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Welcome

Welcome to my hamlet,

We are Julio and Iván, historian and architect, friends and creators of this project that seeks to enhance the value of life in the countryside. We would like to give you the warmest welcome to our house, as well as thank you for being part of this story that we began to write in the summer of 2022.

Our wish is that during your stay you return to reconnect with the essentials, enjoying the often forgotten pleasures such as a good book, unhurried cooking, a walk in the fields, chatting under the stars or sleeping without an alarm clock.

To this end, we have restored this traditional house of the hamlet to turn it into your nest. From a contemporary design, we have recovered the original values of the house using traditional materials and construction techniques convinced that luxury is in the knowledge that hides the craftsmanship.

We have also equipped the house with everything you may need to make your stay unforgettable and, as happens to us every time we stay for a few days, the only thing you want to do when you leave is to **return**

Julio and Iván



mialdea.es

follow us on @ mialdea.es



Essentials

Casa Felicita
c/ San Pedro 17
Casas de Pradas
46310 Venta del Moro

Get the map with the main directions in the village from the QR or following <https://acortar.link/Wjcp70>



Directions

By car: We are 90 km away from Valencia. It is only possible to arrive by car but you can park without problem in the whole village respecting the doors of the other neighbours, we recommend you to park at [Plaza San Antonio](#).

Other means of transport: The nearest train station is [Requena-Utiel](#) (30 km), with High Speed services to Madrid, Valencia and Cuenca. From [Requena](#) station (25 km) there is commuter train service on line C3. The nearest airport is [Valencia](#) (90 km).

Check-in | Check-out

Check-in: We will be pleased to welcome you from **17:00**. A few days before your stay we will contact you to organise your arrival. Early check-in subject to availability.

Check-out: The house must be available before **11:00**. Please make sure to close the windows, turn off the lights and radiators and take out the rubbish. Late check-out subject to availability.

Supermarket

In the village there is a bar but there is no supermarket so we recommend you that you buy what you need in [Mercadona](#) in Requena, [Charter](#) in Venta del Moro or local businesses that you will find in the “**the hamlet**” section.

What's in the house?

To make your stay as comfortable as possible, at the house you will find some basic items at your disposal:

Kitchen: oil, salt, sugar, coffee capsules, tea, soap, kitchen paper and aluminium foil. Nespresso coffee maker, kettle, toaster, blender, juicer. If you have any doubts about how to use them, check the “**how does it work?**” section.

Cleaning: iron, washing machine and dishwasher soap.

Toiletries: toilet paper, towels, soap, shampoo, toothbrush and hairdryer.

Resting: slippers, sheets, duvet and blankets.

Leisure: pool towels, books, board games, cards, mosquito repellent, paellas, firewood, firelighters, hiking backpacks.

Phones

Julio		(+34) 651 912 597
Iván		(+34) 635 345 102
Bar		(+34) 653 334 663
Emergency		112
Police		091
Civil Guard		062
Medical emergency		(+34) 962 169 267
Requena Hospital		(+34) 962 339 180

getting connected

There is poor mobile coverage in the house, but you can connect via Wifi (300 Mb) and call national landlines from the phone available in the kitchen, to which you can also forward incoming calls from your mobile

Landline number		(+34) 960 892 007
WiFi network		ADAMO-8740
Password		Mialdea2022



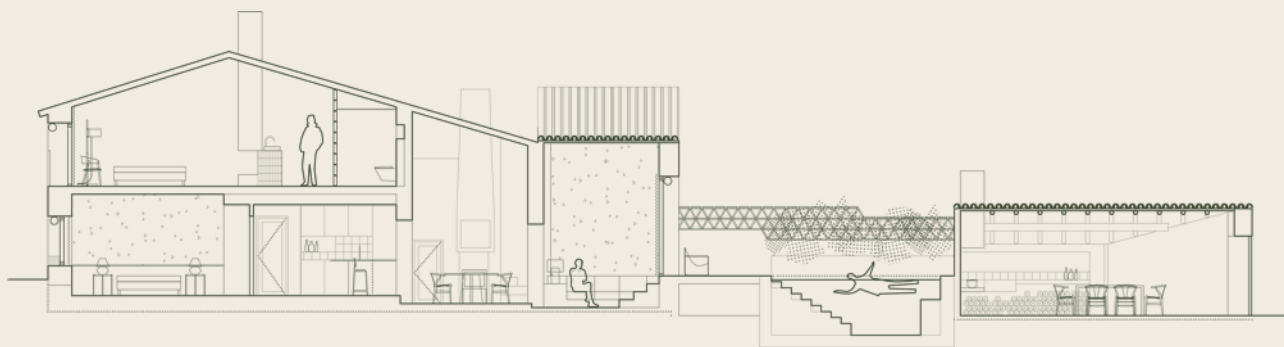
The house

Discover

The house you are staying in is a traditional village house built at the beginning of the 20th century and belonged to Felicita and Justo.

Originally it was attached to the adjoining house and was the school, but over time, the house was divided, extended and renovated until it finally fell into disuse. In the summer of 2022 we completely refurbished it, seeking to rediscover its secrets and recover its original values, both spatial and constructive. If you are curious to know how the process went, have a look at the section "**The project - the refurbishment**"

Enjoy it, feel it as your home and show us your way of living it by tagging @mialdea.es in your photos.



After the renovation, the house is organised around a large common area where the living room, kitchen and dining room are interconnected, and has 2 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a mezzanine with an extra bed.

Outdoors

Patio: In the courtyard you can watch the stars in the silence of the night or read a book on a deckchair surrounded by greenery. Take a cushion from the cupboard to sit on the bench "al fresco".

Covered patio: The covered patio area has a barbecue where you can enjoy long summer dinners around the table for 6 people. Firewood and firelighters are under the worktop.

Swimming pool: The house has a private swimming pool measuring 2.4 m x 4.2 m. The maximum depth is 1.4 m and there are several areas for sitting and lying in the water. Pool towels are in the living room.

