

201710 Europe (Spain)

The third part of our European holiday was mainly spent in Spain. The first half was in Madrid where we enjoyed an extension of the Scenic cruise with our wonderful and enthusiastic tour guide who insisted that we see as much as possible in the time available. We travelled by high-speed train to Barcelona which we explored in the highly-charged political environment of Catalan secessionist demonstrations. The bus tour north to France, through Andorra and then back to Barcelona was a long day but well worthwhile. We finished our wonderful European holiday flying back to Australia with a short stopover in Dubai.



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Walking in Madrid

After our very early flight from Porto to Madrid via Lisbon we were met at the airport and taken to our hotel in the centre of Madrid. After lunch and a short...

22 images



Bus tour of Madrid and Prado Museum tour

On our first full day in Madrid we were taken by bus to Madrid's bull ring (the Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas) with its impressive building and fabulous...

39 images



Ritiro Park, Palacio Real, Café de Oriente

On our second (and sadly last) full day in Madrid we took the metro to the entrance of Ritiro Park where we walked through the gardens exploring the lakes...

35 images



Walking in Barcelona, Las Ramblas

We walked through the old Gothic Quarter of Barcelona with its narrow streets trying to avoid the demonstrators on our way to the Barcelona Cathedral. The...

47 images



Spain, France, Andorra – one-day bus tour

Our small-bus tour took us north out of Barcelona past the rugged Montserrat and stopping at the small Catalan town of Barga for coffee. Continuing north we...

64 images



Walking in Barcelona, Catalan demonstrators

After Dave had his finger attended to, we visited the El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria just behind the hotel. A fascinating iron and glass building...

32 images

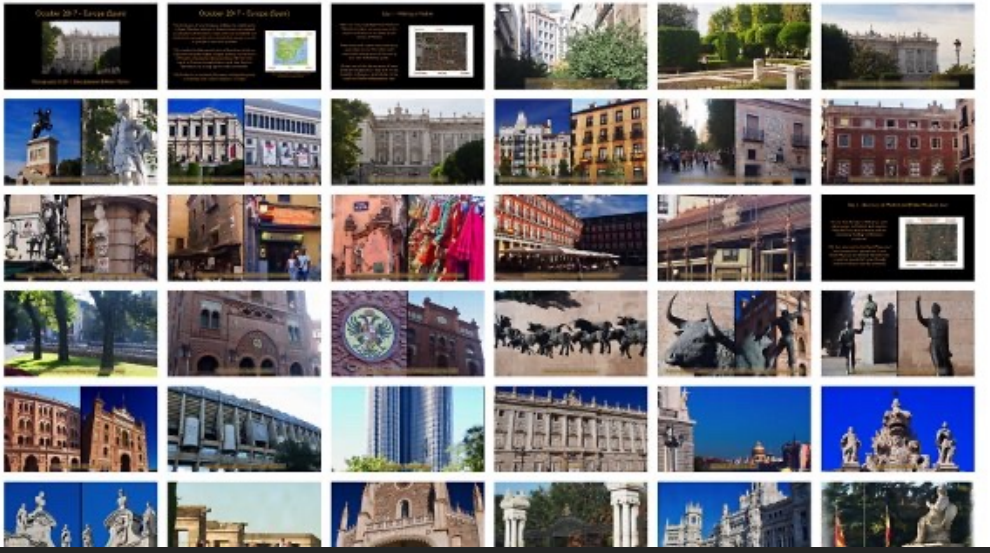


Return to Australia via Dubai

On our return to Australia we had a stopover in Dubai to reduce jetlag and receive medical assistance for Dave's finger. We were lucky to get good but smoggy...

8 images

201710 Europe Spain Contact Sheet



201710 Europe Spain Contact Sheets

Thumbnail images of all slides in Fotomagico presentation.

4 images

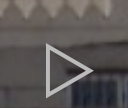


Map of Spain and surrounding countries

© 2003 Map-of-Spain.co.uk

Walking in Madrid

After our very early flight from Porto to Madrid via Lisbon we were met at the airport and taken to our hotel in the centre of Madrid. After lunch and a short rest some of us were taken on our first short walk around the nearby parts of the city. By the end of the day we were all very tired and navigated our way back to the hotel for a shower, a small dinner at the hotel, and finally collapsing into bed.



Day 1 Madrid City Walk 4 October 2017
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Gran Melia Palacio de Los Duques (our hotel) on the Cuesta de Santo Domingo



Plaza de Oriente Gardens and Royal Palace behind



Buildings around the Plaza de Oriente



Statue of Philip IV of Spain in the Plaza de Oriente



Teatro Real from the Plaza de Oriente



Royal Palace from the Plaza de Oriente



Statues in the Plaza de Oriente



Northern end of the Royal Palace from the Plaza de Oriente



Buildings on Calle de Vergara



Madrid's Teatro Real



Plaza de Isabel II near to the Teatro Real



Calle del Arenal pedestrian mall



Bustly ladies on Calle de la Hileras



Iglesia Parroquial Rectoral from Calle del Arenal



Bookstall on Pasadizo de San Gines



Flamenco dresses for sale



Centro Comercial Arenal 9 from Calle de Arenal



Chocolateria San Gines on the Pasadizo de San Gines



Calle Mayor decorations

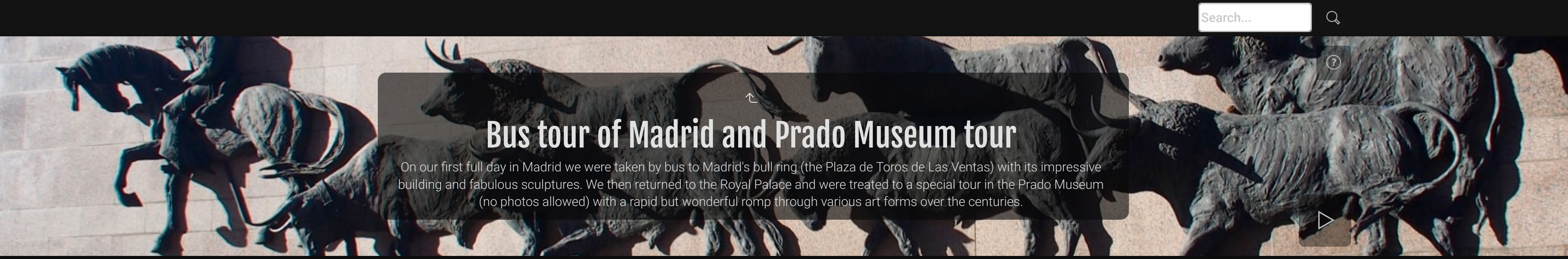


Madrid's Plaza Mayor



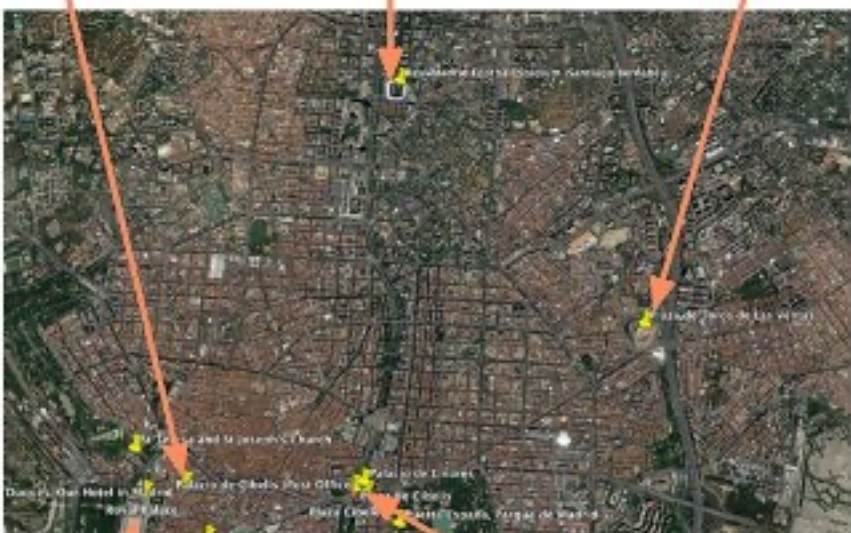
Mercado de San Miguel from Calle Cava de San Miguel





Bus tour of Madrid and Prado Museum tour

On our first full day in Madrid we were taken by bus to Madrid's bull ring (the Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas) with its impressive building and fabulous sculptures. We then returned to the Royal Palace and were treated to a special tour in the Prado Museum (no photos allowed) with a rapid but wonderful romp through various art forms over the centuries.



Day 2 Madrid City Tour 5 October 2017
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Gardens on way to Plaza de Toros (bull ring)



Badge on wall of Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



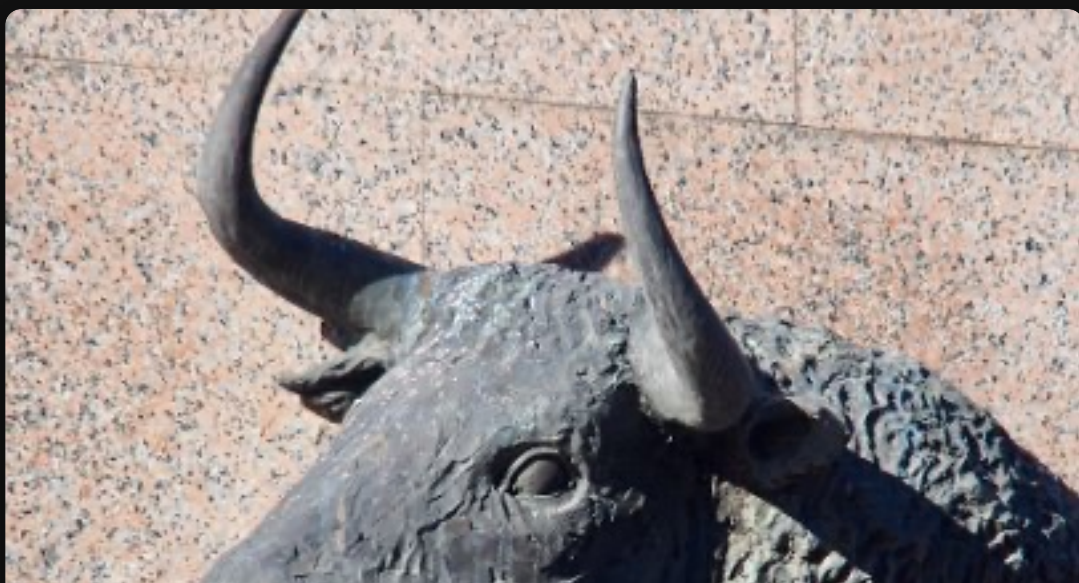
Bull sculptures on wall at Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Bull sculptures on wall at Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Bull sculptures on wall at Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Bull sculpture on wall at Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Matador and Dr Fleming sculpture at Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



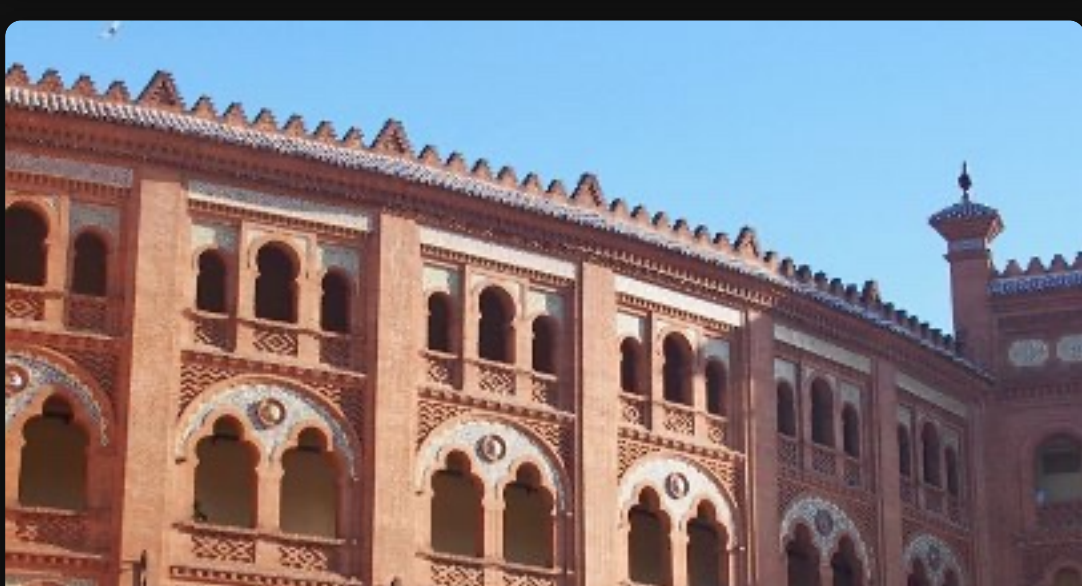
Matador sculpture at Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



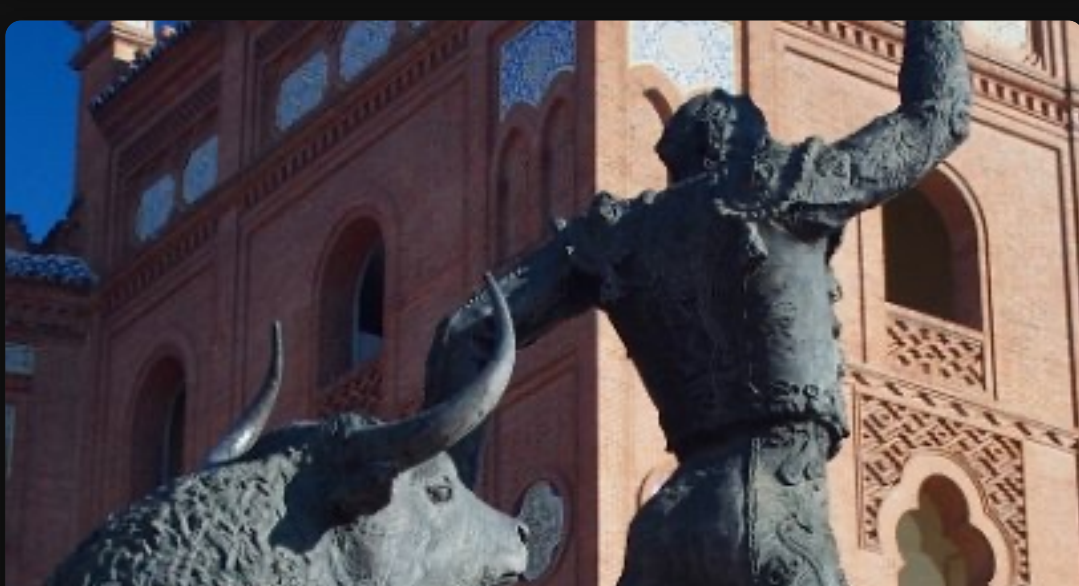
Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Matador and Dr Fleming sculpture at Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Matador and Bull sculpture at Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



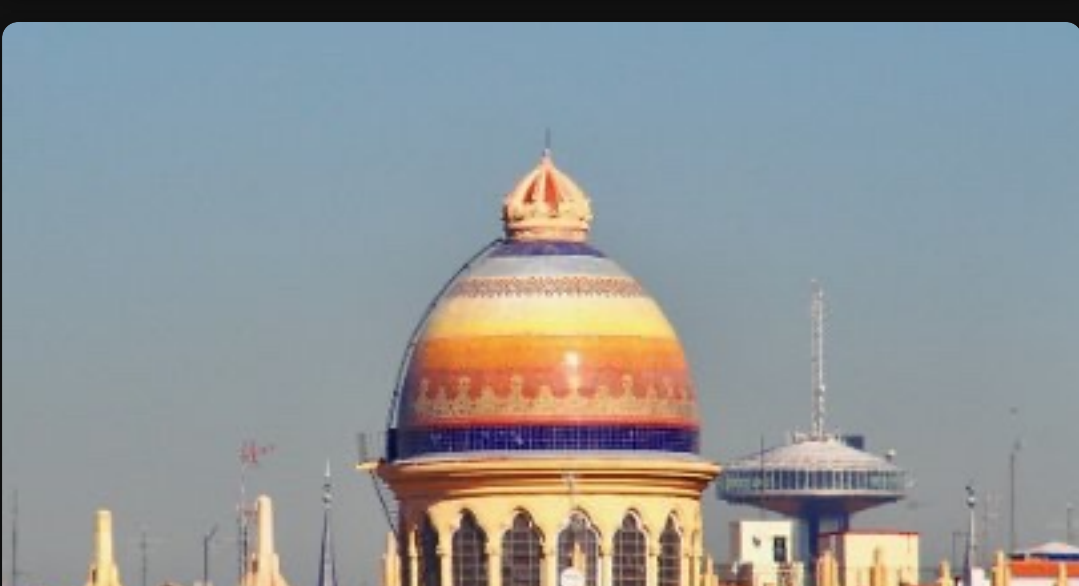
Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas



Real Madrid's Bernabeu Football Stadium



New style office building



Dome of St Teresa and St Joseph's Church



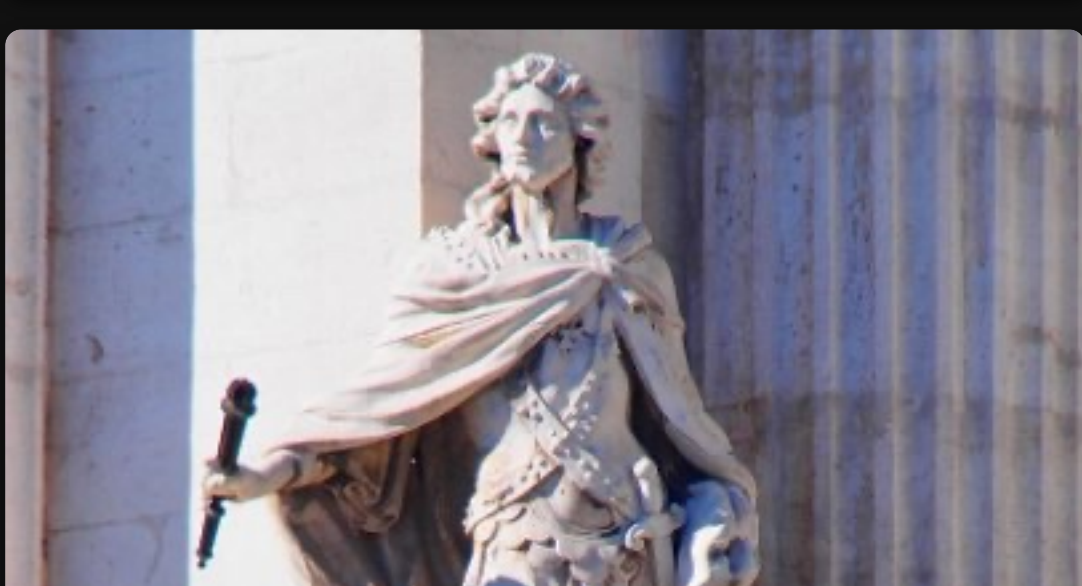
Royal Palace with Dome of St Teresa and St Joseph's Church in background



Royal Palace



Statues on Royal Palace



Statue at Royal Palace



Statues on Royal Palace



Statues on Royal Palace



Buildings around Plaza de Oriente



Teatro Real from Plaza de Isabel II



Statue in Plaza de Oriente



Silent attraction in Plaza de Oriente



Statue (with bird) in Plaza de Oriente



Glimpse of Roman remains



Cathedral opposite Prado Museum



Main gates of Parque de Madrid, Calle de Alfonso XII



"Refugees Welcome" at Central Post Office, Plaza de Cibeles



Building rooftop sculptures



Cibeles fountain, Plaza de Cibeles



Building rooftop sculpture, Plaza de Cibeles



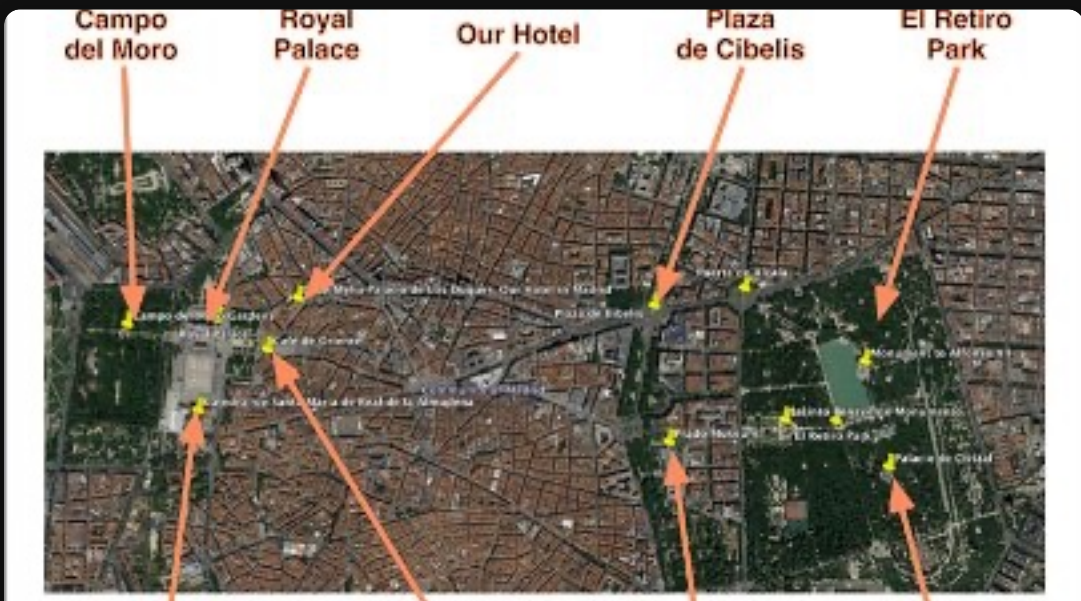
Royal Palace from Plaza de Oriente at night



Royal Palace from Plaza de Oriente at night

Ritiro Park, Palacio Real, Café de Oriente

On our second (and sadly last) full day in Madrid we took the metro to the entrance of Ritiro Park where we walked through the gardens exploring the lakes, fountains, statues and special buildings including the iconic Palacio de Cristal - the park is a favourite spot to relax for many locals and foreigners alike. Later we toured the Royal Palace (no photos allowed) with lots of impressive rooms filled with paintings, sculptures and furniture. We finished off the day with our welcome/farewell dinner at the Café de Oriente.



