

VALENCIA SURVIVAL GUIDE

1. ABOUT VALENCIA

Valencia is the third biggest city in Spain, with an approximate population of 800.000 habitants, and the double including the population beyond the limits of the city. Valencia is located in the East coast of Spain, being part of the Mediterranean sea.

Valencia is worldwide known by the architecture of “*City of Arts and Sciences*”. But Valencia is much more, it is a city with a very rich history, from Roman’s time to present, that in one moment of its story arrived to be the capital of the kingdom of Aragon, one of the kingdoms base of the modern Spain.

Valencia is a relative big city in Spain, but the most important areas in Valencia can be easily identified to have a general orientation in the city.

In a first approach, we can say that Valencia is divided by the old river *Turia*, now converted in a long and beautiful garden crossed with a set of interesting bridges, architecturally and historically. The garden finishes with the “*City of Arts and Sciences*”, as shown below.



To orientate the most relevant bridge is the Aragon’s bridge, that connect Aragon’s Avenue with the Marques del Turia Avenue, two very important avenues; the first one located in the North side of the river, and the second one in the South side, being a very commercial avenue.

The South side is the first expansion of the city (Eixample, Russafa, Extramurs and Patraix), and the old city. The old city is very relevant to do tourism, is the most beautiful and classic part of the city with places like North Station, Central Market and Longa, the City Hall Square, the Queen Square and the Virgin Square and the old doors of the city. To go shopping and drink something you can go to Colon Street and El Carmen respectively.



The North side includes Blasco Ibañez Avenue and the Universities Area, which is adapted to the students with lots of pubs and cheap restaurants. At the East, taking the Port's Avenue, we can arrive to the Malvarrosa's beach, with a lot of restaurants where we can eat a good... and expensive paella. The city is very flat and very good for bike riding. You can rent a bike from the Valenbisi public service, which depending on the time that you dispose can be a good or bad idea, because it is a little expensive to use it in short term. If you have time, it is a perfect way to enjoy and discover the city. Furthermore, Valencia has bus and metro service.

2. TYPICAL SPANISH AND VALENCIAN FOOD

The food in Spain has a huge variety, and this includes the regional food of Valencia. Spanish people have their meals later than other Europeans. This is the Spanish eating timetable: breakfast may be between 7:30 and 9:00; lunch is between 13:30 and 15.00; and dinner is within 21.00 and 22:30. Cuisine is an important key in the Spanish culture development. There are many typical dishes depending on the year periods and the region where you are. Some of the main dishes you can find around Spain are:

- **Paella:** Although it is typical on the Valencian Mediterranean coast, you can have paella everywhere. The original Valencian Paella is mainly made of rice, chicken, rabbit and green and white beans. There are different variations of this receipt with seafood. The definitive fact about paella is the pan where it is cooked. It is a short and flat pan, and it is mandatory to cook in a wood fire or in a gas heater, which must cover all the pan.



- **Gazpacho:** It is the perfect food for summer. It is a soup made from tomatoes, pepper, cucumber, onion, garlic and olive oil. The most important thing is that it must be served cold! It is used as refreshment during the hot days in July and August.
- **Tortilla de patatas:** Maybe one of the most known and delicious Spanish dishes. It is an omelette made of potatoes, eggs and onion.
- **Jamón:** It is a kind of cured ham that we use to eat with bread. Any time is good to taste such delicious meat. It is one of the most appreciated meal for foreigners. A good piece can reach very high prices.
- **Tapas:** You cannot forget the tapas. These are little portions of food that you get for free in some bars when you order a beer. Before lunch or in the beginning of the night, people go out from bar to bar drinking and eating tapas.
- **Horchata:** The best cold drink you can have. It is also typical Valencian. It looks like milk, but it tastes much better.



And of course... **SANGRÍA!!!** It is a drink made with wine, lemonade and pieces of different fruits. In Valencia, also exists a typical drink called "**WATER OF VALENCIA**". It is made with gin, vodka, orange juice, champagne and orange juice.

3. MOVING AROUND VALENCIA

Valencia is a city with almost one million inhabitants. Its location and geographical characteristics, together with its weather, make it comfortable to move around on foot or by bike. Besides, the city also counts on public transport services that make it easy to go to places.

○ **Metrovalencia**

Valencia counts on an underground service, including both tube and tram, which connects several points in the city and its nearby towns. You can buy the tickets in almost every underground station; there are ticket machines: you need to select the type (single, return, daily, 10-bonus) and areas (A-B-C-D). It is important that you plan your journey in advance, so that you can check the schedule, the price zones, and other details in the service's webpage.



Despite there are several means of transport in Valencia, the underground, which is called "Metro" in Spain, is the cheapest and fastest way to get to the meeting point. But be careful! Underground only works between 6:30 am and 23:30 pm. If you have to travel in the night (from 23:30 pm to 6:30 am), you can take a taxi with a cost between 6 and 7€ around the city; and 20€ to arrive to the airport.

