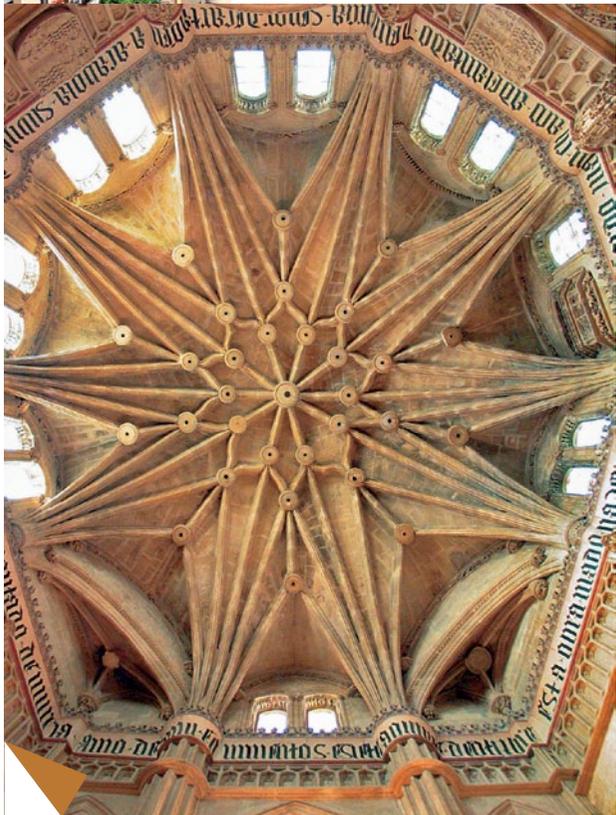




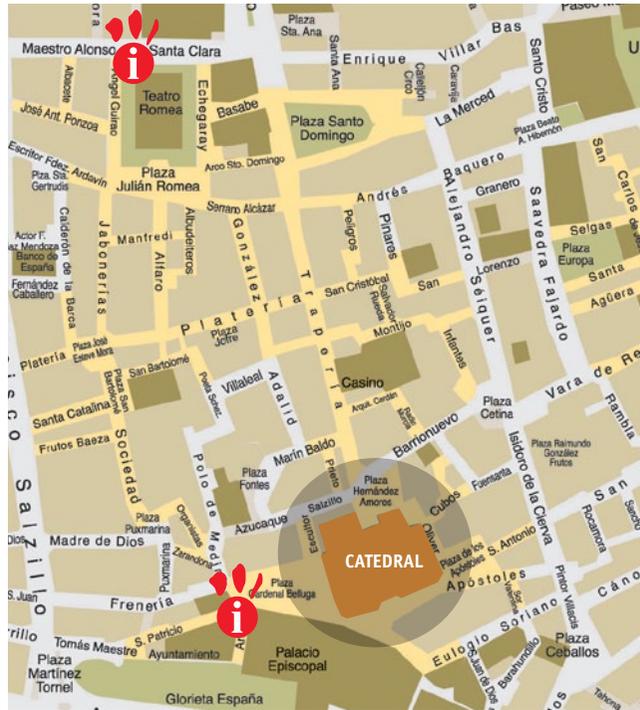
The CATHEDRAL OF MURCIA epitomises more than 600 years of art history. Its construction, on the site of the city's Great Mosque, began in 1394 and was concluded in 1462, the year when its vaulted roof was completed. From that date until the end of the 18th century, a number of alterations and additions were made to the structure, and the building we see today incorporates several artistic styles.

Stellar vault of the Vélez Chapel



CATHEDRAL
 Monday to Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (July and August from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
 FREE ENTRANCE Tel: 968 216 344

CATHEDRAL MUSEUM
 Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (July and August from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)
 Sundays and public holidays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 Closed on Mondays.
 GUIDED TOURS: 968 219 713



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THE CATHEDRAL OF MURCIA



DEPÓSITO LEGAL: MU-47-2013

EXTERIOR OF THE CATHEDRAL

The most impressive feature of the exterior of this cathedral is its main façade. Built in the baroque style, and possessing a uniquely monumental beauty, it is entirely dedicated to the Virgin Mary, to whom the church is consecrated. Divided into two horizontal planes and three vertical sections, for it was conceived as a stone altarpiece open to the plaza, the central part ends in a great curved moulding that accommodates the sculpture of the Assumption of the Virgin.

At the base of each one of the vertical sections a door opens onto each of the church interior's three naves. The central door, known as the Door of Forgiveness, is only opened during the most solemn great occasions. The Door of Chains, in the Plateresque style, and the Door of the Apostles, in the florid Gothic style, form the other entrances to the church, on its northern and southern walls, respectively.

Adjoining the façade is the bell tower, the emblematic feature of the Cathedral of Murcia and symbol of the city. It was built between 1521 and 1793, and the three sections of which it is composed exhibit different styles, from the renaissance first section to the neoclassical cupola.

