

# A GATEWAY INTO BARCELONA

## La Maternitat i Sant Ramon neighbourhood tour



Ajuntament de  
Barcelona

# A walk through the city's evolution

**L**a Maternitat i Sant Ramon is one of the three neighbourhoods in the Les Corts District, bounded to the north by Avinguda Diagonal, to the east by Gran Via de Carles III, to the west by the town of l'Hospitalet and to the south with the district of Sants-Montjuïc, is the area that serves as a gateway to the city of Barcelona. Therefore, its history is closely tied to that of the towns and neighbourhoods around it: l'Hospitalet, Collblanc and Sants. The neighbourhood has a population of 23,868 residents living in an area measuring 190.30 hectares. Its current boundaries were set by the Barcelona of the Neighbourhoods plan approved by the City Council in 2006.

The current La Maternitat i Sant Ramon neighbourhood was originally a zone of farmhouses, dry crops and gardens. Its proximity to the more populous nucleus of Les Corts and the fact that it was a southern route into the Barcelona plain gave it an important and strategic status which prompted the construction of dozens of large farmhouses, many of them fortified during the Middle Ages, and some of whose vestiges we will see on this route.

Before Les Corts was annexed to Barcelona in 1897, the neighbourhood's current territory was sparsely populated; its most notable feature were Can Vinyals de la Torre and Can Planes farmhouses, both of which are included on this route, and the now-vanished Torre Melina and Can Cavaller, as well as other smaller ones like Can Taner, Casa Xica d'en Guerra and Can Ermengol.

In the nineteenth century, with industrialisation and the consequent large population surge, an entire new nucleus began to spring up around the Sant Ramon parish church, with new homes, businesses and factories. In parallel, taking advantage of the lands belonging to a former farmhouse, construction on the Casa Provincial de La Maternitat i Expositors of Barcelona got underway, a care facility designed with the goal of improving the healthcare and living conditions of infants and mothers. These two phenomena are the source of the neighbourhood's current name, the legacy of both the rural past that was so important to the development of the zone and the scientific and technological innovations that industrialisation brought to Barcelona.



Barcelona Science Park. © Quim Roser



## The neighbourhood is the legacy of both the rural past and the innovations that industrialisation brought to Barcelona

In addition to these two main points, the neighbourhood also stands out for its Modernist-style constructions, like the perimeter of the Güell Pavilions and the cemetery, and for its large facilities built throughout the twentieth century, like Camp Nou and the Barcelona Science Park. Despite having all these important points in its different areas and some of the most important tourist attractions in Catalonia, its location far from Barcelona's city centre means that it is not

a destination that the city's residents choose to visit.

Did you know that this neighbourhood is the home to the vestiges of one of the oldest farmhouses on the Barcelona plain and the museum with the most visitors in all of Catalonia? Or that you can walk along the streets of former textile colonies? Well, with this route, you will discover and come to appreciate everything that the La Maternitat i Sant Ramon neighbourhood has to tell you by tracing its history from its more remote past of farmhouses and defence towers to the most modern nanotechnology laboratories. Walking along its streets will enable you to learn about and understand the development not only of the neighbourhood itself but also of Les Corts and even Barcelona as a whole.

①

## East gate of the Güell Estate's pavilions

Year built: 1883-1887

Address: Avinguda de Joan XXIII, 27



© Quim Roser



Visible from a space that is fully accessible for people with reduced mobility



Public space

**W**ith the decision to tear down Barcelona's walls and urbanise the entire plain via the Eixample, formerly independent urban centres were annexed to the city. The Diagonal was supposed to connect the sea with Sant Joan Despí, crossing the entire area of Les Corts. Joan Güell wanted to be one of the first to invest in the redevelopment of the zone and purchased the lands of the former Can Custó farmhouse to build a summer villa there. His son Eusebi continued to enlarge the land by buying the surrounding farmhouses: Can Baldiró, Can Feliu and Can Cuiàs.

