving the murals and historic furniture that reflect its cultural and political significance during the Second Republic and Civil War.

E) Casa Alfons Sala

The *Casa Alfons Sala i Amat* was the residence of Alfons Sala i Amat, one of Terrassa's leading industrialists. In September 1936, during the Civil War, the house became a shelter for 40 refugees from the Basque Country, who were accommodated after a meal at the *Cuina Popular*. The Sala family, living there with several relatives and servants, fled to Seville shortly before their property, including the Sala i Badrinas factory, was expropriated and collectivized.

After the Francoist victory, the house was returned to the family. Today, it is the headquarters of *Petit Estel* and still retains a Franco-era plaque installed in 1939, indicating Alfons Sala's birthplace and referring to 1939 as "the year of victory."

F) The Gran Casino

Before the Civil War, the *Gran Casino* of Terrassa was an exclusive meeting place for the local upper bourgeoisie, hosting literary evenings, dances, social gatherings, and all kinds of games, legal or otherwise. On July 18, 1936, when the military uprising began, about thirty far-right militants supporting the rebellion left this casino to move toward Barcelona. Thirteen of them lost their lives in the confrontations.

After the coup's defeat, the *Gran Casino* was expropriated by the CNT. To protect the building from possible incidents, machine guns were installed, and windows and balconies were reinforced with mattresses. Later, the windows were bricked up. During the war, each CNT-affiliated union established its own local headquarters, but the central CNT headquarters was the *Gran Casino* for much of the conflict, symbolizing the new revolutionary order.

By mid-1938, the CNT moved its headquarters to *Casa Alegre* to convert the *Gran Casino* into a military hospital, where some graffiti made by wounded patients can still be seen. Today, the *Gran Casino* houses the Abacus store.

G) El Círcol Egarenc

Founded in 1886 as a cultural and recreational center for Terrassa's bourgeoisie and renovated in neoclassical style by Jeroni Granell in 1887, *El Círcol Egarenc* was an emblematic space with the Hall of Mirrors and large gardens.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, activities were suspended, and the building was confiscated by the UGT (General Workers' Union), which used it as a union headquarters. After the Francoist victory, it passed to the *Frente de Juventudes*, which maintained its headquarters there until the 1970s. The trajectory of *El Círcol Egarenc* during these years reflects its transformation from a bourgeois symbol to a space occupied first by Republican unionism and later by the Franco regime.

H) Vapor Ventalló

Designed by architect Lluís Muncunill in 1897, *Vapor Ventalló* was an important industrial complex. It was a two-story building with a metal structure of cast-iron pillars and steel beams supporting lowered barrel vaults and metal joists; the roof rested on wooden trusses, with façades decorated with double low-arched windows.

In 1905, the company *Vapor Ventalló* was established, led by prominent figures of Terrassa. The factory focused on textile activities, including carded wool spinning, weaving, dyeing, and finishing, initially powered by coal, although electric lighting was installed from 1913.

It remained active until the mid-1990s, when many of its sections were demolished, although one building was preserved and converted into a public space. Later, the site was redeveloped, a public square was created preserving two façades and the original roof, forming a semi-porticoed porch with the original structure of the factory. The sculpture *Família Vapor* by Xavier Corberó, made of basalt stone symbolizing family and community life, was also installed there.

the needs of each historical period. Today, the *Magatzem Joan Fontanals* is a locally protected cultural heritage site, preserving original architectural elements that testify to the importance of the textile industry in Terrassa and its evolution over time.

C) Amics de les Arts

The *Amics de les Arts* of Terrassa, founded in October 1927 and inspired by the legacy of the Guild of Artists, have since been a cultural driving force in the city. This place brought together notable local artists and organized exhibitions, concerts, lectures, and recitals, establishing their current headquarters during the early years of the Second Republic.

During the Civil War, many activities were suspended, although the organization's café remained open. Several members of the Workers' Party of Marxist Unification (POUM) joined the Board of Directors and promoted a manifesto in favor of realist art as a tool for social awareness.

Under the Franco dictatorship, *Amics de les Arts* was incorporated into the *Falange's Educació y Descanso* section, with Salvador Salvatella as president, ensuring continuity despite the castilianization of its name. Gradually, they regained autonomy, resumed speaking Catalan in meetings, and could celebrate traditional festivities. In 1956 they formally separated from the Falange, and in 1966 merged with the *Juventuts Musicals*, maintaining diverse artistic activities, music, theater, cinema, photography, and jazz, becoming the soul of the Terrassa Jazz Festival.

D) The Freixa Warehouse

During the postwar period, the *Frente de Juventudes*, together with the *Delegación de Información e Investigación*, was the most active *Falangist* section in Terrassa, aiming to integrate youth into the regime's apparatus. Despite tensions with the Industrial Institute, representing the old Salista order, the *Frente* established its headquarters at the *Magatzem Freixa* in 1946 and later moved to Raval de Montserrat in 1952, while the Industrial Institute regained the *Magatzem Freixa*.

The Industrial Institute, one of the first organizations to resume activity after the Francoist takeover, maintained relative autonomy from the regime, selectively contributing to projects such as the arrival of Llobregat water and donations to the *División Azul*, but showing little interest in the city's social needs. This behavior reflected the dictatorship's implicit support for industrial interests and repression of labor movements.

The Industrial Institute building, constructed in 1893 by Pascual Sala, is an example of historicist style linked to Terrassa's industrialization. With four façades surrounded by gardens and a glass dome over the central hall, it occupies a plot formerly hosting the Teatre Principal and reflects the wealth and prominence of industrialists in the city.

E) The Alfons Sala Monument

The monument to Alfons Sala is a limestone prismatic block three meters long by two meters high, crowned by a female figure with allegorical elements related to the city, with lateral reliefs replacing two original statues, the Reader and the Spinner, later moved to Sant Jordi Park. The first stone was placed on June 7, 1947, in Plaça Vella, and the monument was inaugurated on April 30, 1950. In 1990 it was relocated to Passeig Comte d'Ègara to allow the square's remodeling and the construction of an underground parking lot.

It is dedicated to Alfons Sala i Argemí (1843–1945), Count of Ègara, industrialist and politician, founder of the *Unión Monárquica Nacional*, deputy in the Cortes, last president of the *Mancomunitat de Catalunya*, and lifelong senator of the Kingdom. Although included in the Gallery of Illustrious People of Terrassa since 1946, his figure has always been somewhat controversial.

F) The Monument to the Fallen

The *Monumento a los Caídos por Dios y por España* was inaugurated on January 24, 1944, with the presence of the Captain General of Catalonia, Josep Moscardó, the civil governor, and the Bishop of Barcelona, commemorating the Francoist casualties of the Civil War. Designed by Frederic Vinyals and sculptor Jaume Bazín, the 15-meter-tall monument, made of Montjuïc stone, featured figures of two soldiers, a Civil War soldier and a medieval warrior, and a female figure performing the fascist salute, with the inscription: "Fallen for God and Spain: Present!"

After Franco's death, the monument suffered vandalism and, with the construction of the Passeig underground parking, was dismantled. The sculptures were moved to the Municipal Cemetery, where they now serve as a tribute to all war victims, with a plaque reading: "The city of Terrassa in memory of the victims of war."

G) The Municipal Prison

The Municipal Prison of Terrassa was founded in the early 20th century to serve as a penitentiary for people accused of minor crimes or local offenses. During the Civil War, the prison was used as a detention center, holding individuals arrested by the Republican regime before they were transferred to larger prisons, such as *La Model* in Barcelona. After the conflict, the prison was reactivated in 1943 by the Franco dictatorship. It functioned as a party prison due to a lack of capacity in provincial prisons and continued operating until 1967, when it reverted to a detention center. It finally closed permanently in the 1980s. Today, the former municipal prison has been repurposed as a cultural and heritage space. Some remnants of the original structure, such as cell bars, remain as a testament to the building's history.

H) The Palace of Industries

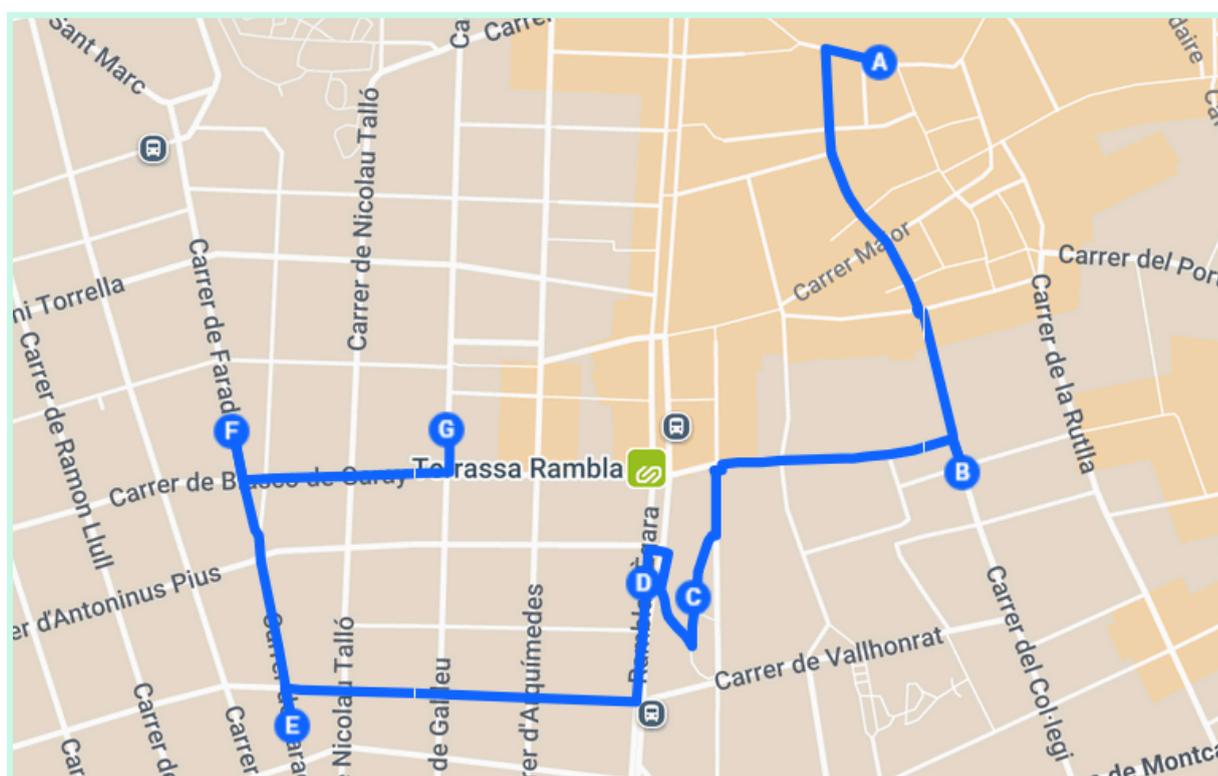
The Industrial School of Terrassa, founded in the early 20th century as an evolution of the School of Arts and Crafts, was installed in the *Palau d'indústries* by Lluís Muncunill (1902) and trained technicians in textile, chemical, mechanical, electrical, and electronic sectors under its first director, Bartomeu Amat.

During the Civil War, the building was confiscated by the City Hall, and the school adapted its training to the new revolutionary economy, offering scholarships to working-class children. Students led various strikes for labor and academic demands.

In the postwar period, the City Hall transferred the building to the State, which also installed the *Sindicato Español Universitario*. The increase in students led to the inauguration in 1962 of the Higher Technical School of Industrial Engineers on Colom Street. Between the 1960s and the Transition, the Industrial School became a center of anti-Franco student protest, with strikes and assemblies connected to repression and labor struggles, particularly after the execution of Puig Antich and other labor conflicts.

Academically, in 1972 it became part of the future *Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya* (UPC), while the Municipal School of Arts and Crafts, after several relocations, finally settled in the *Vapor Universitari*. The building also maintained an important cultural role, hosting activities such as the Congress of Catalan Culture after Franco's death.

3 - El postfranquisme a Terrassa (1962-1982)



A) The Democratic City Hall

The municipal elections of April 3, 1979, marked the restoration of the democratic City Hall in Terrassa and a clear victory for left-wing forces, with the *Partit dels Socialistes de Catalunya* (PSC) winning 10 council seats and the *Partit Socialista Unificat de Catalunya* (PSUC) winning 9 seats as the most voted parties. The electoral process came after the signing of the Moncloa Pacts, the approval of the Constitution, and two general elections, closing the cycle of the Franco dictatorship.

Nine candidacies ran in Terrassa, but the spotlight was on PSC and PSUC, which together received 60% of the votes, with a narrow margin of 261 votes between them. The remaining seats were distributed between CiU (*Convergència i Unió*) and UCD (*Unió de Centre Democràtic*). Out of a total of 27 councilors, only three were women. Subsequent political agreements consolidated the new democratic institutions and definitively ended 40 years of dictatorship.

B) L'Escotisme (scouting)

The local scout group, attended by Josep Pedrals, was very important for raising social and national awareness among young people in the city center. Many of them participated in the reconstruction of *Les Arenes* after the floods, under the guidance of the Scapular priest Alexandre Garcia Duran, brother of the provincial head of the Scapular Order.

The group was also crucial in promoting and recovering Catalan literature, which was then banned or marginalized. Readings of major Catalan authors, such as Salvador Espriu, Pere Quart, Joan Oliver, Joan Vinyoli, and Josep Vicenç Foix, were common. Somewhat linked to Catholic Action, the Church's umbrella allowed the scouts to carry out activities that would have been suppressed as subversive in other contexts. At its peak, scouting in Terrassa reportedly included around a thousand young members.

C) La Manifestació de les Pedres (The Stone Protest)

On October 27, 1967, the *Comisiones Obreras* (CCOO) organized a demonstration demanding a minimum wage and trade union freedom. The protest, part of nationwide labor actions, also had the support of Church worker missions and the emerging student movement.

The authorities intervened with batons and shots fired into the air to disperse the 500 people gathered at the bottom of La Rambla. Some protesters fled through nearby streets, while others were trapped between the police cordon and the train tracks. From there, they began throwing ballast stones at the police, who opened fire on the demonstrators. The scene quickly turned into a full-scale clash between the police and the protesters. The final result: two protesters seriously injured, one shot; skull fractures and broken collarbones; more than 20 police injured; 65 people arrested.

This protest demonstrated to the regime the strength of the opposition and the capacity and willingness to contest control of the streets.

D) The Sevilla Hall

Founded in 1928, the *Saló Sevilla* remained open until 1962, when its lease ended. It became one of the city's most popular nightlife venues (opinions vary on its reputation) and was one of the longest-lasting, operating for 34 years. Entry was free, and the hall hosted a variety of performances featuring now-renowned artists such as Carmen Amaya, Juanita Reina, and Estrellita de Palma in their early careers. Daniel Piqueras was the main manager for over 25 years.

Today, part of the façade remains, although the lower portion has been refurbished to house its current use: an appliance store.

E) The Sagrada Família Sports Pavilion

On June 19, 1966, the covered Sagrada Família sports pavilion was inaugurated. This new facility reinforced the parish's longstanding sports tradition, including basketball and roller hockey.

The pavilion was also a cultural space. Between 1966 and 1983, more than 50 recitals of the *Nova Cançó* took place in Terrassa, at the Catholic Social Center, the Sagrada Família pavilion, the Sant Jordi Park amphitheater, or the Caixa de Terrassa Cultural Center, making the institution a major cultural agent. American singer Pete Seeger performed there in front of 4,000 people in February 1971, in the only concert held in Catalonia before the Civil Governor banned it. Concert revenues went to the Solidarity Committee, which helped prisoners' families, paid lawyers, and funded trips to the Tribunal of Public Order (TOP) in Madrid. Between 1970 and 1975, nearly 3,000,000 pesetas were raised.

On May 29, 1976, the pavilion hosted the first PSUC (*Partit Socialista Unificat de Catalunya*) rally authorized since the war. Over 6,000 people attended, despite the lack of official authorization. A tacit agreement with the local police chief allowed the event to proceed without incidents.

F) The Ambrosiana Institution

During the 1940s and 1950s, several dissident movements emerged in Terrassa within the official Catholic sector. One of these was the *Institució Ambrosiana*, linked to the Sagrada Família parish, founded in 1932. Though not leftist, it promoted a Catalanist and anti-fascist line within the Church. It is worth noting that Josep Moncau, the parish priest, was assassinated during the 1936 revolution.

The *Institució Ambrosiana* was formally established in 1944 and lasted until 1948, when press campaigns and intimidations, including graffiti on private homes accusing its members of being "reds" and separatists, forced its closure. While active, it organized contests, concerts, and lectures with a strong presence of Catalan culture. Since then, the parish maintained a Catalanist and anti-Francoist commitment, hosting workers' assemblies during labor strikes in the 1970s. On August 25, 1976, it hosted members of the *Marxa de la Llibertat*, advocating for the release of detainees, amnesty for prisoners, and the Statute of Autonomy.

G) The Women's Center

Between 1967 and 1971, the Democratic Women's Movement (MDD) existed in Terrassa, mainly composed of women from the PSUC and led by figures such as Cèlia Garcia. The movement aimed to raise awareness among anti-Francoist women, especially workers

and housewives, about labor and social discrimination, as reflected in their bulletin *La Mujer en Marcha*.

During these years, the MDD organized protests against the cost of living, church sit-ins, signature campaigns, and demonstrations defending women's labor and social rights, such as equal pay for equal work, access to education, and abolition of discrimination against domestic workers. However, the movement had little autonomy from the PSUC and dissolved in 1971 due to internal party crises.

From 1986 onwards, the Women's Center united Terrassa's feminist movement, providing a dedicated space for meetings, debates, and organizing mobilizations. The Center built on earlier initiatives, such as women's neighborhood committees, participation in the First Feminist Conferences of 1976, and the women's section of the Friends of the UN, which had promoted protests like those against adultery laws. It later became the basis for the Coordinadora Feminista de Terrassa, the precursor to the Women's Center.

ROUTE

“LEON WITH MEMORY”

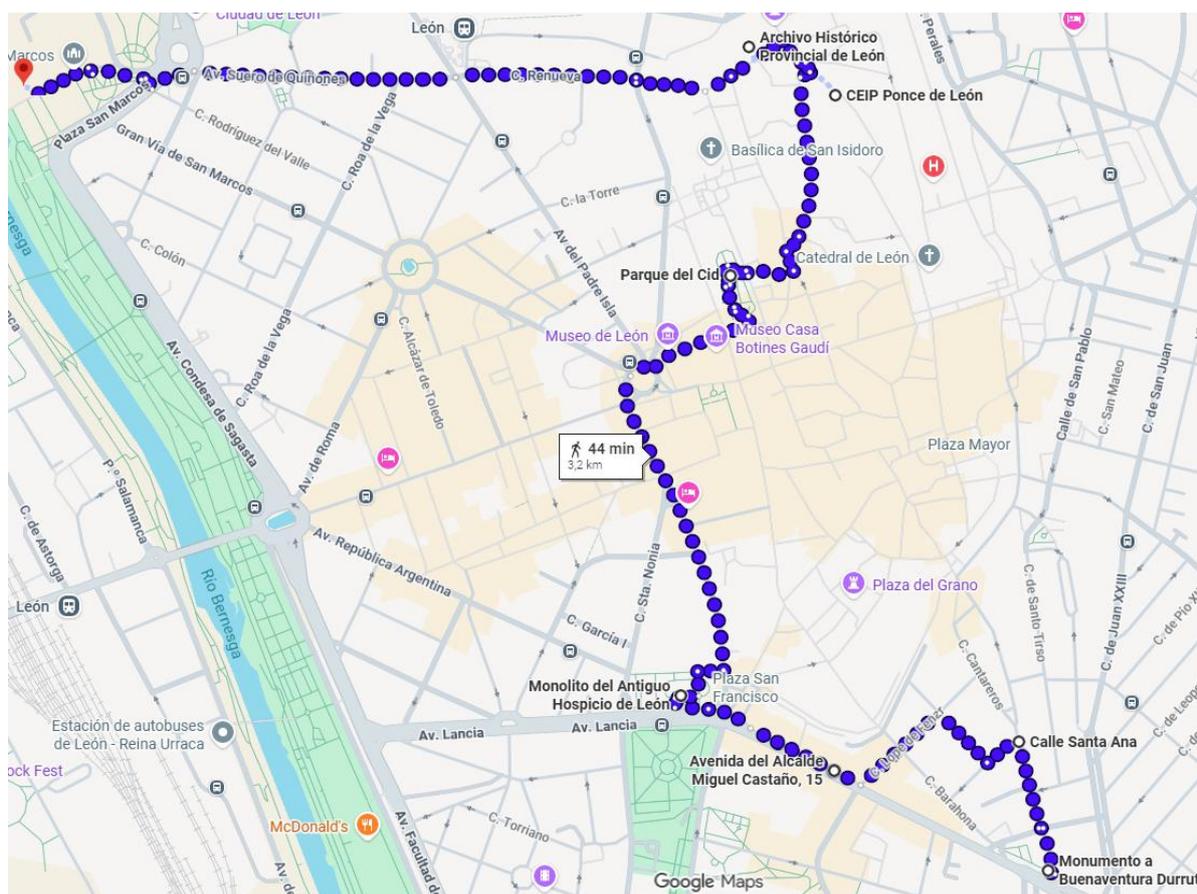
INTRODUCTION

Historical memory helps us understand who we are as a society and why the past continues to influence our present. In Spain, speaking of historical memory means recovering and recognizing the victims of the Civil War and the Francoist dictatorship, a period marked by violence, repression, and the systematic denial of human rights.

This route offers an educational tour of the city of León, one of the main sites of Francoist repression behind the front lines. Through various urban spaces, we will learn about silenced stories and reflect on the importance of remembering.

Discover this route:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=10oEscUEgjfAVvAT64iAjinUiyDU4vr4&usp=sharing>



1) Durruti Breath (Start of the route)

The figure of Buenaventura Durruti, born in León, represents one of the great oversights of local historical memory. Durruti was a prominent leader of the anarchist movement, a member of the CNT and the FAI, and a key figure in the anti-fascist resistance during the Spanish Civil War. He led the renowned Durruti Column and defended freedom and social justice until his death in Madrid in 1936.

Despite his international historical significance, his memory was silenced for decades. In Plaza de Santa Ana, the site of his birthplace, stands the sculpture "Hálito Durruti" by the artist Diego Segura. This monument not only commemorates Durruti, but also all those who fought against fascism and were erased from official history.

This first point invites us to reflect on how forgetting is also a form of violence.



León, noviembre de 1935. Mitin en la Plaza de Toros. Durruti, en la tribuna, se

2) Santa Ana Street – Former concentration camp

During the Spanish Civil War and the post-war period, between 200 and 300 concentration camps existed in Spain. These were detention centers without trials or legal guarantees, used as tools of repression by the Franco regime.

This street housed one of these centers, where people were imprisoned for political, ideological or social reasons: republicans, relatives of those repressed, LGBTQ+ people, the Roma population and others considered "undesirable".

This place allows us to understand how repression was part of the system and was not an isolated event.

3) Alcalde Miguel Castaño Street

Miguel Castaño Quiñones (1883–1936) was a Spanish journalist, typesetter, and socialist politician, notable for being the first Republican mayor of León after the democratic elections of April 1931. During the Second Republic, he led the city council, focusing on social reforms before being executed by Franco's troops at the beginning of the Spanish Civil War. His story symbolizes the repression against democratically elected officials and the violent elimination of any political opposition. Remembering him is remembering that democracy was destroyed through violence.



4) Former Hospice – Concentration Camp (Conservatory Gardens)

The former Hospice of León was used as a satellite concentration camp of San Marcos. Prisoners, troops, and orphaned children were crammed into it, creating extreme conditions of hunger, disease, and death.

Today, a commemorative stone serves as a reminder of the thousands of children cared for at the Hospice throughout its history, as well as those imprisoned there during the war. This space has been given new meaning thanks to an educational project spearheaded by students from León and other European countries.



5) Cid Park – Former Barracks of the Burgos Regiment

In what is now El Cid Park, popularly known as the "Romantic Garden," stood the Cid Barracks, a key site in the history of León. Between 1894 and 1953, it housed the Burgos Regiment No. 36, occupying a former noble mansion in the city center. Its role was decisive during the coup d'état of July 18, 1936, and the subsequent Civil War. From these barracks, the military uprising in León, which triumphed on July 20, was planned and executed. Within its walls, conspiracies were hatched against the legitimate government of the Second Republic, and Asturian miners were deceived by being given unusable weapons. After the coup, the barracks became the epicenter of military and repressive power in the province: from here, punishment columns departed, illegal courts-martial were held, arrests and torture were carried out, and death and prison sentences were handed down. Today, this green space symbolizes the need to remember and honor the victims, promoting democratic memory and the defense of human rights.



6) Ponce de León School – Concentration Camp

During the Spanish Civil War, the Ponce de León School in the city of León was transformed into a concentration camp by the Nationalist forces. From 1936 onward, the building was used for the mass detention of Republican prisoners, trade unionists, military personnel loyal to the Republic, intellectuals, and civilians considered disloyal. Conditions were extremely harsh, with a constant climate of fear and repression. Available historical information indicates that the building was used for repression, forming part of an improvised prison system that included other locations in the city of León, such as the Hospicio and the Santa Ana camp, where large numbers of prisoners were crammed together. The Francoist repression in León sought to secure the rear guard through terror, with numerous shootings and executions. At least a dozen similar concentration camps existed in the province of León. Thousands of people passed through them, making the province of León a key area of Francoist repression in northwestern Spain.



7) Provincial Historical Archive of León (Former Provincial Prison – Puerta Castillo)

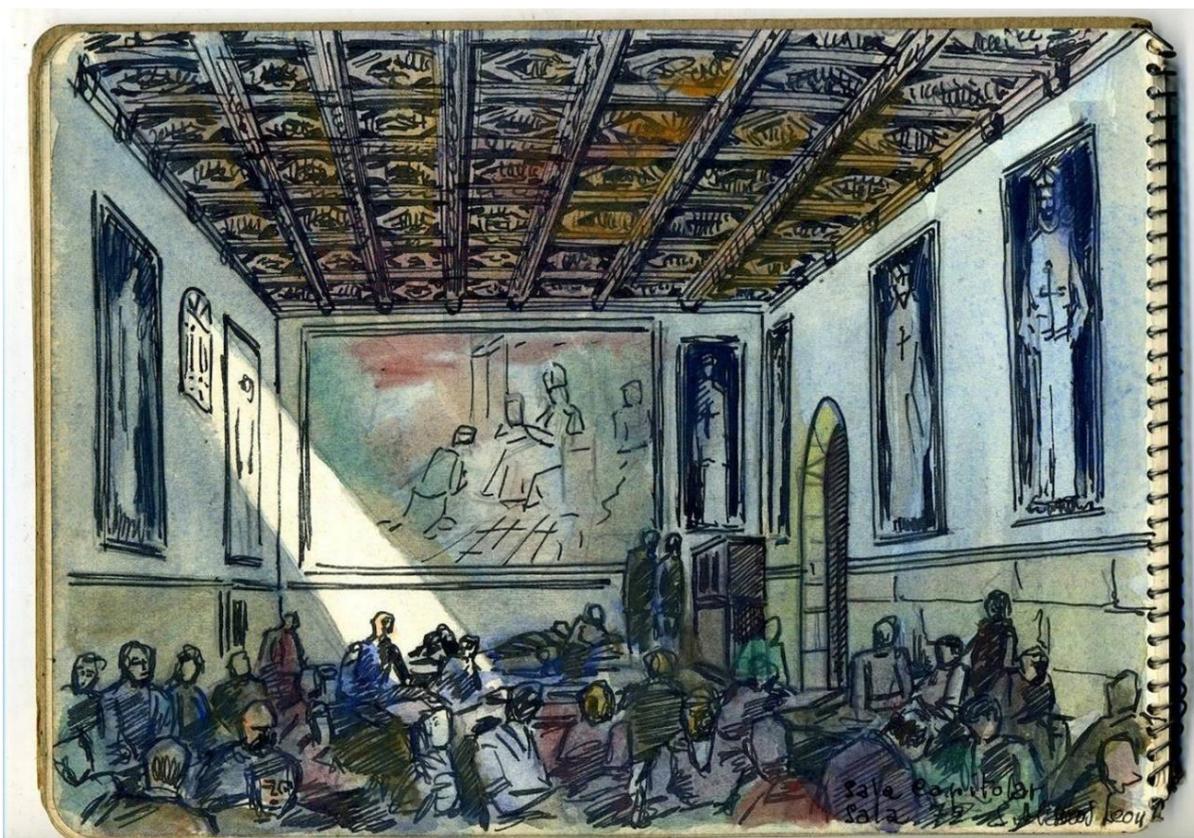
The Provincial Historical Archive of León occupies a building steeped in history. During the Spanish Civil War and the subsequent Francoist dictatorship, this space was used as a prison and concentration camp. Within its walls, the mass imprisonment of political prisoners, Republicans, trade unionists, and individuals deemed disloyal to the regime took place. The building functioned as a site of detention, interrogation, and repression, where human rights were systematically violated and the institutional violence characteristic of the dictatorship was exercised. The harsh living conditions, overcrowding, and lack of legal guarantees left their mark on the experience of those who passed through this place. Over time, the former detention center was converted into the Provincial Historical Archive, now dedicated to the preservation of documents and historical research. This transformation symbolizes the shift from a space of repression to one of memory, reminding us of the need to remember what happened and to preserve democratic memory.