General

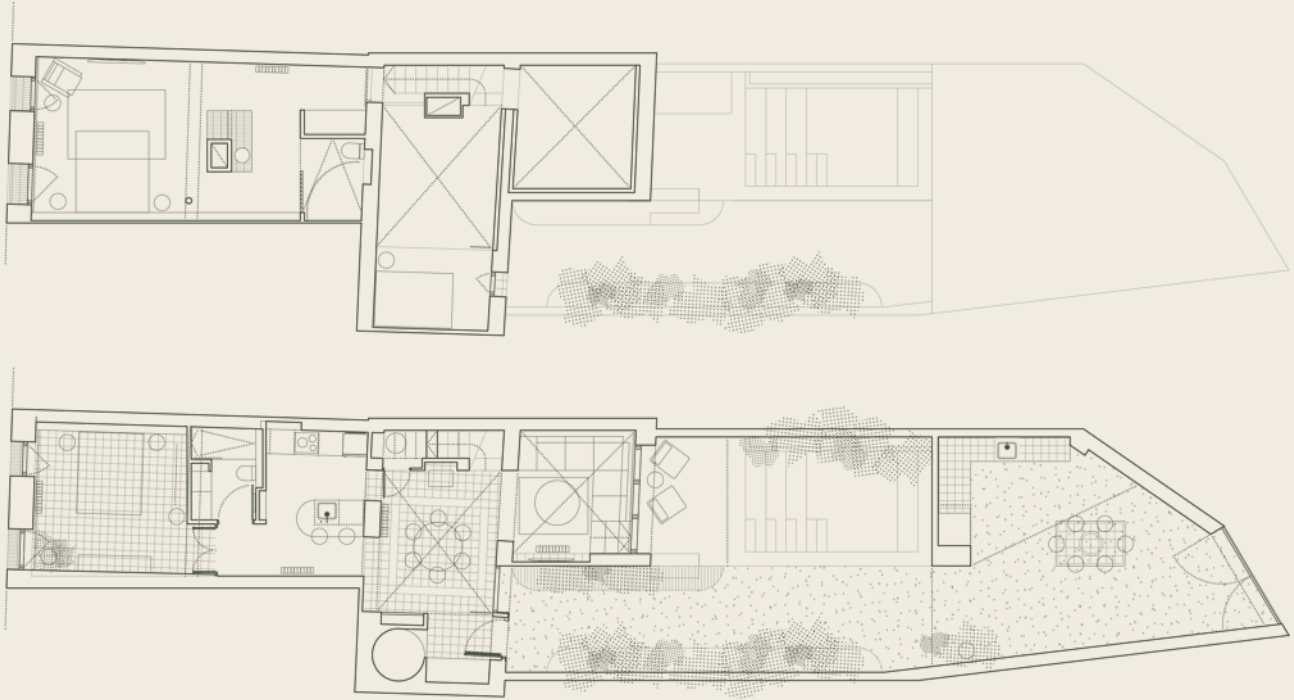
Climate control: The house has radiators in all rooms, as well as 2 wood-burning fireplaces and air conditioning on the first floor.

Telephone and WiFi: In the kitchen you will find a landline phone. Since the coverage in the house is poor, if you need to stay connected, you can forward calls from your mobile phone to this phone and connect to the WiFi network. Check the "**essential**" section for further details.

Blinds: The windows have a traditional blind called "alicantina" with brake. To lock or unlock them, pull the rope to the right. Windows also have curtains for your privacy.

Whasing: In the kitchen you will find a washing machine and detergent, and in the courtyard there are hooks and rope for hanging clothes out in the sun.





Common areas

Entrance hall: As soon as you enter you will find the house's well. We invite you to take your shoes off and leave them here, slippers are available for your comfort.

Dinning room: The double-height dining room is the heart of the house. You will find a table for 6 people and a fireplace with the drawing of an exotic bird, a curiosity that we discovered during the renovation works. In the cupboard you will find board games and cards.

Living room: Connected to the dining room, the living room has a large sofa under the original stone wall, Smart TV and books. The large window allows direct access to the pool and floods the house with light on winter mornings.

Kitchen: The kitchen is organised around an island with stools and is equipped with everything you need for unhurried cooking: coffee machine, kettle, toaster, blender, juicer, crockery, cutlery, glassware, pots and pans, aprons and rolling pin. Note that there is no microwave. If you have any doubts about how to use them, check the "how does it work?" section.

Rooms and bathrooms

All rooms have duvets, pillows of varying firmness, cotton sheets, reading lamps and blackout blinds. Bathrooms are equipped with toilet paper, shower and hand towels, hairdryer, soap and shampoo, toothbrush, as well as walk-in rain shower.

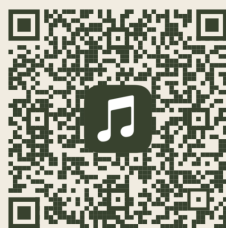
Room and bathroom 1: Located on the ground floor under a stone wall, it has a queen-size bed (160x200), a low wardrobe and a clothes rail. The adjoining bathroom serves the entire ground floor and the old washing basin of the house is located here.

Room and bathroom 2: Located on the first floor under the original wooden roof, it has a king-size bed (180x200), low wardrobe and clothes rail, as well as a fireplace. In this case the bathroom is en suite.

Mezzanine: Above the hall you will find a mezzanine with an extra double bed (135x200). The vertical staircase requires some fitness to reach it, but the view from the top is worth the effort.

playlist

Don't know what to listen to? Discover the playlist we have created to go with your best moments at the house.



Apple Music



Spotify



The house

How does it work?

Here are the basic operating instructions for the house. You can find the complete manuals for the appliances in the drawer under the oven or by accessing the QR code.



Kitchen

Washing machine: Turn the dial to select the programme and press the start button. We recommend using the ECO 40-60 programme

Oven: Touch the start button to turn on and off. Use the left dial to choose the function. The microwave function is represented by wavy lines, the rest are oven options. Select the options for each working mode by turning the right dial:

Oven mode: control the temperature by pressing the thermometer symbol, or cooking time with the clock one.

Microwave mode: control the power by pressing the wavy lines symbol, or cooking time with the clock one.

In both modes, to start or pause, press the play button. If oven is locked touch (temperature) and (play) simultaneously for 3 seconds.

Cooker: Touch the start button until the control turns on. Touch the sensor on the plate you want to use and adjust the power by touching (-) and (+).

Dishwasher: Press the On/Off button for a few seconds. Select the programme by pressing the second button. We recommend the P3 ECO programme. Close the door.

Nespresso coffee machine: Press either of the top two buttons. When they stop flashing, press one or the other depending on whether you want a long or a short coffee.

Climate control

Heaters: To turn them on or off, press the central button. If you want to lower or raise the temperature, press the (-) and (+) buttons.

Air-conditioning unit: Select the appropriate mode: sun symbol to heat, ice symbol to cool. Raise or lower the temperature and press the power button.

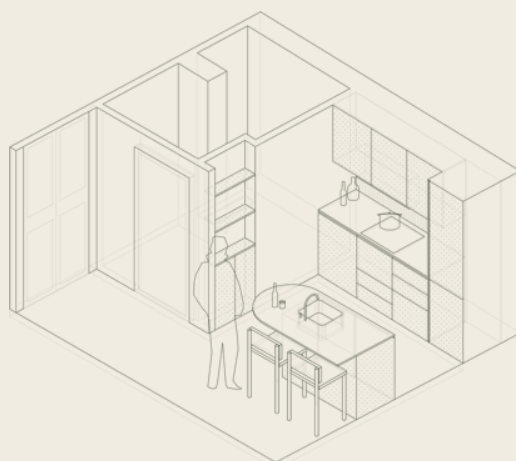
Others

Swimming pool: Filter pump is automatically programmed. Please contact us to solve any need during your stay with our maintenance service.

