

CARRER DE PETRITXOL

SINCE THE 15TH CENTURY

When it comes to experiencing the heart and soul of Barcelona, there's no better place than Carrer de Petritxol. This charming, narrow street tucked away in the Gothic quarter is one of the city's oldest and most iconic areas,

Barcelona was actually founded by the Romans at the end of the first century BC, and the Gothic Quarter is where the original Roman city of "Barcino" was established. Carrer Petritxol was created because, while under Muslim rule, Christians in the area wanted a shortcut to the only church available to them at the time, a small church on the outskirts of town dedicated to the Blessed Lady of the Pine Tree. This church, though having undergone several restorations due to an earthquake, bombings, pillaging of its bells and ornaments, and ultimately it was set on fire! Still stands.

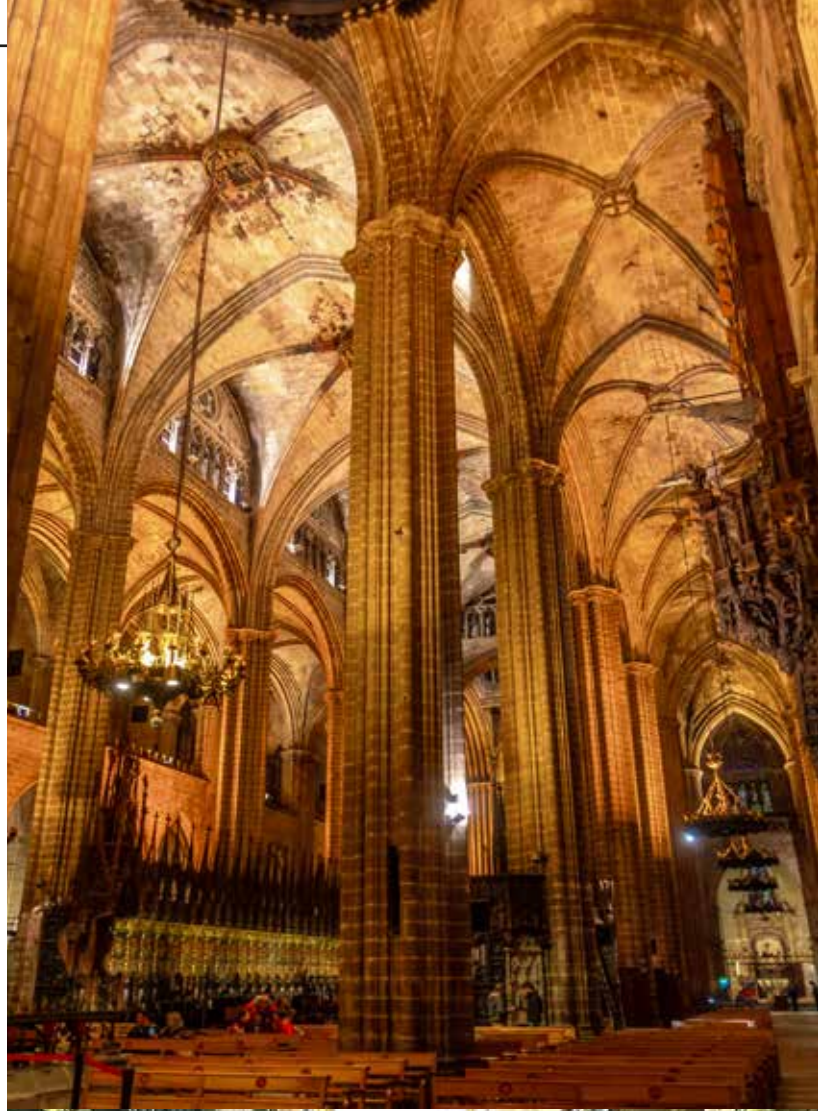
Many famous artists and personalities have either lived, worked or visited Petritxol, and these are depicted in fantastic ceramic tiles along the walls. The street is a now a hub for artists and artisans. Carrer de Petritxol is famous for being a place where poets, artists, and writers used to gather and share ideas. Among them was Joan Miró, who used to visit the street to buy papers and frequently visited El Quatre Gats, a famous cafe still in operation today.

