

Tour of the Alcazar

Through this tour you will be able to know the main archaeological, historical and architectural aspects of the Alcazar building



THE TOUR OF THE ALCAZAR OFFERS THREE DIFFERENT ITINERARIES:

ARCHEOLOGICAL REMAINS

It shows the most significant findings in the Alcazar Archaeological site.

There are seven lecterns, located in the new building.

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

They provide information on different architectural details.

There are seven posters providing information located both, in the Alcazar building and in the new building.

FACADES

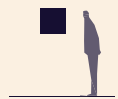
They provide information on the facades of the Alcazar building.

There are four information totems located outside the Alcazar building.



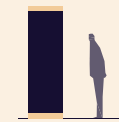
Lecterns

They provide information on archaeological elements.



Posters

They provide information on architectural elements.



Totems

They provide information on the facades of the Alcazar building.

ALCAZAR BUILDING

Floor H2

EI Imperial Staircase

Floor CI

CI Imperial Chapel

Floor H1

CV Emperor Carlos V Bailey

EI Imperial Staircase

E Spiral staircase

Floor T2

CT Cisterns

E Spiral staircase

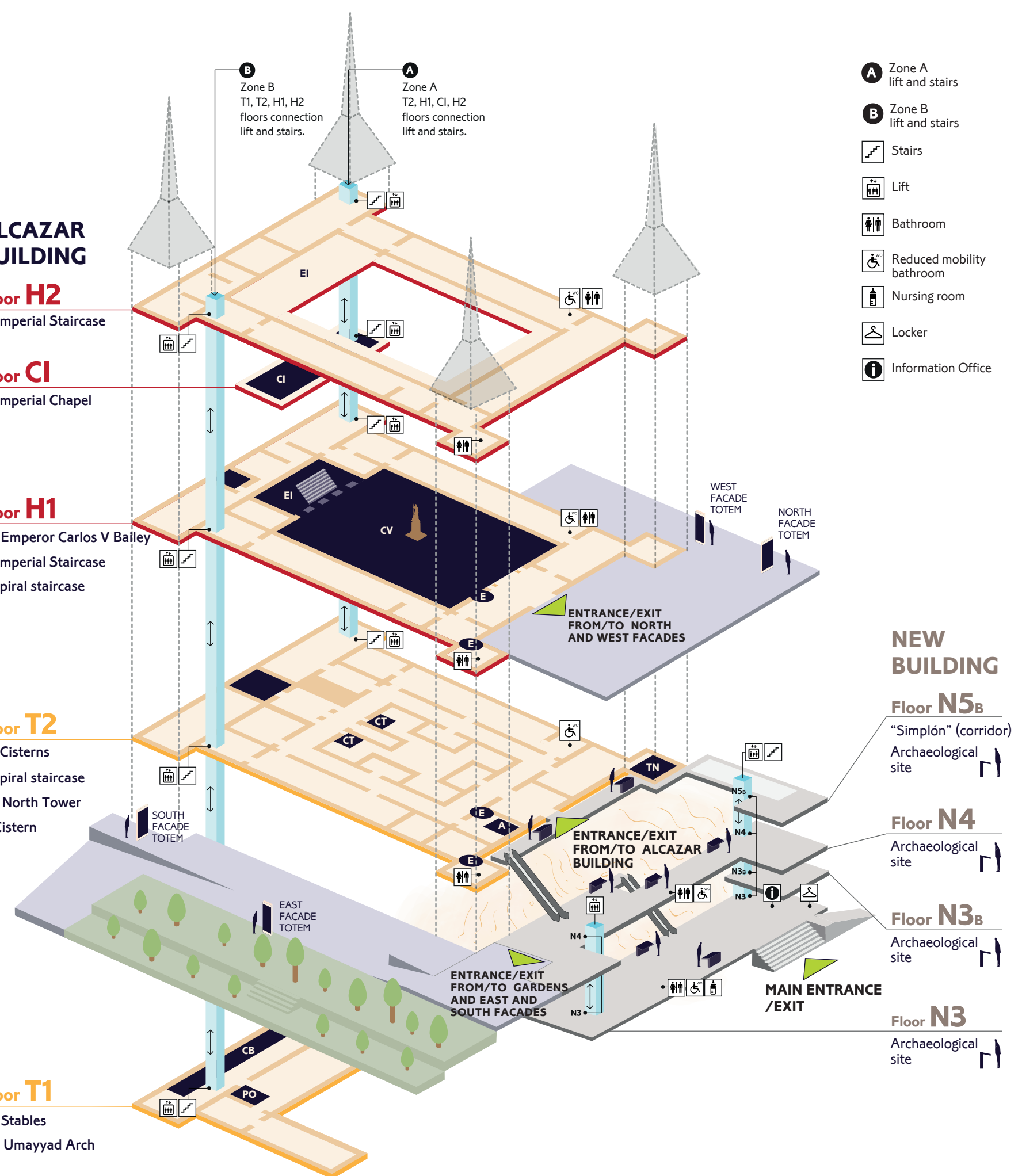
TN North Tower

A Cistern

Floor T1

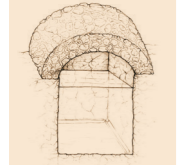
CB Stables

PO Umayyad Arch



ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE

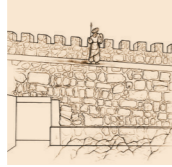
Floor N3



ROMAN CISTERN

Construction of the Roman imperial period for water supply. You can still see part of the opening of the vault that closed the deposit on the upper part, built with Roman cement (*opus caementicium*).

