

Information on easy access to MACBA for visually impaired people

How to arrive at the Museum unaccompanied

Option 1. From Plaça de Catalunya

Take the right-hand side pavement of Rambla de Canaletes towards the sea. Going down the Rambla with the wall to your right, the first street you meet is Carrer Tallers. Ignore this, but take Carrer Bonsuccés, the second street on the right. Walk along this street to the end, passing Plaça Bonsuccés on your left, after which the street changes name and becomes Carrer Elisabets. At the end you'll arrive at Plaça dels Àngels where you will hear the characteristic sound of the skateboarders who usually hang around there. If you continue straight ahead and cross Carrer Montalegre, you'll arrive directly at the Capella del Convent dels Àngels, which is part of MACBA and where exhibitions are sometimes held. But to get to the Meier building, it is better to turn right at the end of Carrer Elisabets and walk following the wall on the right-hand side pavement of Carrer Montalegre. This wall is the façade of the Vedruna-Àngels school. After about 30 metres, you'll find a recess in the right-hand wall, immediately followed by a long metallic gate. At the end of the gate, make a 90 degree turn to the left and you'll be facing the pedestrian crossing that takes you across Carrer Montalegre to Plaça dels Àngels. You'll notice a slight ramp on the pavement. Cross the street, then make a 45 degree turn diagonally to the right to find the wall of the terrace on which the Meier building stands. Keeping the wall to your right, advance and after about 15 metres you'll notice that you're going up a slight incline leading to the end of the terrace (the wall, therefore, will become progressively lower, with people usually sitting on it). When you arrive at the end of this terrace wall, it means you are level with the entrance to the Museum. To find the entrance, make a 90 degree turn to the right, where you will be facing the six shallow steps that lead to the entrance of the Museum. The steps are like platforms and may be difficult to perceive. Once at the top, the Museum entrance is about 10 metres ahead of you. To open the door, you need to pull the handle towards you. Bear in mind that during busy periods they sometimes put queue line dividers outside the Museum.

Once inside the Meier building, to the right you'll find the diaphanous space of the Atrium and the exhibition galleries, and to the left, the reception desk.

About six metres opposite the reception desk, there is a plan of the site in relief and in Braille.

Option 2. From Plaça Universitat

Stand on the sea-side pavement of Plaça Universitat. It's the pavement with the Plaça Universitat-Pelai bus stop and the Pelai exit from Universitat metro station. Keeping the wall to your left, walk towards Ronda Sant Antoni. Ignoring Carrer Tallers to your left, continue along Ronda Sant Antoni. You will arrive at a set of traffic lights and a pedestrian crossing at the crossroads where Carrer Torres i Amat ends and Joaquin Costa begins. Continue across this crossing and on the far pavement advance another five metres diagonally to your left until you reach the façade of a pharmacy. Keeping the wall of the pharmacy to your right, advance a few metres until you find the entrance to Carrer Joaquin Costa on your right. Entering Joaquin Costa, cross over to the wall on the left-hand side: this is a one-way street with a pedestrianised area on the left. Walk down Joaquin Costa ignoring the first two streets to the left: the first is Passatge Sant Bernat, and second is Carrer Valldonzella. Take the third street to the left, Carrer Ferlandina. Keeping the wall to your right, walk the short distance to the end, where the street opens out onto Plaça dels Àngels and where you will hear the sound of the skateboarders. Advance in the same direction until you reach the lower wall of the terrace in front of the Meier building, where you often find people sitting. Turn right and follow the wall for a few metres and you will immediately be able to make a 180 degree turn to the left where you will be facing the six shallow steps that lead to the entrance of the Museum. The steps are like platforms and may be difficult to perceive. Once at the top, the Museum entrance is about 10 metres ahead of you. To open the door, you need to pull the handle towards you. Bear in mind that during busy periods they sometimes put queue line dividers outside the Museum.

Once inside the Meier building, to the right you'll find the diaphanous space of the Atrium and the exhibition galleries, and to the left, the reception desk. About six metres opposite the reception desk, there is a plan of the site in relief and in Braille.

Note: If you have requested a personal assistant in advance for your visit to MACBA and require guidance to get there, please contact us so we can arrange a meeting point near the Museum.

Basic description of the Meier building:

Here is a very basic description of the structure of the Meier building that will act as a guidance and as a complement to the tactile exploration of the plan located at the entrance to the Museum. However, seriously visually impaired people should bear in mind that they may not be able to conduct their visit totally unaccompanied around the building in general, and especially in the exhibition galleries. Remember that you may request assistance in advance.

As you enter the Meier building, you will find the reception desk to the left, and to the right, the diaphanous space of the Atrium giving access to the exhibition galleries on the various floors. Before entering the Atrium, you must buy tickets at the reception desk or show your disability card to gain free admission.

On the wall to the left of the entrance to the Atrium, which is at the far end directly facing the reception desk, you will find a visual and tactile plan of the museum.

The Atrium is a large 40-metres-long space, brightly lit on the right by the enormous glass windows that form the façade of the Museum. To the left you will find the following spaces: first, a circular space occupied by the Museum shop. The second entrance to the left, about seven metres from the access to the Atrium, is the cloakroom. At about 13 metres from the access, a corridor to the left leads to the lift and to the toilets. Further along the wall are the entrances to the various exhibition galleries, which may vary according to the exhibition on display. Simply follow the wall to your left to detect the location of the entrances.

To the right of the Atrium, running parallel to and in front of the large windows, there is a ramp connecting the floors of the Museum. It begins at about five metres from the access to the Atrium, on a diagonal line to the right. The ramp rises steadily from the ground floor for about 25 metres before arriving at a sharp bend where you must make a 180 degree turn to the left, then continue upwards for another 25 metres to reach the first floor. An

identical ramp situated 180 degrees to the left continues the journey to the second and final floor.

The Meier building is an example of rationalist architecture, so all the floors have a similar structure. If you take the lift to floor 1 or 2, you must make a 180 degree turn to the right and walk along a short corridor before accessing the main corridor on each floor. Access to the exhibitions will be to the left and right, but will vary depending on the exhibition on display. Outside the exhibition galleries, the main corridor on each floor forms a balcony over the ground floor of the building, facing the ramps connecting the different floors and the large windows.

Floor 1 differs from other floors in that, if you follow the wall with the exhibitions on the left, at the end of the corridor (about 30 metres from the lift), you will find the Tower to the right. This space may be included as part of a large exhibition, or hold a particular installation or exhibition.