

Don't miss it!

THE CLOISTER

a Capitals

Distributed in pairs, 144 unique capitals decorate the lower cloister. They refer to monastic daily life, the Old and the New testament. Some of the capitals are about vegetable and animal topics, where different types of mythological animals create a extensive bestiary.

b Paleochristian church

The remains of the first Christian basilica, built in the 5th century, are preserved in the cloister garden along with as an important necropolis composed of 30 tombs from the Visigothic era. The tradition tells that Sant Cugat's body was buried there.

c Second floor of the cloister

Considered one of the most elegant works of the Catalan Renaissance architecture, it was completed in 1589. Beautiful Tuscan columns flank the external side of the galleries.

THE CHURCH

d All Saints altarpiece

The gothic altarpiece from the 14th century painted by Pere Serra is located inside of the church, on the right side of the main altar. It was originally placed in the All Saints Chapel and now it is in the southern apse.

e Rose-window

Created in 1337, the rose-window main characteristics are sobriety and austerity, two typical qualities of the Catalan gothic art. The central motifs are purely decorative whereas the lateral ones are religious. Its design is based on the rose window of the south transept located of Notre-Dame, Paris.

f Weathercock

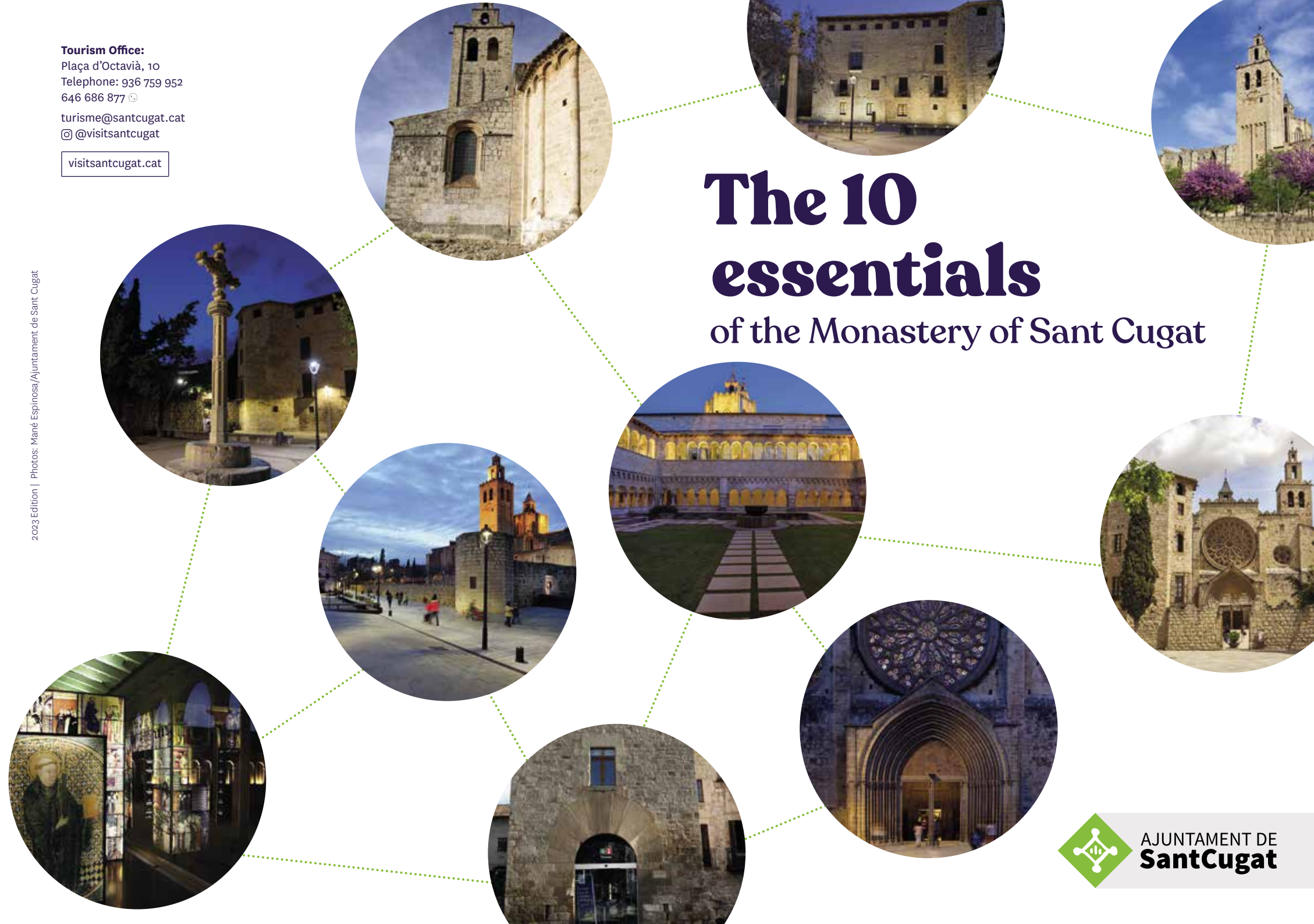
As a town symbol, a cock made of iron is on top of the crossing tower. Legend tells that this cock crowed to warn the town about a crime committed inside the temple by Saltells heir against abbot Biure on 1350 at Christmas Eve.



