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Blanes

Ruta
Roberto
Bolaño

"Yo nunca sospeché que
 un día llegaría a **Blanes**
 y que ya nunca más
 desearía marcharme"

Roberto Bolaño

1953 - 2003

Roberto Bolaño was born in Santiago, Chile in 1953. In 1968, the family moved to live in México, where the writer lived the best years of his youth. In Mexico, "the most transparent region of the world", along with several friend poets, he founded infrarrealism, a movement of poetic art that spoke out against the official culture.

In 1977, he arrived in Barcelona and three years later in Girona, where he met Carolina López, whom he married in 1985. The young couple finally settled in Blanes.

Bolaño arrived in this corner of the Costa Brava with the intention of opening a business of costume jewelry. Nevertheless, Bolaño already knew Blanes thanks to the novel *Últimas tardes con Teresa* by Juan Marse, which he explained in the opening speech of the Fiesta Mayor (1999). In addition, he added that the sound of the word "Blanes" delighted him.

Blanes, "a paradise without being harsh and with a magnificent sea", put an end to an itinerant life passing through various countries in Latin America and Europe.

Bolaño's work is full of references to the landscape and to the people of Blanes. The promenade, beach, port, the Gothic Fountain, the Sant Joan Castle and the *camping sites* area are only a sample of the spaces that can be found in its pages.

The writer lived in different areas of the town: in the neighbourhood of Els Pins, Racó d'en Portes and in the historical centre. He was a frequent visitor to its shops and businesses, a fact that helped to establish bonds of friendship with the owners, some of whom he mentioned in his columns in the *Diari de Girona* and the Festive opening speech.

Blanes was the living space of the writer, where he lived for nearly two decades. In the municipality, he formed a family and devoted himself with all his zeal to the writing profession, until he died in July 2003. Poet, essayist and novelist, in Blanes he wrote the bulk of his works and lived the period of greatest fulfilment.

01 Railway Station

Bolaño arrived in Blanes by train from Girona, a city where he lived for five years (1980-1985).

I cannot remember when I arrived here, only that it was by train and many years ago.

The Maritime Forest (2000)

In the story *The Maritime Forest*, he portrays the views that the visitor contemplates when you arrive by train to the town. It is a panoramic description not without some touches of fiction:

[...] when one comes to Blanes by train you only find the station itself and around the station some orchards and a little beyond the Civil Guard barracks, alone most of the time, and the factory which is now a very modern factory where you never seem to see any workers, as if the factory were an office full of clerks and the machines did the hard work. Although I know that it is not true, because if there were no workers, where are those who inhabited and built up Los Pinos and later the Plantera neighbourhoods?

The Maritime Forest (2000)



When he arrived in Blanes in 1985, he opened a small establishment of imitation jewelry. His mother had been for some time selling costume jewelry and leather objects. His first residence was the back room of the family business, located in "a neighbourhood of white houses of only a ground floor , next to the sea":

I first came to this village by chance, many years ago. I came in the Summer to set up a shop in Los Pinos and I stayed. Of course, I knew nothing about shops. The time as a seller was brief and in some way closed the period of all my innumerable extraliterary jobs.

Opening speech in Blanes (1999)

Apart from the words of the opening speech, autobiographical data can be found from this period, in the life of Remo Moran, one of the characters of *The Skating Rink*:

With my savings, I rented a place that I turned into a jewelry store; it was the cheapest place I could find but it cost me all that I had, down to the last peseta [...] That winter we converted the store into our house, that is to say, there we had our mats and sleeping bags, our books.

The Skating Rink, work written in 1986
and published in 1993



Near Cristófor Colom street is Mediterrani Avenue, one of the main access routes to the touristic area of the campsites:

Beyond Los Pinos there are campsites, some hotels, apartment buildings, all of recent construction, and beyond this the Tordera River and on the other side of the river the province of Barcelona.

The Maritime Forest (2000)

This leisure area, the result of economic development in the 60 's and 70's , is a very well known space to the characters of *The Third Reich*:

The club was on the side of the town near the campground, a neighbourhood of clubs, burger stands and restaurants. Ten years ago there was nothing here but a few places to camp and a pine forest that stretched all the way to the main tracks; today apparently it's the town's main tourist district. The bustle of this single street, which runs along the shore, is like that of a big city at rush hour. With the difference that here rush hour begins at nine in the evening and doesn't end until after three. The crowd that gathers on the pavement is motley and cosmopolitan: white, black, yellow, Indian, mixed, as if all the races had agreed to vacation here, although I suppose not everyone is on vacation.