Day 3 Madrid City Tour 6 October 2017
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]



Inside our hotel, Gran Meliá Palacio de los Duques, Cuesta de Santo Domingo



Top of Puerta de Alcalá with angels



Puerta de Alcalá through El Retiro Park entrance



Fountain near entrance to El Retiro Park



Monument to Alfonso XII in El Retiro Park



Monument to Alfonso XII in El Retiro Park



Avenue of autumn coloured trees in El Retiro Park



Fuente de la Alcachofa in El Retiro Park



Glimpse of Prado Museum from El Retiro Park



Peaceful pathway through El Retiro Park



Palacio de Cristal in El Retiro Park



Tortoises at lake near Palacio de Cristal in El Retiro Park



Palacio de Cristal in El Retiro Park



View into Palacio de Cristal in El Retiro Park



Palacio de Cristal in El Retiro Park



Painted tiles on Palacio de Cristal in El Retiro Park



Painted tiles on Palacio de Cristal in El Retiro Park



Prado Museum and Jacinto Benavente Monumento from El Retiro Park



Gardens near exit to El Retiro Park



Cibeles fountain, Plaza de Cibeles



Rooftop golden ball on Banque de España building



In the Main Square of the Royal Palace



Lights in the Main Square of the Royal Palace



Tower above main entrance to the Royal Palace



Grand staircase in the Royal Palace



Painted ceiling of grand staircase in the Royal Palace



Catedral de Santa Maria de Real de la Almuneda, next to Royal Palace



Catedral de Santa Maria de Real de la Almuneda, next to Royal Palace



Front of Royal Palace



Front of Royal Palace



View over Campo del Moro gardens adjacent to Royal Palace



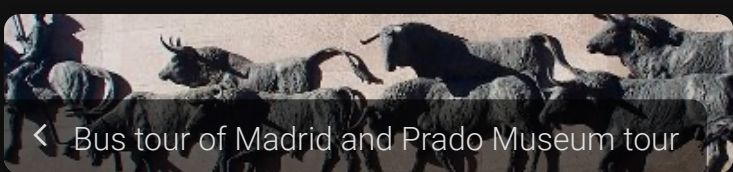
Catedral de Santa Maria de Real de la Almuneda, next to Royal Palace



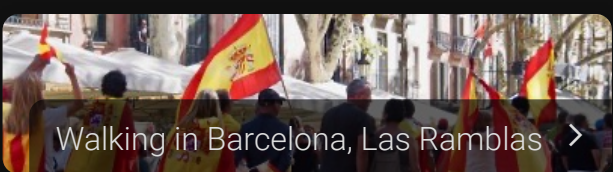
Anne, Dave and others at Café de Oriente
[Guide photo]



