

# Historical Tour

The two floors of the building overlooking the Alcazar Parade Ground house the historical guided tour since the inception of the Spanish Monarchy to the 20th century. Both levels are linked by an Imperial Staircase and at its bifurcation point, the Imperial Chapel is located. This historical tour consists of five itineraries, identified by the icons appearing at the bottom of the text. Its contents are based on the most significant features of the Spanish Army's history.



**Spain and her Military History:** explains the main historical milestones from the point of view of military and defense policies.



**The Military Organization and its Members:** focused on the origin and development of the Spanish Army structure, its symbols and uniforms, military education and an overview of the soldier's daily life.



**In the Material Assets tour** the development process is on display, thanks to the technical advancement of weapons, equipment, materiel and military constructions.



**The Art of War:** describes both the tactical and logistic approaches and the theater of military operations.



**Army and Society:** shows us the close relationship between them, emphasizing on scientific, technical and cultural contributions made by the Army over the past centuries.

The basement and lower-ground floors of the Alcazar have been designed to accommodate the Thematic exhibition Halls, in which a variety of specific collections are on view, ranging from the impressive artillery with a magnificent display of medieval pieces to a full collection of portable firearms consisting of weapons in service in different periods, it also includes an outstanding exhibition of ethnographic exhibits from Cochin China or the Pacific region. Also in this thematic section, the Museum's history has been represented through certain pieces that have made up and documented its collections. Our attention is drawn to the historical facts that took place in this building that welcomes the visitor today: The Alcazar, with a specific hall devoted to show its history. This Museum, in the course of history, has received substantial legacies and donations which have enriched its funds. Two of the most significant are the Ducal House of Medinaceli Collection and the Romero Ortiz Museum. These represent the Romantic taste at the end of the 19th century to recover the history of nobility lineages as in the case of the Duke of Medinaceli, or as a dedication to the eclectic collections in the case of Romero Ortiz.

## ADDRESS AND CONTACT

### Army Museum

C/ Unión, s/n.

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## ENTRANCES

**Main Entrance:** C/ de la Paz, s/n.

**Group Entrance:** C/ Unión, s/n.

## HOW TO GET TO THE MUSEUM

Toledo urban bus lines: 1, 3, 4.1, 4.2, 5, 5-D, 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2, 9.4, 10, 11, 12

Railway: Renfe Avant Madrid-Toledo/ Bus lines Madrid-Toledo

Nearby parking lots: Corralillo de San Miguel, Alcázar Garage and Miradero Garage

## OPENING HOURS

Regular timings: from 10:00 to 17:00 h

**Ticket office closes:** 30 minutes prior to the closing time of the Museum.

Visitors are requested to start vacating the Museum 15 minutes prior to closing time.

The Museum will remain closed on Monday (including holidays), 1st & 6th January, 1st May, 24th, 25th & 31st December, and also on those days when, due to special circumstances or other relevant reasons, its closure is deemed inevitable, notifying the general public well in advance.

## PRICES

Regular Price: 5 €

Reduced fees: 2,50 € with prior accreditation of groups related to cultural or educational organizations consisting of 15 or more members (advance booking necessary). Free entry: Every Sunday of the year, and on 29th March, 18th April, 18th May, 12th October and 6th December.

More information about free admission in our website.

Year Round Ticket: 25 €



## ARMY MUSEUM

ALCAZAR OF TOLEDO



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## HISTORICAL TOUR



### The armies before the Army

"The armies before the Army" reveals a proceeding which shows a constant in the history of man-kind: the permanent confrontation between human groups.

### The Spanish Monarchy



In this hall the defense of the Spanish Empire is shown, the development of the Artillery, the key role played by the Infantry, demonstrated by the superiority of the Tercios, and the creation of a standing army.

### The Enlightened Monarchy

In the 18th century during the reign of King Philip V, military regulations and academies were created, laying special emphasis in this period on the Army's contribution to culture, science and politics.



### Liberals and Absolutists

In this context of the Peninsular War and the succession of Ferdinand VII, the Army went through different periods of transformation. Its presence in these events is depicted in the showcases of the exhibition halls.



### The Liberal State

Noteworthy in this period of Spanish history are the roles played by outstanding soldiers such as General O'Donnell and General Espartero, during the reign of Elisabeth II, and of General Prim in the "Glorious" Revolution of 1868.



### The Restoration of the Monarchy

The reign of Alfonso XII is a period of social and political peace. It was in this time that Spain lost her last overseas territorial possessions, the Army was reorganized and the Spanish Legion was created along with other specific units, aimed at the Moroccan campaigns.



### The 20th Century

It was a period of great changes and military conflicts during which materiel and technological advances played a key factor due to the manufacturing of military weapons, some on display in this hall.



## THEMATIC TOUR



### History of the Alcazar

Through the pieces displayed in this hall the visitor can learn the history of this building, iconic symbol of the city, situated in a privileged location that was already in use since the Bronze Age.

### Spanish Army Regulation Uniforms

The history of the Spanish Army Regulation Uniforms is represented in this Hall, through historical original pieces and mementos, down to replicas manufactured from the beginning of the 20th century.



### The Ducal House of Medinacelli Collection

It is a collection of noble's weapons, mainly consisting of pieces from the 16th and 17th centuries. The exhibits on display are faithfully reminiscent of a hall of arms dating from the end of 19th century.



### The Romero Ortiz Museum

The politician and writer, Antonio Romero Ortiz, possessed one of the finest 19th century Spanish collections. This eclectic collection was donated to the Army Museum already in the 20th century by his niece.



### Historical Photo Gallery

The Army Museum Photographic collection is remarkable for its documentary value, its technological importance and its artistic significance, as most of these pictures bear the signatures of renowned artists.



### Ethnographic Heritage

The Ethnographic Heritage Collection enjoys sublime anthropological and documentary value which testifies to Spanish military presence in America, Oceania and North Africa territories.



### Decorations

The decorations are awarded as recognitions for acts of bravery, commitment and generosity. In this hall we have the opportunity to take a walk through the premises where civil and military awards, awarded in the course of Spanish history, are exhibited.



## THEMATIC TOUR



### Miniatures

Like toys or collector's items from different sources, materials, sizes and forms, many of the miniatures in this hall represent the uniforms of the Spanish and other European armies.

### History of the Museum

It was first founded as the Royal Military Museum in 1803 with a significant academic nature, and it has become a referent of Spanish history and her Army due to the outstanding value of its collections.



### Hand-held Firearms

In the showcases here, the visitor is able to contemplate, an astounding collection of regulation pieces, designed and manufactured to be used by armies, as well as sumptuary non-regulation civilian fire-arms.



### Sharp Weapons

This exhibition displays the evolution of cold weapons by their hilts and blades, from the first specimens dating from the 15th century till the regulation models dating from the 20th century.



### Flags

The pieces in this room are part of the finest collections of vexilia for their significance and estimable historical value, as a main feature of relevant historical facts.



### The History of Artillery

This exhibition room has on display artillery pieces, some with an additional artistic value, exhibited as an accurate representation of the technological advances of their period, as well as the exceptional collection of machine guns.



### Imperial Chapel

Located in this room, precisely at the point where the Imperial Staircase branches off, we find one of the jewels of the Museum: an Indo-Portuguese tent of inestimable artistic value, which is known to have belonged to King Philip II.

