

Extremadura's Late-Seventeenth-Century Spanish Villa

La Hermandad de Villalba guesthouse is a late-seventeenth-century Spanish villa in the country's western Extremadura region, which is known for its wine production. Converted by architecture studio Lucas y Hernández-Gil, it once served as a home for noble families in the area, but later became the headquarters for the Franco army. Numerous original features have been emphasized including the vaulted ceilings, brick arches, and plaster moldings. The space is minimally decorated and furnished, including pattern-engraved doors painted light green and walls of pale terracotta pink, which is in fact raw lime mortar. There are three bedrooms on the second floor, which was once a larder used to dry and cure meat, while downstairs has a living room, dining room, kitchen, and cellar. Local potters created terracotta tiles for the inside flooring and the external courtyard, which contains a saltwater swimming pool. The furnace in the sitting room uses wall-mounted, deep-red glazed tiles that contrast with the matt finish of the terracotta floor tiles—both mimic the color of the town's terrain and create a sense of place.



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This late-seventeenth-century Spanish villa was historically used by both local noble families and Franco's army.

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Vaulted ceilings, brick arches, carved doors, and plaster moldings comprise some of the building's original features.