All these lands together gave rise to the Güell Estate. Antoni Gaudí was assigned

to design its interior gardens and a wall around the perimeter with three large entrances, one of which is this one. This east gate was built with red brick and red and white ceramic details, and it has a single arched passageway. When Avinguda Diagonal finally opened in 1924, the estate was divided in two, and this gate lost its original meaning. In 1957, it was torn down to build the Faculty of Pharmacy, but it was rebuilt that same year in its current location, respecting the original.

The south gate is located on Carrer de Lluís Solé i Sabarís, next to the Faculty of Biology and Geology, while the north entrance, called the Dragon's Gate, is on Avinguda Pedralbes, where the hall for the porter and stables is also preserved.

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②

## Can Vinyals de la Torre

Year built: tenth-century tower, house rebuilt in the eighteenth century

Address: Carrer del Doctor Salvador Cardenal, 7



© Quim Roser



Visible from a space that is fully accessible for people with reduced mobility



Private property, it can only be seen from the outside

**T**his mediaeval farmhouse was named after the round watchtower preserved right next to it, a defensive structure built in the tenth century as a protection and surveillance measure against the attacks and raids of the Saracens from Almansor's army: the incursion into Barcelona in 985 meant the almost total destruction of the city and hundreds of watchtowers were subsequently built all over the plain with the goal of protecting the roads leading into and out of the city.

Torre Rodona is one of the few examples from this period still standing in the city. The building was for residential and agricultural use and is a testimony of the hundreds of farmhouses that had populated the zone since the Roman era, taking advantage of its fertility and easy access to water.

**\* It is one of the few examples of mediaeval farmhouses still standing in Barcelona**

Reformed in the Gothic period, other buildings were constructed around it in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, comprising the current complex, which along with the watchtower, is protected as a Cultural Asset of Local Interest. In 1972, it came to be owned by the Husa hotel group, which built the Hotel Princesa Sofia (currently the Hotel Sofia Barcelona) on the adjacent land while fortunately respecting the farmhouse. Husa restored it and moved the group's offices into it until 2018 when it was transferred to an investment group.

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3

## Les Corts Cemetery

Year built: original in 1845, rebuilt in 1897

Address: Avinguda de Joan XXIII, 3-15



© Quim Roser



Fully accessible for people with reduced mobility



Public space with opening times; it offers a guided tour

With Les Corts' municipal autonomy in 1836, there was a clear need to build its own services, like a parish church and a cemetery. Burials had been forbidden near parish churches in urbanised centres since the late eighteenth century, so the decision was taken to build the cemetery on the outskirts of Les Corts. In 1845, the owners of Can Cuiàs handed over land near the Riera Blanca stream to build it. It was completely renovated in 1897 during the Modernist period.

As a Modernist cemetery, its highlights include the neo-Gothic chapel, with a dome reminiscent of Byzantine churches, the bronze Pietà by Josep Viladomat and a funerary monument in the Pantheon of the Repatriates devoted to the soldiers who perished in the

war in Cuba and the Philippines. Also worth noting is the area in the cemetery dedicated to Jews, one of the few examples in Barcelona.

If you stroll through it, you can find prominent personalities like the footballer Ladislau Kubala, the photographer Agustí Centelles, the writer Prudenci Bertrana, the sculptor and art collector Frederic Marès and the humourist Miguel Gila.

It is currently the home to almost thirty thousand graves, and the cemetery as a whole is protected as a Cultural Asset of Local Interest. Since 2014, the facility has been energy self-sufficient: all of its needs are covered by more than seven hundred square metres of solar panels and a thermal installation to produce hot water.

4

## Barcelona Science Park

Year built: started in 1997, fully operational in 2003

Address: Carrer de Baldori Reixac, 2



© Quim Roser



Fully accessible for people with reduced mobility



Accessible services for people with reduced mobility



Public space with opening times; some of the buildings can only be seen from the outside

Spearheaded by the University of Barcelona in 1997, it was the first initiative to create a science and technology centre of this kind in Spain. The centre's activities currently revolve around emerging environments like nano-bioengineering and biotechnology research and innovation in the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors.

