



Church of San Pablo

Interior of the Aljafería Palace

A heritage that *speaks of coexistence*

The Mudéjar architecture of Aragon is a style that is unique in the world. It was born from the encounter between Islamic and Christian traditions, giving rise to an original artistic language that is now part of World Heritage.

In 2001, Zaragoza was included on the UNESCO World Heritage List as part of the declaration of the Mudéjar Architecture of Aragon, consolidating the universal value of an exceptional legacy. In the city, this heritage is expressed in an extraordinary way through three emblematic monuments: La Seo, the Aljafería Palace and the Church of San Pablo.

Each one represents a different period, function and way of understanding the city, yet they all share the same essence: a heritage that tells the story of centuries of coexistence, cultural exchange and master craftsmanship. Exploring these three sites means discovering the history of Zaragoza through brick, ceramics, plasterwork and light. It means understanding how a city is built by bringing cultures together.

ZARAGOZA *THE CITY WHERE EVERYTHING HAPPENS*

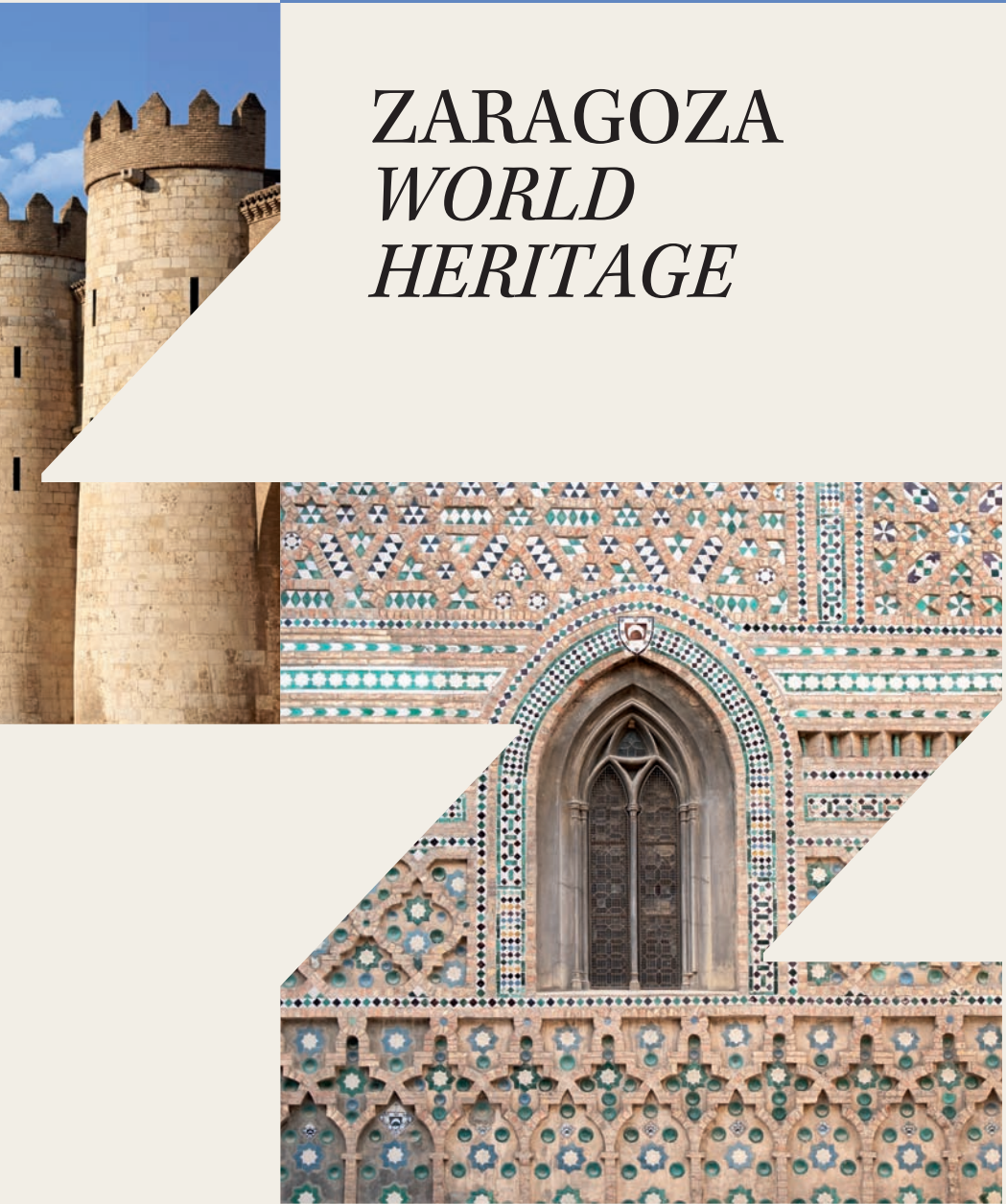


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Organización
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Arquitectura mudéjar de Aragón
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ZARAGOZA *WORLD HERITAGE*





The **Tapestry Museum of La Seo** houses one of the finest collections of Flemish school tapestries in the world. Due to its richness, quality, rarity and age, it is one of the great treasures of Spanish heritage.

