

Barcelona

THE SAGRADA FAMILIA CHURCH, UNIVERSAL SYMBOL OF BARCELONA



Detail of the towers of La Sagrada Família

Autonomous region: Catalonia

Province/Island: Barcelona



Discover an unparalleled architectural gem, a unique creation that has become Barcelona's most universal symbol. Come and get to know the Sagrada Família, the pinnacle of Antoni Gaudí's creation, a monumental church comprised of shapes, towers, curves and complex, unique sculptures.

Soaring, vertical, stylised... it defies the heights. This is how the **Sagrada Família** rises up towards the sky. It is Barcelona's most visited building, a symbol of the Catalan capital and the finest work of modernist architect Antoni Gaudí.

To see the Sagrada Família in all its glory and appreciate its details close-to, the best thing is to go up to its highest point (either by lift or climbing a long spiral staircase) - one hundred metres above ground. This is the only way to see Antoni Gaudí's creative conception, in this, his finest work. The architect leaves nothing to chance. His genius shines through in a huge building whose thousands of different elements come together in perfect harmony.

The Sagrada Família is a grandiose work, architecturally complex and full of religious symbolism. The great genius dedicated more than 40 years to the church, and, after his death in 1926, the project continued according to his original plans and drawings.

Stone, brick, tile and glass come together in unimaginable (and technically difficult) architectural designs. Religious sculptures, immense stained-glass windows and a host of decorative elements are fundamental to the work. Standing out overall are its impressive towers, more than 100 metres high. They force you to look upwards in order to take in this massive church, which, once completed, will have 18 towers, its highest reaching 170 metres.

We should also mention the facades of the Birth and Passion of Christ, the Rosario doorway and the interior of the nave and cloisters. Here, there is a Museum with models, original drawings, artefacts, sketches and furniture that help to understand the creativity and complexity behind this unique project, which has become a symbol of Barcelona worldwide.

Gaudí's mark

Antoni Gaudí was an artist who revolutionised the canons of architecture and became the prime exponent of Spanish and Catalan Modernism. **Barcelona** is home to many fine works by the architect, buildings that enchant and captivate all those who behold them. A stroll along the trails of the **Park Güell**, with its stunning views over the city; the seductive undulating, expressionist facade of **La Pedrera (Casa Milà House)**; the multitude of abstract decorations of **Casa Batlló House** or **Palau Güell Palace** ... All these come together to form a unique experience that attracts millions of visitors year after year. In any case, these are just a few of the architectural treasures by Gaudí to be found in Barcelona, a cosmopolitan, open, modern and friendly city which has become one of the world's prime tourist destinations.

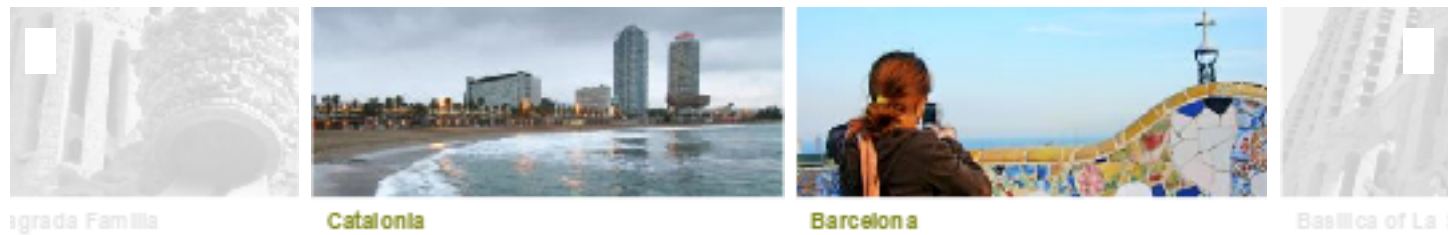
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