

Free car park Coach park

isabled car park

Motorhome parking

charging station

ACCOMMODATION

Partially accessible

Pets allowed

P Car park

Archaeology Museum

Girona History Museum

Cinema Museum

Casa Masó

Guided tours

quiesdegirona.com

(34) 972 203 834 · museuart.com

(34) 972 222 229 · girona.cat/mus

Jewish History Museum (34) 972 216 761 · girona.cat/call

(34) 972 413 989 · rafaelmaso.org

Associació Guies de Girona

(34) 972 211 678 / 674 955 805

puntdebenvinguda@ajgirona.cat

(34) 972 412 777 · museudelcinema.cat Cathedral Treasury-Museum

(34) 972 427 189 - catedraldegirona.cat

Art Museum

AV ■ High-Speed Train

☐ Train station

Bus station

Airport (12 km)

Police stations

Lost and found

Green zones



connecta amb la ciutat

Tota la informació de la ciutat

Rambla Llibertat, 1, 17004 Girona

Punt de Benvinguda Girona-Gironès

Berenguer Carnicer, 3, 17001 Girona

Tel. (34) 972 010 001

turisme@ajgirona.cat

Tel. (34) 972 01 16 69

turisme@girones.cat

Citizens Information Board

Tel. (34) 972 419 010

girona.cat

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Plaça del Vi, 1, 17004 Girona

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Tourist Office

GIRONA, A EUROPEAN CITY

e two-thousand year old city of Girona has an extraordinary capacity to attra visitors due to its privileged location, its long history, and its many art treasure as well as its lively cultural, commercial, and industrial activity. The large, notab vell conserved city centre boasts numerous historic buildings, making it one c iginal Roman foundation known as **Força Vella** and the **Mediaeval Quarter** tha grew up when the city walls were extended during the 14th and 15th centuries

taking in some exuberant Baroque spaces and Rafael Masó's Noucentisme-style buildings on the way. Finally, **green Girona** includes two urban parks (La Devesa and Parc del Migdia) and a surrounding area of remarkable beauty, in particular the valley of Sant Daniel, the foothills of the Gavarres Massif, and the banks of the River Ter.

THE HISTORIC CITY

FORÇA VELLA. From the foundation of Girona until the year 1000.

In the first century BC, the Romans built a powerful fortress enclosed within a triangular perimeter, like an acropolis, known as the **Força Vella**. The fortress was well protected by a defensive wall made of large sandstone ashlars. Parts of this first city enclosure can still be seen today on some stretches of the wall.

ROMAN WALLS 1

The original sandstone Roman walls dating from the 1st century BC are still visible today at Plaça de Sant Feliu, Sobreportes and Rufí city gates, and Gironella tower. In the 3rd century AD, the walls were restored with regular-shaped limestone ashlars, as can be seen at the Telègraf tower.

CAROLINGIAN WALLS 2

The Roman walls were extended after the year 1000, when the city began to grow beyond the Força Vella enclosure. A stroll along the ramparts enables visitors to follow the longest Carolingian walls (9th century) in Europe.

CATHEDRAL 3

The Cathedral. Built between the 11th and 18th centuries, the Cathedral is the result of a series of additi ons and superimpositions in different styles, ranging from Romanesque to Neo-classical. The most singular feature is the 23-metre wide Gothic nave (15th-16th centuries), the widest rib-vaulted space in the world. Other noteworthy features include the Romanesque tower and cloister (11th-12th centuries), and the Baroque facade and steps (17th-18th centuries). Inside the Cathedral, there is a notable set of Romanesque objects (altar stone and bis



d'Anglesola), as well as two Baroque altarpieces (the Immaculate Conception and the Annunciation).

Cathedral Treasury-Museum. It houses works of religious art: the Be-

atus codex (10th century), the famous Creation Tapestry (12th century), a valuable collection of Gothic silverware, and the Renaissance altarpiece of St Helena (16th century).

Pia Almoina. 5

The 14th-century façade of this almshouse founded in the 13th century, the most impressive example of civil Gothic architecture in Girona, frames the monumental space of the Cathedral steps.

Casa Pastors. 6

This 18th-century house is one of the city's most notable mansions, with a porticoed courtyard, wide staircase, and noble reception rooms on the

JEWISH QUARTER 🕡

Girona's Jewish Quarter, docume from the year 1160, is one of the best conserved in Europe. Between the 13th and 14th centuries, there were synagogues, ritual baths, schools, and hospitals built for the use of the Jewish community, which at its highest point reached over eight hundred mer The Jewish History Museum recalls the history of the Jewish communities in Catalonia in the Middle Ages, with particular emphasis on Girona, and displays a collection of mediaeval Hebrew tombstones from the former Jewish cemetery in Montjuïc. Nahmanides Institute for Jewish Studies is a research centre on Jewish culture and history, with a library holding over six thousand publications.



