

MANRESA, HEART OF CATALONIA ROUTE

1 La Seu Park

Green zone around the Basilica with views over the Cardener River, Old Bridge and the grottoes of the Cave of Saint Ignatius. This was the first settlement in the city on the hill of Puig Cardener, which was fortified and dates back to Iberian and, later, Roman times.

2 Basilica of la Seu

Manresa's main monument and one of the most notable examples of Catalan Gothic, which was built between the 14th and 15th centuries (see extended explanation at the front).

3 Balç Street

Magnificent example of medieval Catalan urbanism in a covered alley under the porches of the houses and adapted to a cliff (see extended explanation in front).

4 Town Hall

This Cultural Heritage of National Interest was built in the middle of the 18th century and was the scene of historical episodes such as the sealing of the cream of paper (1808) during the War of Succession and the approval of the famous Bases de Manresa (1892), the first constitutional formulation of political Catalanism.



5 Plana de l'Om

A square whose past is steeped in social prestige, with Baroque houses from the 18th century such as Oller House and those of the Baroque Grau sculptors. It also houses the Esteve Pharmacy, with a modernist style, which was to become the Esteve Laboratories.

6 Quiosc de l'Arpa

Old news kiosk with a modernist aesthetic designed by Josep Fimat in 1917.

7 La Buresa

One of the main examples of Manresa's modernism. Large building designed in the style of a neo-Gothic house-palace by the architect Ignasi Oms i Ponsa (1905) for the Torrents family, one of the city's most important industrial lineages.

8 Jorba House

Home to some old iconic warehouses of the Manresa's trade, it was built in 1936 by the architect Arnald Calvet following the Art Deco style.

9 Wall next to El Carme

One of the few remaining sections of the imposing medieval wall, built between the 10th and 14th centuries and demolished around 1877. Its final perimeter, reached during the 1380s, drew the limits of the current historic centre.

10 Passeig Pere III

This avenue was created when the walls were demolished and became the main thoroughfare of the modernist city, with bourgeois houses on both sides, as well as some shops, businesses and entertainment venues. The Passeig is 2 kilometres long and represents Manresa's traditional place of leisure and relaxation.

11 Lluvià House

Modernist detached house designed by Ignasi Oms in 1908 on behalf of businessman Sebastià Tàpies. It is the most successful work of the municipal architect, with typically flourishing modernist decoration and a profile of tiles and bricks on the cornices.

12 Torra House

Modernist aesthetic residential building built by Oms i Ponsa in 1910. The central gallery stands out, decorated with stained-glass windows in leaden colours and wrought iron.

13 El Casino

Modernist building designed by Ignasi Oms in 1906, a mixture of classicist architecture with Viennese-inspired ornamental elements. Former social club of Manresa's wealthy classes, today it is a large public library and a cultural centre.

14 Kursaal Theatre

Old noucentista-style cinema designed by Josep Fimat in 1927, with a classic French façade and a magnificent Mediterranean-style patio. It is the main performing arts venue in the city since its refurbishment in 2007.



UNIVERSAL MANRESA, THE CITY OF SAINT IGNATIUS ROUTE



1 The Cave of Saint Ignatius

Monumental baroque sanctuary built on the grotto where, according to tradition, Saint Ignatius was inspired to write his Spiritual Exercises (see extended explanation at the front).

2 The Chapel of the Rapture

Old Saint Lucia hospital (thirteenth century) that gave shelter to the sick, poor and pilgrims. Frequently visited by the future saint, there he suffered a mystical rapture that lasted for eight days.

3 Cloister of the former college of Saint Ignatius

Porticoed cloister in early neoclassical style, built in the mid-18th century. The former college of Saint Ignatius, founded in 1625, is today the seat of the Baroque Museum of Catalonia (Manresa Museum), the Pilgrims Welcome Centre and the Manresa Regional Archives.

4 Sobrerroca Street and Sobrerroca Tower

Since medieval times, the main entrance to the city for those coming from Vic, Berga and Puigcerdà. One of the two defensive towers of the 13th century gate is preserved. Ignatius was taken in the basement of number 30 by one of his followers, Miquela Canyelles.

5 The Well of the Hen

The most important sign of popular devotion to the saint was the miracle that took place in 1602: the saint appeared to the young Agnès, who was begging for help because her hen had died in the waters of the well; Ignatius' appearance led to the rescue of the fit and healthy hen.

6 The Chapel of Saint Ignatius the Sick

Old house that the Amigant family adapted as a small hospital, where the future saint was convalescent at least twice. It was transformed into a place of worship in 1703. Pere Amigant's wife, Àngela Seguí, became one of the first iríegues, followers of Ignatius from Manresa.

7 Sant Domènec Square

A square that until 1936 housed the Gothic church of Saint Peter the Martyr, next to the wall and right next to the convent of the Preachers, of the Dominican order and one of the places most visited by Ignatius of Loyola, transformed into the Conservatory theatre at the end of the 19th century.

