

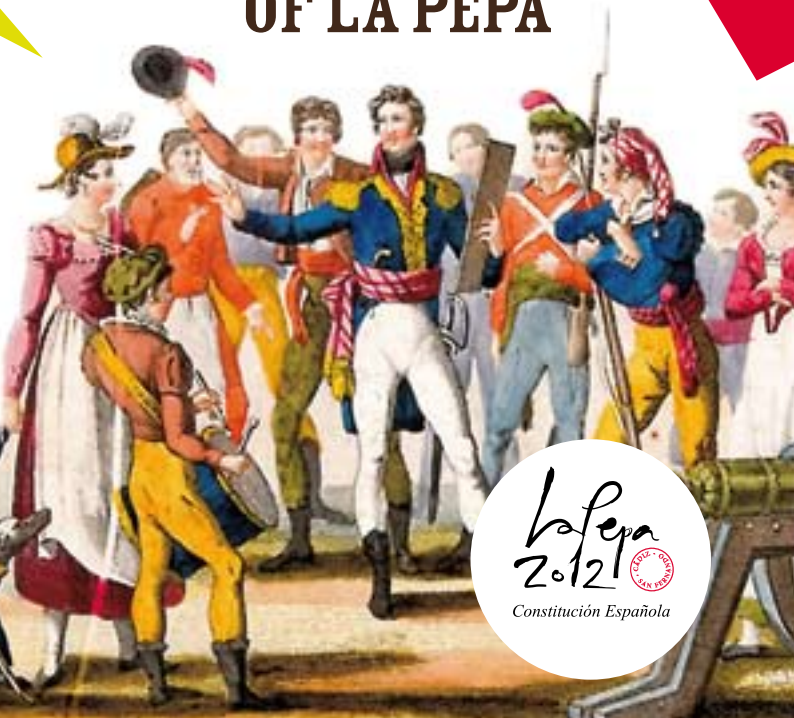


1812

A STROLL THROUGH THE

CADIZ

OF LA PEPA



La Pepa
2012



Constitución Española

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Constitución Española

The 1812 Constitution

This guide will take the reader back to **1812**. A year of upheavals when politicians fled to safety in the south of the peninsula as Napoleon's army swept through Spain. Strategically located between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean, between Europe and Africa, Cadiz became an unassailable haven where these men would plan the Spain of the future.

The **Isla de León**, the historical name for the piece of land joining **Cadiz** to the Spanish mainland and nowadays known as San Fernando, initially and later Cadiz welcomed these members of parliament from Spain and Latin America who had come together to draft a constitution that would return power to **King Ferdinand VII** and rubber stamp the rights and liberties of the future nation once it was freed.

The **San Felipe Neri Oratory** was the venue for the heated debates between the members of parliament who, after more than 1400 sessions, wrote the magna carta. On **19 March**, St. Joseph's Feast Day, the Cortes Generales or Spanish Parliament enacted the **1812 Spanish Constitution**, the first liberal Magna Carta of Spain and Europe and one of the most progressive of its time. An inspiration on both sides of the Atlantic, the text has gone down in history with the nickname that was popularly used for the people of Cadiz, **La Pepa**. The city is currently getting ready to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the constitution in 2012.





Océano Atlántico
(Bahía de Cádiz)

Gran Teatro Falla

Mercado de Abastos



A stroll through the Cadiz of “La Pepa” Constitution

In 1812, Cadiz played a key role in the important events that took place in Spain and Central and South America. At the height of the Peninsular War, the Spanish resistance met in the city, famed for its culture and port, to shape the first liberal constitution of Spain and Europe. Popularly known as **La Pepa**, as it was enacted on St. Joseph's Day (Pepa is the shortened form of Josephine in Spanish), the signing of the constitution was celebrated by thousands of local residents with a civic procession through the city.

1812, a stroll through the Cadiz of “**La Pepa**” Constitution will take you along that route to discover the **liberal city** of that memorable period: the homes of the members

of parliament, the sites of the debates, the commemorative monuments and the squares and streets that were the backdrop to one of the most important moments of Spanish and Latin American history.

You will discover the character of the gaditanos, as the local residents are known, in a city that doubled its population at that time and was famed for its lively atmosphere and culture.

Travel back to 1812, discover **the spirit of Cadiz** and the liberties encased in a Constitution that would prove to be decisive for Europe and Latin America. Explore the city that will celebrate **democracy and constitutionalism** in 2012.



1812
A STROLL THROUGH THE
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Zone 1

1. Seat of the Provincial Council
2. Plaza de España
3. Monument to the Cadiz Parliament
4. House of the Five Towers
5. House of the Four Towers



WC

WC

5

3

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20

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Seat of the Provincial Council

The building of the current Provincial Council is your first stop on this 1812 route, as the procession to celebrate the enactment of La Pepa set off from here. The first public reading of the constitution took place in front of this building.

It is a typical aristocratic building from the end of the 18th century, constructed around two square courtyards, with balustraded balconies and large windows. The **local oyster stone**, a light cream limestone, adorns the lower part of the frontage. The building has recently undergone a facelift and its pinkish hue recalls its earliest days when it was the Customs Building.

Juan Caballero, the military engineer, was the architect who designed the building. This lofty structure, which was started in 1770 and completed 1782, would house the **customs authorities** and was one of the city's most important buildings during that golden age.



The Provincial Council building was originally used as the Customs Building.



Now, look at the roof. Can you imagine King **Ferdinand VII** flying kites from there? You might think I am joking, but I can promise you that is true. It was the way that the king used to communicate with his army on the other side of the bay, while he was held prisoner during the last part of the **Liberal Triennium** or 1820-1823 Spanish Civil War, in 1823.

Then, once inside the building, it is not hard to imagine **Queen Isabel II** holding court in her room decorated in the French style. Today's Provincial Council building was the **Regency Palace** during the siege by the Napoleonic troops. It underwent extensive refurbishing for the queen's stay, including the characteristic decoration of the **Salón Regio** or Royal Room.

