

Castellón de la Plana

Castellón Province · Spain

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Castellón de la Plana is a coastal city on Spain's Costa del Azahar, in the Valencian Community, about 75 km north of Valencia. It has a pleasant center, a modern port area (El Grau) and long sandy beaches.

It is a relaxed provincial capital rather than a major tourist city, which makes it good value. It suits a short stay, and it is a good base for the beaches and hill towns of the region.

When to visit

Late spring and early autumn are the best seasons, with warm weather and fewer people. Summers are hot and dry, and the sea is warm from June to October. Winters are mild.

The Magdalena festival in March is the biggest event, with a pilgrimage to a hermitage, parades and fireworks.

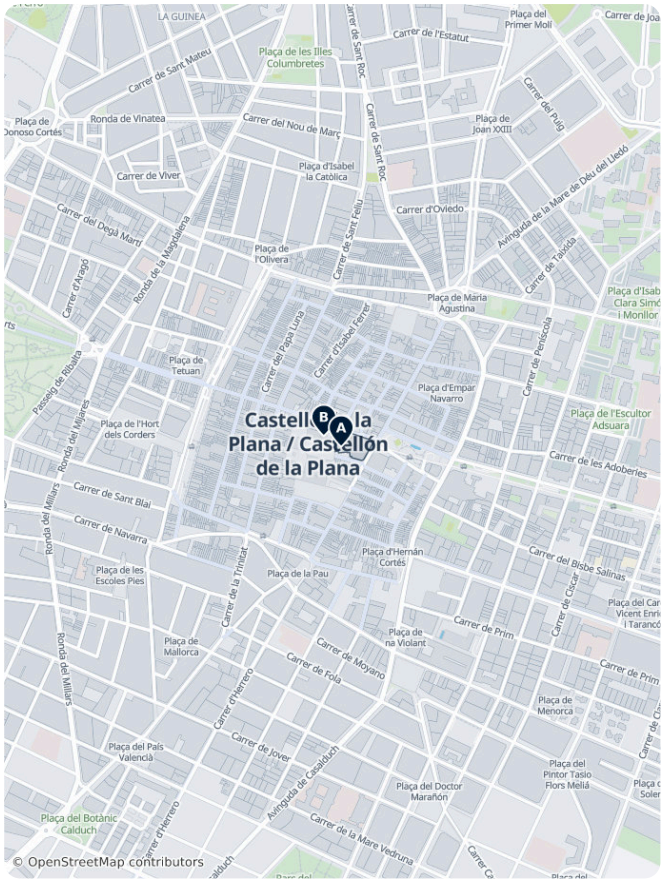
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Good Good for sightseeing	15° / 20° Feels like 11°	9° / 5°	Dry air
February	Good Good for sightseeing	16° / 20° Feels like 12°	9° / 4°	Dry air
March	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 22° Feels like 14°	11° / 7°	Dry air
April	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 24°	13° / 9°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 28°	16° / 12°	Dry air
June	Great Great for the beach	28° / 32°	20° / 16°	☀ 20 sunny days · Humid air
July	Great Great for the beach	30° / 34°	23° / 20°	☀ 23 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · UV 8 (Very high)
August	Great Great for the beach	31° / 34°	24° / 20°	☀ 20 sunny days · Muggy, humid air
September	Good Good for sightseeing	28° / 31°	21° / 17°	Humid air
October	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 28°	17° / 13°	
November	Great Great for sightseeing	19° / 24° Feels like 16°	13° / 8°	Dry air
December	Good Good for sightseeing	16° / 20° Feels like 12°	10° / 6°	Dry air

Best months: April, May, June, July, October, November

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Cocatedral de Santa Maria is the main church of the city, on the Plaza Mayor.
- B El Fadrí is an octagonal bell tower next to the church. It stands apart from the building and is a symbol of the city.
- The Plaza Mayor is the central square, with the town hall and the market building close by.
- The Basilica of Lledó is a sanctuary dedicated to the patron saint, in a park on the edge of the center.
- The Castell Vell is a ruined medieval castle on a hill to the north.
- The Magdalena Hermitage is a small chapel on a hill, and the destination of the festival pilgrimage.
- The Espai d'Art Contemporani is a contemporary art center.
- El Grau and the beaches (Pinar, Gurugú and Heliópolis) are east of the center.



