

Port & Sea

Bar_Port_Sea_Walking

Tour description:

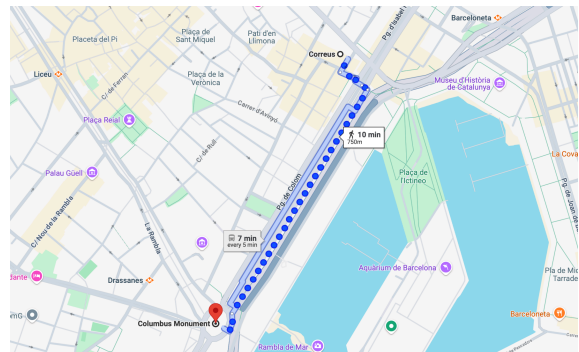
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/JcekTjaDmXD4oKBRA>

Meeting point:

At the steps of the Correos on Plaça del Correos

Inclusions/sites visited:

- La Cara de Barcelona
- Port Vell
- Rambla de Mar Maremagnum
- Memorial Portal de la Pau
- Drassanes
- Columbus Monument



Logistics:

- Tickets for the monument will be sent to you by your PP

End point: Columbus Monument

Website listing: [Columbus Monument Ticket With Barcelona Waterfront Tour](#)

Find My Tour Link

Key Talking Points

Starting location / tour intro : Plaça de Correos

**Tour developers / script writers to include important things to highlight per tour.*

- ☐ Welcome on behalf of ExperienceFirst.
- ☐ A 'hook' to get people excited - what's the thread of the tour? Why should we get excited? Start the story.
- ☐ Personal introduction.
- ☐ Overview of what the tour will cover / what's included / what to expect (remember managing expectations up front can help the rest of the tour run smoothly!).
- ☐ Logistics of the tour - timing, breaks (if any), heat, amount of walking, accessibility etc.
- ☐ Where the tour will end, at what time and what transport options there will be (or how long it will take to return to the starting location).
- ☐ Safety - crossing roads as a group, traffic considerations, crowds etc.
- ☐ Return to the story and start the tour.

Stop 1: Plaça de Correos

Suggested timing: 5 mins

Suggested spot to position the group: In the central plaza

Main points/stories:

- Since the 19th century the city has began facing inward and away from the sea in contrast to its history
- The peak of the maritime Catalan dominance was 14th & 15th century
- Their success came about due to the house of Aragon's expansion and establishment of consulates to the four corners of the Med from Sardinia to Naples, Sicily to Greece, and Alexandria
- Imagery from this golden maritime age was always focused on a city facing the sea and was inherently maritime much like Genoa or Naples
- Until the age of Ferdinand the Catholic, Barcelona had the right to instate its own leader and its influence was so far reaching that it gave one of the leading jurisdictional texts el *Llibre del Consolat del Mer* which went on to shape maritime legislation internationally
- When Carles I built the wall a new barrio was built around Ample facing seaward

Stop 2: La Cara de Barcelona

Suggested timing: 10 mins

Main points/stories:

La Cara de Barcelona

- A pop art sculpture designed by Roy Lichtenstein in 1992 for the Olympic Games
- Lichtenstein's artwork is often inspired by comic strips and popular culture. The fragmented and stylized features of the head reflect his signature pop art style, merging high art with elements of mass culture.
- Pays homage to great Barceloní artists like Gaudí with the trencadis of the tiles as well as Miró's abstractism & Picasso's cubism
- Distinctively Lichtenstein in the red dot design
- Was ordered to help with the beautification of the Port Vell during refurbishments

La Gamba

- inaugurated in **1989**
- began as an eye-catcher for one of several restaurants in Barcelona's Moll de la Fusta designed by the architect Alfred Arribas, a friend of sculpturist Javier Mariscal's
- When the events of the 1992 Olympic Games were over, several bars and restaurants in the area had to close, including the restaurant that featured Mariscal's work.
- After the closure of the premises and several subsequent disputes, the work remained in the same place, as a property of Barcelona City Council, and **became a popular symbol of the redevelopment of the Barcelona waterfront shortly before the Olympic Games.**

Stop 3: Port Vell & Barceloneta

Suggested timing: 10 mins

Main points/stories:

- Maïans was a small sandy island that was absorbed during work done on the port in the late 1400s
- Mainly underwater until the 1600s. When constructing Port Vell, a dyke was built to link the island of Maïans to the city, the landfill created the ground on which the

neighbourhood would then be developed

- Constructed for the residents of early 18th c. Ribera whose housing was destroyed for the construction of the Ciutadella
- In 1912, to the east, near to the district of Bogatell, the MarBella sea baths were inaugurated, which remained open until the 1940's when they were destroyed by a storm. At the time it was considered to be the cleanest area of the beaches in Barcelona
- Barceloneta beach was created using sand imported from abroad and has occasionally required 'topping up' as waves and weather erode it. The council said that over 50% of the sand added in 2008 and 2010 had been lost and would cost an expected €800,000 to replace.

