

The Holy Grail of VALENCIA

SPAIN



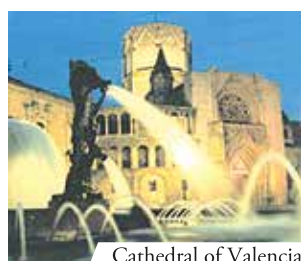
This precious object has always been at the center of extraordinary stories and novels like the legend of the Knights of the Round Table in England, the stories of Perceval in France, and Parzival in Germany of the twelfth and thirteenth century. This genre was used by Wagner in a Christian-esoteric perspective and at the end of the twentieth century the fantastic novels of B. Cornwell favored the birth of the editorial trend still alive today.



The Holy Chalice of Valencia



Route traveled by the Holy Chalice



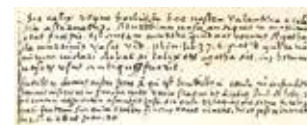
Cathedral of Valencia



The Last Supper. Juan de Juarez. Prado Museum (Madrid)



Document regarding the reception of the Holy Chalice in the Cathedral of Valencia in 1437



Text of the notation written by John Ribera in which he certifies that "till now the Holy Chalice is preserved in our Cathedral"



John Paul II kisses the Holy Grail of Valencia



The Holy Grail of Valencia is the Chalice used by Jesus in His Last Supper with the apostles to consecrate and offer the Eucharistic wine that is His Blood, but it has also been identified as the cup in which Joseph of Arimathea collected the Blood of Jesus on the Cross. There are a number of variants to indicate the Grail: *San Greal*, *Holy Grail*, *Sangreal* in England, *Sanct Graal* and *Saint Graal* in the antique and modern French, *Gral* and *Graal* in German. The "grolla" of the Aostan valley is lexically related to the grail and similar to the Latin *gradalis* or *gratalis*, "vase" or glass. From many sources, we know that a few centuries after the death of Christ the Holy Grail was being shown to Christian pilgrims in Jerusalem. According to the account of Arculo, a French bishop who lived in the Holy Land in 720 A.D, the Chalice in which the Lord Himself consecrated His own Blood

was preserved in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

The venerable Bede adds that the cup was protected by a net and it could be touched and kissed through an opening. No one knows exactly when the Chalice was taken from Jerusalem; most probably as far back as the seventh century. Today, in the gothic chapel of the "Santo Caliz" ("Holy Chalice") in the city's cathedral, a miraculous chalice identified by tradition as the Holy Grail, is kept and shown for the veneration of the faithful. This precious item is constructed in different portions: the inverted upper part of a Cornelian chalice constitutes the base, the stem is enriched by precious stones and the upper part is a cup, also of Cornelian. These parts are attributed to different eras; the cup is the most antique and the

most difficult to date and constitutes the most interesting part. On the base there is an inscription in Arabic of disputed interpretation, but that could be another proof to determine the date. According to professor Salvador Antunano, "When we know the mystery of the Chalice of the Holy Grail we realize that in it there is nothing enigmatic or esoteric. The history of this precious Chalice concerns the most dramatic, most sublime episode ever lived by humanity: the history of the Word made Man and Eucharist".