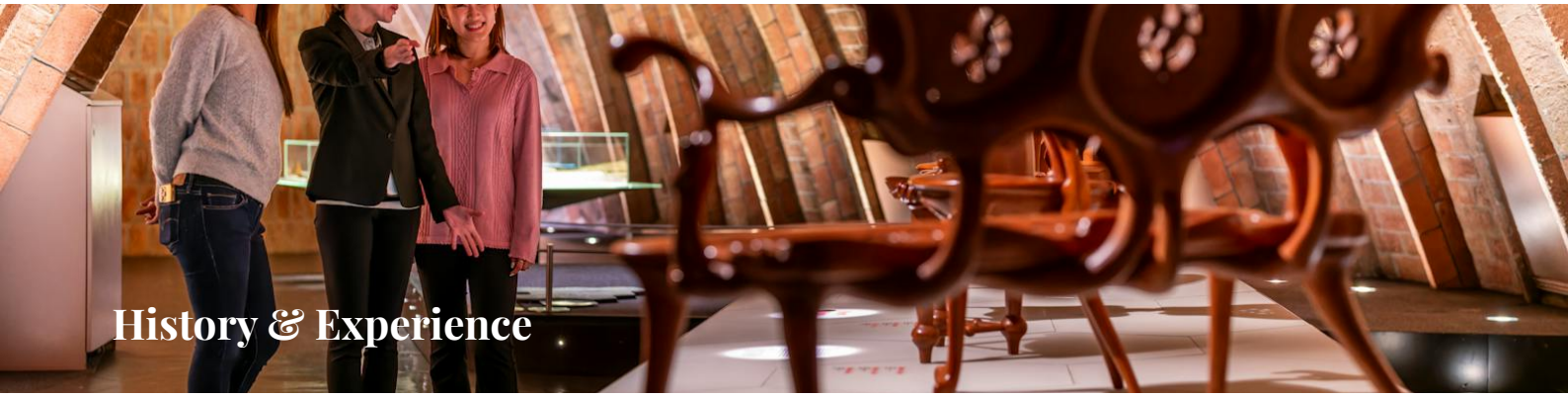


OFFICIAL VISIT GUIDE 2026

Casa Milà - La Pedrera

Barcelona · From 25€

https://casamila.visit-tickets.com/en/ · Skip-the-Line Tickets & Official Prices



History & Experience

ORIGIN & HISTORY

From Mockery to Masterpiece

GOOGLE 4.6 ★★★★★ 112 186 reviews

TIQETS 4.7 ★★★★★ 9 957 reviews

In the heart of Barcelona's **Eixample district**, Antoni Gaudí conceived a building that would defy every convention of its time. Commissioned in **1905** by Pere Milà and his wife Roser Segimon, Casa Milà was intended as a luxurious residence on the prestigious Passeig de Gràcia. However, the project quickly evolved into a radical experiment in organic architecture. Gaudí sought to eliminate rigid straight lines, creating a structure where stone flowed like water and iron twisted like seaweed. This ambition placed him at odds with city planners who adhered strictly to the geometric grid of Ildefons Cerdà's plan.

The construction faced significant bureaucratic hurdles. The municipal council strongly opposed the design, particularly the irregular façade that ignored the mandated chamfered corners of the block. Yet, Gaudí turned these constraints into creative opportunities, using the setbacks to create fluid, undulating spaces. The nickname **La Pedrera**, meaning 'the stone quarry,' was initially hurled by scandalized passersby who saw the rough-hewn limestone façade as an eyesore. It was a mockery that stuck, transforming from an insult into a beloved symbol of Catalan Modernisme.

Built between **1906 and 1910**, this was Gaudí's second-to-last civil project before he devoted himself entirely to the Sagrada Família. Here, he perfected his signature techniques: the catenary arch for structural stability without internal load-bearing walls, and naturalist inspiration for aesthetic detail. The interior layout is remarkably flexible, allowing rooms to be reconfigured easily—a feature ahead of its time. The attic, supported by a forest of inclined pillars, resembles an industrial cathedral, showcasing Gaudí's mastery of space and light.

