

Guided tours on the map of Vilanova i la Geltrú, a city ideal for walking.



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A walk around Vilanova

You begin this tour in Plaça Sant Antoni and end in Plaça de Soler i Gustems.

From [Plaça Sant Antoni \(1\)](#) you can see the neoclassical façade of the church and its white-stoned, slightly inclined, steeple. Continuing on down Carrer de l'Església, where, at No. 14, you find a building by Orfeo Vilanoví (1909), and further along you come to [Plaça de Pau Casals \(2\)](#), formerly Plaça Major, location of the old Town Council, where the weekly market took place. At the end of this street you see the exit gate to la Geltrú, called the "[Nin](#)" [gateway \(3\)](#), vestiges of the great walls that once surrounded the town. Going up Carrer de Les Premises you reach Plaça de la Diputació and Carrer Major, Main Street of old Vilanova, where you can contemplate two mansions of great grandeur: the house of the Marquises de Samà, and [Papiol House \(4\)](#), now preserved with all its furnishings and converted into a museum.

You continue your walk down Carrer de Comerç, until you reach [Plaça de les Cols \(5\)](#), where the old vegetable market was once located.



← Plaça Sant Antoni



↓ Plaça de Pau Casals



← The Nin gateway



↓ Can Papiol Romantic Museum



↓ Plaça de les Cols

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In this square stand the houses of "Can Cabanyes", (a building that saw the birth of the Catalan pre-romantic poet Manuel de Cabanyes), and the Foment vilanoví (1853). On your way down Carrer Caputxins, towards Plaça dels Cotxes, you find three remarkable houses: the one with the sgraffito façade was the last headquarters of the Bank of Vilanova, and the house right beside it and the one directly in front of it, you see the "Indiano" houses of Milà and Junqué, respectively. Next to Milà's house you find what is called "[Casa de les Columnes Trenchades](#)" (6) (House of Broken Columns). The tale goes that the owner made a bet according to which he affirmed that the house would still stand up equally even if the columns broke.

Walking into the historic [Plaça de la Vila \(7\)](#), you reach the heart of civic life and the most emblematic urban space of Vilanova. It is of a neo-colonial style and one of the biggest arched squares in Catalonia. It was built in the 19th century over lands surrounding the old Capuchin convent, property of Josep Tomàs Ventosa, one of the "Americanos" (Catalans who journeyed to Latin America and prospered then returned to Catalonia with their wealth), enriched while in Cuba, where he was Mayor of Matanzas, and a builder of diverse social buildings such as libraries and schools in both towns of Cuba and Vilanova. In the centre of the square stands a monument to this Vilanovan nobleman which has its exact replica in the town of Matanzas.

On the south side of the square, the Town Hall (1867) is situated; headquarters of the Town Council, with its very romantic aesthetic canons, and has been the setting for many films.

Leaving Plaça de la Vila you walk towards Carrer de Sant Sebastià, where you find [the Hermitage \(8\)](#) dedicated to this saint and you finish your tour in [Plaça de Soler i Gustems \(9\)](#), more popularly known as Plaça de los Carros, where there is a modernist fountain, dedicated to this Vilanovan patriarch from which it gets its name.



↓ House of Broken Columns



↓ Plaça de la Vila



↓ Sant Sebastià Hermitage



↓ Plaça de Soler i Gustems