

#57. ESPAI DE MAR SPORT CENTRE



Photo credit: <https://bit.ly/2j3LjdM>

Theme(s): Partnership

Type of initiative:
Public Squares

Year: 2010 - till present day

Location:
Barcelona
Spain

Owner: Municipality of Barcelona

Contact: espaidemar@lleuresport.cat

Source: <https://bit.ly/2j3LjdM>

DESCRIPTION

The Espai de mar centre is a municipal sport facility located on the arcades of the Barceloneta Promenade. It has 679 sqm of surface and 127 metres of sea-facing facade. The idea behind the centre is for it to become an environmental education space that's purpose is to promote both awareness and environmental education around the coast, through inclusive sports and inclusive leisure activities.

The Centre includes the following spaces:

- One multivalent room (62 sqm) for cardiovascular training, including special equipment.
- One multipurpose and multimedia room of 92 sqm for dance activities. The availability of a TV, projector, screen and audio screens.
- One multipurpose room of 62 sqm for body and mind development. A huge range of group exercise activities.
- Three changing rooms (female, male and group) with more than 300 lockers.
- Four bathrooms adapted for people with reduced mobility, with lockers available.
- A nutrition and physiotherapy service.
- A rental service "BOX DE PLATJA" for surfboards, surf paddles and bicycles.

The centre offers a huge range of activities like triathlon, open water swimming, yoga, beach volley, beach tennis, and paddle surfing. At the same time different types of equipment is available for free use.

SUCSESSES

The majority of the activities are performed on the beach, all year round. The idea came from the fact that the beach can and is used as an area for physical activity practice. The innovation of practices and disciplines has become one of the keys of it's success. The instructors capability allows the provision of a high quality service, and the reduced cost of the facilities facilitates access for a huge number of people who may otherwise not be able to afford the activities the project provides.

CHALLENGES

The main challenge is to increase the number of users and cement the service firmly as an active offer for citizens to enjoy the beach. The consolidation of groups of participants like schools and the link with tourists also helps to provide a different experience of the beach for people.