



## INDIANOS VILAGE

Catalonia's most famous Indiano, **Joan Güell i Ferrer**, set sail from this town on the coast of Tarragona for Cuba to make it in the Americas, although he settled in Barcelona on his return. However, Torredembarra, also had other Indianos who are worth noting who made great fortunes and left their mark with buildings that stand out for their colonial-style façades, with entrance halls and high ceilings and leafy gardens behind them. The most significant ones are found on the former Carrer Nou, now Carrer d'Antoni Roig. The town's American heritage is also apparent in the names of streets and in buildings donated to the town like the Hospital de la Caritat Pere Badia and the Antoni Roig trust and school, in the tombs at the cemetery and in the celebration of the Fira d'Indians festival in September.



## FAIR OF THE INDIANOS TORREDEMBARRA

Torredembarra preserves many stories of Indianos or Americans and that is why, during a weekend in September, it becomes the setting for the Indianos Fair. During these days you can enjoy, in different streets of the old town, a craft market, exhibitions of crafts, children's activities, conferences and exhibitions, live music...

In addition, during the fair, the Department of Tourism offers guided tours of the indiano heritage, as it also does in July and August.

For more information, please contact the Department of Tourism.



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# TORREDEMBARRA

## ROUTE of the INDIANOS



## ABOUT US

The **Network of Indianos Municipalities** was created to research, identify and publicise the material and immaterial heritage of the Indianos in Catalonia. With this aim, we offer a range of routes you can follow in all of the municipalities that comprise this body.

We also aim to develop a common project to make it possible to **create instruments that foster knowledge of the history and culture shared by the municipalities and by the Americas**. This project will also help contribute to the recuperation, conservation and dissemination of the Indiano legacy in the municipalities that comprise the network.

The network comprises Catalan municipalities that have an Indiano tradition and fulfil the following minimum requirements: a historical justification, the presence of material elements and the organisational capacity of the municipalities.

The network comprises the following municipalities:

- ◆ Arenys de Mar
- ◆ Begur
- ◆ Blanes
- ◆ Calonge i Sant Antoni
- ◆ Lloret de Mar
- ◆ Palafrugell
- ◆ Sant Pere de Ribes
- ◆ Sitges
- ◆ Torredembarra
- ◆ Tossa de Mar
- ◆ Consorci de Promoció Turística Costa del Maresme: *Caldes d'Estrac, Canet de Mar, El Masnou, Mataró, Sant Pol de Mar, Tordera i Vilassar de Mar*





## 2. CARRER D'ANTONI ROIG

The houses of the Indianos from Torredembarra were located on this street, all of them with an overseas atmosphere, ample space, high ceilings, impressive doorways, and gardens and vegetable gardens with access to the street behind. At numbers 43 (Cal Gallart or Cal Duran), 45 (Cal Manolito or Cal Panxo), 49 (Cal Tarragoní), 57 (Cal Rosalino Rovira), 86 (Cal Cieza) and 88 (Cal Riambau) you will find examples in a good state of conservation. The house where Antoni Roig i Copons was born, at number 19, and where Ramon Casas i Gatell, was born, who made his fortune in Cuba and was the father of the modernist painter, Ramon Casas i Carbó, are also preserved.



## 1. CARRER DE JOAN GÜELL

Joan Güell i Ferrer, who made his fortune in Cuba where he lived from 1818 to 1833, was born at number 7 on this street. On his return he settled in Barcelona and founded La Barcelonesa, the forerunner of La Maquinista Terrestre y Marítima, and the Vapor vell de Sants, a cotton mill that he later moved to Santa Coloma de Cervelló. His son, Eusebi Güell i Bacigalupi, was the great patron of Antoni Gaudí. Just next door at number 9, is Ca La Ravell, the home of the Mañé i Flaquer family of Indianos, of which the famous journalist Joan Mañé i Flaquer is a descendant.

## LOCATION MAP



## 3. FORMER HOSPITAL DE LA CARITAT

Pere Badia travelled around various locations in the Americas before making his fortune in New Orleans. He returned to Torredembarra when the territory passed into French hands and in 1793 he set sail for America again. He established a legacy in his will to found the Hospital de la Caritat to help the town's sick. The building, with a baroque style chapel, is arranged around a large interior patio like a cloister with exotic plants. It is now a home for the elderly.

Carrer Pere Badia, 2



## 4. GARDENS OF THE INDIANOS

Just behind Carrer d'Antoni Roig, on Carrer del Indians, were the gardens to the rear of the colonial houses, many of which no longer exist. Luckily, several can still be seen, now turned into gardens, in the stretch between Carrer Gibert and Carrer Filadors.

Carrer dels Indians



## 5. ANTONI ROIG I COPONS TRUST

The Masonic Flaming Star, with the Great Universal Fire, the Compass, the Celestial Vault, the Column of the Temple of King Solomon, the open book symbolising the Volume of the Sacred Law and other Masonic elements crown the Roig School, founded by the Indiano from Torredembarra, Antoni Roig i Copons. Inspired by the ideals of philanthropy and universal brotherhood, he founded the Roig Trust which took care of the education of children from Torredembarra and helped poor young women by providing them with a dowry when they married, as it still does today symbolically. The Escola Roig de Torredembarra was funded by the trust until 1933.

Carrer Alt de Sant Pere, 35-45



## 6. MUNICIPAL CEMETERY

Some tombs of Indianos from Torredembarra are preserved here, bearing witness to their return to the land from which they left. Most notable are the tombs of Esteve Gatell, Joan Olivé, and Antoni Roig, which was initially on the way through the cemetery gate, on the ground and without any external sign, on Roig's own instructions. This has encouraged the belief that he wanted his tomb to be stepped on in repentance, according to oral history, for his having been a slave trader. Another hypothesis links it to his being a Freemason and his wish to avoid Catholic symbols. Also of interest is the gravestone of the servant of the Indiano Antoni Gibert i Cisneros with the inscription: "Here lie the remains of his faithful servant Francisco from Africa".

Carretera de la Riera, s/h