

SKUPINOVÁ MOBILITA: IES FRANCISCO SALZILLO Alcantarilla, Murcia, Španělsko

TERMÍN: 1. 2. 2026 – 8. 2. 2026

PROJEKT: Active EU Citizen: I love myself

Murcia Cathedral of Saint Mary

Murcia Cathedral is a very big and very famous church in Murcia in Spain. Its full name is **Cathedral of Saint Mary**, but most people just say Murcia Cathedral because it is easier. It is the most important building in the city and also the main symbol of Murcia.

When people think about the city, they usually imagine this cathedral first, because it is huge and impossible to miss.



One very interesting fact is that the cathedral was built **on the place of a mosque**. A long time ago, Murcia was controlled by Muslims. Later, Christians took over the city and decided to build a big cathedral there. Construction started in **1394**. That is more than 600 years ago, which is crazy. The building process took many centuries, so different architects worked on it in different time periods. Because of that, **the cathedral has different styles mixed together**. It is not just one clean style. **It has Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque elements** all in one building. It is like an architectural mix which can be seen especially on the tower.



The most famous and dramatic part is the main façade at the front. It is in Baroque style and it is extremely decorated. **There are statues, columns, carvings, and many small details** everywhere. It almost looks like someone tried to decorate every single centimetre of the wall. Some people say it looks like a giant stone cake because of all the decoration. It was **finished in the 18th century**, which is much later than the beginning of the cathedral. That is why it looks different from the older parts.

Another super interesting thing is **the bell tower**. The tower is about **93 meters high**, which makes it one of the tallest church

towers in Spain. It is very tall and you can see it from many parts of the city. The tower was also built in different stages, so if you look carefully, you can see that the lower part looks older and simpler, and the upper part looks more decorated. If tourists are brave enough, they can climb the tower. From the top, there is an amazing view of the whole city of Murcia and the surrounding area.

Inside the cathedral, there are many chapels. Each chapel has different decorations,





paintings, and sculptures. Some are very detailed and full of gold and ornaments. There are also important religious artworks and altars. The ceiling is high, which makes the space look even bigger and more impressive. When you walk inside, it feels quiet and serious, but also very grand.

Probably the strangest and most interesting fact is that **the heart of King Alfonso X is buried there**. Not his whole body, just his heart. He was an important king in Spanish history, and he had a special connection to Murcia. So, his heart was placed in the cathedral as a symbol. It sounds a bit weird today, but in the past, this was sometimes done for important rulers.

The cathedral is still used today. People go there for mass, weddings, and religious celebrations. At the same time, it is a huge tourist attraction. Many visitors come every year to see the architecture, take photos, and learn about the history. Because it is old, tall, dramatic, and architecturally mixed, it is **one of the most interesting buildings in Murcia**.

In conclusion, Murcia Cathedral is old, huge, and full of interesting facts. It was built on a mosque, it took centuries to finish, it mixes different styles, it has a super decorated façade, a very tall tower, and even the heart of

a king inside. That is why it is such an important and famous place.

Author: Filip
Velička 7.C