8) Parador de San Marcos – Concentration Camp

The building that now houses the five-star Parador de Turismo de San Marcos in the city of León, Spain, was a concentration camp and a repressive facility of the Franco regime during the Spanish Civil War and its aftermath (1936–1940). This Plateresque-style monument, with medieval origins, served as a convent, hospital, and barracks before becoming a camp for detaining political opponents, including Republicans, trade unionists, and intellectuals considered “dangerous” by the Franco regime. Between 15,000 and 20,000 people passed through its gates in conditions of overcrowding, hunger, cold, torture, and violence, and between 1,500 and 2,900 died from firing squads, summary executions, disease, malnutrition, torture, and ill-treatment. Many more remain missing, buried in ditches or mass graves yet to be located and exhumed. The San Marcos Concentration Camp was part of the network of Francoist camps used to repress defenders of the Second Republic, freedoms, and the rule of law.





Castor González, from Asturias, was imprisoned in the concentration camp in the city of León in 1938, where he used his art to depict the horror of Franco's repression.

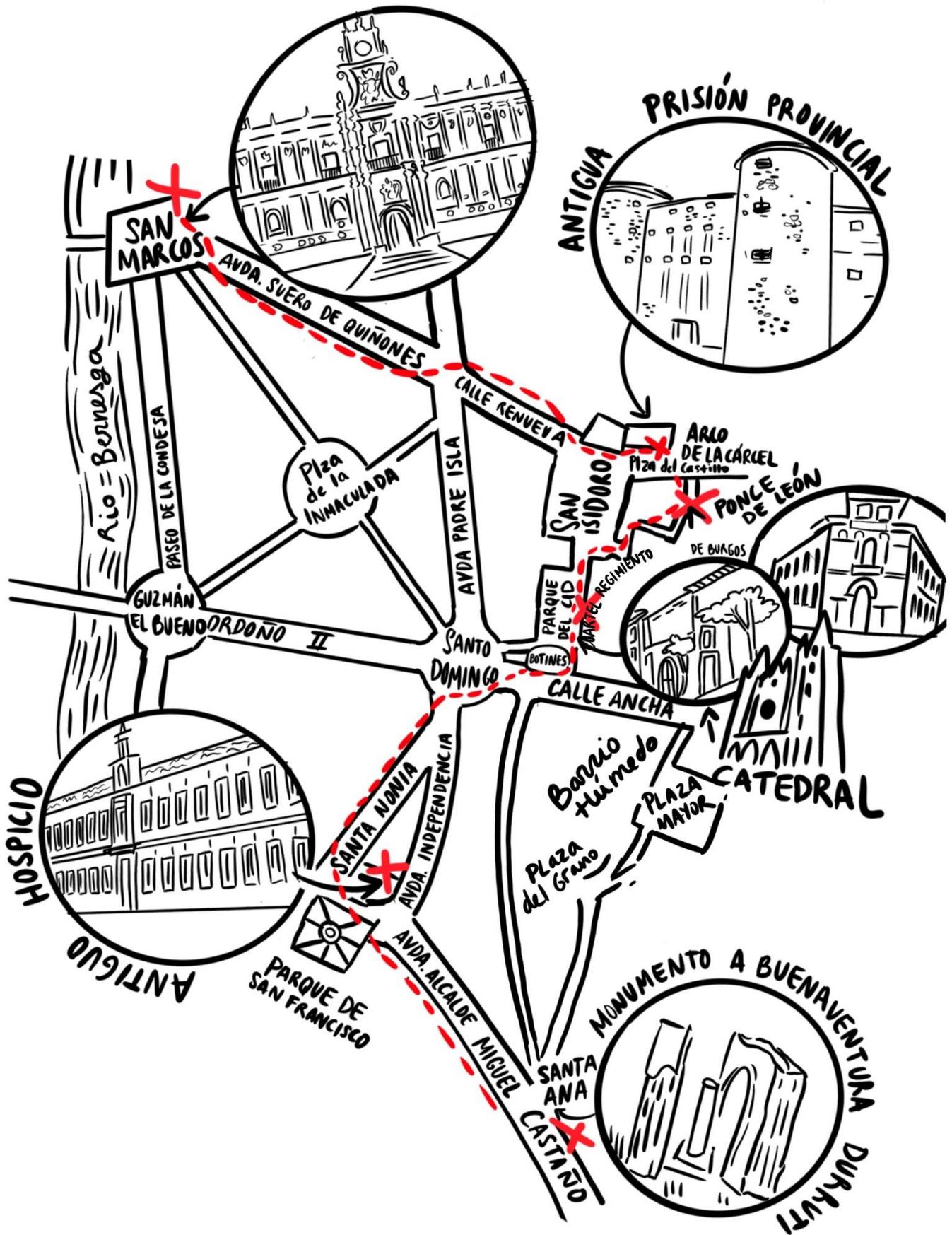
Other memorial sites outside the city:

- **Shooting range – executions:** The former León shooting range, historically known as a site of executions during the Spanish Civil War and the post-war period, was located in the Puente Castro area, on the banks of the Torío River, in what is now part of La Candamia Park. The Monument to Those Executed at the Puente Castro Shooting Range, inaugurated in April 2023 thanks to the efforts of the León Forum for Memory, pays tribute to those who were murdered during the Francoist dictatorship for defending freedom, democracy, and social justice. It was erected on the site where, after the 1936 coup, hundreds of people, mostly Republicans, were executed. Located next to the Torío River, the monument bears an inscription honoring those who paid with their lives for their commitment to democratic values. Beyond its physical presence, it represents the recovery of historical memory, transforming a place of repression into a place of remembrance, reflection, and education, honoring the victims and transmitting to future generations the importance of freedom, human rights, and democracy.

- **León Cemetery – Mass Grave and Secular Chapel:**

In the León Cemetery lies the mass grave and secular chapel. Between July 1936 and early 1949, nearly two thousand victims of repression were buried in the mass grave of the León Cemetery, one of the largest in Spain. Many of them came from the San Marcos concentration camp, where prisoners suffered torture, hunger, disease, and extrajudicial executions known as "paseos" (walks). These conditions resulted in a high number of deaths, and the bodies were buried anonymously, denying families the possibility of saying goodbye or learning their fate. Today, the secular chapel honors more than 1,500 victims of Francoist repression in León, recovering their names and dignifying their memory. This space invites us to reflect on the importance of truth, justice, and historical memory, and to remember that every life taken represents the need to defend human rights and the dignity of all people.





ROUTE

“DISCOVERING LA FABRICONA AND TRENCHES OF VILLANUEVA DE LA TERCIA”

ROUTE PRESENTATION

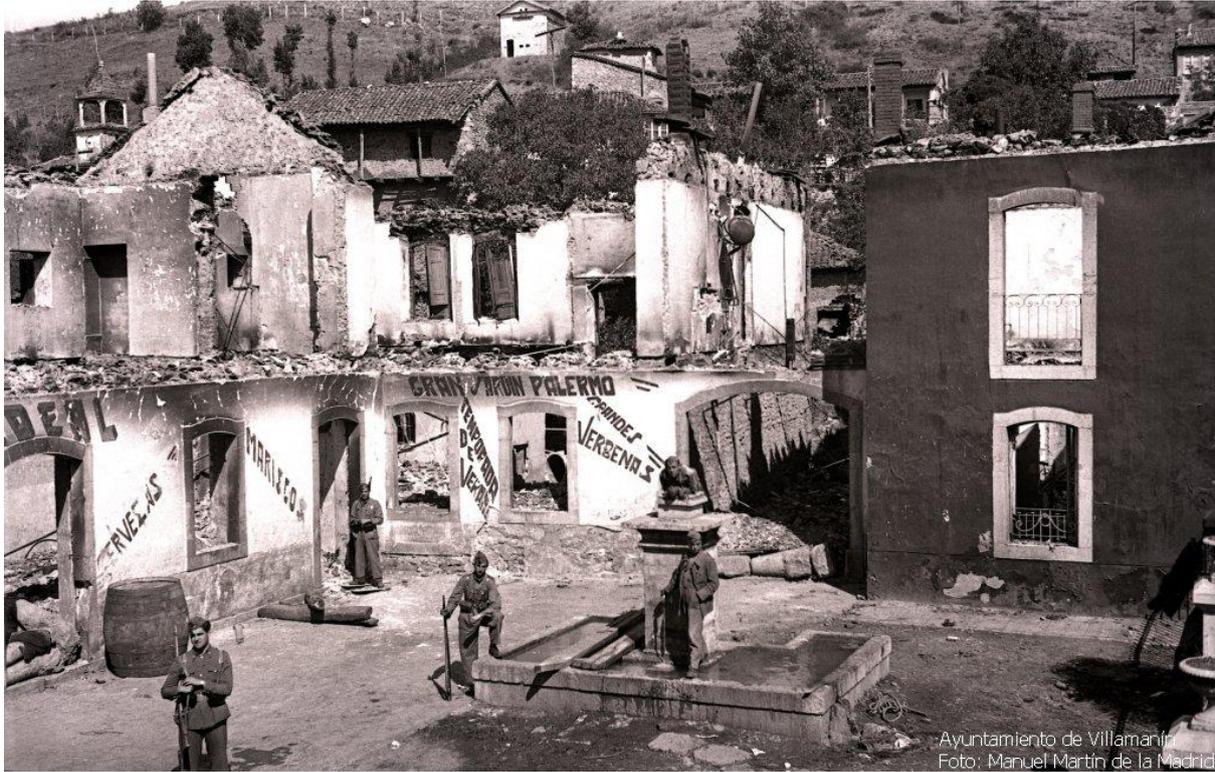
This route traverses a mountainous region that was a direct battleground of the Spanish Civil War (1936–1939) and which today preserves significant material remains from that conflict. Along the way, nature, the landscape, and the ruins help us understand how the war transformed people’s lives and the land, especially on the Northern Front, one of the most brutal fronts of the conflict.

It is located 47 km from the city of León. This is an easy, circular route that takes approximately two hours and is suitable for young people and educational activities. The route is structured around three main points, which allow for an explanation of both the historical events and their current significance from a democratic historical memory perspective.

Historical introduction: the Civil War and the Northern Front

Following the military coup of July 1936 against the Second Republic, Spain was divided into two zones. Unable to quickly capture Madrid, the rebel faction focused its efforts on the Northern Front, a key region due to its industrial, mining, and energy potential, especially in Asturias and the Leonese Mountains. Control of the natural passes between the plateau and the north, such as the area around Villamanín, Villanueva de la Tercia, and Golpejar, was crucial. For this reason, this area was fiercely defended by the Republican Army, which sought to halt the advance of fascism and uphold democratic legality. The result was a territory deeply scarred by fighting, fortifications, and bombings, which affected both combatants and the civilian population.

Through the REFORE NETWORK project: Youth Network for Recovering the Forgotten Remembrance, we want to rescue from oblivion and ignorance spaces that preserve the memory of events that have marked European history.



Ayuntamiento de Villamanín
Foto: Manuel Martín de la Madrid

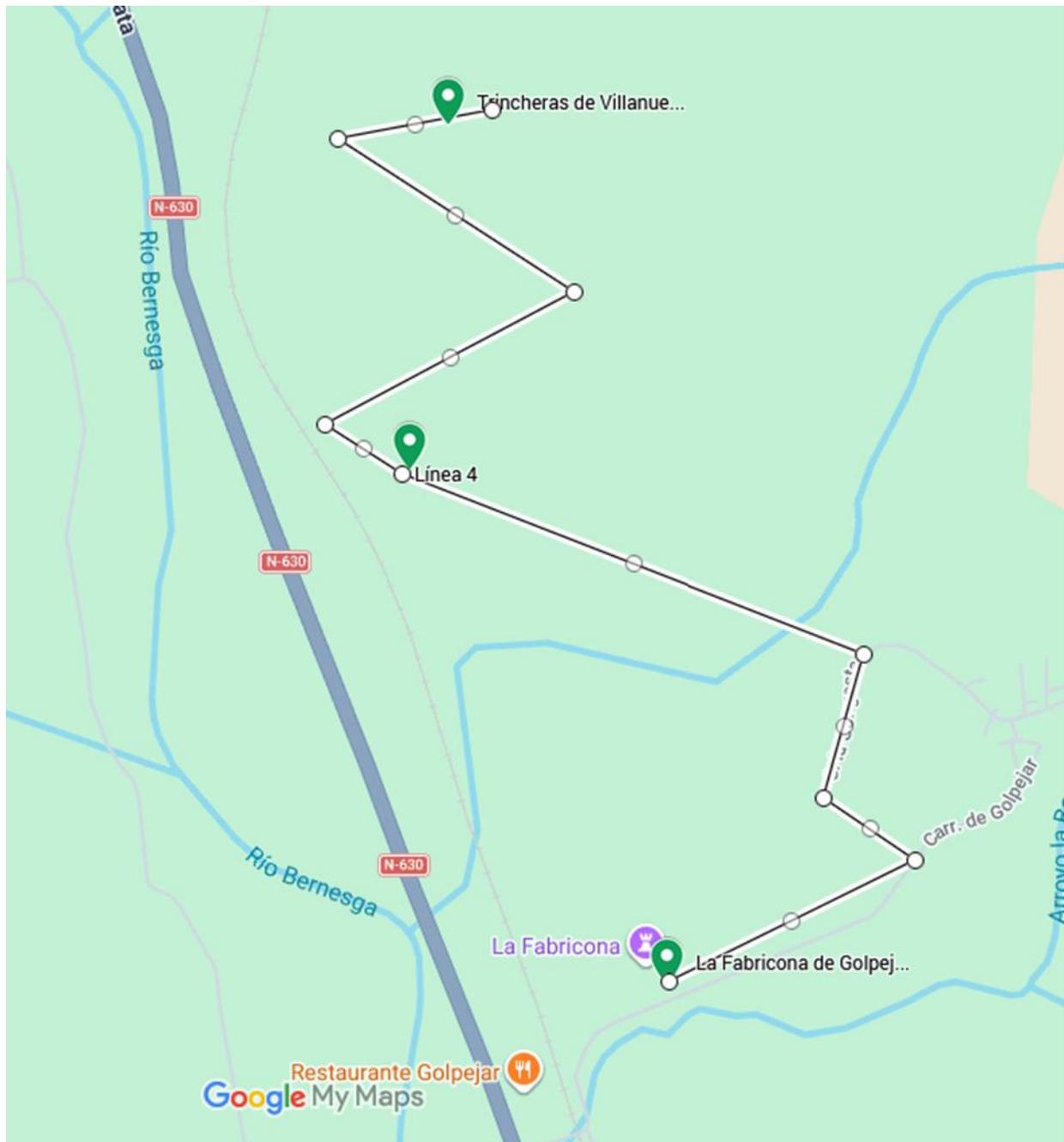


Ayuntamiento de Villamanín
Foto: Manuel Martín de la Madrid

ROUTE MAPS

Discover this route:

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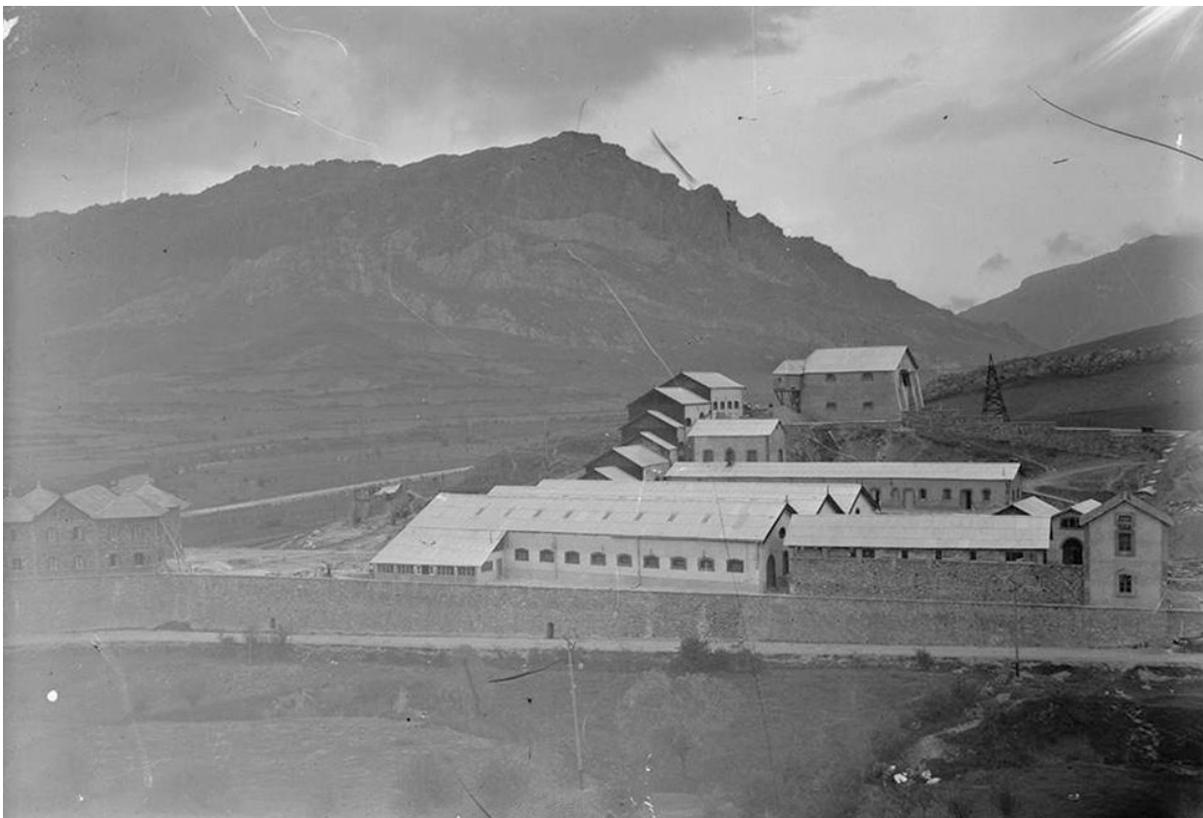


1) The Golpejar Factory: Air Warfare and Destruction (Start of the route)

The first stop on the route takes us to the ruins of the Fabricona de Golpejar, an old mining and metallurgical complex that had ceased its activity in 1931. Despite its industrial abandonment, during the war it was reused by the Republican side as a defensive position, due to its strategic value in the defense of access to Asturias through the Pajares pass.

In April 1937, a Republican company under Captain Luis Vaquero entrenched itself in this stronghold and managed to withstand ground attacks by the Nationalist forces. Unable to take the position by land, the Francoist command resorted to a massive aerial bombardment, carried out by the German Condor Legion, a Nazi unit sent to support the military coup.

From its base in La Virgen del Camino (León) and under the command of Wolfram von Richthofen, one of the first carpet bombings was carried out here, a tactic of indiscriminate destruction that would soon be used in Guernica and, later, in the Second World War. La Fabricona was devastated and most of its defenders died.





What remains today?

Today, visible remains of walls, foundations, ruined structures, and other elements of the former industrial complex are preserved, integrated into the landscape. These ruins allow us to understand the size of the site and the violence of the air raid. La Fabricona is now a place of democratic memory, recalling the impact of modern warfare on people, territories, and those who defended democracy against fascism.







2) The path to defensive positions

From La Fabricona, the route continues along traditional signposted paths for about 30 minutes, crossing a landscape that during the war was used for troop movement, transport of supplies and communications.

The subsequent ascent up the hillside helps to understand the military logic of the terrain: the heights allowed for observation of the enemy, control of access points, and organization of the defense. This section connects the current natural landscape with its historical use as a battlefield, inviting a critical and conscious examination of the territory.

3) Trenches of Villanueva de la Tercia: resistance and defense of democracy

The route culminates in the Civil War archaeological zone, where trenches, parapets, bunkers and machine gun nests are preserved, forming an authentic mountain defensive line of the Northern Front, active until October 1937.





These fortifications were built and occupied by Republican soldiers, many of them local residents or mine workers, who defended this strategic pass under extremely harsh conditions, with scarce resources and under the constant risk of bombing.



A living heritage. At this point on the route, it's possible to enter some of the bunkers and shelters, allowing you to directly experience the spaces where soldiers protected themselves, fought, and survived. Walking through the trenches and accessing the

bunkers helps you understand the harshness of life on the front lines and the enormous effort made to defend the territory and the Republican government.



Final reflection: memory, democracy and learning.

Places like the Golpejar factory and the trenches of Villanueva de la Tercia are not mere remnants of the past. They are spaces of memory, witnesses to the defense of democracy against the military coup and to the sacrifice of those who fought to maintain a system based on freedom, social justice, and the rule of law. Recovering these places from oblivion and highlighting their value from an educational perspective is an act of collective responsibility. Democratic historical memory does not seek revenge or confrontation, but rather truth, justice, and recognition. It allows us to understand the consequences of violence, honor the victims, and strengthen our commitment to democratic values.

For young people, this route offers a learning opportunity, a chance to understand that current rights and freedoms are not a gift, but the result of struggles and sacrifices. Learning about this past helps to cultivate a critical, conscious citizenry committed to defending democracy, human rights, and peaceful coexistence. Walking these paths is also a way of saying that memory lives on and that oblivion can never be the fate of those who defended freedom.

ROUTE

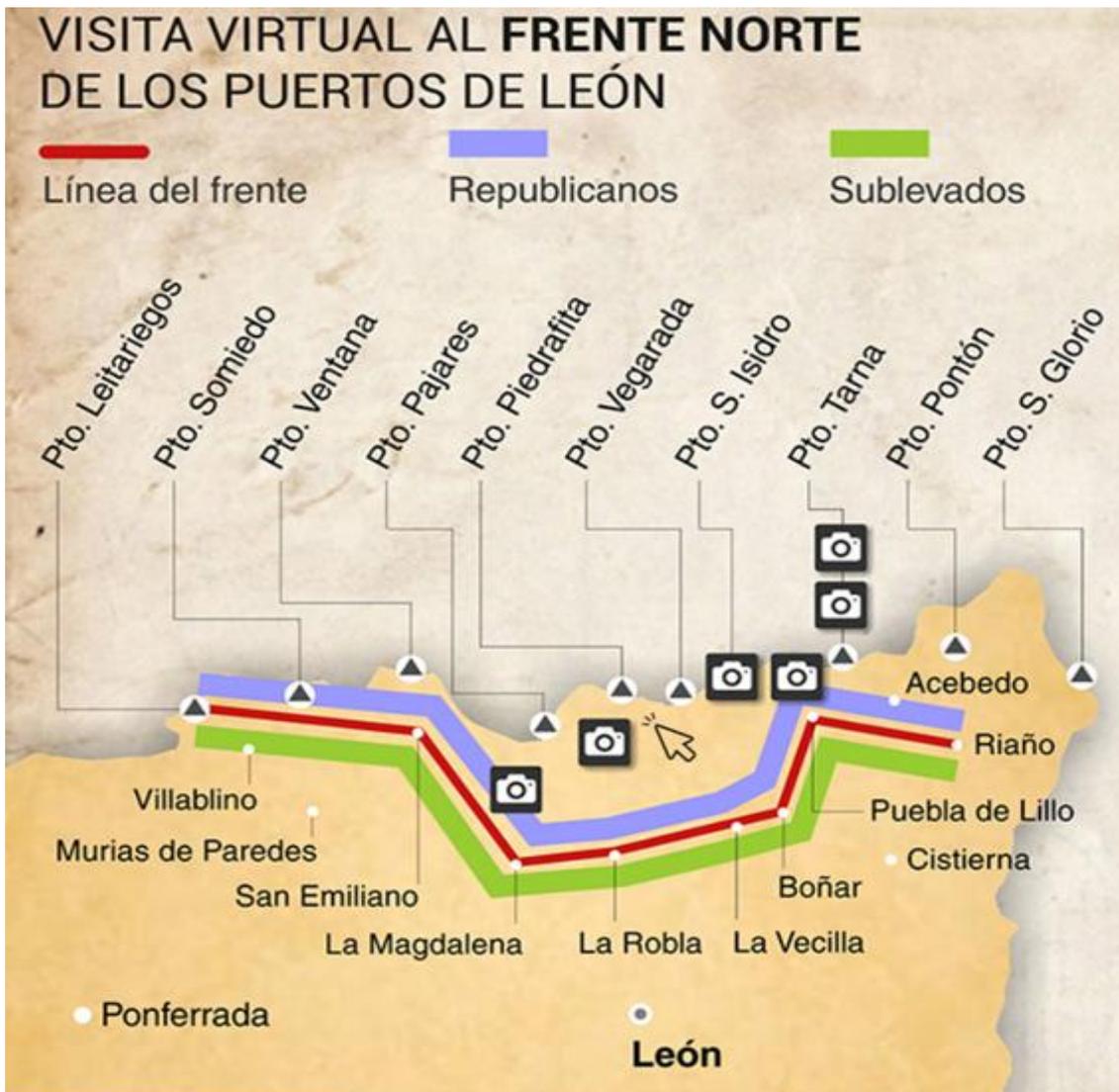
“TRENCHES OF NOCEDO DE GORDÓN AND PICO FONTAÑÁN”

ROUTE PRESENTATION

The hiking route that starts in Nocedo de Gordón, climbs to Pico Fontañán, and returns to the starting point is much more than a nature walk. It is a historical memory trail that allows you to see firsthand the vestiges of the Spanish Civil War still present in the landscape. Walking these paths is a way to connect with the past through direct experience, understanding how the war transformed the land and the lives of the people who lived there.

The Northern Front and the Importance of the Territory: During the Spanish Civil War (1936–1939), the Northern Front was a key strategic theater. The mountainous areas of León, Asturias, and Cantabria were fundamental for controlling natural passes and communication routes. In this context, the Gordón Valley became a militarized zone, where both sides erected defensive lines to halt the enemy advance. The rugged terrain and high altitude offered a strategic advantage, which explains the concentration of military infrastructure in this area. Numerous sites have been located along the Northern Front where remnants of that war can be found, from high mountain passes like Vegarada and areas such as the Babia region in Genestosa, to other areas of particular importance such as La Vecilla de Curueño and Peña Morquera, a site of great historical value that preserves significant vestiges of both the Spanish Civil War and the subsequent activity of the maquis (anti-Franco guerrillas/partisans).