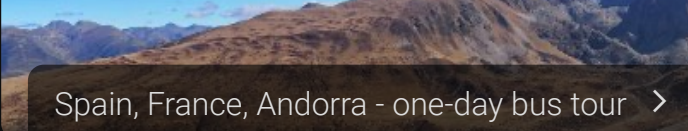
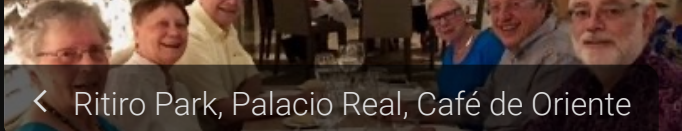
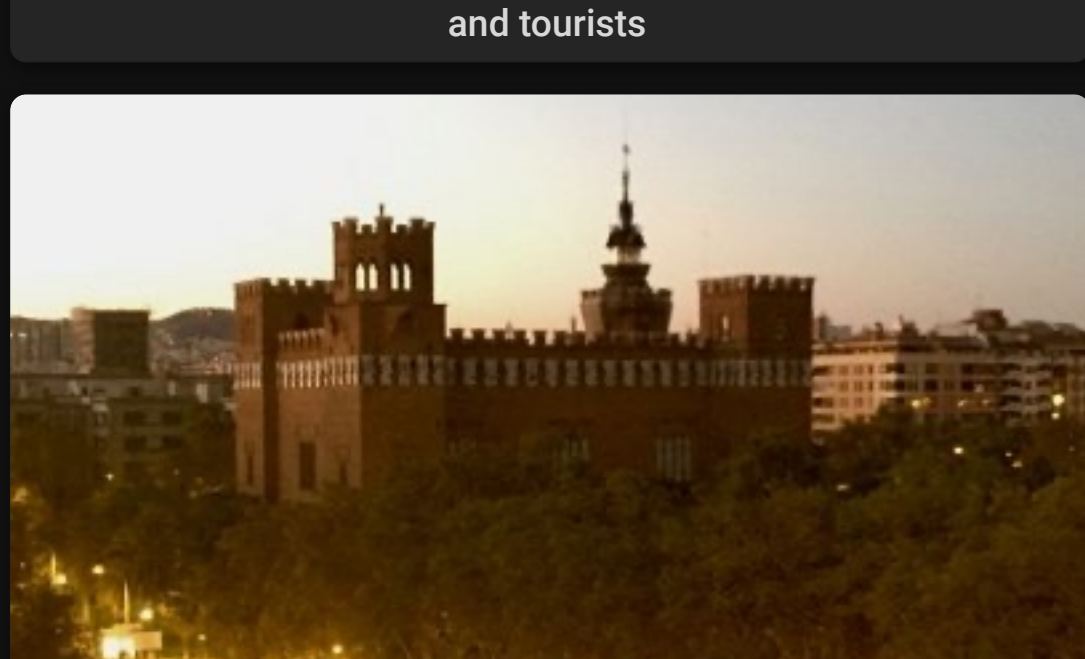
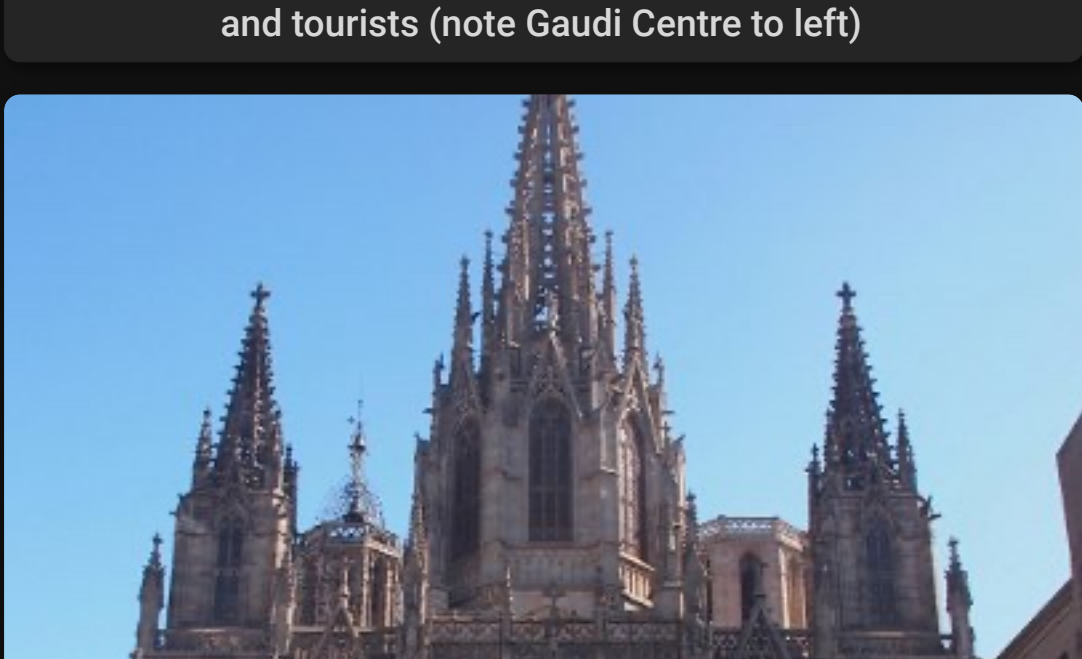
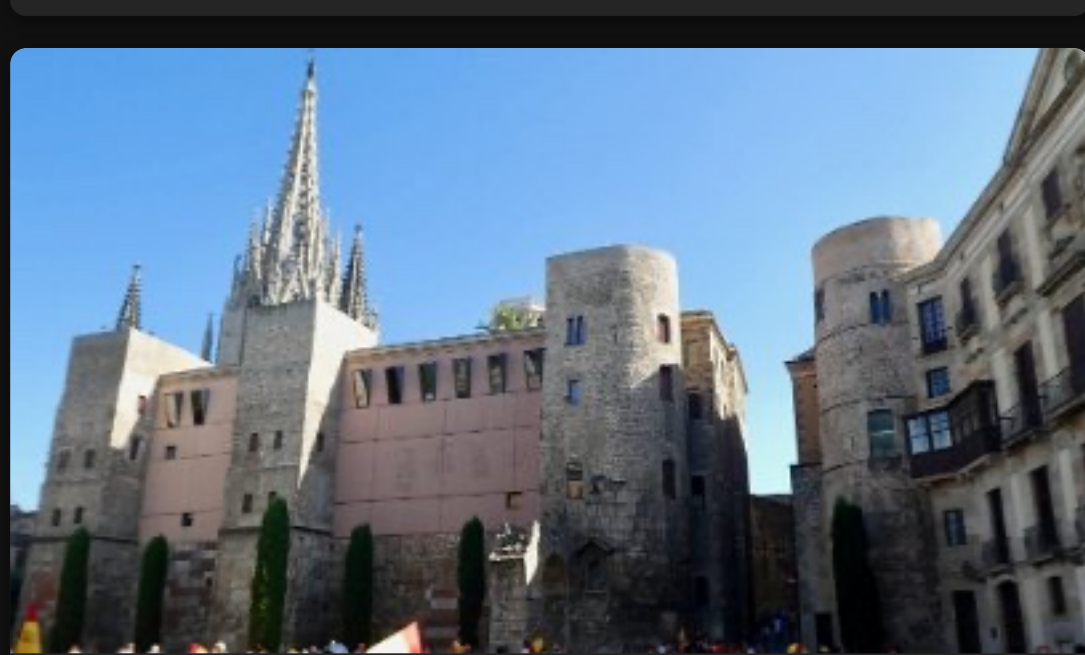
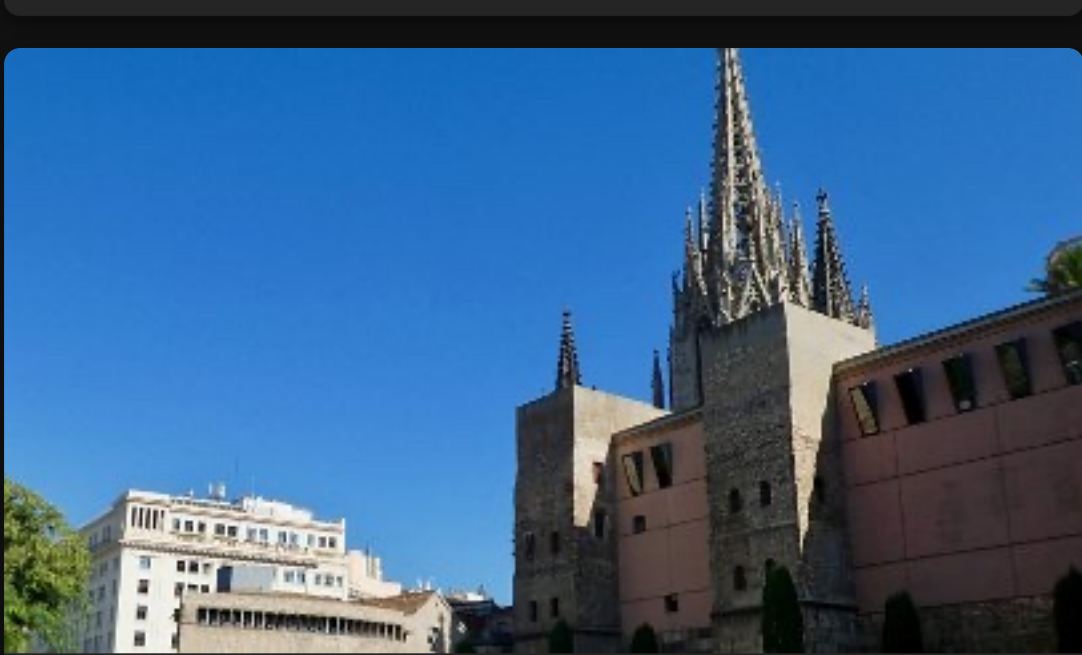
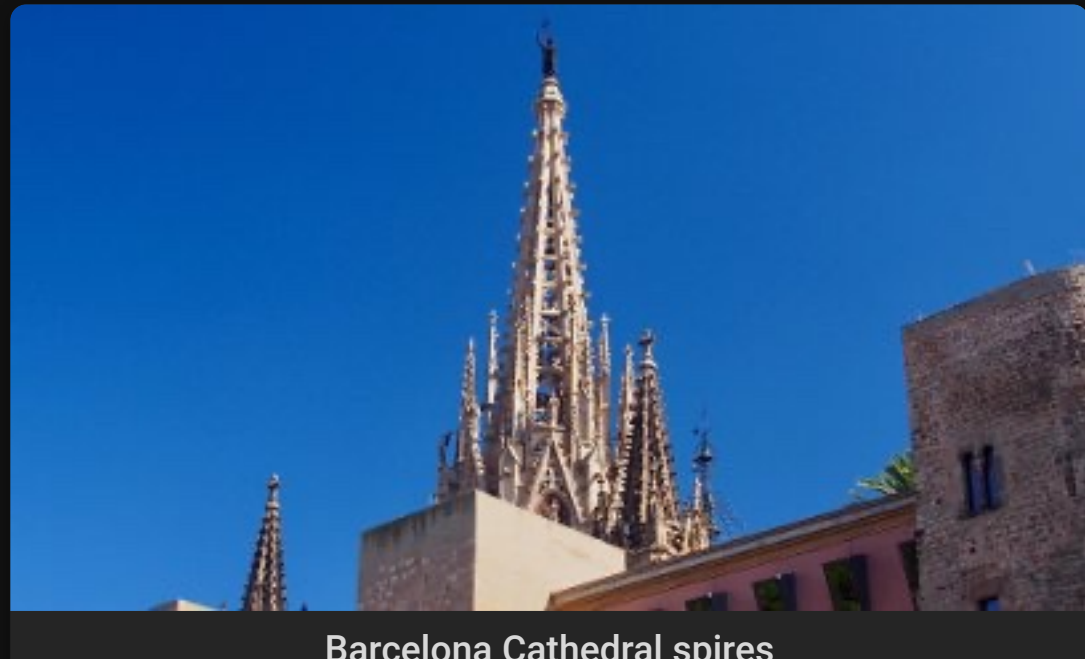
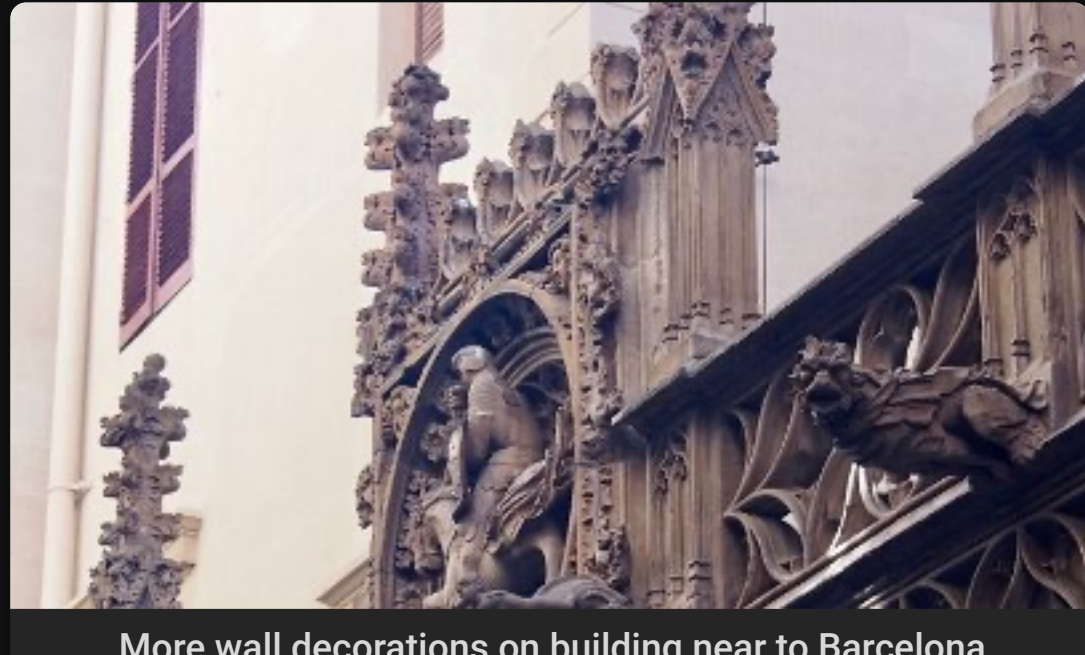
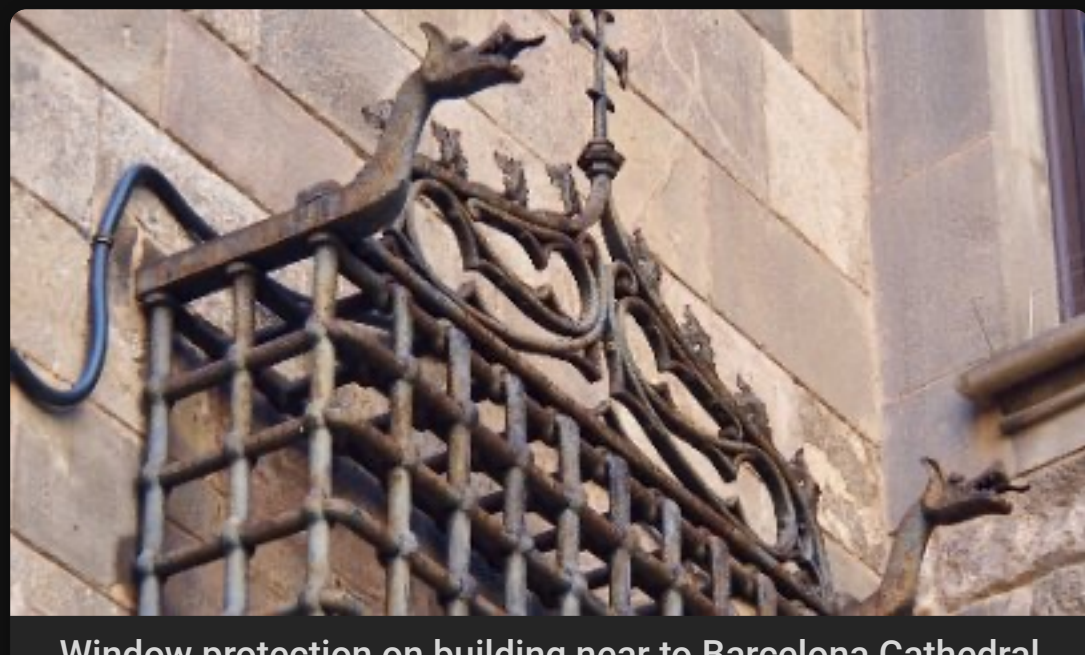
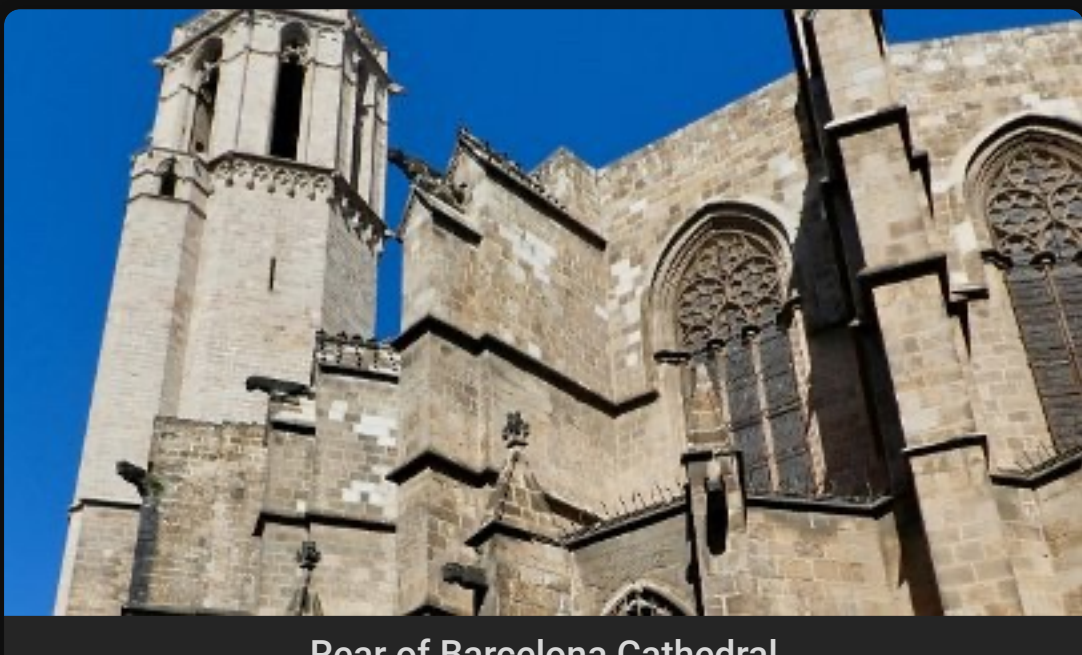
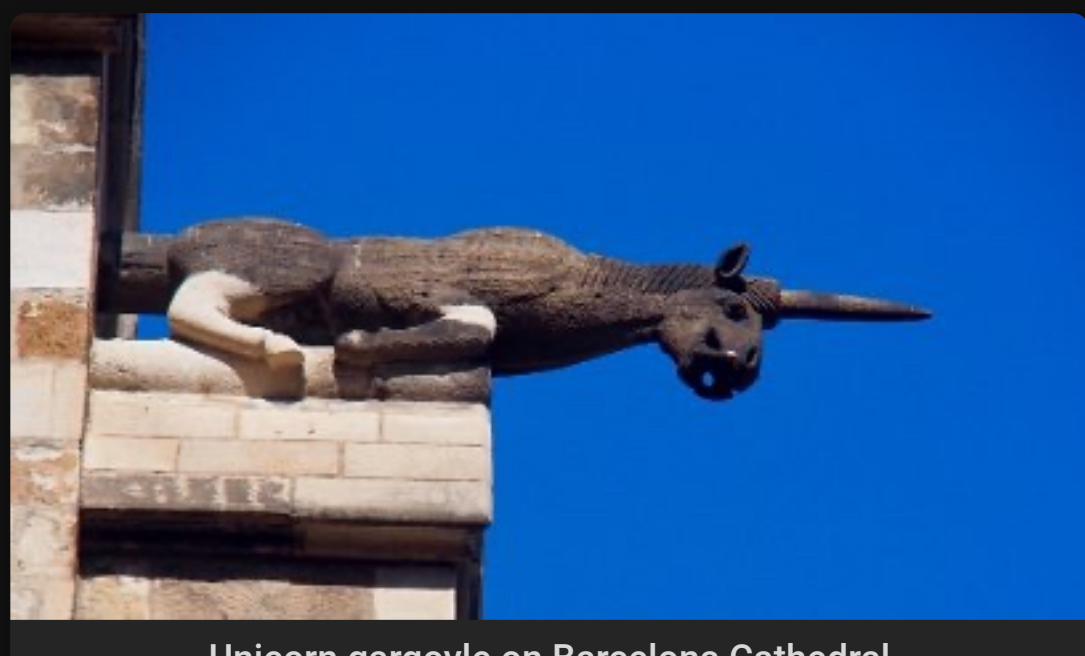
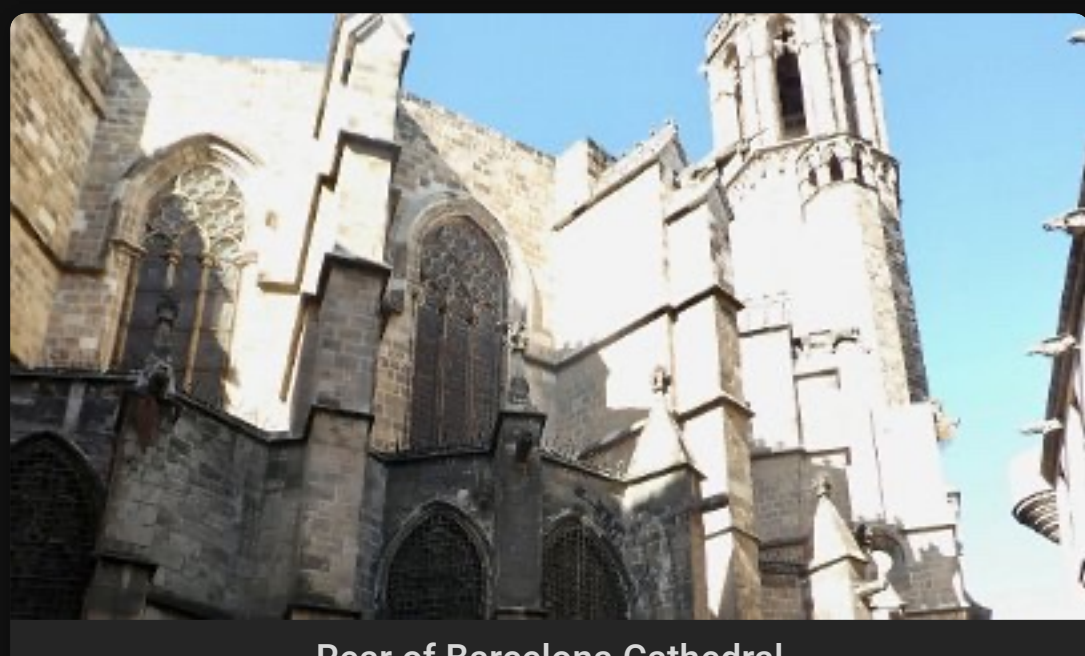
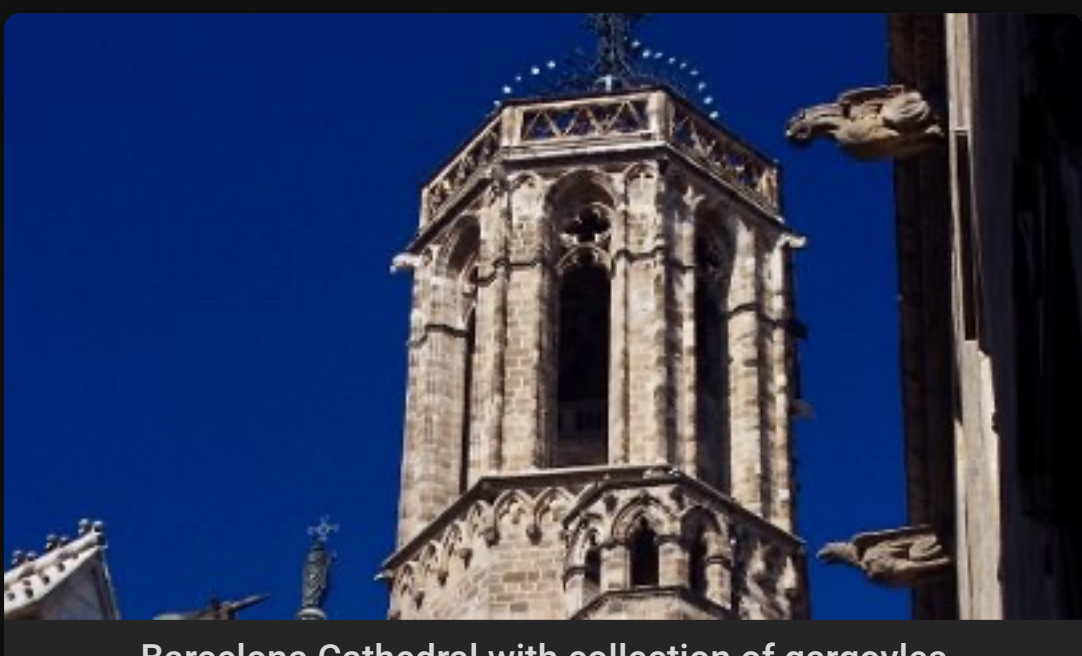
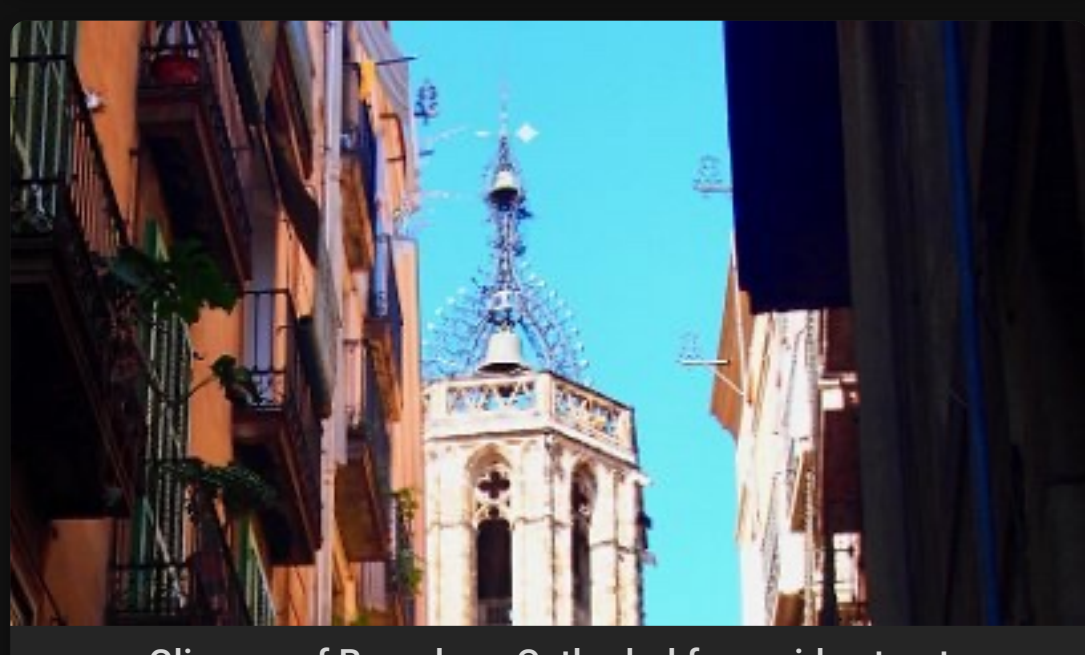
