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FGC Gracia, Barcelona, (ES)

July 2008



Underground cycle parking at the FGC station

Facility:

FGC Public Bicycle Parking – Gràcia

Provider:

FGC – Catalan Governement Railway (Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat de Catalunya).

Designer/ Architect:

FGC

Cost of Provision:

(not supplied)

Project Manager(s):

FGC

General Description:

There are 23 locations with cycle parking racks on FGC lines from a total of 32 FGC stations. Around 9 do not have cycle parking facilities. 9 locations still do not have parking installed.

FGC is not responsible for the bicycles.

FGC will increase the capacity of bicycle parking by 3- 5% every year.

Aim:

To promote intermodality between bicycles and trains.

Location:

Plaça de Gal·la Placidia, Barcelona.



Location de FGC Gràcia

Scale/ Capacity:

12 racks, with capacity of 24 bicycles.

Length of Stay:

Medium stay, typically. The bicycles are parked there 24 hours a day but access is only possible within FGC operating hours.

Charges/ Cost to User:

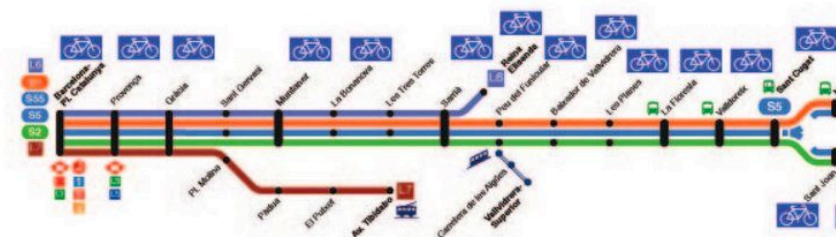
Free

Access:

For clients of FGC (The Catalan rail company) but the access is not controlled and anybody can use it.

There is ramp in Plaça de Gal·la Placidia (for cyclists only and not for prams and pushchairs). Near the entrance there is a café, a bakery and a place for parking bicycles (and the possibility of parking in the B:SM garage which is nearby).

Aparcaments per a bicicletes als FGC Línia del Vallès



A map of cycle parking facilities available on one of the FGC lines (Línia del Vallès)

Signage:

The cycle park is well signposted. There was a sign pointing towards it, which meant it was not difficult to find.

Furniture:

U-stand cycle parking, galvanised steel.

Technical Requirements:

Standard cycle park, using U-stands (medium length stay).



Security, Guardianship and Lighting:

There is video surveillance and illumination. The cycle park is next to the toilets, so people pass through from time to time. The company is not responsible for preventing cycle theft or vandalism.

Maintenance and Servicing:

This is carried out by the FGC company. The floor is clean and it appears to be cleaned every day. This could not be confirmed as the guard was unavailable and the employees had many people to assist.

Strengths:

- The bicycles have protection against the elements; camera surveillance.

Weaknesses:

- Use only possible within operating hours.

Evaluation:

It is more secure to leave the bicycle in the cycle parking facility than to leave it in the street. Generally the people who come in are genuine clients of the FGC. The bicycles are mid-range in terms of price. The cycle park is almost full. Of the 24 spaces there were only around three free, when it was reviewed by Bikeoff.

Useful References:

http://w3.bcn.es/V01/Serveis/Noticies/V01NoticiesLlistatNoticiesCtl/0,2138,1653_1800_2_134928914,00.html?accio=detall&home=

Original research by Marcus Willcocks.



Images from FGC Parking