The **Salón Regio** boasts the sculptures of Juan Rosado and paintings by Juan Bautista Vivaldi.



Plaza de España

The Plaza de España square is currently one of the city's iconic spots. It is the first thing you see as you leave the port. As you stand in the centre of the square and look around you, you will truly appreciate the grandeur of this landscaped area built in the early 20th century on land reclaimed from the sea.

The square was built to house the **Monument to the Cadiz Parliament, Constitution and Siege**, which was erected to commemorate the **La Pepa** centenary in 1912. We will look at the monument in more detail in a moment.

Plaza de España is nowadays a place where the gaditanos like to relax and spend their free time, as they did back then. It is surrounded by typical 18th-

century buildings, such as the merchants' houses with their characteristic **watchtowers** or the Provincial Council building that you have just visited.

The square boasts typical local plants, generous green areas and paths that criss-cross it.





Monument to mark the centenary
of the 1812 Constitution



Le Pepa, holding a copy of the Constitution in one hand and a sword in the other.

Monument to the Cadiz Parliament, Constitution and Siege

Six thousand euros, a derisory sum by today's standards, was the prize given to Modesto Lopez Otero, the architect, and Aniceto Mariñas, the sculptor, in 1911, when they won the competition organised in Madrid to construct a monument to mark the centenary of La Pepa Constitution.

The Monument to the Cadiz Parliament, Constitution and Siege is a highly symbolic work. Its structure represents the parliamentary semi-circle and it has a 32-metre high central pillar holding up the constitution. It was thus built so that the **symbol of freedom** could be seen from the sea by the ships arriving to the nearby port.

There is an alto-relieve depicting the **members of parliament** swearing loyalty to the Constitution on 19 March 1812, before its solemn enactment. The main figure is the clerk to the Parliament, who is addressing the members of parliament and asking them to swear on the bible.

The sculpture behind the monument is of Hercules, who founded Cadiz

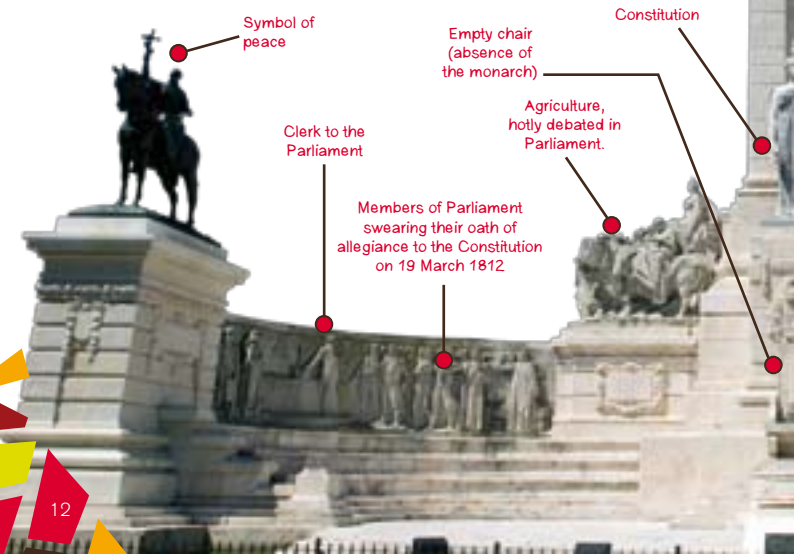


There is sculptural group in the upper part that represents agriculture, one of the main issues in the debates of the Cadiz Parliament. At the end, an equestrian figure symbolises peace and frames the work.

In contrast, the alto-relieve on the **right** depicts war, the time when the Cadiz Board of Defence refused to surrender the city to Joseph-Napoleon Bonaparte. The Board's very reply can be read in bronze letters:

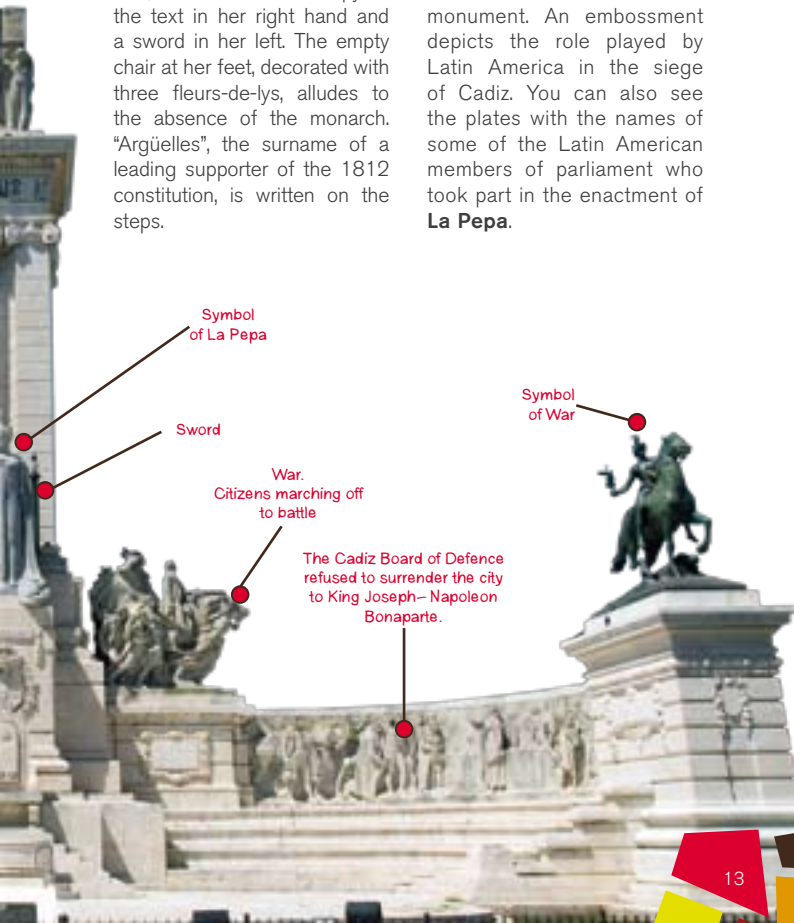
"The city of Cadiz, loyal to the principles that it has sworn to uphold, recognises no other king than Ferdinand VII".