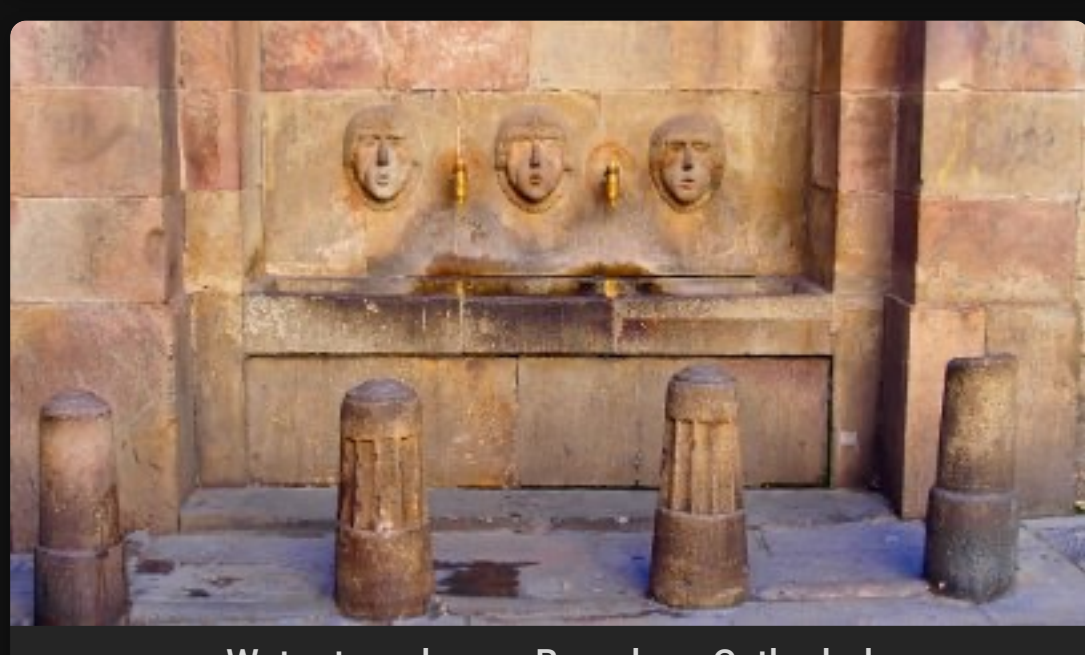
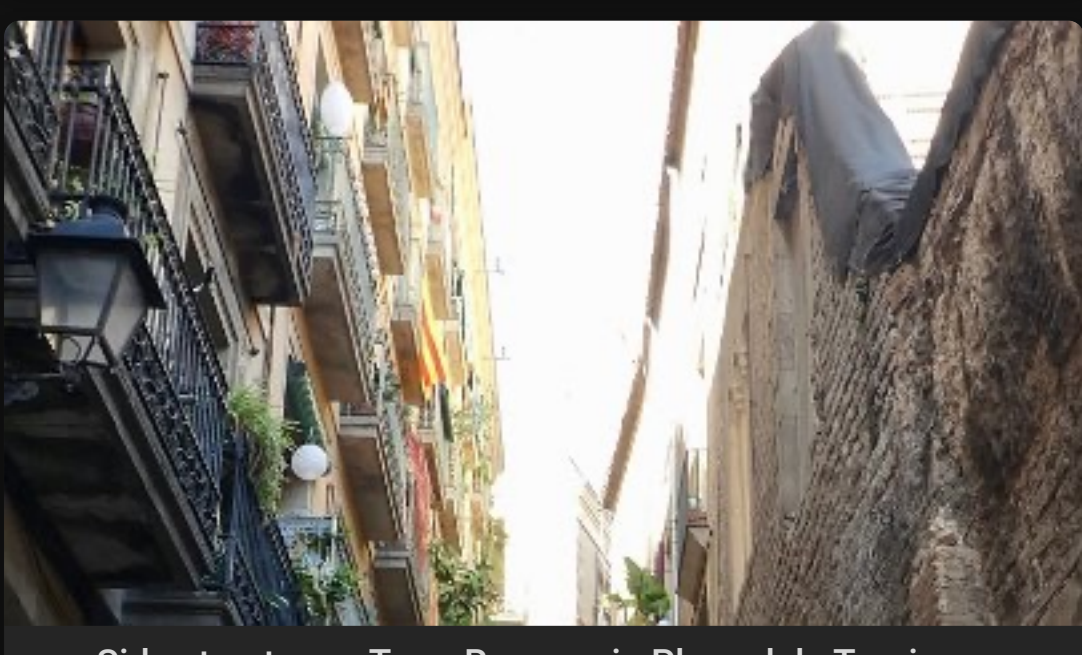
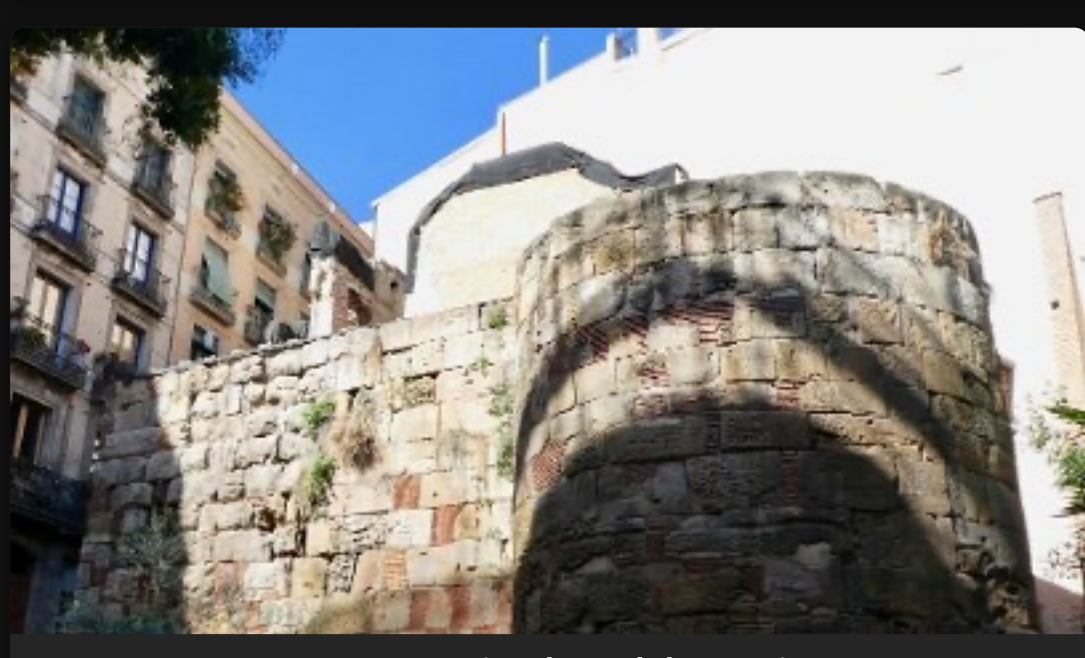
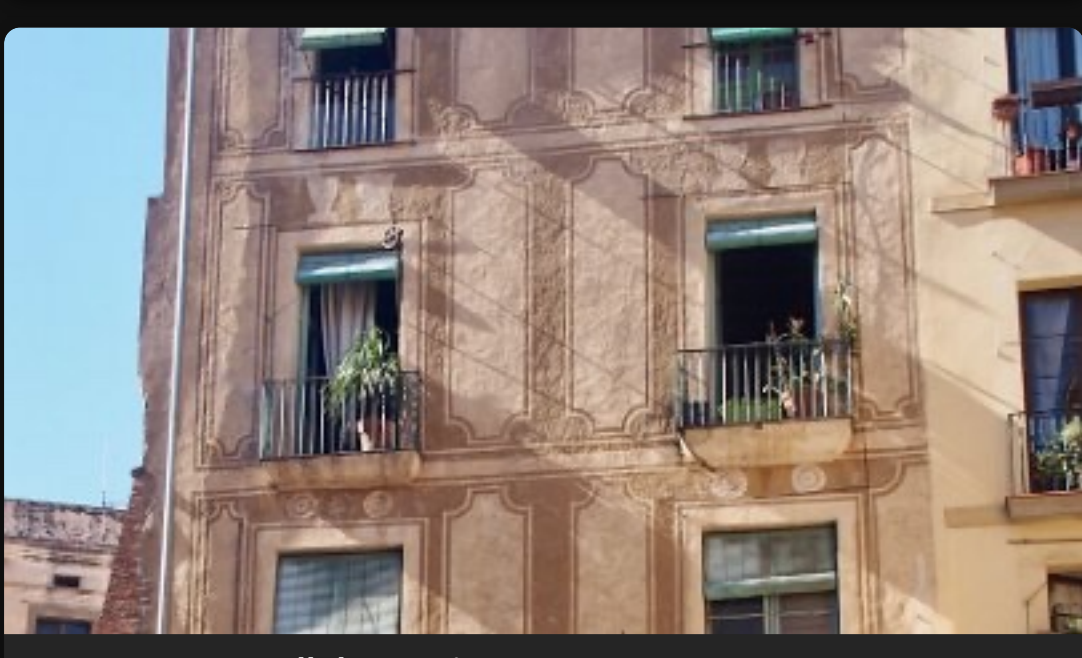
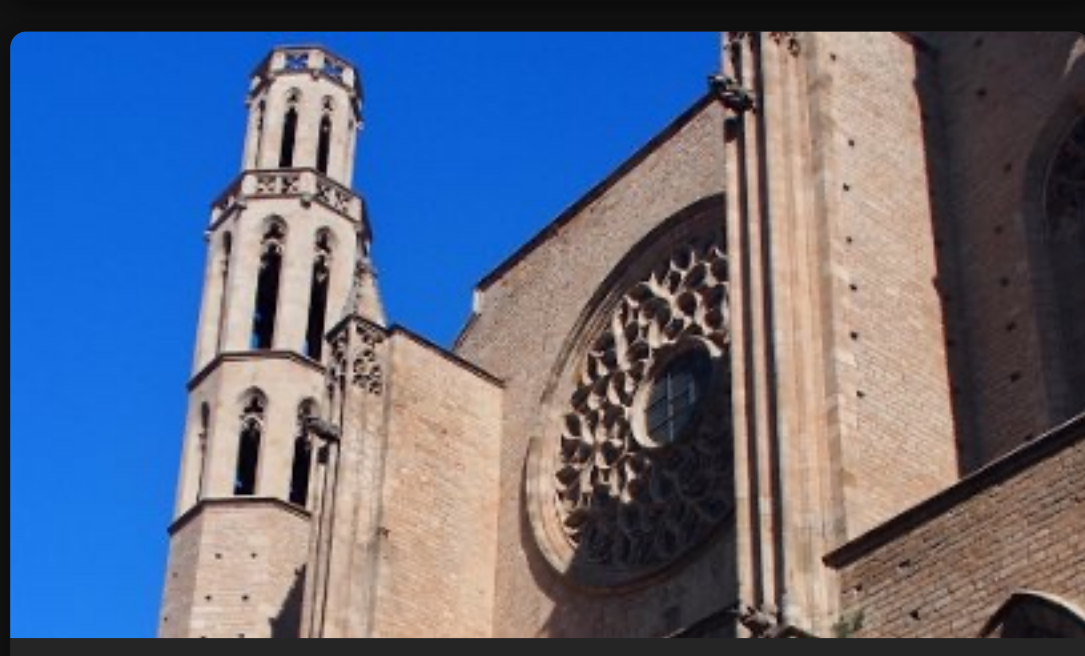
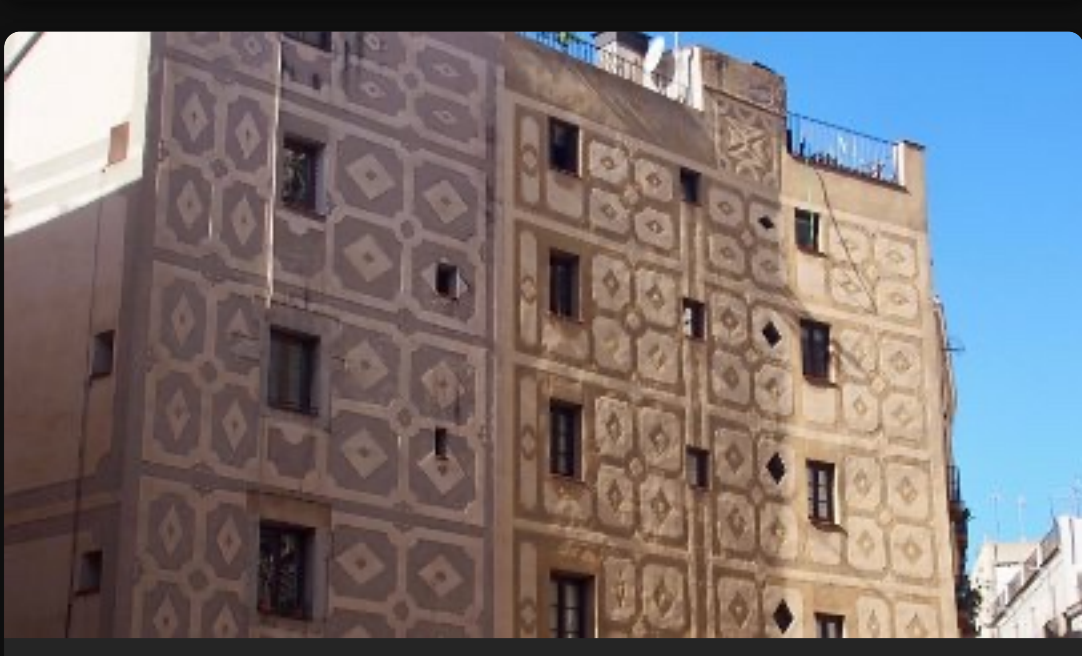
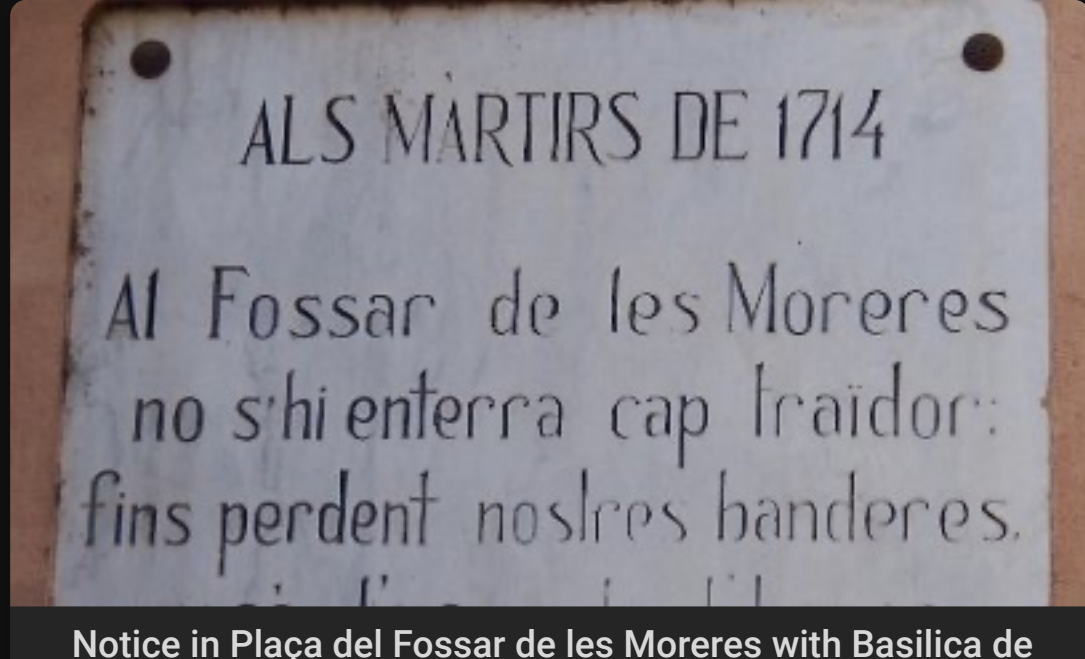
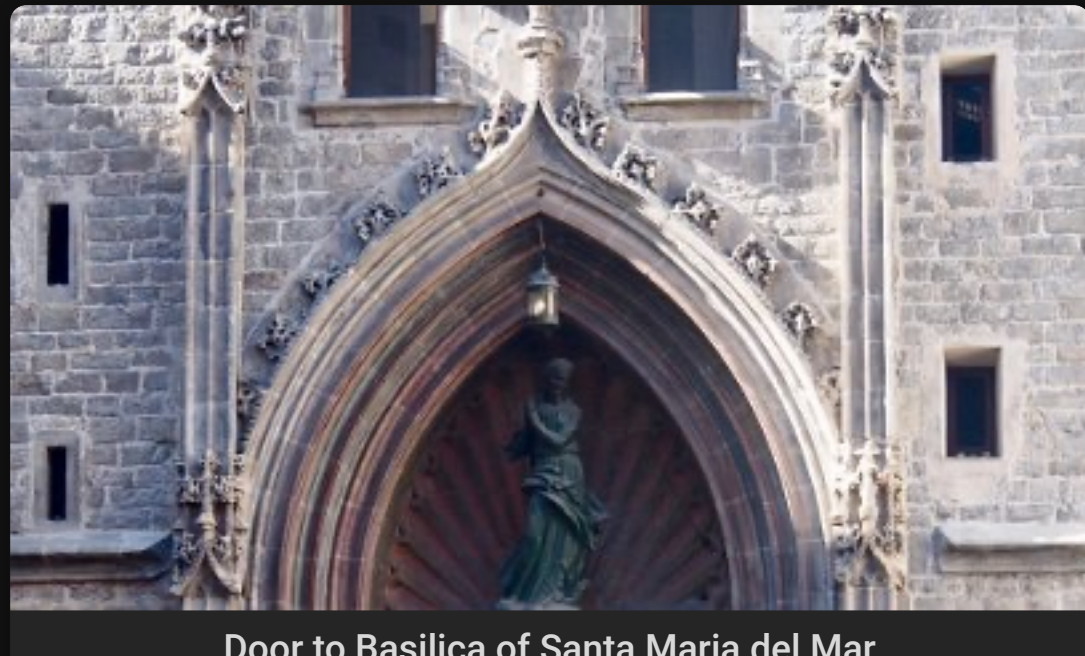
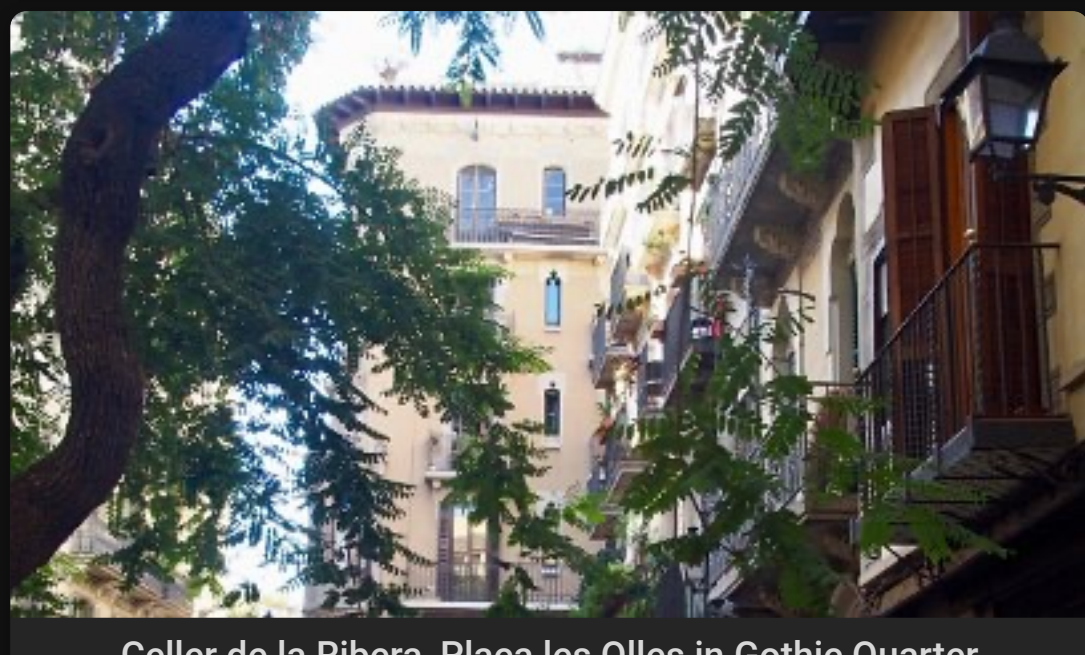
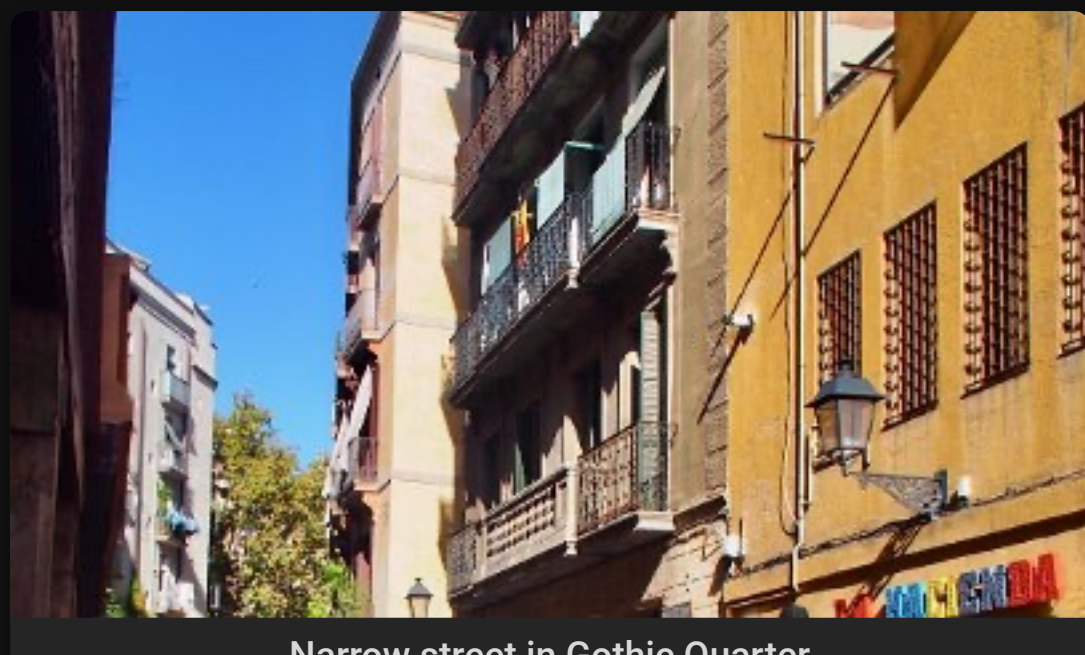
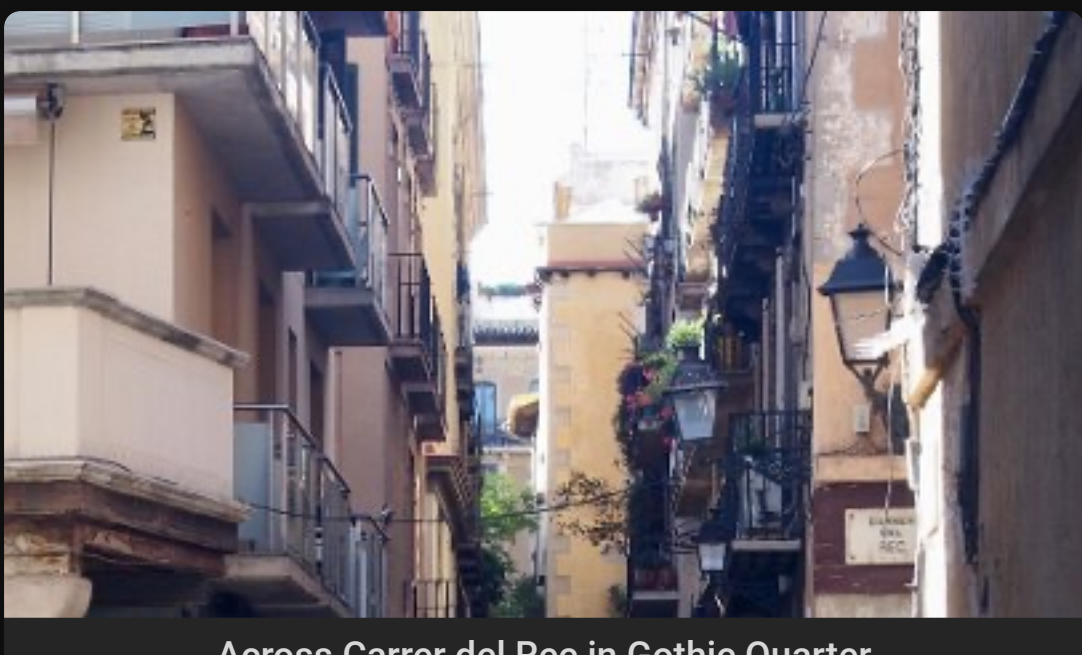
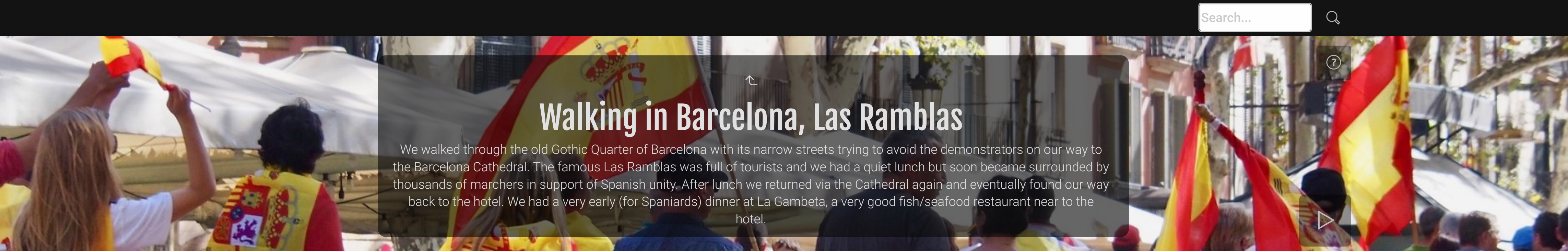
Anne, Dave and others at Café de Oriente
[Guide photo]