8 Sculpture of l'Acollida

A work by Manresa-born sculptor Ramon Oms from 2015, designed to represent the Manresan people's welcome to Ignatius of Loyola, which is now also given to the newcomers.

9 Manresa 1522 Exhibition

The right wing of the former cloister of the convent of the Preachers restored in 2015 and converted into an interpretation centre of the Ignatian Tradition. Saint Ignatius had a close relationship with the convent and suffered some of the darkest moments of his stay in the city while there.

OTHER LOCATIONS

MEDIEVAL

1 Church of El Carme

Old Gothic church where the Mysterious Light took place, rebuilt after the Civil War.

2 Boti's arch

House of medieval tradition that preserves a double Gothic window.

3 The Old Bridge

Built in the 12th-13th centuries, the central part was demolished during the Civil War and rebuilt between 1960 and 1962.

4 The Chapel of Saint Mark

Gothic construction of the 15th century. The bell gable was constructed later.

5 Saint Andrew's Hospital

Hospital of medieval origin with a church between the 14th and 18th centuries.

6 The New Bridge

Built in the 14th century by Berenguer de Montagut, one of the best preserved medieval bridges in Catalonia.

BAROQUE

7 Old Courthouse

House with a Renaissance façade evolving into an early Baroque, built in the second half of the 17th century.

8 Asols House

Baroque house from the end of the 18th century with the classic pattern of the ground floor and three upper floors.

9 Suanya House

Baroque house from the 18th century that conserves two of the original doorways.

10 Torres de Bages-Argullol House

Classic baroque house of the 18th century

11 Church of Saint Francis

Church of an old convent built in the 17th century and remodelled in the 19th.

IGNATIAN

12 Former cloister of El Carme (Youth Hostel)

Neoclassical cloister from the 18th century which was later a military barracks.

13 Amigant House

Imposing manor of medieval origin from one of the most powerful lineages in the city, which gave aid and support to Ignatius of Loyola.

14 The Tower of Saint Catherine

Defensive fortification built during the First Carline War (19th century) located on the last stretch of the Ignatian Way.

15 The Cross of our Lady of Guidance

Wayside cross located next to the 16th century hermitage. According to tradition, Saint Ignatius had a revelation there on his arrival in the city.

16 The Tort Cross

Wayside cross originally from the 16th century and one of the places where Ignatius of Loyola would stop to pray.

17 The Cross of Beuys

Sculpture by the Danish Björn Norgård (1995) who collaborated with the German avant-garde artist Joseph Beuys in the Manresa initiative (Düsseldorf, 1966), inspired by the spirituality of Saint Ignatius.

18 The Light Well

Location where Ignatius of Loyola experienced the Great Illumination of Cardener. An artistic work by the artist Fernando Prats (2008): a 15-metre deep hole, covered with a metal cover where the names of 117 thinkers and philosophers from all over the world with mystical experiences were engraved.

19 The Hermitage of Saint Paul

Chapel of Gothic origin that Saint Ignatius used to visit assiduously on his way along the river.

20 The Convent of Saint Clare

First community of Poor Clare nuns in the city, from whom Saint Ignatius sat to listen to the daily chants. Alexandre Soler i March designed a new structure for the west façade in modernist style.

21 Santa Maria de la Salut Sanctuary and Marcetes Farmhouse

Religious site of Romanesque origin (10th century) located in the centre of Viladoris. A stone at the entrance to the church commemorates the place where Saint Ignatius used to pray. The caretakers of the sanctuary were the owners of the medieval farmhouse next door and, in gratitude, the future saint gave them a piece of his cornice from which a relic was made.

MODERNIST



22 House of Culture "Caixa de Pensions"

Residential building designed by the architect Enric Sagnier between 1920 and 1924.

23 Casal Regionalista (1918)

Building renovated by the architect Alexandre Soler i March (1918) for the Regionalist League.

24 Davant House

Stately residential building by Ignasi Oms i Ponsa (1907).

25 Gabernet Espanyol House

Residential building from the first stage of Ignasi Oms i Ponsa (1898), stately and historicist.

26 Padró House

Bernat Pejoan's residential building (1918) which currently houses L'Hotelet-Casa Padró.

27 Padró Domènec House

Single-family building with modernist and historicist aesthetics designed by Ignasi Oms (1903).

28 Armengou House

Large residential building by Ignasi Oms i Ponsa (1899-1903) in transition to full modernism.

29 Col·legi Asil dels Infants

Former healthcare and educational building designed by Ignasi Oms i Ponsa (1901) with neo-Romanesque inspiration.

30 Lluís de Peguera Institute

Historic secondary education designed by Alexandre Soler i March (1907).

31 Fàbrica la Florinda

This former flour mill plant was designed by Oms i Ponsa (1911) and takes inspiration from British equivalents.

32 Fàbrica l'Albareda

Old typically modernist industrial site designed by Alexandre Soler i March (1909).

