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Avendia Gaudí – Castillejos, Barcelona, (Spain)

July 2008



The B:SM cycle parking area, in more detail

Facility:

Cycle Parking within B:SM car park Avenida Gaudí / Castillejos

Provider:

B:SM car parks
(independently run, but set up by the City Council of Barcelona)

Designer/ Architect:

B:SM car parks (in-house)

Cost of Provision:

No Information available

Project Manager(s):

B:SM car parks; Tel for this site: +34 93 435 17 46

General Description:

An off-street cycle parking facility integrated into a B:SM car park venue. B:SM are a semi-public organisation, principally set up to provide car parking in collaboration with the Barcelona City Council.

At this site, there are 28 spaces for bicycles of which two-thirds were being used when we visited.

At the moment, the company does not wish to dedicate more space to bicycles, because a car parking space is more profitable due to the fact that there is a higher turnover for cars. The company does not currently perceive so much demand for cycle parking facilities (2007-8). They identify that in part people who want to cycle around this area of Barcelona now have the Bicing public bicycle service at their disposal.

Some of the people who park their bicycles there do not use them. It appears that the majority of the bicycles are not used daily.

Another company called SABA offers free space for their clients to park bicycles (clients who regularly use the facility to park their car or motorcycle).

It would be useful for Barcelona authorities to conduct a study to determine how many B:SM clients have a car or motorcycle and a bicycle parked there.

http://www.bsmsa.es/mobilitat/es/aparcaments_bsm.html shows a map of all garages in Barcelona. According to B:SM there are cycle parking facilities in every garage.

Aim:

To offer more services to the car park user.

Location:

In the intersection between Avenida Gaudí and Castillejos. Very close to Hospital de San Pau. Tel: +34 93 435 17 46



Location of B:SM car park cycle parking at Avenida Gaudí con Castillejos

Scale/ Capacity:

28 spaces.

Length of Stay:

Cycle parking facility for short or long stay. From one hour to monthly or annual stay.

Charges/ Cost to User:

€1.20 per hour and €13.19 per month once registered and €10.56 with the Carnet Jove (Young Person's Card). To register, the cost is €11. A card is given with a support number and the type of bicycle. This card cannot be used to raise the barrier. Cyclists must either go around it or below the barrier.

Access:

Access from the street, as with motor vehicles. There is a steep slope down to the garage.

Signage:

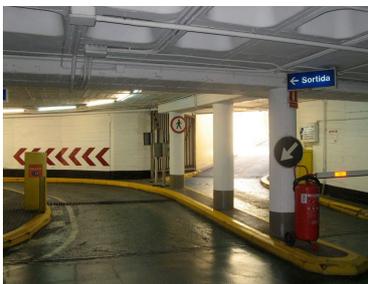
It is marked on every sign in the B:SM parking facility (see photos). It can be seen on entrance to the car park.



Access from Avenida Gaudí / Castillejos



The cycle parking provides wheel stands for the cycles



Exit from the garage



Signage indicating the availability of cycle parking inside

Furniture:

One wheel only; variation on butterfly stands offers little security in its own right, but does allow locking of front or rear wheel and frame if locked correctly.

http://www.bikeoff.org/design_resource/DR_furniture_typology.shtml

Acceptable because the bikes are directly surveyed from the parking control box. No sign of vandalism or theft.

Technical Requirements:

Space for 30 bikes within surveyed area. Installation of 'butterfly' type stands.

Security, Guardianship and Lighting:

It is close to the checkpoint but it could be better lit. If there are no cars parked next to it, there is more light from the security guard's office than offered by the background lighting.

Maintenance and Servicing:

Maintenance and security seem sufficient. The area was not excessively dirty and there were no obvious signs of damage to the bikes or racks. The first time we arrived there was no information available in the facility about either cycle paths in Barcelona, or Bicing. When we returned with the company's permission to take photographs, there was a lot of information available.

Strengths:

- Parking with protection against the weather and guard surveillance
- It seems to be a good cycle parking facility if it is close to the place of residence

Weaknesses:

- High price, but in comparison with the price of parking for motor vehicles or private cycle parking facilities, it is fine in proportion

Evaluation:

This type of cycle parking facility is useful for people who live nearby. There were bicycles there of all price ranges. The price of parking is around €39 month for a motorcycle and €114 a month for a car. The price relation of parking a bicycle appears to be reasonable.

Useful References:

http://www.bsmsa.es/mobilitat/es/aparcaments_bsm.html

Original research by: Marcus Willcocks.