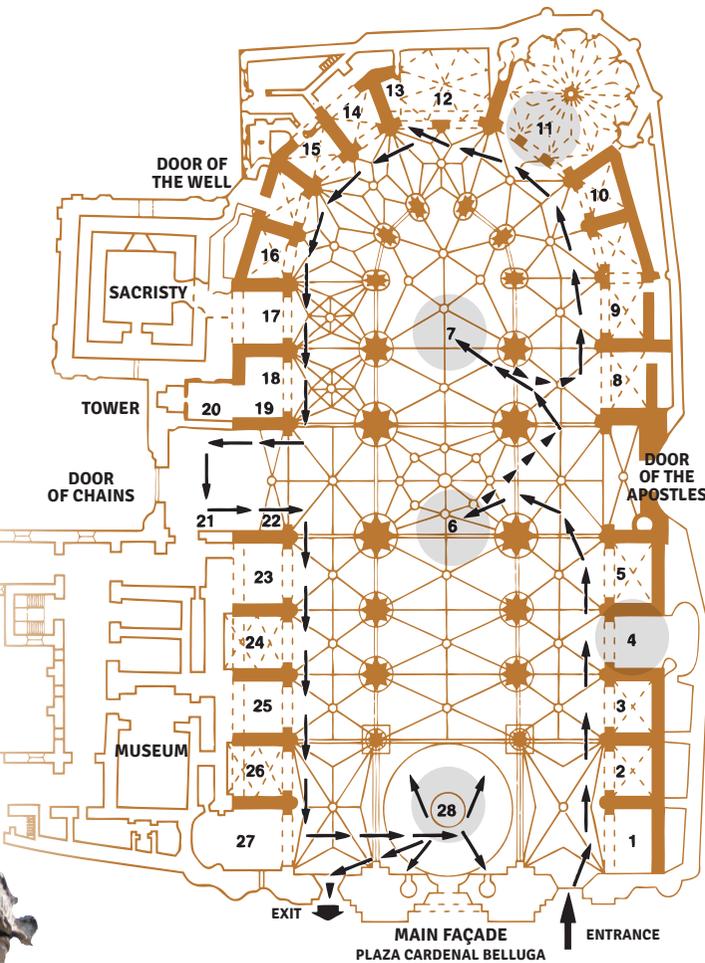
- Entry via plaza Cardenal Belluga
- 1 Chapel of the Transfiguration
- 2 Christ of the Miracle Chapel
- 3 Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 4 Junterones Chapel
- 5 Chapel of Saint Joseph
- Door of the Apostles
- 6 Choir and organ
- 7 Main Altar. Saint Mary

- 8 Chapel of Saint John of Nepomuk
- 9 Chapel of Saint Denis, Bishop of Paris
- 10 Chapel of Christ of Mercy
- 11 Vélez Chapel
- 12 Chapel of Saint Anthony
- 13 Chapel of Our Lady of the Incarnation
- 14 Chapel of Our Lady of Succour
- 15 Pilar or Comontes Chapel

- Door of the Well
- 16 Chapel of Saint Mary Magdalene de Pazzi
- 17 Sacristy Door
- 18 Chapel of Saint Andrew
- 19 Chapel of Saint Bartholomew
- 20 Chapel of Christ of Solace
- Door of Chains
- 21 Virgin of the Milk Altarpiece
- 22 Saint Christopher Altarpiece

- 23 Chapel of Our Lady of Solitude
- 24 Chapel of the Nazarene
- 25 Chapel of Blessed Andrés Hibernón
- 26 Chapel of Saint Ferdinand
- 27 Baptismal Chapel, or Chapel of Succour
- 28 Retrochoir, Immaculate Conception
- Exit via plaza Cardenal Belluga

Tour for those visiting the CATHEDRAL



Junterones Chapel



Main Altar

INTERIOR OF THE CATHEDRAL

The interior is composed of three Gothic naves with an ambulatory and twenty-three chapels. The chapels are dedicated to the patron saints of the guilds and to the interments of bishops and nobles who promoted or supported the construction.

The ambulatory contains the Gothic jewel of the cathedral, and perhaps the most frequently-visited of its chapels. This is the so-called **Vélez Chapel (11)**, built as a family mausoleum for the Chacón Fajardo family. In the southern wall is the renaissance chapel popularly known as **Junterones (4)**, commissioned by the protonotary apostolic of Pope Julius II, and also designed as a place of interment.

The **Main Chapel (7)** is considered a royal chapel, for it contains the remains of Alfonso X of Castile. The altarpiece we see today dates from 1863 and replaced the original renaissance design, which was destroyed by fire. The chapel is closed off with splendid grille work produced during the late 15th century. Opposite, another similar gate opens on to the **Choir (6)**, brought from San Martín de Valdeiglesias and donated by Queen Isabel II to replace the original. Above the choir is the organ, built by Joseph Merklin and one of the most important examples of such work created in 19th century Europe.

At the foot of the church we find the Retrochoir and the Counter-Façade. **The Retrochoir (28)** is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, while opposite the Counter-Façade is dominated by a relief of the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple. For many, this is the most important and beautiful of the cathedral's naves.