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What to experience

- Spend a day on the beaches east of the city.
- Walk or cycle to the Magdalena hermitage for views.
- Try rice dishes in a restaurant in El Grau.

Day trips

- A Benicàssim (about 12 km, 15 minutes): a beach town with a long promenade and a music festival.
- B Peñíscola (about 70 km, 1 hour): a walled town on a rocky headland with a castle.
- **Desert de les Palmes** (about 20 km): a natural park with hiking trails and a monastery.
- **Columbretes Islands**: a marine reserve of volcanic islets, reached by boat in season.
- C Valencia (about 75 km, 1 hour by train): the region's biggest city.



Where to explore

Other places nearby:

- **Coast**: Benicàssim and Peñíscola.
- **City**: Valencia.

Getting there

- **By air**: Castellón airport (CDT) has few flights. Valencia airport is the main alternative, about 90 km away.
- **By train**: Trains connect Castellón with Valencia, Barcelona and the coast. Book on Renfe.
- **By bus**: Coaches run to Valencia, Barcelona and nearby coastal towns.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The center is flat and compact. The beaches are a few kilometers from the center.
- **Cycling**: The city is flat, and bike lanes link the center with the beaches.
- **Public transport**: City buses and a tram-like bus line link the center with El Grau and the beaches.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The center is flat and compact, and the beaches are a few kilometers away.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

The city is flat, with bike lanes to the beaches.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not for the city. A car helps for the hill towns and the northern coast.
- **Parking**: Use an underground car park in the center.
- **Restrictions**: Parts of the center are pedestrian only.

Food & drink

Castellón's food is Valencian, with rice dishes at the center. Paella, *arroz al horno* (baked rice) and *fideuà* (a noodle dish like paella) are common, and seafood from the port is fresh.

Oranges and other citrus fruits grow in the surrounding plain.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Churros · Churros con Chocolate
Fried dough sticks served with a thick, dark hot chocolate for dipping — a classic Spanish breakfast or late-night snack.

LUNCH

Paella Valenciana
A saffron-scented rice dish cooked in a wide, shallow pan. The traditional Valencian version uses chicken, rabbit, and green beans — best eaten at midday.

Gazpacho
A cold, blended soup of raw tomatoes, cucumber, pepper, garlic, olive oil, and vinegar, originally from Andalusia. Served as a drink or a starter, especially in summer.

DINNER

Pulpo a la Gallega
Boiled octopus sliced onto a wooden board and dressed with olive oil, coarse salt, and smoked paprika — a signature dish of Galicia.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Jamón Ibérico
Dry-cured ham from acorn-fed Iberian pigs, sliced paper-thin and eaten on its own or with bread. The finest grade, jamón ibérico de bellota, is one of Spain's most prized products.

Tortilla Española
A thick potato and egg omelette, served warm or at room temperature, found in virtually every bar in Spain. Often eaten as a tapa or a quick meal.

Patatas Bravas
Fried potato chunks served with a spicy tomato sauce or aioli — one of the most common tapas across the country.

Pintxos
Small snacks anchored to slices of bread with a toothpick, the Basque Country's answer to tapas. Found in bar counters across San Sebastián and Bilbao, often with elaborate toppings.

Croquetas
Crispy breaded cylinders with a creamy béchamel filling, typically made with jamón, bacalà (salt cod), or mushrooms.

DRINKS

Rioja Wine · Vino de Rioja

Spain's best-known wine region produces full-bodied reds from Tempranillo grapes, aged in oak. The crianza, reserva, and gran reserva labels indicate increasing age and complexity.

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Safety & health

Castellón is a safe city. Summer heat is strong, so wear sun protection and drink water. Take care in the sea when red flags are shown.

History

The city was founded in the 13th century, when the Christian king James I moved the population from a hill fort to the plain. It grew as an agricultural center, based on oranges and the port.

