

Castellarnau House

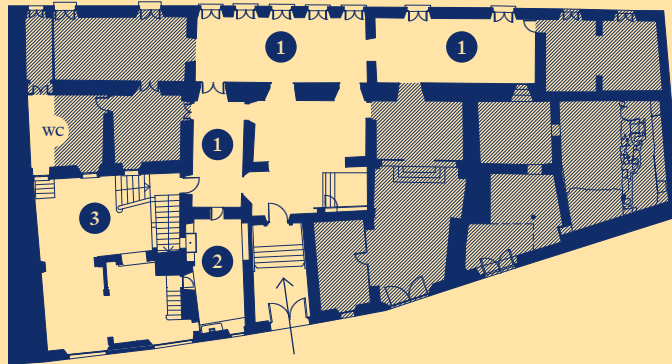
English

Museu d'Història
Tarragona

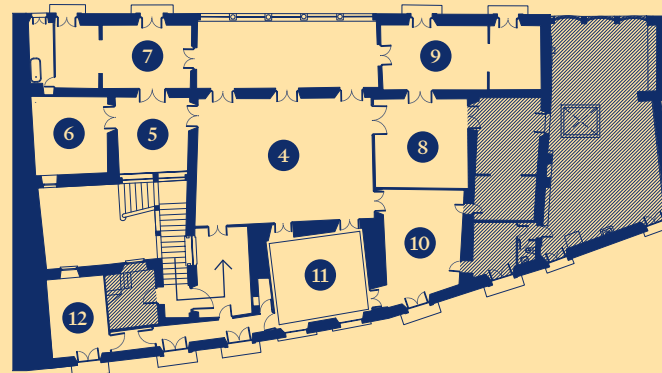
More information at
museuhistoria.tarragona.cat



IVIH



Ground Floor



Main Floor

 Closed rooms

1. Exhibition area
2. Kitchen
3. Courtyard and stairs
4. Ballroom
5. Hall and Sanctuary
6. Music Room

7. Bedroom with Bathroom
8. Isabel II Chamber
9. Bedroom
10. Billiard Room
11. Dining Room
12. Library-study

Since the fourteenth century this house had been the residence of wealthy families of Tarragona. In 1542, Emperor Charles V lived here during his stay in the city. Carles de Castellarnau was born in Alins (Pallars Sobirà) and he was owner of several forges. In the middle of the eighteenth century, he and his wife Maria Magriñà born in Tarragona acquired the house and converted it into a palace with contemporary style. Since then, it has been named Casa Castellarnau. From 1954 the building became municipal property and after a general reformation in 1977, it became a romantic museum with furniture from various donations.

The Baroque façade is decorated with sgraffito and above the entrance door there is a marble coat of arms representing Castellarnau family. A small sample of the museum's collection is exhibited on the ground floor. It is a heterogeneous set of archaeological and ethnographic pieces that covers a wide chronological period. Also, you can visit the recreation of the old kitchen.

The Gothic staircase with some Renaissance elements was built around the sixteenth century. In the courtyard you can see several pointed arcs dated between the fourteenth and fifteenth century, tombstones from the eighteenth century as the one belonging to Carles de Castellarnau, coats of arms from Tarragona and from Santa Tecla Hospital. The entrance to the cellar is in the courtyard.

The Noble housing in the main floor has rooms with furniture from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The most emblematic chamber is the ballroom, with its ceiling paintings depicting mythological themes. On each side of the ceiling are represented some allegories and scenes about the four elements: air, fire, earth and water. The central section is dominated by the representation of the apotheosis of Castellarnau arms surrounded by the main classical gods: Zeus, Hera, Athena, Hermes and Apollo.

