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With three thousand years of history behind it, the city of Maó has many different sites of interest. Below is a brief description of 32 places that are worth visiting. They can be seen in the order described – although this involves a very long walk but – but you can also create your own routes by zones, depending on the time you wish to spend.

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THE CITY OF MAÓ

01

TOWN HALL

Built in the seventeenth century and reformed in 1789 in the French Baroque style based on a project by the engineer Francisco Fernández de Angulo. Its clock, imported from England in 1731, is worth noting, and also its Noble Hall and Gallery of Illustrious Minorcans.

02

PRINCIPAL DE GUARDIA

It was built in the eighteenth century and was used to house the guard corps. The building was remodelled in 1786 by the same architect, in the same style as the Town Hall. Its façade is red and it is adorned with trophies and military elements. At present, it is used as the Municipal Culture Office.

03

CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA

The church was built in the eighteenth century on the site of an old Gothic church dating from the thirteenth century and its interior is in the neo-Gothic style. In 1810 a monumental organ was installed with 4 keyboards and 3210 pipes, made by the master organ makers Francisco Otter and Joan Kiburz. Short concerts are organised in it every day in the summer.

04

MONUMENT TO KING ALFONS III

1950. This sculpture was erected in honour of King Alfons III, who took the island of Minorca from the Muslims in 1287. The work is by the Catalan sculptor Frederic Marès.

05

PUBLIC LIBRARY. CAN MERCADAL

1761. A neoclassical building constructed by the Mercadal family –from which it gets its popular name–, on the site of a medieval construction. Used as a cultural centre in 1953, it is now the Public Library and Provincial Archive.

06

CHURCH AND CONVENT DE LA CONCEPCIÓ

1616. A cloister built to honour the Immaculate Conception. It was the second monastic institution in the city and the first convent for nuns. The convent is built on the site of the old walls and has practically no outer façade.

07

GOVERN MILITAR

Formerly known as the House of the King and converted by the British into the Governor's Palace. It is now the site of the Military Headquarters of Minorca.

08

PONT DES GENERAL

This narrow street connects calle de Isabel II to the port. Half way along the route it forks into two: Costa des General and Costa des Muret.

09

ISABEL II STREET

This is the street with the largest number of stately homes built in Maó in the eighteenth century: the Rectory (4), Pons i

Soler (6), Febrer i Cardona (5), Albertí (9) and Seguí de Vidal (21). At the end of the street are the houses where four famous people from the city were born: the natural history expert Joaquim Rodríguez i Femenías, the architect Nicolau Rubió i Tudurí, the novelist Màrius Verdaguer and the industrialist Francesc Andreu Femenías.

10

CHURCH OF SANT FRANCESC

Built in the eighteenth century on the site of a Gothic temple, it has one nave and a solid stone façade. The interior is decorated with arches and helical columns and houses the chapel of the Conception, in the Baroque style.

11

MUSEUM OF MINORCA

The building was formerly a Franciscan convent, freed from mortmain in 1835 and now used as the Museum of Minorca. It has important archaeological and artistic collections. In addition to its permanent exhibition, it also organised itinerant ones.

12

CHURCH OF SANT ANTONI

A mediaeval chapel built outside the city walls. It became part of the city after the urban expansion process during the 17th century. The neoclassical façade dates from 1790. It is now a cultural centre.

13

PONT DE SANT ROC

This bridge was built in the fourteenth century and is the only visible trace of the ancient mediaeval city walls. The bridge was completely restored after the pirate Red Beard ransacked the city of Maó in 1535.

14

MONUMENT TO DOCTOR ORFILA

1953. Located in calle de ses Moreses, in front of the house where the doctor was born. It is the work of the sculptor Frederic Marès and pays tribute to Mateu Orfila, the chemist, doctor and one of the most important European scientists of the nineteenth century.

15

ATENEU DE MAÓ

Created in 1905, with the mission of disseminating scientific, artistic and literary knowledge. It is located in a traditional Minorcan building with three floors and has a conference and meeting room, a library, exhibition areas and classrooms where different subjects are imparted. The centre has an intensive annual programme of activities.

16

S'ESPLANADA

This is the first large public space in the city and has changed in appearance on several occasions. A market is organised there every week and it is decorated with sculptures by Timoner, Otero and Lucarini.

