

Barcelona boasts prestigious universities, advanced research centres, R&D laboratories and intermediary institutions that promote the development of biotech-based projects.

In the **Barcelona** metropolitan area there are major pharmaceutical companies and a network of **cutting-edge hospitals** working on clinical trials, research and collaboration with the private sector. The city has become a benchmark in Spain for its extensive network of quality technology **research centres** in the life sciences, a deep-rooted spirit of enterprise, its **talented workforce** in the biotech industry and a long tradition in life-sciences education and business.

In **Catalonia** there are over 250 biotech and biomedical companies. In recent years the number of companies in the **biotech sector** has increased by nearly 30%.

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An experienced, multidisciplinary professional team will give its full commitment to your investment project and collaborate with your company before, during and after the implementation of your investment in Catalonia.

We look forward to welcoming you.
www.catalonia.com

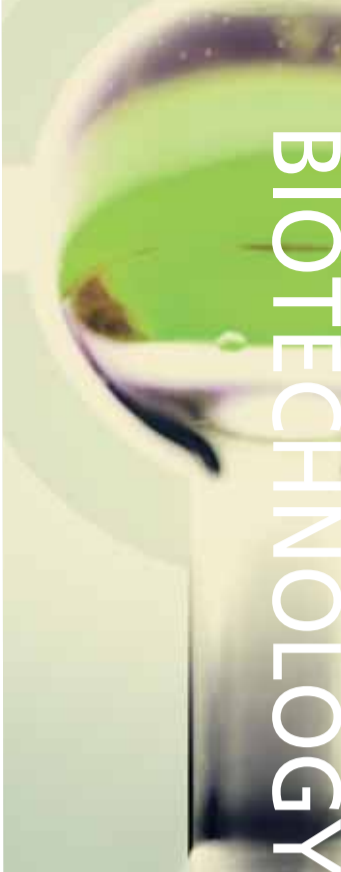
Catalonia
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Catalonia is known for being innovative, full of dynamic economic activity and for its highly qualified workforce, not to mention a strategic geographic position in Europe that continuously attracts major investments.

Catalonia is a very pleasant place to live. **Barcelona** has consolidated its position as the leading European city in terms of quality of life and is considered the 4th best European city in which to locate a business.



BIOTECHNOLOGY

Advantages of the Catalan Biotechnology Sector

Major presence of national and foreign **pharmaceutical companies**

Catalonia is home to 50% of the pharmaceutical laboratories in Spain and accounts for 60% of production. Moreover, 66% of companies working in fine chemicals are located in Catalonia.

The top four Spanish pharmaceutical companies (Almirall Prodesfarma, Esteve, Ferrer Internacional and Uriach) were founded in Catalonia and have their head offices here. Seven of the ten leading pharmaceutical groups (Pfizer, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Sanofi-Aventis, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck & Co., Novartis and the Roche Group) also have offices in Catalonia.

Network of **cutting-edge hospitals** working on clinical trials, doing research and collaborating with the private sector

Catalonia accounts for 30% of Spanish biomedical research, mainly in the areas of cancer and degenerative diseases.

It boasts a network of 215 hospitals (including 6 of the most productive in Spain in terms of scientific output) with a wide range of activities in terms of clinical and human-health research, including basic pharmaceutical research, advanced high-tech diagnostics, materials development, diagnostic/therapeutic devices and artificial organs. There are 50,000 professionals working in the sector, including 31,000 doctors.

Talented people in the biotech sector and a favourable environment for **entrepreneurship, innovation** and the creation of companies

Catalonia stands out for its skilled workforce and its capacity to attract talent. There are 12 universities with more than 300,000 students and 27 business schools, some internationally renowned. Barcelona's universities are attended by more than 23,000 foreign students.

Catalonia accounts for almost a quarter of all spending on innovation activities by Spanish companies, 31% of European patent applications and 38% of the scientific production in Spain.

Infrastructure, science parks and **research centres** in the life sciences

Catalonia boasts 13 science parks, 553 research groups, 137 R&D centres and 308 university departments, amongst which there are more than 150 groups dedicated to biotech research.

In terms of infrastructure, Catalonia has 2 major facilities: the **Synchrotron Light Source** (2009), and Mare Nostrum, the fifth largest **supercomputer** in the world, which focuses on the life, earth and computational sciences. Other notable facilities include:

Barcelona Science Park, PCB (UB): bringing together research institutes and companies, and bioincubator (<http://www.pcb.ub.es>)

Barcelona Biomedical Research Park, PRBB (UPF): large research groups (<http://www.prbb.org/>)

Research Park (UAB): research institutes and bioincubator (<http://www.parc.uab.es>)

Some of the **research centres** in Catalonia include Centre for Genomic Regulation, August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute, Catalan Institute for Cardiovascular Science, Institute for Research in Biomedicine, Agro-genomic Research, Municipal Institute of Medical Research, Catalan Institute of Bioengineering, Barcelona Institute for Molecular Biology, Vicent Villar Palasí Biotechnology and Biomedical Institute, Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research, Centre of Regenerative Medicine in Barcelona, Centre for Theoretical Chemistry.

The **BioRegion**

The Catalan cluster of the biotechnology sector is a **pioneering initiative** in Spain that promotes the interests of all the stakeholders in the biotech sector to make Catalonia an international benchmark in biomedicine and biotechnology (<http://www.biocat.cat>).

Active **support** from the **public sector** for the biotech industry

Public subsidies for biotechnology in Spain (research, training, contracting, etc.) have increased over the last five years at an average rate of 22.6%. The Catalan government's Department of Innovation, Universities and Enterprise, via **ACCÍÓ CIDEM-COPCA**, offers companies technical support and different financing options (<http://www.acc10.cat>).