Here you can check the Valencian Metro network:

http://www.metrovalencia.es/descargas/pdf/PlanoRed_Metrovalencia_no_viembre2016.pdf

○ **EMT**

The *Empresa Municipal de Transports* (EMT) is a bus net that also vertebrates the city. Apart from buying single tickets on the bus, you can also buy bonus of all kinds in corner stores and other establishments.



You can learn about the prices at the service's webpage:

<http://www.emtvalencia.es/ciudadano/index.php?lang=en>

○ **Valenbisi**

The city counts on a bicycle service that lends its bikes up to half an hour for free (after the payment of a weekly fee of 13,30€ or an annual fee of 25€ and the acquisition of a card). Valenbisi net spreads



throughout several points in the city. Also, there are numberless kilometres of bike lane. For more information, have a look at the service's webpage:

<http://www.valenbisi.com/>

4. CLUBS-WHERE TO PARTY?

Valencia is a big city which offers a lot of options to party. You can find all kind of clubs/pubs with different type of music. Here a selection of the most famous clubs of the city is presented:

- ✓ **Mya** : Right next to the famous City of Arts & Sciences, Mya offers three different music rooms that varies from EDM to pachanga and hip-hop. (Address: Avinguda de l' Autopista del Saler, 5, 46013 València)
- ✓ **La3** : One of the most famous electronic club. It is perfect for those who want to run away from mainstream parties and try something different. (Address: Carrer del Pare Porta, 3, 46024 València)

- ✓ **Agenda Club** : Within the two rooms of Agenda Club you can listen to Disco, Funk, Hip-Hop, House and the best electronic music in town.
(Address: Av. de Blasco Ibáñez, 111, 46022 València)
- ✓ **Rumbo 144** : Located in the university area of Blasco Ibanez, Rumbo offers the best Hip-Hop & RnB in town.
(Address: Av. de Blasco Ibáñez, 144, 46022 València)
- ✓ **Le Premier** : You can enjoy EDM, pachanga, hits and electronic music right next to the city center.
(Address: Carrer d'Eduard Boscà, 27, 46023 València)
- ✓ **Indiana** : Located in the heart of the city of Valencia, Indiana offers crazy nights of fun and dance moves.
(Address: Carrer de Sant Vicent Màrtir, 95, 46004 València)
- ✓ **Nylon** : The club offers two different styles of music: pop rhythms and indie on one side, deep house, house, electronic and UK Garage on the other side.
(Address: Gran Via de les Germanies, 31, 46006 València)

5. CURRENCY AND PRICES

Since 2002, Spain is using the Euro. For those who are not familiar with it:

- Bank notes fractions are: 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5 €
- Coin fractions are: 2, 1, 0.50, 0.20, 0.10, 0.05, 0.02, 0.01€

If your need to exchange money, you can do it specially in the touristic areas or in a bank. You can also bring your credit card and get € in the ATM. There are a lot of ATM machines in the streets. You can use the most common cards: VISA, MasterCard, etc.

Next table shows some average prices:

Coffe	0,60 - 1,20 €	Ice-cream	1 - 4 €
Beer (0,33 L)	1 - 3 €	Cigarettes (20 units pack)	4,50 €
Bread	0,50 - 1 €	Disco entrance	5 - 12 €
Mineral Water (0,50 L)	0,75 - 1,50 €	Drink in a disco	4 - 9 €
Lunch	6 - 12 €	Shot in a disco	1 - 4 €

6. EMERGENCY

Here you can find the emergency contacts if needed:

ALL EMERGENCIES: 112

- Police: 091 or 092
- Firefighter brigade: 080
- Ambulance: +34 963-67-73-75
- Foreign office information (in English): +34 902-123-212
- Red Cross: +34 963-677-375

7. TIPS OF SPANISH

English	Spanish
Hello	Hola
Good morning	Buenos días
Good afternoon	Buenas tardes
Good evening/Good night	Buenas noches
Good bye	Adiós
How are you?/Fine, thanks	¿Cómo estás?/ Bien, gracias
My name is...	Mi nombre es...
I am ... years old	Tengo ... años
Thank you	Gracias
You are welcome	De nada
Yes/No/Perhaps	Si/No/Quizás
Excuse me	Perdone
How much does it cost?	¿Cuánto cuesta esto?
Could you show me that, please?	¿Me podría enseñar eso?
I want this	Quiero esto
My size is...	Mi talla es...
Where is the toilet, please?	¿Dónde está el lavabo?
The bill, please	La cuenta, por favor
Entrance/Exit	Entrada/Salida
Emergency exit	Salida de emergencia
I want a beer/ mineral water/tee/coffee	Quiero una cerveza/agua mineral/té/café
What time is it?	¿Qué hora es?
I do not speak Spanish	No hablo español
I do not understand you	No te entiendo
I do not know	No lo sé
Where is...?	¿Dónde está...?
Straight on	Recto
Right/Left	Derecha/Izquierda
Please	Por favor
One ticket to ..., please	Un billete para ..., por favor
Luggage	Equipaje