

## *Track 1. WELCOME.*

We cordially welcome you to Vilafamés, and wish you a very good day. This audio guide will help you, through the ten points selected, to learn the most important details of our history and reality. This route lasts approximately 90 minutes. We hope that you enjoy the visit, and we invite you to take advantage of the town's variety of shops, restaurants and hotels.

Let us begin with a bit of geography and history.

Vilafamés is a town situated in the region of la Plana Alta. It is 25 kilometers from the capital of the province, Castellón de la Plana. The town limits cover 70.79 sq. km. It has a strategic position on the top of a hill that forms part of the Sierra de les Conteses, 390 meters above sea level.

For 80,000 years the area surrounding Vilafamés has been inhabited by the human being. This fact is known by the archaeological objects found both in caves in the town as well as nearby. It is clear then, from these findings, that the place has been ideal for human occupation since prehistoric times.

The existence of the fountain that gives its name to the plaza where we stand, along with the peculiar morphology of the adjacent mountain make this an ideal place to establish the town.

With respect to the old part of town, we can say that it is of Muslim origins (approximately the XI century). From that time there remain, among other elements, the foundation of the castle (which crowns the hill on which the town sits) and the beautiful urban layout (comprised of narrow, winding streets).

Here the plants cultivated by the inhabitants, the whitewashed houses and the layout itself make this a haven of peace and tranquility.

In addition, due to its strategic location, Vilafamés has had importance in all of the historic periods, including the wars.

In the 1970's, some artists found the old part of town, partially destroyed. They fell in love with it and began the reconstruction which would result in its present-day charm.

In 1938, during the Spanish Civil War, it was bombed by warplanes that destroyed part of the old town – the same that years later, in the 70's, was discovered by painters who fell in love with the town and reconstructed it to its present charm.

Nowadays this town enjoys the typical Mediterranean climate, mild winters and warm summers, thus being ideal for living the whole year.

Vilafamés is of both touristic and cultural interest. In 2005 the old part was named BIC (Bien de Interés Cultural – place of cultural interest) due to its history. So we invite

you to enjoy all of its corners, and hope that it is a real pleasure.

*End of the welcome. You can continue on to the 2° point QR, the Large Rock.*