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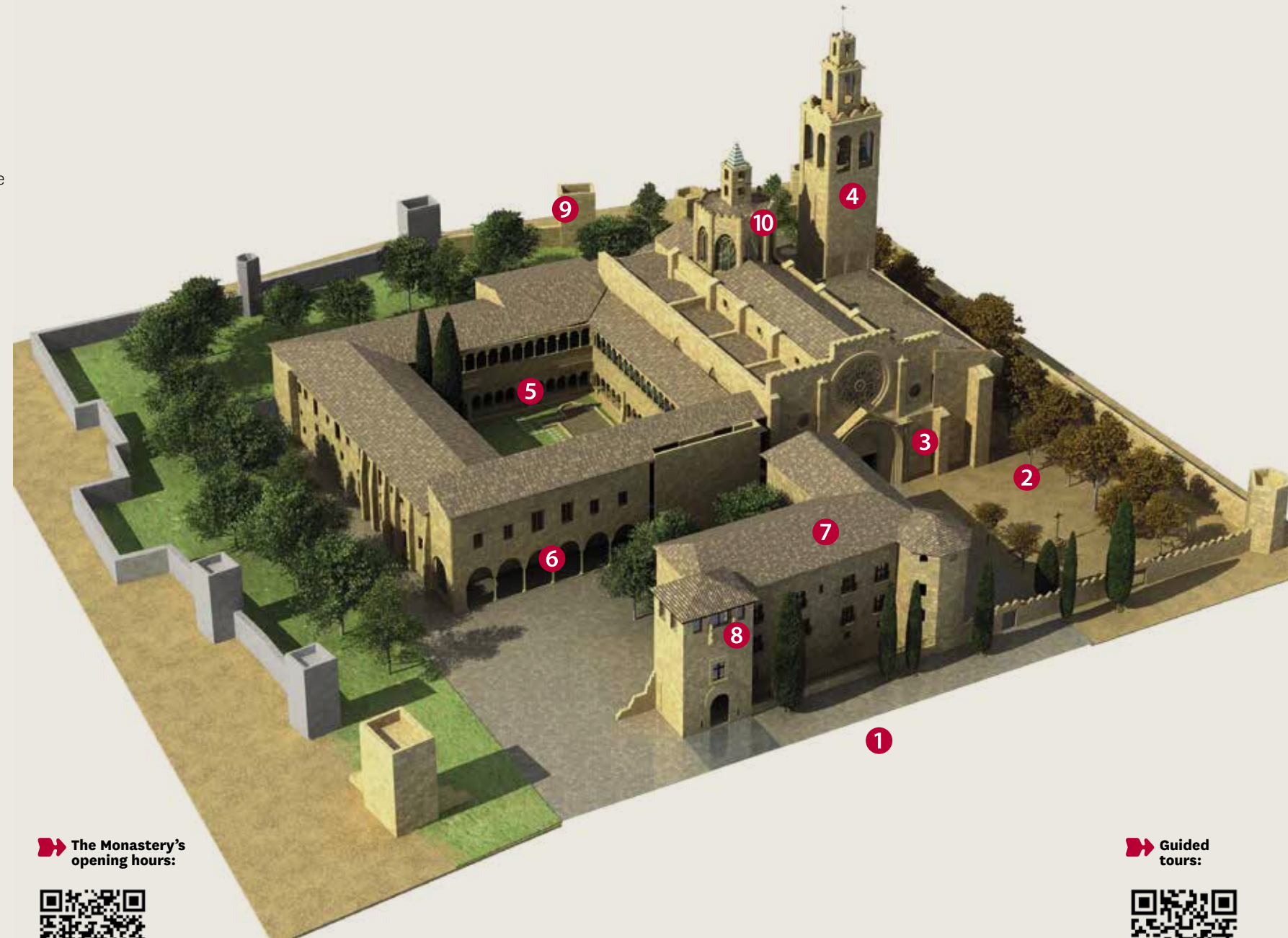
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2023 Edition | Photos: Mané Espinosa/Ajuntament de Sant Cugat



