

# The Street Art of Valencia

Even if you're the kind of person who refuses to visit a museum, it's impossible to completely avoid art in Valencia. For years, underground artists have been transforming the city into an open-air gallery, covering walls, fences and entire buildings with works of beauty and ingenuity.



The nexus for Valencia's street art is indisputably [El Carmen](#). This was once a run-down neighborhood full of neglected buildings, empty walls, and apathetic residents; all of which made it a perfect playground for the city's up-and-coming street artists. Today, living conditions in El Carmen have improved, but the neighborhood has stubbornly held onto its punk aesthetic, and street artists are largely encouraged to continue making the neighborhood a more colorful place.

Valencia's most renowned artist is probably Escif. His works often cover entire walls, and always come attached with some sort of deeper meaning, if you can puzzle out what he's trying to say. Escif has done work in other cities around the world, from Baltimore to Paris to India, but Valencia has always been his favorite canvas.