







Alpuente is located in the region of the Serranía, in the northwest of the province of Valencia. It is located on the border of the frontier of the Valencian Community with the province of Teruel and very close to Cuenca border. It has an area of 138 km2 of rugged terrain, with an average elevation that exceeds 900 m, with deep ravines and ridges that reach 1500 m in altitude. Its climate, despite the proximity of the Mediterranean, is extreme: long, cold winters and short, hot summers. The economic activity of the area is mainly based on rain-fed agriculture and livestock.

## HISTORY

The municipality of Alpuente was populated since prehistoric times; proof of this are the shelters with cave paintings and abundant archaeological sites of the Bronze Age, Iberians or Romans. It reaches its splendor in the 11th century, in Islamic times, after the disintegration of the Caliphate of Cordoba, when its castle is transformed into the citadel of the sovereign of the Taifa of Alpuente under the dynasty of the Banu Qasim, reaching during the following years a remarkable cultural and economic level, even coining its own currency. After the conquest of Alpuente by Jaime I in 1236 it will become, within the new kingdom of Valencia, the Bailiwick of Alpuente, where it will again acquire relevance as a border town between Aragon and Castile, and as “Villa Real” with the right to vote in Courts.

## PLACES OF INTERESTS

### CASTLE AND WALLS OF ALPUENTE

The castle of Alpuente is built on top of a rocky massif with high vertical walls. The entrance of the castle is defended by a tower of caliphal origin. Throughout the surface of the hill are preserved remains of the wall, houses, cisterns and warehouses. They are the result of the life and evolution of the castle from the ninth century to the eighteenth century, although greatly affected during the war episodes of the nineteenth century when it was a refuge for the Carlists, and heavily bombarded. Surrounding the medieval village we find the remains of the walled enclosure, also of Islamic origin and with later extensions and reforms, of which three gates and up to fourteen towers have been identified. Both the castle and the wall would have been protected from the east by a steep ravine that made them inaccessible. The Alhama Tower or main entrance gate, with a guard room, dungeon and medieval plenary hall, stands out from the wall. The sixteenth century corresponds to a period of splendor of civil architecture, which left its mark in Alpuente with a Renaissance hall attached to the Alhama Tower itself. And also with examples of palaces and stately homes that the local nobility built outside the walled enclosure. This medieval layout and its architectural elements were declared a National Historic-Artistic Site by the Ministry of Culture .



### CHURCH OF “NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA PIEDAD”

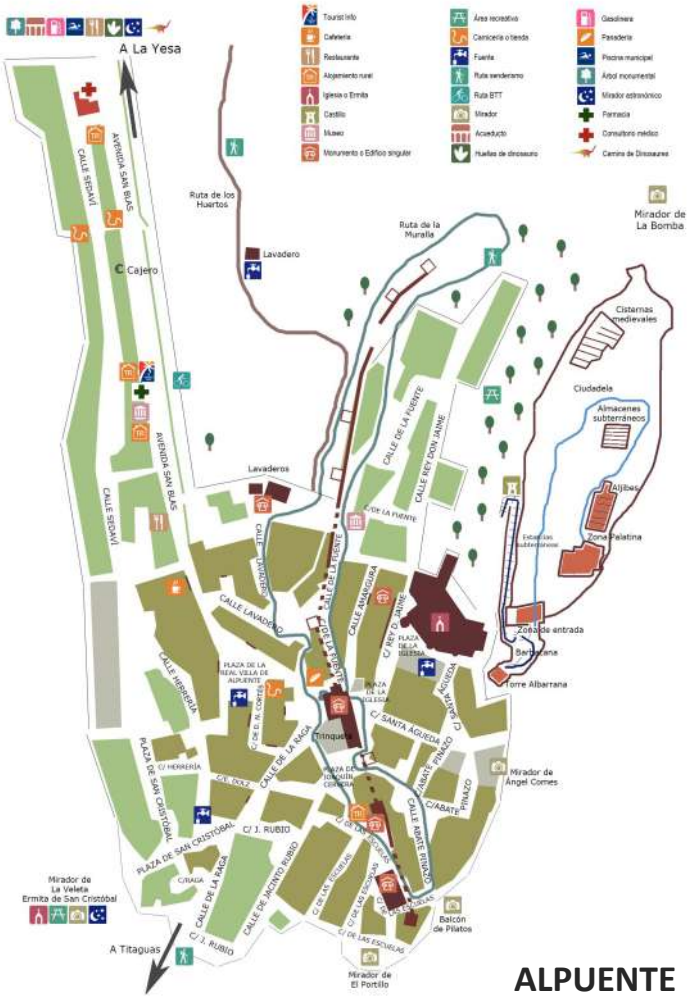
Inside the wall and below the castle stands the Archpriestly Church of “Nuestra Señora de la Piedad”, a Romanesque temple of Gothic transition with the interior rebuilt in neoclassical style after its destruction in the Carlist wars. Its octagonal bell tower, with an embrasured opening and, in its interior, the baptismal font and the communion chapel, the latter in baroque style, stand out.

