

A close-up photograph of two people in business attire shaking hands. The person on the left is wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a green tie. The person on the right is wearing a dark suit and a white shirt. The background is bright and out of focus.

VALÈNCIA

Business Networking

VLC  INVEST IN
VALENCIA
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Attraction and retention of investments in València

Doing Business Guide

Requested by Invest in València Office

Prepared by Grant Thornton



València, Doing Business

What is the business culture in València?



01

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1.1 Basic data

València is a city located in the east side of Spain, in the Valencian Community, which has 800,000 inhabitants, and is the third most important city in the country, behind Madrid and Barcelona. Its Mediterranean climate and culture and its closeness to the sea, make it a very pleasant and accessible city to live, invest, promote new businesses and develop professionally.

It is a dynamic and multicultural city that has been designated as “World Design Capital 2022” and “European Capital of Smart Tourism 2022”.

The city has an extensive municipal bus [network](#) and several [metro lines](#) that, in addition to connecting different areas of the city, extends its scope to its metropolitan area, which covers more than 1.500,000 inhabitants.

Geographically, València is very well connected not only at a national level, with Madrid, Barcelona or Zaragoza, but also internationally. It has an airport, AVE (Spanish high-speed train) and the main container port in the Mediterranean and it is located on the axis of the Mediterranean Corridor, which facilitates its rail connection with the rest of Europe.

The GDP of the city of València is € 61,499 M (in 2019) and the average gross income per capita stands at 31,655 euros (in 2019).

1.2 Business

From the point of view of business, València is a city that has all kinds of services, apart from commerce and industry. It counts with major business and conventions centers, such as *Feria Valencia* and *Palacio de Congresos*. Moreover, València is the company headquarters of important national and international companies and is fully focused on technological entrepreneurship, with an ecosystem where some of the most important Spanish accelerators and incubators are located, such as *Lanzadera* or *Innsomnia*.

The logistical potential of the city encompasses a series of logistics hubs and adjoining industrial areas namely, among others, *Vara de Quart*, *Fuente del*



Jarro, *El Barranquet*, *Ford-Almussafes*, the “Parque Tecnológico de Paterna”, the “Parque Logístico de Ribarroja” or *Parc Sagunt*, with direct access to the Port of Sagunto or the ZAL (Zone of Logistics Activities) of the Port of València.

The commercial and economic-financial activity is mainly located in the center of the city, around the Townhall Square. There are the main shops, the headquarters of the main banking entities and numerous professional offices and buffets.

València also has a series of neighborhoods where important commercial activity and hotel services are developed, such as the neighborhoods of *Carmen*, *Ensanche* or *Russafa*, and several shopping and leisure centers.

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It is worth mentioning the important tourist attraction of the city. The sea, the sun, its history and a huge and varied gastronomic offer -it counts with 8 restaurants with Michelin star- and hotel services, are its main arguments. Moreover, we must highlight the largest old town in Spain, with Gothic buildings such as *La Lonja*, a rich modernist architecture such as the Central Market, the complex of the City of Arts and Sciences, the *Palau de les Arts*, with a stable opera season, or the festival of *Las Fallas*, declared intangible cultural heritage of Humanity.

1.2.1 Working Hours

The working day depends on the sector:

Work schedule

- a) Public Administration: from 8h to 15h.
- b) In enterprises and buffets: business schedule is usually a part-time shift from 9h to 14h and from 16h to 19h, with a break of 1 and 2 hours to eat.
- c) Industry: There are usually shifts of 8 hours in a row with a break to eat.
- d) Trade and commerce: It can be part-time or in shifts, depending on the type of trade and opening hours.

1.2.2 Business hours and popular festivals

The usual business hours of the establishments located in the center of the city range from 10am to 9pm – in some cases until 10pm – from Monday to Saturday, and during the months of April to January, the working schedule is extended to Sundays and holidays. Many publicity campaigns are carried out throughout the year, although there are certain months where the sales take place, and so the publicity campaigns increase. The most common months of sales are January and February, after the autumn-winter season, and July and August, after the spring-summer season.

