



*Surface : 8 070 hectares*  
*Population : 3 millions residents*  
*Region : Catalunya*

*Organisme gestionnaire: Consorci del Parc de Collserola*  
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La Sierra de Collserola is part of the coastal cordillera, a mountainous, 300 km-long landscape along the Mediterranean Ocean. The park's northern boundary is the Besòs river and Vallès depression, and it is bordered by the Llobregat river and city of Barcelona in the south.

In 1987, a special management and environmental protection plan was established for Collserola. It is based on the principle of protecting and strengthening ecosystems. At the same time, infrastructure construction has allowed the public to use this space rationally, without endangering the park's precious natural and landscape resources.

The site, managed by the Collserola park Consortium, is a diversified spectrum of natural Mediterranean environments, where forest areas predominate. There are also a few agricultural areas.



The park's highest point is on the Tibidabo mountain (512 m). It has a typically Mediterranean climate. The average temperature is 14°C, with pluviometry of 620 mm/year, although microclimates due to diverse hilly terrain must also be considered.

#### *Natural heritage.*

The park is home to a wealth of plant and animal species characteristic of Mediterranean ecosystems. Thus, endemic Iberian Peninsula species are found among the arthropods, some of which have been observed exclusively on the Collserola site. Vertebrate family members include mammals such as the hedgehog, squirrel, rabbit, weasel, badger, genet, fox, and boar; birds such as the Eurasian kestrel, vulture, and common buzzard can be observed, as well as innumerable passerine species.

White pine, oak, and green oak are the predominant plant species. There are coastal pines as well as scrub and bush on slopes exposed to sunlight.

Most of the soil is composed of shale. Granite rock can be found on the southern side.

#### *Main activities.*

Hiking and walking are the main activities, followed by mountain biking. Hunting is authorised on half of the park's surface area. Park picnic area sites are extremely popular. The park's centre organises activities such as guided nature hikes.

#### *Special features.*

Remains of structures from the past can be found in the park, such as caves that were inhabited 6,000 years ago (tools from 100,000 years ago have even been found) as well as Romanesque hermitages and XVth to XVIIth century farms. The "modernist" movement's architectural heritage is represented by many buildings and fountains.

More recently, structures that the public associates with the park's image have been built. For example, there is an amusement park (Tibidabo), two funiculars, and the 1992 Foster telecommunications tower that provides a mirador with a 360° view.