Today the complex covers almost sixty thousand square metres, and more than two thousand professionals work there. It houses four benchmark research institutes with more than seventy innovation groups, twenty companies in the tech sector and the CIDEM-PCB (Centre of Business Information and Development - Barcelona Science Park) bio-incubator, which opened in 2002.



**One of the Park's objectives is to promote scientific vocation among young people**

The park is surrounded by more than twenty public and private research centres and operates as a cluster, fostering connections between research and the dissemination of knowledge. It also helps to create tech start-ups.

Along with other university spaces, like the South Campus of the Polytechnic University of Catalonia, the complex is known as Diagonal Porta del Coneixement and seeks to be a benchmark in southern Europe.

5

## Can Planes farmhouse

Year built: 1702

Address: Avinguda de Joan XXIII, 2



Visible from a space that is fully accessible for people with reduced mobility



Private property, it can only be seen from the outside



© Quim Roser

**C**an Planes farmhouse is one of the remnants still standing of Les Corts when it was rural, a territory filled with farmhouses and crop fields until well into the nineteenth century. It belonged to the Planes family until 1950 when the last heir sold the lands to the Futbol Club Barcelona for it to build a new stadium there. It is a single building with a rectangular layout built with large stone ashlars, which are polished on the windows and doors. What stands out architecturally is the large main door, with a semi-circular arch and the coat-of-arms of Santa Eulàlia above it, and a third level with an outer gallery that serves as an attic.

Since the 1950s, it has been transformed to fit the different ways Futbol Club Barcelona has used it, but it has always retained its

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**The original estate was moved to its current location stone by stone when construction on Camp Nou began**

outside appearance typical of farmhouses on the Barcelona plain. Since the 1980s, the Club decided to turn it into a residence for children with the potential to be footballers, so Can Planes —now simply known as the Masia— has become an international symbol of this sport and has nurtured major players like Carles Puyol and Andrés Iniesta. Its gardens feature sculptures by Josep Viladomat, Joan Abràs and Josep Maria Subirachs.

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## Camp Nou

Year built: 1950–1957

Address: Carrer d'Aristides Maillol, 12-18



Facilities partly accessible for people with reduced mobility (adapted entrances and areas set up for wheelchairs)



Accessible services for people with reduced mobility

For further information, go to: [Accessibility | Official FCB Channel](#) and [FAQs: Is the Camp Nou adapted to the needs of people with disabilities](#)



Admission fee



© Quim Roser

**F**utbol Club Barcelona's relationship with Les Corts is longstanding: the stadium on Travessera de les Corts was built back in 1922. But that stadium had become too small by the late 1940s, so FCB started to buy lands in the current Maternitat i Sant Ramon neighbourhood in 1950. Camp Nou's design, by the architects Josep Soteras, Llorenç Garcia and Francesc Mitjans, dates from 1954.

With more than 99,000 seats, Camp Nou is the stadium with the largest seating capacity in Europe. It was one of the first large buildings in the city which used reinforced concrete formwork in all the columns holding up the stands, which served as the structure. The roof over the grandstand, which measures forty metres, is also a major engineering feat, as it is

directly supported by the gallery of the stands' structure.

In 2014, the assembly of Club members decided to embark on the 'Espai Barça' project. The City Council is working with FCB and Les Corts residents on this redevelopment proposal. The goal is to redevelop the entire Camp Nou area and to create a new Palau Blaugrana stadium, an auditorium, new sports facilities and more. But it primarily aims to open up the space and integrate it into the area in order to remove the urban barrier that the stadium currently represents. In addition, a new space for public use will be created, as 40% of the area will become public and improve the connectivity between Travessera de les Corts and the South Campus. Construction has already begun with the demolition of the Miniestadi.

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# La Maternitat

Year built: 1883-1957

Address: Carrer de Sabino Arana, 1



Fully accessible for people with reduced mobility



Accessible services for people with reduced mobility



Public space with opening times



© Quim Roser



© Quim Roser

In another of the neighbourhood's historical estates, Can Cavaller, a hospital for mothers and infants was designed in the nineteenth century to make up for the shortcomings of its predecessors. It ended up lending its name, La Maternitat, to this neighbourhood.