Pico Fontañán is the clearest example, as a reference peak, but Peña Miezca, La Muezca and El Altico also have their war remnants, as well as Pico de Santiago and opposite them the high group of constructions of Peña Viesca or Peña Portilla.

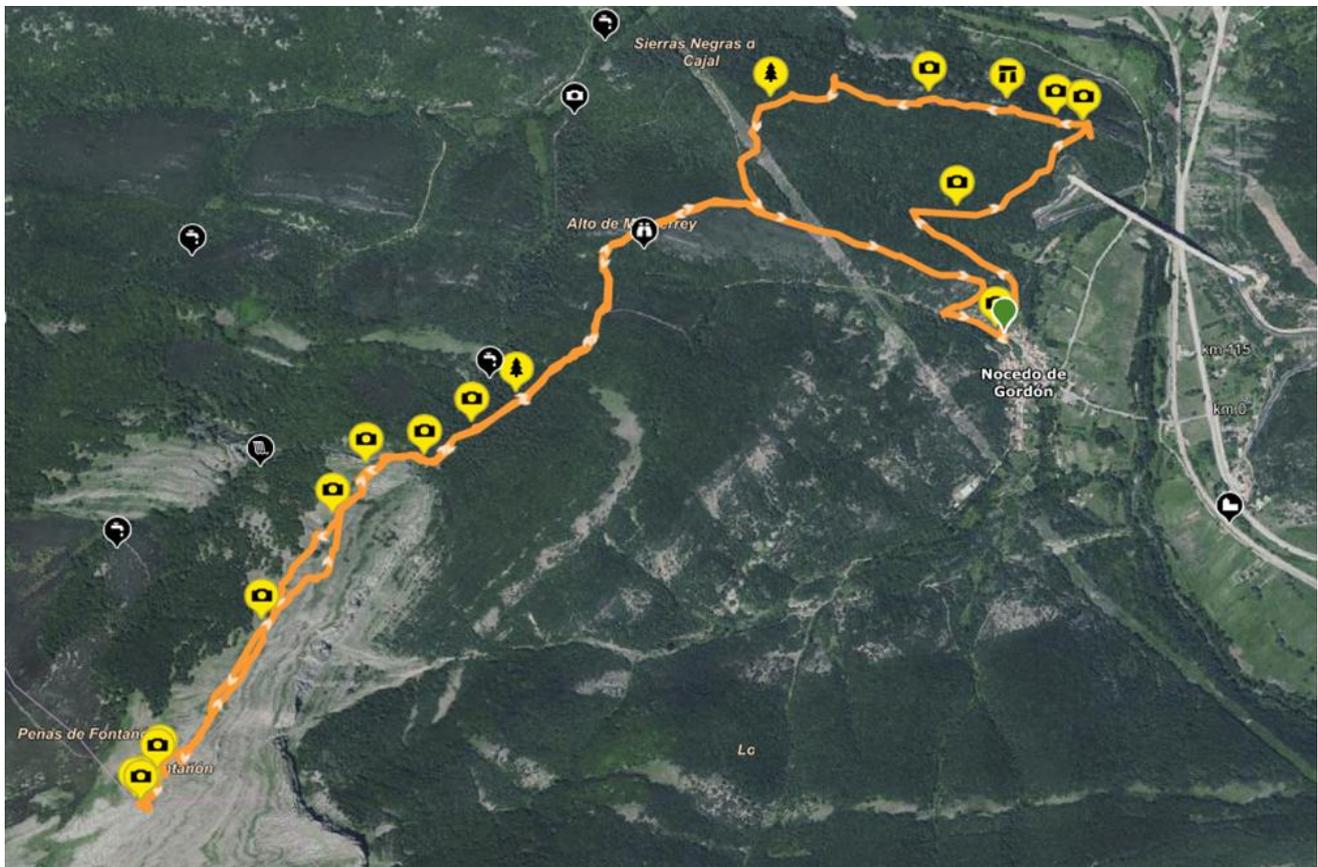


This route, located just 30km from the city of León, will take us to discover step by step the Trenches of Nocedo de Gordón and the vestiges of the Civil War on Pico Fontañán.

It's a circular route that starts from the village of Nocedo de Gordón and climbs to Pico Fontañán. It's easily accessible if you only visit the trench area of Nocedo de Gordón, and of medium difficulty if you attempt the entire route, reaching the summit of Pico Fontañán at 1,634 meters.

Discover this route:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=10oEScUEgjfAVvAT64iAjinUiyDU4vr4&usp=sharing>



Through the REFORE NETWORK project: Youth Network for Recovering the Forgotten Remembrance, we want to rescue from oblivion and ignorance spaces that preserve the memory of events that have marked European history.

1) Nocado de Gordón (Start of the route)

The route begins at the end of the residential area on Calle Real in the small town of Nocado de Gordon, which is located just 30km from the city of León.

As soon as we started walking up through the village, we came to a fountain, which marks the beginning of the route, from where three paths start and you should follow the one on the right that goes up in a northerly direction.

The path continues along the entire mountain range with more than seven points where you will find bunkers, casemates, parapets and trenches, remains of ruined constructions that were built during the civil war.



2) Trenches and Bunkers of Nocedo de Gordón

Welcome to this historic site, where the trenches, parapets, casemates, bivouac areas, and bunkers built during the Spanish Civil War are preserved. From here, you can appreciate the strategic importance of these positions, which dominated the Bernesga Valley and protected the route to Asturias.

These fortifications were used by the Republican side, which defended the Northern Front. Their mission was to halt the advance of the rebel troops and maintain control of the mountain passes. Thanks to their location on the heights above Nocedo de Gordón, the soldiers could monitor the valley, protect the road, and take cover from bombing raids.

At this point we can appreciate the defensive architecture and observe how these positions are constructed.

- Trenches and parapets dug into the earth, which offered protection against enemy artillery and gunfire.
- Casemates and bunkers, some lined with concrete and stone, perfectly integrated into the landscape so that they would be difficult to locate from afar.
- Bivouac areas, spaces where soldiers could rest and take shelter from the cold and rain.

Some of these machine gun nests and underground tunnels were interconnected, allowing soldiers to move around without being exposed to enemy fire. This type of military engineering was made possible by skilled workers, many of them local miners, who applied their knowledge to the excavation of tunnels and shelters.





What historical events took place in this area?

The trenches of Nocedo de Gordón formed part of a Republican defensive line that remained active for 13 months, from 1936 until mid-1937. During that time, soldiers defended the area against intense attacks from the Nationalist forces, who sought to advance towards Asturias. These positions not only had military value, but are also

symbols of resistance and sacrifice, reflecting the determination of those who fought to defend Republican legality and democratic values at that time.

As we walk through these trenches, we are walking through a space of historical memory, where past and present meet to teach us lessons of history and humanity.



3) Finish the route or continue the route ascending to Pico Fontañán.

Once you have visited all the Civil War archaeological remains in this area, you can continue the route through a wooded area that will take you to a forest track (firebreak) which will lead you back to a path where you can take the route that will take you to the summit of Pico Fontañán (medium difficulty, but without any danger) or allow you to return to the town of Nocado de Gordón, thus ending your visit to the area.



3) Ascent to Pico Fontañán.

If you've decided to continue to the summit of Pico Fontañán, you should follow the path that ascends to the top. The route is easy to identify; simply follow the path and the signs you'll find along the way. You'll walk through a wooded area of beech and oak trees until you reach a point where the vegetation thins out, leading you to the mountainside via a meadow. Continue the ascent along a path that will take you directly to the summit of Pico Fontañán.



4) Pico Fontañán – Trenches, Bunkers and Casemates

Welcome to the summit of Pico Fontañán, at 1,629 meters, one of the most important strategic points on the northern front during the Spanish Civil War. From here, you can understand the combination of military strategy, history, and nature that makes this place a space of democratic historical memory.

Fortifications and military architecture:

The Fontañán position was designed to protect a platoon of soldiers and allow the safe use of an automatic weapon, such as a Hotchkiss machine gun, capable of withstanding artillery fire and aerial bombardment. The concrete nest, with several embrasures, was designed to employ a single machine gun that could be adjusted as needed, controlling the valley through which the road and railway from León run.

To reinforce the defense, the nest was surrounded by trenches and armored parapets, from which riflemen could fire and launch defensive grenades in case of a direct attack. The location was designed to maximize the soldiers' defense and survival.

The fortifications of Pico Fontañán are a clear example of the art of using the terrain for combat, employing the mountain's natural features to hinder the enemy's advance and

protect those defending the position. The access points and tunnels also allowed for movement under cover and rest in sheltered areas, a vital aspect during the months of active fighting.





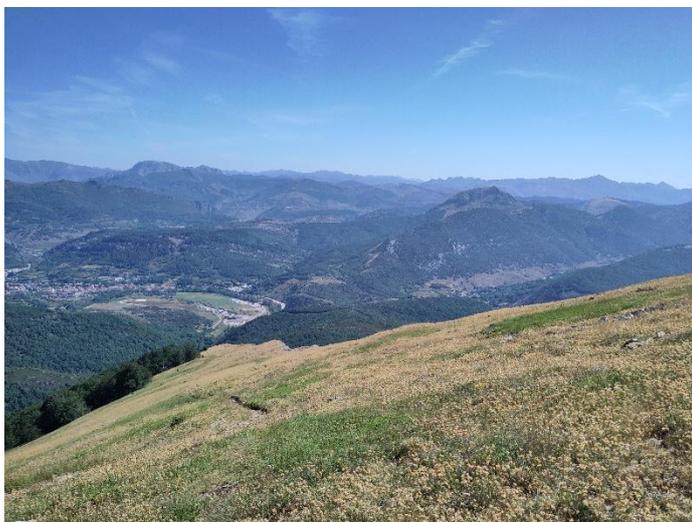
Historical context:

Pico Fontañán, located in the mountainous northern region of the province of León, Spain, was a strategic stronghold during the Spanish Civil War (1936–1939) on the Northern Front. In the early stages of the conflict, between 1936 and 1937, the Republican army established a defensive line in this area to halt the advance of Franco's troops towards Asturias, as part of a resistance against the military coup. Trenches and bunkers remain on the summit as testaments to this past. These fortifications were occupied by the Republican side, whose mission was to defend the Bernesga Valley and stop the advance of the rebel troops towards Asturias. The positions remained active for months and represent the resistance of those who fought for the Republican cause, protecting roads, railways, and strategic passes. Today, these structures help us understand how the war was experienced in this territory and invite us to reflect on the importance of preserving historical memory, remembering those who defended democracy, and learning from the mistakes of the past. The area subsequently came under the control of the Nationalist side after the occupation of the town of La Robla and the surrounding heights, including Fontañán, on July 31, 1936,

once the Republican resistance had been overcome, and a permanent garrison was subsequently established.

5) Descent to the starting point in Nocedo de Gordón

From the summit of Pico Fontañán, simply retrace your steps back to the point where you had to decide whether to end the route or continue to the summit. From there, just follow the path down the mountain, keeping an eye out for the signs that will lead you back to your starting point in the village of Nocedo de Gordón.



Final Reflection

Today, these remains remind us that history is not only told in books: the earth and the rock preserve the memory of those who lived in and defended this land. Visiting this place helps us understand the events of the Civil War, remember the victims, and learn the importance of democracy and peaceful coexistence.

From a perspective of democratic historical memory, this route invites reflection on the consequences of the coup, the war, and the subsequent dictatorship. The defensive remains of Nocedo de Gordón and Pico Fontañán do not glorify the war, but rather help us remember the victims, understand the past, and defend democratic values and human rights. Transforming these spaces into educational routes is a way to redefine the territory, making it a place of learning, critical reflection, and commitment to a more just and peaceful future.



ROUTES IN THE MOTHER TONGUES OF EACH COUNTRY

**FRENCH, ITALIAN, PORTUGUESE,
CATALAN, AND SPANISH**



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ROUTES IN FRANCE (FRENCH VERSION)



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Itinéraire mémoriel en Bretagne

Rennes

Ce parcours permet de comprendre comment la Seconde Guerre mondiale a marqué la ville de Rennes et, plus largement, l'histoire de la France. Chaque lieu témoigne de l'Occupation allemande, de la Résistance, de la répression et du travail de mémoire mené après la Libération.

1. Caserne du Colombier – Place du Maréchal Juin

Pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, cette ancienne caserne militaire faisait partie des lieux stratégiques de Rennes. Elle rappelle la forte présence militaire en France pendant l'Occupation allemande et permet de comprendre comment l'armée contrôlait l'espace urbain et la population.

2. Monument du Colombier (fusillés du 8 juin 1944)

Ce monument rend hommage à 32 résistants exécutés par les forces allemandes le 8 juin 1944, deux jours après le Débarquement allié en Normandie. Ces exécutions illustrent la violence de la répression nazie contre la Résistance française au moment où la Libération commence.

3. Mémorial des Martyrs de la Résistance et de la Déportation

Ce mémorial symbolique évoque à la fois les exécutions et la déportation vers les camps nazis. Il rappelle que des milliers de Français ont été arrêtés, déportés ou tués pour avoir résisté à l'occupation allemande ou parce qu'ils étaient considérés comme ennemis du régime nazi.

4. Square des Martyrs de la Résistance – Place du 50e d'Artillerie

Ce lieu est dédié aux résistants rennais morts pendant la guerre. Il montre comment, après 1945, la France a choisi d'honorer officiellement celles et ceux qui ont combattu l'Occupation, en inscrivant leur mémoire dans l'espace public.

5. Quai des Déportés – Gare de Rennes

Depuis cette gare, des hommes et des femmes ont été déportés vers les camps de concentration et d'extermination nazis. Ce lieu rappelle le rôle du réseau ferroviaire français dans la déportation et souligne la brutalité d'un système qui a arraché des milliers de personnes à leur vie quotidienne.

6. Site de La Courrouze (anciennes usines de munitions)

Pendant la guerre, ce site industriel employait environ 4 500 femmes pour fabriquer des munitions. Il permet de comprendre l'économie de guerre et le rôle essentiel des civils, notamment des femmes, dans un contexte de pénurie, de contraintes et d'occupation.

7. Maison d'Andrée Récipon (Laillé)

Cette maison fut un lieu de refuge et d'engagement dans la Résistance. Elle illustre le fait que la Résistance française reposait souvent sur des initiatives individuelles et sur l'utilisation de lieux ordinaires, parfois au péril de la vie de leurs occupants.

8. Butte de la Maltière

Entre 1940 et 1944, 79 résistants ont été fusillés à cet endroit par l'occupant allemand. Ce site est l'un des principaux lieux de répression en Ille-et-Vilaine et rappelle le prix extrêmement élevé payé par certains Français pour avoir résisté.

9. Ancienne prison Jacques-Cartier

Cette prison servait à enfermer des résistants et des opposants politiques avant leur déportation ou leur exécution. Elle témoigne du système répressif mis en place pendant l'Occupation pour faire taire toute opposition.

10. Place Thérèse-Pierre

Cette place rend hommage à Thérèse Pierre, résistante arrêtée par la Gestapo et morte sous la torture en 1943. Son histoire permet d'incarner la Résistance française à travers un destin individuel et de rappeler la brutalité des méthodes employées par les nazis.

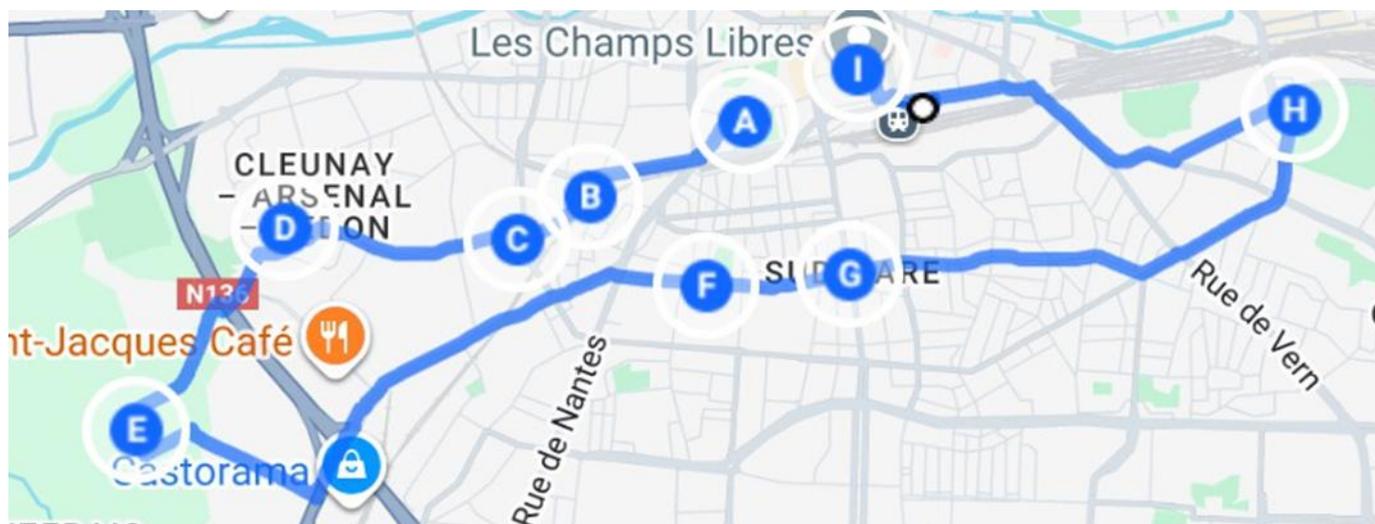
11. Cimetière de l'Est – Carré militaire du Commonwealth

Ce carré militaire regroupe des tombes de soldats alliés morts pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Il rappelle que la Libération de la France fut le résultat d'un combat international mené par les forces alliées aux côtés de la Résistance française.

12. Musée de Bretagne – Les Champs Libres

Le Musée de Bretagne conserve et explique l'histoire de la région pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Il permet de replacer les lieux visités dans un contexte plus large et de comprendre comment la mémoire de la guerre s'est construite après 1945.

À travers ces lieux, Rennes montre comment la Seconde Guerre mondiale a marqué durablement la France, entre occupation, résistance, répression et travail de mémoire. Ce parcours aide à comprendre pourquoi ces événements restent essentiels dans l'histoire et l'identité françaises.



Itinéraire mémoriel – Saint-Malo

Ce parcours à Saint-Malo permet de comprendre l'importance stratégique de cette ville portuaire pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, ainsi que l'ampleur des destructions liées à sa Libération en 1944.

1. La Cité d'Alet – Promontoire d'Alet (Saint-Servan)

Ce promontoire domine la baie de Saint-Malo et l'estuaire de la Rance. Pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, les forces allemandes y ont installé une forteresse intégrée au Mur de l'Atlantique. Les bunkers et batteries rappellent l'importance stratégique de ce point pour contrôler la côte et la navigation.

2. Les remparts de Saint-Malo intra-muros (Porte Saint-Vincent)

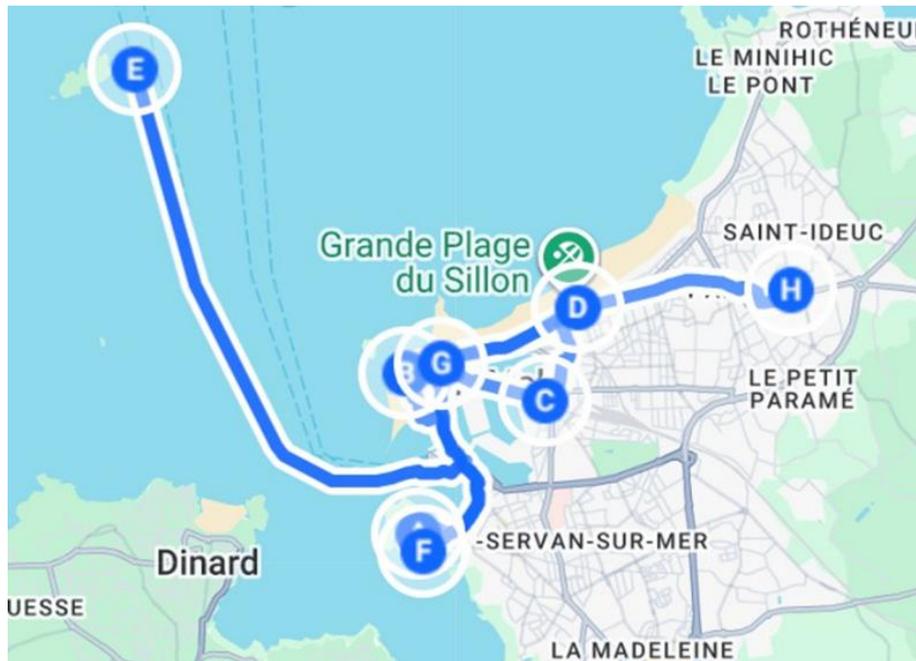
Les remparts protégeaient une ville fortement fortifiée, occupée par les Allemands pendant la guerre. En août 1944, lors de la Libération, Saint-Malo a subi d'intenses bombardements alliés qui ont gravement endommagé la ville. Les remparts reconstruits permettent aujourd'hui de comprendre son rôle défensif.

3. Le port de Saint-Malo (bassins Vauban et Duguay-Trouin)

Le port a été utilisé par les forces allemandes comme port militaire et logistique. Sa position sur la Manche en faisait un point clé pour le contrôle maritime. Aujourd'hui port de plaisance, il reste un lieu marqué par la mémoire de l'Occupation.

4. La plage du Sillon

Face à la ville fortifiée, cette plage faisait partie du dispositif défensif du Mur de l'Atlantique, avec des obstacles et des mines. En août 1944, elle a été touchée par de violents bombardements lors des combats pour la Libération de Saint-Malo.



5. L'île de Cézembre (vue depuis la côte ou en bateau)

Fortement fortifiée par l'armée allemande, l'île de Cézembre a été massivement bombardée par les forces alliées en 1944. Elle reste marquée par la présence de munitions non explosées, ce qui explique l'accès encore très réglementé aujourd'hui.

6. Le quartier Saint-Servan et la tour Solidor

Situé près de l'embouchure de la Rance, ce quartier occupait une position stratégique. La tour Solidor, construite au Moyen Âge, a été utilisée pendant la guerre comme point d'observation, permettant de surveiller les mouvements maritimes.

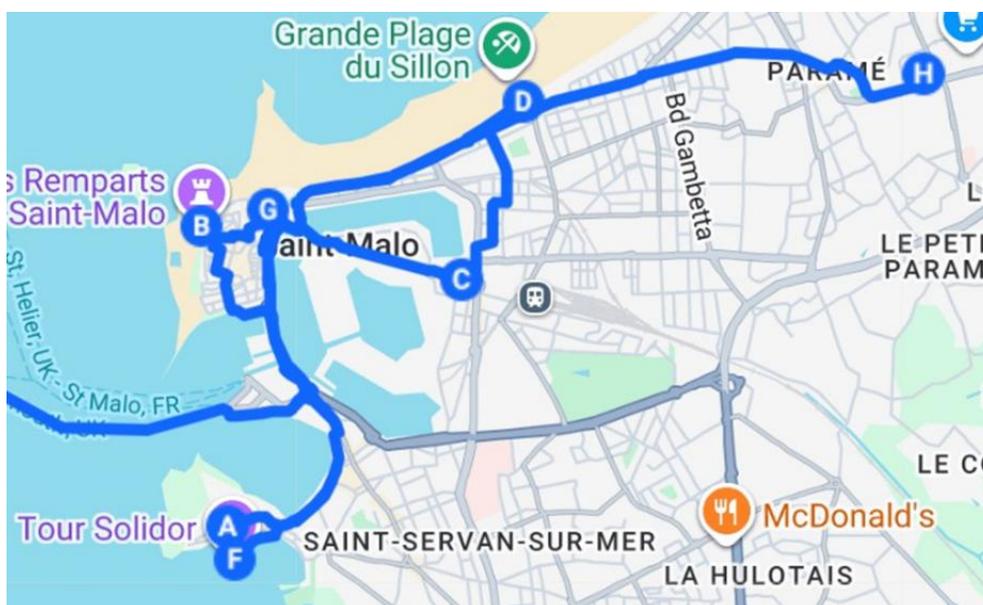
7. La place Chateaubriand (intra-muros)

Ce secteur a été l'un des plus touchés par les bombardements alliés lors de la Libération. La reconstruction à l'identique après la guerre illustre la volonté de préserver l'identité historique de Saint-Malo malgré les destructions.

8. Le cimetière de guerre de Saint-Malo (Rocabey)

Ce cimetière regroupe les tombes de soldats alliés morts lors des combats pour la Libération de la région. C'est un lieu de recueillement qui rappelle le coût humain de la Seconde Guerre mondiale et l'engagement des forces alliées en France.

Les lieux de mémoire de Saint-Malo montrent comment une ville stratégique a été profondément marquée par la guerre, entre occupation, destructions massives et reconstruction. Ils rappellent également le rôle essentiel des Alliés dans la Libération de la France.



Itinéraire mémoriel

La Rance Libérée (Pays de Dinan)

En août 1944, la vallée de la Rance est un axe stratégique pour la progression des troupes alliées après le Débarquement. Les combats opposent les forces allemandes aux résistants locaux et aux armées alliées. En 2024, les communes du Pays de Dinan ont commémoré le 80e anniversaire de la Libération à travers l'événement « La Rance Libérée ».

1. Pleudihen-sur-Rance

Pleudihen-sur-Rance est libérée le 6 août 1944 par les troupes alliées. Ce lieu permet de comprendre l'arrivée progressive des forces américaines dans la région après les combats. Les reconstitutions de campement militaire américain et de village civil de 1944 aident à visualiser la vie quotidienne des soldats et des civils au moment de la Libération.

2. Saint-Maden – La Sècherie

Le 3 août 1944, des combats ont lieu à la Sècherie entre des résistants et des troupes allemandes. La stèle commémorative rappelle l'engagement de la Résistance locale et le danger auquel s'exposaient ses membres. Ce lieu illustre la violence des affrontements qui précèdent la Libération.

3. Lanvallay

Le 6 août 1944, Lanvallay est le théâtre de combats intenses lors de l'avancée alliée. Le monument aux morts rend hommage aux soldats et résistants de la commune. Il permet de rappeler que la Libération s'est faite au prix de lourdes pertes humaines.