The upper sculpture group depicts the citizen marching into battle. War is also represented by the equestrian figure on the right, identified as Mars, the Roman god of war. The canon by the horse's hooves helps to reinforce the warmongering message.



A female figure in the **central** part of the monument is the symbol of **La Pepa**. The word "Constitution" is written at her feet, and she holds a copy of the text in her right hand and a sword in her left. The empty chair at her feet, decorated with three fleurs-de-lys, alludes to the absence of the monarch. "Argüelles", the surname of a leading supporter of the 1812 constitution, is written on the steps.

The sculpture of Hercules, who legend has it founded Cadiz and the main figure on the city's coat-of-arms, stands out on the **back** of the monument. An embossment depicts the role played by Latin America in the siege of Cadiz. You can also see the plates with the names of some of the Latin American members of parliament who took part in the enactment of **La Pepa**.



Symbol
of La Pepa

Sword

War.
Citizens marching off
to battle

The Cadiz Board of Defence
refused to surrender the city
to King Joseph– Napoleon
Bonaparte.

Symbol
of War

The House of the Five Towers

The complex known as the House of the Five Towers, built in 1771, is in reality five adjacent Baroque Buildings, located in one of the most genteel zones near to the port.

The House of the Five Towers is an example of the many **merchants' houses** that you will come across as you walk through Cadiz. But do you know how the local merchants lived? What was life like for the bourgeoisie inside their homes?

There is a large courtyard on the **ground-floor** of each of the buildings. The courtyard would sometimes have a water tank, to collect rainwater, and was surrounded by storage areas for the merchandise. The offices or clerk's quarters, where the merchant or office activity took place, were on the **mezzanine**. The family living quarters was on the **second floor** and the outside rooms had large balconies and looked over the street. The **third floor**, which was considerably more cramped, was used as the servant's quarters.

There were two-storey towers on the **roof**, which were used as lookout posts to watch the merchant's ships come and go. Flags would sometimes be flown from these torres vigia or watch towers, built in a range of styles and features, to help the ships identify the houses from the sea..



The House of the Four Towers

The House of the Four Towers or the Fragela House, built in 1745 under the aegis of Juan de Fragela, these premises were rented out to merchants who were temporarily living in Cadiz.

In the same way as the House of the Five Towers, it is a group of buildings that make up a block of houses. Its special architectural feature is **a watch tower in each of the four corners**. These towers are undeniably the most accomplished and best-preserved of any of the buildings of this type in Cadiz.

Many merchants stayed in this house in the period running up to the enactment of **La Pepa**, as would some of the members of parliament when they came to take part in the debates from other areas of Spain and Latin America.

In 1811, the city had 3,740 dwellings, which were not sufficient to accommodate the population increase, which rose to **100,000 inhabitants** during the important events that were

taking place. Therefore, when the Cortes Parliament was moved from the Isla de León to the capital, an edict was published on 15 January 1811 asking the local residents to help to lodge the members of parliament.

Part of the magic of the city of Cadiz is its skyline, one of the best preserved dating back to the 18th century.



The background of the entire page is a light red color with a white line-art map of a city street grid. The grid consists of various rectangular and irregular shapes representing blocks and streets, with some larger, more complex shapes that might represent parks or specific landmarks.

1812
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Zone 2

- 6. Plaza Argüelles
- 7. San Carlos ramparts
- 8. Calle Ahumada/Mejía Lequerica's house



6

Argüelles drafted the Preamble to the Constitution and was the driving force for the freedom of the press.

Plaza Argüelles

This square has been the scene of hundreds of stories, most of which date back to the start of the 20th century. From meetings of famous politicians to debates on La Pepa, without forgetting the taverns where eminent members of parliament stayed and it was even the setting for honour killings

The square, which was then known as the **Plazuela del Pozo de las Nieves**, is in the San Carlos neighbourhood, which was then home to merchants, ships' agents and, even, the seats of some consulates.

It is in a strategic location, as it connects the Plaza de España square and the Paseo de la Alameda Apodaca, the street looking out to sea. At that time, a path ran from the Customs Building, the current seat of the Provincial Council, to that street where the members of parliament would stroll along hoping to see their liberal and

enlightened dreams turn into reality.

Agustín de Argüelles y Álvarez González, the member of parliament, was driven to come from Asturias and he settled in number 9 of the square that now bears his name, along with another Asturian MP, José María Queipo de Llano y Ruiz de Saravia, known as the Count of Toreno.

And why was he paid the honour of having the square name after him? Some of the reasons are that Argüelles was entrusted with drafting the



Plaza de Argüelles



Preamble to the Constitution

and he helped to pass the laws on the **freedom of the press** and the **abolition of torture**, along with trying to foster the abolition of slavery.

The Plaza de Argüelles was also the setting for other events. The most dramatic was the **murder of the military governor** of Cadiz, Francisco Solano Ortiz de Rozas, who was stabbed to death at number 10. He had been accused of collaborating with the French and legend has it that he was stabbed in the back by a friendly hand to the shouts of "Murder to the traitor" so that he did not have to suffer the dishonour of being hung like a common prisoner, which would have been the punishment administered by the courts.

Members of Parliament, merchants, ship's agents and consulates would go about their business in this central square.

In short, a square surrounded by history and which housed the predecessors of some ideals that we now take for granted, but which were a true civic and political accomplishment over two centuries ago that placed Cadiz at the cutting edge of modern thinking.



Argüelles, 10

Stroll along the ramparts and enjoy the views out over the Bay.

7

San Carlos ramparts

These ramparts are an example of the many defence constructions that the city of Cadiz needed in the 18th century. The Dutch, English and French fleets on the watch for a way into the city port would moor out at sea off these ramparts.

The military structure is the work of the engineer **Antonio Hurtado** and the civilian buildings housed inside it – known as the San Carlos neighbourhood – were built under the aegis of the government, **Count O'Reilly**, following the norms of the academicism movement in a fundamentally neo-classical period.