MEDIAEVAL GIRONA. From the year 1000 to the 15th century

The mediaeval city expanded between the 11th and the 15th centuries with the boroughs that grew up to the north (Sant Feliu and Sant Pere), south (Areny and Vilanova) and west (Mercadal) of the original Força Vella enclosure, protected by new defensive walls, parts of which can still be seen from the rampart walk. Girona's moment of greatest vitality was the mid-14th century when, with a population of about twelve thousand inhabitants, it became the second largest

MEDIAEVAL CITY WALLS 18

The rampart walk affords privileged views over the city and enables visitors to follow the mediaeval city walls (14th-15th centuries) that protected the new boroughs of Sant Feliu and Sant Pere. Vilanova and Areny, and Mercadal.

BOROUGHS NORTH OF THE CITY The presence of the cemetery and the

tomb of St Feliu to the north of the Força Vella enclosure propitiated the growth of an extra-muros suburb from the 4th century AD onwards. Later on, a new borough grew up in the shelter of the monastery of Sant Pere de Galligants

(11th-12th centuries), with the Romanesque buildings of the monastery and the chapel of Sant Nicolau as the main points of interest.

Basilica of Sant Feliu. Girona's first cathedral (until the 10th century) is one of the city's most representative Gothic buildings, mainly because of its slender bell tower (14th-16th centuries). The original Romanesque chevet was later completed with Gothic naves and a Baroque façade (13th-18th centuries). It houses remarkable works of art, including eight pagan and early Christian sarcophagi (4th century), the sepulchre of St Narcissus (14th century) by Jean de Tournai, and the Recumbent Christ (14th century) by master sculptor Aloi de Montbrai.

Sant Pere de Galligants. This Benedictine monastery (12th century), with its grandiose basilica-plan church and interesting iconographical capitals in the central nave and cloister, is one of the major Lombard Romanesque sites in Catalonia, together with the nearby chapel of Sant Nicolau.

Chapel of Sant Nicolau. This small funerary chapel originally had a Lombard-type ground plan with four apses, and the characteristic ornamentation of small blind arches and Lombard bands on the outer walls. A noteworthy feature is the octagonal cimborrio. One apse was lost on the addition of the nave, which was completely renovated in the 20th century. Sant Nicolau is now used as an exhibition space: Bòlit Centre for Contemporary Art.

que building (12th century) based on the model of ancient Roman baths. The most outstanding features include the annular-vaulted entrance, used as a changing room and rest area, and the dome over the central pool, supported by slender columns with ornately decorated capitals.

Valley and monastery of Sant Daniel. 13 Behind Sant Pere de Galligants lies the valley of Sant Daniel, a large green zone near the city. The

monastery church, housing the tomb of St Daniel (14th century) by master sculptor Aloi de Montbrai, and cloister (12th-15th centuries) are fine examples of the Romanesque style with Gothic additions.

THE ARENY BOROUGH AND THE MEDIAEVAL EXPANSION

In the Middle Ages, the city expanded towards the River Onyar, where the Areny borough evolved from the commercial opportunities afforded by the river banks and the protection of a nearby religious building. The parallel growth of the Mercadal borough on the other side of the river was consolidated with the development of artisan industries using hydraulic energy from the Monar Canal. The city was thus encircled by two boroughs,

SHOPPING

In Girona you will find all kinds of shops, ranging from traditional stores to **fashion boutiques**: prestigious international brands, avant-garde decoration, signature jewellery, crafts, antiques, delicatessen products and much more.

The **Ribes del Ter open-air market** is held every Tuesday and Saturday mo

elling fruit, vegetables, clothes, footwear, accessories, toiletries, and many othe roducts. The many fairs and street markets (food, flowers, bric-à-brac, art

painting) add to the attractions for visitors to the city.

entrated, runs f rom Carrer de la Barca in the historic centre right ove

one on either side of the River Onyar. linked by a single stone bridge called St Francesc Bridge.

The houses on the River Onyar. The city offers spectacular images of steep streets and porticoed squares and, above all, the brightly painted façades of the houses overlooking the River Onvar (the river that crosses the city centre), which together with the Cathedral and Sant Feliu in the background provide the most emblematic view of Girona. Of particular interes among the bridges spanning the river are the slender, lightweight Gómez Bridge (1916), Peixateries Velles Bridge (built by the Eiffel company in 1877), and the "Stone Bridge", alsoknown as Isabel II Bridge (1856).



