



- 1. Labyrinth
- 2. Barbican
- 3. Drawbridge entrance on pit
- 4. Defensive tower
- 5. Primitive starry castle steps
- 6. King Battery
- 7. Watch window
- 8. Medieval burials
- 9. Gateway to the barracks
- 10. Viewpoint over counterfort
- 11. Queen Battery
- 12. Romanesque relief
- 13. Possible trace of the castle
- 14. Access by labyrinth
- 15. Access from the hill
- 16. Access by elevator from the Botanical Garden



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Schedule:
June 1 – September 30
From Tuesday to Sunday, from 10:00 to 14:30 and from 17:00 to 20:30 h.
October 1 – May 31
From Tuesday to Sunday, from 10:00 to 14:00 and from 16:00 to 18:00 h.

Monday closed

Preregistration guided tours



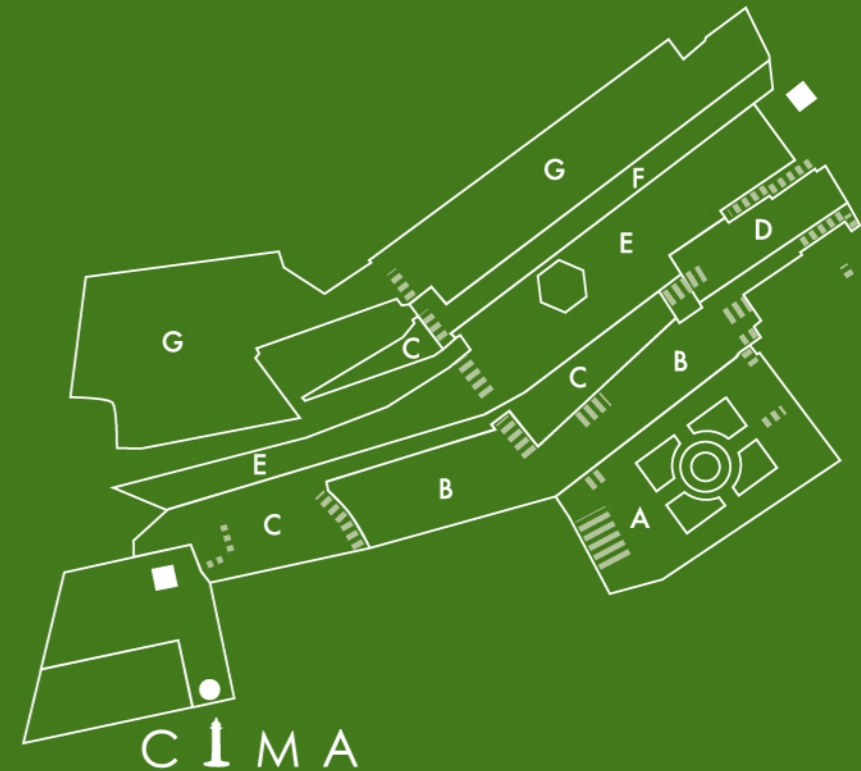
Text and Design: Gabinete Municipal de Comunicación
Watercolors: José Urizar

Mira y Anda

GUIDES TO KNOW MIRANDA DE EBRO



Castle and Botanical Garden



- A. Rosebushes terrace
- B. Fruit-trees terrace
- C. Aromatics and spice plants terrace
- D. Cactus terrace
- E. Mediterranean terrace
- F. Climbing plants terrace
- G. Autochthonous terrace
- Elevators



Castle from bank of the Ebro

The Castle of Miranda has been witness, and sometimes protagonist, of the eventful local history since the end of the 15th century. Its birth is placed in the context of the appropriation of the villa by the Salinas Counts, nobles who were interested in controlling this strategic location, which was a key between their south domains and the ones they had in Alava. Pedro Sarmiento ordered to build the fortification of the old Santa María Church, placed at the Hill of La Picota, with the intention of having a well protected watchtower that let him control the passing of goods through the Ebro River and especially control the lucrative trade of salt. His plan was frustrated by the royal power, and his son Diego would be the one who relocated the temple at the low part of the villa and built the original castle, finished by 1480. For decades Count's abuses and demonstrations of robbery followed, he did not hesitate to force, by exemplary punishments, the neighbourhood to collaborate in his project.

Three centuries after, in 1772, this castle would be property of the Crown, when it won a memorable lawsuit against the Duke of Híjar, its owner at that time because he married into the family of the fortress' owners. The castle was not used for military functions and its damage was accelerating. In its enclosure there were the communal barn and corral. It would be in the 19th century when, in the context of the wars against the French and the Carlist Wars, it recovered its military function; therefore it would be recovered and fortified once again. It was auctioned in 1897 by the State and was acquired by the City Council. In 1903, it was in ruins and was partially demolished. Ten years later, water tanks were erected in its plot to supply the population. During decades the traces of such an important element in Miranda's history were covered by weeds and soil. Its recent restoration means the city's brush with its past. Historians, archaeologists and experts have collaborated in these works co-financed by European and municipal funds, rescuing this asset from the abandon; it was declared to be of Cultural Interest in 1949.

Barbican



Botanical Garden terraces

The Botanical Garden is at the heart of the historical and monumental centre of Miranda de Ebro and it stands on the Hill of La Picota, next to the city's castle. In this privileged place, this beautiful and original botanical garden of 2.400 metres of extent is placed. We find the origin of the usage of this space as a vegetable garden in the 16th century. It sits on the site of the old vegetable garden of the Encío's Palace which was donated by this family in 1925 to the Religious Congregation of the Handmaids of Jesus. They ruled it until 1989, when they left the city, and then the Encío family would rule it again. The Miranda City Council acquired this land in 1990 and made here the Botanical Garden. The works of creating the garden lasted until 1998 and were made by the School-Workshop who respected its peculiar terraced distribution. Its initial 1.324 square metres let intend its seven terraces for the creation of differentiated environments, which grouped about five hundred plant variety, each one identified with a plaque. In 2004, an adjacent land was acquired and this let build new areas called "of transition" and a

ramp system that improved the accessibility to the ensemble.. Nowadays, here there are represented more than seven hundred varieties from the five continents that are organised in seven spacious terraces. The Terrace of "La Rosaleda" (The Rose Garden) (A) presents a collection of miniature varieties, bushy (hedgerow) and climbers; the Terrace of Fruit Trees (B) collects herbaceous specimens, bushy and arboreal like pomegranate trees, cherry trees, ziziphus... that grow next to perennial plants. In the Terrace reserved to Aromatic Plants (C) we meet species traditionally used in our environment (lavender, oregano, liquorice...) that contrast with the exotic collection of Cactus (D) placed nearby. The Mediterranean Terrace (E) has rosebays, laurel, palm trees, willows and "Snowball" bushes (viburnum); in the Trained Vine Terrace (F) there are vines, ivies, clematis and the beautiful hydrangea petiolaris; and at the upper level, in the Terrace of Native Plants, (G) there are placed hazelnut trees, holly trees, rockroses and heathers. The spaces denominated "of transition" enrich the collections that are in the different areas.

Aubrieta