Shower faucets: Select the temperature on the lower knob. Turn the top command towards a side or the other side to choose which water comes out by the phone or by the sprinkler.

Blinds: Pull the rope to raise them up and when you want to lock them, pull the rope to the right and release it gently. To unlock them, pull the cord to the right again.

Plants: If it is hot during your stay, plants will be very happy if you water them a little bit in the late evening with the hose or the watering can in the porch sink. Thank you from them!





Surroundings

The hamlet

Casas de Pradas is a quiet hamlet of nearly 100 inhabitants surrounded by fields dedicated to the production of grapes, almonds and olives, at the Hoces del Cabriel Natural Park. The village is 5 km away from Venta del Moro, where the main services are located, and 25 km from Requena and Utiel, small towns with all common facilities.



Brief history

Casas de Pradas is one of the 7 hamlets of the municipality of Venta del Moro. It is a very common type of settlement in this area in which several small villages depend on a larger town, thus exploiting the vast agricultural territory.

Its origins date back to a farmhouse owned by the Pradas family. In 1752 there were already 81 people living here, reaching its population peak in 1940 with 652 inhabitants. A little less than 100 remain today.

You can visit the Church of San Antonio Abad, dating from 1883, and in the surrounding area the farmhouses Casa lo Alto, Casa Lanza or Casa del Pinar and the bridges and tunnels of the unfinished line of the Utiel-Baeza railway.

If you want to know more about the history of the village, follow the "History" links in the QR code.

Cultural heritage

Festivities: On 17 January the festivities of San Antonio Abad are celebrated with a bonfire that is lit on the eve, on 25 May San Gregorio, and in the third week of August the summer festivities. Information is published at facebook.com/fiestas.casasdepradas

Day-to-day craftwork: In the village and in the house you can see samples of the village's everyday craftwork: glass lady jannes or ceramic vessels of different shapes, uses and sizes: "lebrillos" (basins), "ánforas" (amphorae), "orzas" (food jugs) and "botijos" (water jugs).

Traditions: On summer evenings the neighbours take chairs outside their houses and chat in the cool night breeze "a la fresca". In April the "monas de pascua" are made, Easter cakes with a hard-boiled, unpeeled egg inside, which is usually broken on the forehead of the next person at the table. Grape growing leads to a whole series of rituals throughout the year, culminating in the grape harvest at the end of August / beginning of September.

Essential services

Charter Supermarket (5 km)
c/Lepanto 6 – Venta del Moro
Mon. to Sat. 9 to 14 and 18 to 20:30 – (+34) 962 178 184

El Vaquero butcher's shop (6 km)
Travesía Pinillo 9 – Los Isidros
Mon. to Sat. 9 to 14 and 17 to 20 – (+34) 610 177 113

Mercadona Supermarket
REQUENA (26 km) | Carretera N-III, km 1 – Requena
Mon. to Sat. from 9:00 to 21:30 – (+34) 962 565 747
UTIEL (24 km) | c/San Fernando 19 – Utiel
Mon. to Sat. from 9:00 to 21:30 – (+34) 962 171 398

ATM CAJAMAR (5 km)
Plaza Constitución 10 – Venta del Moro
Office Mon. to Fri. 8:30 to 14:00 – (+34) 962 185 078

Tobacconist (5 km)
Carretera de Tamayo 31 – Venta del Moro
Mon.-Sat. 9:30 to 14 and 18 to 20:30 – (+34) 962 185 078

P.O Box
(5 km) | c/Lepanto 1 (c/Cruces cross) – Venta del Moro
(6 km) | Pl. San Antonio (playground) – Los Isidros

Petrol station
CEPSA (6 km) | Avda. de Albacete 52 – Los Isidros
Mon. to Sun. from 8:00 to 20:00 – (+34) 963 335 177
REPSOL (22 km) | Carretera N-232 km 454 – El Pontón
Mon. to Sun. from 6:00 to 22:00 – (+34) 962 300 865

Pharmacy
OTILIA BLASCO (5 km) | c/Cuartel 14 – Venta del Moro
Mon. to Sat. 10 to 14 and 17 to 20 – (+34) 962 185 041
IRANZO (6 km) | Avda. de Albacete 17 – Los Isidros
Mon. to Fri. from 10:00 to 14:00 – (+34) 962 335 245

Healthcare Centre (5 km)
c/San Isidro 5 – Venta del Moro
Mon. to Fri. from 8:00 to 15:00 – (+34) 962 169 220
24 h at Caudete de las Fuentes and Requena's Hospital



Surroundings

Plans

As well as the gastronomy, wine tourism and nature that you will find on the following pages, you can access our selection of resources in the area by clicking on the QR or from <https://lnk.bio/mialdea.es>



Tourist info

Online resources

Agenda | tierrabobal.es/eventos @tierrabobal
General | comunitatvalenciana.com/es/valencia/requena

Hoces del Cabriel Natural Park Information Center (5 km)

c/Sindicato Agrícola s/n – Venta del Moro
Mon. to Sun. from 9:00 to 14:00 – (+34) 963 18 92 22

Requena Tourist Office (25 km)

c/García Montés 1 – Requena
Mon. to Sun. from 10 to 14 and 17 to 19 – (+34) 962 303 851

Utiel Tourist Office (24 km)

c/Camino 1 - Utiel
Mon. to Fri, from 10 to 14 – (+34) 962 170 879
c/Puerta Nueva 9 - Utiel
Sat./Sun. 10-13:30 – (+34) 962 170 222

Discover the nearby towns

Requena (25 km) Discover the Casa Mayor del Arte de la Seda, the Palacio del Cid and the Museum of Contemp. Art.

Utiel (24 km) Almost 200 underground cellars excavate its town centre, Wine Museum and churches with history.

Alcalá del Júcar (47 km) Medieval village in a river canyon declared a Historic-Artistic Site in 1982.

For children

Tierra Bobal APP

tierrabobal.es/app-tierra-bobal
Discover the area playing with augmented reality.

Sisternas Museum (Casas de Cuadra, 15 km)

museosisternas.com - (+34) 639 619 607
Museum of wine and rural life with many activities for children and adults, including a scape room.