4. Dinan

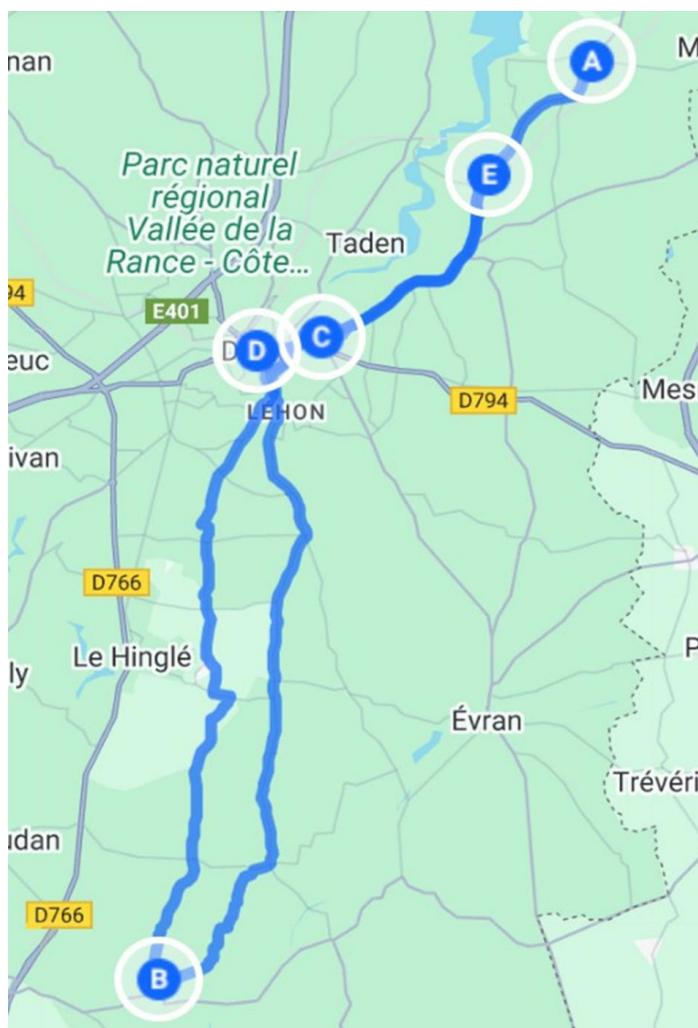
Dinan est libérée le 6 août 1944 par les troupes américaines de la 3e Armée. La place du Maréchal Leclerc est aujourd'hui un lieu central des commémorations. Le

parcours dans le centre historique permet de suivre symboliquement l'entrée des troupes alliées dans la ville et de comprendre l'importance de cet événement pour la population.

5. La Vicomté-sur-Rance

Cette commune est liée aux parachutages effectués par la 3e Division aéroportée britannique. Le monument Émile Bouetard rend hommage aux parachutistes SAS de la France Libre engagés dans les opérations de soutien à la Résistance. Ce lieu rappelle la coopération entre les forces alliées et les résistants français.

Le parcours de la Rance Libérée montre comment la Libération de la France s'est jouée à l'échelle locale, à travers des combats, des actes de résistance et l'intervention des armées alliées. Ces lieux permettent de mieux comprendre le déroulement concret de la Libération en Bretagne.





ROUTES IN ITALY (ITALIAN VERSION)



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A) L'acquedotto

L'acquedotto fu costruito negli anni Trenta ad Altamura. L'opera, in realtà, affondava le sue origini in un più ampio e complesso programma di ammodernamento delle infrastrutture nel Sud Italia, avviato già prima dell'avvento del fascismo, ma divenne successivamente uno dei motivi di vanto della propaganda del regime.

Fonti non confermate affermano che durante la Seconda guerra mondiale sul tetto dell'edificio furono installate postazioni contraeree, nonostante la città di Altamura non abbia mai subito bombardamenti.

Dopo l'armistizio dell'8 settembre 1943 e la successiva occupazione tedesca, che ad Altamura durò solo pochi mesi, gli occupanti decisero di distruggere l'edificio. Tale proposito fu tuttavia sventato dall'allora podestà di Altamura, il quale riuscì a convincere gli ufficiali tedeschi che la distruzione dell'acquedotto avrebbe avuto un impatto trascurabile sull'avanzata alleata in Italia e si sarebbe invece tradotta in un atto di inutile crudeltà nei confronti della popolazione, già frequentemente colpita, soprattutto nei mesi estivi, da periodi di caldo intenso e siccità che compromettevano l'approvvigionamento idrico della città.

B) Scuola 4 Novembre

La scuola, costruita durante il periodo fascista, ebbe anche la funzione di ospedale militare. Particolare è la sua struttura, caratterizzata da una pianta a forma di "M", iniziale del nome Mussolini, concepita come omaggio al dittatore.

C) Monumento ai caduti

Monumento che commemora i caduti della Grande Guerra. In questa piazza si svolgevano gran parte delle commemorazioni militari durante il regime fascista, il quale affondava le proprie origini nell'insoddisfazione diffusa per l'esito del primo conflitto mondiale, segnato dall'enorme sacrificio umano, e nelle presunte – secondo la narrazione fascista – insufficienti concessioni territoriali e sociali che l'Italia avrebbe meritato.

D) Simboli fascisti su fontane e tombini

Per le vie del centro storico e in quella che costituiva l'estensione territoriale della città durante il Ventennio fascista sono ancora presenti simboli del regime. Quelli sulle fontane sono stati in gran parte volutamente abراسi, mentre quelli presenti sui tombini delle strade del centro risultano per lo più ancora intatti e ben visibili. Si tratta di piccoli segni di

propaganda, concepiti per mostrare alla popolazione gli investimenti attribuiti al regime fascista, che tuttavia, in molti casi, rientravano in opere avviate in precedenza e semplicemente portate a termine durante il periodo fascista.



E) Campo 65

Tra il 1942 e il 1943, Campo 65, situato tra Altamura e Gravina in Puglia, in provincia di Bari, ospitò il più grande campo di prigionia alleata in Italia durante la Seconda Guerra Mondiale. Una vera e propria città, composta da circa 80 caserme, più edifici di servizio, costruita in un'area di circa 30 ettari. Ospitò soldati del Commonwealth britannico (Gran Bretagna, Australia, Nuova Zelanda, Sudafrica, India, ecc.) catturati dalle forze dell'Asse (Italia e Germania) sul fronte nordafricano. In totale, dal Campo 65 transitarono circa 12.000 persone. Nel 1943, in seguito all'avanzata alleata dalla Sicilia, il campo di prigionia fu dismesso. Parte della struttura fu utilizzata per l'addestramento dei partigiani dell'Esercito di Liberazione Jugoslavo, una presenza di cui rimangono ancora tracce in alcune caserme. Dopo la guerra, dai primi anni '50 fino al 1962, il campo accolse profughi provenienti dall'Istria, dalla Venezia Giulia, dalla Dalmazia e dalle ex colonie italiane. Attualmente, l'area, situata nei pressi della Strada Statale 96 e sito storico protetto di proprietà del Comune di Altamura, ospita una decina di caserme, gran parte delle quali molto malridotte tra cui l'edificio del comando, che forse rimane uno degli edifici meglio conservati.

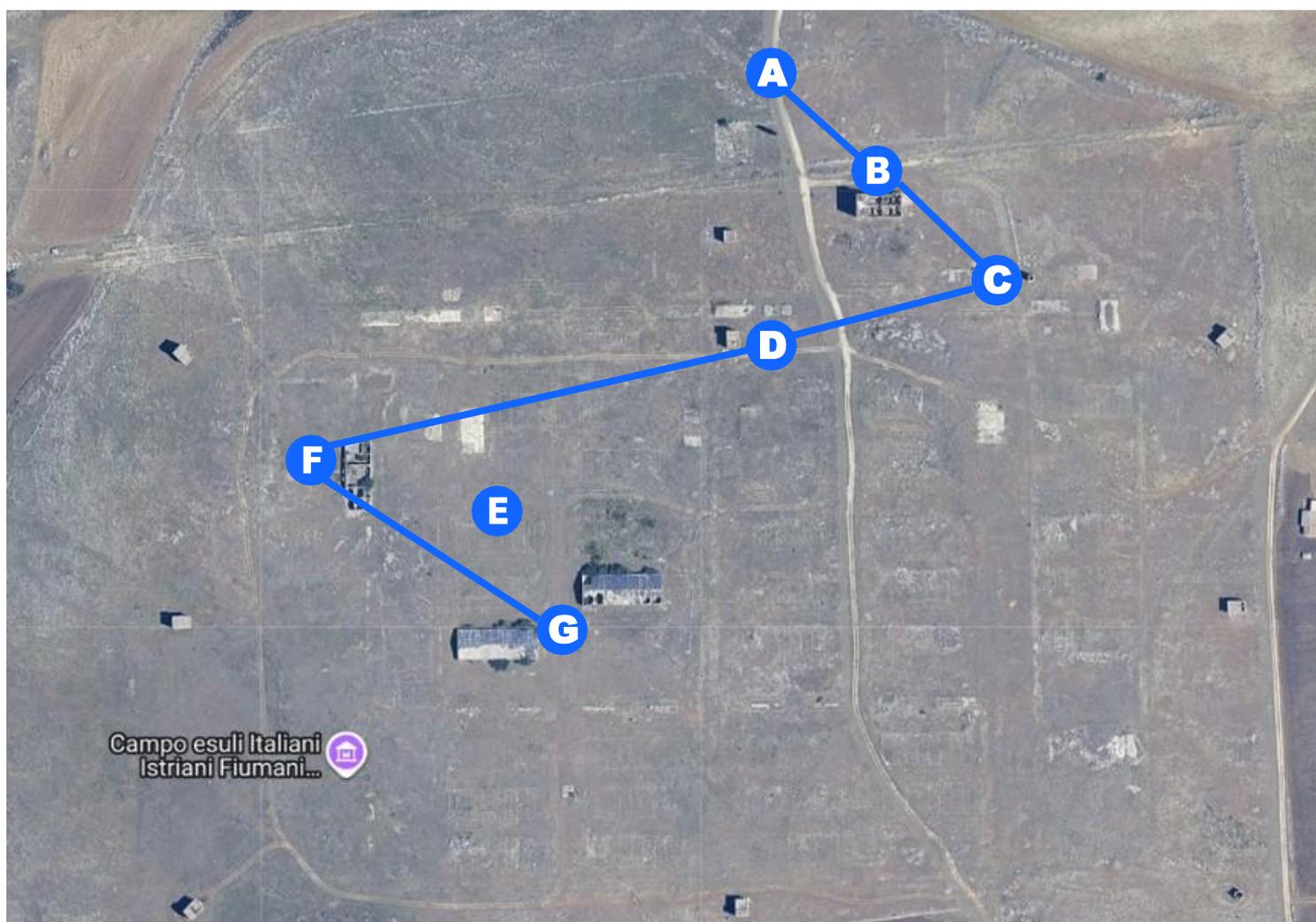
Campo 65

I lavori per la costruzione del Campo per prigionieri di guerra n. 65 (PG 65 Gravina) furono ultimati nel 1942. Il campo fu realizzato tra le città di Altamura e Gravina, lungo la strada statale 96, su un'area di circa 31 ettari.

Le 36 baracche presenti potevano ospitare fino a 12.000 prigionieri di guerra alleati — britannici, sudafricani, neozelandesi, canadesi, ciprioti e palestinesi — provenienti principalmente dal fronte nordafricano, facendo del PG 65 il più grande campo per prigionieri di guerra italiano della Seconda guerra mondiale.

Successivamente alla liberazione dell'area da parte degli Alleati, il campo fu riconvertito in centro di addestramento per soldati jugoslavi, il cui obiettivo era fare ritorno in patria a combattere, allora ancora occupata dalle truppe nazifasciste.

Una terza fase della storia del campo coincise con il suo utilizzo come centro di accoglienza per i profughi giuliano-dalmati, che furono in seguito redistribuiti in diverse regioni d'Italia. Data l'esistenza di una struttura già idonea all'ospitalità, si decise infatti di riadattarla a tale funzione.



A) Entrata del campo

L'accesso al campo avviene attraverso l'ingresso originario. Sono ancora visibili i resti del cancello d'entrata, costituiti da quattro colonne in tufo. Poco più avanti si trovano i ruderi di un piccolo edificio di controllo, posto a presidio di quello che era l'unico accesso al campo. Oltre ciò in quest'area sorgevano un tempo diversi edifici adibiti ad abitazione, oggi non più presenti.

B) Palazzina di comando

Una delle strutture meglio conservate è la palazzina di comando, centro amministrativo del campo, che ospitava gli uffici e gli alloggi del comandante e degli ufficiali. Attualmente non è più agibile a causa dei crolli interni e dell'instabilità strutturale, non avendo mai subito interventi di restauro.

C) Torre serbatoio ed altri edifici

In quest'area sono presenti i ruderi di altri edifici, tra cui una torre-serbatoio destinata all'approvvigionamento idrico, originariamente sormontata da una coppia di grandi serbatoi cilindrici posti sulla sommità.

D) Altana Nord

Questa è l'altana più a nord. Le strutture di sorveglianza sono tutte molto simili tra loro: presentano una pianta rettangolare e si sviluppano su tre piani. Se ne conservano otto ben visibili, disposte a delimitare l'intera area del campo di prigionia.

E) Area di prigionia

Questa era l'area in cui erano concentrate le baracche e gli edifici utilizzati dai prigionieri del campo. Nei pressi dell'altana nord era collocato l'ingresso. L'area era suddivisa in sei settori orientati nord-sud e separati da recinzioni in filo spinato. Di tutta questa zona oggi rimangono in piedi soltanto tre baracche.

F) Cucine

Le cucine presentano il tetto crollato e sono accessibili solo con grande difficoltà; sulla parete esterna meridionale è ancora leggibile la scritta «cucine».

F) Baracche e latrine

Le uniche baracche rimaste conservano, nonostante il crollo parziale dei solai, gran parte del loro aspetto originario: pareti in tufo e travi in cemento; la porzione di copertura ancora esistente è rivestita in asfalto, ma versa in pessime condizioni.

All'interno, le baracche sono suddivise in campate, separate da ampi setti murari dotati di porte con arco a tutto sesto.

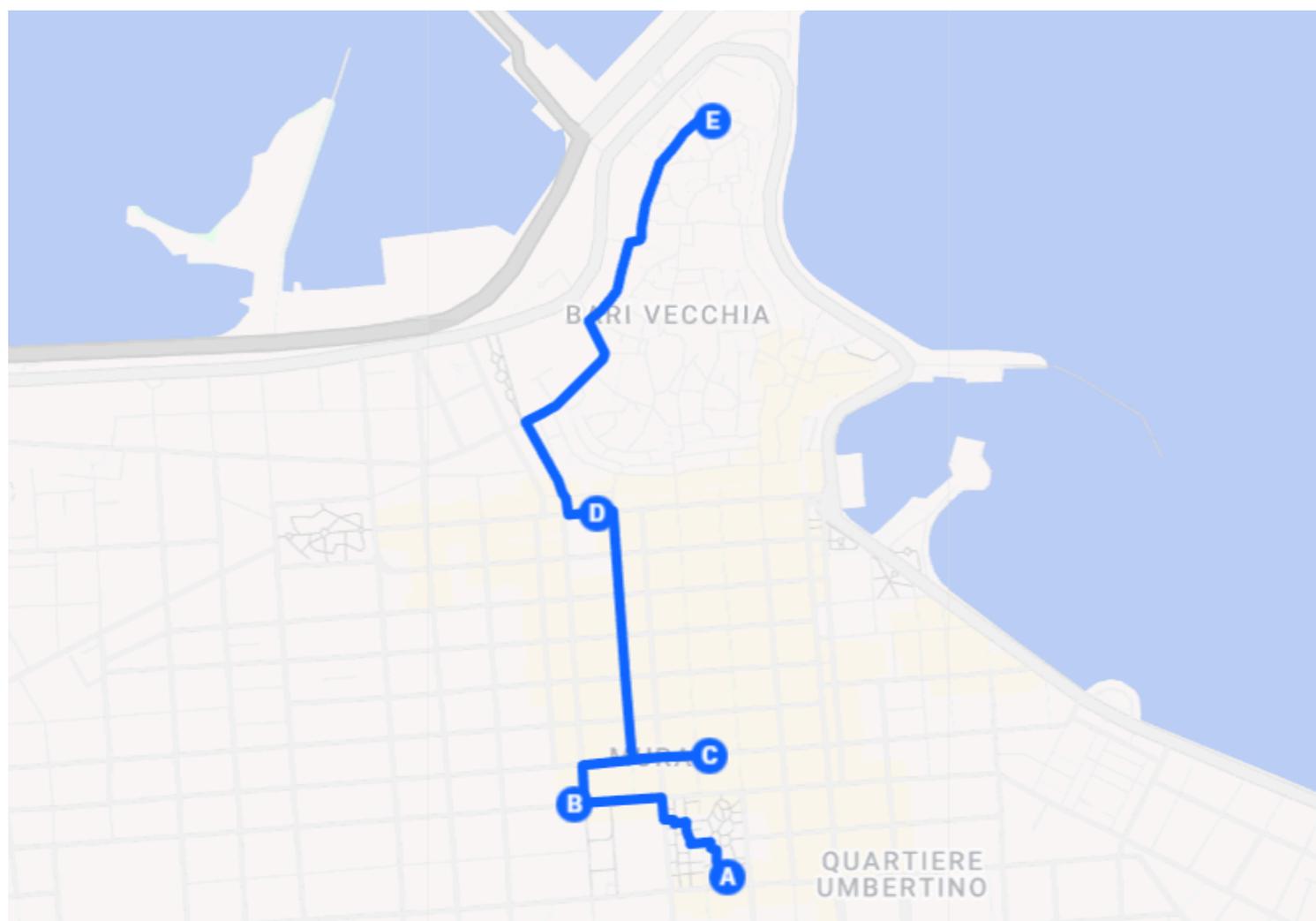
In una di esse si conservano straordinarie testimonianze della breve fase in cui il campo fu riconvertito in centro di addestramento: in una delle campate sono ancora visibili, sebbene in pessimo stato di conservazione, alcune pitture realizzate con una tecnica molto semplice.

Tra queste figurano una carta geografica del Mediterraneo, con l'Italia al centro e, al di sopra, quattro bandiere — britannica, jugoslava, sovietica e statunitense — e un'altra carta geografica raffigurante parte della penisola balcanica orientale e dell'Unione Sovietica.

Dalla fine del regime alla riconquista della libertà. Bari (1943-1945)

I vari luoghi sono visualizzabili al seguente link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/5/edit?mid=1L9Rp5E5vW3fmPOisbUPYPFGatywJul&usp=sharing>



A) Il monumento ai caduti

L'entusiasmo per la riconquista della libertà dopo la caduta del regime fascista a Bari fu brutalmente represso nel sangue a seguito dei duri ordini militari impartiti dal generale Mario Roatta, sebbene in realtà ispirati dal capo del governo, Pietro Badoglio, e diffusi a tutti i comandi dell'esercito. Il 28 luglio 1943 la città fu teatro di una violenta repressione contro studenti universitari e delle scuole secondarie, insegnanti e cittadini comuni che erano scesi in piazza per chiedere il rilascio dei prigionieri antifascisti e la rimozione dei simboli fascisti. I manifestanti sono stati circondati tra Piazza Umberto I e Via Niccolò dall'Arca da un'unità dell'esercito guidata da un ufficiale e posizionata di fronte alla sede del Partito Nazionale Fascista (PNF). All'improvviso, mentre il professor Fabrizio Canfora cercava di spiegare la natura pacifica della protesta, le truppe aprirono il fuoco sui giovani dimostranti, appoggiati da altri individui armati che sparavano dall'interno dell'edificio del PNF. Il risultato fu devastante: venti persone furono uccise e circa settanta ferite. In un articolo pubblicato su L'Italia del Popolo, settimanale del Partito d'Azione, il professor Canfora ha condannato duramente la repressione, affermando: "L'ondata di gioia seguita alla caduta di Mussolini il 25 luglio è stata rapidamente repressa anche nella nostra città, come altrove, ma qui in modo ancora più tragico, in un mare di sangue."

B) Ex palazzo delle poste

Il 9 settembre 1943, contemporaneamente alla distruzione del porto, le forze tedesche attaccarono anche l'edificio delle Telecomunicazioni in Piazza Cesare Battisti, situato dietro l'Università. Ciononostante l'edificio era saldamente difeso dagli impiegati militarizzati e dai Carabinieri. A pochi isolati di distanza sorgeva la sede di Radio Bari, al 247 di Via Putignani, in un edificio adiacente alla Chiesa di San Rocco. Questa grande emittente con sede a Bari, una delle strutture più importanti dell'EIAR (Autorità Radiotelevisiva Italiana), è entrata in una fase completamente nuova grazie agli sforzi dei suoi tecnici e al sostegno attivo degli intellettuali antifascisti, staccandosi dal ruolo propagandistico che aveva svolto durante il periodo fascista.

Solo pochi giorni dopo l'armistizio, Radio Bari, sotto la direzione di Ian Greenlees —ufficiale inglese e noto studioso di Benedetto Croce, sbarcato a Taranto con le prime unità dell'Ottava Armata britannica— poté trasmettere i suoi primi commenti politici. Questi sono stati pronunciati dal giudice Michele Cifarelli, segretario del Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale (CLN), e hanno segnato un punto di svolta nel panorama dell'informazione nazionale dopo il crollo del regime. In breve tempo, la stazione radio della capitale pugliese divenne un punto focale per scrittori, attori, musicisti e giornalisti italiani e stranieri. Attraverso le sue trasmissioni, tra cui Italia Combatte, condotta dalla scrittrice Alba De Céspedes, l'emittente EIAR si è distinta per il suo sostegno ai combattenti e alle forze dell'antifascismo e della Resistenza in Italia, nella penisola balcanica e nelle isole greche.

C) Libreria Laterza

Sotto la guida intellettuale di Benedetto Croce e Giovanni Laterza, fondatore della rinomata casa editrice, questo luogo divenne una roccaforte cruciale della resistenza culturale al regime fascista. Servì da punto d'incontro per una cerchia coesa di intellettuali baristi –tra cui Tommaso Fiore, Fabrizio Canfora, Michele Cifarelli ed Ernesto De Martino – che fondarono il movimento liberal-socialista e si opposero apertamente sia alle leggi razziali sia alla guerra. A partire dal 1938 e per tutta la durata del conflitto, la casa editrice e la sua libreria furono sottoposte a un'intensa repressione da parte del regime, caratterizzata da sistematici sequestri di libri e azioni legali contro autori, traduttori e collaboratori. Questa campagna raggiunse il suo apice nella primavera del 1943 con l'arresto di importanti figure liberal-socialiste e di Nino Laterza, che all'epoca gestiva la libreria.

D) Teatro "Nicolò Piccinni"

Radio Londra presentò qui la conferenza delle forze antifasciste, svoltasi al Teatro Piccinni il 28 e 29 gennaio 1944, come "il primo raduno democratico tenutosi nel continente europeo dopo che Hitler vi aveva estinto la democrazia". Questa interpretazione trovò ampia eco nella stampa dell'Italia liberata, tra cui *La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno*, che descrisse l'evento come «il primo congresso antifascista dell'Europa liberata». I lavori furono aperti da Benedetto Croce, filosofo della libertà e figura simbolica dell'opposizione culturale e morale al fascismo. Il Congresso di Bari segnò così l'emergere della prima manifestazione indipendente e pubblica di forze politiche contrarie alla dittatura, rappresentando al contempo una delle prime esperienze democratiche in un'Europa continentale ancora in gran parte sotto il dominio nazista.

E) Porto e città vecchia

All'indomani dell'armistizio dell'8 settembre, gli abitanti della Città Vecchia colsero immediatamente il pericolo rappresentato dalle forze tedesche in ritirata e la loro intenzione di devastare il porto. L'allarme lanciato da donne e giovani che vivevano nei pressi dell'area portuale determinò il rapido intervento del generale Nicola Bellomo e di un gruppo di giovani ufficiali, i quali si unirono a marinai, ingegneri, guardie doganali ed ex militari già impegnati in una resistenza spontanea e improvvisata contro l'attacco.

Nonostante questi sforzi, i nazisti riuscirono a collocare cariche esplosive su diversi moli e ad affondare alcune imbarcazioni di piccolo tonnellaggio, tra cui il Genepesca II, il piroscalo Frosinone e la motonave Vanda M9.

Lo scontro, protrattosi per diverse ore, vide anche il coinvolgimento attivo dei figli dei lavoratori portuali. Le perdite furono significative: tra le file italiane si registrarono diversi caduti, tra cui cinque militari appartenenti a differenti corpi delle forze armate e un civile, mentre i tedeschi contarono sette morti e circa venti feriti. Considerato dagli storici Roberto Battaglia e Giorgio Rochat come uno dei primi atti di Resistenza armata contro i tedeschi in Italia, l'episodio si concluse con la cattura di circa duecento soldati della Wehrmacht, che furono successivamente rilasciati quella stessa sera su ordine del comando militare italiano.



ROUTES IN PORTUGAL (PORTUGUESE VERSION)



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Lisboa durante a Segunda Guerra Mundial, entre refugiados e espões

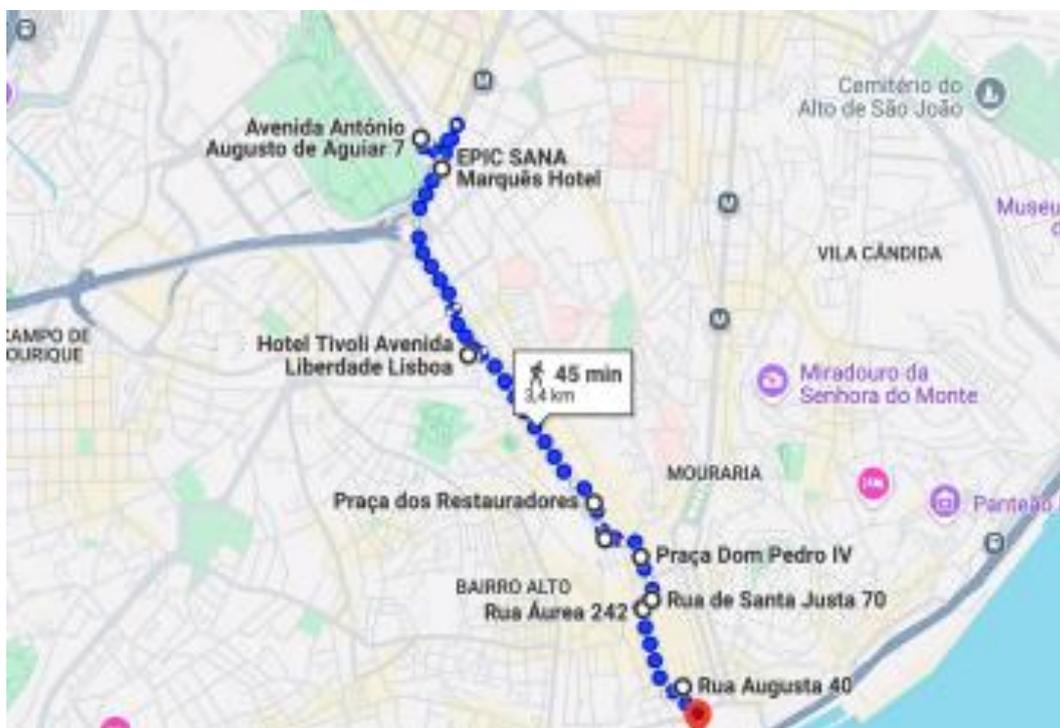
Em 1939, no dia 1 de setembro, começou a Segunda Guerra Mundial e o nosso país, controlado por Salazar, declarou imediatamente e unilateralmente a sua neutralidade. Generoso nas relações diplomáticas com os aliados e os países do Eixo (Itália, Alemanha e Japão), Portugal tornou-se um refúgio para famílias ricas que fugiam da guerra, um porto seguro para refugiados. A capital, em particular, tornou-se palco de histórias e peças de espionagem, uma Lisboa de espões.

A neutralidade da ditadura de Salazar e a utilização do país como ponto de partida para a América trouxeram a Portugal os melhores espões da época, que se misturavam com outros que se faziam passar por agentes secretos ou vendiam informações falsas a todos. Por outro lado, durante a Segunda Guerra Mundial, Portugal podia ser um país de passagem, mas nunca um destino permanente para aqueles que tentavam fugir de Hitler. Nos anos 20 e 40 do século XX, Portugal foi palco de uma grande onda de refugiados. O New York Times descreveu o centro da capital portuguesa como o ponto nevrálgico dos refugiados, especialmente no Café Lisboa e na Avenida da Liberdade, onde podiam confortar-se mutuamente, e a Praça do Rossio como o principal local onde os boletins informativos os mantinham atualizados sobre a guerra.