PLAÇA DE SANT FELIU 🚯 Placa de Sant Feliu is the main visitor access to the Forca Vella on crossing the river by either Gómez Bridge or the new Sant Feliu Bridge. This bustling square, with many bars and restaurants and the ever-popular Lioness sculpture, offers the most spectacular view of the bell tower of Sant Feliu

Sant Feliu bell tower. The bell tower is a distinctive feature of the city skyline, together with the Cathedral. Designed by architect Pere Sacoma as a combined defence tower and bell tower, it was completed in the 16th century in its original Gothic style.

Facade of Sant Feliu, Construction of the basilica of Sant Feliu was started around the year 1200, but was not completed until the early 17th century. Master stonemason Felip Regí built the remarkable Baroque facade, which resembles an altarpiece framed by the flanking Gothic towers, in the manner of Italian architect and scholar Giacomo Barozzi da Vignola.

The Lioness. 6 Copy of the 12th-century original piece housed in the Art Museum, the sculpture represents a lioness climbing up a column with the tail wrapped around it and the head turned to one side. According to tradition, to become a good citizen of Girona or (in the case of visitors) to return to the city, one must touch or kiss the animal's backside.

RAMBLA DE LA LLIBERTAT **(7)**

Today's Rambla was developed as a marketplace in the 13th century. as witnessed by its original name of Rambla de les Cols (Cabbage Walk). Situated along the River Onyar, with its characteristic porticoed arcades with irregularly shaped, low arches, has been the main commerce and leisure area of Girona for centuries. Of particular interest are the Modernist facade of Casa Norat (1912) and the Noucentisme-style building (192 that houses the Tourist Office and the Bòlit Rambla, Sala Fidel Aguilar exhibition hall. Other mediaeval porticoed spaces can be seen in Carrer de les

Ferreries Velles, Placa del Vi and Place

de les Voltes d'en Rosés.



Pont de Pedra. (B) The "Stone Bridge", also called Isabel II Bridge, was built in 1856 to replace the former Gothic-style St Francesc Bridge spanning the River Onyar. A cattle market used to be held on the riverbed until the first decades of the 20th century.

Fontana d'Or. 19 Exceptional example in Catalonia of Romanesque civil architecture with Gothic additions, now hosting CaixaForum Girona.

PLAÇA DEL VI 🐠

This bustling square is surrounded by porticoed arcades, Girona City Hall, the Municipal Theatre, and the so-called Palau del General, a Gothic-Renaissance building that housed the Catalan government administration of the Girona region in the 16th and 17th centuries.

VILANOVA BOROUGH 4

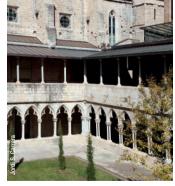
The Vilanova borough grew up in the 14th century, behind the monastery of Sant Domènec, the oldest of its kind in Catalonia. Large stretches of the mediaeval walls can still be seen here.

SANT MARTÍ SACOSTA 🐵

Girona has succeeded in preserving many mediaeval and modern spaces, such as squares, buildings and steep alleys of exceptional beauty and atmosphere. This is certainly true of the space enclosed by the church of the former **monastery of Sant Martí** (17th century) with its Baroque façade and steps, and Casa-Palau Agullana (16th-17th centuries) with its covered skew arch that provides one of the city's most emblematic images.

UNIVERSITY OF GIRONA 23 The Faculties of Arts and Tourism are

located on the site of the former monastery of Sant Domènec, while the Provost's Office is in the nearby Les Àligues building. The monastery of Sant Domènec (13th-14th centuries) was one of the first Gothic buildings of Catalonia, with notable features including the church, the chapterhouse, and the cloister. The only original part of Les Aligues building is the façade (16th century), a rare example of Renaissance architecture in the city.



FORMER MONASTERY OF LA MERCÈ 2

The only original feature still standing is the Gothic-style church (14th century), now used as a concert hall. The rest of the monastery was demolished for military reasons and rebuilt in the 17th century. The building is now La Mercè

CONGRESSES AND BUSINESS

Girona is a well-positioned city, in terms of both infrastructure and geographical location, for holding congresses, conferences, and business or incentive mee-

tings. Venues suitable for all types of event include Girona Conference Centre with three large halls holding over 1800 persons, and Girona Trade Fair Building, a large adjacent space of over 7000 m².

The city also boasts many **unique event venues**, such as La Mercè Cultural Centre, Casa Masó, the courtyard of the Jewish History Museum and the Events Room of the Municipal Theatre, among others.