The San Carlos Ramparts still have some of the original **55 casemates** which were the sites for **90 pieces of artillery** to defend the city. Nowadays, you can walk along most of this military structure and enjoy the views out over part of the Bay of Cadiz.





The San Carlos ramparts are built in oyster limestone from La Caleta quarries.



Calle Ahumada / Mejía Lequerica

José Mejía Lequerica, a parliamentarian from Quito (Ecuador), a great orator and who played a key role in the drafting of the Constitution, stayed at Number 18 of this street.

As you continue along the San Carlos ramparts, you can see the street known as Calle Ahumada to your left, where **Mejía Lequerica** lived.

Remembered for his speeches supporting the **freedom of the press and against the Inquisition** – as is recalled on the plaque on the front of his house at Plaza San Antonio, 13-, Mejía Lequerica died in Cadiz, victim of the yellow fever epidemic in 1813.

The numerous yellow fever epidemics that ravaged the city at that time, particularly in 1800 and 1804 and, later, in 1813, was the reason that the Cadiz Parliament was again moved to the Isla de León.

Latin American member of parliaments, such as Mejía Lequerica, influenced the **national constitutions of the republics of their respective countries**. This shows that the Cadiz Constitution was designed, envisioned and drafted to act as a model for a revolutionary and Spanish-speaking world.





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Zone 3

- 9. Alameda Apodaca
- 10. Church of El Carmen
- 11. Calle Bendición de Dios

no Atlántico
a de Cádiz)



Alameda Apodaca

Looking out over the bay, this is one of the most iconic spots of the city of Cadiz. It dates back to 1617, even though it has been refurbished on numerous occasions that explain its appearance today.

The open promenade along the top of the ramparts is very popular with local residents to stroll along in the evenings in the refreshing Atlantic breeze. Sit down on any bench along the Alameda Apodaca, relax and look out to sea through its balustrade.

As you walk along the Alameda Apodaca you will begin to understand the inhabitants of Cadiz who delighted everyone who sought refuge here during the Peninsular War against France.

Major W. Darymple described life in Cadiz at the end of the 18th century:

"It is one of the Spanish cities where the way of life is less stifled and most

Dance, gambling, being seen in society and romantic entanglements were the common pastimes in 18th century Cadiz.

pleasant... There is elegance in their manners, nobility in their conduct, breeding in everyday life that is not to be found anywhere else. Much importance is given to pleasure and even though the city's residents are traders which takes up much of their time, dancing, playing, walking, society and love are not absent, as these fill their free time and when ever they can get away from their wheeling and dealing. The women are pleasant, lively, friendly and not at all prudish, which along with their beauty, grace and their seductive tone make it difficult to resist them..."



There are several commemorative sculptures along the Alameda Apodaca. One of them honours the **Marques of Comillas**, Claudio López, the driving force behind the Compañía Trasatlántica shipping company and a ship owner who was closely related to the maritime life of the city. There are small monuments dedicated to Latin American writers and figures involved in the events of 1812, such as **Ramón Power Giral**, the famous sailor, a member of parliament from Puerto Rico and vice president of the Cadiz Parliament.



Church of El Carmen

The Church of El Carmen is where the solemn "Te Deum" was held to give thanks for the auspicious outcome of the Constitution.

It is a Baroque temple, built in the middle of the 18th century on the site of the old Benediccion de Dios chapel. It is dedicated to **Our Lady of El Carmen**, who as the patron saint of sailors and fishermen is closely linked to Cadiz's popular religious fervour .

Antonio Alcalá Galiano, the member of parliament, tells in his memoirs that the ceremony in the Church of El Carmen was marked by such a storm that it caused an accident without any serious consequences that the people took in good humour:

"They were singing the Te Deum, when the force of the hurricane brought down a large tree in front of the church, and some of the onlookers (including myself), not from superstition but as a joke, alluded to what could be taken to be a bad omen for the fate of the new law".



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Zone 4

12. Plaza del Mentidero

13. Calle Veedor

14. Plaza San Antonio

a. Cadiz Casino

b. Aramburu House

c. Café Apolo

d. The Peman House

e. Lottery



9

PLAZA DE MINA

CALDERÓN DE LA BARCA

OROZCO

BUENAS ARES

ENRIQUE DE LAS MARINAS

SAN JOSÉ

CARMEN

FERNÁN CABALLERO

VEA MURGUÍA

h

c

14

11

13

VEIDOR

CERVANTES

ZARAGOZA

FORRE

12

HERCULES

CEBALLOS

BENJUMEDA

VIRGILIO



12

Plaza del Mentidero

The Plaza del Mentidero square, far from the French batteries, was one of the safest places at that time.

According to the archives, there were very few houses in Cadiz where there was not a plan of the city daubed in lines. The gaditanos used them and a compass to calculate the approximate range of the bombs, taking the place where the last ones had fallen as the point of reference.

The square is a slightly elongated triangular in shape. It is the heart of a neighbourhood that began to be built in 1755 as the city spread between the San Antonio square and the Carlos III barracks.

Plaza del Mentidero is an ideal spot to stop off and linger over a drink at one of its sidewalk cafés.

As you travel back through 1812, a pause here is a real must as the Plaza del Mentidero was **where the text of La Pepa was read for the second time.**

A boundary cross was erected here and would later be called as the Cross of Truth. The gaditanos did not take long to nickname it the **Plaza de la Cruz de las Mentiras** (the Cross of Lies Square), as the local vagrants would come here and shout out news of all kinds, but much of which was false.



Plaza del Mentidero



The mansion, which is now used as a venue for events, still boasts some of its 18th century features

Calle Veedor, 3

This was the home of one of the most famous figures of this period of history: the Duke of Wellington.

The house, located at nº 3, is an eighteenth-century building with a high watchtower that was totally refurbished halfway through the 19th century. The frontage, courtyard and the outbuildings around it still are fine examples of eighteenth century architecture.