Useful resources:

 LA BARCELONETA, SU HISTORIA

Stop 4: Rambla del Mar & Maremagnum

Suggested timing: 20 mins

Suggested spot to position the group: walk up the boardwalk across the bridge to go see the clock tower at the end

Main points/stories:

- A wooden bridge that extends from the mainland to the Maremagnum, a mall on a small island
 - Opened May 1995
 - The facility was known for housing nightlife until the murder of William Pacheco in Jan 2002 when the man was chased down by security guards who threw him in the sea only for him to drown

La Torre del Rellotge

- Built in **1772**, and its initial purpose was to serve as the port's first lighthouse.
- In **1904** it also began to tell the time in order to find a new use for the structure after the arrival of the Montjuïc lighthouse.

- Incidentally, the 7 not only serves to mark the corresponding time but is also a window that can be opened from the inside to take a look at the port. This is just one of the many little secrets of this emblematic building.


It was used to establish the metric system. It sounds strange to say it today, but the Torre del Rellotge was essential for the metre unit to measure what it measures today all over the world.

- In 1791 the Paris Academy of Sciences decided to look for a single system of measurements. The Paris meridian was used as a reference point, specifically the section between Dunkirk and Barcelona.
- André Méchain was in charge of taking the measurements in Barcelona, and the Torre del Rellotge was one of the reference points he used, like the Castell de Montjuïc and the Ciutadella.
- The tower's location coincided with the intersection between a parallel and the Paris Meridian. Years later Ildefons Cerdà took advantage of this condition to design the Paral·lel and Meridiana avenues in the Eixample project, which coincide exactly with the lines that give it its name.

The W Hotel

- Inaugurated in 2009
- Designed by Ricardo Bofill
- It is locally known as *la vela* or the sail referencing its sail like design

Extra Resources:

-  [Why I will NEVER use the Metric System](#)
- [El portero del Maremàgnum acusado de la muerte...](#)

Stop 5: Memorial Portal de la Pau

Suggested timing: 10 mins



Main points/stories:

- **17 January 1977** a group of American Navy men were docked in Barcelona for some days and one man Johnny and his friends ended up going out on the town the night before disembarkment.
- The boys made their way to the Bar California, a mariners bar down on the Carrer d'Esculeders for a drink
- Johnny was incredibly drunk on arriving and stumbled across to Mari, the bar owner - slurring his words she thought he was looking for a bathroom and sent him to the back of the bar
- He opened the door and ended up tripping and falling on some sacs passing out there
- When he came too, it was light outside and he was locked in the bar as nobody had noticed him out the back storage - the man was panicking at the repercussions for having missed the naval launch
- Mari comes in to open the bar later that day and sees Johnny telling him "*Boy, you've just been reborn!*" and hugs him crying
- It turned out that his sleeping in had saved his life as his boat ended up sinking taking the lives of 49 of the 130 on board
- A year later this monument was raised by the US Navy in honour of the victims
- Johnny would go on to send Mari a card with photos and stories of his life once a year every year as he grew into a family man

Extra resources:

- [1977 Mariners incident](#)

Stop 6: Drassanes

Suggested timing: 10 mins

Main points/stories:

- The Royal Shipyards, established in the 13th century and built to maintain the royal naval fleet

Drassanes Reials de Barcelona (Royal Shipyards of Barcelona) refers to a group of structures that have survived into our time after more than seven centuries of history. It all began with a facility established midway through the 13th century on the beach of Barcelona, outside the city walls and at the foot of Montjuïc Mountain. Four towers and three sections of wall enclosed a space for the construction and maintenance of galleys and warships in the service of the King of Aragon, Peter the Great. It was a space open to the sea, so that ships could sail in and out. After the establishment of this first compound, the complex continued to grow. Powerful walls and ramparts were added, and the space eventually became a great mediaeval arsenal.

- 13th century: There is reference to an old shipyard in a document dated 1241, when James I of Aragon ordered that no house or structure should be built on the coastline between the city walls and the shipyards.
- 13th century: This period of construction started with the War of the Sicilian Vespers. In 1285, Peter III of Aragon ordered the construction of the shipyard, a rectangular fortification with no roof consisting of fortified walls and four towers, of which two still exist. The shipyard opened to the east.
- 14th century: This expansion comprises the period from 1328 to 1390. The city walls were expanded and included the shipyard inside the fortified city. A roof was added to prevent the degradation of the galleys stored during winter.
- 15th century: Construction started in 1390 and lasted until 1415. A new area, *Porxo No*, was added to the building. This part of the shipyard is also known as *Pere IV*. The area was meant to be a royal palace, but the idea was finally discarded. Excavation shows that only the foundations for the palace were built.
- 16th century: The mediaeval building was replaced by a new dockyard a few metres inland. The new shipyards continue to use Gothic architecture, since it had proven to be the most practical and reliable at the time. This decision, however, managed to confuse historians trying to date the building. The construction of the new dockyards and the move inland was caused by the construction of the city's port during the 15th

century. The new port had changed the currents and moved the shore inland, causing severe flooding in the old mediaeval building.