The Third Reich, work written in 1989
and published in 2010



Located in the Paseo de s'Abanell, near the shop he ran, was the Hogar del Productor, one of the bars that Bolaño frequented during the first years of his stay in Blanes. In the premises, situated in front of the sea and with access to the plaza Nostra Senyora del Vilar, Bolaño met his first friends.

The clientele of the Hogar del Productor were pretty marginal. In those years, drugs and, especially, heroin, raged among young people, and the memory of that time is marked by the death of some of his friends:

I strolled around, when the shop allowed me a free moment, and as a stroll tired me I entered in the bars of Blanes to have a beer and I spoke with the people [...] My first friends in Blanes were almost all drug addicts. This sounds strong, but it is true, and today the majority are dead [...] When I met them they were handsome young boys, but they were not good students. None of them went to university, but lived their lives which were so short as if they were part of a vast Greek tragedy.

Opening Speech in Blanes (1999)



04 Videoclub Serra

5, Josep Tarradellas Street

Cinema was one of the greatest hobbies of the writer. He often frequented the Serra Video club, where he went to rent films and converse passionately about cinema with Narcis Serra, the owner.

And I also remember now Narcis Serra, who had and still has a video club in Els Pins and that was and I guess that is still one of the people with the best sense of humor of this town. He is also a good person, with whom I spent entire afternoons commenting on Woody Allen films [...] or speaking about thrillers that only he and I and sometimes Dimas Luna, which was then a young lad doing his military service and who now owns a bar, had seen.

Opening Speech in Blanes (1999)

Bolaño is worthy of the epithet videophilo. He watched the movies in the privacy of his TV at home, a fact that enabled him to replay the tape more than once and repeatedly view the scenes. One of the characters in 2666, Charly Cruz, owner of a video club, makes a strong defense in favour of home video:



A TV set isn't the same as a movie screen. Your living room isn't the same as the old endless rows of seats. But look carefully and you'll see it's the closest thing to it. In the first place, because with videos you can watch a movie all by yourself. You close the windows and you turn on the TV. You pop in the video and you sit in a chair. First off: do it alone. No matter how big or small your house is, it feels bigger with no one else there. Second: be prepared. In other words, rent the movie, buy the drinks you want, the snacks you want, decide what time you're going to sit down in front of the TV. Third: don't answer the phone, ignore the doorbell, be ready to spend an hour and a half or two hours and forty-five minutes in complete and utter solitude. Fourth: have the remote control within reach in case you want to see a scene more than once. And that's it. After that it all depends on the movie and you.

2666 (2004)

Film making appears in the work of Bolaño not only in the explicit reference to titles, characters and arguments, but also in a subtle way with the use of techniques of speech pertaining to genres such as detective, terror or westerns.



05 The Family House

2, Aurora Street

Bolaño and his wife, Carolina López, lived in different apartments, for very short periods. The changes of address were due to the need of the young couple to find cheap rent and thus avoid the high cost of housing during the summer season.

However, by the end of the 80' , they settled into a small apartment in Aurora street, in El Racó d'en Portes, where Lautaro was born, the couple's first child.

The story "Colonia Lindavista" starts with the memory of his arrival in Mexico and with the description of Aurora street:

In Blanes I lived for a few years in a flat in Aurora street, so it would seem unlikely that in Mexico I would also live in another Aurora street, although it is true that this name is quite common and this name can be found in many streets of many cities Aurora street in Blanes, anyway, was no more than 20m and could be considered an alley more than street.

The Secret of Evil (2007)



06 Library

Aurora street is a cul-de-sac, situated near the library. The building was constructed in 2003, prior to its construction, the area was a large block of land. From the year 2008, the library has the Bolaño Lounge, a multifunctional space opened in tribute to the writer, by public initiative. In the opening ceremony of the conference room, Lautaro and Alexandra, the children of the writer, uncovered the plaque that presides over the entrance:

I just hope to be considered a South American writer who was more or less a decent person who lived in Blanes, and loved this town.