Exterior wall of the Cathedral of the Salvador (La Seo)
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THE CATHEDRAL OF SAN SALVADOR - LA SEO

The **Cathedral of San Salvador, known as La Seo**, is one of the most emblematic examples of Mudéjar architecture in Zaragoza and one of the city's great heritage jewels. Located next to Plaza del Pilar, it forms part of Zaragoza's monumental heart and brings together centuries of history within a single building.

La Seo is striking for the coexistence of different styles and for the richness of its architecture. However, two elements reveal the mastery of Mudéjar artisans in an exceptional way: the lantern tower and the exterior wall of the Parroquieta.

It is impossible not to stop and admire the lantern tower of La Seo, one of the great masterpieces of Aragonese Mudéjar. Its presence above the cathedral complex, its volume and its decorative treatment make it a work of enormous artistic and visual value.

Beside it, the exterior wall of the Chapel of San Miguel, known as "the Parroquieta", commissioned by Archbishop Lope Fernández de Luna in the 14th century as a funerary chapel, offers one of the most striking images of Zaragoza: a spectacular architectural tapestry of brick and glazed ceramic in green and white tones, rich in symbolism and the result of extraordinary craftsmanship.



Giuseppe Verdi's famous opera ***Il Trovatore*** — 1853 — is set in Zaragoza's Aljafería Palace, specifically in its oldest area, the Troubadour Tower. The plot is based on a play by Antonio García Gutiérrez, inspired by legends of love and revenge set in this historic 15th-century location.



THE ALJAFERÍA PALACE

The **Aljafería Palace** is one of Zaragoza's great monuments and the northernmost Islamic fortress in Europe. Its historical and artistic value makes it an essential place for understanding the evolution of the city and, in particular, the origin and development of Aragonese Mudéjar.

The Aljafería is a magnificent testimony to Muslim Saraqusta, but also one of the places where the continuity between Andalusian art and later Mudéjar architecture can best be appreciated. Its walls, courtyards, arcades and halls reveal the overlapping of cultures that defines Zaragoza's history.

Alongside the splendour of the Islamic period, with the Courtyard of Santa Isabel as the palatial centre, the Christian period incorporated some of the most interesting Mudéjar features of the complex. Wooden ceilings, plasterwork, decorative arches, galleries and geometric motifs reflect the mastery of Mudéjar artisans and the fusion of Islamic tradition with Christian courtly uses.

Especially significant is the Palace of the Catholic Monarchs, where brick, carved wood, plaster and rich ornamentation clearly reflect the Mudéjar language. The Aljafería does not merely preserve traces of this style: it is one of the key places for understanding the richness, continuity and uniqueness of Mudéjar architecture in Zaragoza and Aragon.



"**El Gancho**" is the name by which both the Parish Church of San Pablo and its neighbourhood in Zaragoza are known. The name comes from an old symbolic object similar to a hook, linked to the pilgrimages to the hermitage of San Blas. Over time, this object lost its practical function, but it continued to lead the processions of the parish and of Corpus Christi.



THE CHURCH OF SAN PABLO

The **Church of San Pablo** completes the trio of Zaragoza monuments declared World Heritage Sites and is one of the great jewels of Aragonese Mudéjar. Known as the "third cathedral of Zaragoza", it stands out for its monumentality, artistic richness and strong connection with the San Pablo neighbourhood.

Its most emblematic feature is the octagonal brick tower, a true Mudéjar masterpiece. Its verticality, geometric decoration and combination of brick and glazed ceramic reflect the survival of techniques of Islamic tradition adapted to the Christian world.

The climb up its 157 steps allows visitors to appreciate the tower's structural solidity and master craftsmanship, as well as to enjoy a magnificent panoramic view of the historic quarter.

Inside, chapels, altarpieces and elements from different periods coexist with the Mudéjar language, which gives the complex its distinctive personality and makes San Pablo one of the finest examples of this style in Zaragoza.