Sir Arthur C. Wellesley, Duke of Wellington and of Ciudad Rodrigo, was the leader of the Spanish and English troops during the Cadiz Parliament and was a popular figure in the city. Wellington is considered to be as one of the main European political and military figures of the 19th century.

According to the reports at the time, when he arrived, the Duke of Wellington was warmly welcomed by the officials and society, then crowds cheered him in the streets. A dance was held at the Alms House (Casa de



la Misericordia) –which was then the Provincial Hospice- where according to eyewitnesses, the Countess of Benavente received an anonymous warning that the food was poisoned. When Wellington realised what was going on, he was the first to turn it into a joke and try each of the dishes. The duke only dined with women. The men had to wait, and very little was left of the banquet when they were allowed into the dining room.

Plaza San Antonio

This square is one of the nerve centres of the city and was where the Constitution was read for the third time in 1812.

It was originally called the **Jara field**, as it was close to the Jara Well, which provided the city with drinking water for a time. In the 17th century, it was called the Plaza de San Antonio as a chapel dedicated to this saint had been built here. It was also known as **Constitution Square** as it was one of the places where **La Pepa** was proclaimed.

It has a rectangular layout and the buildings around it have been the settings for tales about **famous families, cafes and the tertulias** (literary salons). This square was the civic and religious centre of Cadiz, strategically located near to the San Felipe Neri Oratory, opening up to Calle Ancha and its famous cafes and within easy reach of the Alameda, where the gaditanos would stroll and relax.

As you stand in the centre of the square or sit on one



This square, which was the civic and religious centre in the 19th century, preserves many examples of the civilian architecture of that time.

of its benches, it is easy to imagine the hustle and bustle at that time, when the square witnessed the toing and froing of the more than 200 members of parliament who met in Cadiz. The building housing **Cadiz's Casino**, the **Aramburu House** and the seat of the **Spanish Open University (UNED)** are examples of the civilian architecture of a bourgeois city whose heyday was in the 19th century.

yesterday



today







A real must is to visit the Casino's courtyard, a fine example of the Neo-Mudejar style.

Cadiz Casino

Before leaving Plaza San Antonio, make your way over to Number 15 of this iconic spot that is truly imbued with the spirit of La Pepa.

The Cadiz Casino is one of the most picturesque buildings in the square. The original Baroque building was refurbished in the Elizabethan style by **Juan de la Vega** halfway through the 19th century.

You will be struck by the elaborate decoration in the **Neo-Mudejar inside courtyard**, dating back to the 19th century and the mirrors and rooms in the Neo-classical style.

From the end of the 19th century, Cadiz Casino fostered culture and cohesion among Cadiz's society and is currently the seat of the **1812 Constitutional Studies Foundation**.

During the Cadiz Parliament, it was home to an important local family, the **Istúriz**, one of whose

members, Tomás de Istúriz, was the driving force of the Cadiz Board of Defence and later a member of parliament. It is said of him, and of some of his contemporaries, that he belonged to the **masons**, a philosophical and philanthropic organisations, whose members sought to foster the moral and intellectual development of the human being.

In the Cadiz of that time, the **Cadiz lodge** was closely linked to trade as it ran business and operations abroad. The claim that the liberal thought of that time was run by this type of organisation has been discussed on numerous occasions, but it has never really been proven due to the inherent secrecy of the movement.

B

Aramburu house

It was the seat of the Aramburu Hermanos Bank, established in 1870, for more than half a century.

The Aramburu House is located at No 1 Plaza de San Antonio. It is a mansion in an eclectic style – historicist, with modernist additions to its façade –, belonging to the **Aramburu family**.



When the Cadiz Bank disappeared, there were no banks left in the city. Private bankers, such as the Aramburu brothers, then emerged.

It is a four-storey building. The ground floor is entered through a huge straight marble entrance and framed by Corinthian or-

namental columns, over which there is the main Baroque balcony and framed by stipes and ogee pediment.

One of the most characteristic features of the building is its frontage, covered with blue and yellow tiles. There is a gallery in the upper floor made up of semi-circular arches on adjoining columns and there is a lookout point at the top of the building.

Next to the Aramburu House, the current building of the **Spanish Open University (UNED)** is at Number 2 Plaza de San Antonio.

The building is a perfectly preserved example of the Neo-classical style of that time. It dates back to the early 19th century and was designed by Pedro Ángel Albisu and built by Domingo Álvarez, the architect.



Its frontage is noted for its half-arch gallery, covered with blue and yellow tiles.

C

Café Apolo and the tertulias

The tertulias (literary and political salons) were the most popular social gatherings of the time and attracted the top members of society.



It was said that the debates in the Café Apolo directly influenced what was happening in the Parliament.



El Café Apolo is a clear example of the customs of the Cadiz of 1812. Given the siege and the political changes that were happening, the meetings held in the coffee-shops were a way of discovering what was happening in the Parliament.

it was even said that what was discussed there directly influenced what was going on in the Parliament, which is why the café was nicknamed the **“Cortes Chicas”** (Little Parliament).

The coffee-shops were frequented by politicians and, in the case of **Café Apolo**,

They were sometimes held in private homes, where they discussed **political and literary issues**.



They were hosted by **intellectual ladies** that faithfully reflected the cultural and social composition of the city. Years later, after the war, the aristocrats, intellectual and politicians linked to Cadiz took this custom with them to Madrid.

The meetings, which were for the select few, attracted well-known men of the ilk of **Nicasio Gallego, Quintana, Toreno, Argüelles, Gorasarri...** who discussed politics and exchanged opinions.

Leading society women of the time, such as the **Marquise de Pentejos, Margarita López Morla** or **Francisca Larrea**, hostesses of the tertulias, thus became key players in national politics, and their input was no less influential because it took place outside the parliament building.

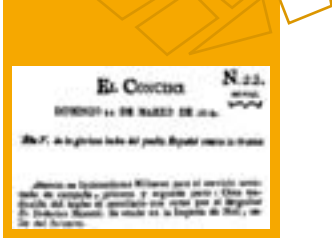
As **Alcalá Galiano** recalls in his *Recuerdos de un anciano* ("Memoirs of an Old Man"), there were many different types of tertulias:

"A similar tertulia was held, but where diametrically opposite opinions prevailed: the salon hosted by Francisca Larrea, the wife of the famous German N. Böhl de Faber..., who the French had allowed through to Cadiz from Chiclana, where they were living during the early days of the siege.