- 17th century: In 1612, the Catalan government decided to add three naves to the building. Following the Catalan Revolt (1640–1652) the Spanish government further amplified the shipyard both as an arsenal and a barracks.
- 18th century: In 1725, Two more barracks were constructed, one for cavalry and one for infantry. These barracks were torn down in 1935. The last major update came between 1742 and 1749, when the roofs of the two central naves were converted into a single nave, known as *Nau Central*.

Stop 7: Columbus Monument

Suggested timing: 10 mins

Main points/stories:

- **40m** (131ft) tall tower
- **7.2m** (24ft) bronze statue
- First proposed in 1856 by Antoni Fages i Ferrer
- The monument was designed by Catalan architect Gaietà Buigàs i Monravà, who won a competition to design the structure.
- Made for the **1888 World Fair in Barcelona** with construction beginning **1882**
- A reminder that Columbus came to Barcelona to report to the Catholic monarchs
- Many say he points to Genoa (Columbus' hometown) though in reality he is pointing south-east without any real end goal in sight, he is merely pointing out to sea
- It is a controversial monument and it has been called to be removed, destroyed, or replaced in recent years

Design of the tower:

- Four buttresses against the octagonal pedestal bear portrait medallions that depict people related to Columbus:
 1. [Martín Alonzo Pinzón](#)
 2. [Vicente Yáñez Pinzón](#)
 3. [Ferdinand II of Aragon](#)
 4. [Isabella I of Castile](#)
 5. Father Juan Pérez
 6. Father Antonio de Marchena
 7. Andrés de Cabrera, Marqués de Moya
 8. Beatriz Fernández de Bobadilla, Marquessa de Moya

- There are 4 seated figures that represent four realms of Spain: Catalonia, León, Aragon, and Castile.

Against the base of the pedestal there are 4 additional statues:

1. [Jaume Ferrer](#), a Mallorcan cartographer
 2. Luis de Santángel Bessant
 3. Captain Pedro Bertran i de Margarit, next to a kneeling Native American.
 4. Father Bernat de Boïl, preaching to a kneeling Native American.
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- There are 8 bronze panels that show scenes from his first voyage to the Americas:
1. Columbus and his son asking for food at the La Rabida Monastery
 2. Columbus explaining his plans to the monks of the La Rabida Monastery
 3. Columbus meeting King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella in Córdoba
 4. Columbus appearing at the council gathering in the Monastery of San Esteban in Salamanca
 5. Columbus meeting the King and Queen in Santa Fe
 6. Columbus leaving port from Palos de la Frontera on 3 August 1492
 7. Columbus's arrival in the New World
 8. Columbus greeting the King and Queen after his return in Barcelona

there are also 8 coats-of-arms representing locations visited:

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Huelva | 5. Moguer |
| 2. Córdoba | 6. Puerto Rico |
| 3. Salamanca | 7. Cuba |
| 4. Santa Fe | 8. Barcelona |

Ending / tour outro: Monument entrance

- ☐ Thank you on behalf of ExperienceFirst.
- ☐ What was all of this leading to? Help the story find a conclusion and bring the main points together. Finish the narrative arch and leave people with a feeling.
- ☐ Instructions for what happens next: how to use tickets, personal time to explore, nearby museums / attractions ect.
- ☐ Transportation from the end location: [Green](#) line metro at Drassanes

- ☐ Ask for reviews - these are crucial to ensure more people find us and get to experience this tour. Share your name and introduce the review method refer to the [Global Guide Handbook](#).
- ☐ Thank you and close out, stay an extra 5 mins for any questions.

FAQs or other logistical considerations

Your Point Person will send the guests and you the tickets before the tour.

For example:

- Heat and breaks
- Accessibility (e.g. is there an alternative option if there are stairs?)
- Anticipated closures of the site (e.g. frequent strikes)
- Known issues in the place / neighbourhood (e.g. scammers nearby)
- Traffic, frequent road closures
- Etc. according to local conditions.

When in doubt, contact Ops!

USA

For texting only during NYC office hours:
(917) 342-2428

Global

+1 415-727-1886

Dial 0 to be put through to a Customer Service agent straight away

Always refer to the [Global Guide Handbook](#) for other information, or contact your local operations team.