### MEDIEVAL ORCHARDS

Outside the wall there is a staggered orchard of Islamic origin that makes the landscape strongly marked by this hydraulic system. At present it still maintains the same use for which it was conceived. The water is channeled from the north by the mother irrigation channel and distributes the water through several kilometers of irrigation ditches, fountains and washing places. Recently, two new routes have been recently conditioned in the surroundings of the Alpuente: The Route of the Orchards and the Route of the Wall, through which you can enjoy this unique space and magnificent views.

### AQUEDUCT

At 2 km from the town of Alpuente we find the medieval aqueduct that supplied water to the population and the medieval orchards. It preserves 12 of its 13 pointed arches, distributed along its 265 m length .



### ALPUENTE

More information at: [www.alpuenteturistico.com](http://www.alpuenteturistico.com)  
96 210 12 28 or [alpuente@touristinfo.com](mailto:alpuente@touristinfo.com)

## ALPUENTE AND ITS HAMLETS

In the municipality of Alpuente there are numerous villages, some of them of medieval origin. It is worth visiting them, both for the natural surroundings in which they are located and for the elements of traditional architecture that they preserve. Below the mountains of the Castle and “La Muela” is the village of “El Collado”, with its church dedicated to “San Miguel Arcángel” and close to the “Castillo del Poyo”, a fortification of Islamic origin related to the Castle of Alpuente, on which it depended and with which it shares some historical events. In a mountain landscape and surrounded by junipers is the village of “La Torre”, which retains its old laundry room and stands out for the panoramic view of the valley that can be seen from there.



From the village of “El Hontanar” draws attention its hermitage, dedicated to San Cristóbal, located in the old house of the teacher, and the views of the “Castillo del Poyo” that can be seen from its orchards. The village of “Corcolilla” stands out as a religious center of Alpuente for being, in its Church dedicated to “San Bernabé” and to both Abdón and Senén Saints, the chapel of the “Virgen de la Consolación”, patron saint of the municipality. In the eighteenth century the “Horno Grande” was built, a Moorish bread oven that is still in operation today. In the village of “La Almeza” stand out its veronica and hermitage dedicated to the Virgen de la Cabeza. The small villages of “La Canaleja” surprise by the conservation and rehabilitation of their houses. On the border with the term of “La Yesa” is “La Cuevarruz”, a village shared by both municipalities. In the neighborhood corresponding to Alpuente, the windmill, the ratchet and the hermitage of San José stand out.



Built on a rocky area on the banks of the stream, the village of “Las Eras” preserves spectacular dry stone and mud constructions. Already in the vicinity of the “Villa” of Alpuente, there is its hermitage and fountain dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.

Upon arrival at the village of “Baldovar” we find its laundry and its fountain, dedicated, like its hermitage, to San Roque. In front of the latter, the architecture of its oven, school and barbershop is also striking, with numbered tiles on the overhang of the roof.

To the south of the “Villa de Alpuente” and from the viewpoint of “El Portillo”, you can contemplate an agricultural landscape from which three villages emerge: “Campo de Abajo”, a village with a hermitage dedicated to San Isidro and from where you have the best views of the impregnable Castle of Alpuente. “La Carrasca”, small village with a hermitage dedicated to “Santa María Micaela del Santísimo Sacramento”, which preserves a curious circular laundry.



“Campo de Arriba”, the largest of the southern villages; in it, its hermitage and the fountain with four spouts stand out, both dedicated to its patron saint, “Santa Bárbara”.

From north to south of the municipality there are remains of the villages of “Vizcota”, “Pozo Marín”, “Benacátazara”, “Cañada Seca”, “El Chopo”, “La Hortichuela”, “Arquela” and “Arquelilla”, currently uninhabited.

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND ROUTES



The municipality of Alpuente has several signposted routes to do on foot, by mountain bike or on horseback.