Bioparque La Rocha (Alborea, 27 km)

bioparquelarocha.es - (+34) 605 678 799
Small zoo in the middle of nature with activities for children and restaurant. @bioparquelarocha

To be spoilt

Balneario del Cabriel (Villatoya, 17 km)

hotelbalneariofuentepodrida.com - (+34) 962 335 122
Historical and pleasant spa. @hotelbalneariodelcabriel

Bobal & Cabriel (Venta del Moro, 5 km)

bobalcabriel.com - (+34) 630 418 055
Personalised experiences of eco, active, astro, wine and gastro-tourism. @bobalcabriel

A day among the vines

Ana Vila - (+34) 630 274 508
Personalised premium experiences. @undiaentrevinas

OliOli (Requena, 35 km)

olioli.es - (+34) 670 346 798
Visits and tastings of olive oil from local olive trees in a place made with care. Every day at 12:00 @oliolibio

Hoya de la Iglesia Cheese Factory (Los Pedrones, 40 km)

hoyadelaiglesia.com - (+34) 682 235 203
Visit a cheese factory with contemporary architecture. Combine it with the Dussart wine cellars @hoyadelaiglesia

For history lovers

Los Villares / Kelin arch. site (Caudete Fuentes, 17 km)

conocekelin@gmail.com - (+34) 962 319 002
Iberian settlement of great importance between 7th and 1st centuries. Sat-Sun 10 to 12 and 6 to 9, reservation required.

Routes and caves of La Villa (Requena, 25 km)

requena.es/cuevas-villa - (+34) 962 306 018
Guided tours through the historic center of Requena, including an impressive labyrinth of caves of Arab origin that run through the subsoil. Reservations required.

For adventurers

Requena Aerodrome (Requena, 30 km)

airpull.com/bautismos-aereos - (+34) 687 562 131
Air baptisms with the possibility of flying over the Valencia albufera. @airpull_aviation_academy
skydiverequena.com - (+34) 640 930 725
Initiation to skydiving. @skydiverequena



Surroundings

Gastronomy

The area in which we are located is the meeting point between the culinary traditions of La Mancha and the Mediterranean based on the products of the countryside and local livestock. We invite you to discover our favourite locations by accessing the QR code.



Around the house

Bar Casas de Pradas (0 km)

Rogelio Vinaja 6 – Casas de Pradas – (+34) 653 334 663
The only bar in the village is in the lively social centre. You can call them to order rice dishes and stews.

Vilasira Rooms & Wines (3 km)

CV475 km 2 – Venta del moro – (+34) 687 852 400
Charming restaurant in a hotel among vineyards. @vilasira

Restaurante Raimblanc (15 km)

c/ Bolos 8 – Villargordo del Cabriel – (+34) 962 186 302
Traditional cuisine with a creative twist @hotelraimblanc

Restaurante Casa Violeta (5 km)

c/Lepanto 13 – Venta del moro – (+34) 643 350 482
Easy restaurant 5 minutes away from the house

Bar Ventamorino (5 km)

c/Lepanto 9 – Venta del moro – (+34) 962 185 054
Easy tapas bar 5 minutes away from the house

A little further

Restaurante OBA (36 km) ✨

c/ T. Pérez Úbeda 6 – Casas Ibáñez – (+34) 663 237 445
Michelin-starred gastronomic restaurant ranked among the 150 best in Europe (OAD). @oba.res

In Utiel and Requena

Restaurante El Yantar (25 km) ✨

Plaza de Albornoz 8 – Requena – (+34) 695 143 207
Michelin Bib Gourmand restaurant in a spectacular old passageway. @ey_lacocinadepilar

Restaurante La Posada de Águeda (25 km) ✨

Carretera NIII, km 282 – Requena – (+34) 962 301 418
Michelin Bib Gourmand restaurant overlooking the surrounding countryside. @posadadeagueda

Restaurante Santolina (24 km) ✨

Plaza San Juan 14 – Utiel – (+34) 962 170 479
Restaurant to be opened in 2022 by chef Diego Álvarez after 6 years with Quique Dacosta. @santolinarestaurante

Restaurante El Carro (24 km)

c/Héroes del Tollo 25 – Utiel – (+34) 962 171 131
Traditional restaurant with quality products.

Restaurante CaDani (24 km)

c/Eduardo Dato 10 – Utiel – (+34) 686 940 106
Signature cuisine based on the roots of traditional cuisine led by chef Dani Bachero. @ca_dani

Restaurante Rabieta (24 km)

c/Antonio Maura 5 – Utiel – (+34) 962 704 234
Juanjo and Rosa's food creativity in a beautiful, recently restored traditional house.. @rabieta.utiel

Restaurante Casa Nostra (25 km)

c/Norberto Piñango 13 – Requena – (+34) 692 342 469
Casual Italian-Argentinean restaurant.
@cosanostra.requena



Surroundings

Wine tourism

We are in the heart of the Utiel-Requena Denomination of Origin with the native Bobal grape variety as the protagonist. The rituals surrounding the cultivation of the vine make up our landscapes, discover them by visiting some of our favourite wineries.



Small wineries

Casa lo Alto (Casas de Pradas, 2 km)
casaloalto.com – (+34) 646 314 016
Pleasant tastings with guided tours of the vineyard in one of the village's historic farmhouses. @ _casaloalto_

Bodegas del Valle (Los Cojos, 5 km)
instagram.com/delvallebodegas – (+34) 697 649 111
Traditional and innovative organic winery. Spectacular lunches among the vineyards. @ delvallebodegas

Bodegas Neleman (Casas del Rey, 9 km)
neleman.org – (+34) 617 896 314
Organic wineries with multiple proposals, including beer tastings. @ nelemanvinos

Bodegas Finca Cor Vi (Los Isidros, 12 km)
closcorvi.com – (+34) 963 145 807
Picnics and snacks among the vineyards. @ closcorvi

Bodegas Aranleon (Los Marcos, 12 km)
aranleon.com – (+34) 963 631 640
Organic vineyard. @ aranleonbodega

Bruno Murciano (Caudete de las Fuentes, 16 km)
brunomurciano.com – (+34) 685 137 515
Bespoke experiences in a family winery. @ brunomurciano

Bodega Dussart Pedrón (Los Pedrones, 40 km)
bodegadussartpedron.com – (+34) 722 270 944
Small winery with award-winning contemporary architecture. You can combine it with a visit to the Hoya de la Iglesia cheese factory. @ bodegadussartpedron

Large wineries

Bodegas Nodus (Caudete de las Fuentes, 13 km)
chozascarrascal.com – (+34) 963 174 029
Very special tasting activities. @ bodegas_nodus

Bodegas Hispano Suizas (El Pontón, 20 km)
bodegashispanosuizas.com – (+34) 962 349 370
Gastronomic experiences. @ bodegas_hispano_suizas

