

Curiosities

Haven't had enough and want to look for more? Find these curiosities in each illustration. Visit the museum if you need any clues or if you want to find out more!

Museu Molí Paperer de Capellades

- Paper was invented by the Chinese at a time when the rest of the world was still using papyrus or parchment.
- Paper mills use the power of water to move the hammers that shred the old rags from which paper pulp is made.
- A T-shaped wooden tool known as a cross was used to hang the paper ready for drying.

Museu de Gerri de la Sal

- Salt is obtained from a saltwater spring, which flows out of a spout beside the saltworks.

Serradora d'Àreu

- The roller is a vertical hydraulic wheel which drives a sawmill through a swinging movement.

Parc Cultural de la Muntanya de Sal de Cardona

- The temperature inside the salt galleries is around 17°C!

Museu del Suro de Catalunya. Palafrugell

- Did you know that a cork oak tree can live for up to 300 years?
- In the fifth century BC, the Greeks began to use cork as stoppers for wine amphorae.
- Artisanal cork cutters sat with their chairs the other way around, the backrest protecting the chest from cuts from the knife.

Can Marfà Gènere de Punt

- The vat dyer was a machine used for dyeing fabric. The roller at the top ensured that the fabric went around the vat until it acquired an even colour all over.
- Can Marfà was the most important knitwear factory in the country, specialising in socks and underwear.

Museu del Ferrocarril a Móra la Nova

- The factory, built in 1928, was the first on the Iberian Peninsula and one of the first in Europe to use an electromechanical system.

Museu Nacional de la Ciència i la Tècnica de Catalunya

- The impressive roof of the building, with its sawtooth profile, was reinterpreted by Muncunill using masonry vaults, also known as Catalan vaults.
- The Pere Permanyer Collection is a veritable "Montesa museum". A journey through the history of the Catalan manufacturer through motorcycles.
- If you visit to the museum, instead of their pushchairs, your children will ride on a model train!

La Tèrmica Roca Umbert de Granollers

- The stoker controlled the steam from the boiler and supervised the machines.

Museu de Ceràmica La Rajoleta

- Much of the ceramic work used during the Catalan Modernisme or Art Nouveau period was made at La Rajoleta, which now houses the collection of the artist and mosaicist Lluís Brú i Salelles.

Museu de la Colònia Sedó d'Esparreguera

- The Colònia Sedó worker's village became so important that it had its own fire brigade, infirmary and laboratory.

Ecomuseu-Farinera de Castelló d'Empúries

- Wheat is one of the most important cereals in the world agricultural economy, and Castelló d'Empúries was once a very important area of production in our region. Indeed, wheat is still grown here even today.
- La Farinera rises over the old mill in the middle, one of the three flour mills that once stood in the medieval town of Castelló d'Empúries.
- As the saying goes, *juny ben assolellat, bon pa i bon blat* ("sunny June, good bread and good wheat!")

Museu del Cement de Castellar de n'Hug

- The sacks of cement were transported by rail by the "carrilet" or cement train.
- Jute sacks were replaced by paper sacks, as up to 10-20% of their contents could be spilled.

Terracotta Museu de Ceràmica de la Bisbal d'Empordà

- Inside the museum are four inverted flame kilns. Can you find one?

Museu de la Pell d'Igualada

- In medieval times, the walls of Igualada were used for drying hides!
- The tanners were exposed to dangerous gases like hydrogen sulphide and, to protect themselves, would use a candle or canary to warn them of danger.
- The Leather Museum (Museu de la Pell) is housed in an outstanding building, Cal Boyer, a late nineteenth-century cotton factory.

Fassina Balanyà de l'Espluga de Francolí

- La Fassina Balanyà was a family-owned factory where pomace (grape skins, stalks and seeds) was distilled to make liquor.

Farga Palau de Ripoll

- Trip hammers were used in the traditional old Catalan forge. These machines were so large that they had to be driven by hydraulic power.

Museu de l'Oli de Catalunya a la Granadella

- It takes around five kilos of olives to make one litre of extra virgin olive oil.

Museu de les Mines de Cercs

- In 1911, José Enrique de Olano established Carbones de Berga S.A., which became the leading mining company in Catalonia.
- The BUCYRUS steam shovel was manufactured in Ohio, USA, in 1922 and was used in large-scale works such as building the Barcelona Metro and the Camp Nou football stadium.
- Working in the mine was hard and dangerous. Miners worked all day, from 6 am to 6 pm.

Museu Trepat de Tàrraga

- Cal Trepat was among the companies that led agricultural mechanisation in the 20th century, and Trepat harvesters were sold all over Catalonia and different regions of Spain – Aragon, Castile, Asturias and Cantabria.

Museu de la Tècnica de Manresa

- La Sèquia, one of the most important hydraulic engineering works of medieval Catalonia, is an irrigation canal 26.7 km in length.
- The building which houses the Museum of Technology (Museu de la Tècnica) has three separate, identical deposits, each 800 square metres in size, covered by two stone vaults.

Museu Hidroelèctric de Capdella

- The head, 836 metres, is most singular and important feature of the hydropower station.
- The Vall Fosca cable car was installed in 1979 for the construction of the Sallente reversible power station. The cable car was used to carry all the building material, valves and penstock to the construction site.
- The machines at the power plant are, basically, turbines and alternators. The turbines, which are green, and the alternators, which are brown, convert the energy from flowing water into electrical power.

Col·lecció d'Automòbils Salvador Claret

- Salvador Claret i Nasplesa devoted much of his life to motor cars. He opened the "Central Garage" in Girona and, later, the first driving school in Girona.

Museu de la Torneria de Torelló

- The craft of wood turning became an essential trade after industrialisation, as turners were needed to make parts for the textile sector.

Museu de les Mines de Bellmunt del Priorat

- The Eugènia mine was the most important lead mine in Catalonia due both to its productivity and the high quality of its ore.

Museu del Ferrocarril de Catalunya a Vilanova i la Geltrú

- The museum is housed in the original facilities of the Vilanova i la Geltrú steam train depot, railway buildings that date back to the turn of the twentieth century.
- The first steam trains needed to refill with water along the way, which is why there are water tanks at old railway stations.
- Revolving bridges were used to change the direction of trains and to place them on the correct track.

Museu del Ter

- The Museu del Ter is housed in Can Sanglas, a spinning mill that dates to 1841.
- Although their work remained "invisible" for many years, women played a key role in the process of textile industrialisation.
- The two energy sources available at Can Sanglas: the Francis turbine—which now generates electricity—and the Fontaine turbine.