Havia navios e aviões frequentes, os chamados «clipers» da Pan American que ligavam Lisboa e Nova Iorque, e a BOAC que fazia a ligação entre Lisboa e Londres. O tungsténio português – ou volfrâmio – era vital para ambos os lados da guerra, e era necessário supervisionar a sua extração, transporte e entrega, tanto para os aliados como para o

eixo. Além disso, o risco de espionagem é menor em países neutros, daí a escolha de Lisboa como ponto de passagem.

Este itinerário tem como objetivo ajudar-nos a entrar na atmosfera daquela época, através de histórias, memórias e, especialmente, locais que foram refúgios seguros para muitos e que também guardavam segredos.



ITINERÁRIO

Ponto de partida: Avenida Augusto de Aguiar, 7

Ponto final: Praça do Comércio

Duração: 2h30m

Percurso:

1 – Edifício na Avenida Augusto de Aguiar, 7

A 7 de maio de 1945, as ruas e aldeias portuguesas encheram-se de pessoas que celebravam o fim da Segunda Guerra Mundial. Para os alemães no país, era um momento de incerteza que tinha começado quando a derrota se tornou irreversível. Foi no quarto andar deste edifício que a PVDE descobriu o esconderijo secreto de dois nazis «indesejáveis», sob vigilância especial.

2 – Avenida Fontes Pereira de Melo esquina

Aqui foi construído o lendário «Hotel Aviz», que nos anos 40 recebeu reis, atores de cinema, grandes escritores e espões que não podiam viver sem o luxo de um dos hotéis mais requintados de Lisboa. Calouste Gulbenkian foi um dos hóspedes, que ali residiu durante

um longo período nos seus últimos anos de vida, juntamente com Amália Rodrigues, Marcello Mastroianni, Frank Sinatra, Ava Gardner, Eva Perón e Maria Callas. Foi neste hotel que, durante um jantar, a 31 de julho de 1940, o Duque de Windsor rejeitou a oferta da Alemanha de o reposicionar no trono inglês como um «rei fantoche». Foi também aqui que o agente triplo «Dusko Popov» (triciclo) foi hospedado.

3 – Hotel Tivoli

A base dos serviços secretos soviéticos estava instalada no Hotel Tivoli e, em 1974, contava com 14 operacionais. A presença da KGB em Lisboa não era muito conhecida. A importância de Portugal nos últimos anos da Guerra Fria, muitas vezes subestimada, nunca foi tão evidente como nessa altura.

4 – Praça dos Restauradores – Esquina da Glória

Aqui, o «Café Paladium» era muito frequentado por escritores, repórteres, atores e académicos, muitos deles contra o «Estado Novo», e também por senhoras da alta sociedade que apreciavam o serviço requintado do chá servido entre as 17h e as 19h, e os espetáculos e sessões de cinema. Era também frequentado por refugiados judeus, que estavam em Lisboa à espera dos seus vistos para destinos mais seguros, como o Canadá e os EUA.

5 – Palácio Foz

Antigo local do cabaré «Maxim's», ícone de uma vida de luxúria e escândalos, mas também um local inesperado para espionagem de alto nível.

6 – Avenida Palace Hotel

No quarto andar do hotel Avenida Palace há uma porta que traz à memória a Segunda Guerra Mundial e a ditadura de Salazar. Se voltarmos no tempo até 1939-1945, e parte dos anos 50, há razões para que essa porta estivesse aberta, mesmo que escondida. Memórias antigas garantem a existência de um corredor que ligava a estação ferroviária do Rossio ao hotel Avenida Palace, no famoso quarto andar. Uma ótima maneira de chegar sem que ninguém soubesse e sem controlo policial. Aristocracia e burguesia rica, ministros, tanto nacionais como estrangeiros, passavam por ali, muitos alemães, alguns ingleses, raramente americanos, ou seja, principalmente aqueles que não queriam ser vistos.

7 – Estação ferroviária do Rossio

A maioria dos refugiados chegou a Lisboa de comboio para esta estação. Muitos dos comboios chegavam selados, e era aqui que chegavam os mais ricos e aqueles com missões de espionagem, de ambos os lados do conflito, usando o corredor secreto do hotel Avenida Palace.

8 – Rossio – local da antiga pastelaria Café Suiço e do café Chave D'ouro

As ruas e praças da cidade encheram-se de refugiados, e a pastelaria Café Suiço tornou-se o primeiro local a ter as famosas esplanadas, uma vez que o interior não era suficiente para todos. No café Chave D'ouro, realizavam-se negociações para a compra de bilhetes de comboio e vistos americanos, alguns pagos pela organização de ajuda aos refugiados, a HICEN. Um verdadeiro jogo de influência e corrupção.

9 – Antiga sede do «Diário de Notícias»

As últimas notícias sobre os acontecimentos políticos e militares eram exibidas nas montras das agências noticiosas dos maiores jornais da cidade. Grandes grupos de pessoas reuniam-se em determinados momentos do dia para se manterem a par dos desenvolvimentos da guerra.

10 – Antiga loja de meias na Praça D. Pedro IV

Com esta grande onda de refugiados, Lisboa começa a ficar atenta à moda. A «Loja de Meias» era a favorita das senhoras estrangeiras abastadas que trouxeram novos hábitos para a cidade.

11 – Joint Rua do Ouro 242

A JOINT, American Jewish Comminee, foi uma das associações que ajudou os refugiados da Grande Guerra. Estas associações foram criadas em Portugal devido à neutralidade do país e à sua localização geográfica privilegiada. Foram extremamente importantes no apoio financeiro e na obtenção de vistos. Foram elas que negociaram com as autoridades portuguesas a concessão de vistos, assistência médica, libertação de refugiados presos, bem como o aumento do número de refugiados que podiam entrar em Portugal.

12 – Hotel Frankfurt (Rua de Santa Justa 70)

Os hotéis, albergues ou casas particulares estavam cheios de pessoas à procura de abrigo para dormir e, quando as camas não eram suficientes, colocavam-se colchões nos corredores ou onde fosse possível.

13 – Hotel Duas Nações (Rua da Vitória 41)

Agentes alemães tentavam aproximar-se da polícia política portuguesa, enquanto apoiantes do Eixo e agentes britânicos procuravam informadores nas alfândegas e nos caminhos de ferro, para que pudessem obter os números relativos à exportação de tungsténio de Portugal para a Alemanha. Artistas – geralmente apoiantes do comunismo – que fugiram dos países ocupados pelos alemães, bem como refugiados judeus, como Arthur Koestler, judeu húngaro que em 1936 fugiu dos nazis.

14 – Pensão Glória – Rua dos Fanqueiros

Localizada na rua dos Fanqueiros, com preços mais acessíveis do que os hotéis de 5 estrelas da Avenida da Liberdade, foi o lar de espiões e também do escritor Alfred Döblin e sua família, refugiados alemães de origem judaica, enquanto aguardavam os navios que os levariam para a América.

15 – Pan America – Rua Augusta 40

Lisboa era a única cidade que assegurava ligações regulares com a América e África. Era necessário obter um visto de trânsito português para chegar aqui, e era possível obter também um visto de saída francês, juntamente com um visto de trânsito espanhol. Portugal estava estrategicamente posicionado para permitir a fuga de uma Europa em guerra e chegar a lugares onde a paz ainda era uma realidade.

16 – Praça do Comércio

Os correios e telégrafos eram alguns dos locais em que os refugiados confiavam mais para obter notícias diárias dos seus entes queridos ou uma rota de fuga para além do oceano Atlântico. Portugal apresentava-se como um paraíso para a maioria dos refugiados, que Saint Exupéry, que também passou por Lisboa, denominou um «paraíso triste». A hospitalidade, a generosidade e a ausência de cinismo ficaram bem gravadas na memória dos refugiados.



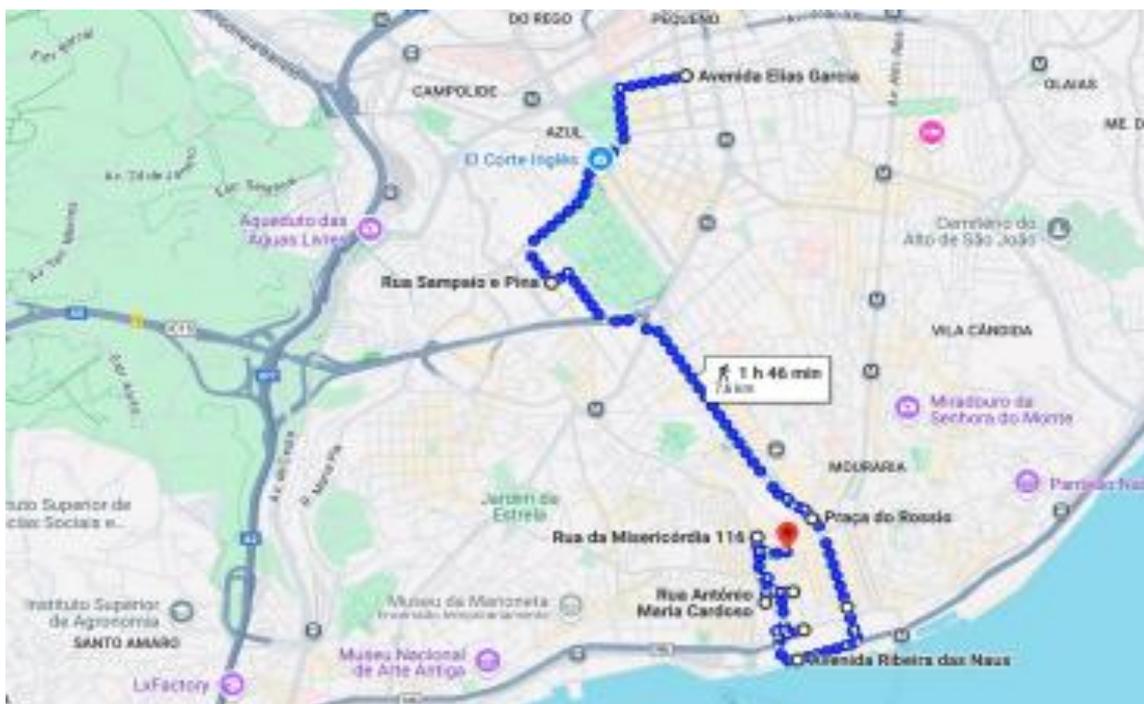
25 de abril de 1974: Os locais da Revolução

Em 25 de abril de 1974, o Movimento das Forças Armadas (MFA) realizou um golpe de Estado através de uma ação militar, derrubando a ditadura do Estado Novo e dando início a um processo que implementou a democracia em Portugal.

Diferentes locais da cidade de Lisboa estiveram ligados ao MFA e à conquista da liberdade, desde os planeados que faziam parte do plano de operações, passando pelos locais onde ocorreram confrontos com as forças da ditadura, até aos inesperados que se tornaram famosos devido à revolução. Forças militares reuniram-se em Lisboa vindas de diferentes partes do país, juntamente com as que já existiam na cidade, onde ocorreram os principais desenvolvimentos para a libertação dos portugueses e do país.

Ao raiar do dia, diferentes forças militares de alta patente puseram fim à ditadura em 25 de abril de 1974, as mesmas que a implementaram em 1926. Recusaram-se principalmente a continuar a guerra colonial (1961-1974) e juntaram-se a um grande número de civis que ansiavam pela tão esperada restauração da liberdade.

Este passeio percorre alguns dos locais mais importantes da cidade, onde ocorreram os eventos relevantes, e analisa o que aconteceu nessa revolução que mudou a história do país após 48 anos.



ITINERÁRIO

Ponto de partida: Avenida Elias Garcia, 162

Ponto final: Largo do Carmo

Duração: 2h30/3h

Percurso:

1 – EMISSORES ASSOCIADOS DE LISBOA Avenida Elias Garcia, 162, 7.º

24 de abril, 22h55

Em 24 de abril de 1974, neste edifício funcionavam os «Emissores Associados de Lisboa», que foram escolhidos pelo MFA para transmitir a «senha» que marcou o início da operação militar contra a ditadura.

Assim, às 22h55, foi transmitida a canção «E depois do Adeus», de José Niza, interpretada por Paulo de Carvalho.

2 – Sede do Governo Militar Geral / Largo de S. Sebastião da Pedreira, Palácio Vilalva

25 de abril, 4h30

Uma vez que esta era a sede do Governo Militar Geral, e também das comunicações, o plano da operação previa a sua ocupação pelo 5.º Batalhão da Linha da Frente, que chegou às 3h30 desse dia, composto por 100 unidades de militares, lideradas pelo Capitão Bicho Beatriz.

3 – Clube Português de Rádio – RCP Rua Sampaio e Pina

25 de abril, 4h26

Na rua Sampaio e Pina ficava o Clube de Rádio Português, que fazia parte do plano operacional para cumprir todos os anúncios do MFA. O referido Bakalion ajudou na ocupação deste local, liderada pelos oficiais Major José da Costa Neves, Major Delfim Campos Moura, Major João Sacramento Gomes, Capitão Artur Mendonça de Carvalho, Capitão José Correia Pombinho, Capitão José Santos Coelho, Capitão Nuno dos Santos Ferreira e Capitão Nuno dos Santos Silva. A tomada do local foi confirmada às 3h20 e o primeiro anúncio foi transmitido às 4h26 pelo repórter Joaquim Furtado. Na rua Sampaio e Pina ficava o Clube de Rádio Português, que fazia parte do plano de operações para cumprir todos os anúncios do MFA. O referido Bakalion ajudou na ocupação deste local, liderada pelos oficiais Major José da Costa Neves, Major Delfim Campos Moura, Major João Sacramento Gomes, Capitão Artur Mendonça de Carvalho, Capitão José Correia Pombinho, Capitão José Santos Coelho, Capitão Nuno dos Santos Ferreira e Capitão Nuno dos Santos Silva. A tomada do local foi confirmada às 3h20 e o primeiro anúncio foi transmitido às 4h26 pelo repórter Joaquim Furtado.

4 – Praça do Rossio

25 de abril, 12h

Também conhecida como Praça Pedro IV, é um verdadeiro ícone da confirmação da revolução, com todos os habitantes de Lisboa a fazerem parte dela. Havia uma enorme quantidade de pessoas nas ruas quando a coluna militar de Salgueiro Maia, vinda da Praça do Comércio, passou, até chegar ao Largo do Carmo por volta do meio-dia. Foi também no Rossio que Celeste Caeiro entregou uma coroa de flores a um dos soldados, colocando-a na espingarda, tornando-a o ícone da revolução e ficando para sempre na memória.

5 – Banco de Portugal Rua do Comércio 148

25 de abril, 3h30

O MFA incluiu o Banco de Portugal como um local relevante a defender no seu plano de operações, com o objetivo final de impedir a sua utilização pelos apoiantes da ditadura ou qualquer intervenção externa. A ação decorreu através de um grupo da EPC (Escola Prática de Cavalaria) após a ocupação do Terreiro do Paço. O objetivo principal, que tinha o nome de código BRUXELAS, foi alcançado e confirmado pelo posto de comando do MFA às 6h10. A coluna militar parte em direção a Lisboa sob o comando do capitão Salgueiro Maia com a missão de controlar os acessos ao Banco de Portugal, ao Clube de Rádio Português, à Marconi e ao Terreiro do Paço. Era composta por um Esquadrão de Reconhecimento com 10 veículos blindados, 160 homens em 12 veículos de transporte, 2 ambulâncias e um camião todo-o-terreno.

6 – Terreiro do Paço / Rio Tejo

25 de abril, 6h10

Centro do poder político do «Estado Novo» (regime ditatorial), o Terreiro do Paço foi um dos principais locais da ação militar da revolução. O MFA decidiu ocupá-lo não só por razões simbólicas, mas também porque os ministérios do Exército e da Marinha estavam lá, e podiam interferir nas operações em curso. De acordo com a Associação 25 de Abril, a ocupação foi realizada por 220 unidades militares do EPC de Santarém, sob o comando do Capitão Salgueiro Maia. No entanto, todos os participantes da revolução enfrentaram a oposição dos apoiantes da ditadura, especialmente com a fragata Gago Couelho, que naquela madrugada se preparava para zarpar para realizar um exercício da OTAN e recebeu ordens para voltar, para que pudesse abrir fogo sobre os veículos blindados que cumpriam ordens de Salgueiro Maia, embora existam diferentes versões sobre este momento.

A concretização deste objetivo permitiu também a ocupação do Banco de Portugal e do Clube de Rádio Português, que foi transmitida ao Posto de Comando do MFA às 6h10 pelo Capitão Salgueiro Maia – «Ocupámos TOLEDO, BRUXELAS e VIENA».

7 – Avenida da Ribeira das Naus, Lisboa

25 de abril, 6h30

Primeiros confrontos entre as forças do MFA, EPC e as forças governamentais da 7.ª Unidade de Cavalaria.

Neste local ocorreram vários confrontos resultantes da oposição entre as forças revolucionárias do PCE de Santarém e as forças apoiantes do regime ditatorial, entre as 6h10 e as 10h30. Neste confronto, o Capitão Salgueiro Maia arriscou a sua vida e algumas unidades militares recusaram-se a abrir fogo contra o povo revolucionário. Alguns dos apoiantes do regime acabaram por se juntar às forças revolucionárias.

8 – Rua do Arsenal

25 de abril, 7h

De acordo com informações divulgadas pela Associação 25 de Abril, na Rua do Arsenal, perto dos Paços do Conselho, ocorreram alguns confrontos entre as forças revolucionárias do EPC e a 7.ª Cavalaria, fiel ao regime, que, vinda do oeste, surpreendeu as tropas sob o comando de Salgueiro Maia, que cercavam o Terreiro do Paço. Foi nesse momento que o Tenente Alfredo Assunção foi distinguido a negociar com as forças adversárias, com os braços abertos em frente ao veículo blindado, mantendo-se muito calmo, mesmo depois de ter sido agredido por um oficial (Coronel Romeiras) das forças do regime. Esses acontecimentos ocorreram entre as 7h e as 10h30. Além da tensão sentida durante a manhã, não houve tiros e há pessoas que dizem que a revolução foi decidida naquela rua e na Ribeira da Naus.

9 – Rádio Renascença – Rua Capelo 5, 2º

25 de abril, 00h20

No dia 25 de abril de 1974, os estúdios da Rádio Renascença estavam em funcionamento e o MFA escolheu esta estação de rádio para transmitir a senha de confirmação da operação militar contra o regime. Assim, às 00h20 desse dia, a música «Grândola Vila Morena», de José Afonso, foi transmitida durante o programa «Limite».

10 – Sede da PIDE/DGS Rua António Maria Cardoso 22

25 de abril (entre a manhã do dia 25, às 9h, e o dia 26)

A sede da DGS (Direção-Geral de Segurança), antiga PIDE (Polícia Interna de Defesa do Estado), foi cercada por civis e militares ao amanhecer e durante a

manhã do dia 25. Durante o cerco, vários elementos da PIDE dispararam sobre a população por volta das 20h15 do dia 25, matando quatro pessoas, as únicas vítimas da revolução. Por ordem do PC do MFA, e após várias tentativas falhadas, um grupo de fuzileiros navais, juntamente com a 3.ª unidade de cavalaria de Estremoz, conseguiu ocupar a sede da PIDE por volta das 9h do dia 26.

11 – Sede do Jornal República Rua da Misericórdia 116

25 de abril, 11h

Neste edifício, o jornal República tinha a sua sede, onde o Comandante MarEns Guerreiro apresentou o programa do MFA às 11h, que foi aprovado pelos diretores do jornal. Esta não se tornou a versão oficial apresentada ao povo português, uma vez que foi alterada na noite desse mesmo dia, após uma reunião com o Posto de Comando do MFA em Ponenhã, envolvendo as pessoas que dirigiam o MFA e os generais António de Spínola e Francisco da Costa Gomes.

12 – Sede do Carmo e Praça

25 de Abril, 18h30

A sede do Carmo é o local mais emblemático desta revolução, pois foi lá que ocorreu a rendição de Marcelo Caetano (o primeiro-ministro na altura) e também onde ele tentou esconder-se desde as 6h. Ele exigiu que o poder não caísse nas mãos dos militares e civis revolucionários e fosse passado para o general Spínola, ato que foi realizado por volta das 18h30, tornando o povo revolucionário vitorioso.

Um golpe de Estado bem preparado, executado quase sem feridos ou mortos, além das quatro vítimas acima mencionadas. Esses dias são um verdadeiro testemunho de atos militares e civis envolvendo imensa bravura e solidariedade, e são uma parte muito importante da história do país.

Dessa forma, a ditadura de 48 anos acabou, permitindo que o país virasse uma página em sua história.



A repressão da PIDE e a clandestinidade: passeio a pé e museu do Aljube

O «Estado Novo», reunido sob o comando de António de Oliveira Salazar, criou várias estruturas de apoio ao Estado com o objetivo final de condicionar, controlar e eliminar todas as formas de liberdade de expressão e a possibilidade de criação de forças opostas à sua agenda, bem como qualquer pessoa que discordasse dele, mesmo estando sob o seu comando. Um dos mecanismos de controlo que visava limitar qualquer tipo de reunião, expressão e organização política era a PIDE (Polícia Internacional de Defesa do Estado).

Com o fim da Segunda Guerra Mundial e o início da Guerra Fria, Salazar moderniza os Serviços Secretos, criando a PIDE em 1945, atribuindo-lhe a missão de defender o regime contra todas as operações clandestinas, especialmente o Partido Comunista Português, utilizando os mais diversos métodos, que iam desde a vigilância de suspeitos até à prisão sem causa comprovada. A interceção de correio, comunicações telefónicas e a disponibilidade de uma rede de informadores também foram métodos utilizados, culminando na apresentação dos detidos a julgamento e, conseqüentemente, na legitimação de todas as prisões e investigações.

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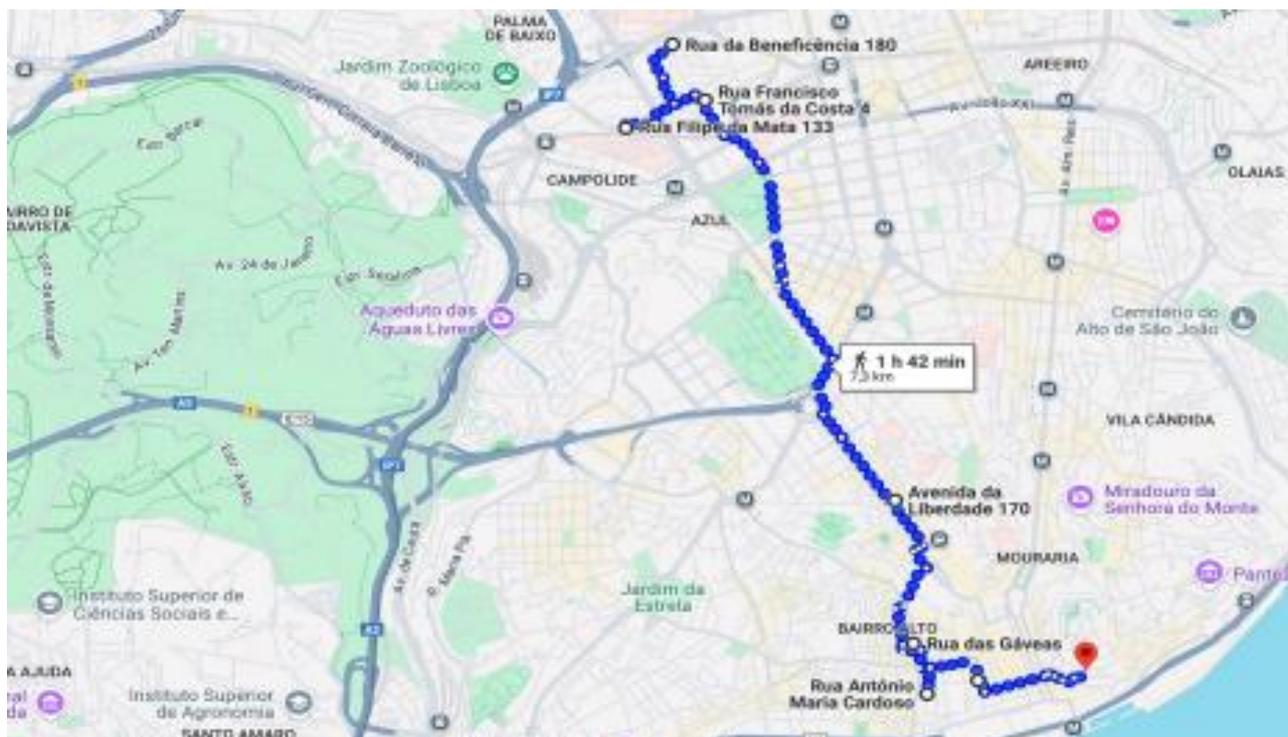
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O prisioneiro político foi detido, sem mandado ou qualquer prova contra ele, e submetido a tortura física e psicológica, sem limite para o tempo que ficaria detido nas prisões de Aljube, Caxias e Peniche.

Esta polícia tinha poderes excepcionais, dirigindo a censura. Todas as notícias tinham de passar pelos serviços de censura antes de serem publicadas e podiam ser totalmente censuradas, com espaços em branco visíveis nos jornais. Obras de arte como cinema, literatura e outras formas também estavam sujeitas a esta censura. A pessoa usava o chamado «lápiz azul», riscando as partes «não autorizadas». Nasceu então a clandestinidade, e as pessoas que se opunham ao regime tentaram defender-se contra a PIDE e continuar a lutar pela liberdade perdida.

Este percurso tem duas partes: uma primeira que é um passeio a pé, no qual

visitaremos os locais relacionados com a repressão sentida em Portugal e os locais clandestinos usados para combater a ditadura. Na segunda parte, uma visita ao museu do Aljube, antiga prisão política, com documentos, imagens e eventos reconstruídos, poderemos saber como tudo aconteceu, trazendo à vida os vestígios deste lugar e o sofrimento dos prisioneiros.



ITINERÁRIO

Ponto de partida: Rua da Beneficência 180

Ponto final: Museu do Aljube

Duração: 1h40 de passeio a pé + 1h20 no Museu do Aljube = 3h

Percurso:

1 – Rua da Beneficência 180 – 3º andar

Casa clandestina habitada por Francisco de Oliveira «Pavel» e Francisco Miguel, onde era produzida a publicação «Avante!», invadida pela PIDE a 10 de janeiro de 1938, data da prisão de «Pavel». São apreendidos documentos, panfletos de propaganda

dirigidos a jovens, adolescentes e mulheres, bem como uma pequena biblioteca de livros em espanhol, francês e inglês. Francisco Miguel é preso no mesmo dia numa reunião de rua perto do Marquês de Pombal,

pela brigada de José Gonçalves. A ação da polícia política é identificada pela imprensa como «A luta contra o comunismo».

2 – Rua Filipe da Mata 133 – C/v Esq

Casa clandestina habitada por Caetano Rebelo e sua esposa, Joaquina Gomes Mar?ns, e onde Joaquim Pires Jorge permaneceria por algum tempo, um dos participantes do movimento de reorganização do Partido Comunista Português.

O casal montaria uma tipografia em Algueirão (Sintra), na qual Joaquina Marins seria presa a 24 de novembro de 1942. Sobre os primeiros anos da «Reorganização», Joaquim Pires recorda: «Íamos a locais que nos davam muito trabalho e criávamos as nossas organizações, chamávamos cada um dos nossos camaradas (...) Isso facilitava algumas situações. Era uma clandestinidade que não era clandestinidade nenhuma» (Joaquim Pires Jorge, «Com uma imensa alegria», «Avante!» 1984 p. 40)

3 – Rua Francisco Tomás da Costa 4 R/C

Considerada a primeira tipografia do PCP, habitada por Francisco de Oliveira «Pavel», membro da direção do PCP, e Francisco Miguel, responsável pelo Comité Regional de Lisboa. Estes anos foram marcados por um investimento na propaganda, com um aumento do número de exemplares publicados do «Avante!», que passou a ter uma distribuição semanal. Nas palavras de Francisco Miguel «A imprensa do partido tinha os maiores números de jornais na clandestinidade, pois era mais aberta».