Since the sixteenth century, both unwanted babies and mothers who had to give birth secretly ended up at the Hospital de la Santa Creu, which was located in the current Raval neighbourhood. This was a rather innovative hospital within the context of its period, but later, between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, the lack of hygiene measures and the scarcity of medical resources led to a very high infant mortality rate of around 70%.

With industrialisation in the nineteenth century and the massive influx of people into the city, the number of children cared for at the hospital increased, their living conditions worsened, and the mortality rate rose. In the mid-nineteenth century, with the advent of new scientific discoveries, the first Casa Provincial de la Maternitat i Expòsits was opened, also in the Raval, an institution devoted entirely to caring for women and children from a more modern perspective, although it was still based on the idea of beneficence and sin, as it was run by a board of wealthy married women who devoted their time and money on charity. Despite the improvements, the shortcomings were still more significant, and a severe patriarchal, religious view still prevailed in the way the single women and babies were treated.

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## \* Maria Montessori's educational method was implemented in Spain for the first time at the Casa Provincial de la Maternitat i Expòsits in 1913

Therefore, guided by new ideological currents and liberalism and rationalism, the decision was taken to plan a new site for the hospital: the Casa Provincial de la Maternitat i Expòsits of Barcelona, popularly known as La Maternitat.

The choice of the land reflected the need to provide a large, eminently rural space

far from the city, following the bourgeois idealisation of everything that was not urban. Furthermore, the good connections and proximity to water resources made what would later become the Les Corts District the ideal place to set up medical centres, like the Institució Frenopàtica and the Sant Joan de Déu Hospital.

The first phase of construction began in 1883 with Camil Oliveres i Genciana in charge. Following the hygienist and rationalist canons of the period, he decided to create different buildings to separate the complex's different uses. Next, you will see some of the most noteworthy pavilions, although the site also has other important spaces, such as the laundry and the kitchen, as well as other services.

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**a**

## Breastfeeding and Ave Maria Pavilions



© Quim Roser

The first to be moved to the new Maternitat, even though no building had been fully completed and only several rooms in the old Can Cavaller had been set up, were around thirty new-borns from the weaned baby ward. It was immediately clear that the living conditions were much better than in the old site, and thus girls from the weaned baby ward also started to be transferred.

The pace of building increased: in 1890, the Breastfeeding Pavilion opened, followed in 1891 by the new Weaned Baby Ward, this one outside the old estate in what would later be known as the Ave Maria Pavilion. This first group of buildings, along with the washing area and infectious disease pavilions, date from the first period in the construction of the

complex and have a noticeably Modernist style with elaborate exposed bricks decorated with polychrome ceramic.

In the former Maternitat site in the Raval, the wet nurses lived with the new-borns in the breastfeeding wards, and actually, these children were often sent to external wet nurses' homes due to a lack of room. The figure of wet nurses was important because the artificial milk in that period was very low quality, and the percentage of babies that refused it was quite high; many babies literally died of hunger during their first few months of life. The move to the new facility brought about an exponential improvement in the breastfeeding conditions and the subsequent weaning thanks to the spaciousness, the hygiene and the scientific advances in artificial feeding systems implemented

**b**

## Pink Pavilion and Blue Pavilion



© Quim Roser



© Quim Roser

At the old site in the Raval, there was hardly enough room for the babies, so the mothers had to leave it shortly after giving birth. This changed given the large amount of land available in the new Maternitat site, and it was decided to create areas specifically to care for mothers. Thus, in 1913 the public administration merged the Casa de la Caritat —where the larger babies went to live— with the Casa Provincial de la Maternitat i Expòsits in order to offer a more comprehensive service.

The pink Pavilion, devoted to pregnant single women, opened in 1925. Not only did the rooms and the care provided on the days prior to and after birth improve, but the latest medical advances were also installed, and there were improvements in hygiene,



**These two pavilions were designed by the architects Joan Rubió and Josep Goday and still conserve the Noucentista sgraffiti on the façade**

surgery, disinfection and milk pasteurisation, as well as the education the mothers received on childcare. All of this led the mortality rate during birth to drop, and the capacity rose from thirty to two hundred births per year.

