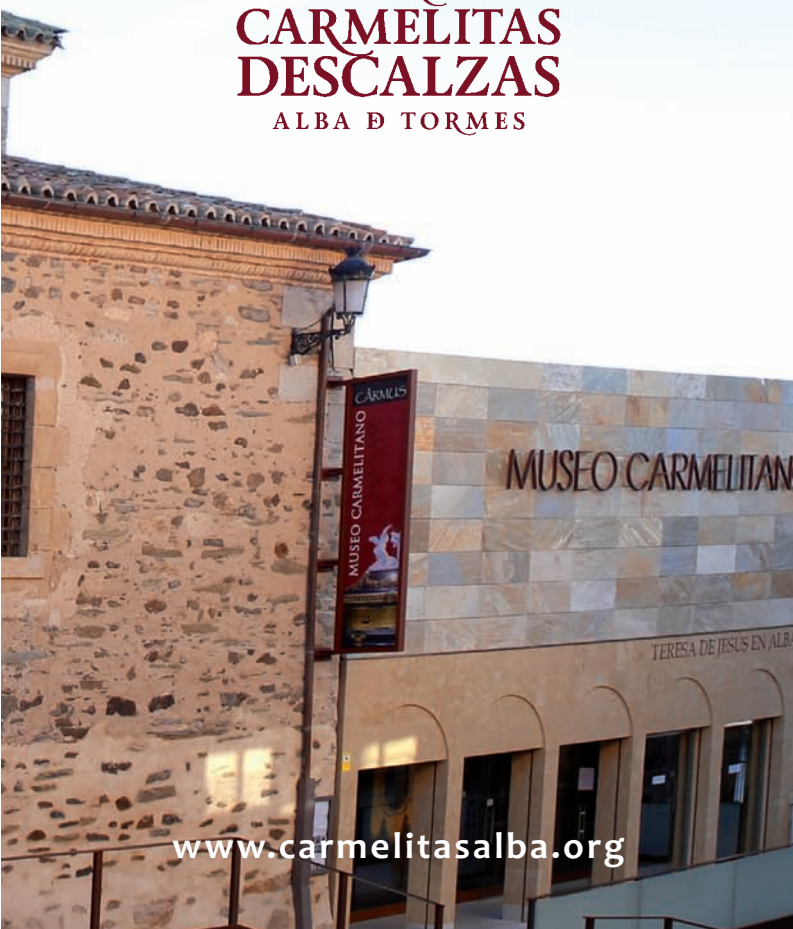


# CARMUS

## MUSEO CARMELITANO IN ALBA DE TORMES



[www.carmelitalba.org](http://www.carmelitalba.org)



*Saint Teresa's sepulcher,  
heart and arm.*

After a big restoration effort, the church of the Anunciación de Nuestra Señora del Carmen is a renovated Teresian shrine. Santa Teresa's room can be access from the temple. The room offers a unique approach to Santa Teresa and her reform of Carmel, her family and those who were her spiritual family. From the safe-keeping room integrated into the new Museum, pilgrims and visitors can reach the most precious treasure of the Carmelites: sepulcher, arm and heart of Saint Teresa.

The religious and cultural legacy that the convent keeps since its foundation can be grasped from the eight rooms of the Carmelite Museum opened in June 2014. It is not possible to summarize and asses here the great value of the more than 800 pieces that the museum exhibits. Amongst them sculptures by Mena and Algardi; paintings by Rizi, Morales, Palmezano; engravings with Teresian themes; two rooms with a more than interesting collection of oil paintings on copper; another of goldwork presided over by its silver altar. An ornaments room with a 16th century brocade cloth and valuable chasubles, dalmatics and pluvial layers; another singular of banners, among them the one that in 1622 presided over her canonization in the Vatican; a good collection of objects of the convent life that mixes pottery and ceramics, the collection of plates of the sacristy and candle wick trimmers.

Convent cell in which S. Teresa died on October 4, 1582



Entrances to the convent and temple



The Discalced Carmelites convent of «La Anunciacion» in Alba de Tormes is the eighth of the seventeen convents founded by Saint Teresa of Jesus. It was promoted by Teresa de Laíz and her husband Francisco Velázquez. The first mass was said on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 1571 and within its walls, Mother Teresa of Jesus died (1582) in a convent cell that can be visited today (entrance ticket to CARMUS Museum gives access to that cell). She was buried in her church, where she is venerated in the center of the main altarpiece nowadays.