*Text from the commemorative plaque
in the Bolaño Lounge*

As is evident in his statements, Bolaño reaffirms his Latin American origins ("el Sudaca Bolaño"), although he defines himself as a stateless person:

*-Are you Chilean, Spanish or Mexican?
-I am Latin American.
- Where do you consider your homeland ?
- I am sorry to give you a corny answer. My only home are my two children, Lautaro and Alexandra. Perhaps, but in the far distance are moments, some of the streets, some faces or scenes or books that are inside of me and that one day I will forget. That is the best thing one can do with ones' homeland.*

Mónica Maristain. "Roberto Bolaño: Distant Star" (2003)



07 The Marine Promenade

One of his favourite corners was the plaza located next to Joaquim Ruyra public school, a space flanked by a row of houses facing the sea, built in the 30's.

Bolaño would sit on the benches in the square to read and contemplate the horizon, while waiting for his son Lautaro to come out of school:

From the square of Joaquim Ruyra school, the Mediterranean Sea, at four in the afternoon, only resembles a vague idea of the classic. The clear horizon, the rugged coast, distiches even the cars slide along the promenade obey the rule: transparent discipline that isn't broken not even the person with AIDS that passes without looking at the sea nor the excessive volume of a distant TV. Everything shines, everything seems to have stopped. Those of us waiting in the plaza for our children to come out we are cursed by our destiny. The waves are the most important thing of our thoughts.

Fragment of "Blanes", poem unpublished ARHRB 1-4



08 Cortils i Vieta Promenade

Bolaño used to stroll along the promenade, sit on the benches located in front of the sea or at the terraces to read the newspaper or immerse himself in never-ending reading, always puffing at a cigarette.

In Blanes I have the Mediterranean Sea, the sea I prefer to all others.

Uwe Stolzmann. "Interview with Roberto Bolaño" (2001)

His admiration for the beach of Blanes is evident in this phrase at the last interview he gave shortly before his death:

The bay is beautiful.

Mónica Maristain. "Roberto Bolaño: Distant Star" (2003)

The beach of Blanes and the landscape that surrounds it are the scene of *The Skating Rink*. Bolaño centres the storyline of this novel in a coastal town, which he calls enigmatically Z. The topographical descriptions and some characters referred to, are indisputably the town of Blanes.

Bolaño transferred real facts into the novel such as the international free flying competitions Costa Brava Trophy, held in the 80's. A launch pad was installed at the Sant Joan Castle and a landing area set up on the beach.



I remained away from the main crowd of spectators, all with their eyes fixed on the sky, gathering around the platform of the jury. From the hill that dominates the village emerged a red hang-glider blending with the colour of the sunset and gliding down the slopes of the hill, rising before arriving at the fishing port. It flew over the yacht club and for a moment seemed to be heading towards the east, into the sea: the pilot, a shrunken shadow, hardly perceived due to the inclination of aircraft. Up in the castle, another participant was already getting ready. I had never seen anything like it.

The Skating Rink (1993)

The storyline of *The Third Reich* also takes place in a coastal town, which is the transfiguration of Blanes.

From the balcony I can see the little boats that ply the tourist route; they leave every hour from the old fishing port, head east then turn north, and vanish behind a big outcropping that they call the Punta de la Virgen.

The Third Reich (2010)



09 Sant Jordi bookshop

18, Joaquim Ruyra Street

Bolaño visited Sant Jordi bookshop every week. He dedicated one of his columns in the *Diari de Girona* to Pilar Pagespetit, the bookseller.

We all have the bookseller that we deserve, except those who have none. Mine is Sant Jordi in Blanes, the bookshop of Pilar Pagespetit i Martori, in the former stream of the town. Once every three days I would look around there and converse with my bookseller [...] Eighteen years ago, when she came to live in Blanes, she set up her bookshop and she seems happy. I too am happy with my bookshop. I have credit and she usually manages to get the books that I request. You can't ask for more.

"The Bookseller". *Between parentheses* (2004)

Bolaño wrote close to fifty newspaper columns for the *Diari de Girona*. The collaboration lasted nearly a year and a half from January 1999 until the Spring of 2000. He wrote the texts in Spanish and the newspaper itself was responsible for the translation into Catalan.



In the columns, Blanes appears (*Spring in Blanes, a Christmas Carol at Blanes*), the beach (*Civilization, Stories of July, Sun and skull*) and its inhabitants, some anonymous (*The Winter of the readers*) and other acquaintances (*The Pastry cook, The bookshop, Dimas Luna, Prince, Rhapsody of Blanes*).

As a teenager he was a voracious reader who left his studies with the strong desire of wanting to be a writer. As an adult he stated: "I am more happy reading that writing".