She was well-read and a staunch patriot, but one of those that considered the uprising of Spain against the French as venture likely to keep the Spanish nation in its former legal, political and religious status, and a step backwards to the days of Carlos III."



D



The Peman house

The headquarters of the Consortium to commemorate the II Centenary of the 1812 Constitution is in this typically neo-Classical building.

José María Pemán y Pemartín (1897-1981), the author from Cadiz, lived at Number 14 Plaza de San Antonio. This writer, speaker and a monarchist supporter has given his name to the building, known as the Pemán House. **The Jara Well** (Pozo de la Jara), an infrastructure that supplied water to a large part of the city, can be seen inside the courtyard.

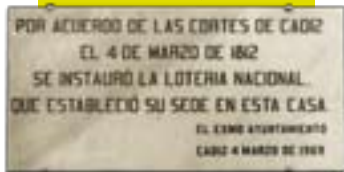
Authors and the press

There were many intellectuals living in Cadiz, many of whom were journalists, during the years that Cadiz was under siege from the Napoleon troops. In the new social situation, citizens became involved in politics, and opinion and political journalism played a very important role as the intermediary between the sovereign nation and its political representatives.

El Conciso, El Procurador General, Diario de la Tarde, Semanario Patriótico or La Pensadora Gaditana are just some of the **twenty broadsheets** that made the Cadiz of that time the city with the most newspapers in Spain and which marked the birth of modern journalism in this country.



E



Lottery

The first draw was held on 4 May 1812 and it was an interesting source of income for the public coffers.

The cost of running the **San José Hospital on the Isla de León**, which is now San Fernando, and the great military

resources needed to defend against the French meant that a way had to be found to raise funds. The most common way was to **raffle off many different type of objects**.



This popular custom gradually became so institutionalised that **Ciriaco González Carvajal**, Minister of the Council and Chamber of the Indies, put forward the idea of running a **state raffle**, where the participants would buy tickets to enter into the draw for some prizes of little value. It was a very similar formula to the one that already existed in New Spain (Mexico) during the reign of Carlos III.

A plaque now marks the place where the **Spanish National Lottery** was set up by parliamentary decree.

1812
A STROLL THROUGH THE
CADIZ
OF LA PEPA

Zone 5

- 15. San Felipe Neri oratory
- 16. Museum of the Cadiz Parliament and Siege



14

18

15

16

1

LA PEÑA 2002



LAS MARINAS

SAN JOSÉ

SAN PEDRO

CANOVAS DEL CASTILLO

JOSE DE

NO

CERVANTES

ROSA RIO CEPEDA

SAGASTA

TORRE

ZARAGOZA

JUMEDA

VIRGILI

TORRE

SOLANO

SACRAMENTO

HOSPITAL DE

VERDE

Oratorio de San Felipe Neri

The San Felipe Neri Oratory was the main figure of the 1812 Constitution. The Magna Carta was drafted and signed there and it was the venue for the debates of the doceanista members of parliaments as the men involved in the process were known.

Yet to truly understand the spirit of **La Pepa**, you must take time to discover the details of this building, as there are many tales to be told.

If you look at the front corner of the building, you will see the numerous **stone plaques dedicated to the doceanista members of parliament**. They date back to the celebrations to mark the **I Centenary of the 1812 Constitution in 1912**. It was also decided to set up a Museum of the Cadiz Parliament in the building adjoining the Oratory.

During the Cadiz Parliament, the members of parliament could come into the church through

the different entrances, but the main door was only opened to allow important persons to come in on solemn occasions.



The interior floor plan is elliptical and seven chapels lead off it. Its walls feature pairs of pilasters, between which are niches with sculptures. The false dome, with two stretches and eight large windows, was

rebuilt after the 1755 Lisbon earthquake, which hit Cadiz as a tsunami, by Pedro Afanadro, the master builder, in 1764.

One of the reasons that this place was chosen to hold the parliamentary sessions was its roomy oval structure

A LAS
CORTES DE CADIZ
 LOS ESPAÑOLES
 DE CUBA CHILE Y MEXICO
 EN HONOR DE
 DON
 HERMIBA PRESIDENTE DE ESPAÑA
 PÉREZ DE CASTRO PRESIDENTE VICEPRESIDENTE
 FELIPE CALLEJO LUXAN
 UCAVAN BIESCO OLIVEROS
 MUÑOZ TORRERO
 PRESIDENTE VICEPRESIDENTE CONSTITUCIONAL
 ARCELLAS CASTILLO MELIA GARCIA HERREROS
 CONSTITUCION INDIA IMPERIA SCLAVINO
 TORNO
 INDUSTRIA LIBRE
 RUIZ PARRON
 ABOLICION DE LA TRAFICACION
 MORALES BUAREZ COLFIN CUBI ALONSO
 ESPAÑOL Y AMERICANO NOLICIA NEGRO
 CALATRAYA PROPIEDAD LIBRE JAJUECOI POWER
 ANTILLAS
 A EB CAPMANT VILLANUEVA
 ORGANIZACION FEDERACION
 1912

One of the main plaques on the main facade to commemorate the Cadiz Parliament.

1812-1912

spectators

spectators

coat of arms of
the Philipian
order of monks

spectators

speakers

presidential
table

speakers

diplomatic
corps

rows of
benches

journalists

and the lack of columns, which **encouraged dialogue between the members of parliament.** The first parliamentary session in San Felipe was held on the 24 February 1811 and the last on the 14 September 1813. In total, **1478 sessions** were held in Cadiz, with each day lasting four hours. The sessions were public, unless the president declared there were to be held behind closed doors.

The members of parliament came from very different backgrounds and included storekeepers, sailors, aristocrats, university professors, soldiers, authors, architects, graduates, doctors, priests, lawyers and top civil servants.

