

## **PARADE OF THE THREE WISE MEN AND XIU-XIU**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Three Wise Men's Parade is a procession of typical floats in the Spanish cities, in which the three Magi: Melchor, Gaspar and Baltasar and their assistants throw candy to children who watch from the street.

This event is celebrated every January 5th in the afternoon. The children go to bed early at night and the next morning when they get up they have the gifts that the Wise Men have left them. The children have previously requested the gift by writing a letter to them. According to tradition children who have behaved badly during the past year receive sweet coal.

### **THE ORIGIN OF THE PARADE**

It is a Christian holiday that originated with the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. According to this tradition, the baby Jesus was visited by three Wise Men following the Star of the East that gave him three presents: gold, frankincense and myrrh.

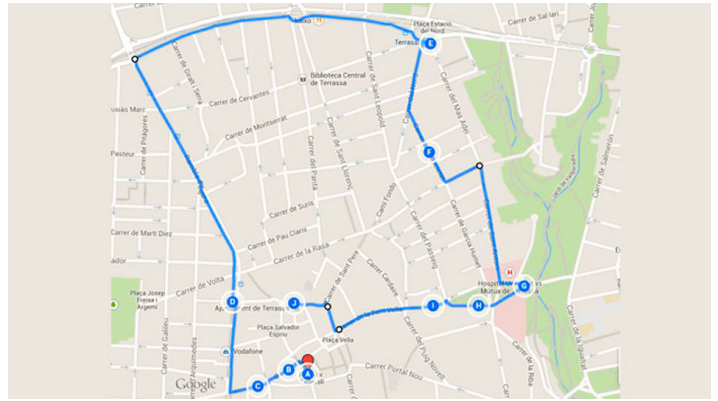
### **CELEBRATION**

Thousands of children fill the streets of different cities awaiting the arrival of the Three Wise Men who usually arrive hours before the special night. Fantastic floats, a whole retinue of pages, pounds of candy, light, color, fire ... all this and more to dazzle all those little innocent children, who expect the arrival of the next day.



### **THE PARADE OF THE THREE WISE MEN'S FOLLOWS THIS ROUTE IN TERRASSA:**

Route: Starting from Plaça Doctor Cadevall, carrer del Forn, carrer Major, Portal de Sant Roc, Rambla d'Ègara, Passeig 22 de Juliol, carrer del Nord, carrer de la Societat, plaça de la Creu Gran, Creu Gran, Sant Antoni, plaça del Doctor Robert, passeig Comte d'Ègara, Font Vella, Plaça Vella, Gavatxons, Placeta de la Font Trobada i Raval de Montserrat. Arrival at el Raval at 19.45, where some fireworks are set off.



## **XIU-XIU**

The Xiu-Xiu page is a royal page of Terrassa who collects the letters of the children in the city and he is supposed to give them to the Three Wise Men. According to tradition the Xiu Xiu is from the court of the King Gaspar. The original name of the royal page is Hassim Jezzabel. The Xiu-Xiu page comes to town on the 26th of December, from this day on he collects the letters and talks to the children on the radio and television. The Xiu-Xiu page tells the children to behave properly during the year, helping their parents, not arguing with their siblings



and



studying more at school.

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