

## Introduction to Las Fallas

Las Fallas is a Spanish Festival which has UNESCO World Heritage status and takes place in Valencia, Spain.

This extraordinary family festival is planned for throughout the year, with important events and celebrations that lead up to the big festival which takes over the whole city for 5 days.

It culminates in a huge fiesta when the fallas are set fire to and there is an enormous firework display on the night of:

**19th March, St Joseph's Day: El día de San José.**

The video clips explain the main details of the festival. Find out about:

- The **fallas** statues and their history
- The **ninots** – Little figures on the fallas
- The parades of **falleros** and **falleras** carrying flowers
- The gunpowder displays (**mascletàs**).

### **Valencia is known as the city of gunpowder:**

Wherever you go during the period of Las Fallas, especially in the early morning during **la Despertà** and at lunchtime during **la Mascletà**, you will hear the noise of gunpowder, and firecrackers are set off by people all over the city.

The biggest, noisiest gunpowder display happens at midday on 19th March. It is called **El Terremoto** – The Earthquake!