

# *a heritage of* **MONUMENTS**



**Tierra Bobal**

*Donde el bosque abraza al viñedo*

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1 Colección Museográfica Raúl Gómez

FUENTERROBLES

2 Museo de la Vida Rural y Etnográfica

CAUDETE DE LAS FUENTES

3 Colección Museográfica Luis García de Fuentes

UTIEL

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5 Almázar. Museo de la Miel y la Cera

6 Bodega Redonda-Museo de la vid y el vino de la Comunidad Valenciana

CHERA

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REQUENA

8 San Nicolás-Museo de Arqueología del Vino

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- INFORMACIÓN

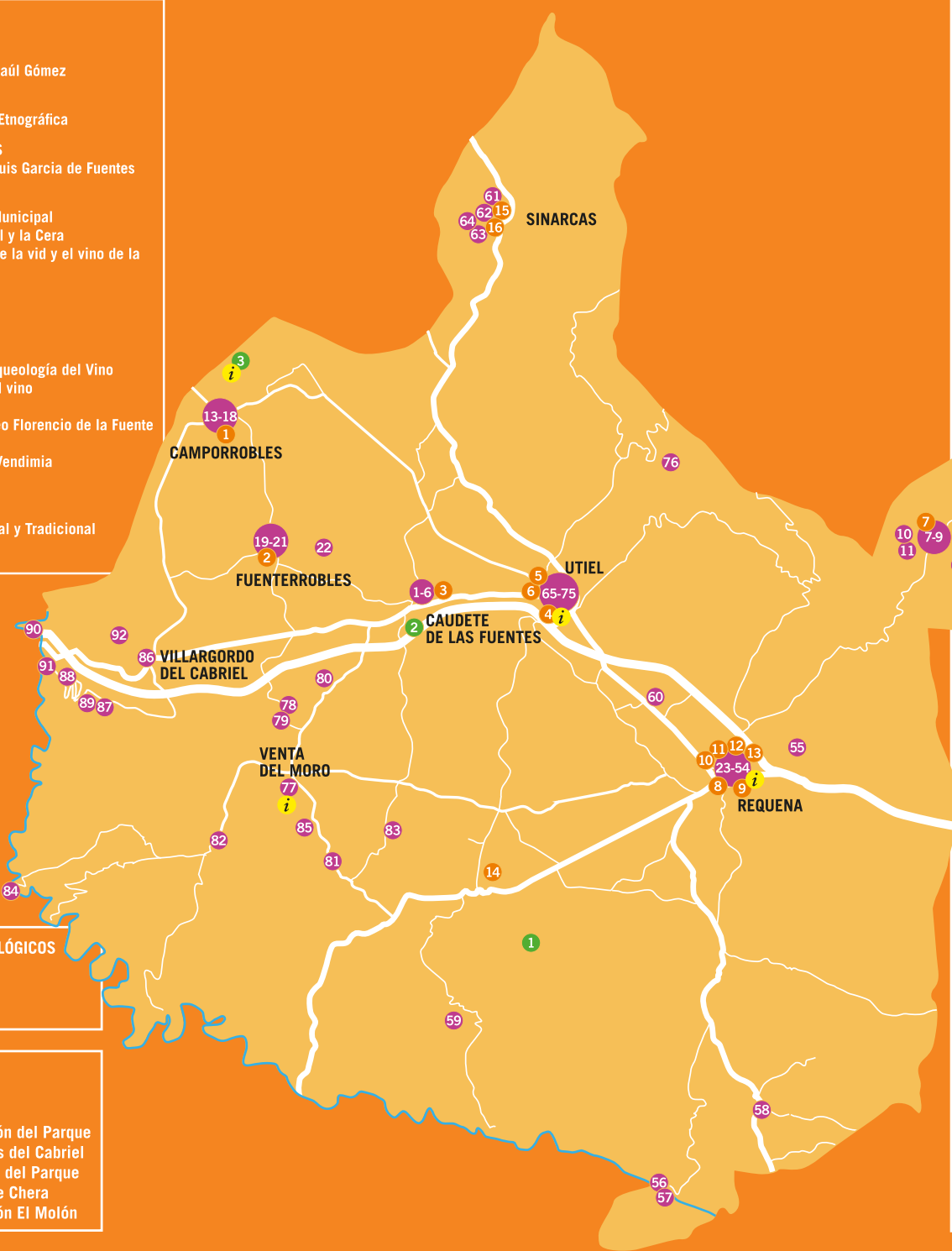
Tourist Info Requena

Tourist Info Utiel

Centro de Interpretación del Parque Natural de las Hoces del Cabriel

Oficina de Información del Parque Natural Chera-Sot de Chera

Centro de Interpretación El Molón



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CHERA

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37 Plaza del Albornoz

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85 Puente de la Vía

- VILLARGORDO DEL CABRIEL

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# Tierra Bobal

A region of wine and forests that extends through the municipalities of:

**Camporrobles**

**Caudete de las Fuentes**

**Chera**

**Fuenterrobles**

**Requena**

**Sinarcas**

**Utiel**

**Venta del Moro**

**Villargordo del Cabriel**

What we propose is that you let immerse yourself in our culture, the culture of wine. In our ancient villages. In our crystal-clear rivers. Less than an hour from the city of Valencia, on the border between the plateau of Castile and the mountains of the coast, you will find Tierra Bobal.



## A heritage of monuments

Our culture includes the major monuments, as well as the alcoves of our region, our customs, and festivals. Rocks and silk, walls and castles, as well as tunnels and caverns. We have been here since before history. The Iberians, Romans and Arabs passed through our region. We have sanctuaries, Gothic, Baroque and neo-Classical churches, and hermitages in beautiful surroundings. Even a mosque.

Antique wineries that remind us that we have always been about wine, and mills, factories, wine presses and looms. A heritage of great and small things, a legacy that is perceived but cannot always be touched. We celebrate “romerías”, build bonfires for Saint Anthony and sing the “Mayos.” Along with our band of musicians, who always go with us.



# Essentials of Tierra Bobal



## A stroll through history

These lands have been inhabited for thousands of years. Iberians, Romans, Visigoths, Arabs, and Christians have left their mark. We walk in their footsteps.

## Our Origins

The archaeological sites of Kelin, El Molón or Las Pilillas recount a history of fortified settlements of the Iberians, winemaking, and trade with the plateau of Castile and the Mediterranean.

## The Virgin protect us

The entire region has a special devotion for Ntra. Señora del Remedio (Our Lady of Remedy). On September 6th, the townspeople of Utiel bring her out of the sanctuary of Utiel for the procession and celebration, only taking her back to her sanctuary on the last Sunday of October. The townspeople of Requena visit her on Easter Sunday.

## Our musical tradition

Our groups of musicians accompany us on important occasions and form part of our identity as Valencians. We have 13 musical groups that are considered Intangible Cultural Properties.

## A Gothic gem

The Gothic façade of the Annunciation on the Church of St. Mary of Requena is reason enough to visit the town. A marvel presided over by the Virgin and Child, surrounded by angels.

## This is how we were

Until recently, groups of horsemen could be seen in the streets, and the people lived life around a small round table with a blanket. In Sisternas, Fuenterrobles, Utiel or Sinarcas we preserve factories, houses, furniture, and old-fashioned implements in memory of the way things were.



# The Culture of Bobal



The “Territorio Bobal” Association for the Cultural Landscape of Grape-Growing and Wine strives to promote the culture of wine in the region and contributing to building our future. Its proposal “Wine in Iberia” has resulted in the UNESCO adding the iberian stone wine presses found in Requena, such as La Solana de las Pilillas, to the World Heritage Tentative List.

This project involves all sectors of society of the region, from local administrations and the business fabric to civil society. The main driving forces were Mancomunidad del Interior Tierra del Vino and the Regulatory Council of the D.O.P. Utiel-Requena.

For more information: <http://territorio-bobal.es/>



# Highlight

## Utiel by candlelight

Utiel by candlelight is celebrated the second weekend in June, and it combines history, art, shows, tradition, culture, traditional crafts, local cuisine, and wine: its highlight is the lighting of more than 50,000 candles in the streets and façades of Utiel. This is Spain’s oldest candle celebration.

It has a history that goes back to the 18th century. More specifically, in 1765, the guild of farmers and beekeepers of Utiel, to thank the Virgin for ending the drought, lit up the church of Our Lady of the Assumption with candles. 250 years later, a small group of people decided to revive this lovely gesture, and after a short time it became a cultural landmark. Currently, hundreds of people from the municipality; associations, neighbours, people from the hospitality sector, etc. participate. The candles wound up taking over the streets and monuments of Utiel.