But its rich history dates back much farther than the bohemian scene that has taken root here in recent years. Carrer de Petritxol in Barcelona, has existed for centuries and played a crucial role in the city's cultural scene. If you love exploring new places and experiencing rich cultural diversity, then Carrer de Petritxol is a must-visit destination for you.

This small street is not only famous for its artistic scene, but it also plays a significant role in the city's culinary scene. It is home to some of the finest chocolatiers in the city, who offer a vast array of delicious chocolates that will satisfy your sweet tooth.

Carrer de Petritxol traces its origin back to medieval times when the street connected the city's Jewish and Christian quarters. During the 17th century, the narrow alley was the site of El Gran Café, which eventually became the gathering place for some of Barcelona's best writers and intellectuals. Today, if you pause and sit on one of the terraces you can imagine some of the discussions that may have taken place here.

The street's name itself is derived from the "Petrixol" family, who were some of the most successful merchants in the area during the fourteenth century. Throughout the centuries, this street has been the site of many important events and happenings. During the Spanish Civil War, Carrer de Petritxol was a hub of resistance and rebellion against fascism, with many of its residents joining the fight against oppression and tyranny.





Today, Carrer de Petritxol remains a symbol of Barcelona's rich history, vibrant culture, and unwavering spirit. It's a place that's not just steeped in tradition, but also alive with new ideas and creativity. One of the most notable features of Carrer de Petritxol is its vibrant arts scene. As you stroll down the street, you'll be surrounded by a stunning collection of art galleries, exhibition spaces, and street performers. This lively atmosphere has drawn in artists and creatives from all over the world for generations.

The historical importance of Petritxol is reflected in the architecture of the street, with buildings dating as far back as the 15th century. Along the street you'll encounter iconic shops, patisseries, and art galleries. And now, the street has become famous for its chocolate and pastries, particularly the traditional Catalan sweet bun with rolled edges known as 'xuixos'. Locals know it as the street of chocolate

It is said that the artist Pablo Picasso has a connection to Carrer Petritxol. the gallery Sala Parés is where Picasso presented his first commercial gallery exhibition in 1901 at the age of 20. One of the oldest art galleries in the world, Sala Parés has been located at number 5 since 1884. Many of the shops on petritxol are the original shops that were opened here and not much has changed since day one. Amongst the hidden gems are

Libreria Quera - This 100-year bookstore is a landmark of the Carrer Petritxol. It's much visited and much loved by locals and tourists alike. From the onset it has always focused on mountain-climbing, travel and expedition books and in recent years, it has started a new venture with a restaurant space. The restaurant is delightfully quaint and offers activities such as tastings, book presentations and editorial news events. You'll probably need a reservation to eat here, though.

Ganiveteria Roca - Since 1911, this store specializing in cutting tools, shaving products and kitchenware has occupied its space as Carrer Petritxol and it is one of those great speciality places. It was run by the same family until 2000, with the new owners continuing the legacy of high-end precision cutting tools using both traditional and modern techniques. The shop features a mind boggling collection of professional and collector knives, scissors, and razors, articles for personal care, domestic use, adventure and sewing, along with a full workshop for sharpening and repair.

Granja La Pallaresa - Serving excellent breakfasts and snacks since 1947, they are known for their classic thick cup of drinking chocolate ('a la tassa') and the version with unsweetened whipped cream on top ('suizo'). We enjoyed the traditional hot chocolate with churros. Though churros are always a favorite with hot chocolate, locals also enjoy the ensaimadas - there is even a plaque outside on the wall that commemorates the eating of ensaimadas at this establishment.

Granja Dulcinea - Established in 1941, this is the oldest xocolaterie on the street. Besides the famous hot chocolate and churros they serve an assortment of pastries and coffee.

Petritxol Cafe - another famous shop for xocolata desfeta and churros! It boasts a modern decor and all things chocolate. So whether you're a seasoned traveller looking for a new adventure or you're simply looking to explore the sights and sounds of Barcelona, there's no better place to start than Carrer de Petritxol. Come discover the magic of this historic street for yourself, and see why it's been a beloved part of Barcelona's culture for centuries.

