



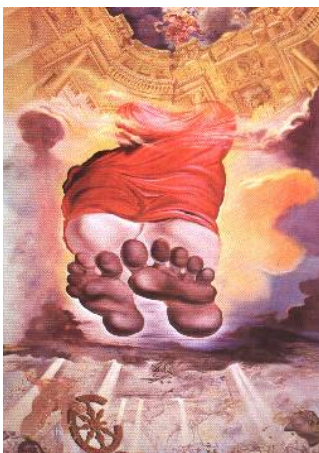
## Panoramic Barcelona

A panoramic tour of the city, from the mountain to the sea, passing through some of the most representative avenues and buildings: Montjuïc Mountain, with a stop to admire a panoramic view of the city and the Port, the Ramblas, the Paseo de Gracia, the Diagonal, the Sagrada Familia and the Olympic Port.



## Modernist Barcelona

A trip through Catalan Modernism – Art Deco, Modern Style – an artistic current which manifested itself in Europe around the turn of the century whose main features are the variety of forms and the richness of its decorative elements. The Modernist movement is reflected in the architecture of the “Eixample” district. A central sector of the Eixample is the Quadrat d’Or (Golden Square) with its concentration of modernist buildings. A large proportion of the masterpieces of modernist architects such as Gaudí, Domènech i Montaner and Puig i Cadafalch are concentrated in the “Eixample” quarter. A visit to the masterpiece of Gaudí’s work: the Parque Güell, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where nature and art coexist in the same place. This fantasy garden is also one of the best spots from which the city can be seen.



## Girona, Figueras, Dalí Museum

An outing to Girona, one of the oldest towns in Catalonia, located about 100 kilometres from Barcelona. Situated in a key position on the road from the Pyrenees to the coast, it has witnessed successive cultures. A walk through the old city visiting the “Call”, the old Jewish Quarter, is well worth the effort.

Lunch in nearby Figueras, the birthplace of Salvador Dalí, one of the most well known representatives of the Surrealist movement. A visit to the original and unique Dalí Museum, the second most visited museum in Spain, where the most renowned works of the surrealist artist are presented.



## Tarragona and Sitges

An outing to Tarragona, the city situated some 100 kilometres from Barcelona which was selected as the base for the romanization of the Iberian Peninsula and where Roman architectural remains are evident throughout the town: the ancient walls, amphitheatre, circus, praetorium and forum are especially worth seeing. Lunch in lively Sitges, an ancient maritime town on the shores of the Mediterranean 36 kilometres from Barcelona. A visit to the Cau Ferrat Museum and the Roman Museum, followed by free time to enjoy the Paseo Maritimo and the shops that boast a wide variety of items in the brightly coloured streets in the heart of the town.



## Poblet and Santes Creus

The Monastery of Santa Maria de Poblet is a Cistercian monastery founded in 1151, located in the comarca of Conca de Barberà in Catalonia (Spain). Founded by Cistercian monks from France, it was the royal pantheon of the kings of the Crown of Aragon since James I of Aragon. Abandoned in 1835 and restored during the 1940s, this monastery was the first of three sister monasteries, known as the Cistercian triangle, that helped consolidate power in Catalonia in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. (The other two are Vallbona de les Monges and Santes Creus). It was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991.



The Monastery of Santes Creus: Construction on this monastery was begun in 1158 and completed within 50 years. In its early period, the monastery was a centre of intellectual and political activity and was comparable to the Poblet Monastery. One of the more important abbots was Bonanat de Vilaseca, who founded the subsidiaries of Santa Maria de Valldigna in 1298 and the Monastery of Altofonte (Sicily) in 1308, during the reign of Jaume II el Just. The activities of the monastery continued largely uninterrupted until the Napoleonic invasion of Spain, which led to its eventual demise in 1835 when the monastery was sacked and burned. Shortly thereafter, several ex-monks designated it as a parish Church and worked slowly towards its restoration. It is today in the hands of the Generalitat de Catalunya.