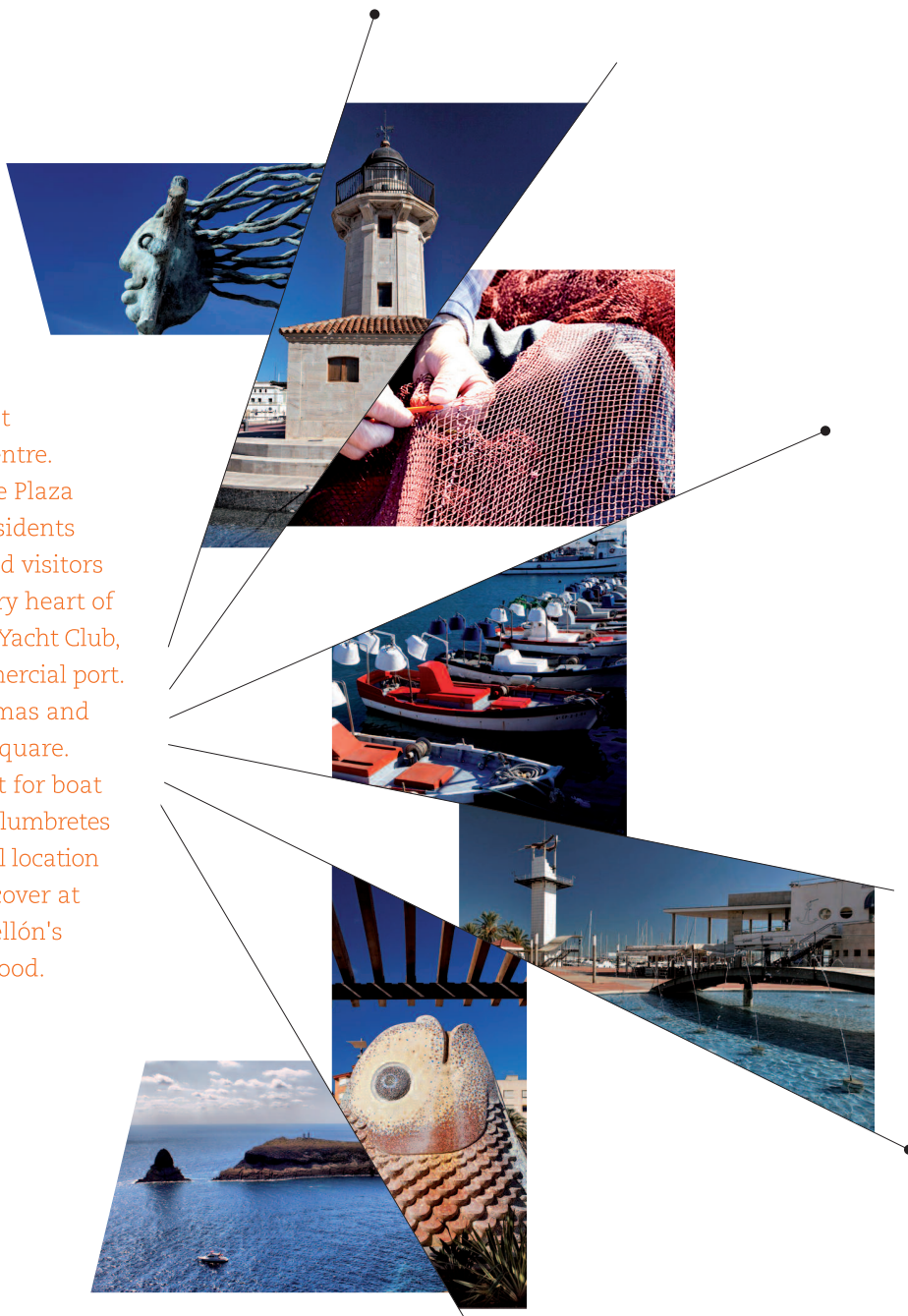




El Grao, Castellón de la Plana's coastal district, is a gateway to the sea situated just four kilometres from the city centre. Its principal attractions include Plaza del Mar, a meeting point for residents of this district, city dwellers and visitors alike. This square forms the very heart of El Grao, together with the Royal Yacht Club, the fishing docks and the commercial port. Restaurants, shops, pubs, cinemas and hotels all huddle around this square. This is also the departure point for boat trips along the coast or to the Columbretes Islands. And naturally, its coastal location makes it the ideal place to discover at first hand the delights of Castellón's gastronomy and delicious seafood.



