

Parc del

# Castell de Montesquiu



## Montesquiu castle

Audiovisuals and tour



**Diputació  
Barcelona**

*Xarxa de Parcs Naturals*

## A castle steeped in history...

*The history of Montesquiú castle is shrouded in mystery and enigma, in which a large part of its appeal lies.*

Montesquiú castle is the result of a long and historical construction process which stretched on for over 10 centuries and is intrinsically linked to the evolution of the region and the society of the time.

### 9TH century

Construction on the castle began with the erection of a single watchtower, which Count Wilfred the Hairy, father of the abbess Emma, ordered to be built. The watchtower was used to observe the course of the Ter river during the definitive repopulation of the Vic plain.

## and ghosts...

*The projected audiovisuals tell the castle's story – which has been dramatised – by means of the ghosts of four of the most important people associated with the building. And one other...*

**The abbess Emma** (880?–942), daughter of Count Wilfred the Hairy, was the first abbess of the monastery that her father founded, that of Sant Joan de Ripoll, today known as Sant Joan de les Abadesses monastery.



## 14th century

Arnau Guillem de Besora was the first of his lineage to reside in the castle. From then on, the ancient mansion became a regular residence.



Tombstone of the Marquis of Besora

## 17th century



The castle's chapel

The residence was expanded and embellished by Lluís Descatllar, who was also responsible for the construction of the current chapel and the extension of the north-western section of the castle.



**Arnau Guillem de Besora** (1339–1383), son of Jaume II de Besora, was the first of his lineage to live in the castle on a regular basis.

## Lluís Descatllar

(1596?–1645?), Lord of Besora and of Catllar. Although he lived regularly in Barcelona, he was responsible for important work on the castle.



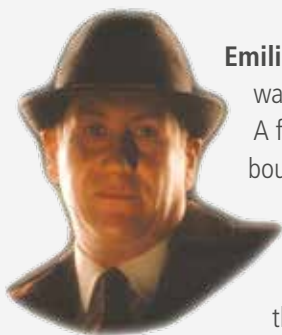
## 20<sup>TH</sup> century

At the beginning of the century, Emili Juncadella gave the ancient manor house the look of a castle, which it has today, and completed it with the surrounding gardens.

Today, Montesquiu castle has re-established its links with the region and forms a part of the park.



The castle's main staircase added during the work undertaken between 1917 and 1920.



### **Emili Juncadella** (1885–1936)

was the castle's last owner. A figurehead of the wealthy bourgeoisie, he was the driving force behind major work on the castle between 1917 and 1920. In 1936 he ceded the property to the Barcelona Provincial Council.

## of all kinds...

Out of all the legends related to castles, this is the first to involve the ghost of a dog, **Quiu**, who is the narrator of the fascinating story behind Montesquiu castle. Quiu, nevertheless, has lived in the castle for many centuries..



*Montesquiu castle and its surrounding gardens overlook a protected area, that of the park named after them, an inspiring setting in the Catalan Pre-Pyrenees.*

*The Montesquiu castle park spans four municipalities – Montesquiu, Santa Maria de Besora, Sant Quirze de Besora and Sora – which, together with Vidrà, form the sub-county of Bisaura.*

### **Montesquiu castle park office**

Masoveria del Castell. 08585 Montesquiu

Tel.: (+34) 934 727 600

p.montesquiu@diba.cat

parcs.diba.cat/web/montesquiu

Opening hours: weekdays from 8 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

### **Montesquiu castle**

#### **Castle opening hours**

From November to March: weekends and public holidays from 10 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

From April to June and from September to October: weekends and public holidays from 10 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

July and August: Tuesdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

#### **Castle guided tour times**

Mornings: 10.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m., 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m.

Afternoons (during the months in which it is open): 4.15 p.m. and 5 p.m.

#### **Tours for groups of 20 persons or more must be arranged in advance**

Weekdays, public holidays and weekends

### **Information and bookings**

Tel.: (+34) 938 529 234 and (+34) 934 727 600

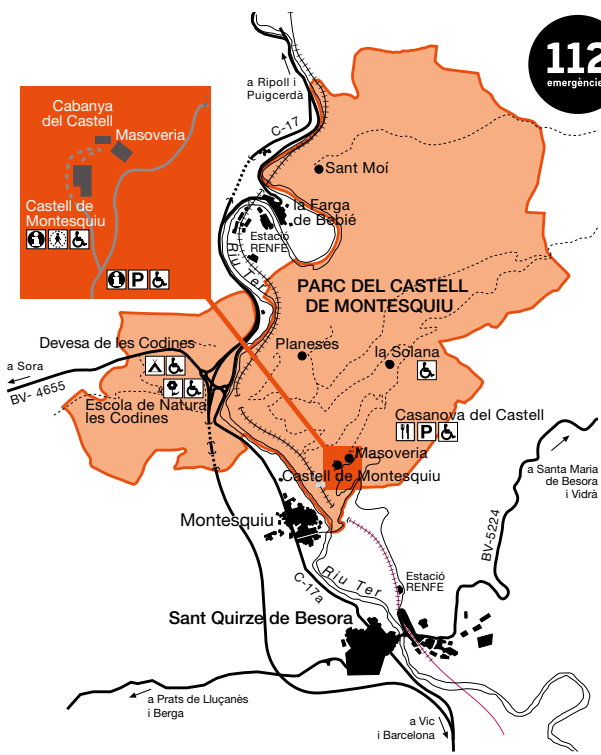
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Opening hours: Tuesdays to Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.



**112**  
emergències



### Parcs de Catalunya

#### Xarxa de Parcs Naturals de la Diputació de Barcelona

Parc del Castell de Montesquiú, Espai Natural de les Guilleries-Savassona, Parc Natural del Montseny, Parc Natural de Sant Llorenç del Munt i l'Obac, Parc del Montnegre i el Corredor, Parc de la Serralada Litoral, Parc de la Serralada de Marina, Parc Natural de la Serra de Collserola, Parc Agrari del Baix Llobregat, Parc del Garraf, Parc d'Olièrdola, Parc del Foix



**Diputació  
Barcelona**

**Àrea de Territori  
i Sostenibilitat**

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