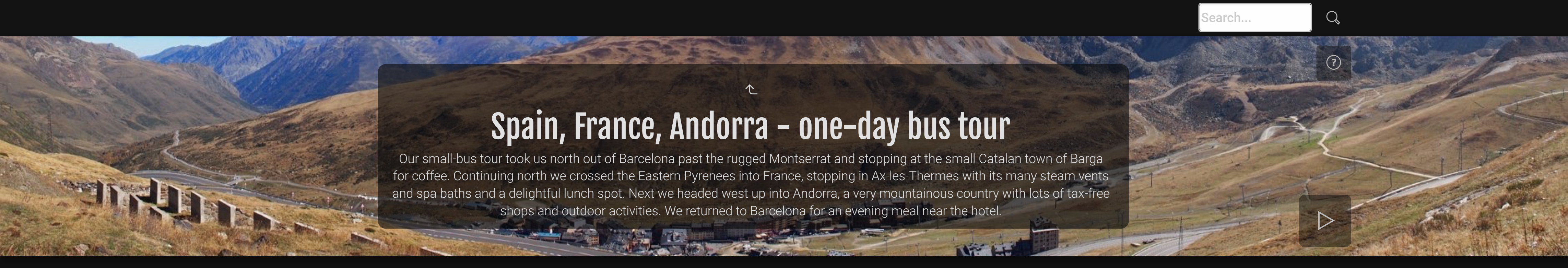


Bus tour of Madrid and Prado Museum tour



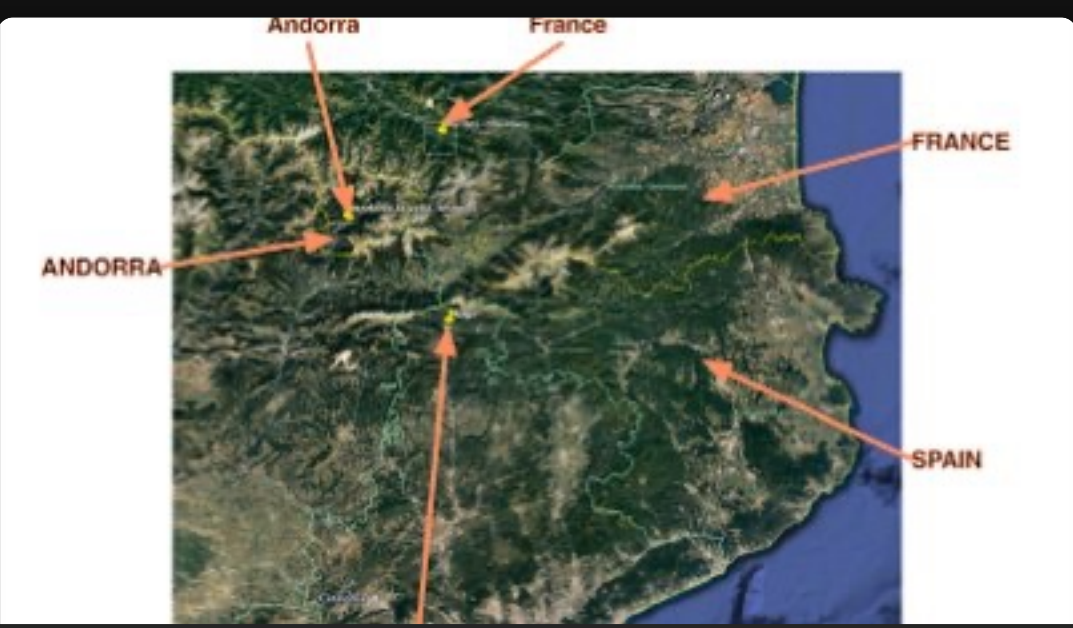
Walking in Barcelona, Las Ramblas





Spain, France, Andorra – one-day bus tour

Our small bus tour took us north out of Barcelona past the rugged Montserrat and stopping at the small Catalan town of Barga for coffee. Continuing north we crossed the Eastern Pyrenees into France, stopping in Ax-les-Thermes with its many steam vents and spa baths and a delightful lunch spot. Next we headed west up into Andorra, a very mountainous country with lots of tax-free shops and outdoor activities. We returned to Barcelona for an evening meal near the hotel.



Day 6 Three countries in one day tour 9 October 2017

(Map produced using Google Earth Pro)



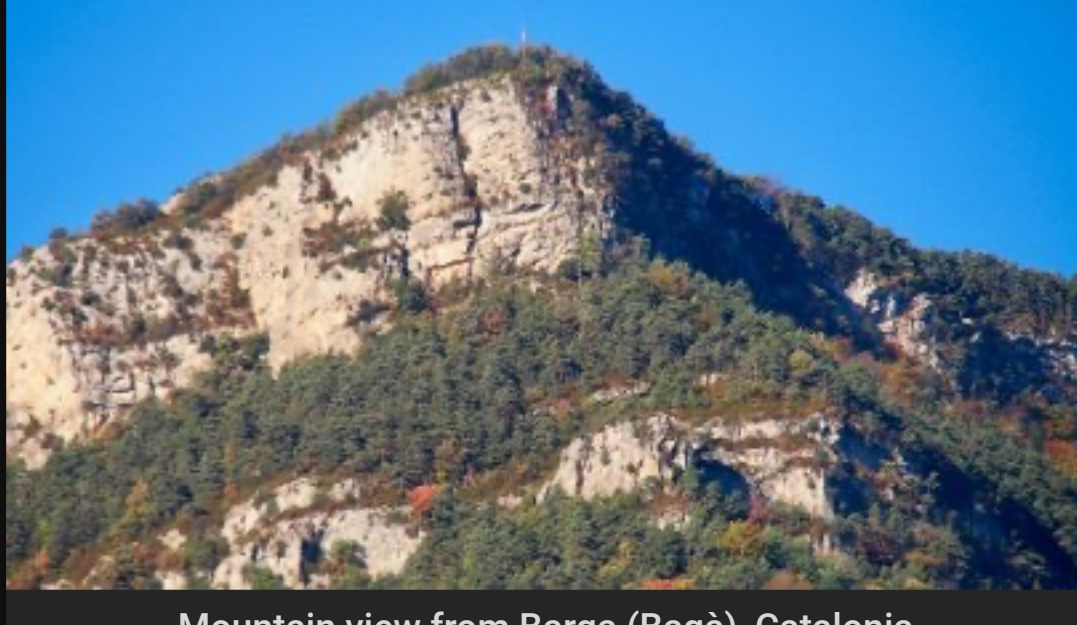
Centre d'excursions Map in Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Deer statue in Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Defensive tower and wall of Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Mountain view from Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Autumn colours from Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Town square in Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Statue of Dom Galceran de Pinós in Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



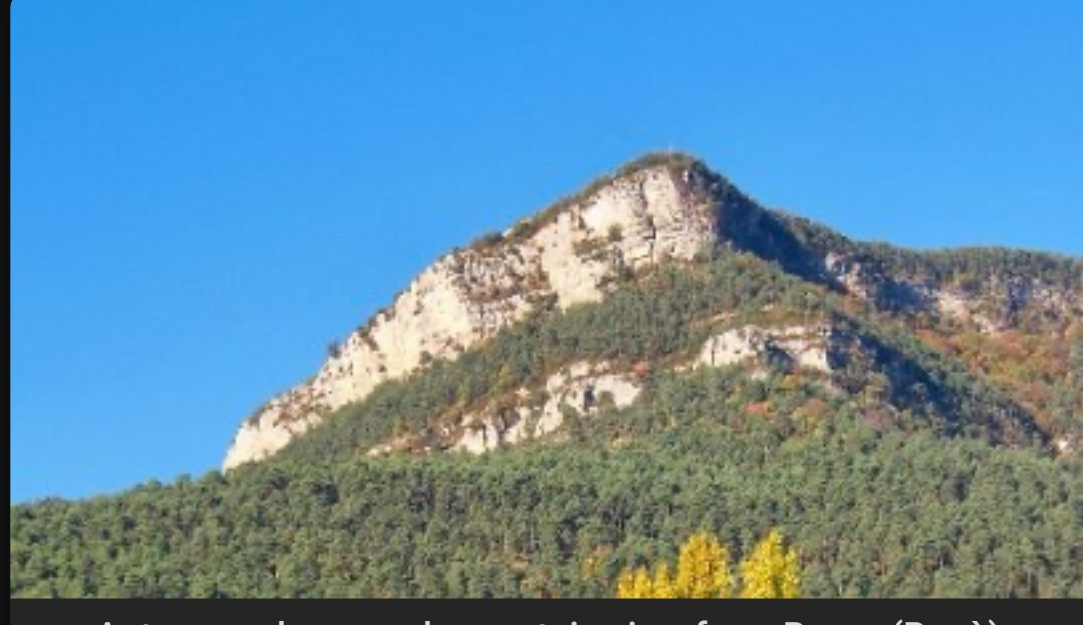
Town houses in Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



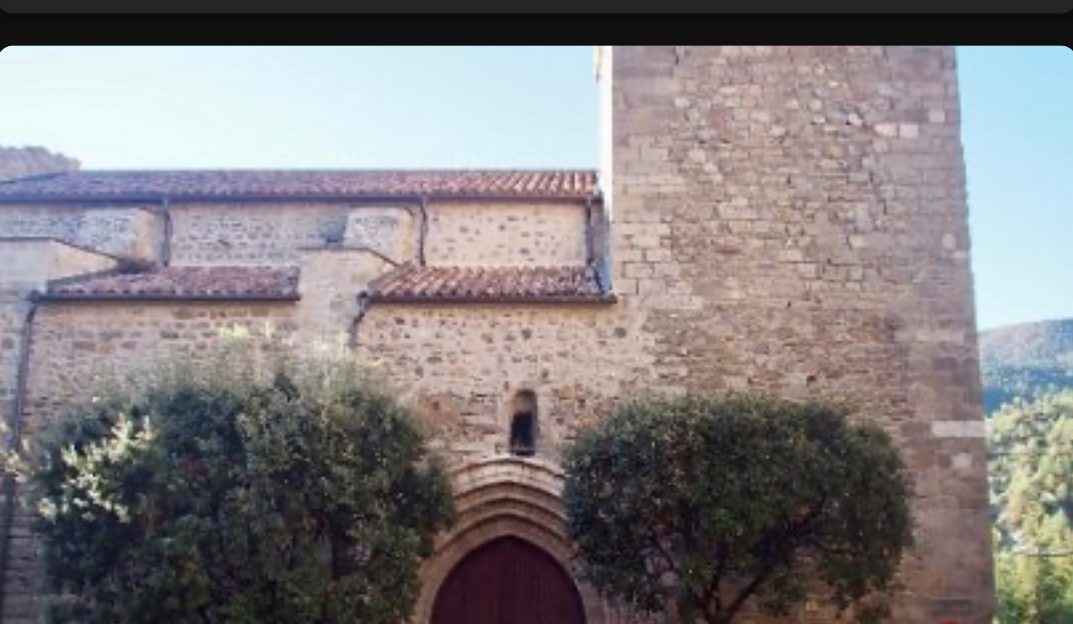
Autumn colours from Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Autumn colours and mountain view from Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Autumn colours and mountain view from Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



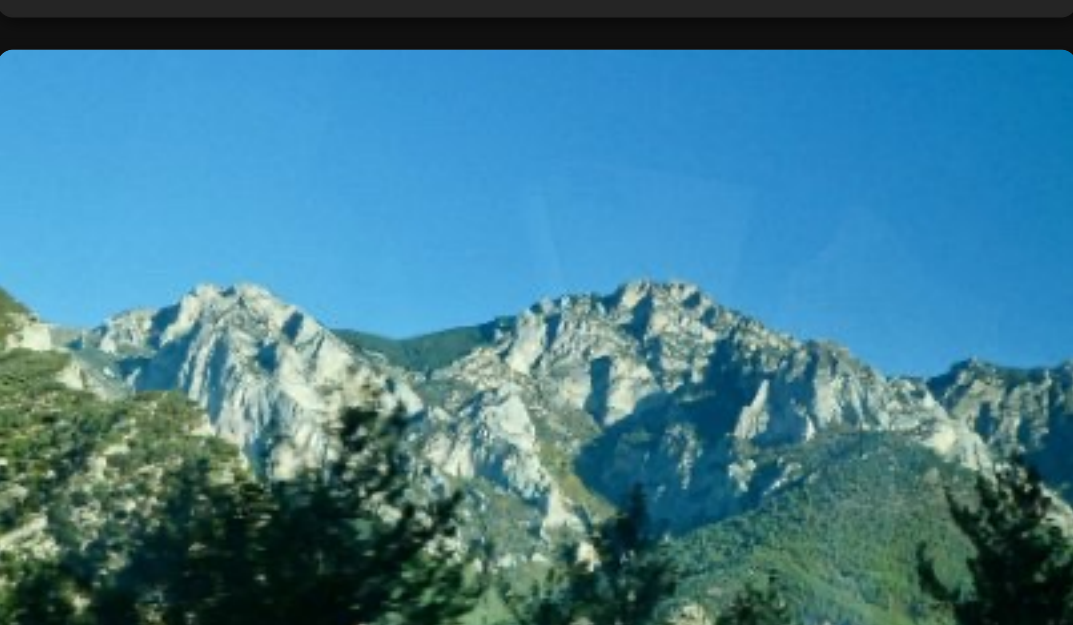
Church exterior in Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



Street view in Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



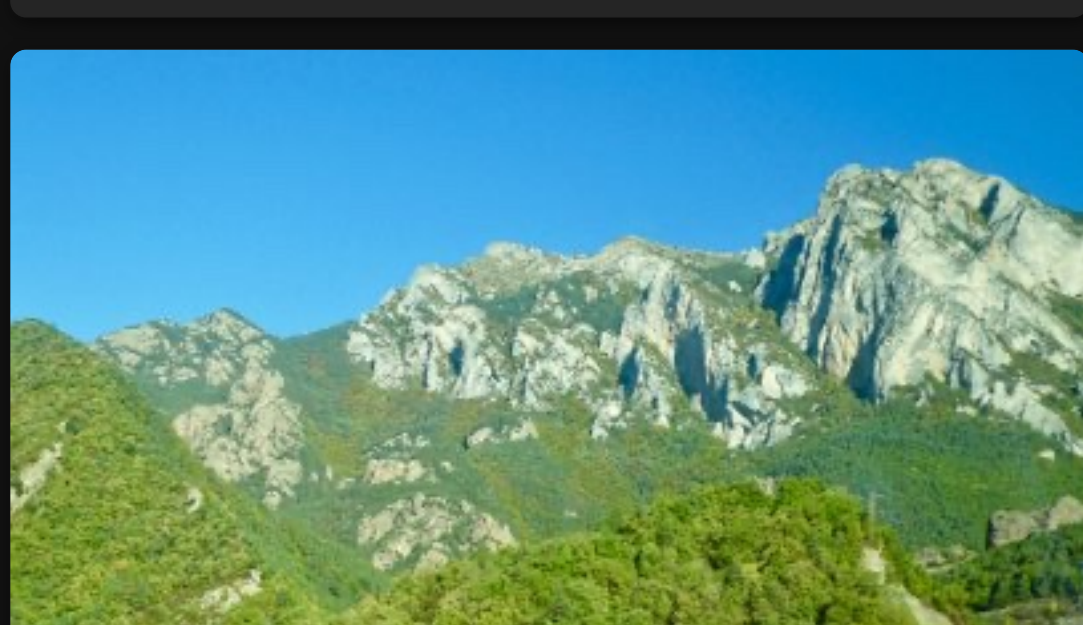
Mountain view from Barga (Bagà), Catalonia



