



POR PLEASE, RETURN THIS GUIDE AFTER ITS READING

## GUIDE TO THE EXHIBITION "THE SPANISH MASONRY"

### Showcase 1

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This is devoted to the ideological bases of Freemasonry; it contains the Moral Code and the General Charter of the Order, which must be divulged to anyone who wishes to become a Freemason. For its part the Constitution of 1723 establishes the rules and ceremonies to be followed.

### Showcase 2 and 3

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Freemasons essentially carry out their activities in a Lodge, a noun which refers to both freemasons meetings and where they take place. From the documents and photographs exhibited we can appreciate the organisation and operation of some of these Temples, what they are like, and who they are composed of.

### Showcase 4

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This refers to masonic principles, the moral values according to which freemasons undertake to live. Some documents reflect the establishment of one of the most important, that of fraternity, which involves the obligation of mutual aid in the case of need.

### Showcase 5 and 6

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These are devoted to masonic symbolism, a language of its own by means of which freemasons communicate among themselves. This symbolic language is also used both in ceremonies and rites, on jewels and clothes, and in the decoration of the Lodges themselves.

### Showcase 7

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A map produced by one of the main Spanish Obediences that reveals the scope and extent of Freemasonry at one of its moments of splendour. The Obediences represent a voluntary federation of Lodges that accept the same authority.

## Showcase 8, 9 and 10

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These represent a prime example of the persecution to which the Order has historically been subjected. This repression intensified considerably after the Spanish civil war when a series of legal and police operations against the movement were carried out. The creation of the Law and Special Court for the Repression of Freemasonry and Communism in March 1940 meant that thousands of Spaniards were judged and sentenced for being freemasons.

Many of the documents preserved in this Archive were used during the Franco period (1939-1975) in order to provide information for both members of this court and for any other authority in charge of purging freemasons.

At the same time counter-propaganda activities were carried out by means of the publishing of numerous antimasonic works which aimed to discredit the Order and its members.

## Central showcases

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These are devoted to the main masonic attributes, which are the objects that members use to represent the doctrines and myths of their Order. Here we can see some of the sashes, aprons, collars, jewels, swords, and mallets used by freemasons of different position and rank in their rites and ceremonies.

Later, you can visit a historical recreation of a Masonic LODGE, performed in the forties with original masonic objects confiscated to the masons by Franco's troops during the Spanish Civil War.



CDMH  
Sede Calle Gibraltar