In 1942, at the height of Franco's dictatorship, the blue Pavilion was opened for married women to keep the women who had sinned, according to the regime, away from those who had not.

c

## School



CAP Les Corts, the Maternitat hospital and the History Archive of the Barcelona Provincial Council. © Quim Roser

However, the primary goal of the Casa Provincial de la Maternitat i Exposits was to care for infants. In order to improve their living conditions, it was not enough to merely move them to more modern buildings far from the overpopulation of Barcelona with gardens where they could play. Other factors also had to change.

After 1890, it was decided to raise the maximum age of the children to nine and to improve the education system based on school time, the trade they were learning and plans for their lives once they left the Maternitat. The goal was to give the children the tools to have a decent life beyond charity and to ensure that their inclusion into independent adult society outside the facility was not traumatic.

After 1913, despite the segregation by sexes and the education system's different approaches for each sex, both boys and girls received basic education until the age of nine following Maria Montessori's innovative pedagogical project, which was implemented for the first time in Spain at the Maternitat school by Joan Palau i Vera. Thus, the children not only learned basic reading and science but were also introduced to several arts, like music and painting, and were taken to visit different sites in the city of Barcelona or on outings to the mountains to help them learn directly. Furthermore, the boys were trained in different manual trades with apprenticeships outside the La Maternitat, while the girls were trained in household chores like cooking and sewing. The building currently houses the Institut les Corts.

d

## Gardens



© Quim Roser



© Quim Roser

After the grim period inside the walled city, with its lack of space and clean air, there was a dire need to design large gardens that would improve the lives of everyone, especially the children. Thus, the gardens served as a place for walking and articulated the different pavilions like streets, yet they were also a natural refuge and recreation for the children. The garden was designed with fruit trees and local Mediterranean flora, like pine and cherry trees. In 1998, the gardens became public and currently have both children's playgrounds and areas for dogs. Numerous statues have also been installed there, including La Maternitat by Lluïsa Granero and Mare de Déu embarassada by Vicenç Navarro.

### THE NEW MATERNITAT

The reforms in the public administration and the standardisation of healthcare services after the Transition made it unfeasible to go back to the Maternitat's original project, which was played down during the Franco regime. The pavilions were no longer coordinated, the institution had once again become a place of welfare, and the children had been transferred to the Llars Mundet. For all these reasons, in 1976, it was decided to close the centre, which was owned by the Barcelona Provincial Council and to reorganise it to house new services.

The buildings currently house facilities and public administrations, like the CAP Les Corts, the Maternitat hospital and the History Archive of the Barcelona Provincial Council.



8

## Can Rigal Park

Year built: 2012

Address: entrance on Avinguda d'Albert Bastardas, 23



© Quim Roser



Partly accessible for people with reduced mobility



Public space with opening times

The Can Rigal metropolitan park opened in 2012. It was located at the boundary between the Maternitat i Sant Ramon neighbourhood and the town of l'Hospitalet de Llobregat to connect them and restore an area to serve as a green lung for that zone. The park's name refers to the vineyard estate that used to occupy this land, Can Rigal.

It encompasses almost twenty thousand square metres of green space, leisure areas, playgrounds, an area for dogs and a café. The park incorporates residents' proposals thanks to the participation of the associational movement.

In terms of its flora, two different areas can be distinguished: first, a wooded part with typically Mediterranean trees you can find on Collserola,

like pines and holm oaks, and secondly, a meadow with landscaped flowers and shrubs, where the recreation areas are located. In the central zone, there are rest areas with pergolas and porches covered with climbing plants to create shaded areas.

Can Rigal stands out for its environmental criteria and sustainability; for example, it has photovoltaic panels to fuel the artificial lighting, recycled materials were used to build it, and rainwater is collected and channelled to be returned to the plants by drip irrigation.



