

MONUMENTAL TOUR



The medieval quarter **La Vila** was declared of **National Historic Artistic Interest** in 1974 and offers a quiet walk along its narrow streets that still conserve Arab connotations. This way, we can discover buildings of great civil and religious interest: **Sant Roc's door**, the first doorway opened in 1256 by the Christians; the **Palace of la Vila or the Duchess of Almodóvar** (XVth century) of gothic style; the **Church of Saint Mary** (XIV-XVIth century) built on the ruins of the old mosque; its **bell tower** (XVIIth century) considered the highest of the Valencian Community; the **Puríssima Chapel** (XVIIth century); **Mossén Vidal's House** (XVIIIth century) and the remains of towers and **city walls**, squeezed into the actual buildings, belonging to the stronghold from the first Christian centuries.

In the suburbs we can find interesting buildings such as: the **Old Bridge** (1501), **Jordà's house** (XVIIIth century) and other houses with porches, the **Old Town Hall** (XVI-XVIIIth century), the **Palace of Count of Torrefiel** (XVII-XVIIIth century) or actual Town Hall; the **Old Courts or Old "Almudín"** (barn for grain) (XVIIth century); the **church of Saint Michael** (XVI-XVIIIth century); the **Puig's house** (XVIIIth century) that is the Municipal Library nowadays; the **palace of the barons of Santa Bárbara** (XVIIIth century) where you can find the Culture house, etc.



Geographical position



TOURIST INFORMATION

✓ **Tourist Info Ontinyent**
Tel. 96 291 60 90
ontinyent@touristinfo.net
www.turismo.ontinyent.es

✓ **Tourist Info Bocairent**
Tel. 96 290 50 62

✓ **Dep. Turisme Mancomunitat**
Tel. 96 238 90 91
www.valldalbaida.com



TELEPHONES OF INTEREST

Town Hall: 96 291 82 00
Local Police: 96 291 82 01
Environment Dept. : 96 291 82 29
Hotel Kazar: 96238 24 43
Pensión Casa Roberto: 96 238 35 18
Pensión Monterrey: 96 238 12 93
Apartamento
Sant Domingo: 658 342 883
Albergue Perú: 96 292 00 54
Casa Rural de la Vila: 610 741 299
Casa Rural Morera: 692 670 560
Casa Rural Santa Elena: 96 315 20 34
Finca San Agustín: 663 882 181
Viviendas turísticas
Holidaysinvalencia: 670 416 995
Renfe Información: 902240202



A walk around Ontinyent

Ontinyent city is 360 metres above sea level, in the south-west of a valley surrounded by mountains, in the province of Valencia. This territory forms the region of *La Vall d'Albaida*, which has Ontinyent as its capital. At the moment around 37,000 people live there and the municipality has an area of 126,8 Km².



HISTORICAL SUMMARY

The historic centre has its origins around the XIth century in the foundation "hins Untinyân", a sort of Muslim fortress located in the highest part of the village. Later, Ontinyent would be incorporated into the aragonese crown in 1244. Its frontier character was instrumental in James I's decision who named Ontinyent as a Royal Village. Thanks to their developed textile industry, Ontinyent became the fourth populous city of Old Valencia's Kingdom at the end of the XVIth century. Industry that has prospered until the present time and has specialized in the manufacture of wool blankets and fabrics of great quality that are exported all over the world.





MUSEUMS



Museu Fester

The most representative and out-standing pieces of our Fiestas of Moors and Christians are exhibited inside it: photographs, paintings, sculptures, fiesta clothes, arms, posters, programs, furniture, books and other curiosities. Tel: 962380252. Opening times: Saturday & Sunday from 11 to 13:30 h.



Archaeological Museum of Ontinyent and la Vall d'Albaida (MAOVA)

It houses a collection of archaeological pieces, most of them coming from the own region, covering from the end of the Palaeolithic period to the modern time. Tel: 962911955. Opening times: Tuesday to Saturday from 18 to 21 h.



Museu del Tèxtil Valencià

It shows a collection of different objects dating from the 18th century up to our days, which narrate the different handcrafted processes of the textile production. Tel: 962916090. Opening times: Tuesday to Saturday from 9 to 13:30 & Monday to Friday from 16:30 to 19 h.