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY GIRONA

MERCADAL BOROUGH 25

Water from the Monar Canal running through the Mercadal had been used for centuries before the borough was walled in the 15th century. Several convents and monasteries (Sant Francesc, Santa Clara, Sant Agustí) were built here, but demolished in the 19th century to make way for industrial establishments, no longer existing today.

Former hospital of Santa Caterina (17th century). 25 Now the seat of the Catalan Government in Girona, this Baroque building was renovated in 1928, and remodelled during the first decade of the present century. The old pharmacy. restored in 2011, is conserved with a collection of over 350 French-style ceramic objects, glass jars, mortars, and surgical instruments.

Casa de Cultura. 27 The former hospice (18th century), is a good example of neo-Classical sobriety, with the exception of the Rococo-style doorway. The chapel is now the Josep Viader Concert Hall.

porticoed neo-classical square is now a bustling place with many popular restaurants. The monument (1894) entitled Girona 1809, dedicated to the defenders of the city, is by sculptor Antonio Parera. Post Office. 29 Designed in 1916-20,

Plaça de la Independència. 23 The

the main point of interest is its façade, with the grandiose entrance built in the style of a triumphal arch, crowned by a Noucentisme-style ceramic dome. "The Lion". 30 Nickname for the

monument The Army to the Heroes of 1808 and 1809 in honour of the defen-

ders of Girona during the Peninsular War. The bastion of Sant Francesc (17th century) provides the base for the column and the lion, both made by sculptor Joan Oliver de Bezzi. The three bas-reliefs dedicated to the militia and the artillerymen are by sculptor Josep Campeny, commissioned in 1909 to commemorate the centenary of the monument.

WORKS BY RAFAEL MASÓ Rafael Masó was the main architect

working with the Noucentisme style in the Girona area, and several of these works can still be seen in the city. Opened to the public since 2012. Casa Masó (1911-12) was originally the architect's family home and now houses the Masó Foundation Casa Salieti (1911) was a Gothic mansion renovated by Masó with the addition of new features such as wrought ironwork and leaded stained glass windows. Masó's most outstanding works are the **Farinera Teixidor** (1910-11), Girona's most notable Modernist building featuring glazed ceramic tiles, and Casa Teixidor, also known as La Punxa (1918-22), for which the architect used a more personal style.



M GIRONA MUSEUMS

chaeology Museum of Catalonia-Girona. 31 Founded in 1846, it hous

cated in a former Capuchin monastery (18th century), of which the cloist tern, and curious desiccator cemetery can still be seen, this museum tel story of Girona city from its foundation by the Romans (1st century BC) e return of democracy from 1975 onwards. There are also several theme



Devesa. Girona's largest park dates back to mediaeval times and has been declared a cultural asset of national interest. Sports facilities, the Trade Fair building, the Auditorium-Conference Centre, an open-air market on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, as well as stalls and attractions during St Narcissus' Fair and Festival at the end of October.

CITY PARKS

Ribes del Ter. Linear park along the banks of the River Ter, running from the Fontajau district to Pont Major, this is a good place for relaxing, strolling, and observing the rich riverside fauna. The Fontajau sports pavilion area hosts many

Parc del Migdia. Located on the site of a former military barracks in the south of the city, this is a popular urban-style park with botanical interest.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND CITY PARKS

rona is a privileged city in terms of natural heritage. It offers an unbeatable set-ng for enjoying all types of outdoor sports and activities, always just a stone's

i**bes del Ter i la Devesa 43**, Girona's two large urban parks (accessib

ng through the municipality from south to north along the route traces the **Monar irrigation channel 45**, a way of delving into

anda del Ter 46 As you follow the course of the river, this itinerary allows you tural sites like Parc de Domeny and Deveses d'en Bru

Parc del Migdia. 47 Located on the site of the former military barracks in the south of the city, this is a popular urban-style park with botanical interest. aflets and more detailed information about all of these routes are available

GIRONA ALL YEAR ROUND

Parade of the Three Kings (5 January). The Three Kings travel from the Orien o the city of Girona and set up their tents in Les Pedreres Gardens. Their Majes ies then ride through the streets of the city, escorted by a spectacular entourage.

ary activities for catering professionals and lovers of good food alike.