Caste llón

Grao
de
Castellón

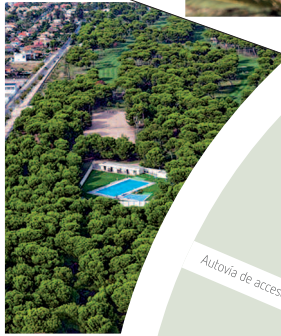
routes around Castellón



Grao de Castellón

CASTELLÓN PINAR

The pine forest, known as El Pinar, was the principal source of firewood or wood used to build the traditional barracas until severe deforestation led to the regulation of this activity. Today the forest is used exclusively as a leisure park. The park takes its name from the abundance of Aleppo pines. It is a highly popular venue for cultural and social activities such as the *Harley Davidson* concentration, one of the largest in Spain.



EL GRAO DE CASTELLÓN DEPUTY MAYOR'S OFFICE

Before the Spanish Civil War, this building housed the port union offices. After the war, the building was taken over by the new regime and assigned to the Spanish Falangist Movement. In the 1950s, it was transferred to the City Council, who used it to house the Deputy Mayor's Office.



MUSEU DE LA MAR

The Museu de la Mar aims to contribute to the conservation of Castellón's fishing and maritime heritage. The museum houses exhibits and photographs related to the Port of Castellón and its activities, as well as the fishing industry in the Columbretes Islands.



CASAL JOVE

This building is home to the Municipal Youth Centre and a hive of culture and leisure activities targeting young people. As a multidisciplinary space, the Casal Jove building can cater for all types of artistic, cultural and leisure projects organised for Castellón's younger generations.



COASTAL PARK

This park includes a green area, the beach and sea. A large leisure space intended to recover the pine forest lining the characteristic beach dune ridge. A walk on the beach offers exotic scenes of palms, trees and dune vegetation, dotted with spectacular sea views.



THE PLANETARIUM

This was the first building of these characteristics to be built in the Valencia Region and it plays a key role in terms of the dissemination of science. Its most notable feature is the brilliant white dome that stands out against the sea. Inside, the museum houses a Foucault pendulum, an exhibition room, a lecture theatre and the administrative offices.



CENTENARY DOCK ROUNDABOUT. RIPOLLÉS SCULPTURE.

This was one of the most important projects carried out between 2002 and 2003, as part of the actions to commemorate the Port of Castellón's hundredth anniversary. The monument is formed by a former jetty, built at the end of the 19th century and which was discovered during the archaeological dig carried out at the Coastal Quay, and a bronze sculpture, the work of artist Juan Ripollés.



EL GRAO LIGHTHOUSE

This tower, which became operational in 1917, originally stood over 15 metres above sea level. In 1967, Castellón was assigned a greater geometric range, requiring the construction of a new, 25 metre high tower. The original tower was restored and transported stone by stone to the Coastal Quay where it now forms part of the landscape in this recreation area.



PUERTO AZAHAR

Situated on the Coastal Quay, facilities in this recreation area include restaurants, multi-screen cinemas, a children's playground and a flight of steps leading directly down to the sea. Overlooking the moorings in the Marina, for most of the year this is El Grao's most popular tourist spot, especially during summer nights.



MORUNO BUILDING

A Moorish-style building standing in Plaza del Mar. It currently has a two-fold function as the headquarters of the Port Castelló Foundation (APROA) and as a venue for exhibitions and presentations, etc.



CHURCH OF SAN PEDRO

A relatively recent building dating back to the Post Civil War period and designed by Vicente Tomás Traver. It has a rectangular floor plan and a single nave, divided into four sections plus a side chapel in the transept. There are a number of additional side chapels that were originally connected but which have now been closed off from one another. The overall impression is reminiscent of the forms and volumes associated with Valencia's Baroque churches.