Restaurant hours are usually divided into 2 time slots: lunches (14h to 16h) and dinners (21h to 00h).

The main festivities of València are *Las Fallas* which are celebrated from March 15 to 19. In addition, it is also worth mentioning the Maritime Holy Week, in the month of April, and the following festivities: October 9 -the national day of the Valencian Community -, *San Vicente Martir* (January 22), *San Vicente Ferrer* (April 25), *Corpus Christi* or the July Fair.

Note that, during the month of August, the city usually reduces its activity, because of the coincidence with the usual period of working holidays, in which people take the opportunity take vacation.



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1.3 Enterprise ecosystem

València is the company headquarters of the main associations and business institutions of the Valencian Community, in which the entrepreneur or investor can find support for the implementation and development of their business and the defense of their business interests.

Among those associations and institutions, we can highlight the following:

1.3.1 Valencia Chamber of Commerce

A Public Law Corporation that manages public and private resources with business criteria. Its main objectives are:

- Representation, promotion and defense of the general interests of trade, industry, services and navigation.
- Exercise of the powers of a public nature provided for in the Law, or that may be entrusted and delegated by the Public Administrations.
- Provide services to companies.

It counts with many Commissions and Working Groups such as the Internal Trade Commission of Tourism, the Internationalization Commission and the Digital Transformation Commission.

What is more, it offers a personalized advisory service for the creation of companies and for obtaining aid for freelancers, companies and entrepreneurs, and has its own Business School, the “[Lluís Vives Business School](#)”.

In addition, it has set up a series of Clubs for networking and periodically organizes a wide series of events. The clubs are the following:

- [Corporate Club](#): Contact person: Isabel Galbis (igalbis@camaravalencia.com) – 961 366 214)
- [International Club](#): Contact person: Luz Martínez (lmartinez@camaravalencia.com) – 963 103 962)



- [Digital Innovation Club](#): Contact person: Carlos de Cozar (ccozar@camaravalencia.com) – 963 103 994)

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The contact details of Cámara Valencia are as follows:

Headquarters: C/. Poeta Querol, 15 – 46002 – València.
Telephone: 963 103 900

Opening hours: Opening hours: 9am to 2pm and 3:30pm to 6:30pm
Lluís Vives Business School: Benjamin Franklin, 8 – 46098 - Parque Tecnológico Paterna
Telephone: 961 366 080

1.3.2 Business Confederation of the Valencian Community (CEV)

It is the main business representation entity of the Valencian Community, which defends business interests in general and, in particular, those of its associates before the public authorities and society. The CEV is also a member of the Spanish Business Confederation (CEOE).

It brings together the main associations and sectoral business federations of the Valencian Community, such as:

- [FEMEVAL](#) (Valencian Metallurgical Business Federation).
- [FEVEC](#) (Federation of Construction Entrepreneurs).
- [FVET](#) (Valencian Federation of Transport and Logistics Entrepreneurs).
- [FEVAMA](#) (Wood and Furniture Business Federation).
- [FEHV](#) (Valencia Hospitality Business Federation).
- [FEDACOVA](#) (Agri-Food Federation C.V.).
- [FECOVAL](#) (Federation of Construction Contractors).
- [CECAP](#) (Business Federation of Training Centers C.V.).
- [AJEV](#) (Association of Young Entrepreneurs of Valencia).

If you are interested in joining the CEV, you can do it through any of the following channels:

- Fill in the form (<https://www.cev.es/quieres-asociarte/>)
- Call 96 315 57 20
- Send an email to: eperez-manglano@cev.es

Headquarters: Plaza Conde de Carlet, nº 3 – 46003 – Valencia
Telephone: 96 315 57 20 - E-mail: cev@cev.es



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