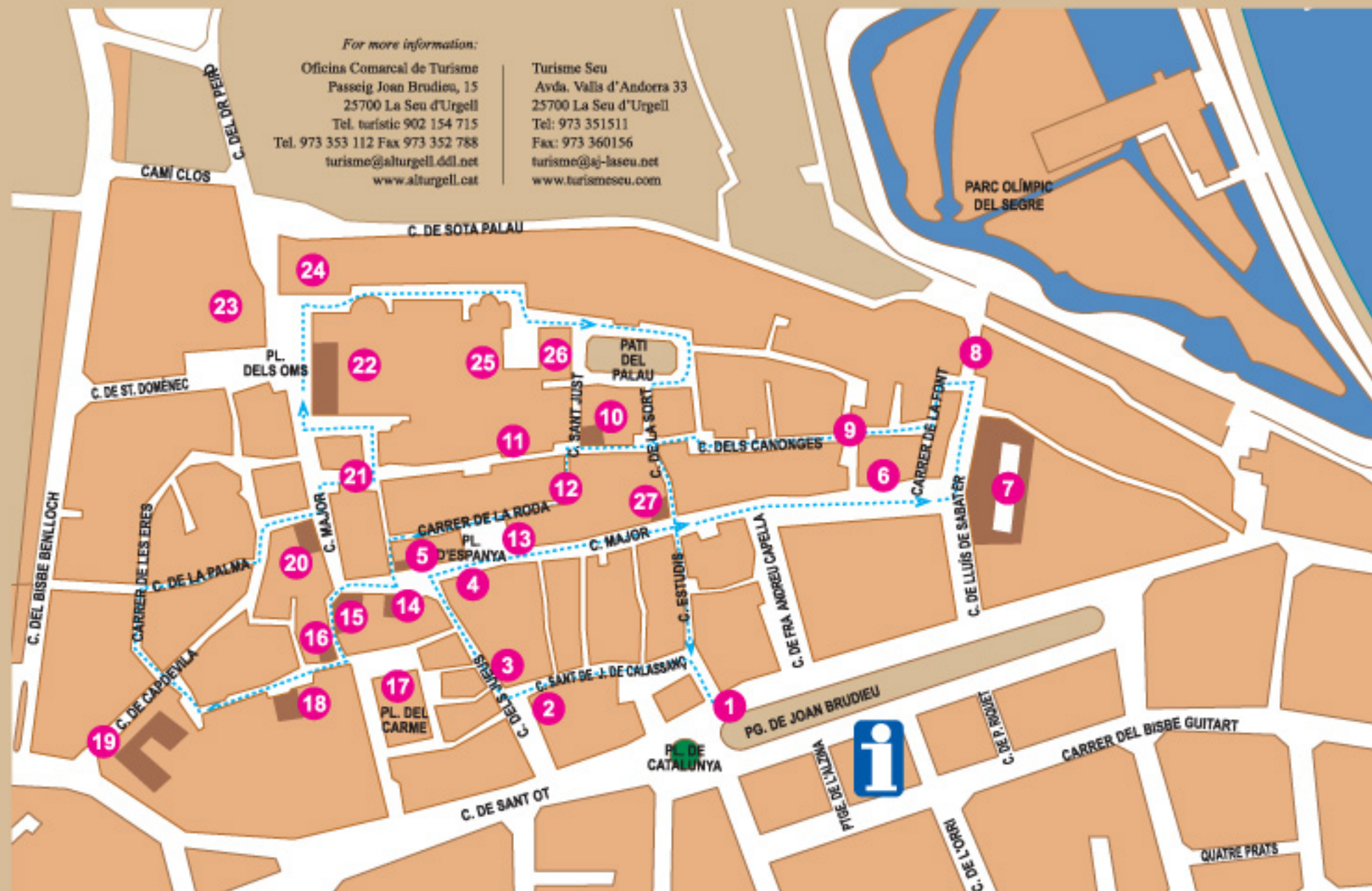




Passeig pels carrers antics de la Seu

ALT URGELL

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Old Princess Gate | 15 | Cal Tarragona |
| 2 | Mission church | 16 | Ca l'Arbor |
| 3 | Jews street | 17 | Carme Square |
| 4 | High street | 18 | Virgin Mary church |
| 5 | Cal Serrano | 19 | Carrer Capdevila |
| 6 | Gravestone | 20 | Mesures del Gra |
| 7 | Sant Agusti library | 21 | Andorra Gate |
| 8 | Tannery stairs | 22 | Santa Maria d'Urgell |
| 9 | Canons street | 23 | Cathedral |
| 10 | Ca l'Armenter | 24 | Sant Domènec church |
| 11 | Cal Roger | 25 | Town COUNCIL |
| 12 | Sant Emigdi alley | 26 | Sant Miquel church |
| 13 | Patalin Square | 27 | Episcopal Palace |
| 14 | Cal don Llorenç | → | Cal Pinellet |



Description of the route. The old **Portal de Princesa (Princess Gate) (1)**, located at the top part of the Avenue that used to lead towards Castellciutat. From there the route leads up along carrer de Sant Josep de Calassanç (Sant Josep de Calassanç street). Previously known as carrer del Riguer (Riguer street). The **església de la Missió (Mission church) (2)** – where the Seminary used to stand – displays known as carrer del Riguer (Riguer street). In this street there is **The església de la Missió (Mission church) (2)** – where was built the first Seminary of the city. From here, one comes upon **carrer dels Jueus (Jews street) (3)**, home of the Jewish community that inhabited la Seu up until the 15th century, where their synagogue used to stand. This street leads to **carrer Major (Major street) (4)**, that still conserves a noble atmosphere. The **cal Serrano (5)**, is opposite. It is a 14th century building that was erected on one of the Roman city gates, which is currently located two metres under the ground. Moving on towards the South, the route carries on under porches that protect shopkeepers and clients from the inclemency of the weather; however, those who prefer to walk down on the other side of the road, can enjoy the brilliant painted façades, forged balconies and covered terraces, which are typical elements of the urban architecture. Further on, there is a large block of modern flats, that stands on grounds that used to house the Jesuit convent and, years later, military barracks. Still on the same pavement, one can observe a **gravestone (6)** that is built inside a shop and bears a biblical sentence, a souvenir from times when the convent was still erected.

