

THE FRENCH TASTE

AND ITS PRESENCE IN SPAIN [17th – 19th CENTURIES]

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17TH CENTURY

Thirty Years Wars [1618-1648]

The war between the European powers which had supported the Protestant Reformation and an alliance of Catholic countries, including Spain. It led in turn to a Franco-Spanish war for the political control of Europe. The Peace of Westphalia and that of the Pyrenees ended the conflict, from which France emerged as the great hegemonic power on the continent.

18TH CENTURY

War of the Spanish Succession [1701-1714]

The war to secure the Spanish crown following the death without heir of Charles II, the last of the Spanish Habsburgs. It was waged between France, which defended the candidacy of Louis XIV's grandson Philippe, Duke of Anjou, and Austria, which supported the Archduke Charles, son of the Emperor Leopold I, allied with England, Holland Portugal. It ended with the establishment of the Bourbon monarchy in Spain under Philip V.

Family Pacts [1733, 1743 and 1761]

The three agreements signed between France and Spain under the Bourbon dynasty during the 18th century. Through these political-military alliances the two countries agreed to jointly defend their respective interests regarding their international strategic aspirations, particularly against British hegemony. The French Revolution and the fall of the Bourbons in France ended this strategy of family pacts.

The Terror [1793-1794]

The period in which the ruling body, the National Convention, led by Maximilien Robespierre, adopted harshly repressive measures against those it considered a threat to the achievement of the goals and ideals of the Revolution.

War of the Convention [1793-1795]

The armed conflict waged by Spain and an alliance of European nations against revolutionary France following the guillotining of Louis XVI. The war was part of the first coalition between different European powers to combat French revolutionary ideals and later Napoleon's territorial expansion. The Peace of Basel formalised the end of this conflict, after which Spain re-established diplomatic links with France before it was invaded by that country's army in 1808.

The Consulate [1799-1804]

A system of government instituted by Napoleon Bonaparte after he took power with a coup d'état against the Directoire government. Power was distributed between three Consuls, of whom the First Consul, in the person of Napoleon, held the maximum authority.

19TH CENTURY

First French Empire or Napoleonic Empire [1805-1814]

The Regime established by Napoleon Bonaparte following the Consulate and during which the Napoleonic wars took place which extended France's rule across most of Europe. Following Napoleon's defeat at the battle of Waterloo and his permanent exile to St Helena, the monarchy was restored in France under Louis XVIII.

Spanish War of Independence [1808-1814]

War against the French occupation of France. It followed the agreement that allowed the supposedly friendly entry of French troops into Spain in order to invade Portugal and establish a new monarchy under Napoleon's brother Joseph I. The Spanish forces were joined by an Anglo-Portuguese alliance commanded by Wellington which succeeded in expelling the French, after which Ferdinand VII was restored to the throne.

One Hundred Thousand Sons of Saint Louis [1823]

A punitive expedition sent by Louis XVIII of France to Ferdinand VII to assist with restoring absolutist monarchy in Spain and overthrow the Liberal Triennial (1820-1823) governed by the Constitution adopted in Cadiz in 1812. Captured by the liberals, who had been obliged to retreat to Cadiz with the advance of the absolutist forces, Ferdinand promised to abide by the constitution in order to end the war. However, following his liberation he rescinded on that promise, abolished constitutional legislation and re-installed absolutism in Spain.

Second French Empire [1852-1870]

The authoritarian regime established by Napoleon III, Napoleon Bonaparte's nephew, after his four years as president of the Second Republic. This period was characterised by economic prosperity and a shift from restrictive policies towards more liberal ones. The magnificence of the court was reflected in the arts, giving rise to an eclectic, ornately decorative style known as Second Empire of which the Empress, the Spanish-born Eugenia de Montijo, was the principal promoter.

1868 Revolution or "The Glorious Revolution"

A military uprising led by General Prim against the Spanish monarch Isabel II. It took place in the context of a pre-existing economic and social crisis and led to Isabel's dethronement and exile.



Grand Tour

The cultural trip habitually undertaken by young European aristocrats as part of their education, particularly between the mid-18th and early 19th centuries. The most popular destination was Italy in order to see the art of classical antiquity.

Ancien Régime

The political, economic and social system prior to the French Revolution. In general terms it was characterised by the concentration of power in the absolutist monarchy, a subsistence economy and marked social division based on the different strata or "estates" into which individuals were born by birth. As a result, the nobility and clergy became the privileged sectors, in contrast to the remainder of the population or third estate which played a key role in the outbreak of the Revolution.