## Trenches of Contreras

Heritage of warfare in the midst of nature. This is a network of fortifications from the contemporary era, largely belonging to three main episodes of warfare of fundamental significance for Spain’s recent history: Spanish War of Independence (1808-1812), Carlist Wars (1846-1849 / 1872-1876), Spanish Civil War 1936-1939.

Villargordo del Cabriel



MUSEUMS



HISTORICAL MONUMENTS

You can view all the museums and historical monuments in Tierra Bobal by scanning these QR codes.

## Re-enactment of the Battle of Tollo

Our history tells that during the early morning of 25 August 1812, a volunteer brigade from Utiel under the orders of Marshall Pedro Villacampa demonstrated their courage by defeating a division of one of the most powerful armies that Europe has even known, “La Grande Armée” of Napoleon, and this happened in the highlands of Tollo.

In memory of the battle against the French army, the Historical and Cultural Association “Heroes of Tollo” organizes a singular one-day event in Utiel. On the 25th of August, the event includes a recreation of the Spanish and French headquarters, re-enactment of the skirmishes, wine tasting and handicraft markets.

## Bomb shelter from the Civil War

Right behind the Parish Church of Our Lady of the Assumption, if you go down to a depth of 9 meters, there is a labyrinth, where explanatory panels will guide visitors, and an air-raid siren that warned the population of possible bombings. Here visitors can learn first-hand about some of the difficult moments that Utiel experienced during the Civil War period.

This shelter was built in parallel to the ones located Puerta del Sol, Puerta de las Eras and in Calle Camino, all of which were destroyed at the order of Col. Manuel García Benet, who was in charge of the Utiel District.

C/Beato Gálvez, Utiel



# Legendary localities

## Utiel’s underground wine cellars

Under the ground at Utiel an impressive maze of subterranean tunnels has been preserved, many dating back to the Middle Ages, which served as shelter and storage areas over the course of the city’s eventful history. According to estimates, there are about 240 wineries in the historic centre, many of them make use of the medieval passageways to develop the wine industry, so vital to the region’s economy.

First, the raw material is extracted, the loamy clay that makes up our subsoil and was used to construct the buildings using the rammed-earth technique. This is where the large-scale wine production begins in Utiel with our local Bobal grape variety, using the hollows as wine cellars, an authentic underground labyrinth.

### Guided tours with reservations made in advance

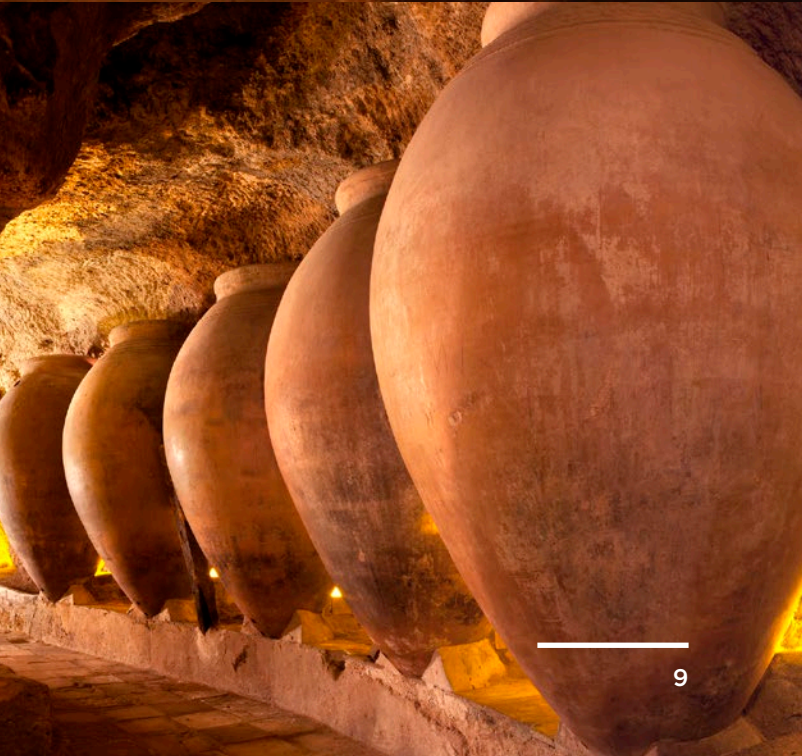
If you wish to visit the wine cellars, you must make reservations in advance with the Utiel Tourist Office, by telephone at: 962 170 222, or by email: turismo@utiel.es.