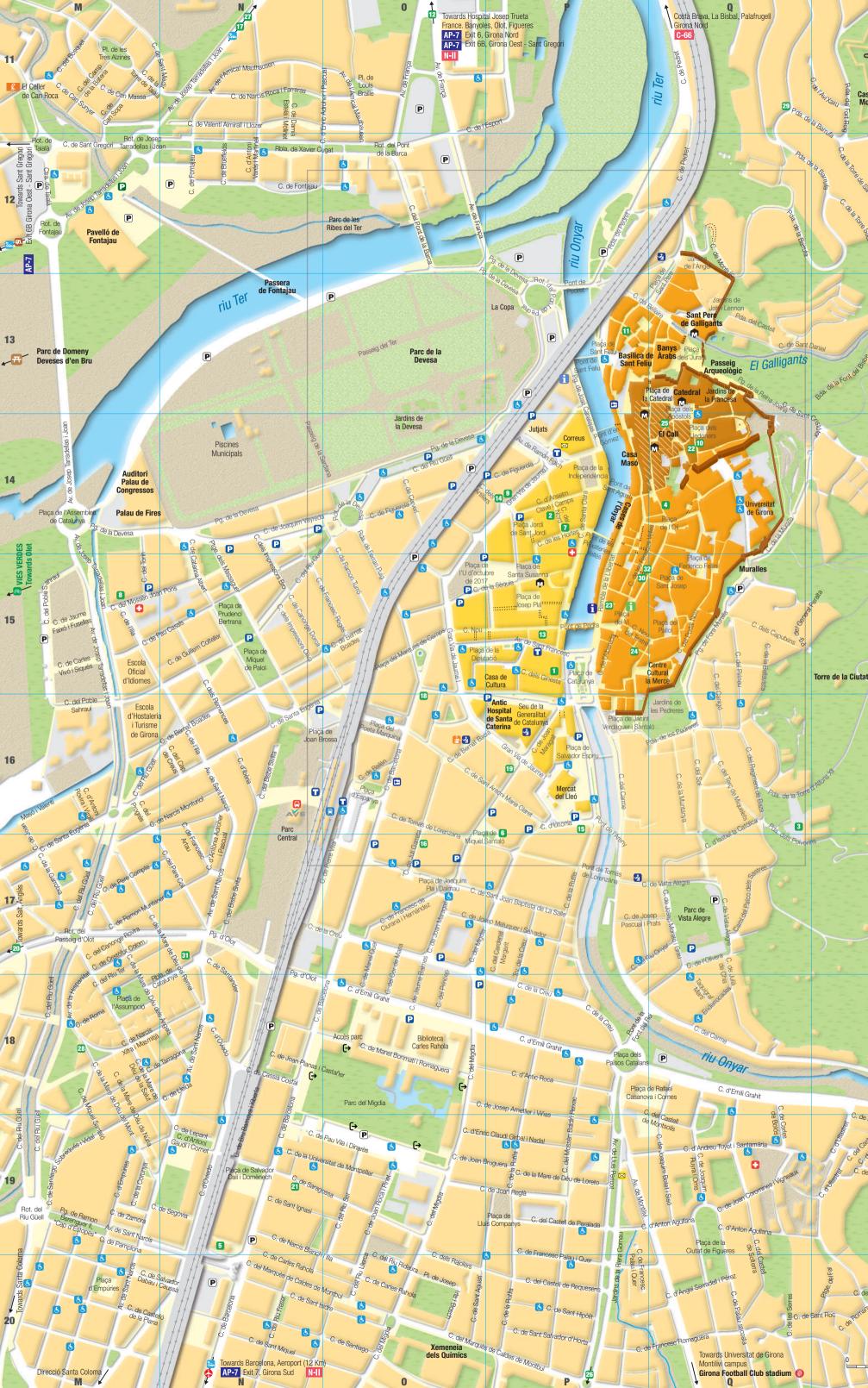
nporada Alta – Autumn Festival of Catalonia (October, November and cember). Drama festival offering a programme of national and international stige, now a benchmark among events of its kind in Europe.

Christmas (December). Shopping, Christmas lights, markets, shows, the tradi ional Nativity play ("Pastorets"), and many other activities.

Girona, a city of festivals (all year round). Music, cinema, theatre and visual arts festivals including jazz, street art, classical guitar, video-art, international and amateur theatre, etc.

SPORTS TOURISM DESTINATION

Girona is a certified Sports Tourism Destination in the "MultiSports" category, which includes running, cycling (road and ATB), swimming, athletics, and tennis



GASTRONOMY

Girona city is known for the outstanding vitality of its cuisine, characterized by a combination of **traditional** and **avant-garde** dishes, based on the use of **local produce** and time-honoured recipes. The city has many restaurants offering Micheli-starred eateries, including one of the world's best restaurants, El Celler de Can Roca, recognised as such on several occasions by the respected

El Lleó marketplace is the city's major distribution centre for fresh quality produce. With 60 stalls selling meat, fish, fruit and vegetables, groceries, etc., the market supplies the local restaurants, and is a daily meeting place for the