

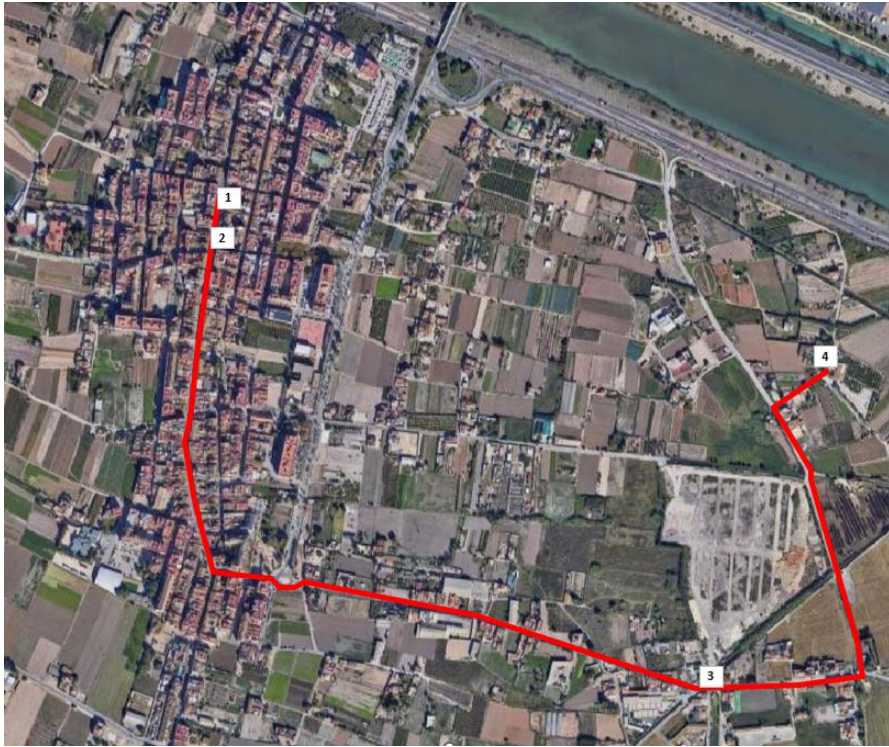


2. CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF LEPANTO

TOURIST ROUTE THROUGH SOUTHERN VILLAGES –
CASTELLAR-L'OLIVERAL

**TURISMO
DE BARRIOS**

GENERAL MAP OF THE ROUTE



LOCATION OF THE TOURIST ATTRACTION



**AJUNTAMENT
DE VALÈNCIA**

HISTORIA

The construction of the Parish Church of Our Lady of the Rosary of Lepanto began in 1862, according to the minutes of the Ruzafa City Council, and was completed in 1869, although additional construction elements were added until its final completion in 1914 (**photos 1, 2, 3, and 4**).

Converted into a parish in 1902, this church became the focal point around which the residential nucleus of Castellar expanded, also serving as the religious center of the area, which had various farmsteads and scattered houses throughout the surrounding territory.

During the Spanish Civil War, this location was used as a warehouse, leading to the deterioration and disappearance of various altarpieces, paintings, and furniture from its interior. For this reason, it had to be restored after the conflict, with the restoration concluding in 1947, a date that appears on the lintel of the main entrance.

During the patron saint festivities, dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary and Saint Martin de Porres, multiple activities take place, culminating in the procession in which all the parish brotherhoods participate, led by the image of Mare de Déu del Rosari, and the well-known "Cant de la Carxofa" (**photos 6 and 7**), a tradition dating back in the town to at least 1885, where a wooden artichoke hanging from the church ceiling opens and a child recites poems to the image of Christ of the Refugio. This tradition's origin is similar to other interpretations of medieval theater in the former territories of the Crown of Aragon, such as the "Misteri d'Elx" or the "Cant de la Sibil·la."

Regarding its construction, the church has a Latin cross-shaped floor plan with three naves: a central nave with a barrel vault divided into three sections and two smaller side naves with chapels and vaults decorated with frescoed painted pendentives. There is also a dome on pendentives crowned by a lantern. Finally, there is a visible brick bell tower on one side and the remains of another unfinished bell tower on the opposite side.

The facade is of a classicist style, while the interior leans towards Baroque, highlighting the plasterwork, gilding, and ornamental richness of the interior altarpieces.

It was declared an Asset of Local Relevance in 2015 in the "Catalogue of Protected Assets and Spaces" of the General Urban Plan of the city of València.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Address: Plaça de la Mare de Déu de Lepant, 17

Telephone number: 963 96 20 18

ACCESSIBILITY

Access: Church square accessible with lowered pedestrian crossings, church entrance with a slight step.

Parking: The nearest reserved parking area for people with reduced mobility (PMR) is located at Vicente Puchol Street, 11, with an accessible route to the church.



PHOTO 1. The main square of Castellar with the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary of Lepanto in 1921



PHOTO 2. Main facade of the church in the present day



PHOTO 3 and 4. Views of the church in the present day from different angles





PHOTO 5. Interior of the church (photo: Nuestra Señora de Lepanto parish Facebook page)



PHOTO 6 and 7. Historical image of the "Cant de la Carxofa" and current representation (photos: amicsdelacarxofa.es)