- GR-37** Serranía del Turia 62 km Circular (Alpuente, La Yesa, Aras, Titaguas)
- PR-CV-330** Ruta de la Escarigüela 11,28 km Conecta con el sendero PR-CV-93.1
- PR-CV-331** Ruta de las Travinas 11,55 km Circular (Almeza—La Torre)
- SL-CV-63** Alto de la Muela del Buitre 10,7 km Alpuente - Aras de los Olmos
- Ruta por las Aldeas** 45 km Circular Recorrido por las aldeas de Alpuente

### BTT routes of the “Los Serranos” center, which run through Alpuente

- ruta 5: 40km, 4h, Difficult
- ruta 12: 20km, 2h, Easy
- ruta 6: 32km, 4h, Difficult
- ruta 13: 37km, 3h 42', Difficult

Both the villages and the numerous cultural and natural heritage elements that exist in Alpuente accompany the visitor along the routes and routes that form the backbone of our municipality. It is worth highlighting the set of centennial junipers in the area of “Cañada Pastores”, declared a Place of Community Interest and with one of the largest specimens of Juniperus thurifera of the term. If you are looking for an equipped rest area, with tables and a cooking area, we have the “Fuente de Arquela”, “La Fonseca” (next to Corcolilla) or “La Salud” (in the village of “El Collado”). We also recommend approaching one of the viewpoints located in the vicinity of the Villa: “La Bomba” and “La Veleta” or “San Cristóbal”, from where you can contemplate impressive views of the Castle and the town.



## FESTIVALS AND GASTRONOMY

Within the festive calendar of Alpuente and its villages, the patron saint festivities stand out, celebrated every three years in honor of the “Virgen de la Consolación” and “San Blas”. The following Thursday to the second Sunday of May a pilgrimage is held, in which San Blas is raised to the village of Corcolilla and the Virgin is lowered to Alpuente, to be both transferred three months later each to their chapel.

As the Virgin passes, Alpuente and Corcolilla are decorated with arches lined with branches and decorated with paper flowers. The use of the traditional costume of the children who recite the “sayings” to the patrons is preserved.

Every February 3 for San Blas, the traditional distribution of blessed oranges is also carried out, and after Easter the festival of the “Quintos”, which has its origin when the compulsory military service was carried out.

The **gastronomy** is based on agricultural and livestock products: sausages and meats from the “orza”, village pot, stew and porridge, or sweets known as flowers or “orelletas” are some of our typical dishes. The microclimate of the area also favors the production of excellent wines with the Valencia Denomination of Origin (Alto Turia subzone).





## Law 15/2018, of June 7, on tourism, leisure and hospitality of the Valencian Community

### Rights

Users of tourist services, without prejudice to the provisions of the general legislation for the defense and protection of consumers, will have the right to:

- Receive objective, truthful and understandable information from tourism companies, complete and prior to contracting the services offered, as well as the final price, including taxes. And to be protected against information or advertising misleading under current regulations.
- Obtain the documents that prove the terms of your contract.
- Receive the tourist services under the conditions offered or agreed upon and, in any case, that the nature and quality of its provision is directly proportional to the category of the company or tourist establishment.
- Enjoy accessible spaces, infrastructure and tourist services.
- Freely access tourist establishments and services in the terms established in the laws.
- That tourist establishments comply with the regulations on the safety of their installations and fire protection as well as the specific one in tourism matters.
- Be informed, clearly, about the facilities or services that may pose any risk and the security measures adopted in this regard.
- Receive an invoice or proof of payment for the tourist service provided with the data that current legislation requires.
- Formulate complaints and claims and obtain accessible and truthful information about the procedure for presenting them and their treatment, being able to resort to a system extrajudicial conflict resolution through mediation and arbitration. In addition, have the right to have the competent public administration seek maximum efficiency in the attention and processing of your complaints or claims made.
- Turn to arbitration formulas for the extrajudicial resolution of your conflicts with economic consequences.
- Require that, in a place of easy visibility, the badges be publicly displayed accreditation of the classification of the establishment, the capacity, the prices of the services offered and any other activity variable, as well as quality symbols corresponding.

### Obligations

Users of tourist services, without prejudice to the provisions of the Sectoral regulations that are applicable will have the following obligations:

- Respect the traditions and social and cultural practices of tourist destinations as well as its wealth and value.
- Respect the environmental environment, historical and cultural heritage and resources tourist.
- Pay for the contracted services, either at the time of presentation of the invoice or at the agreed time, place and manner, without the fact of presenting a claim or complaint implies, in no case, exemption from payment.
- d) In the case of the tourist accommodation service, respect the agreed date and time of departure from the establishment, leaving the occupied accommodation unit free.
- e) Observe the rules of respect, education, social coexistence, clothing and hygiene for the proper use of tourist establishments and services.
- f) Respect the facilities and equipment of establishments and companies tourist.
- g) Respect the internal regulations of tourist establishments, the schedules and the rules of conduct of places visited and where tourist activities are carried out.