### The entire park follows self-sufficiency and sustainability

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## Former Colònia Carné

Year built: early twentieth century (1928-1932)

Address: Avinguda de Sant Ramon Nonat, 22



© Quim Roser



Visible from a space that is accessible for people with reduced mobility



Private space

As you have seen, Les Corts, and specifically the La Maternitat i Sant Ramon neighbourhood, has a historical past marked by farming and farmhouses. However, the first activities we could consider pre-industrial were set up there in the late eighteenth century: cotton fields to manufacture textiles and brickyards to manufacture building materials. Several inns were opened there because it was a strategic point at the crossroads of two main roads (the former carriageway to Madrid and the axis bisecting the Barcelona plain).

In the nineteenth century, an industrialisation process began in the territory of today's district, and current proof of this is the textile machinery factory owned by Amadeu Carné Fontes. It was built in around 1910, and shortly afterwards,



### The wall around the former factory's outer perimeter still conserves the original patterns

the colony of homes that surrounded it to serve as the residence of the workers' families was built. The complex, designed by Modest Feu, is comprised of a series of low single-family dwellings which occupy four passages from Avinguda de Sant Ramon Nonat to Carrer del Danubi, where parts of the wall around the factory's outer perimeter, with its original sgraffiti still stand, in addition to the large smokestack. Work is currently underway to transform the former factory complex into a new facility for the neighbourhood.

10

## Xile passage

Year built: the first third of the twentieth century (1931-1934)

Address: Passatge de Xile

Date included in the gazetteer: 1941



© Quim Roser

 Fully accessible for people with reduced mobility

 Public space

In the early twentieth century, with the massive influx of rural people into urban areas, housing became a very scarce good, and shantytowns cropped up all over the Barcelona plain. Many initiatives were undertaken to alleviate the situation, including Colònia Carné, as well as similar ones not associated with a specific factory.

The colonies near towns or urbanised areas did not reflect the typical village layout (as the isolated colonies did) but instead took advantage of the existing urban grid. An example of this is the houses on Passatge de Xile by the architect Modest Feu, which were designed when the Colònia Carné homes were completed. These homes are less modest than the previous ones, but

they also have a single storey, a garden and a flat roof with a crest, where you can see the date of construction, decorative motifs and the name of the house. The style is Noucentista with clear Mediterranean inspiration, and light colours predominate.

In the 1930s, Les Corts had around three hundred industries, parallel to the major demographic upswing. Just to cite an example, Cristalleries Planell, one of the most important art-glass factories in Europe, started production in 1913.

When the Civil War was over, new factories continued to open, and Les Corts' industrial decline did not start until the 1970s when the textile factories moved outside Barcelona.

11


## Sant Ramon Nonat Parish church

Year built: 1925

Address: Avinguda de Sant Ramon Nonat, 1



© Quim Roser

 The building is fully accessible for people with reduced mobility

 Building with opening times

The Sant Ramon zone is located in the far south of the district and witnessed steep demographic growth after the 1920s and 1930s, with the influx of people from the areas around the Barcelona plain, Andalusia and Murcia. This led to urban improvement works and access to primary services in the zone. In the early twentieth century, one of these indispensable services was the Church, and this is why it was decided to build an important one in 1924.

There had been a chapel in Collblanc devoted to Our Lady of Mercy since the late nineteenth century, which was rededicated to Saint Raymond Nonnatus a thirteenth-century saint born in Segarra who devoted his life to freeing captives and slaves.

He is the patron saint of births, midwives and babies because he was born by caesarean.

Built on the land that used to be occupied by a seventeenth-century church, Sant Ramon Nonat Parish church is one of the most characteristic neo-Romanesque churches in Barcelona. An impressive five-storey bell tower rises up from the stone façade. Artistically, the set of mosaics decorating the church telling the story of Saint Raymond's life is worth noting. The person charged with building it was Enric Sagnier, who had designed other major works in the city, like Casa Garriga i Nogués and the Temple of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Tibidabo. After the Civil War, his son Josep Maria Sagnier was put in charge of rebuilding it. Thus, the current aesthetic is his.