Despite initial controversy, the house has become one of Barcelona's most iconic landmarks. In **1984**, it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site as part of the Works of Antoni Gaudí. Today, it stands not just as a residence but as a testament to the architect's genius in merging mathematics with poetry. Every curve serves a structural purpose, proving that beauty and function are inseparable in Gaudí's vision.

THE EXPERIENCE

Stepping through the wrought-iron doors, visitors are immediately enveloped in a world where gravity seems optional. The entrance hall reveals a double-height space defined by **catenary arches** that rise effortlessly from the floor. There are no columns interrupting the view; instead, the weight is carried by the curved stone itself. The light filters softly through the skylights above, illuminating the intricate details of the keystones shaped like fruits and leaves. It feels less like entering a building and more like stepping inside a living organism.

As you ascend the spiral staircases, the atmosphere shifts from grandeur to intimacy. The model apartment on the main floor showcases the elegance of daily life in the early 20th century, with furniture designed to fit the curves of the room. But the true magic awaits on the rooftop terrace. Here, amidst the sculptural chimneys and ventilation towers, the sky becomes your ceiling. The wind whistles through the metal sculptures, creating an ethereal soundscape that completes the sensory experience of Gaudí's masterpiece.



PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT

Practical Information

ADDRESS

Eixample District · Metro: Diagonal (L3, L5) or Provença (L3), 5 min walk.

OPENING HOURS

Hours vary by season (March-October vs November-February). Last admission 1 hour before closing.

PRICES

Free for children under 7. Discounts available for students/seniors.

VISIT DURATION

Allow 1h30 to 2h to calmly explore the hall, model apartment, mysterious attic, and sculptural rooftop terrace, ensuring a complete experience.

PHOTOS

Photography is freely allowed everywhere, including on the roof. Take advantage of this to capture the chimneys at sunset.

AUDIENCE

Suitable for families (playful shapes) and architecture enthusiasts. Note: steep stairs to the roof may be difficult for guests with reduced mobility.

HOW TO GET THERE

Access & Transportation

Metro

: Aragó / València — 5 min à pied

Barcelona train station (7 min) · Barcelona-El Prat Airport (37 min)

Bus

: Diagonal — 2 min à pied

Barcelona Train Station (10 min) · Barcelona-El Prat Airport (59 min)

Car

Barcelona Train Station (4 min) · Barcelona-El Prat Airport (46 min)

Bicing / Bike

Barcelona Train Station (4 min) · Barcelona-El Prat Airport (61 min)

LOCALISATION

Où se trouve Casa Milà - La Pedrera ?



📍 Passeig de Gràcia, 92 — 08008 Barcelona

🌐 41°23.713′ N, 2°9.714′ E



ORGANIZATION

Navigating the Vertical Journey

Niveau 0 (Rez-de-chaussée)

The ground floor features the grand entrance hall with its soaring catenary arches and a courtyard that provides natural light and ventilation. You will also find the former service areas and stables, now converted into exhibition spaces or cafes. The architecture here emphasizes strength and flow, with stone walls curving seamlessly into the floor.

Niveau 2

This level houses the model apartment, furnished in the style of the early 20th century. It demonstrates how Gaudí integrated furniture into the architecture, with curved cabinets and tables matching the room's contours. The balcony offers a unique perspective of the Passeig de Gràcia, framed by the distinctive wrought-iron railings.

Niveau 5 (Terrasse)

The rooftop is an open-air sculpture garden featuring whimsical chimneys and ventilation towers. These structures resemble knights in armor or abstract figures, crafted from ceramic and metal. It offers panoramic views of Barcelona and is the ideal spot for sunset photography, capturing the golden light on the undulating forms.

