

LA MATA

The village of “els espadenyers”



**ELS
PORTS**
és Autèntic



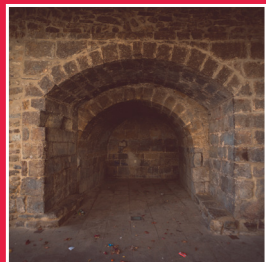
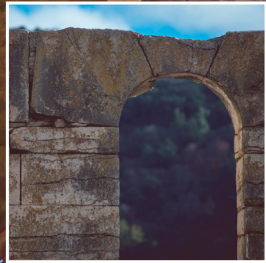
NATURE AND HISTORY

La Mata is located in a beautiful spot, crossed by the rivers Cantavieja and La Cuba and where we find lush forests of oak, holm oak and bushes, under the mountains of Tossal and San Pedro. La Mata has a rich history, still visible today through its medieval monuments, such as the stately homes Casa Palacio de los Pedro and La Figuera, the Casa Cremada, the Casa Palacio de los Vallés, the Town Hall, the Mesón de la Vila, the ice well and the Church of Nuestra Señora de las Nieves. The craft trades have also been very important throughout history and today the handmade manufacture of “espadaryes” (espadrilles) is still preserved. Outside the town centre, there are several hermitages, such as Santa Bárbara, Saint Gil -patron saint of the town- and Saint Christopher.



TOWN HALL PALACE

Site of Cultural Interest, an example of 16th century Aragonese civil architecture. The entire front is sheltered under a large carved wooden eave. Inside was the prison, the oven, which at first housed the wool market due to the great trade between Teruel and Castellón, and the town hall.



THE ICE WELL

Located in the historic centre, it was built at the beginning of the 17th century and renovated during the 18th century. The snow was collected from various 'ventisqueros' (snowdrifts) in La Mata and brought down to the huge ice well. It takes up most of the ice well's space, with thick layers of snow interspersed with layers of straw, which helped to maintain the temperature. It was then taken out through a trap door for sale and for different uses. This ice well drains into the porches of the main square, where the drainage mouth is located and a small pond from which the melt water could be recovered for reuse. Nowadays, after a careful restoration, the ice well houses the ethnological museum about the "Espardenya".



PALACE HOUSES

During the 17th and 18th centuries, La Mata was home to a large number of Valencian nobles, as evidenced by the various palatial buildings, such as the Casa Palacio de los Pedro y la Figuera, the Casa Cremada and the Palacio de los Vallés.





Vosté està aci
Usted está qui
You are here



Ermita de
Sant Gil



Punts d'interès / Puntos de interés / Interest places

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Palau de l'ajuntament
Palacio del Ayuntamiento
Palace - Town Council Building | 4 Casa Palau de los Pedro i la Figuera
Casa Palacio de los Pedro y la Figuera
House-Palace |
| 2 Museu de les Espardenyes
Museo de las Alpargatas
Museum | 5 La Nevera
Pozo de nieve
Snow well |
| 3 La Casa Cremada o La Casa dels Valle
La Casa Cremada o La Casa dels Valle
Ancestral homes | 6 Església Nostra Senyora de les Neus
Iglesia Nostra Senyora de les Neus
Church |

Serveis turístics / Servicios turísticos / Tourist services

- 7** **Mesón del Forn**
C/ Esplègia, 7
651 882 812

**CALLEJERO
LA MATA**

LA MATA

RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS

Nuestra Señora de las Nieves Church: The oldest part of the church dates back to the 16th century. A more modern construction was built in the 19th century, which can be distinguished by its mud brick construction. Its interior is of great interest for its paintings, raised choir and the combination of mosaic and the original wooden floor of the main nave.

Hermitage of Santa Bárbara: The hermitage of Santa Bárbara is 3 km from the town centre and dates back to the 17th century. In the past, a pilgrimage was made to this point and it was the site of a weekly market for the inhabitants of the farmhouses.

Hermitage of San Gil: Temple dedicated to the patron saint of the town, built in 1786. Small chapel with a portico in front with three semicircular arches. La Mata celebrates its patron saint on the 1st of September and also during the August festivities.

EL ONSO

FESTIVE TRADITION

El Onso is a unique celebration in the festive calendar. This tradition represents the end of winter and the beginning of spring. The hunters go to look for the Onso (a person dressed in sackcloth and sheepskin and with his face and hands full of grease) in the forest and take him to the village tied up. There, the Onso tries to smear the people he meets and escape. This tradition is a great popular festival and the villagers bring their cellars out into the streets.





ETHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF LA ESPARDENYA

Located in the ice well, dating from the 17th century. This medieval ice well was used to store snow and preserve foodstuffs.

Nowadays it shows the traditional craft of “espartenya” (espadrilles), typical footwear of the area.



NATURALS RESOURCES

LES CALDERETES

Natural pools that the river has formed by the passage of water over a long period of time..

EL TOLL NEGRE

A natural reservoir named after the impossibility of light entering this giant pool.



FESTIVALS AND TRADITIONS

SAN ANTONIO

Main winter festival, with fire as the main protagonist.

Date: January.

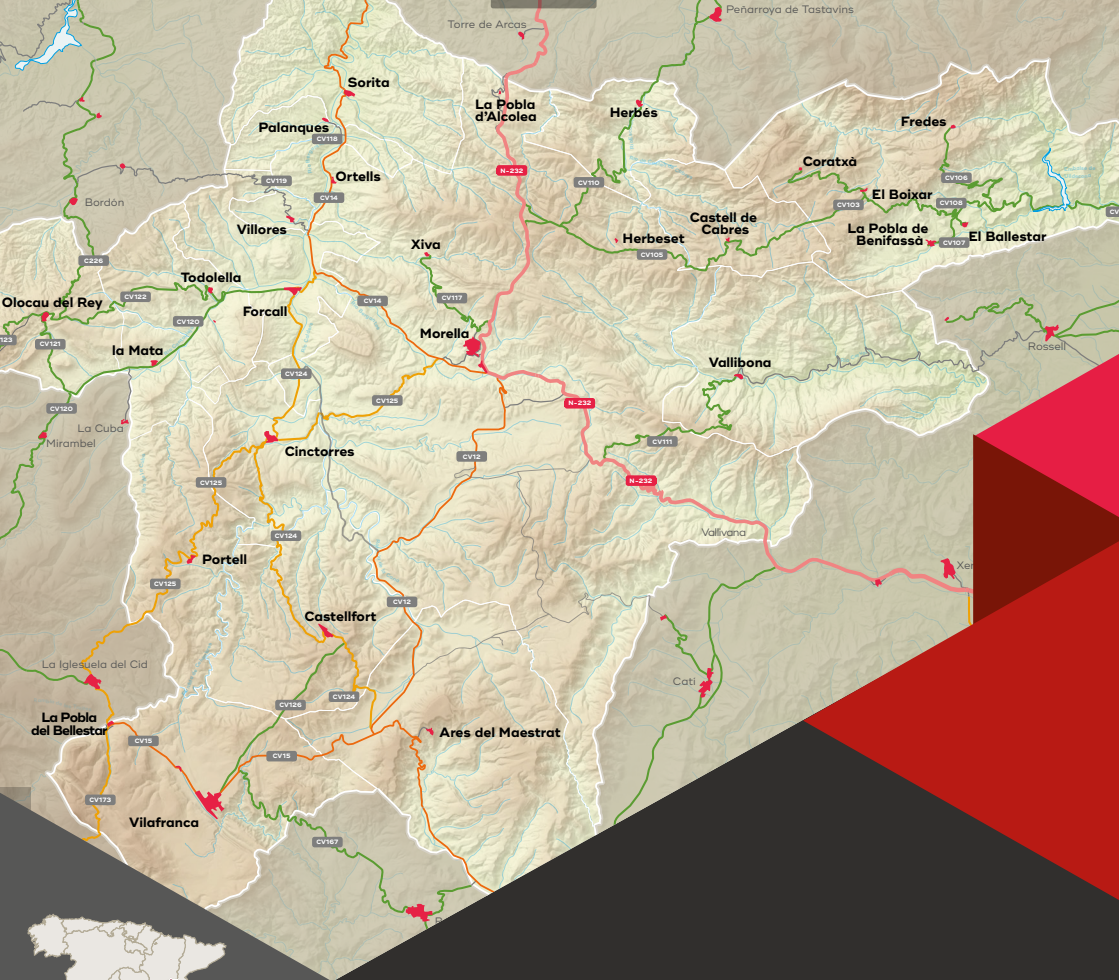
EL ONSO

An unusual representation of the end of winter and the beginning of spring. Date: Saturday when spring begins.

PATRONAL FEASTS

In honour of Sant Gil Abad. The most popular time of the year, with bullfighting events, open-air dances and numerous popular and festive events. Date: First week of August.





ELS PORTS
La Mata



AYUNTAMIENTO DE LA MATA

www.elsports.es/lamata · www.ajuntamentdelamata.es

Plan de Dinamización y Gobernanza Turística de Els Ports

