

Modernisme in L'Eixample

Catalan modernism (Modernisme) abounds in Barcelona's L'Eixample district. This walk introduces you to the movement's main form of expression: architecture

Start Casa Calvet Distance 4km Duration one hour

Av Diagonal

Classic Photo Casa Comalat



4 Casa Comalat, built in 1911 by Salvador Valeri i Pupurull (1873–1954), is similarly striking. Note Gaudí's obvious influence on the main facade, with its wavy roof and bulging balconies. Head around the back to Carrer de Còrsega to see a more playful facade, with its windows stacked like cards.

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5 Completed in 1912, Casa Thomas was one of Domènech i Montaner's earlier efforts – the floral motifs and reptile figurines are trademarks and the massive ground-level wroughtiron decoration (and protection?) is magnificent. Wander inside to the Cubiña design store to admire his interior work, including the brick columns.



Take a Break... Check out Casa Amalia (293 458 94 58; www. casamaliabcn.com; Passatge del Mercat 4-6 mains €9-20; MGirona) for hearty Catalan cooking.



7 Puig i Cadafalch's **Palau**Macaya, 1901, has a wonderful courtyard and features the typical playful, pseudo-Gothic decoration that characterises many of the architect's projects. It belongs to La Caixa bank and is occasionally used for temporary exhibitions, when visitors are permitted to enter

6 Casa Llopis i Bofill is an interesting block of flats designed by Antoni Gallissà (1861–1903) in 1902. The graffiti-covered facade is particularly striking to the visitor's eye. The use of elaborate parabolic arches on the ground floor is a clear Modernista touch, as are the wrought-iron balconies.



1 Casa Calvet Gaudí's most conventional contribution to L'Eixample was built in 1900. Inspired by baroque, the noble ashlar facade is broken up by protruding wrought-iron balconies.

3 Puig i Cadafalch let his imagination loose on **Casa Serra** (1903–08), a neo-Gothic whimsy that is today home to government offices.

2 Casa Enric Batlló was completed in 1896 by Josep Vilaseca (1848–1910), part of the Comtes de Barcelona hotel. The brickwork facade is very graceful lit up at night.