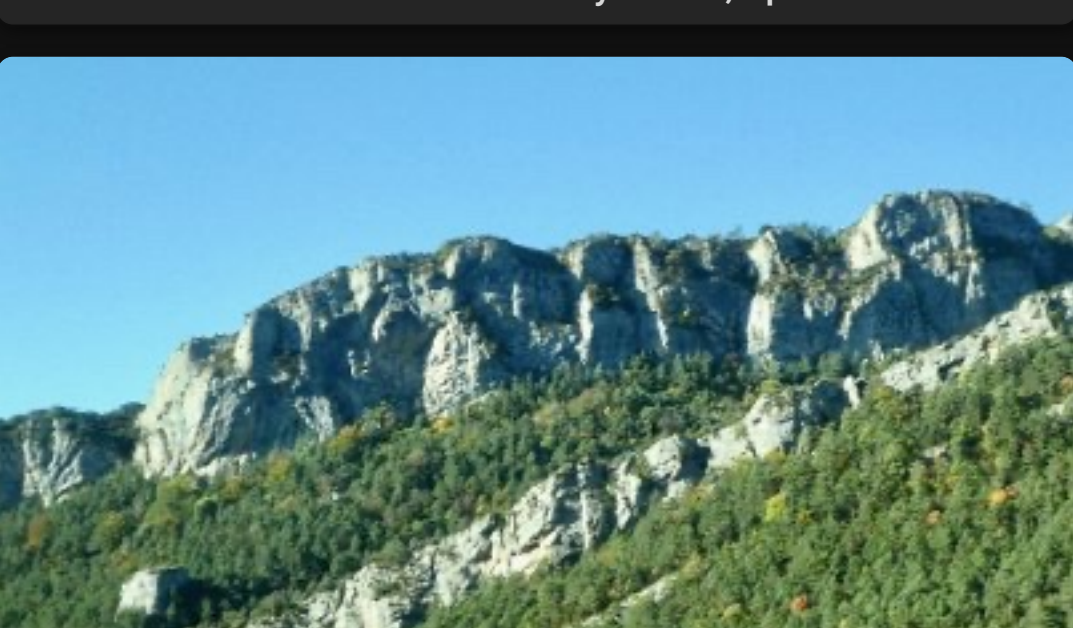
View of the Eastern Pyrenees, Spain



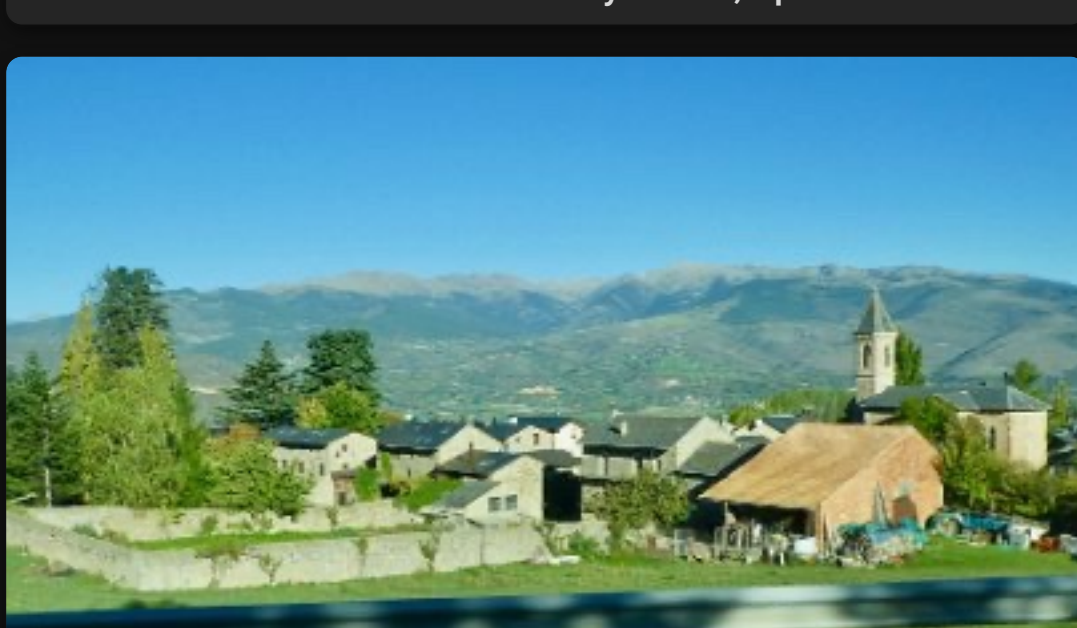
View of the Eastern Pyrenees, Spain



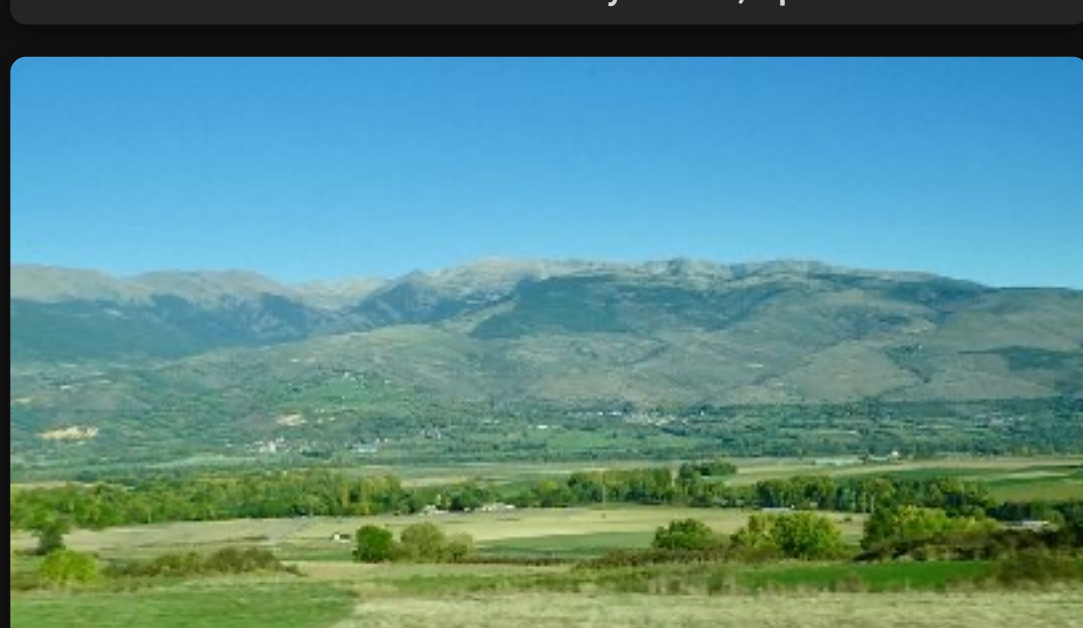
View of the Eastern Pyrenees, Spain



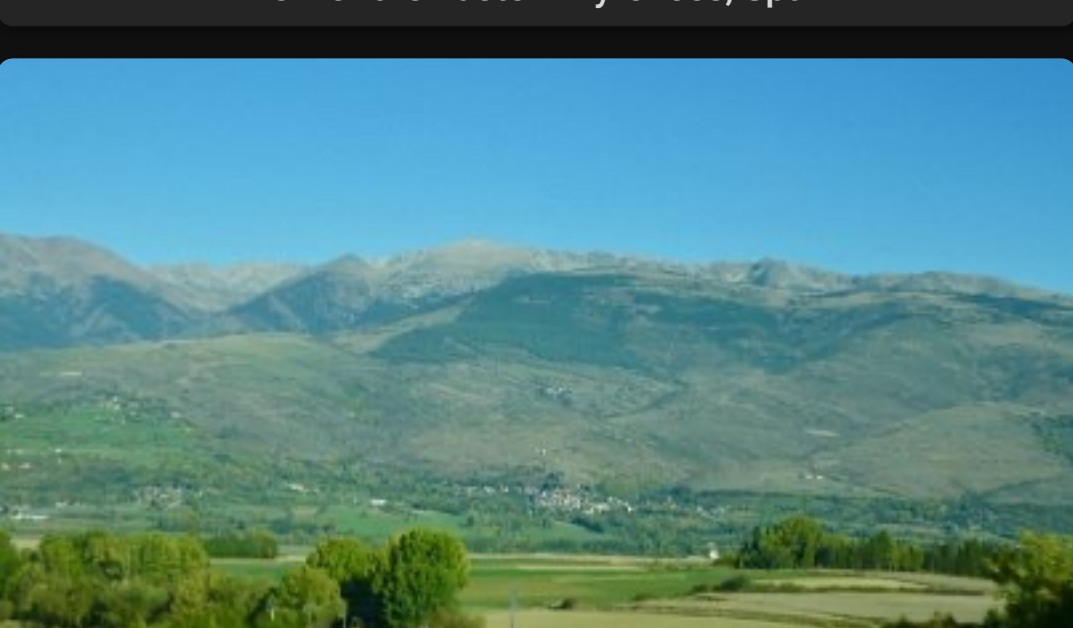
View of the Eastern Pyrenees, Spain



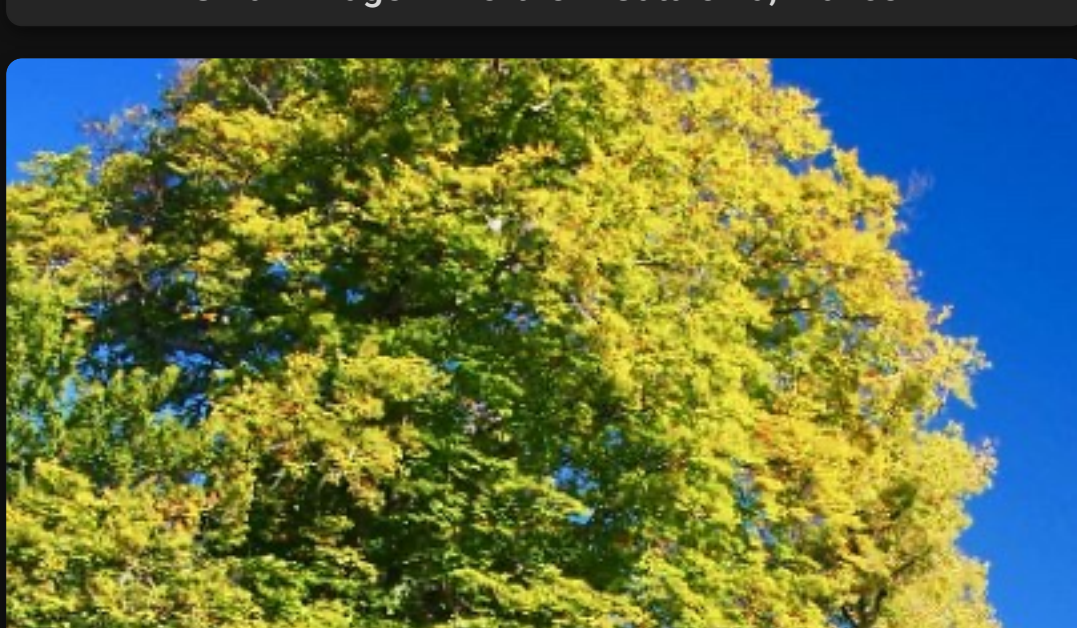
Small village in Northern Catalonia, France



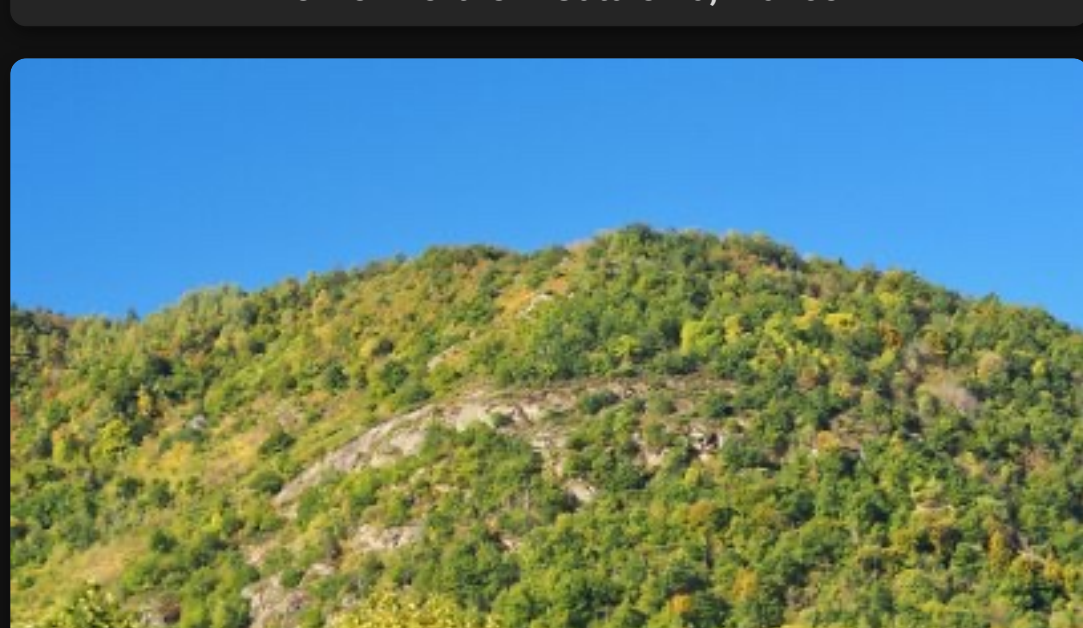
View of Northern Catalonia, France



View of Northern Catalonia, France



Autumn colours in Ax-les-Thermes, France



Autumn colours in Ax-les-Thermes, France



Steam vents in Ax-les-Thermes, France



Our guide Henrique and some of our group at thermal pool in Ax-les-Thermes, France



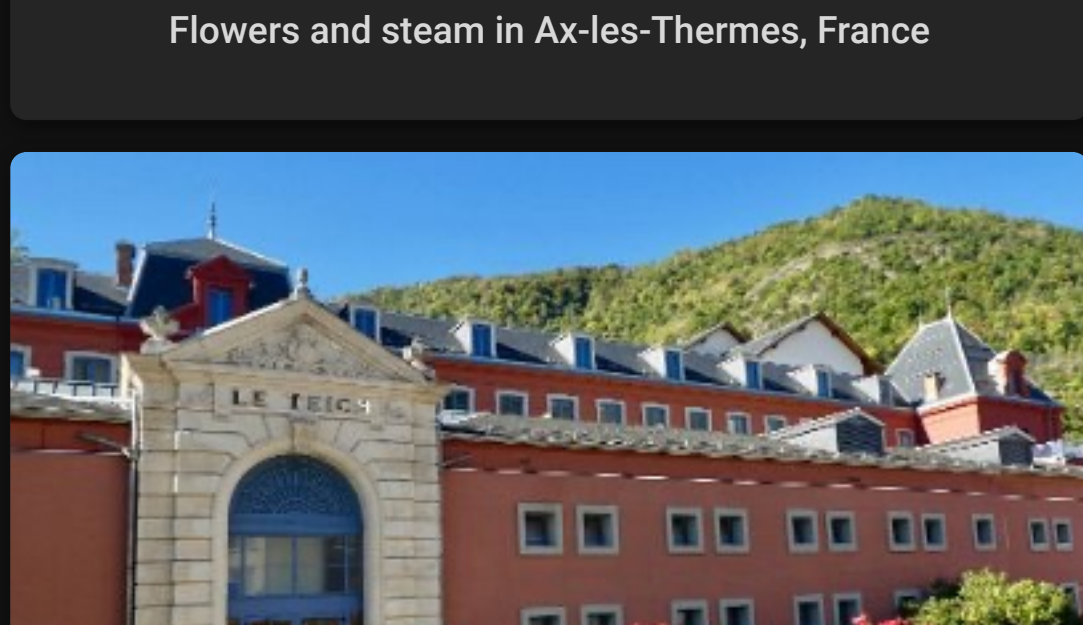
Flowers and steam in Ax-les-Thermes, France



Flowers and autumn colours in Ax-les-Thermes, France



Downstream view in Ax-les-Thermes, France



Spa hotel in Ax-les-Thermes, France



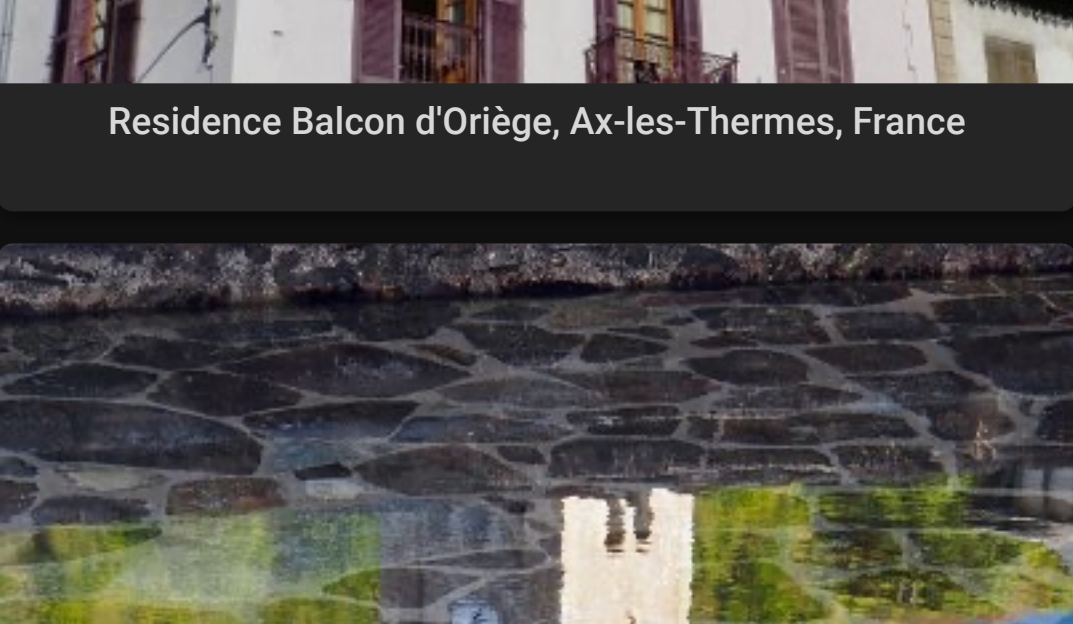
Residence Balcon d'Orlège, Ax-les-Thermes, France



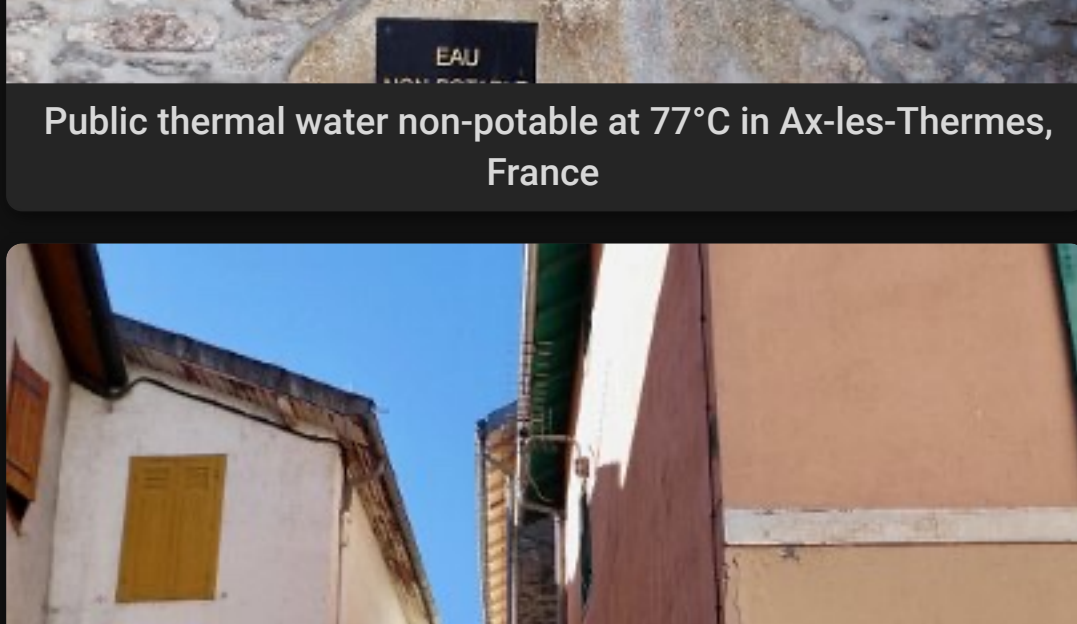
Public thermal water non-potable at 77°C in Ax-les-Thermes, France



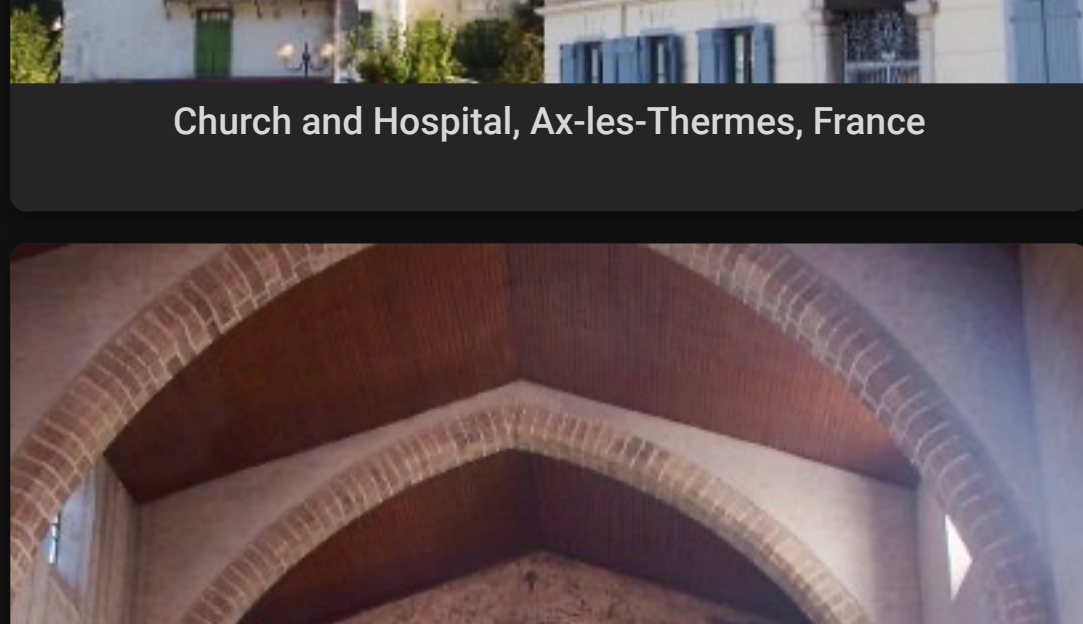
Church and Hospital, Ax-les-Thermes, France



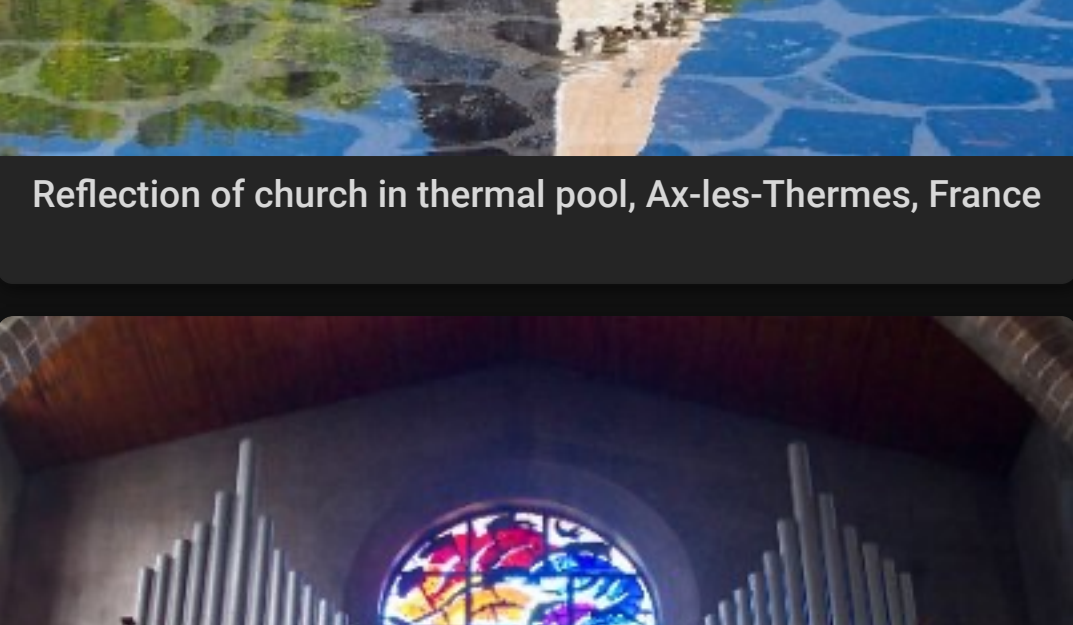
Reflection of church in thermal pool, Ax-les-Thermes, France