"Gegants i Cabets d'Ontinyent" Exhibition

The historical figures of Giants & Fatheads can be visited in the Palau de la Vila. On the one hand, the six Giants which represent the three cultures that lived side by side in the Middle Ages. On the other hand, the Fatheads are inspired by characters of the golden age of American cinema. Tel: 962916090. Opening times: Tuesday to Saturday from 9 to 13:30 & Monday to Friday from 16:30 to 19 h.



LANDSCAPE ITINERARIES

In the municipality of Ontinyent there are several **signposted itineraries** for hikers: GR-7, PR-121, PR-122, PR-306, SL-9, SL-19 and other environmental footpaths that invite us to discover and to know our surroundings:

The **Pou Clar**, declared as a **Natural Place of Interest**, is the fluvial area's most important and keeps high natural and scenic values. The river Clariano is made up of a series of wells excavated into the calcareous rock by water erosion, creating a singular scenery of rounded shapes and calm layers of water.

From the *Pou Clar*, following the road to Fontanars along the "Umbria", we get to the **Fuset** nature area. Once a farming estate it has been reconverted for diverse recreational usages. Continuing along the same path we can visit the **font of Gamellons** amongst its green and leafy surroundings. Infrastructures and services make this an ideal place to camp and pursue outdoor activities. From this point you can start out on excursions to other springs: *la font del Nano*, *la Simeta* and *la Dueña*.

Another recreational area to be enjoyed is **Sant Esteve**. Situated at 780 metres on the Serra Grossa, you can see the western side of the Vall d'Albaida and the neighbouring areas of Villena and Caudete. The spot is presided over by the hermitage (XVIIth century).

The landscape can be complimented with outdoor activities which are available through local businesses; for example rock-climbing, mountain-bikes routes, tyrolean traverse or hot-air balloon rides. Ask for more information.



FIESTAS

Ontinyent celebrates its **Moors and Christians** Fiestas every year at the end of August, in honour of "Santísimo Cristo de la Agonía". The city, re-enacts from 1860 the Christian conquest of the village made by Jaime I in the XIIIth century and the battles against the Muslim troops. In all the events, and specially in the "Entrà" (the entrance of the troops), factors of great popular attraction come together: the liking for the drama, the fancy dress, the music and the noise of the gunpowder that make these celebrations of **National Tourist Interest**.

