

# Description of the route



## 1. MARFÀ

Santa Eugènia de Ter's former yam factory, popularly known as 'La Marfà', was the first textile mill in Girona and the surrounding area. It was built over the irrigation channel to take advantage of the water and its driving force. Initially dedicated to producing cotton yarns, from the 1980s production switched to synthetic fibres. The factory closed in 2000 and the building is now used as a cultural centre.



## 2. THE INDUSTRIAL HOUSING ESTATE

The factory owned a small housing estate of simple homes for its workers built in the neighbouring streets. The manor house where the director once lived has survived and can be found beside the Can Ninetes civic centre.



## 3. THE MONAR IRRIGATION CHANNEL

The *rec o séquia* Monar (as it is called in Catalan) is approximately 6 km long. This water course diverts from the River Ter at the La Pilastra sluice gate, on the border between the municipalities of Bescanó and Salt. As it passed through Girona and Salt, the irrigation channel was used intensively for industrial, hydroelectric and agricultural purposes. Just after the channel enters Girona it is covered over and continues its course underground.



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# Girona's industrial heritage

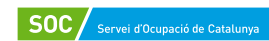
This route follows the course of a vital artery for industry in Girona and the surrounding area: the Monar irrigation channel. All along this channel of water fed by the River Ter you will find a rich heritage connected with the industrial, hydroelectric and agricultural uses it was harnessed for, especially in the 19th and early 20th centuries.



This itinerary is flat and practicable for persons with reduced mobility, with certain isolated difficulties (consult indications \* and \*\* at the map).  
10. City History Museum. Only partial interior accessibility, from Tuesday to Friday (8-15h)



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emociona



Esta acción está subvencionada por el Servicio Público de Ocupación de Cataluña en marco de los programas de apoyo al desarrollo local.

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# Girona Natura Walks

# Girona's industrial heritage





#### 4. CARRER ILLA AND CARRER BERNAT BOADES

As it enters the urban area of the city, the irrigation channel goes underground, continuing until it flows out into the River Onyar. Where these two streets cross, there is still a short section above ground.



#### 5. TEIXIDOR FLOUR MILL

One of the city's most emblematic *Noucentista* buildings, the Teixidor flour mill, designed by the architect Rafael Masó. This architectural ensemble includes the home of the mill's former owners, offices, the factory and warehouses. The white paint tones were specifically chosen to reflect the building's purpose.



#### 6. CARRILET TRAIN STATION

The L'Estació Espai Jove cultural centre is a historic and emblematic building that links the industrial pasts of Girona and La Garrotxa. It was originally a station on the Girona-Olot narrow-gauge railway line, which ran between 1911 and 1969. This railway became a key communication link between these two regions for exchanging goods and raw materials and for the mobility of people and workers. The Casa Teixidor or Casa de la Punxa, a protected building designed also by Rafael Masó, is located just a few metres away.



\* small non-asphalted section, with a few areas that are irregular of where there are stones and/or sand. Alternative itinerary by carrer Santa Eugènia

\*\* carrer de la Força: pedestrian, cobblestone street with a gradient between 8% and 12%.



#### Girona's industrial heritage

Distance: : 2'5 km Approximate time: 1 h

Difficulty: easy



More information about nature routes around Girona: [www.girona.cat/turisme](http://www.girona.cat/turisme)



App Natura Local



#### 7. CARRER SÈQUIA

The name of this street is a reminder that the irrigation channel (or *sèquia*, in Catalan), which is currently underground, could once be seen passing through this area. This part of the Mercadal district was the hub of industry in Girona during the 19th century. The demolition of the convent of Sant Francesc d'Assís freed up a large area of land, which made it possible to install historical factories such as the Joan Planas and Bosch cotton mills, the Barrau gasworks, the La Gerundense paper mill, the Planas foundry and, later, the Grober textile mill.



#### 8 MOLÍ POWER STATION

This small hydroelectric power station harnessed the energy of the water in the Monar irrigation channel to generate electricity. The city of Girona was a pioneer in the installation of public street lighting, and the Molí power station played a fundamental role by supplying the electricity needed to light much of the city centre.



#### 9. RIVER ONYAR

From this point you can see where the irrigation channel empties out into the River Onyar, providing a much-needed boost to the water level, which is rather low for most of the year.



#### 10. CITY HISTORY MUSEUM

The History Museum -especially room 10, dedicated to the 19th century, and the themed room 'Industrial Girona, pioneering city'- is the point of reference for learning about the city's industrial past.

