

POLICE Museum

NATIONAL POLICE SCHOOL



POLICIA 
NACIONAL



The history of the Museum

The Police Museum was founded connected to the emergence of the modern Police, in the year 1908. Based on testimonial or emotional reasons, objects were preserved in the different police headquarters of Madrid. Then in 1925, at the "Escuela de Policía" (Police School), there began the orderly collection of criminal items which were aimed at serving training purposes.

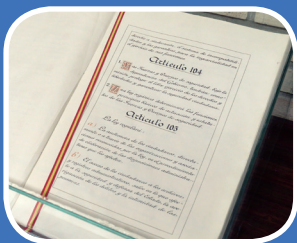
The first location of the Police Museum was in Madrid, more specifically a building in the Avenida de la Moncloa which was destroyed during the Civil War. It was later moved to the headquarters of the Escuela Superior de Policía (Higher Police School), at 5 Miguel Angel Street in Madrid, using a small room in which odd objects and tokens from police officers and criminals were stacked.

On 8 January 1986 a third stage began for the museum, since it was given a final location at the Escuela General de Policía (General Police School) in Ávila. It occupied five rooms of the modern building, where the objects began to be classified. In this way, the content of the museum adopted a dynamic and modern approach, which allowed the visitors to travel through more than one hundred years of police history and culture, and as many years of crime evolution.

The aim of this museum is to collect, guard and preserve all objects contributing to the narration of the Police history, in general, and that of criminality in particular. And also, all those which their features, value and meaning should be guarded with the purpose of ensuring their perpetuation. It is equally a function of the museum to spread its content by means of publications, conferences or audiovisual materials, among other mechanisms, in order to contribute to the promotion of the culture, history and values of the Spanish National Police.

Constitution room

It is chaired by a unique published copy of the 1978 Spanish Constitution, dedicated to "the Director, the Teachers and the Students of the General Police School, in memory of the President of the Congress' visit". Such visit took place on 7 November 1985, when this centre was the former Colegio de Huérfanos Ferroviarios (Railway Workers' Orphans School) in Ávila. Our national flag and a portrait of Their Royal Majesties, the King and Queen of Spain can be observed beside the Constitution book. A splendid historic collection of police emblems, among other objects, can be enjoyed here.



Firearms corridor

It gathers weapons showing the evolution of firearms over time. This room shows details which are worthy of admiration, such as weapons made of fine woods, with muzzle-loading and breech-loading trigger mechanisms. It is, without doubt, one of today's best weapon collections. Most of the pieces are well preserved.



National Police Force room

It is dedicated to our institution. Several objects, documents and uniforms are exhibited. We could highlight a desk from the 40's or a security letter from 1834, considered as the oldest preserved National Identity Document. We also can see Hasso, the dog. He was a famous police dog for searching drugs and explosives and certainly arouses great excitement among the children who visit the museum.



Room of Olóriz-Bertillon

Here, we can see the evolution of the techniques and instruments used throughout the history of the Forensic Police. Besides, there are unique items such as the anthropometric briefcase which belonged to the French police officer Alphonse Bertillon and the visual-inspection briefcase. The room also gathers a large collection of photographic cameras and different showcases displaying counterfeit coins and banknotes. Finally, it also exhibits the change experienced by identity documents.



Cutting-weapons corridor

It shows a valuable sample of cutting weapons, ranging from sabres and soils to cutlasses and swords, in addition to oriental weapons. The fine details of the handles, made of wood or bones, can be mentioned as well as other ornaments.



Room of María José García Sánchez

It is dedicated to the first police woman killed by the terrorist group called ETA. The inspector María José García Sánchez was murdered in Zarauz at the age of 23 in the 70's. In addition, it is devoted to all the police officers killed in the line of duty.

Crime room

Among other objects, it can be observed criminal instruments, weapons which belonged to terrorist groups, tools for the manufacturing of drugs, fixtures for large-scale scams and objects associated with the investigation of crimes of great social significance. Some samples are: bomb remnants which exploded at the Liceo Theatre of Barcelona in 1893, objects related to the Express Train of Andalucía crime in 1924 and the kidnapping of little girl Melodie in 1987.





Uniforms in the history of the Spanish Police

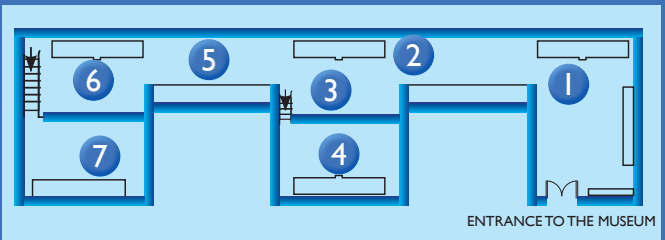
They are located opposite to the Auditorium of the National Police School. They bring back the history of the uniforms of our Force. The exhibition shows the first uniforms of the Armed Police in the 40's, the winter and summer uniforms of the Spanish National Police, the working uniform of the Spanish National Police and a uniform whose owner was a female officer student of the Training Center in 1987. Today's gala uniform of the Spanish National Police is also included.



Interpol uniforms

They are situated in the Aulario. This is used by the base scale for staff. It gathers a remarkable collection with a large number of uniforms from those countries which are members of the Criminal Police International Organization-Interpol.

Museum map



1. Constitution room.
2. Firearms corridor.
3. National Police Force room.
4. Room of Olóriz-Bertillon.
5. Cutting-weapons corridor.
6. Room of María José García Sánchez.
7. Crime room.






Museo de la Policía

Escuela Nacional de Policía (National Police School)
Avda. Juan Carlos I, 46 – 05004 Ávila

www.policia.es/museo/museo.html

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OPENING HOURS:

Monday to Friday: 18:00 - 21:00 h.

Saturdays-Sundays: 10:00 - 13:00 h.
17:00 - 20:00 h.

FREE ENTRANCE

GROUP VISITS:

Group visits must be booked in advance at the Director's Secretary

INFORMATION SERVICE:

Tel: 920 354 200

Fax: 920 254 389

Email: museo.enp@policia.es

PUBLICS TRANSPORT

Bus lines: 1, 3, 4 and 6



NIPO: 126-19-090-X