# History, technology, science, sport...

From Torre Rodona, one of the oldest remains still standing in Barcelona, to the pioneering scientific and technological development centres in the Science Park, we have been able to rediscover the neighbourhood's history through its most important episodes and features that the city's residents value, such as sport, the recollection of its history and technological progress.

We are finishing the route on the geographic origins of the first population nucleus outside Les Corts, which later lent its name to the neighbourhood, Sant Ramon. Very few remains of the first farmhouses to populate this territory remain standing, but they are the wellspring of the wealth and diversity that currently characterise it; without these large open spaces, it would have been impossible to build the constructions that make the neighbourhood shine today, like La Maternitat and Camp Nou, which we have briefly sampled along this route.

But beyond what we have seen, many other important facilities, services and cultural centres have chosen La Maternitat i Sant Ramon to build their headquarters: they include the research and study centres around the Science Park in what is today the Zona Universitària, as well as other sports facilities like the historical Reial Club de Polo (12), which has been open since 1897 and moved to this neighbourhood in 1932; the university courts (13); and former medical facilities like the Institut Frenopàtic (14), founded in 1873 by Tomàs Dolsa, a pioneering centre in

the treatment of mental illness that fought to destigmatise them, whose façade and part of the gardens of the Hospital Universitari Dexeus-Grup Quirón still stand today. Yet we can also stroll through extensive green areas, such as Can Rigal Park, where Mediterranean vegetation merges with futuristic, sustainable constructions, or learn about Antoni Gaudí's early work with the east gate, the north gate in the neighbourhood of Pedralbes (15) and the south gate (16) of the Finca Güell.

For all these reasons, La Maternitat i Sant Ramon is a lively neighbourhood whose streets teach us about both its own history and the history of Barcelona as a whole in order to understand the present: halfway between mountain and sea and halfway between the rural past and the most high-tech future, today the neighbourhood and the people living here are also the legacy of all these wonders to discover.

To continue to learn about and discover the neighbourhood, we encourage you to keep walking through its streets, visiting libraries and archives and checking the following resources:

- *La Maternitat i Sant Ramon. Desenvolupament urbà d'un barri de les Corts*, by Lluís Maria Bou. Barcelona City Council, Les Corts District, 2009.
- *Les Corts. Memòria del passat industrial*, by Mercè Tatjer, Antoni Vilanova and Yolanda Insa. Barcelona City Council, 2005.
- *Masies de les Corts*, by Imma Navarro. Barcelona City Council, Les Corts District,