The **Sant Agusti library (7)** is located at the end of the street. The construction is a 16th century church that was restored and reformed to make way for books and readers. Moving on towards the East one comes upon **escales de l'Adoberia (Tannery stairs) (8)** which lead to Parc del Segre (Segre Park) and to Sota Palau road. To the right, one can contemplate a brightly coloured modern construction, which stands on the grounds that used to house the mythical **Fonda Llebreia (Llebreia Inn)**, where Carlist general, Savalls, played memorable "botifarra" card games. Instead of walking down the stairs, the route carries on towards **carrer dels Canonges (Canons street) (9)**, which can be reached through **carrer de la Font (Fountain street)**. Although **carrer dels Canonges** was the main street during Medieval times, it is currently quite complicated to distinguish which houses belonged to the important ecclesiastic

canons who gave the street its name.

The irregular porch system may be a bit chaotic, but it conceals a very straight town planning urbanism, most probably from Roman legacy. **Ca l'Armenter (10)** is located at the junction made by carrer dels Canonges and carrer de Sant Just. This house was supposedly owned by a canon from the Luna family from Aragón; the family's coat of arms is engraved all over the construction. Visitors should not miss the sculpted joists decorated with lions and bulls located on the roof's projection. A bit further along the same street, there is another house, **cal Roger (11)** which displays sculpted sea shells on the door; these elements are better preserved than the former. Walking back to ca l'Armenter, one comes upon **carrer de Sant Emigdi (Sant Emigdi alley) (12)** where there is a niche with the figure of a saint that indicates the way in. Strange though this may seem, people used to believe that the earthquakes that took place during the 17th and 18th century entered the city by means of this alley. The next stop is **plaça Palatin (Palatin Square) (13)**, which was considered the centre of the universe on market days and during the **Ball Cerdà (Cerdà's dance)**, the main Sunday during the festivities. **De la Ronda (Wheel street)**, visitors should turn left to reach carrer Major once again. There is a Gothic gryphon sculpted on one of the stones of the arch on the corner of **cal Serrano**. Along carrer Major, one passes opposite **cal don Llorenç (14)** and **cal Tarragona (15)**, large mansions that used to belong to illustrious patricians from Urgell. Although the street turns towards the left, visitors should take carrer de la Perdú (Partridge street), to visit **ca l'Arbor (16)** which has been restored to represent what most of these ancient houses must have looked like in times gone by. **The plaça del Carme (Carme Square) (17)** is located to the left, a hospice and the residence of a famous politician from Andorra, **don Guillem d'Areny i Plandolit**, once stood at this location. Walking up towards the right one comes into the placeta **de les Monges (Monks small square)**. This pleasant fresh area is presided by **església de la Inmaculada (Virgin Mary church) (18)**, a Baroque construction. Carrying on upwards, the route passes by **carrer Capdevila (Capdevila street) (19)**, which used to be part of a 13th century quarter. Straight onwards one comes upon **carrer de les Eres – the name of the street (Eres or threshing floor) (19)** says it all. The first street one comes upon on the right hand side is **carrer de la Palma (Palm street)**,

which seems untouched by the hand of time. Back on carrer de Capdevila, one should carry on towards the left. **The Mesures del Gra (20)** are located at the corner this street makes with carrer Major. These structures from 1579 and 1840 were used to control the trading of cereals very precisely. After crossing the street, the **Portal d'Andorra (Andorra Gate) (21)**, a gate that leads to the canonical quarter, takes visitors back to carrer dels Canonges. **The Cathedral (22)** appears to the left; this could be the perfect moment to visit the construction. Afterwards, one should walk around the building through the **plaça dels Oms (Elm trees Square)**. The **església de Sant Domènec (Sant Domènec church) (23)**, a Gothic construction, is located to the left and the **Town Council (24)**, constructed at the end of the 15th century, is located at the far end. One should move on behind the cathedral.

From the viewpoint in Parc del Cadí (Cadí Park) one can contemplate a stunning landscape and the magnificent eastern façade of **Santa Maria d'Urgell**. Talking a Southern direction one passes by the apse of **església de Sant Miquel (Sant Miquel church) (25)** – the oldest construction in the city, dating back from the 11th century – and the **Episcopal Palace's (26)** facilities (funnily enough most of the construction is built on grounds that are inside Andorra!). The building that houses the old court can be seen when walking around the square. Visitors end back at carrer Major by walking along **carrer de la Sort (Fortune street)** towards the West. The house on the right – hand corner – **cal Pinellet (27)** – displays over-decorated Baroque joists. Straight on the trip leads to **carrer dels Estudis (Studies street)**, where the city's young inhabitants used to go to school many centuries ago. After another ten steps, the trip leads back to the starting point: now one definitely deserves a good lunch!

Bright sunlight should not worry visitors, as there are many shady areas along the walk. The visiting hours for both the cathedral and the museum vary depending on the season of the year and liturgical needs. Information is posted on the door to the temple.