The books that I remember most are the ones that I stole in Mexico DF, between the ages of sixteen and nineteen, and those that I bought in Chile when I was twenty, in the first few months of the coup d'état. In Mexico there was an incredible bookshop, it was called the Crystal bookshop and was in Alameda. Its walls, even the roof, were all glass. Glass and iron beams. Looking from the outside, it seemed impossible to steal a book there, however, the temptation to try it out was stronger than wisdom and I tried [...] I changed from being a cautious reader to being a voracious reader, and converted from a robber of books to a mugger of books. I wanted to read everything.

"Who is the courageous?". *Between parentheses* (2004)



10

The Old Can Dimas

20, Hospital Street

The friendship of the writer with Dimas Luna built up in and out of the two restaurants that he ran. The first was located in Paseo Cortils i Vieta corner with La Muralla street; and the second, in Hospital, 20 street. Dimas sold both businesses.

Dimas is also the protagonist of one of the columns in the *Diari de Girona*, a commendatory text, Bolaño recalls, among other virtues of his friend, the love of films they shared:

I was recently speaking with a prince. His name is Dimas Luna, but his friends, sometimes call him Dimas Moon [...] With Dimas Luna in Blanes, I know that no one is ever going to be completely alone. The spirit of the incorrupt Spanish barman lives in him.

"Dimas Luna, prince". *Between parentheses* (2004)

Bolaño met in Can Dimas with many of his friends. It was also a place to meet regularly with people who were interested in talking to him. However, that was not the only establishment where he was a client, he also visited others such as Novo Bar, the cafeteria Bacchio, the cafeteria El Español (currently the Theatre cafeteria), El Primer Casino de Blanes or Can Flores Restaurant, in the port.



Bolaño was a fan of strategy games, a circumstance which led him to visit the shop of Santi Serramitjana, whom he defined as "a minimalist philosopher".

During his stay in Girona, Bolaño had already met with a bunch of friends to play endless games that could last longer than a day.

In Blanes, he continued with this hobby in the company of friends who he had met in the bar El Hogar del Productor and who gave him the title of "King of attack", due to his mastery in military strategy.

His passion in war games is evident in *The Third Reich* (2010), novel in which the protagonist, Udo Berger, goes into a hellish game set in World War II:

"Give me any war or campaign and I'll tell you how it can be won or lost, the flaws of the game, where the designer got it right or wrong, the correct scale, the original order of battle....."

The Third Reich (2010)



12 The Old Planells Cakeshop

Joan Baptista Planells was one of his friends. They met in the cakeshop that he ran in the Passeig de Dintre in front of the Town Hall, and near the Terrassans Café where Bolaño also went frequently.

Their self-learning united them and an extensive artistic-literary culture. Planells read all Bolaño's works and, even, at times, revealed details of the process of creation before they were published.

Bolaño spoke of his friend in a newspaper column, in which, after naming illustrious characters who were pastry cooks, tells of his visits to the bakery of J. V. Foix, Sarria (Barcelona), on his way to visit his editor:

My friend Joan Planells, pastry cook from Blanes, claims that he never gets sick, and that is always in a good mood [...] he said that the secret lies in not stressing out and reading and working a lot.

"The Pastry cooks". Between parentheses (2004)

Planells is nephew of the surrealist painter Àngel Planells, whom Bolaño mentioned several times during the Opening speech of the Fiesta Mayor:



I hope my opening speech honors such an illustrious predecessor. I hope that my 'little chat' is informal and that if Àngel Planells was able to hear it he would say "that's not bad, young lad".

Opening speech in Blanes (1999)

The friendship meant that in the year 2001, Planells invited Bolaño to the presentation ceremony of the Fundació Àngel Planells, an entity that for ten years had been a point of reference in local culture. Bolaño began his opening speech "My Surrealism" with these words:

I'm here basically because of the friendship that unites me with Joan Planells since the moment when he sold cakes in the Rambla. He told me to come and his wishes are his command... Not that much, but almost.

During his speech, he praised the democratic spirit of Catalonia:

When I came to live in Catalunya I discovered, and I discover every day, the democratic spirit, the live and let live, which for me, as a Latin American, is perhaps the greatest of all treasures that I have found in Catalunya.



13 The Author's Studio

23, Lloro Street

In the mid 90's, Bolaño rented a small studio in Lloro street, a cul-de-sac, parallel to one of the main streets of the town, Ample street. The apartment of the family was situated at number 17 of the same street.

