Walking Tour: Barri Gòtic

This walk through the Barri Gòtic will take you back in time, from the early days of Roman-era Barcino through to the medieval era.

**Start** La Catedral  
**Distance** 1.5km  
**Duration** 1½ hours

1. Before entering the cathedral, look for the three Picasso friezes on the building facing the square. Next, wander through the magnificent La Catedral. Keep an eye out for the flock of 13 geese in the cloister.

2. Pass through the former city gates and turn right into Plaça de Sant Felip Neri. The shrapnel-scarred church was damaged by pro-Francist bombers in 1939.

3. Head west to the looming 14th-century Església de Santa Maria del Pi (☎️ 93 318 47 43; www.basilicadelpi.com; ☀️ 10am-6pm; adult/concession/under 6yr €4/3/free) famed for its magnificent rose window.

4. Follow the curving road to Plaça Reial, one of Barcelona’s prettiest squares. Flanking the fountain are Gaudi-designed lamp posts.

5. Nearby you’ll find Sinagoga Major (☎️ 93 317 07 90; www.caldebarcelona.org; Carrer de Marlet 5; ☀️ 11am-5.30pm Mon-Fri, to 3pm Sat & Sun winter, 10.30am-6.30pm Mon-Fri, to 2.30pm Sat & Sun summer; ⬛Liceu) one of Europe’s oldest synagogues.

6. Cross Plaça de Sant Jaume and turn left after Carrer del Bisbe. You’ll pass the entrance to a ruined Roman Temple, with four columns hidden in a small courtyard.

7. The final stop is picturesque Plaça del Rei. The former palace today houses a superb history museum, with significant Roman ruins.

Take a Break...  
In the heart of El Call, the medieval Jewish quarter, Alcoba Azul (☎️ 93 302 81 41; Carrer de Sant Domènec del Call 14; ☀️ 6pm-2.30am winter, noon-2am summer) is atmospheric.