



## Spring Tour – Catalonia

12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025

6 nights, full-board, from £1,270 *Discount for AIA members*

Catalonia is a part of Spain, but could easily have slipped out of it in the C17 and become a sovereign country, as did Portugal. Memory of the glory of the Medieval empire that Barcelona controlled in the western Mediterranean has conditioned Catalan politics since the early-modern period (even today, a pro-independence party is part of the coalition in the new Catalan government, the Generalitat), but along with a distinct language (a blend of Spanish and French) there has always been a characteristic attitude to work in Catalonia more akin to northern than southern Europe. This is reflected in the history of its commercial and industrial development. Catalonia has traditionally viewed the rest of Spain as a market for its agricultural and textile products, while chafing over the vagaries of Spain's industrial policies, largely dictated from Madrid.

Catalonia tends to value most its heritage that distinguishes it from the rest of Spain. So the Romanesque and Gothic architecture, largely built while the rest of the Peninsular was under Arabic Muslim control, is treasured. Since the return of Catalan autonomy from 1979, the industrial heritage has been also valued, since it was also a distinct experience to most of Spain during the C19 and most of the C20.

The tour price is all-inclusive: All visits and guiding, transport in Spain, lunches, dinners, bed & breakfast.

The tour starts at our hotel in Barcelona. If there is sufficient interest, optional coach transfers will be provided from the airport to our hotel at the start and returning to the airport at the end of the tour.

Non-AIA members are most welcome. Paid-up members of the AIA at the time of the tour enjoy a £30 discount per booking, one of the many benefits of becoming a member. *See page 7.*

Huge thanks are due to James Douet who has devised the itinerary for the tour and made arrangements for all the visits. James is an experienced British historian who has been living in Barcelona for 30 years. He will also be with us each day to help and guide us through the tour.

### ITINERARY

*Some of the visits are still subject to confirmation. We cannot at this time guarantee that they will all be included but we will make every effort to do so or find suitable alternatives. The order of visits may also change. Changes to the itinerary will be passed on to you before the final invoice is presented.*

*All prices are quoted in Pounds Sterling (GBP) whilst most of the costs are in Euros (EUR). Changes to exchange rates, accommodation, transport costs or taxes may necessitate a price change.*

#### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May

Members of the group make their own way to our hotel in Barcelona.

Optional coach transfer from the airport, time to be confirmed

19:00 Group dinner at our hotel

## Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May



**In the morning** we will start with an overview of the city from **Montjuic** and then visit the **Maritime Museum**, the **medieval shipbuilding sheds** and the **shipyard** in the area of the old port, where the ships of the Catalan-Aragonese fleet were constructed.

Though there were similar buildings around the Mediterranean this is the only one that has survived, and is a unique example of Gothic industrial architecture.

After a break for lunch (own expense), we will see the **Estació de França train shed** - the terminus for Spain's first main line to Barcelona opened in 1848.

Then we will walk to the **Parc de la Ciutadella** to see the buildings from the 1888 International Exhibition, followed by the **Born iron-framed market** - the new Central Market built in 1876, which is the most important example in Catalonia of iron construction and architecture.

We will finish the day at the **Santa Maria del Mar** church built between 1329 and 1383 at the height of the kingdom of Catalonia's maritime and mercantile pre-eminence where you will be free to explore the church, crypt and bell towers.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

## Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May



**In the morning** we will enjoy a guided visit to the **Cornellà steam pumping station**. The station was built by the Societat General d'Aigües de Barcelona and designed by the architect Josep Amargós i Samaranch in 1905 to improve the supply of drinking water to Barcelona. The station contains seven horizontal engines and a boiler. The engines include four horizontal tandem compound drop-valve engines driving DC Generators, by the Societé Lyonnaise

Before lunch we will have time to visit the **Freixenet winery and underground cellars** and also taste some of the product!