In the studio, a space of small dimensions, austere and with no phone, Bolaño found the calm necessary to create his literary universe.

He worked tirelessly and disciplined, got up at 6 in the morning "sometimes even before", and...

I turned on the computer, an archaic piece of junk, and while the programme appeared it gives me time to wash and prepare myself a chamomile tea with honey, my only drink. I wrote all morning and then I took a break to pick up my son at school. I used the afternoon to correct what I had written.

Elsa Fernández Santos.
"The Chilean of Lloro street" (1998)

The studio was located at one end of the street near the old cinema Maryan (currently Theatre of Blanes), circumstance that Bolaño describes through the narrative voice of Susana Puig, one of the characters of *The Savage Detectives*:



He lived in a building in the center of town, the back wall right up against the movie theatre, so if a horror movie was playing or the soundtrack was very loud, you could hear the shouts and the high notes from the kitchen, and especially if you'd already seen the movie, you'd more or less know what part it was at, whether they'd found the killer or not.

After the last show, the apartment would be plunged into a deep silence, as if the building had suddenly dropped into a mine shaft.

The Savage Detectives (1998)

Near Lloro street, at the back Les Voltes, was La Fonda Tarrés, one of the most emblematic restaurants in those years. On many occasions, Bolaño spoke about the excellent black rice they served there:

[...] there are other types of monuments or points of interest, which are perhaps the ones I most appreciate The black rice of Can Tarres, for example, or the black rice of the Dimas restaurant, or the market that every day, except Sundays, extends from one end to the other of the Passeig de Dintre, or the fish market, where fish are auctioned daily [...]

The Maritime Forest (2000)



14 The Family Home

13, Ample Street

The editorial success that came with the publication of *The Savage Detectives* (1998), works that were awarded the prizes Herralde and Rómulo Gallegos, allowed him to overcome a period of many economic difficulties.

The same year of publication, the family moved from Lloro street to a flat in Ample street, concretely 2nd floor 1st door Can Miralbell, a stately building constructed in the nineteenth century, next to the "old rambling shed where Ruyra lived" and the Gothic fountain, a construction that represents civil gothic. However, Bolaño continued to work in the humble studio of Lloro street.

[...] the gothic fountain, the jewel of the villa, built by the daughter of the count of Prades, Violante of Cabrera, at the end of the XIVth century, of hexagonal shape, with six jets of water and six gargoyles, and that it is so beautiful and so humble, there, next to the old Marian cinema, that one wonders what went through the mind of the beautiful Violante, where the master craftsmen came from, who built it, how it is possible to walk by it every day and not cry.

The Maritime Forest (2000)



Prior to the publication of *The Savage Detectives*, Bolaño had published, and critics had well accepted, various titles: (*Nazi Literature in the Americas* (1996), *Distant Star* (1996) and a collection of stories *Phone Calls* (1997), a fact which inevitably led him to participate in the spiral of presentations and press conferences of the publishing world.

Bolaño left behind a period of life where to maintain the family, he participated in literary awards in different provinces, which he described as "buffalo prizes I had to go hunting like a red skin whose life is on the line". His success did not alter his commitment with literature, or relationships with his writer friends who often travelled to Blanes to visit and spend the day with him.

Bolaño made a very courageous bet in diminishing the boundaries between life and literature, with the creation of Arturo Belano, his *alter ego*. Cercas also raised him to the category of a literary personality in *Soldados de Salamina*. The main character in the novel, a young journalist, visits Blanes to interview him:

[...] I was forty-seven years old, a good number of books on my shoulders and that unmistakable air of a hippie peddler that affects so many Latin Americans of his generation exiled in Europe - When I went to visit him he had just received a major literary prize and lived with his wife and son in Ample street, a street in the center of Blanes.

Javier Cercas, *Soldados de Salamina* (2001)



15

The Old Bitlloch Newsagent's

29, Ample Street

In 1999 he was invited to participate in proclaiming the opening of the Fiesta Mayor. In a sincere speech with no conventionalisms, he recalled affectionately his friends and the people who were part of his routine ("to those I see every day or once a week"), among which he mentioned the shop assistants in the Bitlloch newsagency and to the Oms pharmacy.

