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ORIGINS

This jewel of **the Aragonese Renaissance** dates from between 1549 and 1551, the years in which **Gabriel Zaporta**, a rich Jewish merchant and Aragonese nobleman, redesigned his stately home in Zaragoza. From this mansion, considered to be the first bank to be established in Spain, Zaporta controlled the trade carried out in the city's commodity exchange and the flow of goods on the trade route of the Ebro River.

Zaporta ordered the construction of this spectacular patio in honour of his wife, **Sabina Santángel**, on the occasion of their marriage in 1549. From the moment it was built, the patio became a benchmark and model for the Plateresque art of Aragón, and a witness to one of the most splendid golden ages for art and architecture in Zaragoza.

More information
via your Smartphone



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DISCOVER A UNIQUE PLACE

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IBERCAJA PATIO DE LA INFANTA

Immerse yourself in a magical story. Discover a unique place: a patio where you can hear the whispers of love and passion, separation and sorrow, of fiestas and flattery, sadness and joy. Of kings and gods, of dukes and warriors. This is the Patio de la Infanta: a unique place steeped in history and legends that is only awaiting one thing: for you to come and experience it.

Ibercaja Patio de la Infanta.
San Ignacio de Loyola, 16. Zaragoza.



IBERCAJA
PATIO DE LA
INFANTA



FROM THE PATIO OF THE ZAPORTA HOME TO THE PATIO OF THE INFANTA

Sabina Santángel died in 1579, and Gabriel Zaporta followed her just one year later, heartbroken at the loss of his wife. The house was inherited by their son **Luis**, who also died in 1581. At this point the residence passed to his wife, **Mariana de Albión**, who lived there with her second husband and Official Chronicler of the Realm, **Lupercio Leonardo de Argensola**, until 1610 when the couple moved to Naples.

In the 18th century the Franco family was recorded as being the new owners of the Zaporta home. This family split the building up into various apartments for rent.

Towards the end of the 18th century, the **Infanta Maria Teresa Vallabriga y Rozas** lived and died in this house. She was the noble Aragonese widow of the Infante **Luis Antonio Jaime de Borbón**, the brother of King **Charles III** of Spain. Ever since then, the marvellous inner courtyard of the Casa Zaporta has been known as the “**Patio de la Infanta**”.

Francisco de Goya y Lucientes.
Portrait of María Teresa de Vallabriga, 1783.
Oil on canvas. 151 x 98 cm.
Alte Pinakothek, Munich.



THE TRAVELLING PATIO

Having housed different institutions and businesses during the 19th century – including the Academy of Fine Arts, a school, a music academy, piano factory, printing press and cabinet-making workshop), in 1894 the Casa Zaporta suffered a serious **fire** that left almost the entire building in ruins. Following various attempts to restore the residence, in 1903 demolition work began and in 1904 the Patio de la Infanta was disassembled and sold to the antique dealer **Fernand Schultz**, who reconstructed the patio in his **Paris** home.

A new life awaited the patio in the French capital, where it served as the highly unusual setting for Schultz’s antiques shop, evoking the admiration of figures such as **Goering and Eva Duarte**, who were eager to acquire such a fine work.

Finally, and following the skilful negotiations of **José María Royo Sinués and Benito Gil Cirez**, in 1958 the

savings bank **Caja de Ahorros y Monte de Piedad of Zaragoza** was able to purchase the patio and transport it back to the Aragonese capital in 1958. Once in Zaragoza, it was erected in the newly opened central headquarters of **Ibercaja** in 1980, where the patio still stands today.

Apart from the Patio de la Infanta, Ibercaja’s Obra Social (Social Fund) also boasts an Exhibition Hall, two conference centres and a multipurpose space hosting important exhibitions, conferences and contests.

CONTACT

Ibercaja Patio de la Infanta is open from Monday to Sunday. Free admission.

Check times and prices for guided tours and other services at:

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