**After lunch** (included) we will visit **Colònia Güell** and **Gaudí crypt**. The Colònia Güell was one of the most ambitious of the industrial settlements established in Catalonia during the 19th century, and which characterize the industrialization of the region.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May

**In the morning** we will visit the **Can Marfà knitting textiles museum** and machinery collection where you will be free to explore the history of the knitting industry - the industrial activity that brought uniqueness and identity to the city

**After lunch** (included) we will have a guided tour of the **Casa de les Aigües steam pumping station**, Montcada where we can see two vertical steam engines made by the Barcelona company of (Scottish) Alexander Bros. which pumped 20,000 m<sup>3</sup> a day.

Afterwards we can see the **Ca l'Aranyó textile mill**, now part of the Pompeu Fabra University. The fireproof iron frame of the spinning shed was purchased, with all the textile machinery, from Leeds in 1880.



Finally we will see the **Torre Glories** which is a 2012 skyscraper designed by French architect Jean Nouvel to fix Barcelona's innovation district known as 22@. The regeneration project incorporated many re-cycled industrial spaces. From the gallery at the top of the tower we can have an unmatched view over the Sagrada Familia, the city and the whole territory of Barcelona to finish up the day.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

## Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May



**In the morning** we will travel north from the city to join the Tren del Cement, a 30 minute ride along the former workers' railway up the valley to the cement works and railway workshops. There we can see the **Clot del Moro**, the ruins of **Modernista cement works**, the first cement works with modern rotary kilns in Catalonia which was built in this inaccessible valley between 1901 and 1904 by Eusebi Güell, assisted by American technicians from Allis Chalmers and the Pelton Water Wheel company.

**After lunch** (included) we will visit the **Cercs coal mine museum and miners' settlement**. Coal was mined in this area for copper and iron forges from the late C18.

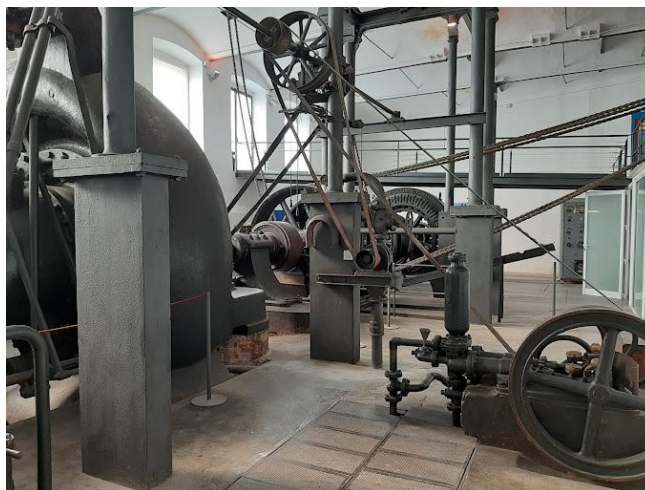
17<sup>th</sup> May

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.



## **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

In the morning we will visit the **Colònia Sedó**, one of the largest of the Catalan rural industrial settlements. Built between 1847 and 1850, it took advantage of an existing water power site of an old flour mill on the Llobregat river. At its peak, 3,000 people worked here and 1,800 lived in the colony producing corduroy - the denim of the nineteenth century. The Colònia included spinning and weaving mills, bleaching works, whose steam engine has the emblematic spiral brick chimney, warehouses, workers' housing and much more.



After lunch (included) in a converted electricity generating station, you will be free to explore the **Museu de la Ciència i de la Tècnica de Catalunya**.

The mNACTEC represents the history of the Catalonian process of industrialization and is the national museum of science and technology. Catalonia was exceptional in Spain, and almost unique in Southern Europe, for being among the first regions to industrialize in the early 19th century. The museum is the headquarters of the Sistema del Museu de la Ciència i de la Tècnica de Catalunya, a network of about twenty specialized industrial sites. The home of the museum is the Vapor Aymerich, Amat i Jover, a woollen textile mill constructed in 1907-08.

Finally we will take a **walk through industrial and Moderniste Terrassa**, the former 'City of Smoke'. The Medieval town of Terrassa grew fast during the second half of the C19 with the construction of steam mills specializing in woollen textiles.

Farewell group dinner including beer, wine & soft drinks at the **Estacio França** railway station.

Overnight at our hotel.