Bodega Montesanco (Requena, 21 km)
montesanco.com – (+34) 609 427 858
Exclusive wines from old vines. @ montesancobodega

Bodegas Murviedro (Requena, 25 km)
murviedro.es – (+34) 962 955 998
Visit to the historic caves. @ bodegasmurviedro

Bodegas Pago de Tharsys (Requena, 26 km)
pagodetharsys.com – (+34) 962 303 354
Standard and premium tours. @ pagodetharsys

Bodegas Torre Oria (Requena, 25 km)
torreoria.com – (+34) 962 320 289
Charming historic building. @ bodegastorreoria

Bodega Vera de Estenas (Utiel, 26 km)
veradeestenas.es – (+34) 633 958 670
Art Nouveau winery from 1876. @ veraestenas

Bodegas Chozas Carrascal (S. Antonio de Requena, 32 km)
chozascarrascal.com – (+34) 963 410 395
Tastings and interesting labels museum. @ chozascarrascal



utiel-requena

DENOMINACIÓN DE ORIGEN

WELCOME

ESSENTIALS

THE HOUSE

SURROUNDINGS

THE PROJECT



HOCES DEL CABRIEL

Parques Naturales de València

Surroundings

Nature

Crops and forest embrace each other in our village, located in the "Transition Zone" of the Hoces del Cabriel Natural Park, declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in 2019.

Follow our tracks and tag @mialdea.es, we are looking forward to see our landscapes from your eyes.



Hoces del Cabriel Natural Park

The Hoces del Cabriel Natural Park, with 31,446 hectares, is the largest protected area in the whole of the Valencia Region, running along the Cabriel River, the historic border between the lands of Valencia and Castile-La Mancha for more than 50 kilometres.

Protected birds such as the golden eagle, Bonelli's eagle or the eagle owl can be seen along the river. The galleries of poplars, willows and tamarinds, together with the reeds, rushes and beachgrass are part of the Cabriel valley, the best preserved riverside forest in the Region.

Adventure plans

Rafting, Kayaking, Canyoning, or Canoeing are some of the adventure activities you can do with companies such as:

[Aiguaroca](#) (Venta del Moro, 5 km)
aiguaroca.com – (+34) 649 047 282
Personalised service in a familiar atmosphere.

[Avensport](#) (Venta del Moro, 5 km)
avensport.com – (+34) 961 235 076
29 years of experience in active tourism at Cabriel River.

[Ruting](#) (Venta del Moro, 5 km)
ruting.es – (+34) 620 264 263
Committed to people and sustainability.

Cycling

You can get inspired by the tracks of Wineland initiative @ wineandcycling. If you need to rent a bike, we recommend:

[Hummi Bikes](#) (Requena, 25 km)
hummibikes.com – (+34) 962 349 277

Getting equipped

[Tangos en la roca](#) (Utiel, 21 km)
tangosenlaroca.com – (+34) 633 103 452 @ tangosenlaroca
Mountain clothing and equipment shop.

Top picks

[Hoz del Retorno recreational area](#) (16 km)
Centennial poplar grove next to the river with benches for picnics and walks in the surrounding area. It can be reached by car up to the abandoned village of Casas de Cárcel, just before the crossing of the Cabriel river to access Villatoya, and from here 4 km along a forest track. Crossing the river, you can also visit the [Ventanas del Cabriel](#) or the geological formation of [El Ventano](#).

[Hoz del Tete recreation area](#) (18 km)
Bathing area with easy access by car on a paved road up to 2 km before the destination.

[Viewpoints of the Hoces](#) (20 km)
The Hoces are narrow valleys with a curve described by the river and the natural park is dotted with them. Walking along these viewpoints you will have spectacular views of the Hoz del Rabo de la Sartén, Hoz de Vicente, and Hoz del Purgatorio.

[Peñas Blancas viewpoint](#) (20 km)
Viewpoint easily accessible from El Venterro on the CV-4661 road by an easy 5 km round trip walk.

[Vadocañas Bridge](#) (27 km)
Viaduct of Roman origin linking Cuenca with Valencia with a bathing area. The last 12 km are along a forest track. From here you can make an excursion along the river to Los Cárceles (17 km round trip).

[Cuchillos de Contreras](#) (28 km)
Spectacular scenery in deep gorges with a historic iron bridge. The 8 km round trip route is very easy and starts from Contreras, at the foot of the dam.

[Los Basilios waterwheel](#) (20 km)
Interesting waterwheel in disuse. It is on the other side of the river and can be reached by routes from Los Cárceles.

[Casas del Río waterwheel](#) (46 km)
The only irrigation waterwheel in the region that has been in operation since the 18th. Bathing area.



Surroundings

Hiking trails

trail 01

Panoramic view and viewpoint



On this route you will discover the contrast between the cultivated fields and the forest, reaching a viewpoint with breathtaking views over the Natural Park of Hoces del Cabriel. We recommend you bring a sandwich and enjoy a spectacular picnic on the heights.

Starting point: the house

Type: loop route

Distance: 12 km

Elevation gain: 210 m

1 | Plaza de San Antonio. This is the main square of the village. Here you can visit the church and its bell tower (if it is closed you can ask for the keys from Loli, at number 8 in the square), and drink from the fountain.

2 | Fields and forest. This trail runs along the borders of the Natural Park, between the cultivated land and the forest. You will see how the pine trees are gaining ground, while the cultivated areas are being reduced to terraces known as "tablas" limited by stone Banks called "ribazos".

3 | Casa El Gallo. This small house belongs to Julio's family. It is a great place to stop and enjoy the views and the silence of nature. The oven is where the "monas de Pascua" previously mentioned in "The hamlet" section are baked at Easter.

4 | Viewpoint. Be amazed by the spectacular views of the Hoces del Cabriel Natural Park, the fields and the vegetation. The windmills in the background are already part of Castilla La Mancha, and on clear days you will be able to see Cofrentes town.

5 | Railway bridge. This bridge is part of the old Utiel - Baeza railway line. Construction began in 1927 and after having carried out a large part of the necessary works, in 1964 it was decided to abandon the project due to its lack of profitability. Many of the sections have now been converted into greenways.

6 | Old swimming pool. At this point you will find the Bullana and Albosa wadis. The wadis are watercourses that normally flow down with little flow but in the rainy season they grow enormously, causing damage to buildings in their course. It is for this reason that the swimming pool built in 1980 by the neighbours had to be moved to its current location in 2014, leaving the old construction abandoned.





trail 02

Centenary trees



On this route you will discover centenary trees and the traces of the disappeared Utiel - Baeza railway in a simple circular walk lasting just over 1 hour.