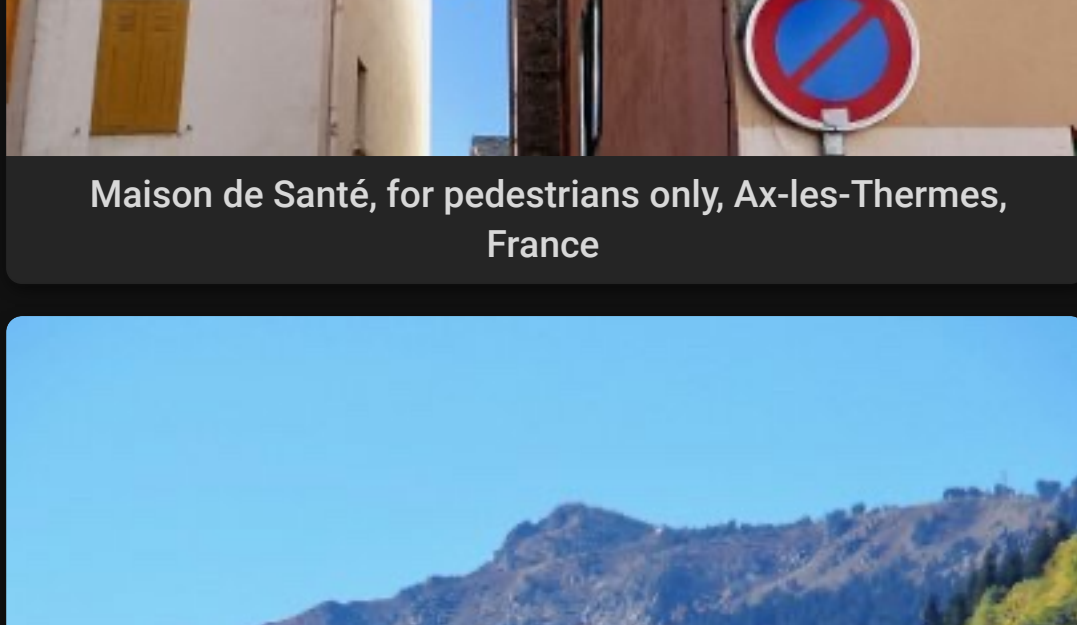
Maison de Santé, for pedestrians only, Ax-les-Thermes, France



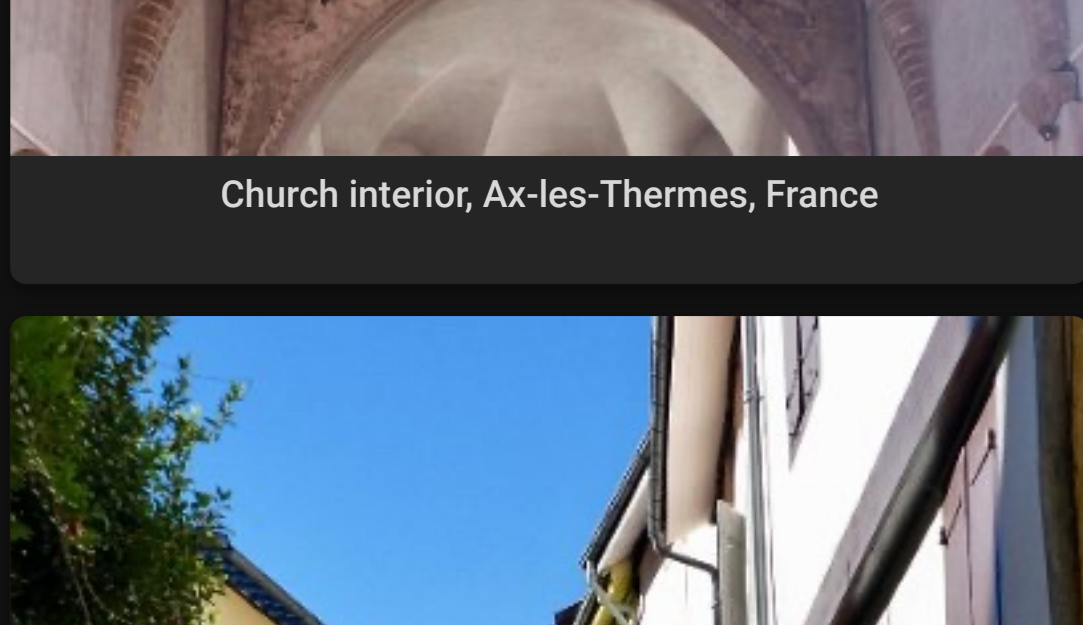
Church interior, Ax-les-Thermes, France



Organ loft in church, Ax-les-Thermes, France



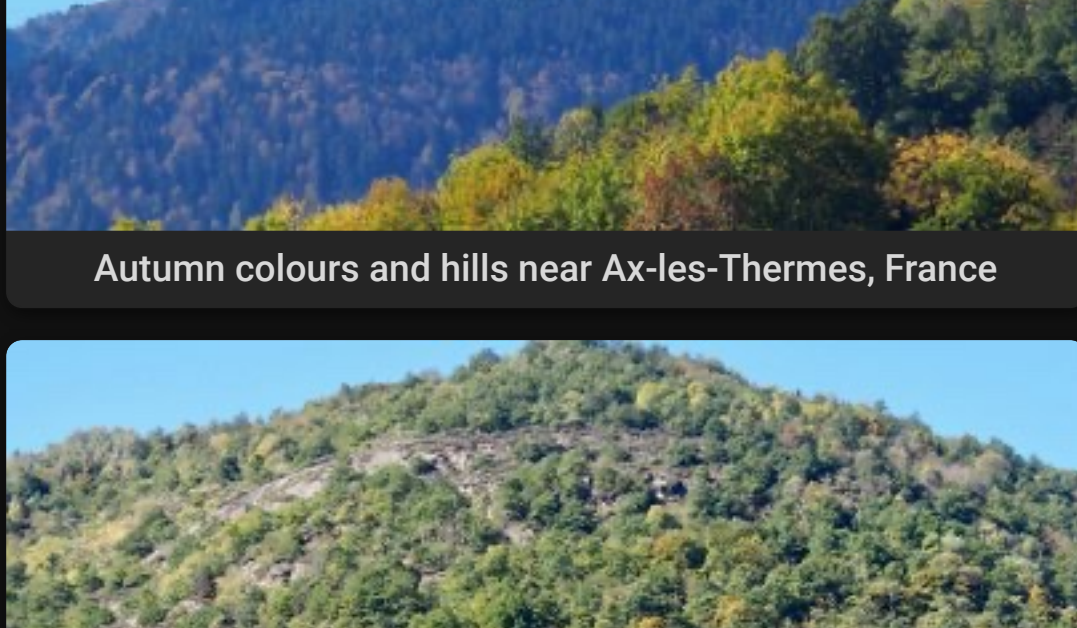
Autumn colours and hills near Ax-les-Thermes, France



Narrow street in Ax-les-Thermes, France



Our lunch spot, Crêperie L'Oiseau Bleu, Ax-les-Thermes, France



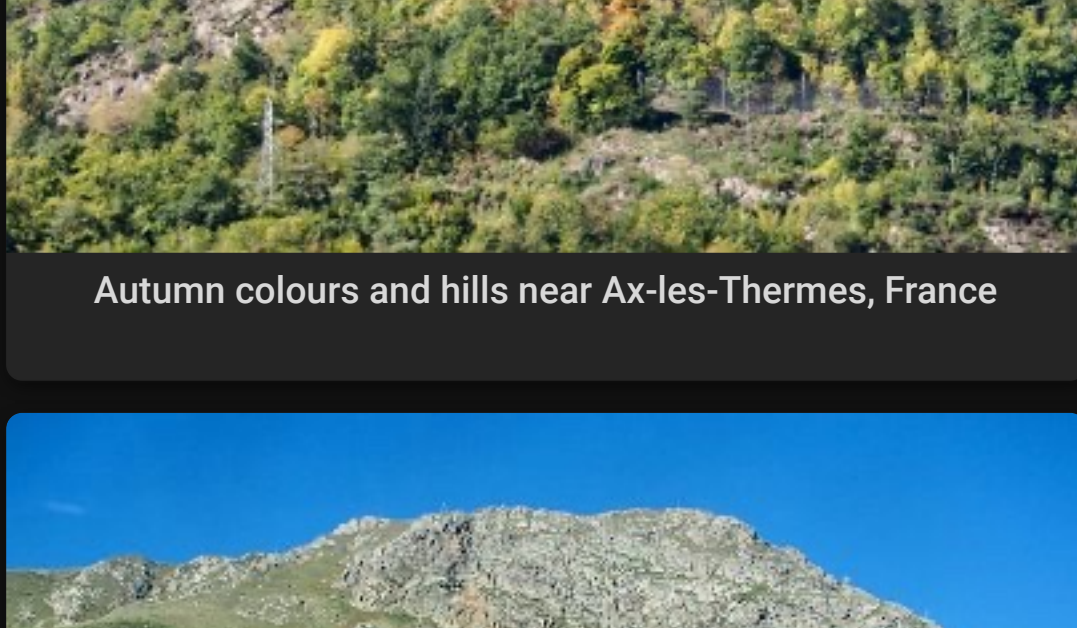
Autumn colours and hills near Ax-les-Thermes, France



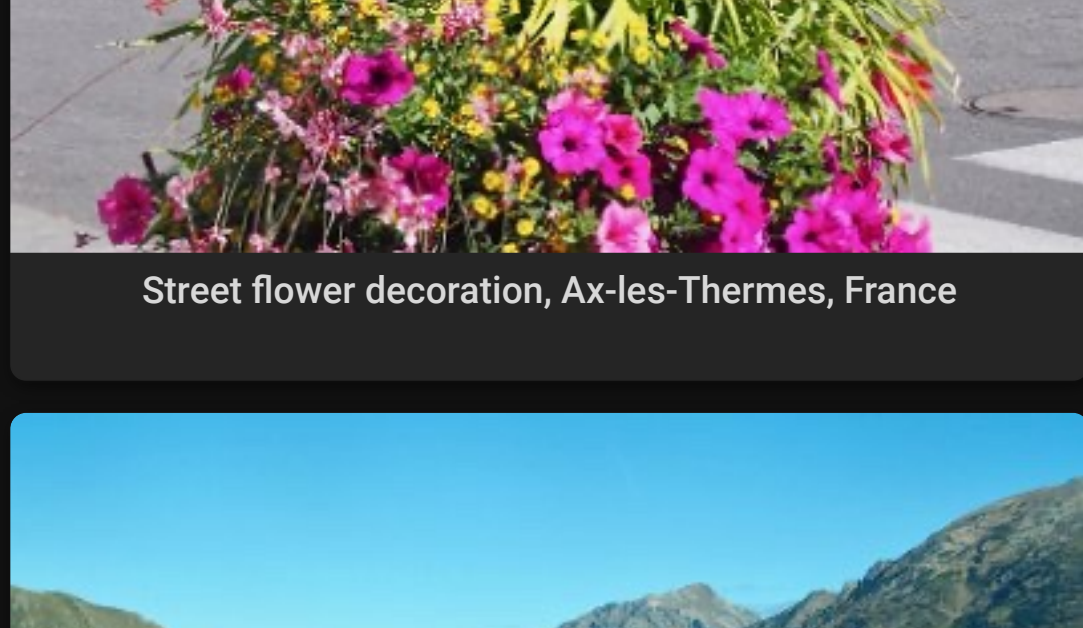
Street flower decoration, Ax-les-Thermes, France



On the way up to the border with Andorra



On the way up to the border with Andorra



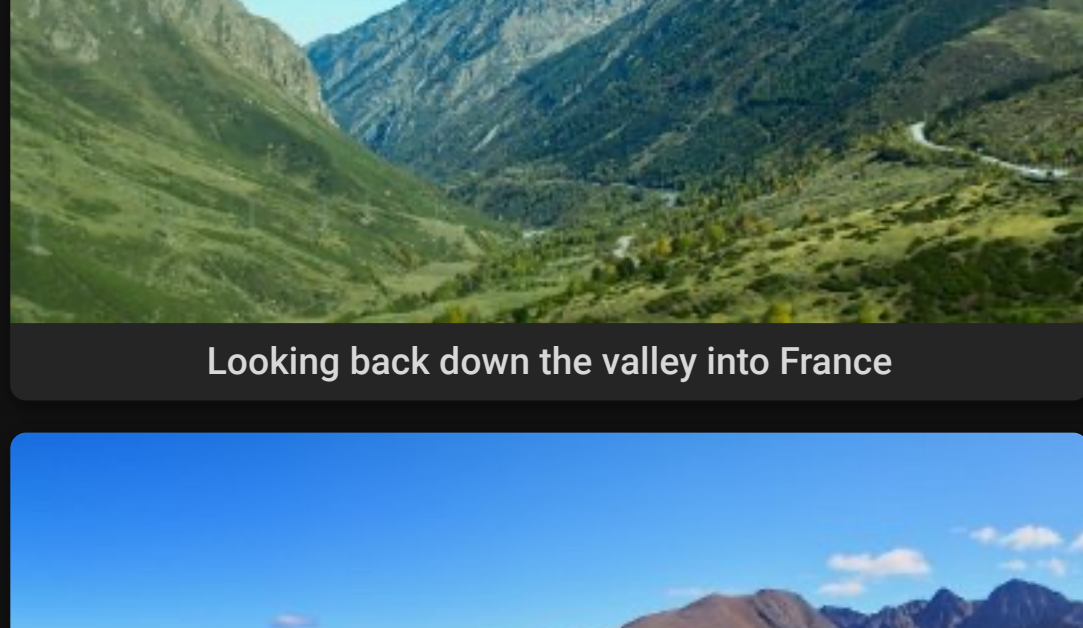
Looking back down the valley into France



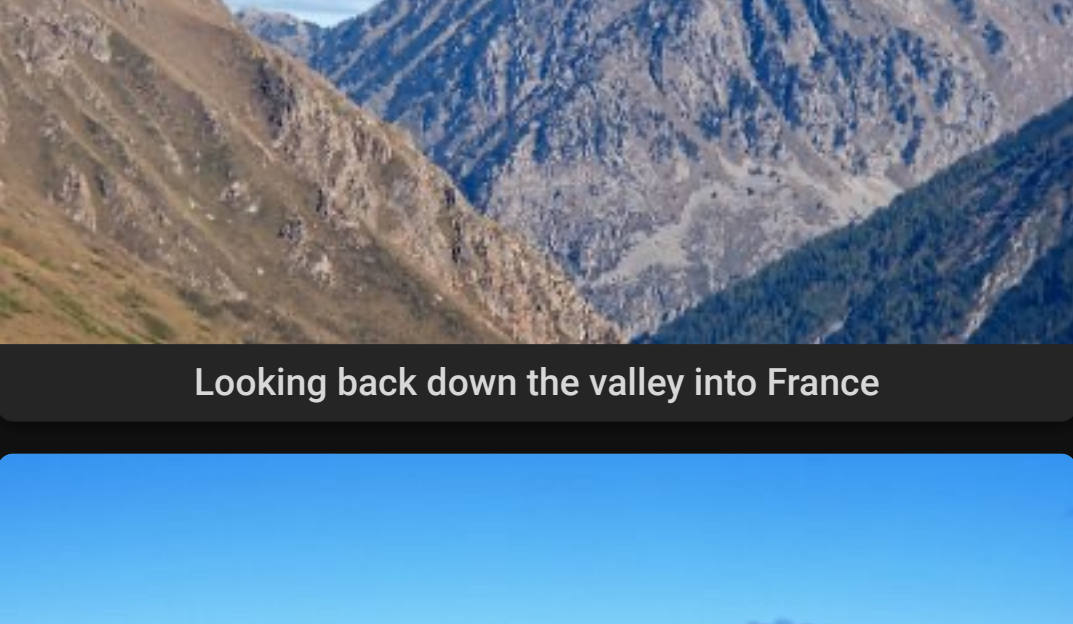
Looking back down the valley into France



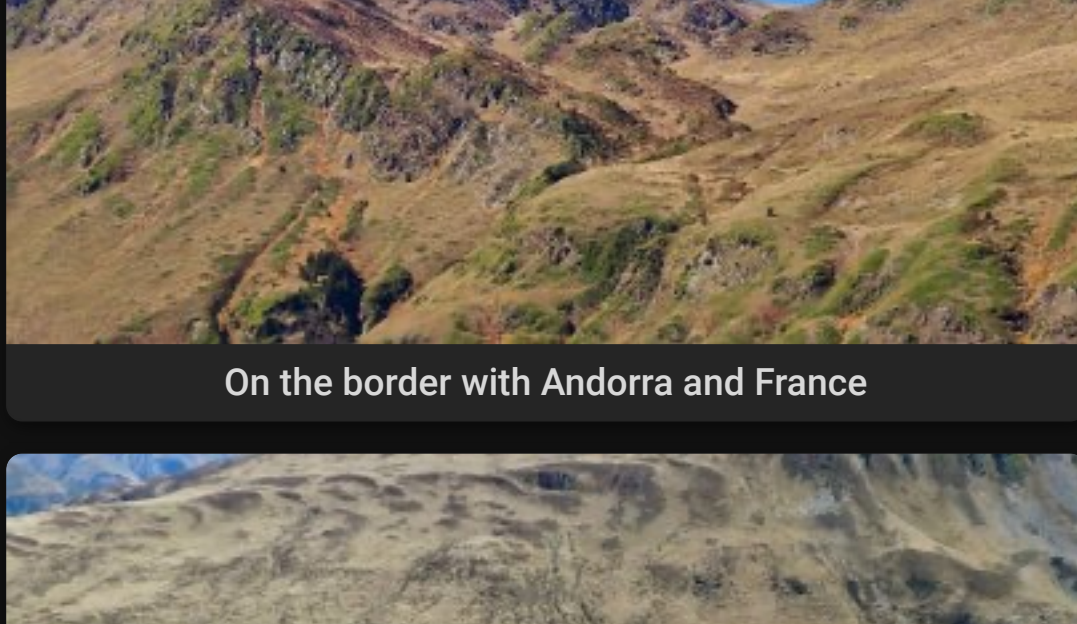
On the border with Andorra and France



France-Andorra border panorama



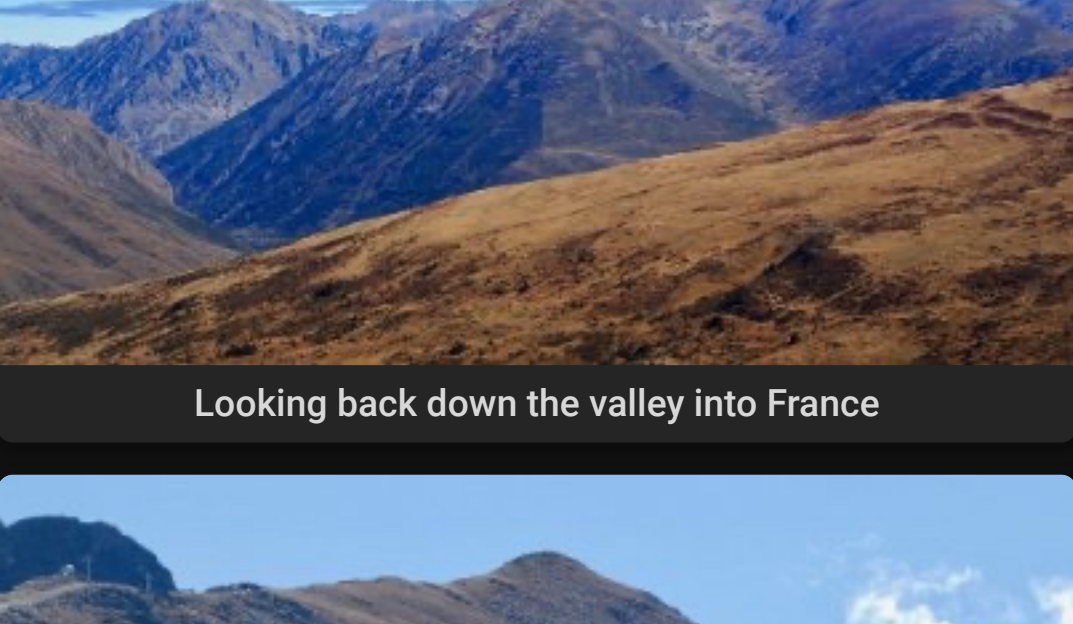
Looking back down the valley into France



