



# 2. HISTORICAL CENTRE OF MASSARROJOS

TOURIST ROUTE THROUGH NORTHERN VILLAGES - MASSARROJOS

TURISMO DE BARRIOS

## GENERAL MAP OF THE ROUTE



## TOURIST ROUTE THROUGH SOUTHERN/NORTHERN TOWNS



AJUNTAMENT DE VALÈNCIA

## HISTORY

The famous sundial of Massarrojos is located on the facade of a building known as Alquería del Reloj (photos 1 and 2). This farmhouse dates back to the 17th century and is one of the most emblematic buildings in Massarrojos. Originally, it had two sundials on two different facades, allowing the town to know the time from sunrise to sunset.

This construction displays elements indicating its noble origins, which adapted over time to agricultural work and silk processing needs. Its roof is gabled with a rear courtyard and backyards, with two exits to the street. Currently, the ground floor is used as a residence.

The main facade of the building features two entrance doors: one centered, with a well-crafted stone frame typical of the 17th century, and a baseboard system that runs from the same door throughout the building; and another on the left side, of more modern construction. The arrangement of openings on the facade suggests that the current configuration of the building evolved over different periods. The ground floor windows show careful classical craftsmanship, with centrally placed carpentry halfway up the wall, while the upper floor windows have embedded carpentry.

Among these windows is the aforementioned sundial, which gives its name to the farmhouse. Alquería del Reloj was declared a Site of Local Relevance in 2015 in the "Catalogue of Protected Assets and Spaces" of the General Urban Plan of the city of Valencia.

In the surroundings, there are other elements of great interest, such as an underground shelter from the Civil War. The Massarrojos Shelter (photos 3 and 4), recently restored by the City Council of Valencia, was built in 1938 directly excavated into the geological subsurface. It has an elongated plan, 125 meters long, 2 meters wide, and 10 meters deep. It has two entrances, one in Plaza del Soñador and the other at the beginning of the current Calle de Benet Bosch.

Inside, there are two rooms: one used as an infirmary, with an adjacent cesspit built using a natural cavity, and the other as a machinery room. On the walls, remnants of the tubing for the electric lighting system, which was never completed, can still be seen, as well as large nails where handheld lanterns were hung. The shelter even had a ventilation system and could accommodate 230 people.

In Plaza del Soñador stands the house where the Valencian scholar Nicolau Primitiu Gómez Serrano (1877-1971) lived (photos 6 and 7). He served as president of the centennial cultural entity Lo Rat Penat twice (1933-1935 and 1959-1961). His library, specialized in Valencian themes and consisting of over 40,000 volumes, was donated to the State on the condition that it would be transferred to the Valencian autonomous government if Valencia regained autonomy in the future, which occurred in 1982. This library formed the initial collection of the Biblioteca Valenciana Nicolau Primitiu, housed in the monastery of San Miguel de los Reyes. In the square, there is also a bust of this significant Valencian author (photos 8 and 9).

Following the signs along the public road, visitors can reach other interesting buildings such as the Casa del Barón de Santa Bárbara, Casa del Corralot, Casino, and the Old Oven of Massarrojos.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Address:

*Clock House:* Plaza del Soñador, 1

*Nicolau Primitiu's House:* Plaza del Soñador, 5-6

For visits to the shelter: [museos@valencia.es](mailto:museos@valencia.es)

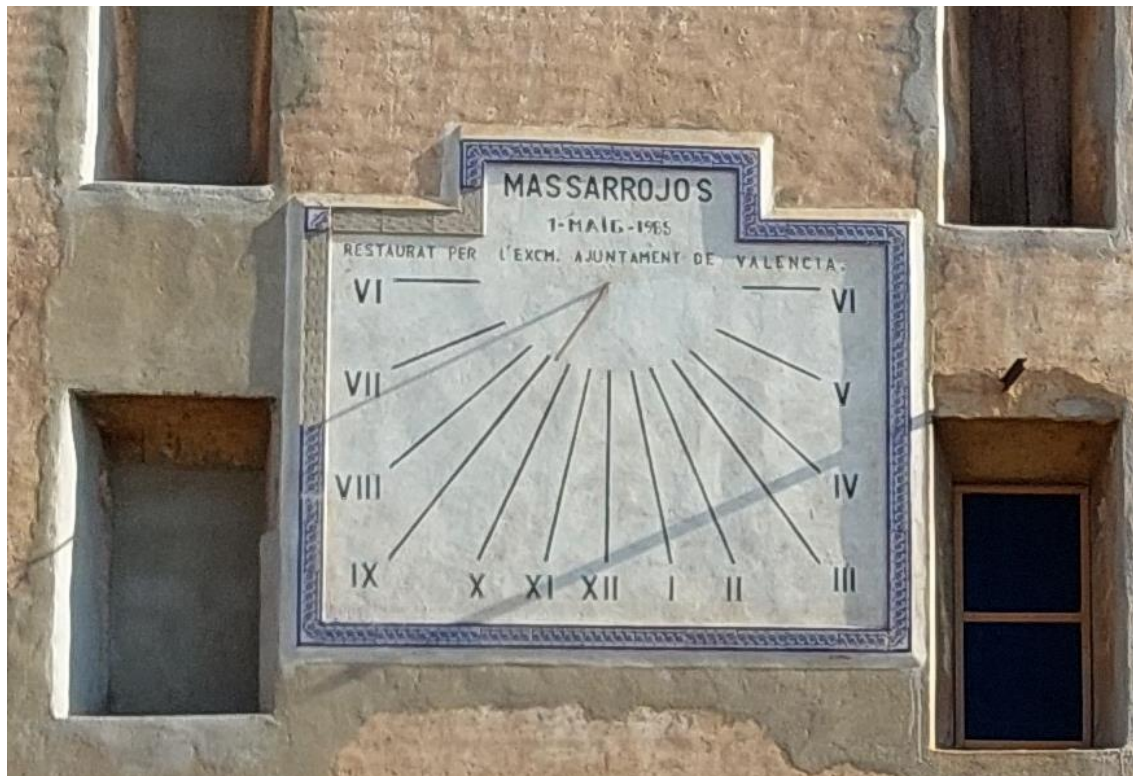
## ACCESSIBILITY

**Parking:** The closest parking spaces for people with reduced mobility are located at c/ Senent Ibáñez 15 and c/ Cura Bau 12-15.

**Access:** The square in front of the clock is accessible and pedestrian-friendly. The sidewalk where the house is located varies in width, narrowing at some points.







**PHOTO 1 and 2.** Clock house and the sundial that gives it its name, located on the main facade.





**PHOTOS 3 and 4.** Underground shelter of Massarrojos (photos: cultural.valencia.es).





**PHOTO 5.** Carrer de Baix de Massarrojos, lined with houses in traditional Valencian style.







**PHOTO 6 and 7.** Nicolau Primitiu's house in Plaza del Soñador. Detail of the bats (rats penats) on the entrance door of Nicolau Primitiu's house. (top photo: 19Tarrestnom65, Wikipedia; bottom photo: uv.es)





**PHOTO 8 and 9.** Bust of Nicolau Primitiu in Plaza del Soñador