There were only 95 members of parliament at the first meeting due to the difficulties of travelling in a country at war or to come from Central and South America. The number grew as the months passed: the Constitution passed in March

In total, there were 1478 sessions. Each day lasted four hours and the sessions were usually public.

In addition to the MPs, there were storekeepers, sailors, aristocrats, university professors, soldiers, authors, architects, doctors, lawyers...

was signed by 184 MPs, while there were 224 signatures on the deed to wind up the Parliament in September 1813. The planned number of **240 members of parliament** was never reached.

The semi-circular was laid out as follows: the **presidential table** was placed opposite, in the presbytery, where you can see the main altar with a Blessed Virgin by Murillo, and **the rostrums for the speakers** on either side of the table. **Two rows of benches** were arranged in an amphitheatre. One of them had four entrances for the members of parliament, who came in through the presbytery. There was also an area for the **diplomatic corps** and, as proof of their importance at that time, for the **journalists.**



Anybody who wished to come to listen to the parliamentary sessions were in the narrow galleries around the ceiling of the temple. Up there, there was the **coat-of-arms of the Philipppian** order of monks depicting a crown with a motto that read "Paradise of the Souls". The upper levels of the theatres or the gods became known as **"Paradise"** in Spanish and it is an expression that is still used to day.

There is a crypt under the church with two **mausoleums** with the remains of different

members of parliament who helped to draw up **La Pepa**, along with victims of the repression following the 1812 uprising.

The gaditanos followed the progress of the reformist programme with great interest. However, the more hostile elements to the liberal reforms maintained that the public that attended the sessions, lead by a rather eccentric character known as **"El Cojo de Malaga"** (The Lame Man from Malaga), were paid to applaud the liberal proposals to apply pressure.

Museum of the Cadiz Parliament and Siege

It has numerous items on display from the 18th and 19th centuries that will help you to understand the history of La Pepa.

It was the 5 October 1912, when **Mayor Cayetano del Toro y Quartiellers** opened the Historical and Iconographic Museum of the Cadiz Parliament and Siege, now known as the **Museum of the Cadiz Parliament**.

One of the main features of this museum is the large **model** of the city of Cadiz, made out of fine hardwoods and marble. The model was commissioned by Carlos III and was made by **Alfonso Jiménez**, the military engineer in 1777. It is a very useful source of information on the history and urban development of the capital.

The room housing this model of the city also contains a **collection of portraits** of local dignitaries of that time and a huge canvas by **Salvador Viniegra** depicting

the enactment of the 1812 Constitution.

The glass window over the main staircase is also interesting and is an allegory of the different representatives of the nation swearing **loyalty to the 1812 Constitution**.



The model of the city, on a scale of 1/250, depicts the old town during the last quarter of the 18th century.

The background of the entire page is a light green map of a city grid, showing various street layouts and block shapes. The text is overlaid on this map.

1812
A STROLL THROUGH THE
CADIZ
OF LA PEPA

Zone 6

- 17. Tavira Tower
- 18. Calle Ancha
- 19. San Francisco Monastery
- 20. Calle San Francisco



19

20

18

17

16

15



PZA DE SAN FRANCISCO

TINTE

PELERO

SAGASTA

CERVANTES

SAGASTA

ROSARIO CEBEDA

VALVERDE

CÁNOVAS DEL CASTILLO

ROSARIO

JOSÉ DEL TORO

NOVENA

BARRIE

JAVIER DE BURGOS

ALCALÁ GALIANO

COLUMELA

PLAZA DEL PALILLERO

FEDUCHY

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN MIGUEL

TORREMENTO

BE

GENE

CORNE

RAMO

SA



Torre Tavira

This building was named the official watchtower of the port of Cadiz in 1778 as it was the highest point of the city, 45 metres above sea level, and in the heart of the old town.

As you have already seen, Cadiz is internationally famous for its **watchtowers**, which bear witness to the trade and prosperity that the city enjoyed in the 18th century.

Antonio Tavira was the watchman in charge of the tower and he controlled the commercial traffic of the fleet that moored in the port.

The structure of the tower is typical of this type of construction: a square floor plan, two storeys high and wooden coffered ceilings. The Tavira Tower is now open to the public and you can experience for yourself the feeling of looking out over the city from the lookout point. Its special feature is its **camera obscura**, where moving pictures of the city in real time are projected.

The only watchtower that is different in the city is in Calle José del Toro and it is the only one with an octagonal floor plan. It is popularly known as **“La Bella Escondida”** (The Hidden Beauty) as it is impossible to see it from street level and you can only look at it from the roof tops or other towers. The Tavira Tower is one of the best vantage points to see it.



Calle Ancha

This street was the aristocratic centre of the city and the place to be seen. According to the authors of the time, it was so popular that leading figures from the world of politics, literature, the army and high society could be seen there at any time of the day.



The **La Pepa 2012 Visitors Centre** is currently at Number 19 on this street (further information on page 62)

Small literary and political circles and groups formed to discuss the events of the day, the war – that was not always favourable – and the speeches at the Cadiz Parliament. Calle Ancha became so important that some newspapers even included it in their gossip section.

Its straight layout and its breadth compared to Cadiz's other streets make it easier to appreciate the **architectural harmony** of the urban setting. A little wider than the other streets, it stands out for its immaculate paving, the uniformity of its elegant houses, for its shops and, in general, for the pleasant and peaceful atmosphere that delighted the locals and was greatly admired by outsiders.

There were numerous **luxury stores** (courturiers, silversmiths, glove-makers...) in this street and they competed with other nearby shops and fashion houses. It was also easy to find coffee-shops and taverns filled with people discussing the burning issues of the day or pausing during their evening stroll.

Benito Pérez Galdós, the author, describes in his novel *Cádiz*, part of the first series of the *Episodios Nacionales*, the way of life in the city at that time and, in particular, life in Calle of Ancha.

Various buildings are worth stopping at. There is a house at **Number 29** with a marble frontage imported from Italy at the end of the 17th century.