17

PARC RUBIÓ I TUDURÍ

22000. A recently-created green area that pays tribute to the memory of the Minorcan architect and landscapist Nicolau Rubió i Tudurí. The park was set up as an informative site and contains a permanent exhibition of plants that are native to Minorca

18

TEATRE PRINCIPAL

1829. The theatre was designed by the architect Giovanni Palagi, based on the designs and decoration of eighteenth-century

Italian theatres. It was rehabilitated in full between 1997 and 2001. Since then, it has organised a wide range of extremely interesting programmes.

19

TALIA

2001. This statue which pays tribute to the muse of comedy stands in front of Teatro Principal. It was created by the sculptor Matías Quetglas.

20

MONUMENT TO PILAR ALONSO

1992. Located in Plaza de Colon and dedicated to the Maó-born singer Pilar Alonso. It was made by the sculptor Francesc Vilà.

21

ES FREGINAL

An urban park which can be accessed from calle Deià and calle Ramon y Cajal. This was a gulley that, due to the conditions of the terrain, was eventually swallowed up by the city and is now a green district. Since the decade of the nineteen-seventies this area has become an important green area in the city.

22

CHURCH OF LA CONCEPCIÓ

This church was built in the eighteenth century in honour of St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, by the Greek colony that settled in Maó. It is in the shape of a Greek cross in the Byzantine style. In 1868 it was made a Catholic church and its façade was reformed to eliminate the Greek orthodox symbols.

23

CA N'OLIVER

1805. A stately home built at the beginning of the 19th century by the Oliver family. This neoclassical building is famous for the paintings on its ceilings by Italian artists of the period. The building was transformed into an art centre and houses various collections, including the works of art of Hernández Sanz - Hernández Mora, historical maps and Minorcan documentation.

24

CASA DEL PUEBLO

1913. Built by the architect Francesc Femenías. It was formerly a Republican centre but was bombarded during the Spanish civil war and seized by the Franco regime in 1939. The building was closed and abandoned for many years. In 1991 it was converted into a club for pensioners.

25

ARXIU D'IMATGE I SO DE MENORCA

Formerly known as Casa Victori, it was the headquarters of the Balearic Islands Council and now houses the Image and Sound Archive and the Minorcan Studies Institute.

26

PLAÇA DE LA MIRANDA

This square is named Miranda due to the fact that it is high up and has impressive views and also because Miranda is the surname of the Admiral who suggesting building the Naval Station. It pays tribute to him due to the importance that this station had for the city and the port. The monument to Augusto Miranda was erected in 1927 by the sculptor Waldermar Fenn.

27

CLAUSTRE DEL CARME

Built in the eighteenth century and famous for its collection of sculpted corbels on the ground floor. It was released from mortmain in 1835 and formerly housed the jail, the courts of justice and the market. At present, the market is still on the ground floor and the top floor houses diverse cultural facilities.

28

CHURCH OF EL CARME

This church dates from the eighteenth century. Work was started on it by the Carmelites in 1750 and it took more than 70 years to build. It is constructed in the neoclassical style and is the largest church in Maó.

29

“FABIOLER” MONUMENT

This is a sculpture that was built in Plaza del Carme in 2006, evoking one of the most emblematic figures in local culture. It was created by the artist Núria Roman.

30

TRE CAVALLI

A new sculpture has been added to the decorative elements of Plaça del Carme: the *Tre cavalli*, a gift from the Swiss sculptor Nag Arnoldi to the city in 2015.

31

PESCATERIA AND PLAÇA D'ESPANYA

1927. This building, which houses the fish market, was built by the architect Francesc Femenías. He also redesigned the square during that period. At the highest part of the square is Casa Mir, a fine example of Mahon Modernist architecture that towers above the square with its distinctive, colourful stained glass windows.

32

COSTA DE SES VOLTES

This street dates from the twentieth century. It was built in the 1950s based on a design by the architect Josep Claret, to replace the ancient ramp of the marina. It is a twisted street that joins the city with the *baixamar* district and surrounded by the gardens of Parque Rochina, where the monument known as *Creu de sant Pere* (St. Peter's Cross) tells of the existence of an ancient chapel belonging to the fishermen's guild, dedicated to their patron saint. The esplanade at the end of the park is decorated with the elegant iron figures of the sculptor Gaspar Servera.



Pont de Sant Roc



Pescateria