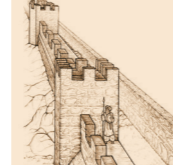
Floor N3



EMIRAL PERIOD WALL

It is the oldest and has been estimated to belong to the 8th century. It is built with granite ashlar, some reused from Roman and Visigothic constructions. From the latter period we can see a fragment decorated in the outer section of the wall.

Floor N4



CALIPHATE PERIOD WALL

Dated to belong to the 10th century, it runs parallel to the emirate period wall. It is built with Toledo beriboned, combining brick lines with irregularly shaped stones (masonry). The bases of two quadrangular towers can still be seen.

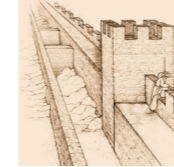
Floor N4



TRASTAMARA BASTION

This construction is believed to be initiated at the end of the 14th century. Probably it was outside the Alcazar wall. It has an inclined plane called escarpment, in the lower part of the wall.

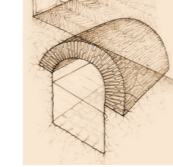
Floor N4



CHRISTIAN WALL

After the conquest of Toledo by the king Alfonso VI in the 11th century, the Caliphate wall was covered on the outside with large irregular stone blocks thickening its width to match the exterior facade of the towers.

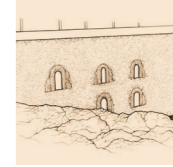
Floor N5B



CISTERN

To reinforce the defensive capacity of this bastion, a cistern was included to supply water during a possible siege. Rectangular in shape, its walls are plastered with lime and red mortar, a red material that waterproofs the deposit.

Floor N5B



"LAS COVACHUELAS"

Brick structure with three lines of windows that was built as a retaining wall to build the facade of Covarrubias (northern facade). The indoor rooms were rented as shops to contribute the expenses of the construction of the King Carlos V's palace.

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS

Floor H1



EMPEROR CARLOS V BAILEY

Together with the imperial staircase it forms the best preserved Renaissance space of the building. In the center stands the sculptural group of "Carlos V and the fury", cast in bronze in the late nineteenth century, a replica of the Leoni original made in the mid-sixteenth century.

Floor CI



IMPERIAL CHAPEL

It was designed by Juan de Herrera in 1571. Today, it exhibits some of the most outstanding pieces of the museum, such as the "Indo-Portuguese tent" of the 16th century, or the "Study of Fortification of King Felipe V" of the early 18th century, a true 3D treaty on fortification systems of the time.

Floor T2



CISTERNS

(Both sides of the Photography room)
These two deposits collected water from the Imperial Bailey and their purpose was to supply the kitchens and the stables.

Floor T2



CISTERN IN THE HISTORY OF ALCÁZAR ROOM

It was constructed in the existing space between the wall of the Christian Alcazar and the "Trastamara" bastion. It was covered by a barrel vault and was supplied with water from the river. It can be seen through a transparent floor.

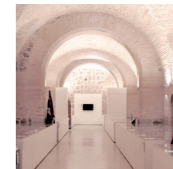
Floor T1



UMAYYAD ARCH

This 10th century caliphate period arch was embedded inside the Christian Alcazar. At its base we can see reused granite ashlar from Roman times.

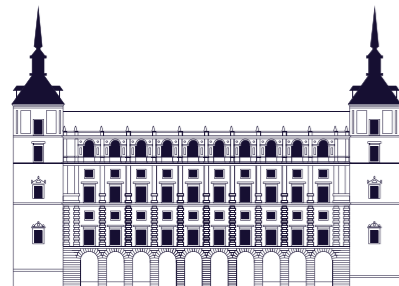
Floor T1



OLD STABLES

They are referred to as old for being prior to the reform made by the Emperor Carlos V in contrast to the new stables, completed at the time of King Felipe II. We can contemplate its vaulted structure, built in brick, as well as the mangers on the walls.

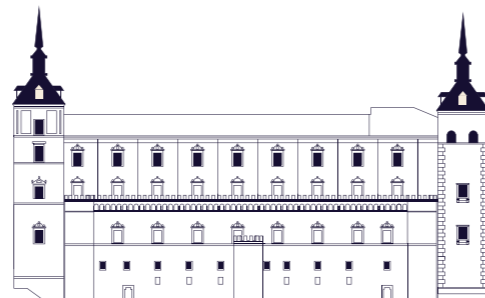
FACADES



SOUTH FACADE

Herrerian's facade

Designed by Juan de Herrera in 1571, its final execution is due to Juan Bautista Monegro at the beginning of the 17th century. It presents four bodies in height where the granite stone and brick are combined with characteristics typical of architectural Mannerism.



EAST FACADE

Medieval facade

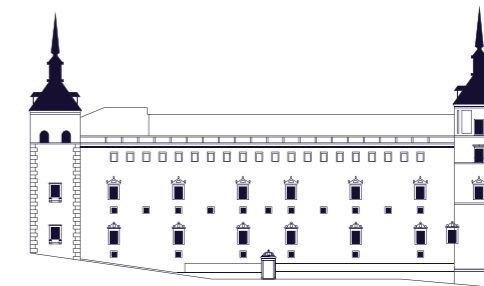
Dated to belong to the period of King Alfonso X "the Wise", in the 13th century, is the oldest in the building. In spite of later reforms of the Renaissance period, it still conserves some medieval elements of defensive character, such as the towers or the crenellated top.



NORTH FACADE

Covarrubias' facade

Alonso de Covarrubias proceeded to reform the facades of the building through a process of regularization of their elevations. The great Imperial Coat of Arms of the House of Habsburg stands out, in the main gate.



WEST FACADE

Renaissance facade

Due to its lack of ornamentation it is the most sober of the Alcazar. It was remodeled successively in later times, and accomplished during the reign of the king Juan II and the Catholic Monarchs. Its volume responds to the extension of the original Arab Alcazar.