Number 16 is an interesting neo-classical example known as the **House of the Five Guilds** (Casa de los Cinco Gremios), which today houses the Vice-Chancellor's office of the University of Cadiz. The former was the house of **Manuel de Falla**, the musician, and it has a delightful courtyard with round corners and glazing. The **Palacio de Mora** is at Numbers 28 and 30. This mansion in the Elizabethan style is an unusual example of the 18th-century architecture in Cadiz.



"Yet in 1811, and after the Parliament moved to Cadiz, Calle Ancha, apart from being a public thoroughfare, was, if you will allow me the simile, the heart of Spain.

News reached here, before anywhere else, about how the war was going, the battles won or lost, the proposed legislation, the decrees by the legitimate government and stipulations of the interloper, every tiny detail about politics, and what has later become known as political jokes, political swell, rough waters and lobbying.

Here, you can discover the change of roles and the movement of that administration, that, with its huge entourage of councillors, secretaries, accountants, holders of the real seal, members of the high commissions, superintendants, the Real Giro (entrusted with silver transfers outside Spain), clerks of the Real Estampilla, renewing IOUs, arbitrators, etc., sought refuge in Cadiz after the invasion of the "Andalucias".

Cadiz was bursting with offices and was crammed with files. Calle Ancha also became the most important centre of publishing and propaganda of the different printed material and manuscripts that fed public opinion; and the quarrels of the writers, the disagreements among the politicians, the epigrams and the diatribes, the scurrilous criticism, the caricatures all came to light here for the first time. The evil verses of Arriaza and the bilious diatribes of Capmany against Quintana were told from person to person in Calle Ancha".

Benito Pérez Galdós

San Francisco Monastery


The monastery was home to some of the *doceañista* members of parliament, such as Salvador López del Pan, Morales Gallego or Francisco de la Serna.



Your trip through the Cadiz of the early 19th century now takes you to **Calle Sagasta**, one of the longest in the city that runs from Campo del Sur until nearly to Plaza San Francisco.

Before you reach the square, on the corner with the **Callejón del Tinte**, you can see a magnificent typical mansion of that period, with generous balconies jutting out and the lower part built in the typical oyster stone. As you continue along the street, you will come to **Plaza de San Francisco**, a square that is home to the monastery of the same name

The **Church of San Francisco** was also used as a watchtower during the Napoleonic siege and its bells were tolled to warn the citizens of pending attacks. **Brother José Fernández**, the novice who was entrusted with this mission in the San Francisco tower, was very famous. According to the accounts of that time, if he saw any bombs fall in the water when he was on duty, he would shout out at the enemies and mock them.



The Church of San Francisco was also used as a watchtower during the Napoleonic siege.

Founded in 1566, the monastery has undergone many changes with respect to its early layout, as it only retains the chapel with cloister vaults that opens on to the side door and the Chapel of **Our Lady of Peace**, with a dome roof on pendentives. It was rebuilt in the 17th century and refurbished in the 18th century by **Francisco Badaraco**, an architect originally from Italy, who was responsible for building the cimborio over the main nave, the cross and the **chapel of the Veracruz**.



The **main altarpiece** dates back to the end of the 18th century and is the work of **Gonzalo Pomar**. Its sculpture 'gems' include a statue of **St. Francis of Assisi**, attributed to **Martínez Montañés** and the **Man on the Crucifix** brought from Naples in 1733 and attributed to **Giussepe Piccano**. The monastery is small and one of its key features is the cloisters with marble Tuscan columns and semi-circular arches.

20

The French omelette was invented in the inns off Calle San Francisco.

Calle San Francisco

Originally known as San Francisco de Asis, it was another of the streets frequented by Cadiz society in 1812.



It was a shopping area, with some of the best known establishments of that time: the **Café Alejandro González Lienne** coffee shop at Number 61 and **Café de Cosi**, just on the corner at Calle General Luque. The latter was a large premises run by the young **Francisco Cosi**, who had no less than 24 people working for him who also lived on the premises.

The house of **Felipe Amer Esteve**, the member of parliament, was at Number 93

and another MP, **Francisco Gutiérrez de la Huerta**, lived at Number 60.

Many of the traditional Cadiz dishes that are still enjoyed today were first made in the coffee shops, taverns and kitchens of that period. The most popular of them is the “**French**” omelette, which was served in the taverns just off Calle San Francisco.

The omelette made in Spain used onion, egg and potato, but as there was a shortage of potatoes during the **Peninsular War**, they had to be made with just one egg. Hence, the name, as from then onwards, omelettes made just using eggs were called French ones and Spanish, if they included potatoes.

La Pepa 2012 Visitors Centre

Number 19 Calle Ancha is the temporary home to the La Pepa 2012 Visitors Centre, which is a multimedia platform to show case the important **historical and documentary heritage** linked to the 1812 Constitution.

The different interactive projects are adapted to a range of ages and educational needs and enable the visitor to discover the key places and moments of the **La Pepa** constitutional process.



Off the route

We hope you have enjoyed this trip back through the history of Cadiz and **La Pepa**. If you have time, you can discover even more about the city by visiting these other monuments, museums and sights:

- * City Council
- * El Pópulo District
- * New Cathedral
- * Old Cathedral
- * Bishop's Palace
- * Roman Theatre
- * Fruit and Vegetable Market
- * La Caleta Beach
- * La Palma Spa
- * Santa Catalina Castle
- * San Sebastián Castle
- * City Theatre
- * Genovés Park
- * Candelaria Bastion
- * Plaza de Mina Square
- * Provincial Museum

(check the map to find out where they are located)



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1812, A STROLL THROUGH THE CADIZ OF LA PEPA

Travel back to 1812, discover the spirit of Cadiz and the liberties encased in a Constitution that would prove to be decisive for Europe and Latin America. Explore the city that will celebrate democracy and constitutionalism in 2012.

La Pepa
2012 
Constitución Española

1812  2012

CONSORCIO PARA LA CONMEMORACIÓN DEL
II CENTENARIO DE LA CONSTITUCIÓN DE 1812