Starting point: the house

Type: loop route

Distance: 6 km

Elevation gain: 91 m

1 | Plaza de San Antonio. This is the main square of the village. Here you can visit the church and its bell tower (if it is closed you can ask for the keys from Loli, at number 8 in the square), and drink from the fountain.

2 | Old swimming pool. At this point you will find the Bullana and Albosa wadis. The wadis are watercourses that normally flow down with little flow but in the rainy season they grow enormously, causing damage to buildings in their course. It is for this reason that the swimming pool built in 1980 by the neighbours had to be moved to its current location in 2014, leaving the old construction abandoned.

3 | Irrigation ponds. Along the path you will see irrigation ponds, many of which are still in use today. The ponds collect the water that reaches them through the network of irrigation ditches and allow irrigated crops to be cultivated in this area with little rainfall.

4 | Singular trees. In this area you will find several specimens of catalogued centenary trees. Most of them are Aleppo pines over 100 years old, but you will also find holm oaks, and on the panels you will find a brief explanation of each one of them. There is nothing like a picnic in the shade of their shade.

5 | Old railway. Traces of the old Utiel - Baeza railway can still be seen in various parts of the territory near the village. Construction began in 1927 and after having carried out most of the necessary works, in 1964 it was decided to abandon the project due to its low profitability. Many of the sections have now been converted into greenways..

6 | Olive trees. All along the way you will have been able to observe numerous examples of almond and olive trees, the most cultivated species in the area along with vines. At this point you will be able to see several examples of centenary olive trees which, as is the case in many of the fields in the village, have been abandoned.



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trail 03

The cultivated fields



On this simple walk you will discover the fields of the village, as well as the buildings that have allowed its agricultural exploitation.

Starting point: the house

Type: loop route

Distance: 7 km

Elevation gain: 107 m

1 | Plaza de San Antonio. This is the main square of the village. Here you can visit the church and its bell tower (if it is closed you can ask for the keys from Loli, at number 8 in the square), and drink from the fountain.

2 | Social center. The village social centre has a bar, pelota court, medical consultation room and a multi-purpose room which is used by the villagers for many purposes, including the weekly yoga class for the women of the village.

3 | New swimming pool. The new swimming pool built in 2014 replaced the old one built in the bed of the wadis, which you will see at the end of the promenade.

4 | Olive trees. In the fields around the village, olive trees are cultivated to a remarkable extent, many of them being over 100 years old.

5 | Finca Haya. This estate belongs to the Haya Martínez family and is mainly cultivated with vines. The trellised cultivation and its drip irrigation from the pond facilitates the exploitation of this fertile land.

6 | Olive and almond trees. All along the way you will see olive and almond trees, which together with vines are the main crops in the village and form the physiognomy of its landscapes, mixed with Aleppo pines that take advantage of any abandoned land to gain ground.

7 | La Huerta del Sapillo. This building once housed a prosperous farm, which was eventually abandoned more than half a century ago. In the next few years we want to restore it and enhance its value..

8 | Old swimming pool. At this point you will find the Bullana and Albosa wadis. The wadis are watercourses that normally flow down with little flow but in the rainy season they grow enormously, causing damage to buildings in their course. It is for this reason that the swimming pool built in 1980 by the neighbours had to be moved to its current location in 2014, leaving the old construction abandoned..





trail 04

The farmhouses



On this route you will discover how the agricultural land in this area was organised around the so-called "casas de labor". The vineyard plantations of an owner had their epicentre in a main house or winery, organising the territory. Along the walk you will see the "Casa de Lo Alto" and the "Casa del Pinar" (now converted into the Hotel Vila Sira) and the ruined "Bodega del Llano", as you stroll through vineyards, hills and wadis.

Starting point: the house
Type: loop route
Distance: 8 km
Elevation gain: 85 m

1 | New swimming pool. The new swimming pool built in 2014 replaced the old one built in the bed of the wadis, which you will see at the end of the promenade.

2 | Vineyards. In this area you can already see the vineyards of the "Casa de lo Alto" estate, which is still in operation.

3 | Grape varieties. On this map you can see that although the typical grape of this area is the Bobal variety, this estate has several varieties planted.

4 | Casa Lo Alto. Wine estate that houses a winery founded in 1976. It is located on a hill (hence its name "lo alto"). It was acquired in 2017 by Bodegas Murviedro, the Spanish subsidiary of the Schenk Group. In the "**plans**" section you will find the contact details to participate in some of its activities.

5 | Casa del Pinar. The old "Casa del Pinar" is now a hotel and restaurant, VILASIRA Rooms & Wines. In the "**plans**" section you will find the contact details to participate in some of its activities.

6 | Bodega del Llano. The winery of El Llano is currently abandoned, but it was one of the most fertile lands in the municipality, being at the foot of the Rambla.

7 | Plaza de San Antonio. This is the main square of the village. Here you can visit the church and its bell tower (if it is closed you can ask for the keys from Loli, at number 8 in the square), and drink from the fountain.





trail 05

Contreras' Knives



A simple route to discover the Cuchillos de Contreras, an emblematic geomorphological formation in the Natural Park. Starting under the impressive Contreras dam, you will go along the Cabriel river to a unique landscape that culminates in an iconic iron bridge and an area to rest on the edge of the river.

Starting point: Venta de Contreras

Type: round-trip route

Distance: 8 km

Elevation gain: 218 m

1 | Information point. The route begins in this parking area where the official Information Point of the Junta de Castilla La Mancha is located. It is open Saturdays and Sundays from 9am to 3pm from March to October.

2 | Walking through the trees. The path is very pleasant under the shade of the trees listening to the sound of the river in the background.

3 | Fields. Despite the difficult access, some fields are still cultivated at the foot of the knives. In this area you will also find a sign explaining this geological formation.

4 | Cuchillos (“knives”). The Cuchillos de Contreras are a stratification caused mainly by the erosion of the soft part of the limestone and dolomitic rock, all due to fluvial action. This has meant that, with the passage of time, the mountains at this point have acquired vertical formations thanks to numerous knife ridges.

5 | Tunnels. At this point the path passes through two small tunnels dug into the rock.

6 | Iron bridge. The famous iron bridge built in the 19th century to connect the Valencian and La Mancha sides of the river does not currently have a deck to cross. However, the sight of it with the waters flowing absorbs all those who stop to contemplate it calmly.

7 | Area next to the river. In this area there is a small backwater of the river ideal for a short refreshment and rest stop.

8 | Contreras Dam. The Contreras reservoir was built in 1972 at the confluence of the Cabriel and Guadazaón rivers. It has a surface area of 2710 ha, with a maximum capacity of 943 hm³, and the height of the dam is 129 metres. It is used for energy production and to supply water to the Júcar-Turía Canal, which supplies drinking water to the city of Valencia.