ACCESSIBILITY

♿ **Accessibility for people with reduced mobility**

Elevator access available to main floors and the roof, but caution is required in narrow historic ar

👨‍👩‍👧 **Families**

Child-friendly tour thanks to playful shapes, but watch out for steep stairs leading to the rooftop

🎧 **Audio guide**

French, English, Spanish



Must-sees

SELECTION

Essential Architectural Wonders

01 Rooftop Terrace

The Sculptural Chimneys

These whimsical structures are perhaps the most recognizable feature of La Pedrera. Each chimney is uniquely designed, resembling **abstract warriors** or fantastical creatures. They serve a functional purpose while adding artistic flair to the skyline.

> 💡 Gaudí designed them to withstand strong winds, ensuring they wouldn't collapse during storms. Their playful appearance belies their robust engineering.

02 Entrance Hall

Catenary Arches in the Hall

The main hall showcases Gaudí's use of catenary arches, which distribute weight efficiently without internal supports. The result is a spacious, column-free area that feels both grand and intimate. The **stone curves** guide your eye upward toward the skylight.

> 💡 Gaudí used strings and weights to model these arches, hanging chains to determine the perfect curve for structural stability.

03 Main Façade

Wrought-Iron Balconies

The balconies feature intricate ironwork that evokes seaweed or braided hair. These elements soften the stone façade and add a touch of nature-inspired elegance. They are a visual signature of Gaudí's **naturalist approach** to design.

> 💡 The designs were inspired by the movement of waves and plants, reflecting Gaudí's belief that there are no straight lines in nature.

04 Attic Level

The Attic's Forest of Pillars

Often overlooked, the attic is a marvel of industrial aesthetics. Supported by inclined pillars and catenary arches, it creates a vast, flexible space without traditional walls. The atmosphere is **mysterious and cavernous**, reminiscent of a cathedral.

> 💡 Originally used for storing hay and goods, this space demonstrates Gaudí's ability to maximize utility within complex structures.

05

Throughout Interior

Keystones with Natural Motifs

Look up to find keystones carved in the shape of fruits, leaves, and flowers. These subtle details underscore Gaudí's philosophy that architecture should reflect nature. They are discreet yet essential components of the **Modernisme style**.

> 💡 Each keystone is unique, requiring precise craftsmanship to fit perfectly into the arches while maintaining structural integrity.

06

Main Floor

Model Apartment Furnishings

The furniture in the model apartment is custom-designed to fit the room's curves. Cabinets, tables, and chairs all echo the organic shapes of the architecture. This integration highlights Gaudí's holistic approach to **interior design**.

> 💡 Some pieces were made specifically for the Milà family, blending functionality with artistic expression.

07

Rooftop Terrace

Ventilation Towers

Alongside the chimneys, the ventilation towers are sculptural masterpieces. They ensure proper airflow throughout the building while contributing to the rooftop's surreal landscape. Their metallic surfaces gleam under the sun, adding texture to the **skyline panorama**.

> 💡 Gaudí prioritized hygiene and air quality, designing these towers to prevent stagnation in the upper floors.

08

Interior Courtyards

Courtyard Light Wells

Two central courtyards provide natural light and ventilation to the apartments. Their curved walls amplify sound and light, creating a dynamic environment. These spaces exemplify Gaudí's innovative solutions for **urban living** comfort.

> 💡 The acoustics in the courtyards are such that whispers can be heard clearly across the space, a phenomenon Gaudí exploited intentionally.

TIPS

Maximizing Your Visit

TIMING

Book the last afternoon slot to enjoy the rooftop at sunset. The golden light enhances the colors of the chimneys and creates dramatic shadows.

BILLET

Purchase tickets online in advance, especially during peak season (July-August). Time slots are strict, and walk-in availability is limited.

PARCOURS

Start with the audioguide at the entrance to understand the architectural logic. Then, explore the attic before heading to the roof to avoid crowds.