The 10 essentials of the Monastery of Sant Cugat

The 10 essentials of the Monastery



1 OCTAVIÀ SQUARE

Located between the downtown and the Monastery, this extensive terrace was commonly known as the “land of the monks”. The square started being developed in the mid-19th century. In 1860, it was named Octavià, its toponym at the beginning of the Middle Age.

2 BOUNDARY CROSS

It dates from the Middle Age. It was formerly located in an important crossroad of Camí dels Monjos. The cross was located inside the Monastery premises, at the abbot's former vegetable garden, after the Spanish Civil War.

3 THE CHURCH

Built between the 12th and the 14th centuries, the temple was the main building of the Monastery. Its construction began following the romanesque style and ended with the gothic one.

4 CLOCK-TOWER

The clock-tower is one of the few elements that are still conserved from the 11th century monastery compound. The main body of the clock-tower, that comprises the upper portion of the blind arches, was constructed in the 11th century and is decorated with classical Lombard motifs of romanesque style. The upper part of the clock-tower was not built until the mid-18th century.

5 THE CLOISTER

The romanesque cloister, dated from 12th to 13th centuries, is the most outstanding element of the Monastery. This is due to its structure and decorative quality of the 144 unique capitals, distributed in 4 galleries.

 **The Monastery's opening hours:**



6 MUSEUM OF SANT CUGAT

You can visit the permanent exhibition called “Prayer, Work and Power” about the architecture and the history of the monastery, and where the daily life of the benedictine monks in medieval times is explained. There are also rooms with temporary exhibitions, workshop rooms, and a space reserved for collections.

7 ABBOT'S PALACE

This building was built at the end of the 14th century, but it was greatly modified in the 18th century. It has the typical structure associated to Catalan gothic palaces and, at the same time, it is fortified as an integral part of the Monastery's defences with towers, loopholes and battlements at the top.

8 MAIN GATE OF THE MONASTERY

The main entrance of the Monastery was in this tower, named “el Portal Major”. Nowadays, the visitor center is located in this place.
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9 WALLS

The walls that are conserved today were built in two different phases. The eastern and western sectors belong to the architectural refurbishment in the 14th century. In the 16th century, the grounds were enlarged by building the wall on Torre Street, including two polygonal towers at each end.

10 REMAINS OF THE ROMAN FORTIFICATION

There is an unfinished roman military fortification dated back to the 4th century. It has a squared floor plan with eight towers. One of these towers may be seen from the outside of the fortification, underneath the late romanesque civet and clock-tower.

 **Guided tours:**