## **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

The tour ends after breakfast at our hotel.

Optional coach transfer to the airport, time to be confirmed.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

Our hotel is :

Hotel SB Win, Carrer de Joana Raspall, 45, 08980 Sant Feliu de Llobregat, Barcelona  
Phone: +34 930 353115 Email: [win@sbhotels.es](mailto:win@sbhotels.es) Web: <https://www.hotelsbwin.com/en/>

The hotel is situated in the south western suburbs of the city, c15 km from the airport by road, not our first choice of location but hotels nearer the city centre were unavailable or too highly priced for our budget.

## **TRANSPORT**

The tour starts on the Monday evening and ends after breakfast on the Sunday morning at our Barcelona hotel.

We leave you to make your own travel arrangements to and from Barcelona to suit your own convenience and use of alternative departure points.

Travel during the tour will be by luxury, air-conditioned coach.

Detailed joining instructions will be supplied about two weeks before the start of the tour.

The airport transfers will only run if there is sufficient demand.

All site visits will include some walking which may include stairs. In Barcelona city centre we will be walking between some sites on foot.

## PASSPORTS, VISAS & IMMIGRATION

You must ensure that you have a valid passport for travel in the European Union (and possibly visas for Non-EU citizens).

For UK residents, the Global Health Insurance Card (UK GHIC) replaces the former European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). If you have an EHIC which is still in date you may use it. If yours has expired then you should apply for a GHIC here: <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/> They are free and usually come quite quickly.

## COST

The cost of the trip is £1,270 per person sharing with a single supplement of £350. The supplement represents the additional cost applied by the hotels for single occupation of a double room. The cost includes:

- A programme packed with visits to fascinating sites
- 6 nights dinner, bed & breakfast accommodation
- Lunch on 4 days
- Entrance fees at all sites and local guiding fees
- Luxury air conditioned coach transport throughout including driver tip
- Local expert guiding and services of an experienced tour manager throughout
- Research for the visit and professionally produced, comprehensive tour notes

Excluded are:

- Drinks and any other expenses at the hotel. (Some meals may include a glass of wine or beer)
- City & Catalonia tourist tax, EUR 5.70 per person per night payable on arrival (in cash the hotel says)

### Additional cost options:

- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> : Transfer from the airport to our hotel, £15 per person, time tbc.
- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> : Transfer from our hotel to the airport, £15 per person, time tbc.

All prices are quoted in Pounds Sterling (GBP) whilst most of the costs are in Euros (EUR). Major changes to exchange rates, accommodation, transport costs or taxes may necessitate a price change.

Inflation has hit the cost of these tours, the increase in prices for hotel accommodation, meals and the rate of city taxes has surprised us. Nevertheless, for this unique and very full itinerary we believe the price represents excellent value for money and compares very well with other specialist tour operators.

*Paid-up members of the AIA at the time of the tour enjoy a £30 discount per booking. (So you can book now and claim the discount as long as you join before the tour). The discount will be calculated on your invoice when it is issued.*

## CANCELLATION CHARGES, HEALTH & INSURANCE

Please note that cancellation charges will apply from **17<sup>th</sup> March 2025** and, although these will be modified to the extent that costs are not actually incurred, you are strongly advised to insure against the need to cancel and to cover medical treatment and repatriation charges in the event of illness etc. Participants who do not have travel insurance must nevertheless accept full responsibility for these eventualities.

## BOOKING

Booking and management of this tour has been entrusted to Heritage of Industry Ltd which is run by Bill Barksfield. Bill is Overseas Tour organiser on the AIA Council and will accompany the tour.

If you have access to an internet connected computer and use email please make your booking online at <http://www.heritageofindustry.co.uk> In the event that you are unable to use a computer then please fill in the attached form and post it to us at the address below.

*If you give an email address on your application then confirmation and all subsequent communications with you will be by email.*

Bookings will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to space availability. Booking is subject to a minimum of 35 people and a maximum of 50 people. Book as soon as possible and **by 17th March 2025** to ensure a place **but please feel free to enquire after that date if a place is still available**. We will contact you as soon as possible to confirm the booking and to issue an invoice for the balance of the price about 8 weeks before the tour starts. **You are advised not to make contingent travel arrangements until we have confirmed that the minimum number of people required to operate the tour has been reached**. We will inform you as soon as the minimum is reached.