4 – Pela Avenida da Liberdade

Leitura de alguns testemunhos das mulheres que lutaram contra a ditadura. Por exemplo, Helena Pato, autora do livro «A noite mais longa de todas as noites», que ainda hoje luta para que a «noite» do fascismo nunca mais volte a Portugal. Helena Pato recorda-nos a tortura da privação do sono, as alucinações, as perseguições e as partidas de Portugal por motivos políticos.

Maria Teresa Horta, que nos contou sobre o seu espancamento nas ruas por fascistas, o que a levou a escrever o livro «Novas Letras Portuguesas», que teve um

«efeito bomba» contra o regime e levou Marcelo Caetano a dizer na televisão pública que «há três mulheres que não são dignas de ser portuguesas: Maria Teresa Horta, Maria Isabel Barreno e Maria Velho da Costa».

Helena Neves também teve dois livros apreendidos pela PIDE e teve de se esquivar da «caneta azul» da censura. Ela esteve presa em Caxias no dia 25 de abril pela terceira vez e contou-nos sobre as batalhas que travou durante a ditadura e as torturas que sofreu nas mãos da PIDE.

5 – Sede do PCP Avenida da Liberdade 170

O PCP foi fundado em 1921 e, em 1922, estabeleceu contactos com a Internacional Comunista (Comintern), tornando-se a secção portuguesa da Comintern em 1923. Tornando ilegal no final da década de 20, o PCP teve um papel fundamental na oposição ao regime liderado por

Salazar e Marcelo Caetano. Durante as cinco décadas do regime, o PCP participou muito ativamente contra ele e foi o partido mais forte da oposição. Constantemente reprimido pela PIDE, que obrigava os seus membros a viver na clandestinidade sob a ameaça de prisão, tortura ou assassinato. O jornal *Avante!*, sendo a sua publicação oficial, foi o mais frequente e o que durou mais tempo a resistir à censura, sendo publicado de forma clandestina.

6 – Antiga sede da censura – Comissão Central Primeira Exame Rua das Gáveas

A censura durou todo o período do Estado Novo, sendo abolida após a revolução. O infame «lápiz azul», sendo a ferramenta mais importante (entre outras cores), era usado para cortar o que o regime não queria que fosse público, então os repórteres tinham que usar a imaginação e ser criativos para contornar isso. Em 1926, a Lei n.º 12 008 proibiu a venda de cartazes, outdoors, anúncios, imagens, desenhos ou qualquer outro tipo de publicação que contivesse qualquer tipo de ofensa ao Presidente da República, ou que aconselhasse ou encorajasse os cidadãos a não cumprir os seus deveres militares, ou quaisquer atos não patrióticos que pudessem significar ir contra o regime.

7 – Antiga sede da PIDE Rua António Maria Cardoso 22

Os serviços secretos portugueses, sob o controlo de Salazar, alcançaram todos os aspetos da vida no território nacional, desafiando até o próprio Estado, incluindo as Forças Armadas, e converteram o seu controlo num Estado dentro do Estado.

8 – Antigo Tribunal Plenário Largo da Boa Hora

É um dos aspetos mais intencionalmente esquecidos da revolução e da ditadura militar de 1926, que levou à criação do Estado Novo e ao salazarismo em Portugal.

Ninguém podia alterar os julgamentos, pelo que apenas os membros da PIDE estavam presentes. Com a desculpa de que todos os lugares estavam ocupados, a polícia não permitia a entrada de familiares, amigos ou jornalistas.

9 – Museu do Aljube

A prisão do Aljube, onde milhares de detidos políticos foram mantidos – acusados de resistir ao regime pela luta pela liberdade de expressão e de pensamento – é onde uma exposição nos mostra o principal objetivo deste lugar e nos conta toda a história de quem lá esteve detido, as torturas, as humilhações sofridas até que a última página deste livro negro foi virada em 25 de abril de 1974. sofrida até que a última página deste livro negro foi virada em 25 de abril de 1974.



ROUTES IN SPAIN

**(LEÓN AND CATALONIA –
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organitzacions obreres exercien el poder real. Aquesta situació va començar a canviar abans de l'octubre de 1936 amb la creació del primer govern d'Unitat Popular, que combinava la legalitat republicana i el Comitè d'Enllaç. Tant aquest govern com els de la Unitat Sindical van tenir la Casa de la Vila com a seu, així com la Junta de Seguretat, una continuació del Comitè d'Enllaç.

L'edifici també va ser testimoni de les tensions internes i de la repressió que es va viure a la ciutat durant la guerra. Per exemple, es conserven les marques dels trets disparats per l'exèrcit i la Guàrdia Civil durant l'ocupació anarquista de febrer de 1932.

Després de la guerra, la Casa de la Vila va continuar sent un símbol de la història política de Terrassa. Actualment, l'edifici és un bé cultural d'interès local i forma part del patrimoni arquitectònic de la ciutat.

B) La Casa del Poble

La Casa del Poble de Terrassa, adquirida el 1903 per la Fraternitat Republicana, va ser un centre de trobada del republicanisme local, amb activitats culturals, escoles i actes públics. Durant la Guerra Civil, l'edifici va acollir conferències, concerts, balls de beneficència i visites de representants del republicanisme català i espanyol.

Amb l'entrada de les tropes franquistes, la Casa del Poble va ser expropiada pel franquisme i ocupada per organitzacions del règim, incloent-hi la CNS, que el 1961 va construir un edifici sindical posterior. Avui només se'n conserva la façana, i el solar presenta problemes estructurals. Històricament reivindicat per l'ERC, l'edifici simbolitza la vida política i social del republicanisme terrassenc durant la Guerra Civil.

C) La Catedral del Sant Esperit

L'Església del Sant Esperit de Terrassa va ser construïda entre els segles XVI i XVII, en plena expansió demogràfica i urbanística de la vila.

Durant la Guerra Civil, va ser objecte de dos grans assalts el 21 i 30 de juliol de 1936, quedant pràcticament destruïda. Com a símbol de la complicitat de l'Església amb l'oligarquia local, es van cremar el retaule, l'altar major i el grup escultòric Llimona. La bandera de la FAI onejava al campanar, i els sindicats de Transport de la CNT van convertir el temple en garatge; el convent de Sant Francesc també va servir per guardar vehicles. Abans es va considerar destinar-lo a magatzem de palla, carbó o fins i tot celler.

Després del conflicte, l'edifici va ser restaurat, amb Manel Viusà Camps col·laborant amb el FNC i amagant propaganda clandestina dins les bastides. La destrucció del Sant Esperit destaca per la seva motivació simbòlica i l'abast dels danys, que no van patir altres esglésies de Terrassa.

D) La Casa Alegre de Sagrera

La Casa Alegre de Terrassa era la residència de la família Alegre-Sagrera. Francesc Alegre i Roig va reformar tot l'edifici amb un estil eclèctic amb influències modernistes, destacant la façana de carrer Font Vella amb l'escut familiar i la data de construcció, 1912. A l'interior es conserven murals de Joaquim Vancells i Pere Viver, així com un mural d'Alexandre de Riquer i mobiliari històric com la taula on es va celebrar el darrer consell de ministres de la Segona República i la cadira que va utilitzar Franco en una visita posterior.

A principis de 1936, la família Alegre-Sagrera hi vivia amb dos fills i criades, però davant del cop d'Estat van haver de fugir de la ciutat. Durant la Guerra Civil, la casa va ser ocupada pel Partit Obrer d'Unificació Marxista (POUM), que hi va establir la seu del seu òrgan de premsa, FRONT i l'Institut Maurín, un centre cultural obert a tota la ciutadania amb biblioteca i sala de conferències, on es van organitzar activitats com xerrades sobre l'emancipació de la dona en el context de la lluita antifeixista. Als jardins de la Casa Alegre, el POUM va instal·lar la impremta del diari, considerada la més moderna de l'època, amb una plantilla d'unes 10-12 persones. L'òrgan de premsa FRONT va ser clausurat pel govern el juny de 1937.

Després de la Guerra Civil, la família va recuperar la residència, però la crisi del tèxtil va afectar greument el negoci familiar. La casa fou adquirida per l'Ajuntament el 1972 amb la finalitat de convertir-la en museu, conservant-se els murals i el mobiliari històric que recorden la seva importància cultural i política durant la Segona República i la Guerra Civil.

E) La Casa Alfons Sala

La Casa Alfons Sala i Amat, va ser la residència d'Alfons Sala i Amat, un dels principals industrials de Terrassa. Durant la Guerra Civil, el setembre de 1936, la casa es va convertir en un centre d'acollida per a 40 refugiats procedents d'Euskadi, que van ser allotjats després d'un àpat a la Cuina Popular. La família Sala, que vivia a la casa amb diversos membres de la seva família i servents, va fugir a Sevilla poc abans de l'expropiació de la seva propietat, incloent-hi la fàbrica Sala i Badrinas, que va ser col·lectivitzada.

Després de la victòria franquista, la casa va ser retornada a la família. Actualment, l'edifici és la seu del Petit Estel i encara conserva una placa franquista instal·lada el 1939, que indica el lloc de naixement d'Alfons Sala referint-se al 1939 com "l'any de la victòria".

F) El Gran Casino

El Gran Casino de Terrassa va ser, abans de la Guerra Civil, un lloc de trobada exclusiu per a l'alta burgesia local. Aquest edifici acollia vetllades literàries, balls, tertúlies i tota mena de jocs, legals o no. El 18 de juliol de 1936, quan va començar l'aixecament militar, una trentena de militants d'extrema dreta que donaven suport a la rebel·lió van sortir

d'aquest casino per desplaçar-se cap a Barcelona. De tots ells, 13 van perdre la vida en els enfrontaments.

Després de la derrota del cop d'estat, el Gran Casino va ser expropiat per la CNT. Per defensar l'edifici de possibles incidents, es van instal·lar metralladores i es van protegir les finestres i balcons amb matalassos. Més tard, les finestres van ser tapiades. Amb l'esclat de la guerra, cada sindicat afiliat a la CNT va establir el seu propi local, però la seu central de la CNT va ser el Gran Casino durant una bona part del conflicte, simbolitzant el nou ordre revolucionari.

A mitjans de 1938, la CNT va traslladar la seva seu a la Casa Alegre per convertir el Gran Casino en un hospital militar, on encara es poden veure algunes pintades fetes pels ferits que van ser atesos en aquest espai. Avui dia, l'edifici del Gran Casino acull la botiga Abacus.

G) El Círcol Egarenc

El Círcol Egarenc, fundat el 1886 com a centre cultural i recreatiu de la burgesia terrassenca i reformat en estil neoclàssic per Jeroni Granell el 1887, era un espai emblemàtic amb el Saló dels Miralls i grans jardins. Amb l'esclat de la Guerra Civil, l'activitat es va suspendre i l'edifici fou confiscat per la UGT (unió general de treballadors), que l'utilitzà com a seu sindical. Amb la victòria franquista, passà a mans del Frente de Juventudes, que hi va tenir la seva seu fins als anys 70. La trajectòria del Círcol Egarenc durant aquells anys reflecteix el pas d'un símbol burgès a un espai ocupat primer pel sindicalisme republicà i després pel règim franquista.

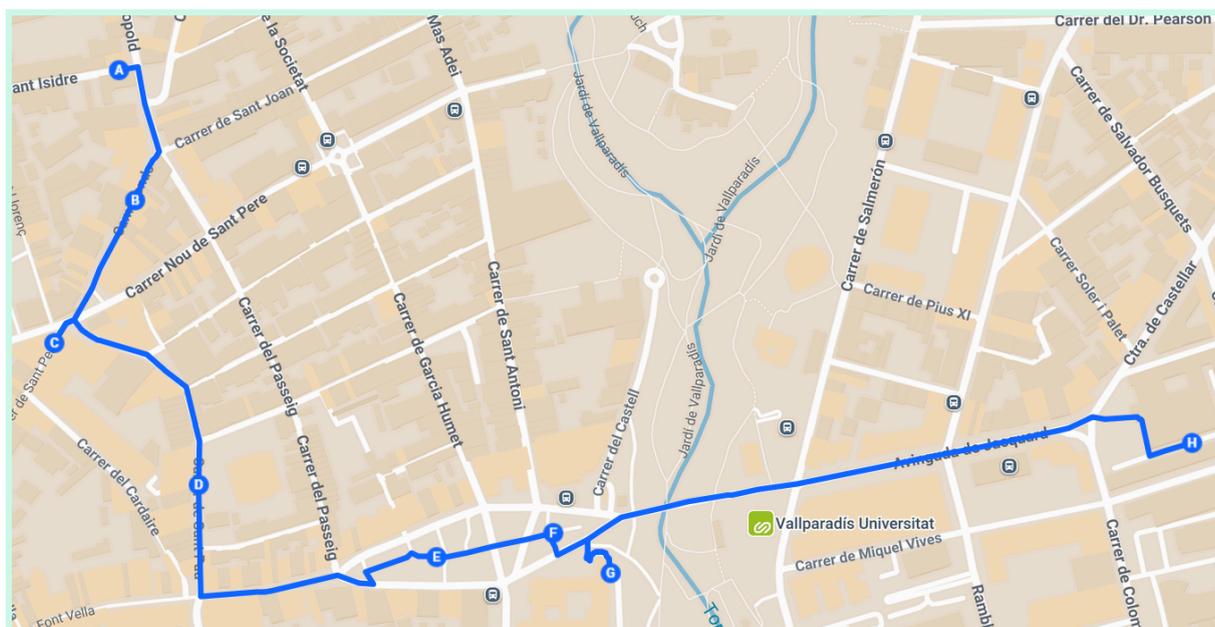
H) El Vapor Ventalló

El Vapor Ventalló, dissenyat per l'arquitecte Lluís Muncunill el 1897, era un destacat complex industrial. Es tractava d'una nau de dues plantes, amb estructura metàl·lica formada per pilars de ferro fos i bigues d'acer, sostent de les voltes de canó rebaixades i jàsseres metàl·liques; la teulada es recolzava en encavallades de fusta, amb façanes ornades per finestrals dobles d'arc molt rebaixat.

El 1905 es va constituir la societat anònima Vapor Ventalló, impulsada per figures rellevants de Terrassa. El vapor es dedicava a activitats tèxtils, incloent la filatura de llana cardada, la tissatge, tintura i acabats, amb un sistema energètic inicialment basat en el carbó, tot i que l'enllumenat ja es feia amb electricitat a partir de 1913.

Va continuar actiu fins a mitjans dels anys noranta, moment en què moltes de les seves quadres o naus van ser enderrocades, encara que es va conservar una nau que havia estat alliberada i transformada en espai públic. Posteriorment, l'espai es va reurbanitzar, es va crear una plaça pública que va preservar dues façanes i la coberta original, generant un porxo semi-porticat amb l'estructura d'original del vapor. També s'hi va instal·lar l'escultura "Família Vapor" de Xavier Corberó, una obra en pedra basàltica que simbolitza la família i la vida comunitària.

2- La posguerra en Terrassa (1939-1962)



A) La Escola Municipal d'Economia Domèstica

L'Escola Municipal d'Economia Domèstica de Terrassa, creada el 1908 i instal·lada el 1926 en un edifici noucentista de Melcior Vinyals, va esdevenir durant la Guerra Civil una escola tècnica mixta oberta a nois i noies. Amb la victòria franquista, però, la Secció Femenina de la Falange en prengué el control i el 1941 la transformà en l'Escuela Municipal del Hogar, un centre exclusiu per a dones dedicat a ensenyar tasques domèstiques sota els ideals del nacionalcatolicisme. A més de l'ensenyament, la Secció Femenina organitzava activitats assistencials i propagandístiques, cosia banderes i roba per a la Divisió Azul i fomentava l'esport femení dins l'OJE (Organización Juvenil Española), que arribà a tenir prop de 1.500 afiliades. Aquest procés va representar un clar retrocés respecte als avenços de la República en matèria de drets i llibertats de les dones. Avui, l'edifici continua actiu com a Escola Municipal de la Llar i també acull una escola d'adults.

B) El Magatzem Fontanals

El Magatzem Joan Fontanals és un edifici històric situat al carrer del Camí Fondo, 28-30, al centre de Terrassa. Va ser construït l'any 1891 per l'arquitecte Joan Carpinell, mestre d'obres de la ciutat. Originalment, va servir com a magatzem tèxtil per a l'empresa Fontanals i Cia, fundada per Joan Fontanals i Boda, un destacat industrial terrassenc. L'edifici destaca per la seva façana de línies clàssiques i elements decoratius que reflecteixen l'estil eclèctic de l'època.

Durant la Guerra Civil Espanyola, l'edifici va ser confiscat per l'Ajuntament i va passar a ser utilitzat amb finalitats institucionals. Després de la guerra, va ser cedit a l'Estat, que va realitzar una inversió per a la seva rehabilitació. Amb el temps, l'edifici va acollir diverses entitats i institucions, adaptant-se a les necessitats de cada moment històric.

Avui dia, el Magatzem Joan Fontanals és un bé cultural d'interès local, protegit per la legislació patrimonial catalana. L'edifici conserva elements arquitectònics originals que testimonien la importància de la indústria tèxtil a Terrassa i la seva evolució al llarg del temps.

C) Amics de les Arts

Els Amics de les Arts de Terrassa, fundats l'octubre de 1927 inspirant-se en el llegat del Gremi d'Artistes, han estat des de llavors un motor cultural de la ciutat. D'arrel noucentista, van concentrar artistes locals destacats i van organitzar exposicions, concerts, conferències i recitals, consolidant la seva seu actual durant els primers anys de la II República.

Durant la Guerra Civil, moltes activitats van quedar suspeses, tot i que el cafè de l'entitat es mantingué obert. Diversos membres del Partit Obrer d'Unificació Marxista (POUM) van integrar la Junta Directiva i van promoure un manifest a favor de l'art realista com a eina de consciència social.

Amb la dictadura franquista, els Amics de les Arts van ser integrats dins la secció Educación y Descanso de la Falange, amb Salvador Salvatella com a president, garantint la continuïtat de l'entitat tot i la castellanització del nom. Poc a poc van recuperar autonomia, es va tornar a parlar català a les juntes i es van poder celebrar festes tradicionals. L'any 1956 es desvincularen formalment de la Falange i el 1966 es fusionaren amb les Joventuts Musicals, mantenint activitats artístiques diverses: música, teatre, cinema, fotografia i jazz, essent l'ànima del Festival de Jazz de Terrassa.

D) El Magatzem Freixa

Durant la postguerra, el Frente de Juventudes, juntament amb la Delegación de Información e Investigación, va ser la secció falangista més activa a Terrassa, desplegant-se amb l'objectiu d'integrar la joventut dins l'aparell del règim. Malgrat tensions amb l'Institut Industrial, representant del vell ordre salista, el Frente va establir la seva seu al Magatzem Freixa el 1946 i, més tard, va traslladar-se al raval de Montserrat el 1952, mentre l'Institut recuperava el Magatzem Freixa.

L'Institut Industrial, de les primeres organitzacions a reprendre activitat després de l'entrada franquista, va mantenir relativa autonomia respecte al règim, contribuint selectivament a projectes com l'arribada d'aigües del Llobregat i donacions a la División Azul, però mostrant poc interès per les necessitats socials de la ciutat. Aquest

comportament reflectia el suport implícit de la dictadura als interessos industrials i la repressió de l'obrerisme.

L'edifici de l'Institut Industrial, construït el 1893 per Pascual Sala, és un exemple de l'estil històric vinculat a la industrialització de Terrassa. Amb quatre façanes envoltades de jardins i una cúpula de vidre al saló central, ocupa un solar que antigament acollia el Teatre Principal, i reflecteix la riquesa i la presència destacada dels industrials a la ciutat.

E) El Monument a Alfons Salaç

El monument a Alfons Sala és un bloc prismàtic de pedra calcària de tres metres de llarg per dos d'alçada, coronat per una figura femenina amb elements al·legòrics a la ciutat i amb relleus laterals que substituïren dues estàtues originals, la lectora i la filadora, traslladades posteriorment al parc de Sant Jordi. La primera pedra es va col·locar el 7 de juny de 1947 a la plaça Vella, i el monument s'inaugurà el 30 d'abril de 1950. El 1990 es traslladà al passeig Comte d'Ègara per permetre la remodelació de la plaça i la construcció d'un pàrquing subterrani. Està dedicat a Alfons Sala i Argemí (1843-1945), comte d'Ègara, industrial i polític, fundador de la Unió Monàrquica Nacional, diputat a Corts, últim president de la Mancomunitat de Catalunya i senador vitalici del Regne. Malgrat la seva presència a la Galeria de Terrassencs Il·lustres des del 1946, tot i que la seva figura sempre ha estat força discutida.

F) El Monument als Caiguts

El Monumento a los Caídos por Dios y por España es va inaugurar el 24 de gener de 1944 amb la presència del capità general de Catalunya, Josep Moscardó, del governador civil i del bisbe de Barcelona, commemorant els caiguts franquistes de la Guerra Civil. Dissenyat per Frederic Vinyals i l'escultor Jaume Bazín, el conjunt de 15 metres d'alçada, fet amb pedra de Montjuïc, destacava per les figures de dos soldats —un de la Guerra Civil i un guerrer medieval— i una figura femenina amb la salutació feixista, amb la inscripció «Caídos por Dios y por España: ¡Presentes!».

Després de la mort de Franco, el monument va patir actes vandàlics i, amb la construcció del pàrquing del passeig, es va desmuntar. Les escultures es traslladaren al Cementiri Municipal, on actualment serveixen com a homenatge a totes les víctimes de les guerres, amb una placa que recorda «La ciutat de Terrassa en memòria de les víctimes de la guerra».

G) La Presó Municipal

La Presó Municipal de Terrassa va ser fundada a principis del segle XX, amb l'objectiu de servir com a establiment penitenciari per acollir a persones acusades de delictes menors o infraccions locals.

Durant la Guerra Civil, la presó va ser utilitzada com a dipòsit carcerari, on es van tancar aquells detinguts pel règim republicà abans que fossin traslladats a presons més grans, com la Model de Barcelona. Després de la fi del conflicte, la presó de Terrassa va ser reactivada el 1943 per la dictadura franquista. En aquest moment, va ser restablerta com a presó de partit, davant la manca de capacitat a les presons de la província, i va continuar funcionant fins al 1967, moment en què va ser de nou reconvertida en dipòsit carcerari. Finalment, aquest va tancar definitivament durant els anys 1980.

Avui dia, l'antic edifici de la presó municipal ha estat requalificat i s'ha reconvertit en un espai cultural i patrimonial. Algunes de les restes de la construcció original, com els barrots de les cel·les, es mantenen com a testimoni de la història de l'edifici.

H) El Palau d'Indústries

L'Escola Industrial de Terrassa, fundada a principis del segle XX com a evolució de l'Escola d'Arts i Oficis, s'instal·là al Palau d'Indústries de Lluís Muncunill (1902) i formava tècnics en sectors tèxtil, químic, mecànic, elèctric i electrònic, sota la direcció del primer director, Bartomeu Amat. Durant la Guerra Civil, l'edifici fou confiscat per l'Ajuntament i l'escola adaptà la seva formació a la nova economia revolucionària, amb beques per a fills de la classe obrera; els estudiants protagonitzaren diverses vagues per reivindicacions laborals i acadèmiques.

A la postguerra, l'Ajuntament cedí l'edifici a l'Estat, que hi instal·là també el Sindicato Español Universitario. L'augment d'alumnes va portar a la inauguració el 1962 de l'Escola Tècnica Superior d'Enginyers Industrials al carrer Colom. Entre els anys 60 i la Transició, l'Escola Industrial es convertí en un centre de protesta estudiantil antifranquista, amb vagues i assemblees vinculades a la repressió i a lluites obreres, especialment després de l'assassinat de Puig Antich i d'altres conflictes laborals.

Acadèmicament, el 1972 passà a formar part de la futura Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC), mentre que l'Escola Municipal d'Arts i Oficis, després de diverses reubicacions, s'instal·là finalment al Vapor Universitari. L'edifici mantingué també un paper cultural important, acollint activitats com el Congrés de Cultura Catalana després de la mort de Franco

literatura catalana: Salvador Espriu, Pere Quart, Joan Oliver, Joan Vinyoli, Josep Vicenç Foix, etc. Més o menys vinculada a Acció Catòlica, el paraigües de l'Església li permetia desplegar activitats que, en qualsevol altre context, s'haguessin reprimint per subversives. Sembla ser que en el seu moment àlgid, l'escoltisme a Terrassa va arribar a agrupar a un miler de joves.

C) La Manifestació de les Pedres

El 27 d'octubre de 1967 les Comissions Obreres (CCOO) van convocar una manifestació pel salari mínim i la llibertat sindical. La protesta, que s'emmarcava en unes jornades de lluita a tot l'estat, tenia també el suport de les missions obreres de l'Església i de l'incipient moviment estudiantil.

Les forces d'ordre van intervenir a cops de porra i trets a l'aire per dissoldre les 500 persones que s'havien concentrat al capdavall de la Rambla. Alguns dels manifestants van fugir pels carrers adjacents, però d'altres van quedar encapsulats entre el cordó policial i les vies del tren. Des d'allí, van començar a llençar les pedres del llast contra la policia, que va obrir foc contra els manifestants. Ràpidament, l'escenari fou el d'una autèntica batalla campal entre les forces d'ordre i els concentrats. El resultat final: dos manifestants ferits greus, un d'ells ferit de bala, caps oberts, clavícules trencades; més de 20 policies ferits; 65 detinguts.

Aquesta manifestació va mostrar davant del règim la fortalesa de l'oposició i la capacitat i la voluntat de disputar-li el control del carrer.

D) El Saló Sevilla

Fundat l'any 1928, el Saló Sevilla va mantenir-se obert fins el 1962, en què li va vèncer el contracte de lloguer.

Es va convertir en un dels locals d'oci picaresc (aquí hi ha divergència d'opinions) més populars i fou dels què més anys va durar, 34 anys. Dins del local, que s'hi entrava sense pagar, s'hi feien espectacles diversos, amb reconeguts artistes, com Carmen Amaya, Juanita Reina o Estrellita de Palma, entre d'altres, quan encara no eren artistes reconeguts. Daniel Piqueras en fou el principal responsable durant més de 25 anys.

Actualment conserva part de la façana, encara que la part inferior ha estat rehabilitada per adaptar-la al seu ús actual: una botiga d'electrodomèstics.

E) El Pavelló d'Esports Sagrada Família

El 19 de juny de 1966 s'inaugurava el pavelló esportiu cobert de la Sagrada Família. Aquesta nova instal·lació consolidava la tradició esportiva de la parròquia, ja existent abans de la guerra, amb activitats com el bàsquet i l'hoquei sobre patins.

Però el pavelló no era només un espai esportiu. També va acollir esdeveniments culturals. Entre 1966 i 1983, es van celebrar més de 50 recitals de la Nova Cançó a Terrassa, ja fos al Centre Social Catòlic, al pavelló de la Sagrada Família, a l'amfiteatre del parc de Sant Jordi o al Centre Cultural de la Caixa de Terrassa, convertint aquesta institució en un agent cultural de primer ordre. El cantant nord-americà Pete Seeger s'hi va presentar davant de 4.000 persones al febrer de 1971, en l'únic concert que es va fer a tota Catalunya abans que el Govern Civil l'interdisqués. Els ingressos dels concerts es destinaven al Comitè de Solidaritat, encarregat d'ajudar les famílies dels presos, pagar advocats o finançar els desplaçaments al Tribunal d'Ordre Públic (TOP) a Madrid. Entre 1970 i 1975 es van recaptar gairebé 3.000.000 de pessetes.