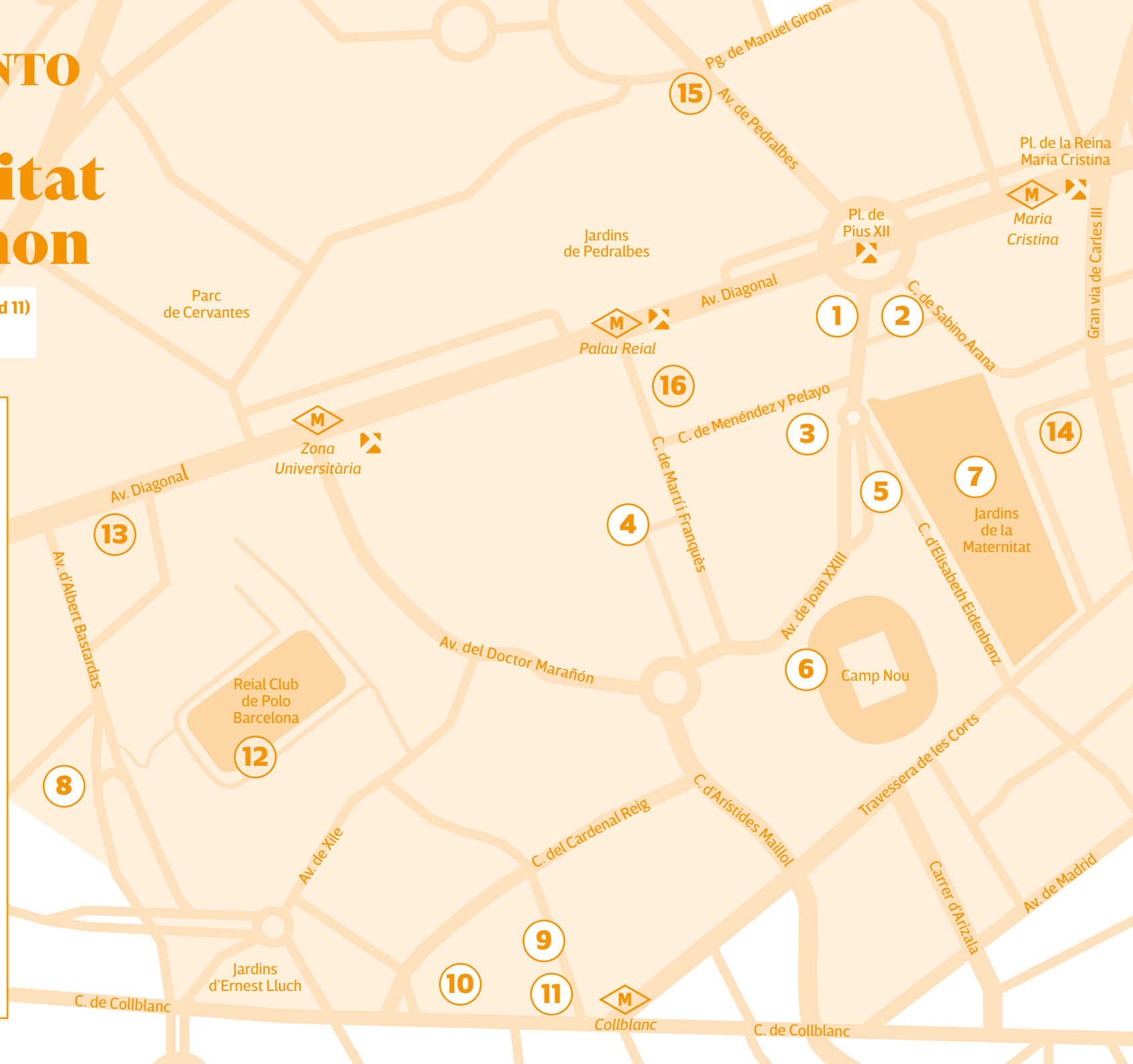
# A GATEWAY INTO BARCELONA

## La Maternitat i Sant Ramon

 Distance: 4 km (between points 1 and 11)

 Estimated time: 1 hour, 30 minutes

- 1. East gate of the Güell Estate's pavilions**  
(Avinguda de Joan XXIII, 27)
- 2. Can Vinyals de la Torre**  
(Carrer del Doctor Salvador Cardenal, 7)
- 3. Les Corts Cemetery**  
(Avinguda de Joan XXIII, 3-15)
- 4. Science Park**  
(Carrer de Baldiri Reixac, 2)
- 5. Can Planes farmhouse**  
(Avinguda de Joan XXIII, 2)
- 6. Camp Nou**  
(Carrer d'Aristides Maillol, 12-18)
- 7. La Maternitat**  
(Carrer de Sabino Arana, 1)
- 8. Can Rigal**  
(Entrance on Avinguda d'Albert Bastardas, 23)
- 9. Former Colònia Carné**  
(Avinguda de Sant Ramon Nonat, 22)
- 10. Xile Passage**
- 11. Sant Ramon Nonat Parish Church**  
(Avinguda de Sant Ramon Nonat, 1)
- 12. Barcelona Royal Polo Club**  
(avinguda del Doctor Marañón, 19-31)
- 13. Esports UB**  
(Avinguda Diagonal, 695)
- 14. Former Institut Frenopàtic**  
(Currently Hospital Universitari Dexeus)  
(Carrer de Mejía Lequerica, 35-55)
- 15. North gate of the Güell Estate's pavilions**  
(Avinguda de Pedralbes, 7)
- 16. South gate of the Güell Estate's pavilions**  
(Carrer de Lluís Solé i Sabarís, 1-9)



**Districte de  
les Corts**