A non-refundable deposit of £120 per person is required on booking. Bookings can be made definite only when the booking information and deposit are received and accepted in writing/email by Heritage of Industry Ltd. The company's standard terms and conditions apply.

The balance of the price is to be paid to Heritage of Industry Ltd on presentation of the invoice. All monies paid to Heritage of Industry Ltd will be held, in accordance with government regulations\*, in a customer protection account until the tour is complete so that *your money is safe no matter what happens*.

We are pleased to say that we are now able to take debit/credit card and GooglePay payments.

Payment may also be made via your bank's online banking facilities, the necessary details are shown on the booking form. Please send an email note when you have made payment in this way.

We prefer not to handle cheques for payment.

**Enquiries about this tour** should be directed to Bill Barksfield, Managing Director, Heritage of Industry Ltd, The Gables, 20 Main Road, East Hagbourne OX11 9LN UK Tel/Fax: +44 1235 352275

Email: [bill@heritageofindustry.co.uk](mailto:bill@heritageofindustry.co.uk)

20<sup>th</sup> January 2025

\* *The Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 (SI 1992 No. 3288)*



The Association for Industrial Archaeology

*Promoting the study, preservation and  
presentation of industrial heritage*

For the last three centuries industry has had a major influence on the society, environment and landscape in which we live and its remains provide a link with the past that can also serve the future.

Uniting individuals, local societies, academics and field professionals the AIA:

- Promotes Industrial Archaeology and Heritage both nationally and internationally
- Supports the development and sharing of knowledge about Industrial Archaeology
- Publishes IA Review - the leading Industrial Archaeology journal
- Seeks to ensure the value of industrial sites is recognised in planning decisions
- Supports local and special interest societies

Through its programme of awards and grants it:

- Sponsors research and rewards excellence
- Assists preservation and restoration of Industrial Heritage assets
- Encourages research and publication

And through its Young Members Board it:

- Promotes the aims of the AIA through broader engagement with people in their early careers

Heritage of Industry Ltd is very pleased to support the activities of the Association and very much hopes that you do too and will become a member.

Apart from the discount available on Heritage of Industry tours AIA members enjoy a range of benefits which are shown on the Membership page of the AIA website where you can also find full details of how to join:

<https://industrial-archaeology.org/membership/>

An AIA member joining this tour will already have recouped 66% or more of the standard AIA membership fee ( and *more than* the on-line only membership fee) but, more importantly, the support members give enables the AIA to continue its work, so why not join now?

# Heritage of Industry

Journeys into the Industrial Past



## BOOKING FORM

### AIA SPRING TOUR - Catalonia 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Please book on-line if possible at <http://www.heritageofindustry.co.uk>

Otherwise print out and complete this form in block letters and return it to:

Heritage of Industry Ltd, The Gables, 20 Main Road, East Hagbourne, Oxon OX11 9LN

PLEASE BOOK BY 17th March 2025 but please enquire after that date for available places.

NAME:

TELEPHONE

Day:

ADDRESS:

Evening:

Mobile:

Email:

**I WISH TO BOOK** (subject to availability) ..... place(s)  
on the AIA Spring Tour - Catalonia, 12th – 18th May 2025.

The names of the other members of my party are:

**Hotel accommodation:** ..... single room(s) ..... double room(s) ..... twin room(s)

**Coach transfer, airport - hotel Mon 12<sup>th</sup> May:** ..... place(s)

**Coach transfer, hotel - airport Sun 18<sup>th</sup> May:** ..... place(s)

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS** (Dietary etc. Please give details, or any other comment):

**I am making payment of £** ..... (non-returnable deposit of £120 each for ..... persons)

{ By direct transfer to HSBC, 1 Cornmarket, High Wycombe

Branch Code: 40-09-29 Account: 41352261 Account name: Heritage of Industry Ltd

BIC: HBUKGB4118D IBAN: GB97HBUK40092941352261 Using reference: *Your surname* }

{ By the enclosed cheque, payable to Heritage of Industry Ltd } { *delete as required* }