The office is open to the public from Wednesday to Sunday, mornings 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and in the afternoons 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

## Caves of La Villa

In Requena, under the Historical-Artistic Complex of Barrio de la Villa, running through the subsoil, there is a fascinating, maze-like cluster of 22 caverns, excavated during the Muslim period, which have been put to various uses over the course of their history, as dwellings, hideouts, ossuaries, silos, and wine cellars. There are wine jars dating back to the Middle Ages, which makes clear Requena’s ancestral vocation for the art of grape-growing and winemaking.

Plaza de Albornoz, 6 · 46340, Requena.  
www.requena.es/es/page/museos  
Telephone: 962 306 018





# Archaeological Sites

## Las Pilillas

(Iberian wine presses, thousands of years of grape-growing tradition)

An archaeological site of the Iberian culture from the 6th century B.C. It has been restored, providing us with information about the start of culture of wine in Tierra Bobal. This is Spain's oldest commercial wine production centre. It is included in the "Wine in Iberia" candidacy to be considered World Heritage Site by the UNESCO.

On 25 November 2011, Las Pilillas de Requena was declared a Cultural Interest Property (BIC), and it is an exceptionally valuable historic heritage. These wine presses, unique in the world, bear witness to how the custom of consuming wine began on the Peninsula when Iberian culture, one of the Mediterranean's great ancient civilizations, was just beginning.

Thanks to these wine presses, today we understand how grapevines and wine have shaped the landscape of our region, our way of working, trading and our worldview for more than 2,500 years.

Los Duques, Requena



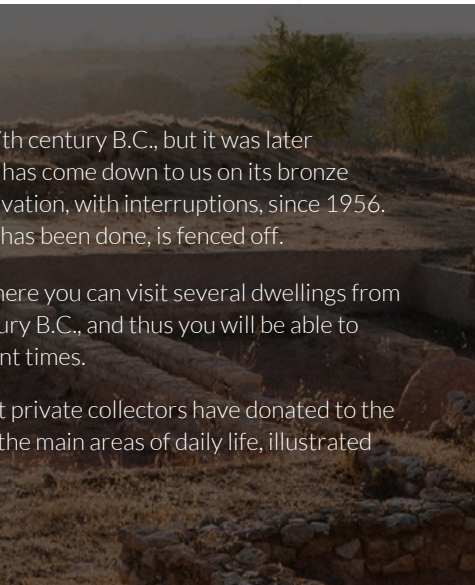
## Los Villares-Kelin

Kelin is an Iberian city whose origins can be traced back to the 7th century B.C., but it was later abandoned in the early 1st century A.D. Its ancient name, Kelin, has come down to us on its bronze coinage. The site is 10 hectares in area and has been under excavation, with interruptions, since 1956. The most elevated part, where most of the archaeological work has been done, is fenced off.

Inside the fenced area are the two excavated areas (A and B). There you can visit several dwellings from the 7th century B.C., and two more dwellings from the 3rd century B.C., and thus you will be able to appreciate the changes that took place between the two different times.

The Museographic Collection contains materials from Kelin that private collectors have donated to the municipality. The exhibition takes visitors on a journey through the main areas of daily life, illustrated with exceptional pieces.

Caudete de las Fuentes



## How to visit Kelin

The archaeological site is enclosed by fences to safeguard the ruins, but it is open to the public. Guided tours are held regularly in the summer and fall, both of the archaeological site and of the Museographic Collection. In summer, special activities are also organized, such as story-telling evenings or observation of the night sky.

Moreover, since 2004, an Open House is held during the third weekend in October, with special activities, demonstrations, and fairs where local artisanal products can be purchased. You can consult updated schedules in the social networks. Outside of these periods, it can be visited on specific dates or by making reservations in advance.



## El Molón

El Molón is an area recognized as a Micro-Reserve of Flora and Nature Site for the municipality, and a Cultural Interest Property. The archaeological site, an elevated fortified settlement, is found at the top of the hill, with evidence of occupation during three different historical periods: the Iron Age (early 7th century - late 1st century A.D.), the High Middle Ages (8th to 10th centuries A.D.) and the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939).