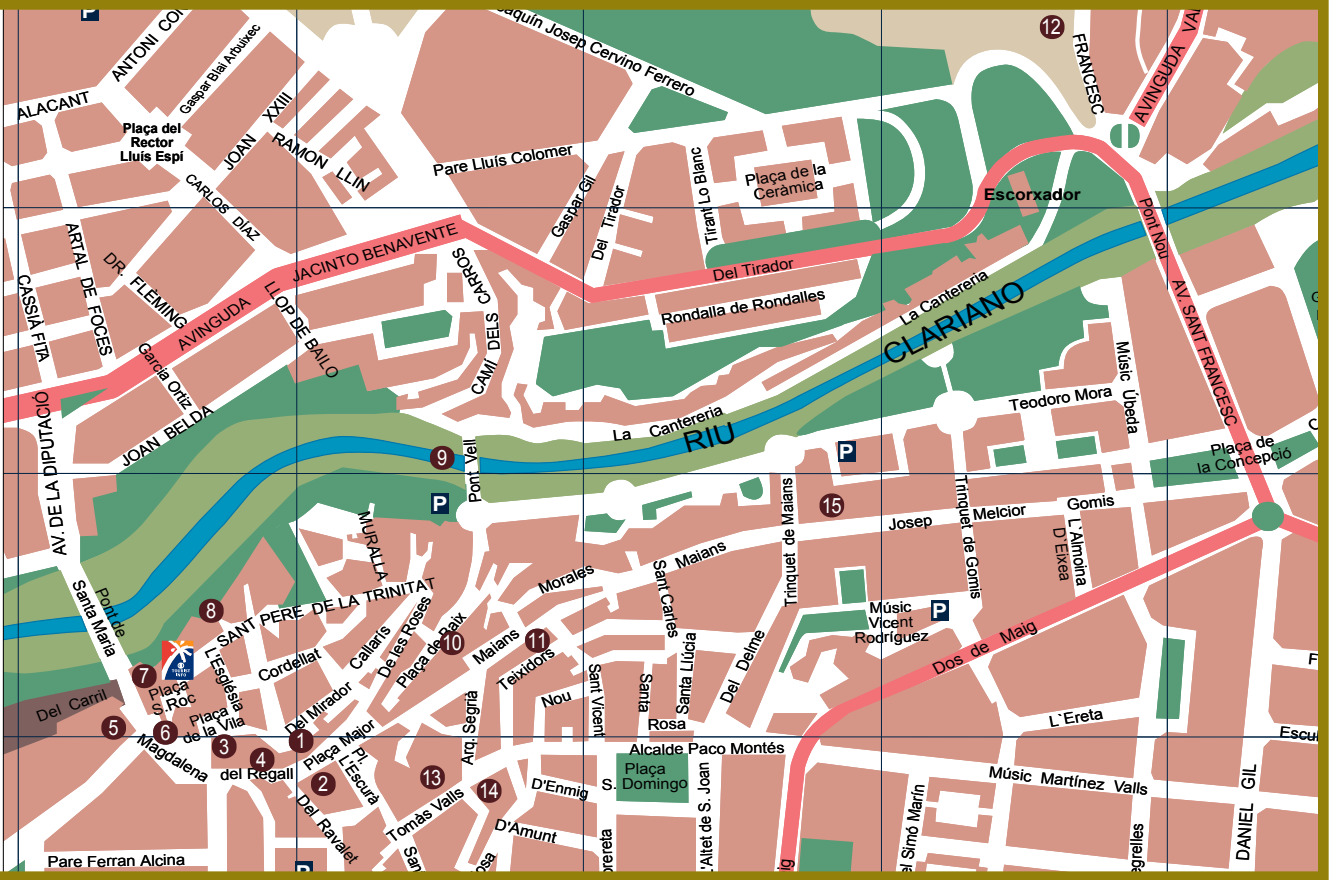


With a long calendar of events between November and December, the **Puríssima** Fiestas (our patron saint) have a tradition that has existed since the XVIIth century. We can point out religious events like *els Angelets* (little angels) and the *Ofrena* (Offering flowers to the Virgin) and popular and well-attended events like the *Bou en corda* (bull baiting), *els Gegants i Cabets* (Giants and Fatheads) and the traditional dances of the *Arquets*, *Cavallets*, *Veta*, *Moma i Pastorets*.



Moreover, quarters and hermitages contribute to enlarge the fiestas calendar throughout the year: *San Antonio Abad*, *Semana Santa* (Holy Week), *Festa del Cúgol*, *Sant Esteve*, *Camí dels Carros*, *San Rafael*, *Llombo*, etc.

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1. Casa del Consell or Old Town Hall
 2. Palace of Count of Torrefiel (Town Hall)
 3. Church of Santa María, Purísima Chapel and Bell Tower
 4. Archeological Museum
 5. Carmelite Convent
 6. Medieval entrance door of Sant Roc
 7. Palace of la Vila y Museo Textil
 8. City walls over the river
 9. Pont Vell (Old Bridge)
 10. Museu Fester
 11. Palace of the Barons of Santa Bárbara (Culture House)
 12. Museum of Natural Sciences (Franciscan Convent)
 13. Church of San Miguel
 14. Puig's House (Library)
 15. Cultural Centre Caixa Ontinyent



CUISINE

The cuisine of Ontinyent is characterised by using the basic ingredients that play a part in Mediterranean cuisine: the wheat of the pancakes, the oil of the pastries, the grapes of wine of great quality from *els Alforins*, etc. All the traditional dishes are associated with the celebrations and fiestas: *cassola al forn*, *l'arròs amb fesols i naps*, *la cassola de Quaresma* (Lent), etc. The cold meats of Ontinyent are well-known, mainly the blood sausages, fruit of the traditional slaughter of the pig. Among the fruits of our fields the melons are famous and as products with Moorish roots we have the *monjàvines* and *panfigol*. Confectionery in Ontinyent, handmade elaborated, has always been very well-known and appreciated. We can point out the *yemas de huevo* (yolk) *al fondant*, *las tortas celestiales* (celestial cakes), *las empanadillas de boniato* and *calabaza* (with sweet potato and pumpkin), *los carquinyols*, *el turrón de gato*, *el pastel de gloria* (glory pie),... Other traditional products are *l'arrop i tallaetes*, *el membrillo* (quince jelly) and *los pastelitos de mistela*.