The close connection of Alba de Tormes Carmelite order with Santa Teresa is clear in the cell and in the sepulchral dressing room in which her body, arm and heart are venerated, as it is also clear in the hundreds of pieces with religious, historical and artistic value exhibited in the temple, its chapels, the Prayer Room and the new Carmelitan Museum CARMUS. Some of these pieces, the less, proceed from the first years of convent life whereas the largest part come from over years as a result of the devotion to the Saint in her monastery, increased after her beatification and canonization: 1614 and 1622.



*Canonization banner (Rome 1622)*



*St. Michael by A. Algardi*



Museum general entrance ticket gives Pilgrims access to the temple and from it they can visit Santa Teresa's Room and the Death Cell. Limited entrance tickets give access only to those two rooms (€1). The temple is open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. (the schedule may vary). It is a place of worship and explanations should be minimal, in a low voice and far from the altar. Private guided tours are not allowed. CARMUS staff makes the explanations to the groups that opt for the museum's official guided tour. The museum is behind the church's head, about 40 meters from the temple and about 20m from the main square. The museum has an entrance area, a viewpoint over the basilica, ten rooms and a reasonable number of toilets.

**VISITING RULES:** Online booking is recommended for all groups • Only professional guides, professors and religious duly accredited can make guided visits in CARMUS • Access is not allowed with large packages (bags, backpacks, umbrellas, etc). Large packages should be left in the ticket office, at the reception, or in the umbrella stand. For groups, the museum provides containers with padlocks and keys are given to the group leader • Minors must be accompanied by adults. **Visitors can ONLY receive explanations through audio guides or guidance systems.** Guides can make explanations if they come with their own guidance system or purchase an entry that includes the rental of the system (model e)

**ENTRY FEES TO THE MUSEUM PER PERSON (year 2019)** \*a. Individual entrance ticket with audio guide €3.00. \*b. Entrance tickets for groups (more than 10 people) with individual audio guide €2.00. \*c. Groups (more than 10 people) with guided tour by CARMUS staff. €3.00. \*d. Groups (more than 10 people) with their own guide (qualified, teacher and / or religious) and with their own system of guidance €2.00. \*e. Entrance ticket for groups (more than 10 people) with their own guide, plus the rent of our guidance system €2.50. \*Children under 6 years of age, accompanied by relatives and proof with a family book: €0.00. \*Guides (qualified, teachers or religious) that accompany a group €0.00.

**ENTRANCE FEES TO SANTA TERESA'S ROOM and CELL OF her DEATH.** Single (without the rest of the Museum). €1.00. At the Museum's reception, payments are made in cash or by credit card (payments over €15).

**EVERY entrance ticket INCLUDES:** 1. Audiovisual. 2. Individual audioguide in Spanish, English, Portuguese, French, German, Italian and Korean. The duration of the visit to the museum with individual audio guide: about 50 minutes.

The Museum has painting, sculpture, ornaments, banners, goldsmith's, ceramics and conventual trousseau rooms. From the safe-keeping room integrated into the new Museum you get to the sepulcher of the Saint and her arm and heart

**OPENING TIMES.** Opening times can be checked on our website and on the museum boards placed at reception • Visit to groups that request, with a minimum advance of 7 days, early or late visits (earlier of after regular opening museum times or in the afternoons in which the Museum is closed) could be granted. The museum could be opened extraordinarily to groups calling at Tel. +34 628 001 660.

– **From December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 to 13:30. Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

– **March 2019 to October 2019:** Monday from 11:00 to 13:30 and from 16:00 to 18:30. Tuesday to Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

– **November 2019 to December 10, 2019:** Monday from 11:00 to 13:30. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 to 13:30 and from 16:00 to 17:30. Friday, Saturday and Sunday (plus following bank holidays: November 1<sup>st</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

– **December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 to 13:30. Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**THE MUSEUM REMAINS CLOSED:** December 24<sup>th</sup>: afternoon • December 25<sup>th</sup>: morning and afternoon • December 31<sup>st</sup>: afternoon • January 1<sup>st</sup>: morning and afternoon • January 6<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany): morning and evening • Maundy Thursday: afternoon • Good Friday: morning and afternoon • «August 27<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> closed from 12 noon to 4:00 pm • From October 31<sup>st</sup> 2019 to February 29<sup>th</sup> 2020 the museum closes Monday afternoons.