

Monistrol de Montserrat



VISITA CURTA | VISITA CORTA | **QUICK TOUR** | VISITE RAPIDE

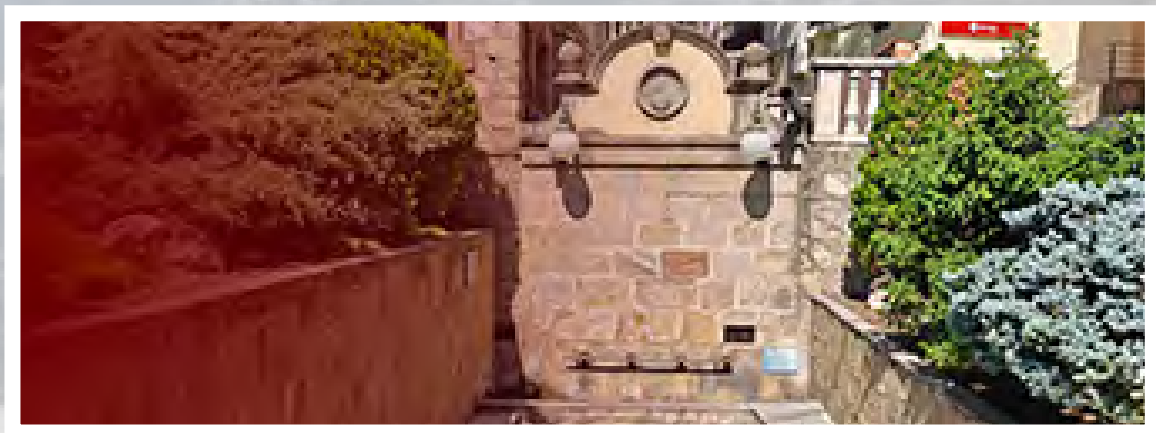


Monistrol de Montserrat is an ancient town already mentioned in documents from the 10th century, which preserves an interesting core of medieval and Renaissance air.

From the Plaça de la Font Gran we find the most spectacular spring in the surroundings of the Montserrat massif, the fountain that gives the square its name and supplies all the town with drinking water all year round.

The Plaça de la Font Gran once sheltered the ancient establishments of the ancient and powerful guild of “paraires”, who used the water from the fountain for washing, perching and dyeing the wool.

From the square we can see the “Bestorre”, an old watchtower, probably already existing in the 9th century, and which was destroyed in the 18th century during the War of the Spanish Succession.



The current state of the Bestorre, a colossus hanging on the wall, is the consequence of this blast.

**We can get close to seeing the Bestorre walking on a section of the GR-5 / GR-96, which starts in Monistrol and ascends Montserrat*



We continue walking by “Passeig de la Canaleta” which covers the Canaleta creek. This is the main stream of the town: it originates in the fountain and flows into Llobregat river.

From here we can see the wall that served as a defense wall in the 14th century and the buttresses that reinforced the “Cal Pla” pond.

We also see remains of the “Cal Pla” aqueduct, built on arches and buttresses: this is a well known construction documented as early as the beginning of the 16th century and which carried water from Font Gran spring to the antique oil mills of “Palau Prioral” and “Can Gibert”

At the end of the Canaleta walk and right in front of “Joan Carles Amat” square we find the Gothic Bridge or Pilgrim’s bridge, dating from the 14th century, which is part of the main path of the pilgrims who went up the mountain. It unites the two sides of the town and is the largest construction of its characteristics in the entire Llobregat basin.

Here we can enjoy a privileged vantage point over the river.

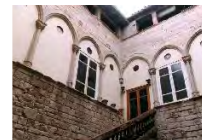


** we can extend our visit walking along the river path which runs parallel to the river course of the Llobregat river and which will allow us to discover the vegetation of the riparian forest while enjoying magnificent views of the peaks of Montserrat.*

From the river path we can see both of the textile factory from the end of the 19th century, Can Comes and the adjacent modernist building, Torre de'n Comes, family residence of the industrial owner.

Another historical point of interest is the building of the “Palau Prioral”, which is a representative building of the Catalan Civil Gothic.

The house was later ceded to the monks of Montserrat and in the 14th century they converted it into a gothic palace, built by the prior of the Abbey of Montserrat, Jaume de Vilaragut, the first feudal lord of Monistrol. It is currently privately owned and cannot be visited.



Continuing up Carrer del Pont we arrive at Plaça del Bo-Bo, which is considered the old main square of Monistrol and where there was an entrance gate to the walled town.

This space housed the medieval market that was held every Saturday, and was the main axis of political and social life.

The square owes its name to the traditional Bo-Bo dance which is celebrated every year.

From here we enter Carrer de Sant Joan, which is one of the oldest street in the town. The vault in the middle of the street with the building of Gothic reminiscences above is noteworthy. Among the old portals that flank the street, the noble houses of Can Gibert and Can Cavaller stand out. Can Gibert house has inside the old oil mill that the Gibert family used to give way to their important extensions of olive groves.

The other noble house, Can Cavaller, dates from the 10th century and is probably one of the oldest building in town, along with the church of Sant Pere.

Inside there is a baroque chamber chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Montserrat, where according to the tradition preserves the bowls used by the shepherds who found the image of the Virgin of Montserrat in the Santa Cova.



Returning to Plaça del Bo-Bo we can continue our visit along Carrer Manresa. Right at the beginning on the left, we find some stairs that allow us to reach the alley of Es pilons, a popular passage of the old road that went up to Montserrat coming from Barcelona and Manresa.

The house raised on the passage arch is noteworthy, with clear Gothic reminiscences. The name "Es Pions" refers to the weights that regulated the bell tower of Sant pere church.

We go down again until we return to Carrer Manresa, Monistrol's main shopping street where we can find homemade sausages, sweet bakery in addition to a varied range of products.



On Carrer Manresa we find El Pontet, an old access road to the town that was covered in the 16th century.

Further on we see the Monument to Julià Fuchs, the engineer who built the racktrain to Montserrat and who made possible for drinking water to arrive in Monistrol at the beginning of the 20th century.

From the Balconada we can appreciate the traces of the era of industrialization in Monistrol de Montserrat, which began in the 19th century and whose greatest exponent is the installation of the Puig i Font factory complex, the first and most important center of the Monistrol textile industry.

We will immediately find the modernist house of the doctor Remigi Juncà, adopted son of Monistrol. Stand out are the windows where there seem to be 4 bars, and the natural and floral ornamentation typical of catalan modernism style.

Continuing along Carrer Julià Fuchs we will reach the Cremallera station, where we will find the building of the old Monistrol train station currently converted into the Rack train Museum. We will find wagons and an old locomotive outside the building.

We reach Carrer Julià Fuchs again until the Julià Fuchs sculpture and we walk along Carrer del Puig, which is one of the oldest streets that made up the first urban center of Monistrol.



From Carrer del Puig we reach the Parish Church of Sant Pere, heir to the old church dedicated to the first of the apostles which is already mentioned in the 9th century. The current temple is of Renaissance construction with an octagonal apse and is contemporary with the Basílica of Montserrat.



** at this point we can return to Carrer del Puig and continue the slight ascent along Carrer Escoles until we reach the chapel of the Angel, from the 17th century. This stretch coincides with the old Camí Ral as evidenced by some lombards that have withstood the passage of time and so many footsteps of walkers and pilgrims.*

Thank you very much

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