

## Convent of Carmen

Monument open to the public.

Location of the Museum of the V Centenary of Saint Teresa.

Saint Teresa arrived in Pastrana on the 10th of June 1569, summoned by the Prince and Princess of Éboli to found a Carmelite convent. Along the way, she met two hermits, Mariano Azzaro and Juan Narduch, who were also on their way to Pastrana to establish themselves as hermits. Saint Teresa convinced them to be the first Carmelite friars in this men's convent.

On the 9th of July 1569, Fray Ambrosio Mariano and Fray Juan de la Misericordia took the habit, thus becoming the first two friars of the Saint Peter convent. Saint Juan de la Cruz spent a few months as master of novices.

The original foundation consisted of the hermitage of Saint Peter, a dovecote and the caves where these first friars lived. Between the 16th and 17th century, this great convent was built with its church, designed by the architect of the order, Fray Juan de Jesús María.

In 1855, after the confiscation of Mendizábal, a community of Franciscan missionaries settled in the convent and trained religious followers who travelled to the Far East. At this point it changed its name from the convent of Saint Peter to the 'Convento del Carmen'.

It is currently home to the museum of the "V Centenary of Saint Teresa". Among the many pieces inside we find works by Luca Giordano, Juan Antonio de Frías Escalante, Paolo de Matteis and Juan Carreño de Miranda, not to forget the imposing carving of the True Christ by Gregorio Fernández.