Pas de la Casa on the France-Andorra border



The eastern end of Andorra



Ski resort and terrain in Andorra



On the way down into an Andorran valley



Sleepy cows in Soldeu, Andorra



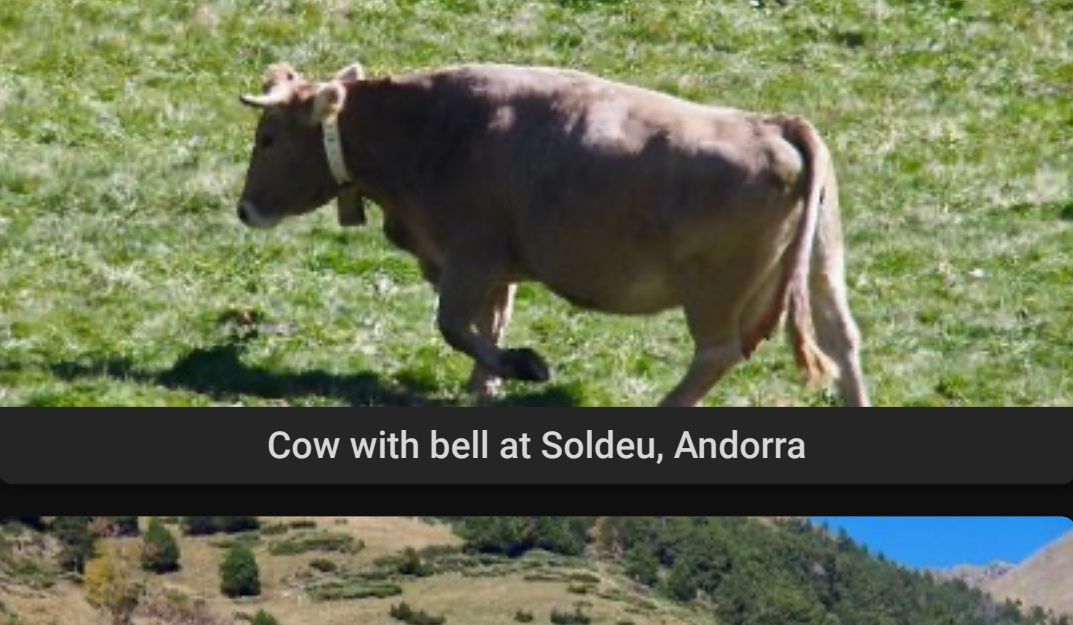
Cow with bell at Soldeu, Andorra



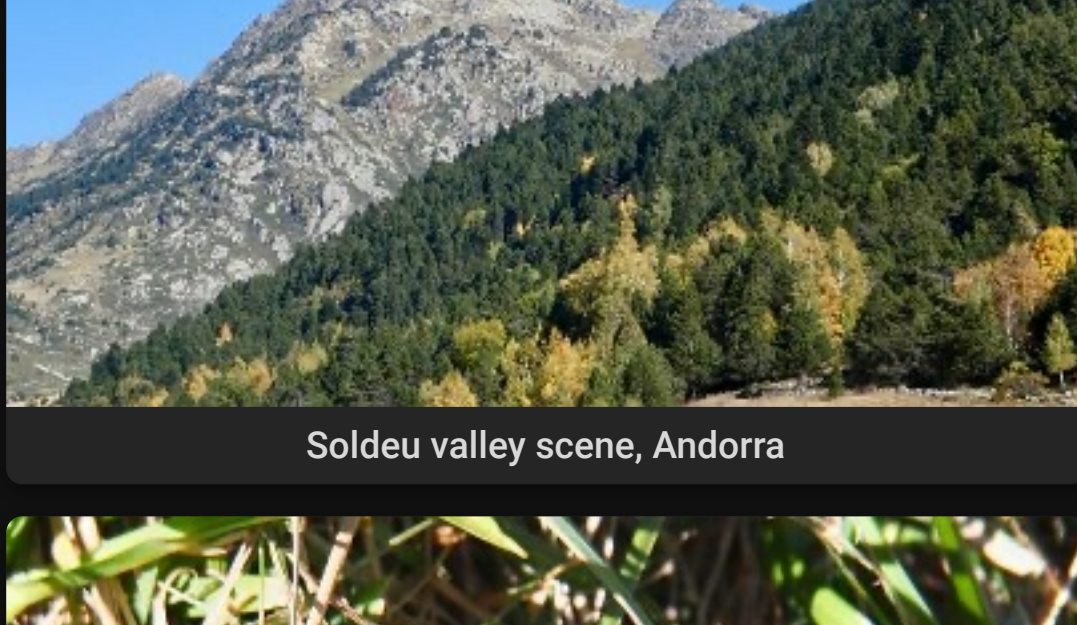
Soldeu valley scene, Andorra



Soldeu valley scene, Andorra



Soldeu valley scene, Andorra



Soldeu valley flower, Andorra



Andorran town and scenery



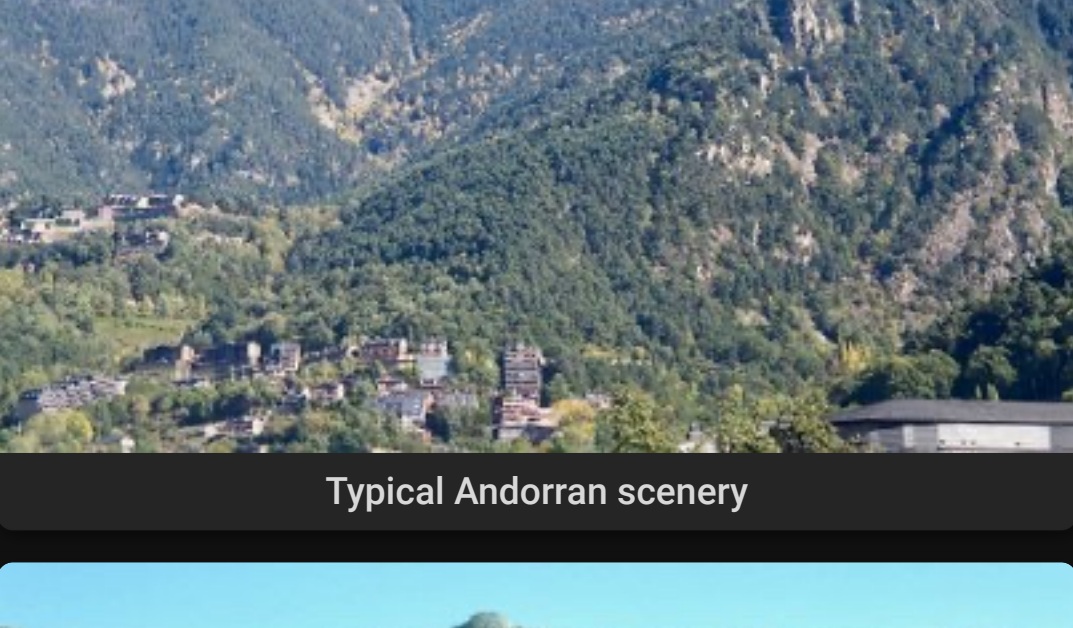
Typical Andorran scenery



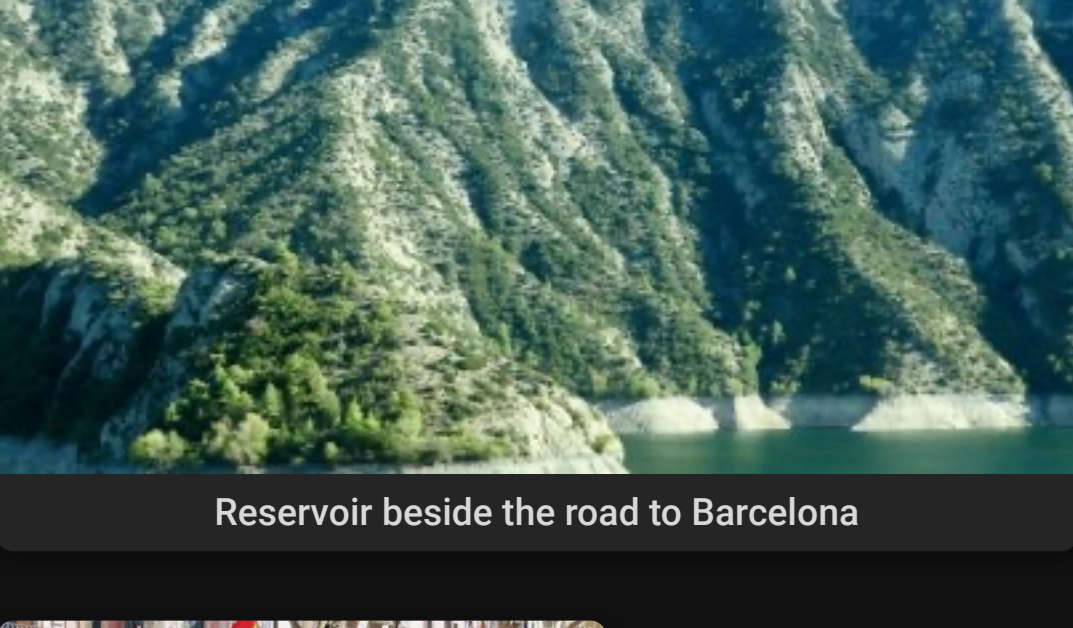
Coming out of the Pyrenees, Spain



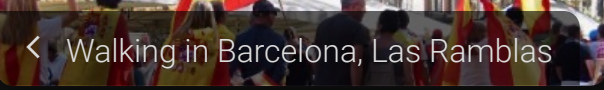
Reservoir beside the road to Barcelona



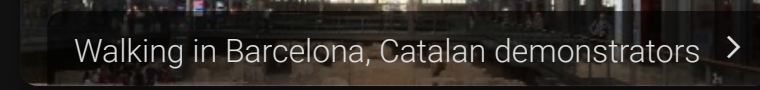
Reservoir beside the road to Barcelona



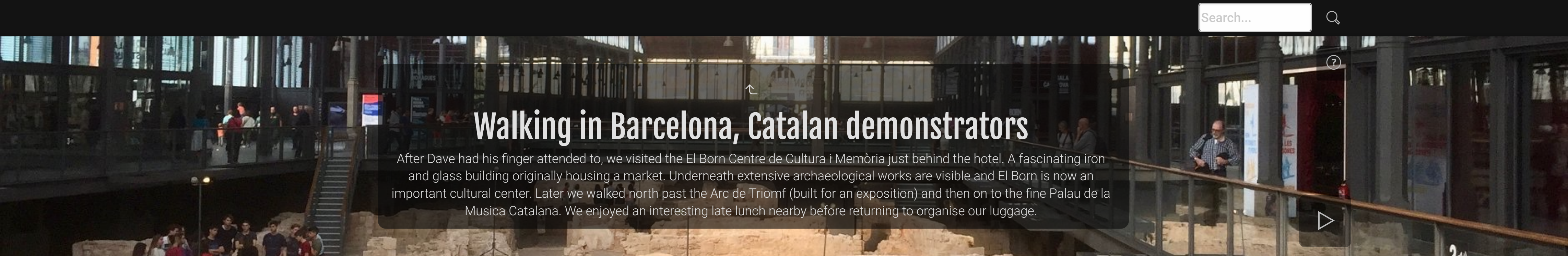
Reservoir beside the road to Barcelona



Walking in Barcelona, Las Ramblas



Walking in Barcelona, Catalan demonstrators



Palau de la Musica Catalana Arc de Triomf Passeig de Lluís Companys Parque de la Ciudadela

Day 7 Barcelona exploration 10 October 2017
[Map produced using Google Earth Pro]

Archaeological work under the El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria (CCM), Barcelona

Archaeological work under the El Born CCM, Barcelona

Archaeological work under the El Born CCM, Barcelona

Archaeological work under the El Born CCM, Barcelona

Archaeological work under the El Born CCM, Barcelona

Archaeological work under the El Born CCM, Barcelona

Interior of El Born CCM, Barcelona

The El Born CCM showing archaeological work, Barcelona

Interior of Born Market in 1906

Castell dels Tres Dragons near our hotel in Barcelona

Street containing our hotel, Barcelona

Opposite our hotel, Barcelona

Monument to Francesc de Paula Rius i Taulet (lawyer, politician and mayor of Barcelona) at entrance to Parque de la Ciudadela, Barcelona

On the Passeig de Lluís Companys with street lighting and towers of the Justice Department, Barcelona

On the Passeig de Lluís Companys with street lighting and towers of the Justice Department, Barcelona

Sculptures on the Passeig de Lluís Companys, Barcelona

Sculptures on the Passeig de Lluís Companys, Barcelona

Arc de Triomf (Arco de Triunfo) on the Passeig de Lluís Companys, a popular spot for many in Barcelona

Detail on Arc de Triomf (Arco de Triunfo) on the Passeig de Lluís Companys, a popular spot for many in Barcelona

On the Passeig de Lluís Companys with street lighting and towers of the Justice Department, Barcelona

Street decorations near Arc de Triomf (Arco de Triunfo) on the Passeig de Lluís Companys, Barcelona

Decorated buildings on the Passeig de Lluís Companys, Barcelona

Torre Glòries (formerly Torre Agbar) in the new technology area of Barcelona

Entrance to Palau de la Musica Catalana, Barcelona

Palau de la Musica Catalana, Barcelona

Palau de la Musica Catalana, Barcelona

The narrow Carrer Sant Pere Més Alt, near to Palau de la Musica Catalana, Barcelona

Foyer of Palau de la Musica Catalana, Barcelona

Side of Palau de la Musica Catalana, Barcelona

Side of Palau de la Musica Catalana, Barcelona

Narrow pedestrian access near to Palau de la Musica Catalana, Barcelona

< Spain, France, Andorra - one-day bus tour

Return to Australia via Dubai >



Return to Australia via Dubai

On our return to Australia we had a stopover in Dubai to reduce jetlag and receive medical assistance for Dave's finger. We were lucky to get good but smoggy sunset views from the top of the Burj Khalifa (currently the world's tallest building).



Early evening view from the top, Burj Khalifa, Dubai



Early evening view from the top, Burj Khalifa, Dubai



Early evening view from the top, Burj Khalifa, Dubai



Early evening view from the top, Burj Khalifa, Dubai



Early evening view from the top, Burj Khalifa, Dubai



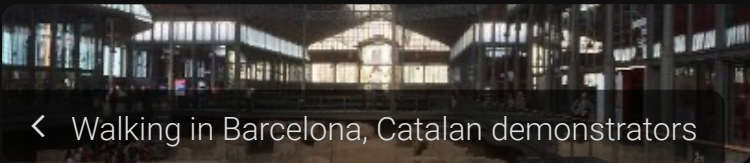
Early evening view from the top, Burj Khalifa, Dubai



Sunset view from the top, Burj Khalifa, Dubai



Sunset view from the top, Burj Khalifa, Dubai



Walking in Barcelona, Catalan demonstrators



201710 Europe Spain Contact Sheets





201710 Europe Spain Contact Sheet 1



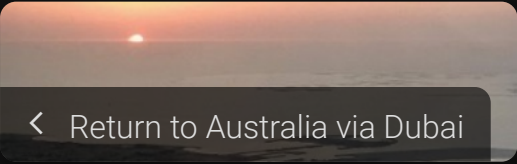
201710 Europe Spain Contact Sheet 2



201710 Europe Spain Contact Sheet 3



201710 Europe Spain Contact Sheet 4



201710 Europe Spain Contact Sheet





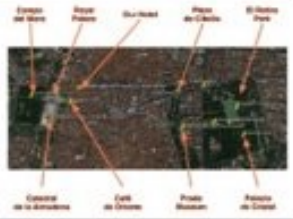
Ornate facade of San Mateo



Royal Palace from Plaza de Oriente at night



Royal Palace from Plaza de Oriente at night



Inside our hotel, Gran Meliá Palacio de los Duques, Cuesta de Santo Domingo



Palacio de San Mateo, Retiro Park entrance



Fountain in Retiro Park, Madrid



Avenues of early autumn coloured trees in Retiro Park



Fountain in Retiro Park, Madrid



Pabellón de Cristal in Retiro Park



Lake and fountain in the Palacio de Cristal, Retiro Park



View from the entrance of the Palacio de Cristal



Ornate facade of Palacio de San Mateo, Retiro Park



Museum and Palacio de San Mateo, Retiro Park



Park in Retiro Park, Madrid



Fountain in Retiro Park, Madrid



Clock tower in Retiro Park, Madrid



In the Plaza de San Mateo, Retiro Park



Night view of the Plaza de San Mateo, Retiro Park



Ornate facade and interior of the Palacio de San Mateo, Retiro Park



Palacio de San Mateo, Retiro Park



View over Campo del Moro, Retiro Park, Madrid



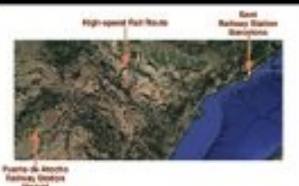
Catedral de Santa María de Real de la Almudena, Retiro Park



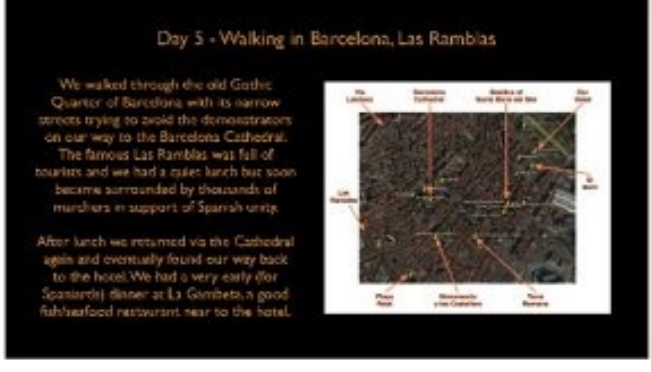
People sitting at a table in Retiro Park, Madrid



Day 4 - Madrid to Barcelona by high-speed train



High-speed train Madrid to Barcelona (Photo: wikipedia)



Day 5 - Walking in Barcelona, Las Ramblas



El Born Centre de Cultura i Innovació



Narrow street in Old Gothic Quarter



Plaza de la Libertat, Plaza de la Universitat, Plaza de la Pau



Basilica of Santa Maria del Mar, Barcelona



Interior of the Basilica of Santa Maria del Mar, Barcelona



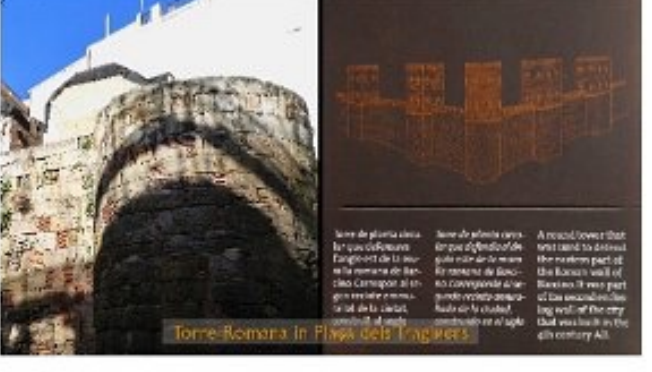
Gothic Quarter, Barcelona, with a sign for ENTRADA



Plaza del Fossar de les Moreres, Barcelona



Walled square in the Gothic Quarter, Barcelona



Torre Barona in Plaça del Fossar



Via Laietana in Barcelona



Avenue of people, Via Laietana, Barcelona



Water trough and fountain, Plaça de Sant Jaume, Barcelona



Plaça de Sant Jaume, Barcelona



Plaça de Sant Jaume, Barcelona



Plaça de Sant Jaume, Barcelona

