



Directori de Comunicació, Cover photo: Kim Castells, DL



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Water, leisure and nature. The Besòs River features a recovered environment in which nature and leisure exist side by side, in the very heart of the Barcelona metropolitan area, along the last stretch to the river mouth on the Mediterranean Sea. Its exceptional location offers the people of the riverside municipalities a large quality, safe and easily accessible green space in which to enjoy their leisure time and peace and quiet.

The park's landscapes are highly diverse and reflect the zonal division of its design: The purifying reed area in the upper zone increases the river's water quality and creates a habitat apt for wild fauna; The public area in the middle zone features traffic cable grass areas and inflatable weirs that increase the river's apparent flow and create a pleasant landscape; The river mouth features a mosaic of aquatic and brackish water Mediterranean plants, which is used by birds mainly at migration times.



BERNARDI GIBERT

The Besòs River Park

The Besòs River Park is set along the last nine kilometres of the course of the Besòs River, from the confluence of the Besòs and Ripoll rivers to the river mouth on the Mediterranean Sea. Covering a total area of 115 hectares, this is one of the largest green spaces in the Barcelona metropolitan area and is part of the urban continuum of the cities of Barcelona, Santa Coloma de Gramenet, Sant Adrià de Besòs and Montcada i Reixac.

Despite intense human pressure, the Besòs River Park features a large number of environments that are home to a considerable diversity of organisms and link the Collserola massif to the Serra de Marina mountain range, and the seafloor to the region's inland area.

Since 2000, Barcelona Provincial Council has administered the park on the basis of a management agreement with the councils of Barcelona, Montcada i Reixac, Sant Adrià de Besòs and Santa Coloma de Gramenet, and the Consortium for the Defence of the Besòs River Basin. It is managed in accordance with the terms of the Operation and Maintenance Plan, the Land Use Plan and the park's Emergency Plan.

Parc Fluvial del Besòs

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Parc Fluvial del Besòs

Diputació de Barcelona
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Ajuntament de Montcada i Reixac
Ajuntament de Sant Adrià de Besòs
Ajuntament de Santa Coloma de Gramenet
Consorti per a la Defensa de la Costa del Besòs

Public area

The 5 km area for public use runs alongside the Besòs River, from the bridge by the B-20 (right bank) or from Can Zam Nord (left bank), to the municipality of Santa Coloma de Gramenet, and to the railway bridge in Sant Adrià de Besòs. This area's tarmacked road may be travelled either on foot or by bicycle.

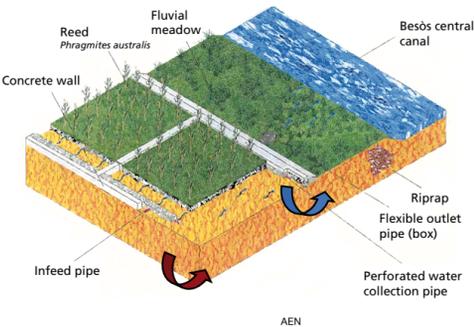
The left bank is wide enough for a signposted bicycle lane. In order to create a more attractive landscape, a total of eleven inflatable weirs regulate the water level to give the impression of greater water flow.

Safe public use in the event of the flooding of a Mediterranean river such as the Besòs would not be possible without the Besòs Hydrological Warning System (SAHBE). This system constantly analyses meteorological and hydrological data and warns managers, authorities and users of possible flooding of the river. A state of emergency can therefore be activated with enough advance warning.

The SAHBE is enhanced by the Public Use Control Service, which comprises informers who travel by bicycle and ensure the park is evacuated when the river is in spate.

The wetlands

The wetlands are located to the north of the Besòs River Park and stretch from the confluence of the Ripoll and Besòs rivers to the municipality of Montcada i Reixac, and to the public area further south. Public access is restricted to this 3.8-kilometre area, which features sixty wetland plots (8 ha) planted with reeds that perform tertiary treatment of 30% of the effluent from the Montcada i Reixac wastewater treatment plant and thus improve river water quality.



