

Grupo Catalana Occidente reaches a purchase agreement for Torre Bellesguard

The transaction responds to the Group's mission to add value to society and it is exceptional in nature. The property will continue to be used for tourism purposes.

Grupo Catalana Occidente has reached an agreement to purchase Torre Bellesguard tower (Barcelona) from the Guilera family, who are the current owners of the property. Torre Bellesguard tower is a modernist building built by Antonio Gaudí.

The transaction responds to the Group's mission to add value to society and it is exceptional in nature. For this reason, the Group will invest in the conservation and restoration of Torre Bellesguard tower continuing the courses of action of the Guilera family in recent years.

Similarly, Torre Bellesguard tower will maintain the current activity and usage that is intended for sightseeing tours. The property is listed as a Site of Cultural Heritage which is why the transaction is subject to the approval of the public administrations.

History of the property and of the Guilera family

The Guilera family bought Torre Bellesguard tower in 1944 and have been the owners for more than 70 years. Initially, this building was used as a hospital, as Luis Guilera Molas was a reputed practitioner and pioneer in the study and treatment of cancer, as well as his son and heir, Luis Guilera Soler, who specialised in gynaecology and obstetrics. In 1974, Torre Bellesguard tower ceased to be used as a hospital and became the usual place of residence of the Guilera family.

Thus, in 2011 the Guilera family decided to open the doors of their home to the public, undertaking the administration steps and investments necessary to start up the tourist and cultural activity in Torre Bellesguard tower, which began in September 2013.

For the Guilera family, the key to taking the decision advertised today has been that the buyer of the property is a business group that is particularly sensitive to the art and culture and all that Torre Bellesguard tower represents as part of Antonio Gaudí's work, not only in relation to architecture, but also at a historical, philosophical and symbolic level.

Grupo Catalana Occidente will continue with the commitment made up until now by the Guilera family to conserve this site of cultural heritage, as well as its study, scientific dissemination and mission to bring it closer to the public. Therefore, Torre Bellesguard tower will remain open to the public with the same principles and spirit, shared by the former and the new owners.

About Grupo Catalana Occidente

Grupo Catalana Occidente is one of the leaders in the Spanish insurance sector and the global credit insurance sector. With steady growth and well-established international presence, it has 7.300 employees, a presence in more than 50 countries and serves more than 4,000,000 customers. Its network consists of over 1,600 offices and 19,000 mediators. It is currently 6th in the Spanish market and 2nd worldwide in credit insurance.