El 29 de maig de 1976, el pavelló va acollir el primer míting del Partit Socialista Unificat de Catalunya (PSUC) autoritzat des de la guerra. Més de 6.000 persones hi van assistir, malgrat l'absència d'autorització oficial. Un acord tàcit amb el cap de la policia local va permetre que la manifestació es desenvolupés sense incidents.

F) L'Institució Ambrosiana

Al llarg dels anys 40 i 50 es van consolidar a Terrassa diversos corrents dissidents amb el sector oficial catòlic. Un d'aquests fou el que va representar la Institució Ambrosiana, vinculada a la parròquia de la Sagrada Família, creada al 1932, que, sense ser d'esquerres, van apostar per una línia catalanista i antifeixista per a l'Església. Caldria recordar aquí que Josep Moncau, rector de la parròquia, fou assassinat durant la revolució de 1936. La Institució Ambrosiana va configurar-se el 1944 i va durar fins a 1948, quan les campanyes de premsa en contra i les intimidacions, pintades a les cases particulars acusant als responsables de rojos i separatistes, van obligar a clausurar l'entitat. Mentre va durar, es van organitzar concursos, concerts i conferències on el català hi tenia una presència destacada.

Des d'aleshores, aquesta parròquia sempre va mantenir d'una manera o altra un compromís catalanista i antifranquista, fins al punt que, en el context de les lluites obreres dels anys setanta, aquí s'hi celebraven assemblees de treballadors en vaga. El 25 d'agost de 1976 va acollir els membres de la Marxa de la Llibertat, que reclamaven la llibertat dels detinguts, amnistia pels presos i l'estatut d'autonomia.

G) El Casal de la Dona

Entre 1967 i 1971, a Terrassa va existir el Moviment Democràtic de Dones (MDD), format principalment per dones del Partit Socialista Unificat de Catalunya (PSUC) i liderat per figures com Cèlia Garcia. El moviment buscava conscienciar les dones antifranquistes, especialment obreres i mestresses de casa, sobre la seva discriminació laboral i social, tal com reflectia el seu butlletí *La Mujer en Marcha*. Durant aquests anys, el MDD va organitzar protestes contra la carestia, tancades a l'església, recollides de signatures i

manifestacions en defensa dels drets laborals i socials de les dones, com el mateix salari pel mateix treball, l'accés a l'ensenyament i l'abolició de la discriminació de les treballadores domèstiques. Tot i això, el moviment tenia poca autonomia respecte al PSUC i va acabar dissolent-se el 1971 arran de la crisi interna del partit.

A partir de 1986, el Casal de la Dona va aglutinar el moviment feminista a Terrassa, oferint un espai propi per trobar-se, debatre i organitzar mobilitzacions. El Casal va néixer sobre precedents com les vocalies de dones dels barris, la participació en les Primeres Jornades Feministes del 1976 i la secció femenina dels Amics de l'ONU, que havia dinamitzat protestes com la contra la penalització de l'adulteri. Posteriorment, es va constituir la Coordinadora Feminista de Terrassa, que va ser la llavor del Casal de la Dona.

RUTA

“LEÓN CON MEMORIA”

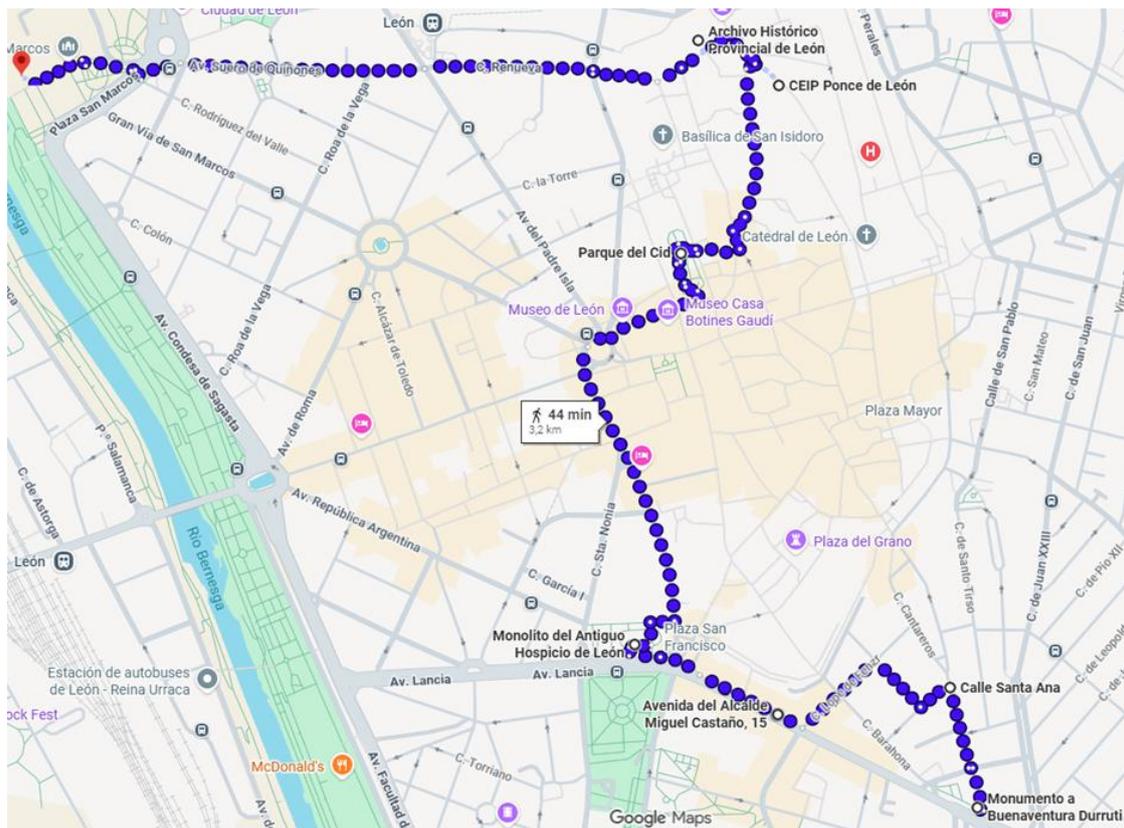
INTRODUCCIÓN

La memoria histórica nos ayuda a comprender quiénes somos como sociedad y por qué el pasado sigue influyendo en nuestro presente. En España, hablar de memoria histórica significa recuperar y reconocer a las víctimas de la Guerra Civil y de la dictadura franquista, un periodo marcado por la violencia, la represión y la negación sistemática de los derechos humanos.

Esta ruta propone un recorrido educativo por la ciudad de León, uno de los principales escenarios de la represión franquista en la retaguardia. A través de distintos espacios urbanos, conoceremos historias silenciadas y reflexionaremos sobre la importancia de no olvidar.

Descubre esta ruta:

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1) Hálito Durruti (Inicio de la ruta)

La figura de Buenaventura Durruti, nacido en León, representa uno de los grandes olvidos de la memoria histórica local. Durruti fue un destacado líder del movimiento anarquista, militante de la CNT y la FAI, y una figura clave en la resistencia antifascista durante la Guerra Civil. Lideró la conocida Columna Durruti y defendió la libertad y la justicia social hasta su muerte en Madrid en 1936.

A pesar de su relevancia histórica internacional, su memoria fue silenciada durante décadas. En la Plaza de Santa Ana, lugar donde se encontraba su casa natal, se alza la obra Hálito Durruti, del artista Diego Segura. Este monumento no solo recuerda a Durruti, sino también a todas las personas que lucharon contra el fascismo y fueron borradas de la historia oficial.

Este primer punto nos invita a reflexionar sobre cómo el olvido también es una forma de violencia.



León, noviembre de 1935. Mitin en la Plaza de Toros. Durruti, en la tribuna, se

2) Calle Santa Ana – Antiguo campo de concentración

Durante la Guerra Civil y la posguerra existieron en España entre 200 y 300 campos de concentración. Eran espacios de detención sin juicios ni garantías legales, utilizados como herramientas de represión por el régimen franquista.

En esta calle funcionó uno de estos centros, donde fueron encerradas personas por razones políticas, ideológicas o sociales: republicanos, familiares de represaliados, personas LGTBIQ+, población gitana y otras consideradas “indeseables”.

Este lugar nos permite entender cómo la represión formaba parte del sistema y no fue un hecho aislado.

3) Calle Alcalde Miguel Castaño

Miguel Castaño Quiñones (1883-1936) fue un periodista, tipógrafo y político socialista español, destacado por ser el primer alcalde republicano de León tras las elecciones democráticas de abril de 1931. Durante la II República, lideró el ayuntamiento, enfocándose en reformas sociales antes de ser fusilado por las tropas franquistas al inicio de la Guerra Civil. Su historia simboliza la represión contra los cargos democráticamente elegidos y la eliminación violenta de cualquier oposición política. Recordar su figura es recordar que la democracia fue destruida mediante la violencia.



4) Antiguo Hospicio – Campo de Concentración (Jardines del Conservatorio)

El antiguo Hospicio de León fue utilizado como campo de concentración satélite de San Marcos. En él se hacinaban prisioneros, tropas y también niños huérfanos, generando condiciones extremas de hambre, enfermedad y muerte.

Hoy, una piedra conmemorativa recuerda tanto a los miles de niños y niñas acogidos en el Hospicio a lo largo de su historia como a las personas privadas de libertad durante la guerra. Este espacio ha sido resignificado gracias a un proyecto educativo impulsado por estudiantes de León y otros países europeos.



5) Parque del Cid – Antiguo Cuartel del Regimiento de Burgos

En el actual Parque del Cid, conocido popularmente como “Jardín Romántico”, se encontraba el Cuartel del Cid, un espacio clave en la historia de León. Entre 1894 y 1953 albergó al Regimiento Burgos nº 36, ocupando una antigua mansión nobiliaria del centro de la ciudad. Su papel fue decisivo durante el golpe de Estado del 18 de julio de 1936 y la posterior Guerra Civil. Desde este cuartel se planificó y ejecutó la sublevación militar en León, que triunfó el 20 de julio. En sus dependencias se conspiró contra el Gobierno legítimo de la Segunda República y se engañó a los mineros asturianos entregándoles armas inutilizadas. Tras el golpe, el cuartel se convirtió en epicentro del poder militar y represivo en la provincia: desde él partieron columnas de castigo, se celebraron consejos de guerra ilegales, se practicaron detenciones, torturas y se dictaron condenas a muerte y prisión. Hoy, este espacio verde simboliza la necesidad de recordar y dignificar a las víctimas, promoviendo la memoria democrática y la defensa de los derechos humanos.



6) Colegio Ponce de León – Campo de concentración

Durante la Guerra Civil española, el Colegio Ponce de León de la ciudad de León fue transformado por los golpistas en un campo de concentración. A partir de 1936, el edificio fue utilizado para la detención masiva de prisioneros republicanos, sindicalistas, militares leales a la República, intelectuales y civiles considerados desafectos. Las condiciones fueron extremadamente duras con un clima constante de miedo y represión. La información histórica disponible indica que el edificio se usó para la represión, formando parte de un sistema penitenciario improvisado que incluía otros lugares en la ciudad de León como el Hospicio y el campo de Santa Ana, donde se hacinaba a un gran número de prisioneros. La represión franquista en León buscaba asegurar la retaguardia mediante el terror, con numerosos fusilamientos y ejecuciones. En la provincia de León existieron al menos una decena de campos de concentración similares. Por ellos pasaron miles de personas, convirtiendo a la provincia de León en un espacio clave de la represión franquista en el noroeste de España.



7) Archivo Histórico Provincial de León (Antigua Prisión Provincial – Puerta Castillo)

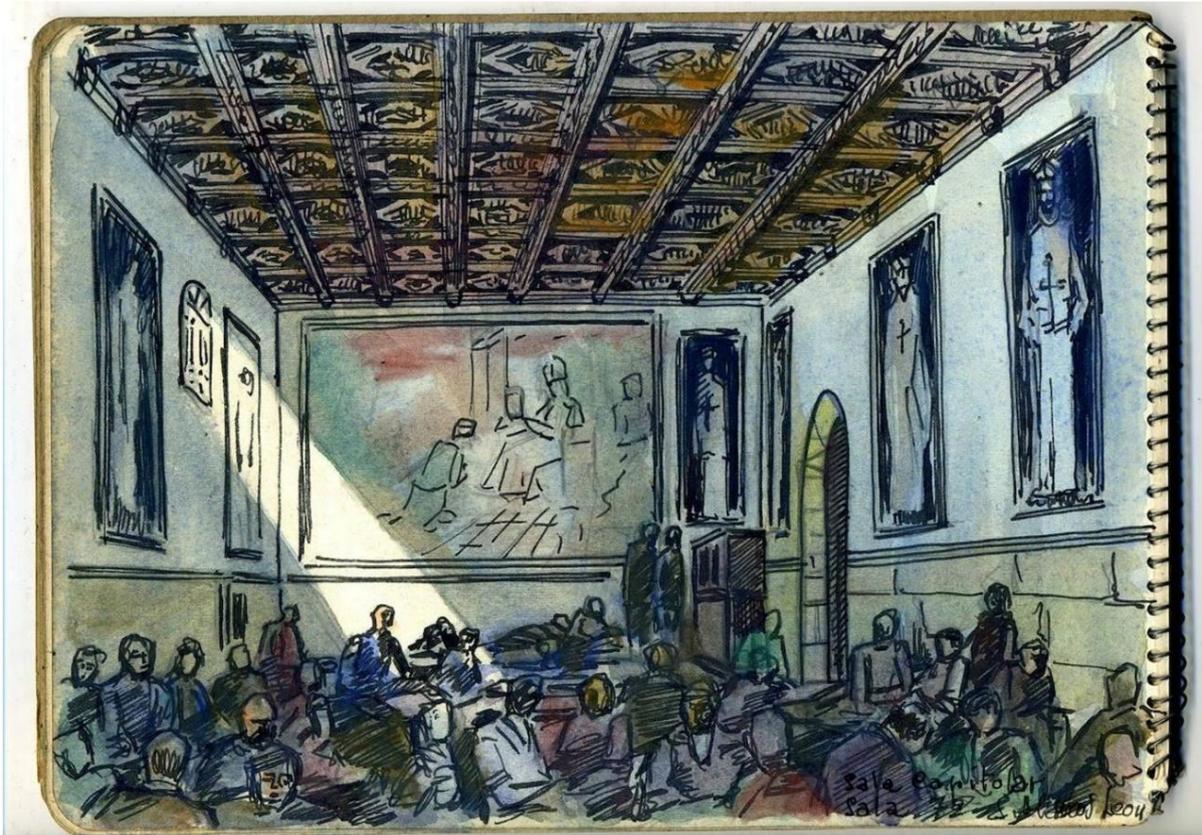
El Archivo Histórico Provincial de León ocupa un edificio cargado de memoria. Durante la Guerra Civil española y la posterior dictadura franquista, este espacio fue utilizado como cárcel y campo de concentración. En sus dependencias se practicó la reclusión masiva de presos políticos, republicanos, sindicalistas y personas consideradas desafectas al régimen. El edificio funcionó como un lugar de detención, interrogatorio y represión, donde se vulneraron sistemáticamente los derechos humanos y se ejerció la violencia institucional propia de la dictadura. Las duras condiciones de vida, el hacinamiento y la falta de garantías legales marcaron la experiencia de quienes pasaron por este lugar. Con el paso del tiempo, el antiguo centro de reclusión fue reconvertido en Archivo Histórico Provincial, dedicado hoy a la conservación de documentos y a la investigación histórica. Esta transformación simboliza el paso de un espacio de represión a uno de memoria, recordando la necesidad de no olvidar lo ocurrido y de preservar la memoria democrática.



8) Parador de San Marcos – Campo de concentración

El edificio que hoy alberga el Parador de Turismo de cinco estrellas de San Marcos, en la ciudad de León (España), fue un campo de concentración y una instalación represiva del régimen franquista durante la Guerra Civil Española y la posguerra (1936–1940). Este monumento de estilo plateresco, con origen medieval, fue convento, hospital y cuartel antes de convertirse en campo para detener a opositores políticos, incluyendo republicanos, sindicalistas e intelectuales considerados “peligrosos” por el régimen de Franco. Entre 15.000 y 20.000 personas pasaron por allí en condiciones de hacinamiento, hambre, frío, torturas y violencia, y entre 1.500 y 2.900 personas murieron por fusilamientos, ejecuciones sumarias, enfermedades, desnutrición, torturas y malos tratos. Muchas aún siguen desaparecidas enterradas en cunetas o en fosas comunes aún pendientes de localizar y de exhumar. El Campo de Concentración de San Marcos formó parte de la red de campos franquistas para reprimir a defensores de la Segunda República, de las libertades y del estado de derecho.





El asturiano Cástor González estuvo recluido en el campo de concentración de la capital leonesa en 1938, donde utilizó su arte para plasma el horror de la repression del franquismo.

Otros Lugares de memoria fuera de la ciudad:

- **Campo de tiro – fusilamientos:** El antiguo campo de tiro de León, conocido históricamente por ser lugar de fusilamientos durante la Guerra Civil y la posguerra, se encontraba ubicado en la zona de Puente Castro, a orillas del río Torío, en lo que hoy forma parte del Parque de La Candamia. El Monumento a los Ejecutados en el Campo de Tiro de Puente Castro, inaugurado en abril de 2023 gracias a los esfuerzos del Foro por la Memoria de León, rinde homenaje a quienes fueron asesinados durante la dictadura franquista por defender la libertad, la democracia y la justicia social. Se erigió en el lugar donde, tras el golpe de Estado de 1936, fueron ejecutadas cientos de personas, en su mayoría republicanas. Situado junto al río Torío, el monumento cuenta con una inscripción en honor a quienes pagaron con su vida su compromiso con los valores democráticos. Más allá de su presencia física, representa la recuperación de la memoria histórica, transformando un lugar de represión en un lugar de recuerdo, reflexión y educación,

honrando a las víctimas y transmitiendo a las generaciones futuras la importancia de la libertad, los derechos humanos y la democracia

- **Cementerio de León– Fosa común y Capilla Laica:** En el Cementerio de León se encuentra la – Fosa común y Capilla Laica –. Entre julio de 1936 y comienzos de 1949, cerca de dos mil personas represaliadas fueron enterradas en la fosa común del Cementerio de León, una de las fosas más grandes de España. Muchas de ellas procedían del campo de concentración de San Marcos, donde los prisioneros sufrían torturas, hambre, enfermedades y ejecuciones sin juicio, conocidas como “paseos”. Estas condiciones provocaron un alto número de fallecimientos, cuyos cuerpos fueron enterrados de manera anónima, negando a las familias la posibilidad de despedirse o conocer su destino. Hoy, la Capilla Laica honra a más de 1.500 víctimas de la represión franquista en León, recuperando sus nombres y dignificando su memoria. Este espacio nos invita a reflexionar sobre la importancia de la verdad, la justicia y la memoria histórica, y a recordar que cada vida arrebatada representa la necesidad de defender los derechos humanos y la dignidad de todas las personas.



RUTA

“DESCUBRIENDO LA FABRICONA Y LAS TRINCHERAS DE VILLANUEVA DE LA TERCIA”

PRESENTACIÓN DE LA RUTA

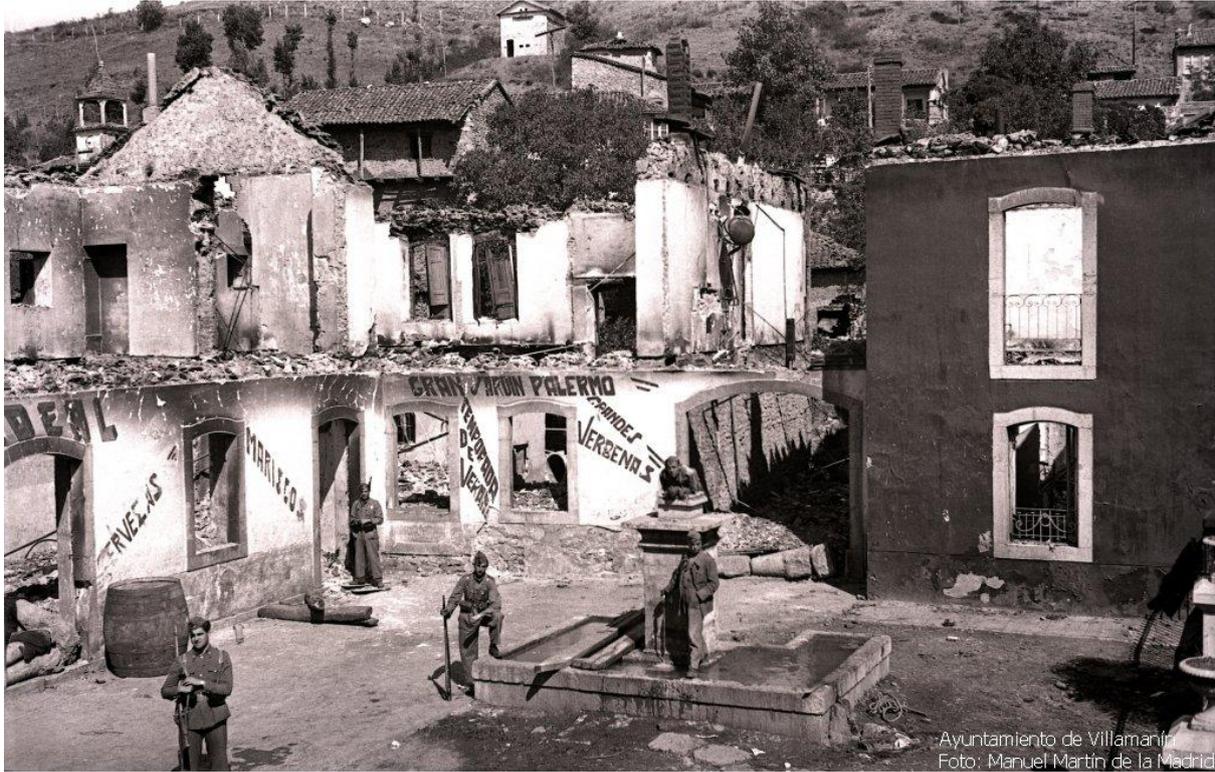
Esta ruta recorre un territorio de montaña que fue escenario directo de la Guerra Civil Española (1936-1939) y que hoy conserva importantes restos materiales de aquel conflicto. A lo largo del camino, la naturaleza, el paisaje y las ruinas nos ayudan a comprender cómo la guerra transformó la vida de las personas y el territorio, especialmente en el Frente Norte, uno de los frentes más duros del conflicto.

Está situada a 47 km de la ciudad de León. Se trata de una ruta circular, fácil de realizar, con una duración aproximada de 2 horas, adecuada para jóvenes y para actividades educativas. El recorrido se estructura en tres puntos principales, que permiten explicar tanto los hechos históricos como su significado actual desde una perspectiva de memoria histórica democrática.

Introducción histórica: la Guerra Civil y el Frente Norte

Tras el golpe militar de julio de 1936 contra la Segunda República, España quedó dividida en dos zonas. Al no lograr tomar Madrid rápidamente, el bando sublevado centró sus esfuerzos en el Frente Norte, una región clave por su potencia industrial, minera y energética, especialmente en Asturias y la Montaña Leonesa. El control de los pasos naturales entre la meseta y el norte, como el entorno de Villamanín, Villanueva de la Tercia y Golpejar, era fundamental. Por este motivo, esta zona fue defendida con determinación por el Ejército de la República, que trataba de frenar el avance del fascismo y defender la legalidad democrática. El resultado fue un territorio profundamente marcado por combates, fortificaciones y bombardeos, que afectaron tanto a los combatientes como a la población civil.

A través del proyecto REFORE NETWORK: Youth Network for Recovering the Forgotten Remembrance (Red de Jóvenes para Recuperar la Memoria Olvidada) queremos rescatar del olvido y del desconocimiento espacios que conservan la memoria de acontecimientos que han marcado la historia europea.