9 | Venta de Contreras Restaurant. A highly recommended spot for a well-deserved refreshment after the walk. Beautiful views of the dam from its terrace covered by a hundred-year-old vine.





Larqueta

Surroundings

Botanics

When you discover our landscapes you may be curious to know more about the vegetation you see. Here is a summary of the main species that you will find and that sometimes also decorate the vases at the house.

Wild vegetation

The wild vegetation growing in the forest surrounding the village is typical of the Mediterranean, being adapted to a generally dry climate of hot summers and cold winters.

Pino carrasco (Aleppo pine)

Protagonist of the Mediterranean forest landscapes and therefore of the Natural Park. It is adapted to dry, sunny areas, can reach 25 m in height and flowers in April-May, producing cones 5 to 12 cm long. It quickly colonises abandoned crop fields, so that the border between the fields and the forest is changeable. You can observe singular specimens on Trail 02 described in the "**Hiking trails**" section.

Mediterranean scrub

Together with the Aleppo pine, you will find a whole repertoire of smaller species adapted to the hot and dry summers, among others:

Enebro o sabina (Juniper). They can be small shrubs or grow into large trees. They are characterised by their thin, elongated, thorn-like leaves. Its berries are used in gastronomy or as a flavouring in certain beverages.

Aliaga (gorse). Characteristic for its thorns, it has beautiful yellow flowers from March to June..

Carrasca o acebo (holly). It has oval leaves with a thorny edge and produces a red fruit that ripens around October or November and remains on the tree all winter.

Espiego o lavanda (lavender). It flowers in July and is highly appreciated for the pleasant smell and properties of its essential oils.

Romero (Rosemary). Like lavender, this woody herb is highly prized for its scent and properties, and is widely used as a flavouring in local dishes.

Palmito (Palm). It is the only palm tree native to the Iberian Peninsula, adapted to dry seasons..

Acacia

Although less frequent, you can find some acacias such as the one that gives shade to the San Antonio Square.

Crops

The generally dry climate of the area has favoured the development of dry crops, although a whole network of irrigation ditches and ponds has allowed the development of species that can grow with little water, but which offer their fruits in all their splendour if they have access to it, currently by means of wells..

Parra o vid (Grapevine)

The cultivation of this species shapes the landscape of this region. The importance of grapes in the local economy marks the calendar of the villages, culminating with the grape harvest at the beginning of September. Its traditional cultivation with isolated vines is giving way to trellis cultivation and drip irrigation, seeking a balance between the quality of the grapes and facilitating its laborious cultivation. Find out much more about this species by visiting any of the wineries listed in the "**Wine Tourism**" section.

Almendo (Almond tree)

Along with the grapevine and the olive tree, the cultivation of almonds plays an important role in the local economy. It flowers around February-March, creating spectacular landscapes, and then develops its fruit, which is harvested in August-September. The most common varieties are the largueta and the marcona.

Olivo (Olive tree)

Finally, the third most important crop in the area is the olive, which is highly prized for its oil obtained by pressing. It flowers in mid-May and the olives are harvested in December, with the picual and cornicabra varieties being common in the area. You can experience a tasting of these oils in Oli Oli, the space described in the "**Plans**" section.

Fruit trees

The cultivation of fruit trees requires abundant water, so they are not frequent in the village except in certain riverbeds or on the banks of field boards, where rainwater tends to accumulate. In some of these you will find fig trees, whose fruit is ready to be enjoyed at the beginning of September..

River vegetation

Along the Cabriel river or the wadis that flow into it, you will find species that need much more water and that grow in abundance here, such as poplars, willows, tamarinds, reeds, rushes and bulrushes.



The project

About us

Behind every project there are passionate people with an idea. In my hamlet we are Julio and Iván

Julio

I was born in this hamlet in 1981 and although I have lived in several countries and cities, my parents still live here farming the family land, so the village has always been home for me to come back to.

I am a history teacher and design, travel and culture lover. A few years ago I started hosting tourists who wanted to discover Valencia, leading to create my own company dedicated to the renovation and management of tourist apartments, [Apartamentos de Pradas](#), committed on design and high quality tourism available to everyone.

© [apartamentosdepradas](#)

Iván

I was born in Santander in 1987. Although my day-to-day life is spent in Valencia, I enjoy the simple life in nature, so the hamlet is my refuge to escape to and enjoy the essentials.

My passion for design and construction led me to become an architect, specialising in large public buildings as well as in small restoration projects that reveal the stories and the vernacular know-how hidden in the spaces in which I work as [Iván Paul Arquitecto](#).

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about us

We met in 2018 and since then, with Ivan's creativity and Julio's strategic vision we have created a partnership based on our passion for design, nature, entrepreneurship and local culture.

Julio passed on his passion for the village to Iván, who has become a member of the family, rediscovering the values that often go unnoticed in the day-to-day life of its inhabitants.

With this project we want to contribute to the development of the hamlet and its inhabitants, and at the same time show you our personal landscapes in which to disconnect by returning to the origins, to the simple, to the **essential**.

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The project

The refurbishment

As if it were an archaeological work, in the rehabilitation project we wanted to recover the original values of a house with more than 100 years of history through design and contemporary comfort.

Check more at www.ivanpaul.es/casa-felicita

Starting point

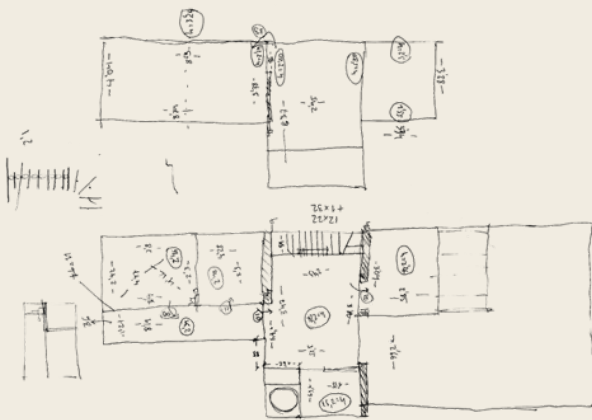
Throughout its history, the house had undergone multiple partial interventions that concealed its original values and presented the usual issues in this type of house: damp, structural deformations or lack of clear height and functional comfort.

The strategy

By re-reading traditional architectural concepts, the project eliminates these interventions and solves the technical problems by making a virtue out of necessity. Thus, taking advantage of the poor state of the forging, the lower spaces of the old chamber are incorporated in section, generating double heights in the common spaces. The openings in the load-bearing walls emphasise their massiveness and generate crossed views between these spaces and the exterior to which the house now turns after relocating its access through the landscaped courtyard with swimming pool. On the first floor the old chamber has been converted into the master bedroom, separated from the ensuite bathroom by a masonry unit with a fireplace.

