



## **Featured buildings template**

### **Jaume Fuster Library – Barcelona (Spain)**

#### **1. Name of library**

Jaume Fuster Library

#### **2. Type of library (academic, national, public, school, special)**

Public library

#### **3. Location (address, website)**

Pl. Lesseps, 20-22

08023 Barcelona (Spain)

[www.bcn.cat/bibjaumefuster](http://www.bcn.cat/bibjaumefuster)

#### **4. Is the building part of a university or city masterplan?**

The library was built following the "1998-2010 Barcelona Library Plan. 21st-century libraries, from information to knowledge"

#### **5. Architect/ Design team**

Josep Llinás – Joan Vera

#### **6. New or renovated building or extension or reuse**

It's a new building.

## **7. Building costs (National currency)**

9.329.457 €

## **8. Building dates (e.g. contract signed/ construction started/ opening)**

The construction started on November 2002.

The library was opened on November, 13th 2005.

## **9. Gross building area (library gross area and total building gross area if the library is part of a building)**

Library: 4.788 m<sup>2</sup>.

Total building (Library and Borough Archive): 5.818 m<sup>2</sup>

## **10. Number of user places and types (group study rooms, training rooms, carrels etc.)**

Seating accommodation in the library: 300

Seats in the auditorium: 246

Seats in the 3 multipurpose and training rooms: 37, 24 and 14 places

Seats in the IT training room: 14

Total Seating accommodation: 635

## **11. Size of collections**

Books: 80.608

Audiovisuals: 21.367

Magazines and newspapers: 8.242

Total Collection: 110.217 documents

**12. Please state if the main goals/ purposes of the building were achieved**

Expectations foreseen in the library plan have been achieved. Actually, they exceeded indeed the library plan in all aspects: opening hours, size collections and activities. Also in what refers to the user response (visits, loans, attendance at activities, etc.).

**13. Who was involved in the planning process (e.g. users, library staff, other stakeholders.)**

Architects who designed and run the building works, architect and technicians of the City and Provincial Council of Barcelona, and Library staff.

**14. Are there any special features relating to universal design?**

The proposal was based on locating the building on one side of the site with the main facade facing onto an existing square. A canopy with slopes at various angles provides a wide entrance space and softens the view of the building from the square.

The building's distinctive section, together with the interplay of areas of different internal heights, creates a visual relationship between the various floors, and the roof's sloping planes, in the architect's own words, "provide the cover every library must have as a space which is both individual and social".

In 2006 the building received the prestigious FAD Prize for Architecture, which is awarded annually for the best building to be constructed in the Iberian peninsula (Spain and Portugal). Also in 2006, the building was awarded with the National Prize of Architecture and public space, by the regional government of Catalonia.

**15. Are there any features relating to sustainability?**

There is no remarkable feature relating to sustainability.

**16. Please comment on any features that worked particularly well.**

Strategic location of the building within the borough.

Canopy invites people to look inside the library. This can grab people to the premises.

Bright rooms for users and staff.

**17. Please comment on any element that you would like to be done differently**

Some special rooms (i.e. Auditorium) should have been isolated to be opened easierly for external users.

Information desks are not comfortable for staff.

It would have been extremely useful another multipurpose room for an audience about 100-125 people.