Ayuntamiento de Villamanín
Foto: Manuel Martín de la Madrid

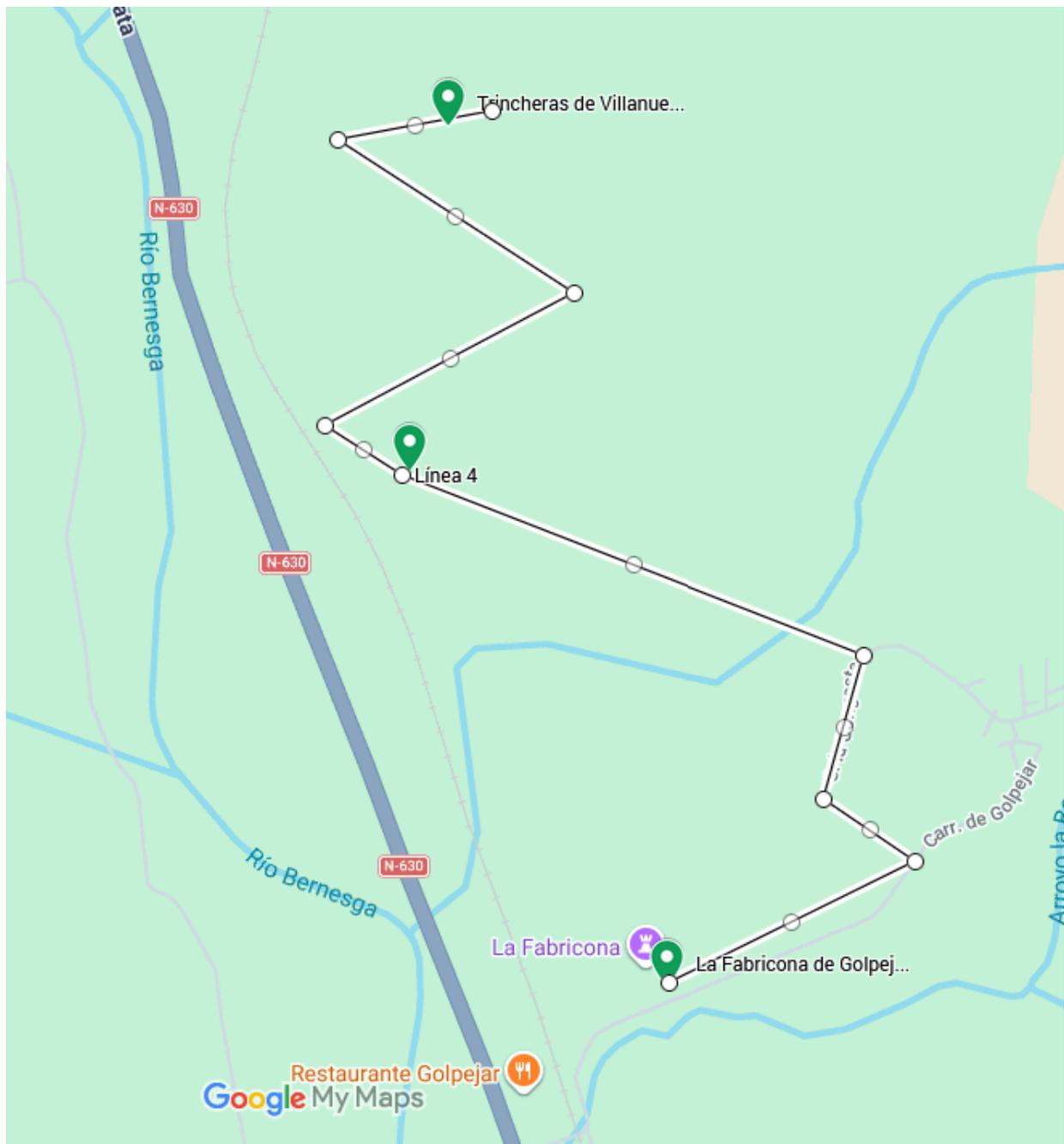


Ayuntamiento de Villamanín
Foto: Manuel Martín de la Madrid

PLANOS DE LA RUTA

Descubre esta ruta:

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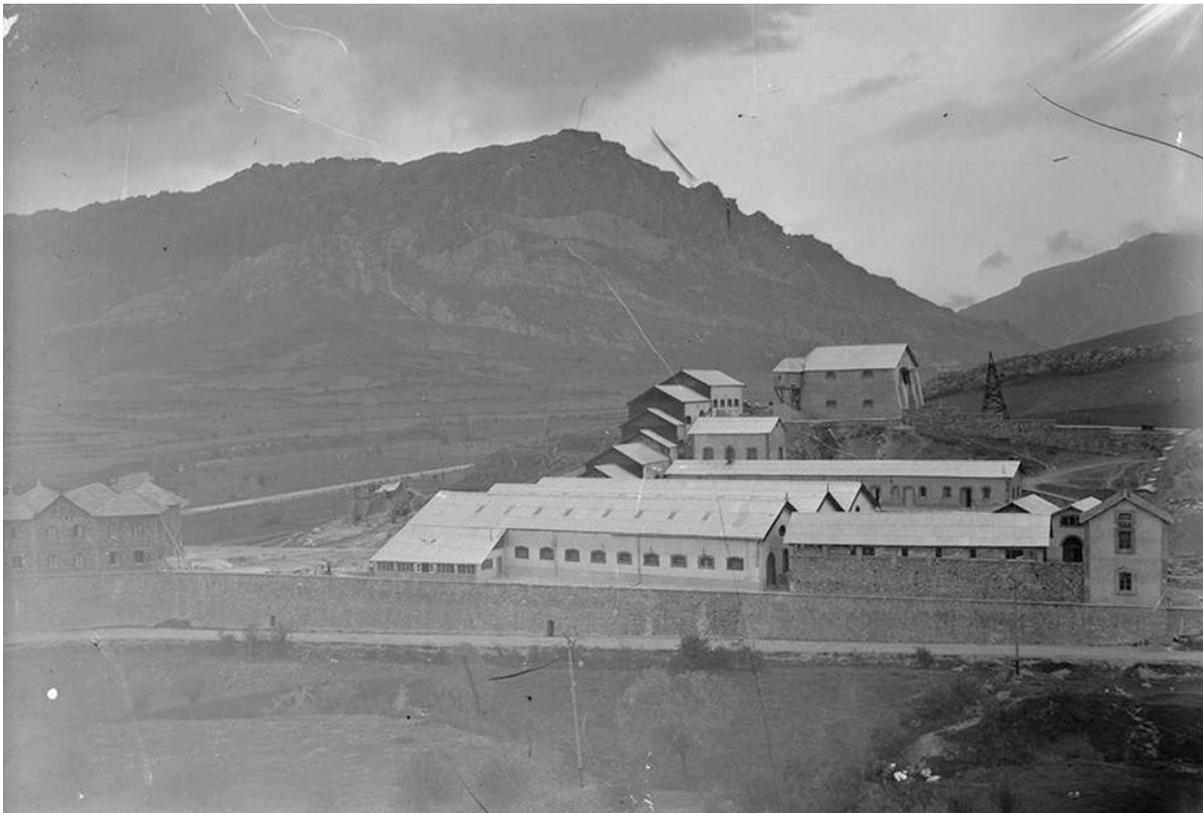


1) La Fabricona de Golpejar: guerra aérea y destrucción (Inicio de la ruta)

La primera parada de la ruta nos sitúa en las ruinas de la Fabricona de Golpejar, un antiguo complejo minero-metalúrgico que había cesado su actividad en 1931. A pesar de su abandono industrial, durante la guerra fue reutilizado por el bando republicano como posición defensiva, debido a su valor estratégico en la defensa del acceso a Asturias por el puerto de Pajares.

En abril de 1937, una compañía republicana al mando del capitán Luis Vaquero se atrincheró en este enclave y logró resistir los ataques terrestres de las fuerzas golpistas. Ante la imposibilidad de tomar la posición por tierra, el mando franquista recurrió al bombardeo aéreo masivo, ejecutado por la Legión Cóndor alemana, una unidad nazi enviada en apoyo del golpe militar.

Desde su base en La Virgen del Camino (León) y bajo la dirección de Wolfram von Richthofen, se llevó a cabo aquí uno de los primeros bombardeos en alfombra, una táctica de destrucción indiscriminada que poco después se emplearía en Gernika y, más tarde, en la Segunda Guerra Mundial. La Fabricona quedó devastada y murieron la mayoría de sus defensores.





¿Qué se conserva hoy?

En la actualidad se conservan restos visibles de muros, cimentaciones, estructuras derruidas y elementos del antiguo complejo industrial, integrados en el paisaje. Estas ruinas permiten identificar el tamaño del recinto y comprender la violencia del ataque aéreo. La Fabricona es hoy un lugar de memoria democrática, que recuerda el impacto de la guerra moderna sobre personas, territorios y sobre quienes defendieron la democracia frente al fascismo.





2) El camino hacia las posiciones defensivas

Desde la Fabricona, la ruta continúa por caminos tradicionales señalizados, durante unos 30 minutos, atravesando un paisaje que durante la guerra fue utilizado para el movimiento de tropas, el transporte de suministros y las comunicaciones.

El posterior ascenso por la ladera de una colina ayuda a comprender la lógica militar del terreno: las alturas permitían observar al enemigo, controlar los accesos y organizar la defensa. Este tramo conecta el paisaje natural actual con su uso histórico como espacio de guerra, invitando a leer el territorio con una mirada crítica y consciente.

3) Trincheras de Villanueva de la Tercia: resistencia y defensa de la democracia

La ruta culmina en la zona arqueológica de la Guerra Civil, donde se conservan trincheras, parapetos, búnkeres y nidos de ametralladora, formando una auténtica línea defensiva de montaña del Frente Norte, activa hasta octubre de 1937.





Estas fortificaciones fueron construidas y ocupadas por soldados republicanos, muchos de ellos vecinos de la zona o trabajadores mineros, que defendieron este paso estratégico en condiciones extremadamente duras, con escasos medios y bajo el constante riesgo de bombardeos.



Un patrimonio vivo .En este punto de la ruta es posible entrar en algunos de los búnkeres y refugios, lo que permite experimentar de forma directa los espacios donde los soldados se protegían, combatían y sobrevivían. Caminar por las trincheras y acceder a los búnkeres ayuda a comprender la dureza de la vida en el frente y el enorme esfuerzo realizado para defender el territorio y la legalidad republicana.



Reflexión final: memoria, democracia y aprendizaje.

Lugares como la Fabricona de Golpejar y las trincheras de Villanueva de la Tercia no son simples restos del pasado. Son espacios de memoria, testigos de la defensa de la democracia frente al golpe militar y del sacrificio de quienes lucharon por mantener un sistema basado en la libertad, la justicia social y el Estado de derecho. Recuperar estos lugares del olvido y ponerlos en valor desde una perspectiva educativa es un acto de responsabilidad colectiva. La memoria histórica democrática no busca revancha ni enfrentamiento, sino verdad, justicia y reconocimiento. Permite comprender las consecuencias de la violencia, honrar a las víctimas y reforzar el compromiso con los valores democráticos.

Para el público joven, esta ruta es una oportunidad de aprender caminando, de entender que los derechos y libertades actuales no son un regalo, sino el resultado de luchas y sacrificios. Conocer este pasado ayuda a formar una ciudadanía crítica, consciente y comprometida con la defensa de la democracia, los derechos humanos y la convivencia pacífica. Caminar por estos senderos es, también, una forma de decir que la memoria sigue viva y que el olvido nunca puede ser el destino de quienes defendieron la libertad.

RUTA

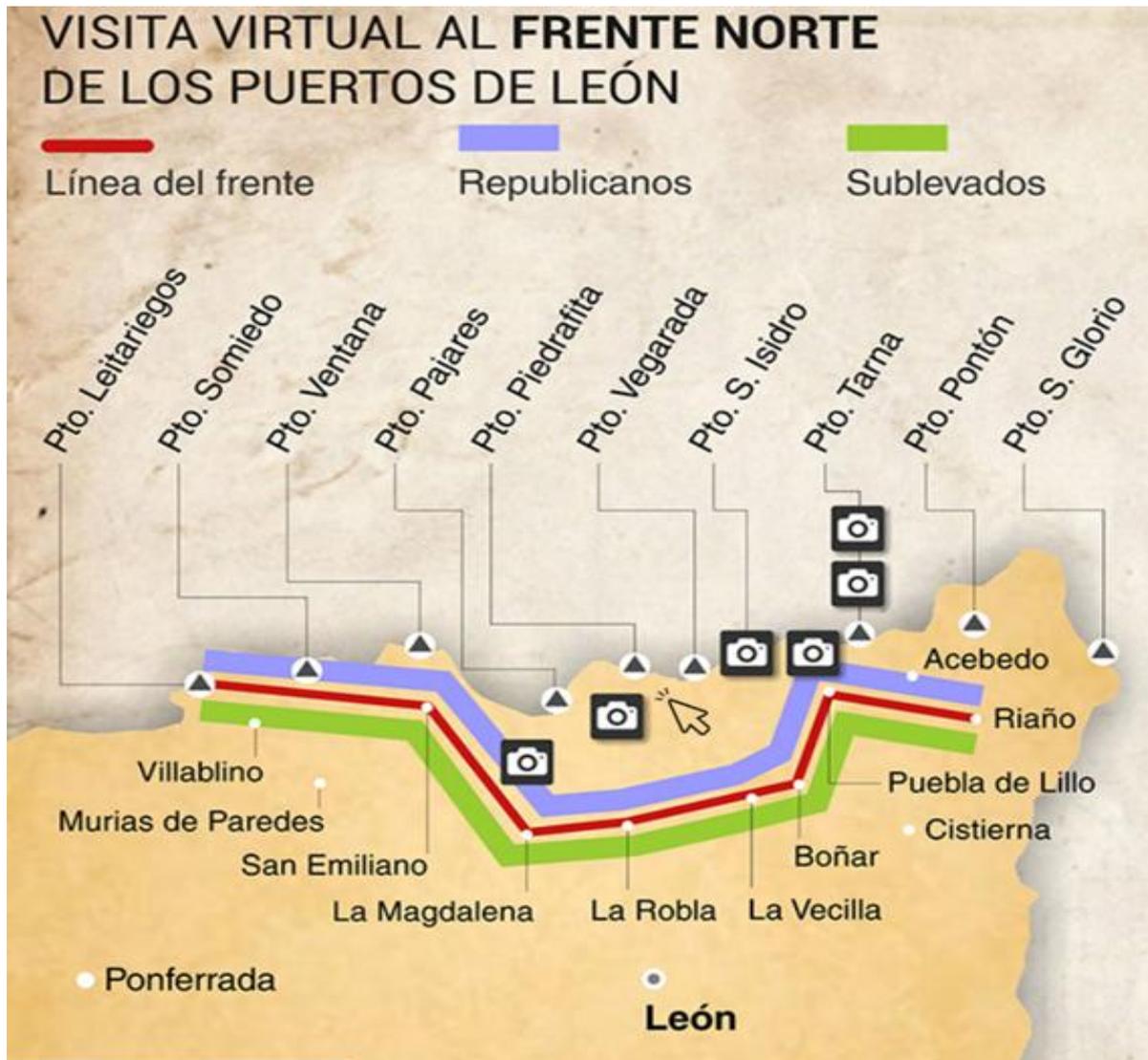
“TRINCHERAS DE NOCEDO DE GORDÓN Y PICO FONTAÑAN”

PRESENTACIÓN DE LA RUTA

La ruta de senderismo que parte de Nocedo de Gordón, asciende hasta el Pico Fontañán y regresa al punto de inicio es mucho más que un recorrido natural. Se trata de un itinerario de memoria histórica que permite conocer, sobre el terreno, los vestigios de la Guerra Civil Española aún presentes en el paisaje. Caminar por estos caminos es una forma de acercarse al pasado desde una experiencia directa, entendiendo cómo la guerra transformó el territorio y la vida de las personas que lo habitaron.

El Frente Norte y la importancia del territorio: Durante la Guerra Civil Española (1936–1939), el Frente Norte fue un escenario estratégico clave. Las zonas montañosas de León, Asturias y Cantabria eran fundamentales para controlar pasos naturales y vías de comunicación. En este contexto, el valle de Gordón se convirtió en un espacio militarizado, donde ambos bandos levantaron líneas defensivas para frenar el avance enemigo. El relieve abrupto y las alturas ofrecían una ventaja estratégica, lo que explica la concentración de infraestructuras militares en esta zona. A lo largo del Frente Norte se han localizado numerosos lugares en los que se pueden encontrar restos de aquella guerra, desde los altos puertos como el de Vegarada y zonas como en la comarca de Babia en Genestosa, hasta otras zonas de especial importancia como las zonas de La Vecilla de Curueño con Peña Morquera, que es un lugar de gran valor histórico que conserva vestigios significativos tanto de la Guerra Civil Española como de la posterior actividad de los maquis (guerrilla antifranquista).

El Pico Fontañán es el ejemplo más claro, como cumbre de referencia, pero la Peña Miezca, la Muezca y el Altico también tienen sus restos de la guerra, así como el Pico de Santiago y frente a ellos el elevado conjunto de construcciones de Peña Viesca o Peña Portilla.



Esta RUTA que se encuentra a tan solo 30km de la ciudad de León, nos llevará a conocer paso a paso las Trincheras de Nocedo de Gordón y los vestigios de la Guerra Civil en el Pico Fontañán.

Es una ruta circular que parte desde el pueblo de Nocedo de Gordón y que sube al Pico Fontañán. Es de fácil acceso si solo se visita la zona de las trincheras de Nocedo de Gordón y es de dificultad media si se pretende realizar en su totalidad llegando a la cima del Pico Fontañán con 1.634m de altitud.

Descubre esta ruta:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=10oEScUEgjfAVvAT64iAjinUiyDU4vr4&usp=sharing>



A través del proyecto REFORE NETWORK: Youth Network for Recovering the Forgotten Remembrance (Red de Jóvenes para Recuperar la Memoria Olvidada) queremos rescatar del olvido y del desconocimiento espacios que conservan la memoria de acontecimientos que han marcado la historia europea.

1) Nocedo de Gordón (Inicio de la ruta)

La ruta se inicia al finalizar la zona de casas en la Calle Real de la pequeña localidad de Nocedo de Gordon, la cual se encuentra a escasos 30km de la ciudad de León.

Nada más comenzar a caminar y a subir por el pueblo, llegamos a una fuente, la cual indica el inicio de la ruta, desde donde parten tres caminos y se debe seguir el de la derecha que sube en dirección norte.

El camino continúa a lo largo de toda la sierra con más de siete puntos en los que se van a encontrar bunkers, casamatas, parapetos y trincheras, restos de construcciones en ruina que se edificaron durante la guerra civil.



2) Trincheras y Búnkeres de Nocedo de Gordón

Bienvenidos a este enclave histórico, donde se conservan las trincheras, parapetos, casamatas, zonas de vivac y búnkeres construidos durante la Guerra Civil Española. Desde aquí se puede apreciar la importancia estratégica de estas posiciones, que dominaban el valle del Bernesga y protegían la ruta hacia Asturias.

Estas fortificaciones fueron utilizadas por el bando republicano, que defendía el Frente Norte. Su misión era detener el avance de las tropas sublevadas y mantener el control de los pasos hacia las montañas. Gracias a su ubicación en las alturas de Nocedo de Gordón, los soldados podían vigilar el valle, proteger la carretera y cubrirse de los bombardeos.

En este punto podremos apreciar la arquitectura defensiva y podremos fijarnos en cómo están construidas estas posiciones.

- Trincheras y parapetos excavados en la tierra, que ofrecían protección frente a la artillería y los disparos enemigos.
- Casamatas y búnkeres, algunas revestidas con hormigón y piedra, perfectamente integradas en el paisaje para que fueran difíciles de localizar desde lejos.
- Zonas de vivac, espacios donde los soldados podían descansar y resguardarse del frío y la lluvia.

Algunos de estos nidos de ametralladora y galerías subterráneas se conectaban entre sí, permitiendo que los soldados se desplazaran sin exponerse al fuego enemigo. Este tipo de ingeniería militar fue posible gracias a los trabajadores especializados, muchos de ellos mineros de la región, que aplicaron sus conocimientos en la excavación de túneles y refugios.





¿Qué hechos históricos acontecieron en esta zona?

Las trincheras de Nocedo de Gordón formaron parte de una línea defensiva republicana que se mantuvo activa durante 13 meses, desde 1936 hasta mediados de 1937. Durante ese tiempo, los soldados defendieron la zona de intensos ataques del bando sublevado, que buscaba avanzar hacia Asturias. Estas posiciones no solo tenían valor militar, sino que

también son símbolos de resistencia y sacrificio, ya que reflejan la determinación de quienes lucharon por la defensa de la legalidad republicana y los valores democráticos en aquel momento.

Al recorrer estas trincheras, estamos caminando por un espacio de memoria histórica, donde pasado y presente se encuentran para enseñarnos lecciones de historia y de humanidad.



3) Finalizar la ruta o continuar la ruta ascendiendo al Pico Fontañán.

Una vez que has visitado todos los restos arqueológicos de la Guerra Civil de esta zona, puedes continuar la ruta por una zona de bosque que te llevará hasta la zona de una pista forestal (cortafuegos) que te devolverá de nuevo a un camino en donde podrás emprender la ruta que te llevará hasta la cima del Pico Fontañán (dificultad media, pero sin ningún peligro) o te permitirá volver a la localidad de Nocado de Gordón dando por finalizada tu visita a la zona.



3) Ascensión al Pico Fontañán.

Si has decidido continuar hasta la cima del Pico Fontañán, deberás continuar por el camino que asciende a la cima. La ruta es fácil de identificar y solo debes seguir el camino que asciende a la cima y seguir las indicaciones que te irás encontrando. Caminarás por una zona arbolada y de bosque de hayas y robles, hasta que llegará un punto en el que la vegetación se despejará, accediendo a la ladera de la montaña por una zona de pradera, siguiendo la ascensión por un sendero que te llevará directamente a la cima del Pico Fontañán.



4) Pico Fontañán – Trincheras, Búnkeres y Casamatas

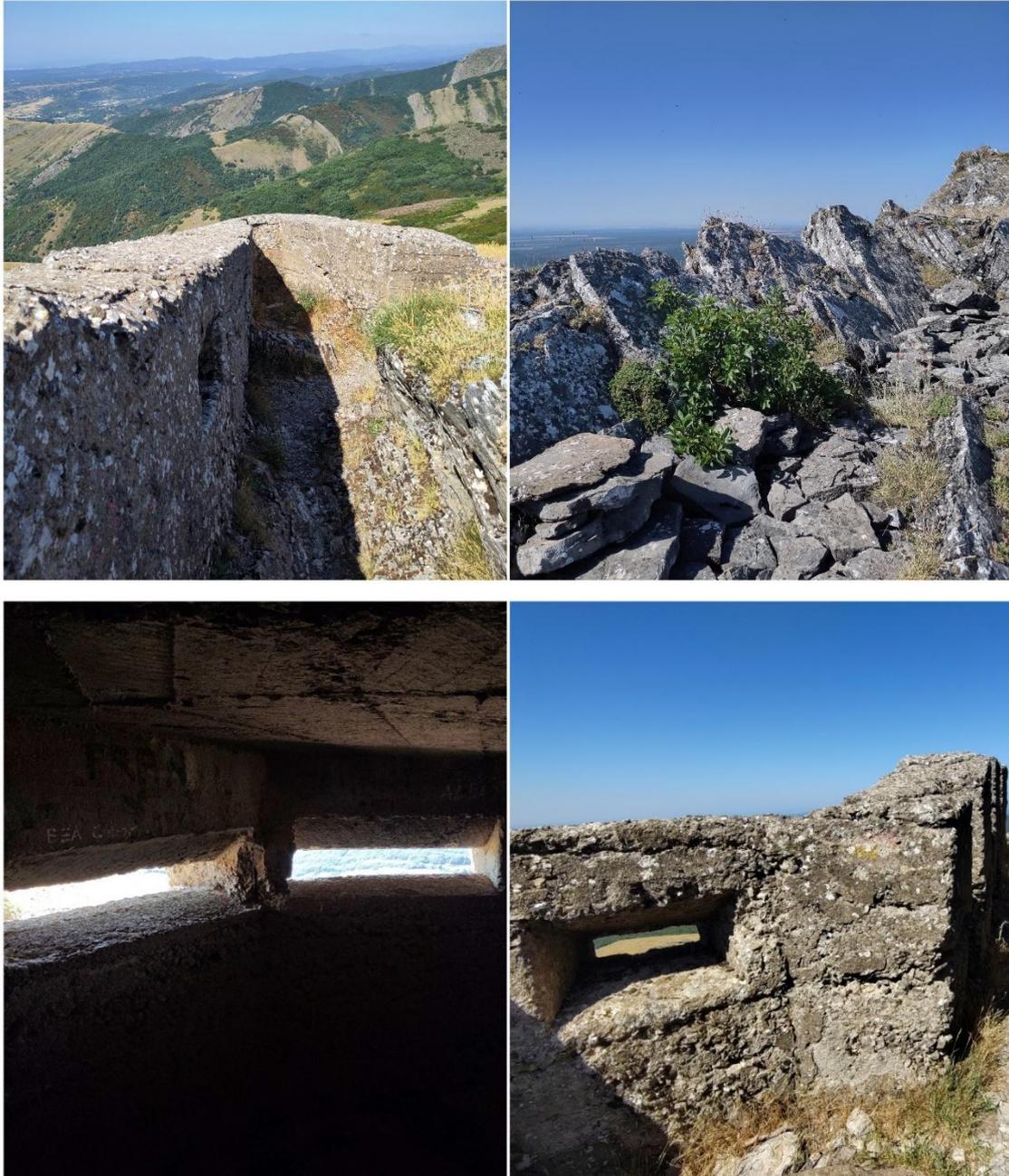
Bienvenidos a la cima del Pico Fontañán, a 1.629 metros de altura, uno de los puntos estratégicos más importantes del frente norte durante la Guerra Civil Española. Desde aquí se puede comprender la combinación de estrategia militar, historia y naturaleza, que hace de este lugar un espacio de memoria histórica democrática.

Fortificaciones y arquitectura militar:

La posición de Fontañán fue concebida para proteger un pelotón de militares y permitir el uso seguro de un arma automática, como una ametralladora Hotchkiss, capaz de resistir impactos de artillería y bombardeos aéreos. El nido de hormigón, con varias troneras, estaba diseñado para emplear una sola ametralladora orientable según las necesidades, controlando el valle por el que discurren la carretera y el ferrocarril desde León.

Para reforzar la defensa, el nido estaba acompañado por trincheras y parapetos blindados, desde los que los fusileros podían hacer fuego y lanzar granadas defensivas en caso de un ataque directo. El lugar estaba pensado para maximizar la defensa y la supervivencia de los soldados.

Las fortificaciones del Pico Fontañán son un ejemplo claro del arte de aprovechar el terreno para el combate, usando los accidentes naturales de la montaña para dificultar el avance enemigo y proteger a quienes defendían la posición. Los accesos y galerías también permitían moverse a cubierto y descansar en zonas protegidas, un aspecto vital durante los meses de frente activo.





Contexto histórico:

El Pico Fontañán, situado en la zona norte montañosa de la provincia de León (España), fue un enclave estratégico durante la Guerra Civil Española (1936–1939) dentro del Frente Norte. En los primeros momentos del conflicto, entre 1936 y 1937, el ejército republicano estableció en esta área una línea defensiva destinada a frenar el avance de las tropas franquistas hacia Asturias, como parte de un sistema de resistencia frente al golpe de estado militar. En la cima se conservan trincheras y búnkeres que testimonian este pasado. Estas fortificaciones fueron ocupadas por el bando republicano, cuya misión era defender el valle del Bernesga y frenar el avance de las tropas sublevadas hacia Asturias. Las posiciones se mantuvieron activas durante meses y representan la resistencia de quienes lucharon por la legalidad republicana, protegiendo carreteras, vías férreas y pasos estratégicos. Hoy, estas estructuras nos ayudan a entender cómo se vivió la guerra en este territorio y nos invitan a reflexionar sobre la importancia de conservar la memoria histórica, recordar a quienes defendieron la democracia y aprender de los errores del pasado.

La zona pasó posteriormente al control del bando nacional tras la ocupación del pueblo de La Robla y de las alturas circundantes, incluido el Fontañán, el 31 de julio de 1936, una vez superada la resistencia republicana, estableciéndose después una guarnición permanente.

5) Descenso hasta el punto de partida en Nocedo de Gordón

Desde la cima del Pico Fontañán, solo tienes que deshacer el camino que has hecho hasta llegar al punto en el que tuviste que decidir previamente si acabar la ruta o continuar a la cima. En este punto solo tendrás que seguir el camino que desciende la montaña, siguiendo las indicaciones que te llevarán de nuevo al punto de partida en la localidad de Nocedo de Gordón.



Reflexión Final

Hoy, estos restos nos recuerdan que la historia no solo se cuenta en libros: la tierra y la roca conservan la memoria de quienes vivieron y defendieron este territorio. Conocer este lugar nos ayuda a comprender los hechos de la Guerra Civil, a recordar a las víctimas y a aprender la importancia de la democracia y la convivencia pacífica.

Desde una perspectiva de memoria histórica democrática, esta ruta invita a reflexionar sobre las consecuencias del golpe de Estado, la guerra y la posterior dictadura. Los restos defensivos de Nocedo de Gordón y el Pico Fontañán no glorifican la guerra, sino que ayudan a recordar a las víctimas, comprender el pasado y defender los valores democráticos y los derechos humanos. Convertir estos espacios en rutas educativas es una forma de resignificar el territorio, transformándolo en un lugar de aprendizaje, reflexión crítica y compromiso con un futuro más justo y en paz.

CONCLUSION

This educational resource has been developed by the **REFORE NETWORK: Youth Network for Recovering the Forgotten Remembrance project**, a European initiative coordinated by the Auryn Association (León, Spain), which works in collaboration with a network of partner organisations committed to education, european remembrance and youth participation. This network includes Association Intercultura (France), Associazione Culturale Link (Italy), La Víbria Intercultural (Terrassa, Spain) and Associação para a Igualdade Aequalitas (Portugal).

Este recurso educativo ha sido elaborado con el proyecto **REFORE NETWORK: Youth Network for Recovering the Forgotten Remembrance (Red de Jóvenes para Recuperar la Memoria Olvidada)**, una iniciativa europea coordinada por la Asociación Auryn (León_España), que trabaja en colaboración con una red de organizaciones socias comprometidas con la educación, la memoria histórica y la participación juvenil. Forman parte de esta red Association Intercultura (Francia), Associazione Culturale Link (Italia), La Víbria Intercultural (Terrassa_España) y Associação para a Igualdade Aequalitas (Portugal).

Call: CERV-2023-CITIZENS-REM

Type of Action: CERV-LS

Project name: REFORE NETWORK: Youth network for Recovering the Forgotten Remembrance

Acronym: REFORE NETWORK

Number: 101143887



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