Past vestiges

In the ground floor bathroom we have recovered the traditional marble basin used for washing. Above the fireplace in the dining room we have preserved an original fresco that appeared during the renovation, hidden behind layers of plaster. Scattered throughout the house you will find decorative ceramic and glass objects from the original house..



Building materials

For the renovation we have used traditional materials and techniques with the conviction that luxury lies in the knowledge that hides the craftsmanship, and thus preserve this intangible heritage..

Plaster floors

The continuous floors of the house were made by Andrés Millán, one of the few craftsmen who still masters the technique of plaster mortar floors, so common in traditional architecture.. @nohuki

Hydraulic tile floors

These decorative pigmented cement tiles were invented in the mid-19th century and spread throughout the Mediterranean. In the house you will find the original floor in the ground floor room, and a floor recovered from a demolished building in Valencia in the dining room.

Glazed ceramics

For the front of the kitchen we have used extruded ceramic pieces with relief and glazed from Ferrés, a traditional factory in the historic ceramics area of La Bisbal (Girona). @ferres_ceramica

Ceramic filters

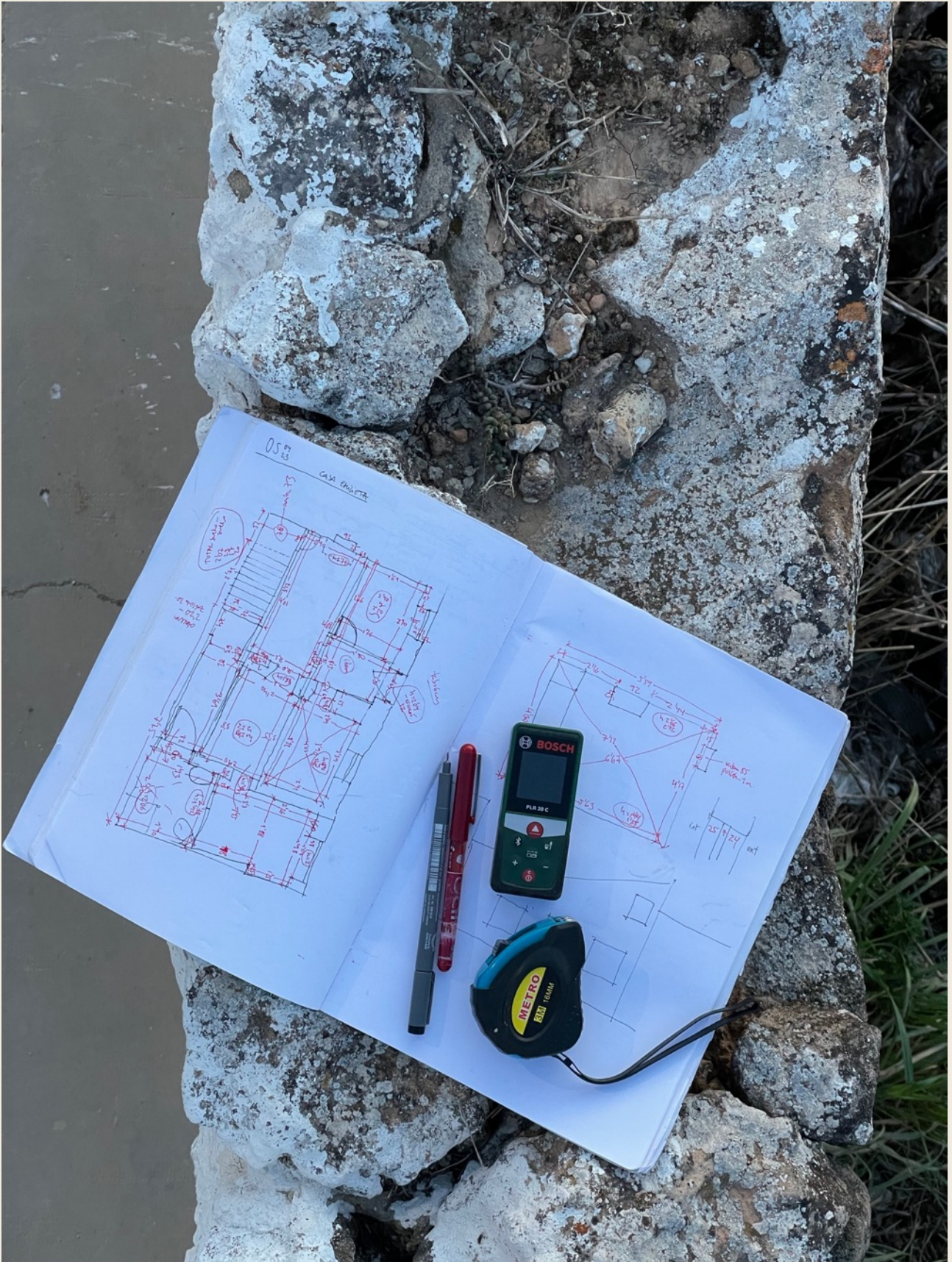
To give privacy to the swimming pool we have recovered the design of the original lattice of one of the terraces of the house, generating a world of shadows simply with the use of solid ceramic bricks and the geometry of the pool..

The Alicante shutter

To darken the house we have used the contemporary version of the traditional Alicante shutter developed by Persiana Barcelona, winner of the FAD Architecture and Design Awards in 2009. With a low-impact solution, this blind allows to darken, screen, protect and ventilate the house. @persianabarcelona

Lime and plaster coatings

The exterior walls of the house are rendered with traditional lime mortar dosed on site. This technique, which was widely used by masons until a few decades ago, is tending to disappear in favour of industrialised mortars which are much easier to apply. In the first-floor room, the walls have been plastered with plaster without applying paint, leaving the manual work required for their execution visible.



The project

Future

Casa Felicita is the first stone of **Mi Aldea**, a global project that seeks to enhance the value of our area, using the rehabilitation of the houses as the engine to promote the economic development of the village, keep its history and heritage alive and create community with local businesses and producers while offering a sustainable proposal of quality tourism to our guests.

That is why, in addition to the house you are staying in, we are currently working on the rehabilitation of other abandoned houses located in and around the village, each with a story to tell and that you can locate on the Google map from the QR:

- *Casa Felipa* -
- *Casa Elena* -
- *Casa Emilieta* -
- *Casa de las Serranas* -
- *Casa de María* -
- *La Huerta del Sapillo* -

Follow us at [@mialdea.es](https://twitter.com/mialdea.es) to find out about the evolution of our projects and soon discover the secrets hidden in all these homes.





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