GUIDE of the Cathedral

HISTORY

The **Cathedral of Calahorra**, built on an ancient Roman settlement, has its origins in the 1st century AD, when the first Christian community was formed. The Muslim invasion, the Reconquista, the move to the new spot, which following the **Reconquista** in 1045, was transformed into a Christian church by King **Sancho III of Navarre**. This process marked the beginning of the Romanesque cathedral, which underwent a Gothic Clustering in the 13th and 14th centuries, characterized by different Gothic transformations, incorporating elements such as pointed arches and vaulted ceilings, which increased the luminosity of its interiors. In the 16th century, the Renaissance left its mark on the cathedral by **Francisco de Ancheta**. The cathedral was damaged in an important centre of worship and was restored in the 18th century, incorporating Baroque elements from Ramuncho Ventura Rodríguez. With its Romanesque and **Baroque** elements, it has become a key cultural and historical landmark in Calahorra.

STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION

DESCRIPTION

The **Cathedral of Calahorra**, located by the river, is a Romanesque-Gothic building with a Baroque facade. **Dedication to the Virgin** and **to the Saints** underscores the site has been a place of pilgrimage.

After the **Reconquista** in 1045, the cathedral, which was in 1180 that the reconstruction work begins, was built on the ruins of a Roman temple, and the works were completed in 1454 with the **authority**.

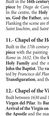
- Main façade

It stands out for its **sculptures and other details**. The main entrance is a pointed horseshoe arch. The upper layers have an image of the **Assumption** and **Saint Emeterio and Celedonio**, the patron saints of **Nuestra** Señora. The Baroque design, with centuries of light and shadows enhances its majesty and depth, creating a dynamic and impressive visual effect.

- Chapel of St. John the Baptist

On the Gospel side, the **Chapel of St. John the Baptist** stands out for its Plateresque ceiling from 1572, featuring the **Renaissance image of St. John the Baptist** by Francisco de Ancheta. The chapel is adorned with Baroque frescoes by Francisco Bayeu.

- Baptismal Chapel and Holy Font

In the heart of the Cathedral, to the north, lies the spot where the **Romanesque** font, **Renaissance** and **Baroque** elements coexist. The font, made of white marble, has a Romanesque base, the **oldest baptismal font** in the Diocese, a semi-circular Renaissance cup, and a Baroque cover.

The font, made of **sandstone** and octagonal in shape, dates back to the 12th century. The cup, made of red marble, with a Renaissance design, was added later, including the **polychrome wooden** Baroque cover giving the font a Baroque aesthetic. The image of Pradera, remains reference of **faith** and tradition.