The juniper-covered landscape and the mountain pastures, a rare fern species known as "stag's tongue", the wall from the 4th-century B.C., one of the best preserved on the Iberian Peninsula, the Andalusian Mosque, one of the oldest complete examples in the Comunitat Valenciana.

El Molón is a natural area that is freely accessible. There are parking lots, and you can enjoy its Botanical Garden, its spring, and the picnic area, or join guided tours on the weekends organized by the Interpretation Centre (to arrange a tour, call 637 59 35 68). The Museographic Collection "Raúl Gómez", C/ Hernández Zazo no. 2, contains interesting pieces from the archaeological site.

Camporrobles  
Camino de El Molón



LAS PILILLAS



EL MOLÓN



KELIN



## You won't want to miss



### Barrio de la Villa

The most recent archaeological work dates the settlement to the Bronze Age: dwellings, amphoras and pots from the seventh century B.C. have been found. The history of La Villa is long and remains have also been found from the era of the Roman Empire and from the Arab era.

As early as the Almohad era, El Barrio de la Villa already had the typical structure of Spanish Muslim cities, since you can reach the medieval quarter through various entry gates.

In El Barrio de la Villa, the most important historical and artistic highlights include: the Gothic churches of St. Mary and of the Saviour, the Keep, the Fortress, the Centre for Higher Silk Art, the Palace of El Cid, the "Florencio de la Fuente" Museum of Contemporary Art, the Jewish Quarter and the Caves of La Villa.

**Centro Histórico de Requena 46340 Requena**  
[www.requena.es/es/content/barrios](http://www.requena.es/es/content/barrios)  
Telephone: 962 303 851

### Bobal Experiences

Wine tasting, rafting, airplane rides, historical tours...  
You decide how to enjoy Tierra Bobal.

To find out more about the experiences that our region offers you, scan the QR code, and query the information that you need.



## Where to stay and where to eat



If you travel to Tierra Bobal, you will feel a part of it even though you are from somewhere else.



### WHERE TO STAY

You can view all the options for accommodations in Tierra Bobal by scanning this QR code.



### WHERE TO EAT

You can view all the options for restaurants in Tierra Bobal by scanning this QR code.



## Tourist offices and interpretation centres

### Tourist Office of Requena

[turismorequena.es/es/page/tourist-info](http://turismorequena.es/es/page/tourist-info)

Telephone: 962 303 851

### Tourist Office of Utiel

[www.utiel.es/pagina/utiel-turismo-0](http://www.utiel.es/pagina/utiel-turismo-0)

Telephone: 962 170 222

### Cultural Interpretation Centre El Molón

[tierrabobal.es/es/espacios-culturales/centro-de-interpretacion-cultural-el-molon.html](http://tierrabobal.es/es/espacios-culturales/centro-de-interpretacion-cultural-el-molon.html)

Telephone: 962 181 006

### The Information Centre and the management office of the Cabriel Gorges Nature Park

[parquesnaturales.gva.es/es/web/pn-hoces-del-cabriel/centro-de-interpretacion](http://parquesnaturales.gva.es/es/web/pn-hoces-del-cabriel/centro-de-interpretacion)

Telephones: 963 189 222 / 639 202 112

### Information Office of the Chera Nature Park

Telephone: 961 839 610 / 606 857 028

Email: [parque\\_cherasotdechera@gva.es](mailto:parque_cherasotdechera@gva.es)



## FOR SOPHISTICATED TOURISTS

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We want to be the destination chosen by people who want to get to know us. Who want to wake up to the crowing of the rooster and knock on our door so that we can lend them a hand. We want to show them how we work the land and take them up into the mountains, on foot or bicycle. People who get out in the fresh air in summer and lunch on sausages roasted on a campfire made of grape-vine branches. Who learn how our wine is made and then enjoy a glass afterwards. Who talk to us, who ask us about our way of life and why we are the way we are. We want our region to leave its mark on them. And we want to find out where they are from and how they feel, that their visit can make us better. We want peaceful, sustainable tourism. We have long been a stop on travel routes and would like to continue to serve as a place for exchanges, chosen by engaged and sophisticated tourists who regard us with respect, just as we regard them.



You will find more information on our website: **[tierrabobal.es](http://tierrabobal.es)**