*We prefer not to handle cheques if possible.*

*If you wish to pay by credit card please book online.*

**I heard about this tour:** { Previous client / Recommended by friend / AIA / Social media /  
Local IA Group / Newsletter or email / Web search }

**I am a member of the AIA:** { Yes / No }

I have read the terms and conditions which are accepted by me on behalf of all the persons named above. We agree to your maintaining such records as are appropriate to this and other tours and understand that the information will only be released to those involved with the organisation of these tours or used to inform me about other events. I will make arrangements to cover all medical and repatriation expenses and will ensure that I have all necessary documents for travel in the European Union.

**SIGNATURE:**

**Date:**

Heritage of Industry Ltd, The Gables, 20 Main Road, East Hagbourne, Oxon OX11 9LN

Tel/Fax: +44 1235 352275 Email: [info@heritageofindustry.co.uk](mailto:info@heritageofindustry.co.uk) <http://www.heritageofindustry.co.uk>

Registered No 2374281



# Heritage of Industry

## Journeys into the Industrial Past

### Terms and Conditions

1. Heritage of Industry Ltd undertakes tours on the basis of these terms and conditions, which, read with the booking form and the information accompanying it, set out the full terms of your agreement with Heritage of Industry Ltd ('the Company'). No variation can be accepted unless made in writing and signed by the Company.
2. Bookings can only be made definite when the completed booking form plus the deposit specified on the booking form is received and accepted in writing by the Company. The deposit is not refundable.
3. The balance of the tour price must be received by the Company not later than 8 weeks before the first day of the tour or as specified in the booking arrangements failing which the booking may be cancelled and cancellation charges (equivalent to the amount of deposit) levied.
4. In the event that the booking is made less than 8 weeks before the first day of the tour then the full amount of the tour price will need to be paid immediately.
5. In the event that you wish to cancel your booking, you must notify the Company in writing. If the notification of cancellation is received by the Company more than 8 weeks before the first day of the tour then only the deposit will be forfeit. If the notice is received less than 8 weeks before the first day of the tour the following charges will apply: 6 to 8 weeks, 50% of the tour price; 4 to 6 weeks, 75% of the tour price; 4 weeks and under, 100% of the tour price. No refund at all will be given for any cancellation on or after the first day of the tour or for any meals, trips or other facilities not used or taken.
6. The Company will make every effort to operate the tour as confirmed to you. However, the Company reserves the right to cancel or vary any aspect of the tour should this become necessary due to any circumstances beyond the Company's reasonable control such as war, political unrest, industrial action, exceptionally inclement weather or other circumstances amounting to force majeure, or any other circumstances which in the opinion of the Company require the cancellation or variation of the tour. In the event of cancellation, you will be notified immediately and offered either an alternative comparable tour or a refund of all monies paid as appropriate.
7. **All persons joining the tour must have been fully vaccinated against the Covid 19 (SARS-CoV2) virus at least 3 weeks prior to the start of the tour.**
8. The Company does not own or operate any of the means of transport you will be using or the hotels, restaurants, buildings or other sites that you will be staying at or visiting. Accordingly, the Company cannot accept any liability whatsoever for any loss injury or damage that may occur or that you or those accompanying you may suffer as a result of any negligence or breach of contract or failure to perform any other duty by any owner employee servant or agent of any such means of transport, hotel, restaurant, building or other site.
9. The Company also cannot accept any responsibility for any loss damage or personal injury howsoever arising suffered by you or those accompanying you whilst on any tour unless such loss damage or personal injury is the direct result of negligence by the Company itself.
10. In the event that you have any complaint in connection with the management or operation of any hotel, restaurant or other premises which are on part of the tour organised by the Company then that complaint should be made immediately to the management of that hotel, restaurant or premises so that the complaint can, if possible, be acted upon immediately.
11. No claim or complaint that you may have against the Company can be accepted unless such claim or complaint is notified in writing to the Company within 7 days from the end of the tour.

Last revised: March 2021