

## GIMCANA CULTURAL

### Human towers itinerary

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#### 1. MONUMENT TO HUMAN TOWERS

Vilafranca del Penedès is partly well-known by the importance of the Human Towers phenomenon. Therefore, we will start an itinerary to get to know the most important landmarks related to this. The first spot to visit is the Monument to Human Towers. This monument is set in San Jaume I square, one of the most important and beautiful squares in town. It was built in tribute to all Catalan Human Towers by the Catalan sculptor Josep Cañas i Cañas in 1963 .

→ *What type of human tower does the sculpture dedicated to Human Towers represent?*

#### 2. PLAÇA DE LA VILA

La Plaça de la vila is the main square in town, where the town hall is located and where the main social events have taken place historically.

It is also traditionally known as la plaça més castellera, in reference to the remarkable human tower competitions that have been held there for more than two centuries. On its floor, there are some commemorative plaques that highlight the most important milestones achieved in this square.

→ *How many commemorative plaques to the best human towers built in Plaça de la Vila are there on the floor?*

#### 3. CAL FIGAROT

Casa Raventós i Via, which is well-known as Cal Figarot, is a neogothic building from the end of the XIX century. It has a 600m<sup>2</sup> contiguous nave which was acquired by the 'Castellers' in 1998. In Cal Figarot, we can find different dependencies related to 'La Colla Castellera': the office, the Archive, multi-use rooms, a restaurant and a wonderful courtyard. Cal



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Figarot is one of the most popular and visited places in Vilafranca and it is really respected and admired by everybody related to the 'Human Towers' world. It's also well-known because there are some rehearsals during the week.

→ *On the facade of the building there's a plaque with the rehearsal timetable of the group. What days and time do they rehearse a week?*

#### 4. PENEDÈS SQUARE

There's a very peculiar monument/sculpture in the Penedès. It's triangular in shape and very abstract. It symbolizes "Els Falcons de Vilafranca" who are human tower builders, but of a different style. They began in 1956 with only 16 members, up to the present day, with a membership of 80 people.

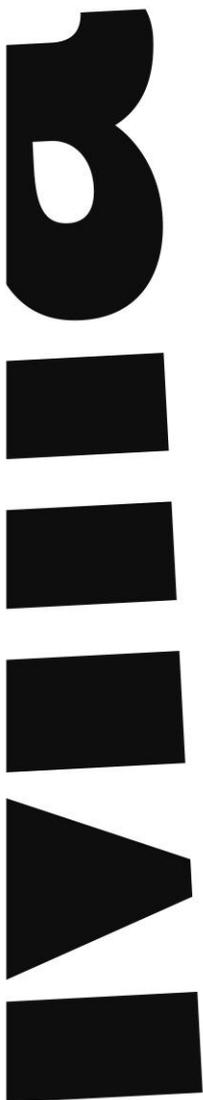
→ *How many people do you think would be involved in the making of the human tower the monument represents?*

#### 5. CAL NOI-NOI

There is a second group of castellers called "Els Xicots". The premises where they rehearse is called Cal Noi-Noi. This building is located at a square which is popularly called "Square of Pigs". This square gets its name from the former market devoted to the purchase of these animals. Els Xicots started to rehearse here and, after having tried other sites, they came back to this building, which needed a great rehabilitation. Thanks to the effort of the members of the group, the building became a multipurpose place and a meeting point for everyone.

When there are no rehearsals of human towers, the building houses different activities promoted by the members of la colla, such as the Theater group or the grallers and timbalers' school.

→ *How is commonly known this square according to the plaque on the facade of the building Cal Noi-Noi?*



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## HUMAN TOWERS ITINERARY