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The river mouth

The river mouth comprises the last 450 metres of the Besòs River before it reaches the Mediterranean Sea. This is the most recently recovered zone and is restricted to the public because of its small size (7 ha) and its high biological and landscape value. The river mouth joins the seafloor to inland region and provides a stopover for migratory birds following the route along the coastline. The most interesting features of this area are the lagoon and the diversity of plantation.

The landscape

Adaptation and maintenance of the Besòs riverbed environments provide visitors with an extensive green space. The contrast of water sheet, grass and city in the central public area of the park is rather attractive. The annual vegetation cycle of the wetlands and the river mouth may also be observed from the viewpoints of these two areas, which are located at the northern and southern ends of the park respectively.



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Vegetation

Each zone of the park has its specific vegetation. The area for public use comprises 22 hectares of grass and a small-



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er area of river meadow, both of which are irrigated with treated groundwater. The reed is the species planted in the 8 hectares of wetlands, which are designed to improve water treatment. The river meadow stretches among these areas of reeds in accordance with the scale and frequency of spates of the Besòs River, known locally as "Besotades". The river mouth features a mosaic of vegetation adapted to high salinity, such as the salt cedar and Mediterranean saltbush, aquatic plants such as the bulrush and the chaste tree, and a mound with Mediterranean plants.

Fauna

Environmental recovery and gradual improvement of water quality have encouraged the creation of new habitats of interest for fauna. Thanks to these improvements and the park's location along the final stretch of the Besòs, over two hundred different species of birds have been observed. Although water birds such as the grey heron, the mallard, the common moorhen and the little ringed plover can be observed throughout the park, the wetland reed areas are more attractive for small passeriform birds, while birds rarely spotted in the park may be seen in the river mouth during the spring and autumn migration periods.

The park's most interesting fish are the eel and the chub. There are also some noteworthy vertebrates such as the tree frog, the Natterjack toad and the stripe-necked terrapin.



AGNES PERELLO



Park viewpoint trails

Wetland trails

Valuable features in this area can be observed at Montcada i Reixac, on a circular trail that joins up with the Casa de les Aigües. Explanatory panels are provided. The river may be crossed using the pedestrian walkway or Montcada bridge.

At Santa Coloma de Gramenet, the public area cycle lane joins up with the cycle lane outside the park, which follows the wetlands along the left bank of the river (in the direction of flow).

River mouth trail

This zone can be observed from the viewpoints by following a trail at Sant Adrià de Besòs: The Coastal Park, the Park of Peace and Maristany bridge. Explanatory panels are provided.

Park opening times

Spring (from 21/03 to 20/06): 10 am to 6 pm

Summer (from 21/06 to 20/09): 10 am to 9 pm

Autumn (from 21/09 to 20/12): 10 am to 6 pm

Winter (from 21/12 to 20/03): 10 am to 5 pm

Access

The park has 20 entrances with ramps and stairs. Each entrance has an electronic panel that features information on the park's status.



Public transport

- Train**
 - R1 Barcelona - Maçanet Massanes
Station: Sant Adrià de Besòs
 - R2 Nord Barcelona - Maçanet Massanes
Station: Montcada i Reixac
 - R2 Barcelona - Granollers Centre
Station: Montcada i Reixac
- Metro**
 - L1 Baró de Viver o Santa Coloma
 - L2 Artigues Sant Adrià
 - L9 / L10 Bon Pastor o Can Peixauet
- Buses**
 - TUGSAL: B-14, B-16, B-18, B-19, B-20, B-21, B-23, B-25, B-26, B-30, B-31
 - TMB: 35, 42, 43, 44
 - BD7 Badalona City
- Tram (Trambesòs)**
 - T4 Ciutadella Vila Olímpica - Sant Adrià station
Stop: Sant Adrià station
 - T5 Ciutadella Vila Olímpica - Gorg
Stop: Sant Joan Baptista

Emergency 112



Park contact details

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Rules of use

- Please observe the park's opening hours.
- Danger of floods. Please heed the warnings.
- Follow the indications on the panel.
- Dogs must be kept on a lead.
- Please collect your dog's excrement.
- Do not use motor vehicles.
- Do not enter the water.
- The water in the irrigation network is not drinkable.
- Please put rubbish in the waste bins and containers.