At the Bitlloch newsagent's, located very near his family home, he went to buy the newspaper. He often began brief conversations with the shop assistants for the pleasure of debating current issues. The business changed its location in 2008 (9, Nou Street) and moved to premises located in front of the Oms pharmacy. Both shops are located in the medieval street that leads to the square of the church, the former palace of the viscounts of Cabrera.

The girls of the Bitlloch newsagency, all, without exception, beautiful and friendly.

Opening speech in Blanes (1999)



The visits to the pharmacy were constant since in 1992 he was diagnosed with a serious liver disease.

*To the chemist's assistants of the Oms pharmacy,
who always have a kind word for all.*

Opening speech in Blanes (1999)

His life experiences fill many of his pages, so it is not unusual to find reflections on his illness:

*The disease is sitting under the lighthouse looking
toward nowhere. The lighthouse is black, the sea is
black, the jacket of the writer is also black.*

*"Summer" in People who move away.
The Unknown University (2007)*



17 The autor's Last Studio

32, Joaquim Ruyra Street

The last few years, well aware of the countdown the serious diagnosis had started, he committed himself entirely to his writing. At the beginning of 2003, he moved for a short time, to an apartment located in the Rambla Joaquim Ruyra.

Of that lost, hopelessly lost, I only want to recover the willingness to write daily , lines able to pull my hair and lift me up when my body no longer wanted to endure more.

*"Post scriptum" in People who move away.
The Unknown University (2007)*

He died on July 15, 2003 while gripping to life to finish 2666, his most ambitious work.

But everything arrives. The children arrive. The books arrive. The disease arrives. The end of the journey arrives.

*"Literature + disease = disease".
The Insufferable Gaucho (2003)*



In the work of Bolaño references to Blanes are numerous. On several occasions, the writer highlighted the diverse, plural and tolerant nature of the locality:

Blanes is similar to its beaches, where every Summer all those brave Europeans roast, the locals and those from the other side of the Pyrenees, the fat men and the fat women, the ugly, the skinny, the most beautiful girls in Barcelona, all types of children , the old men and the old women, the terminally ill, and those with a hangover , all half naked, all exposed to Mediterranean sun and the comprehensive look of the San Juan Castle, and the smell that comes from the beaches (it is best to remember this now, in the long Winter). The smell of the body creams, suntan lotions, solar protection lotions, that smell like this, but obviously ,also smell of democracy, history, and civilization.

The Maritime Forest (2000)

The word tolerance, is for me the word that best defines Catalonia, but above all it is the word that for me defines Blanes, a town or a small city with problems, with flaws, but tolerant, that is alive and civilized, because without tolerance there is no civilization, with no tolerance there are repressed cities, robot cities, cities that will resemble the Clockwork Orange of our lamented Stanley Kubrick and of our late and mourned Burgess, but that will not in any way be cities where we can live. That is what Catalonia has taught me and what Blanes has taught me.

Opening speech in Blanes (1999)



- 01 **Railway Station**
- 02 **Costume Jewelry Bussiness**
Corner between
Cristòfor Colom and Lluís Companys Streets
- 03 **The Old Hogar del Productor**
22, s'Abanell Promenade
- 04 **Serra Videoclub**
5, Josep Tarradellas Street
- 05 **The Family House**
2, Aurora Street
- 06 **Library**
- 07 **The Marina Promenade**
- 08 **Cortils i Vieta Promenade**
- 09 **Sant Jordi Bookshop**
18, Joaquim Ruyra Street
- 10 **The Old Can Dimas**
20, Hospital Street
- 11 **Joker Jocs**
39, Bellaire Street
- 12 **The Old Planells Cakeshop**
42, Passeig de Dintre
- 13 **The Author's Studio**
23, Lloro Street
- 14 **The Family Home**
13, Ample Street
- 15 **The Old Bitlloch Newsagent's**
29, Ample Street
- 16 **Oms Pharmacy**
8, Nou Street
- 17 **The Autor's Last Studio**
32, Joaquim Ruyra Street



Image: Jordi Ribot / Iconma

The route ***Bolaño in Blanes*** follows the personal living spaces of the writer, from his arrival in the municipality in 1985 until his death in 2003.

The itinerary has been prepared following the timeline of the author, except for point 6 that corresponds to criteria of proximity. Each of the spaces of the route is accompanied by texts from the author referring to diverse backgrounds: interviews, newspaper articles, novels...

The pictures are intended to bring the visitor closer to the urban landscape in a vivid way and to show the changes that some places have suffered with the pass of time.