It became the capital of its province in the 19th century, and it is now a ceramic-tile industry and university center.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Spain at a glance:

CURRENCY

EUR €

EMERGENCY

112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES

Spanish

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Castelló de la Plana Essentials

Castelló de la Plana centers on the historic Plaza Mayor, where the Gothic Co-cathedral of Saint Mary stands alongside El Fadrí, a distinctive 16th-century octagonal bell tower. The city's architectural landscape includes the 18th-century Baroque Town Hall and the neoclassical Teatre Principal. Cultural highlights range from the traditional Mercat Central, housing over 60 food stalls since 1949, to contemporary spaces like the Espai d'Art Contemporani. Monuments throughout the center, such as the statue of King James I, reflect the city's medieval foundations and Mediterranean history.





A Castelló Co-Cathedral

The Co-cathedral of Saint Mary is the cathedral of Castelló de la Plana, located in the comarca of Plana Alta, in the Valencian Community,...

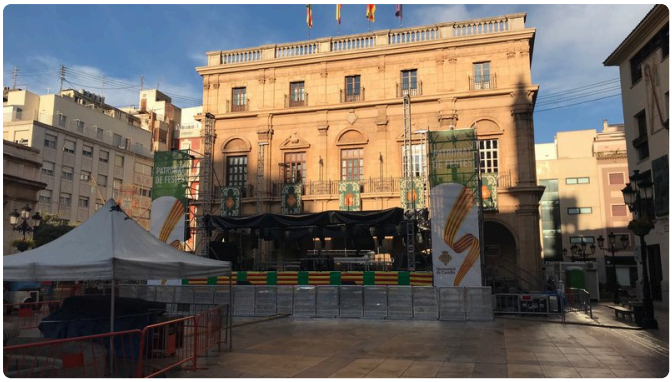
33 Plaza Mayor, Castellón de la Plana 12001, Spain
(39.98601, -0.03699)



B El Fadrí

El Fadrí, also known as the Fadri Tower, is a standing alone bell-tower of the Gothic procathedral Castelló Cathedral of Castellón de la...

14 Plaza Mayor, Castellón de la Plana 12001, Spain
(39.98619, -0.03738)



C Ajuntament de Castelló de la Plana

18th-century Baroque building on Plaza Mayor featuring Tuscan pilasters and arched balconies. It serves as the city's administrative headquarters.

5 Plaza de la Pescadería, Castellón de la Plana 12001, Spain (39.98607, -0.03799)



D Mercat Central

Traditional food market inaugurated in 1949, housing over 60 stalls selling fresh local produce, meats, and Mediterranean seafood.

Plaça Major, 12001 Castelló de la Plana (39.98558, -0.03751)

+34 964 236 803

E Llotja del Cànem

Cultural venue and exhibition space used for showcasing contemporary art and regional history.

(39.98642, -0.03703)

uji.es/cultura/base/espais-culturals/llotja-del-canem/

F Real Casino antiguo de Castellón

Located in Puerta del Sol, this 18th-century palace was remodeled in 1922 with modernist details. It functions as a historic social club and restaurant.

2 Calle de Enmedio, Castellón de la Plana 12001, Spain (39.98455, -0.03885)

realcasinoantiguo.es, +34964223500

G Teatre Principal

Neoclassical theater opened in 1894, featuring a horseshoe-shaped hall and a diverse program of performing arts including drama and music.

1 Calle de Ximénez, Castellón de la Plana 12002, Spain (39.98338, -0.03842)

ivc.gva.es/es/ivc/programacion-ivc/teatro..., +34 964723602



H Monument a Jaume I

Bronze statue honoring King James I of Aragon, who granted the city its foundation charter in the 13th century.

12 Plaza del Huerto Sogueros, Castellón de la Plana 12001, Spain (39.98602, -0.04067)

I Espai d'Art Contemporani de Castelló

Modern art center focused on temporary exhibitions, multimedia installations, and contemporary cultural research.

(39.98273, -0.03438)



J Minerva Paranoica

Modern sculpture and monument located in the urban center.

16 Plaza de Tetuán, Castellón de la Plana 12001, Spain
(39.98740, -0.04046)

DATA SOURCES

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