PHOTO

Capture close-ups of the wrought-iron balconies and wide shots of the rooftop sculptures. Sunset offers the best lighting for exterior photos.

PAUSE

After the visit, relax at a historic café on Passeig de Gràcia. Observe the façade from the street to appreciate its continuous undulations.

ENFANTS

Children will love the playful shapes and spiral staircases. However, supervise them closely on the steep stairs leading to the roof.

AUDIOGUIDE

The audioguide is essential for understanding hidden details like catenary arches. Activate it immediately upon entry to enhance your experience.

CONFORT

Wear comfortable shoes for climbing stairs. The attic and roof involve uneven surfaces, so sturdy footwear is recommended.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FAQ

Do I need to book tickets for La Pedrera in advance?

Yes, online booking is highly recommended, especially during peak season (July-August) and on weekends. Time slots are strict and ticket counters can get crowded. By booking early, you avoid queues and keep the flexibili

Is it possible to cancel or modify my ticket?

Most tickets offer free cancellation up to 24 hours before the scheduled visit. Always check the specific seller's conditions at the time of purchase. This flexibility allows you to adjust your itinerary in case of unexp

What is the difference between the standard ticket and the one with an audioguide?

The standard ticket grants access to the physical space, while the audioguide is essential to understand hidden architectural details like the catenary arches or symbolism. Without a human guide, this digital tool explai

Are there any promotions or combos available?

Yes, there is often a Parc Güell + La Pedrera combo allowing you to save on two major visits. Discounts may also apply for Catalonia residents or groups. Keep an eye on seasonal offers to optimize your cultural budget in

How long does it take to visit Casa Milà?

Allow approximately 1h30 to 2 hours for a complete and relaxed visit. This includes time to explore the ground floor, the main floor, the attic with arches, and the rooftop terrace. Take your time to appreciate the balco

DID YOU KNOW?

Anecdotes & curiosities

The Insult That Became a Name

La Pedrera was originally called **Casa Milà**. The nickname 'La Pedrera' (the stone quarry) was coined by critics who disliked the rough stone façade. Over time, it became the accepted name, symbolizing acceptance of Gaudí's unconventional style.

Flexible Living Spaces

Gaudí designed the interiors without load-bearing walls, allowing residents to **reconfigure rooms** easily. This flexibility was revolutionary for its time and remains relevant today.

Gaudí's Rupture with Milà

Despite initial trust, Gaudí and Pere Milà had a falling out over interior decoration costs. Gaudí abandoned the site in **1909**, leaving some details unfinished, which added to the building's raw charm.

Mathematical Precision

Every curve in La Pedrera is calculated using **catenary geometry**. Gaudí used physical models with strings and weights to ensure structural stability, blending art and science seamlessly.

AROUND THE MUSEUM

The neighborhood around La Pedrera is vibrant and culturally rich. Just across the street lies **Casa Batlló**, another Gaudí gem, offering a perfect comparison of his evolving styles on the same 'Illa de la Discòrdia.' After your visit, take a leisurely stroll down Passeig de Gràcia, lined with luxury boutiques and historic cafés. For a deeper cultural immersion, head towards the Born district to explore the **Picasso Museum**, which complements the modernist themes with early works of the master. If you need a green break, **Parc de la Ciutadella** offers shaded paths and a monumental fountain, providing a serene contrast to the urban energy. Don't forget to look up towards the distant silhouette of the Sagrada Família, completing the architectural triangle of Gaudí's legacy.



Visiting La Pedrera is not merely about observing architecture; it is about feeling the pulse of Gaudí's imagination. From the mysterious depths of the attic to the sun-drenched heights of the roof, every corner tells a story of innovation and passion. As the golden hour casts long shadows across the chimney sculptures, you realize that this building is alive, breathing with the spirit of Barcelona itself. It is a place where **mathematics becomes poetry**, inviting you to see the world through the eyes of a visionary.