

BARCELONA GUIDE

Here is a practical guide to the main places to visit during your stay in Barcelona. We hope you make the most out of it!!

The most emblematic places of the city

El Born

Despite humble beginnings as a settlement built on top of a medieval area of jousts and celebrations El Born has grown into being one of the most fashionable places in the city.

Every day the cafes are packed and at night people move along to Passeig de Born, which according to locals was the site of the jousts, to sample the many bars, which serve up a mean mojito. Also on Passeig de Born there is claimed to be the best pizza place in Barcelona, and at €1.50 a slice you can't complain.

Nevertheless El Born isn't just about the nightlife, there is plenty of culture to be had as well. It can be seen that Calle Montcada was also a medieval street, which is now home to the Picasso museum and the Textile Museum which has a lovely café with a terrace attached to it. The textile museum is located here because in Born's early days it was home to the textile guilds of Barcelona. There is also a beautiful church which you can wander around in, sometimes even when there is a wedding going on!

Nowadays people are attracted to Born for the shopping which consists of some beautiful but pricey boutiques and shoe shops which are useful to find that one-off piece. Some of the trendiest shops around such as Brazilian company Colcci have chosen Born as their home.

El Born is sandwiched between Via Laietana and Barceloneta and is served by the metro stops Barceloneta and Jaume 1 which are on the same line. Las Ramblas and the centre of the city are a pleasant 10 minute walk away.

The beach is also just a 10 minute walk away so you can have both a beach holiday and a city break in one. Plus you are quite close to the Parc Ciutadella, which is a relaxing place to sit in the afternoon and watch the hippies play their bongos. The Barcelona zoo is also located in Parc Ciutadella.

As you can see, El Born is perfect for families as well as tourists. The noise could sometimes be a problem depending on where you are, but it's not as bad as in the centre of town. It is a picturesque and cultural part of the city with a vibrant café culture and bar scene.

The neighbourhood, bounded by the Picasso promenade, the Princess street to the Rec street, the Born promenade, Santa Maria del Mar, the Pla de Palau and the Marquès de l'Argentera avenue, preserves its medieval palaces full of gothic architecture, although its alleys also hide the latest trends in art, fashion and gastronomy.

Walking aimlessly through its squares and streets will transport you to the medieval era of commercial splendor, when wealthy merchants filled streets such as Montcada, where the Picasso Museum is, with gothic palaces. Merchants lived with artisans, sailors and guilds who built the Basilica of Santa Maria del Mar, the best exponent of Catalan Gothic art. Next to the basilica, in the Fossar de les Moreres, a flame is kept burning in memory of those who died in the War of Succession of 1714, which mutilated the neighborhood. To know the history of the time, nothing better than visiting El Born Centro de Cultura y Memoria, an old market, jewel of iron architecture, where the remains of part of the city that disappeared during the war or demolished immediately afterwards to build the military citadel are kept.

But the El Born neighborhood was also a kind of Montmartre, where artists such as Picasso, Rusiñol or Casas installed their workshops in the 20th century. Currently, the area preserves a large number of art galleries and emblematic spaces that bring together new creators, as well as "showrooms" of new trends and "gourmet" stores.

La Barceloneta

La Barceloneta (Catalan pronunciation: [lə βərsəlu 'nɛtə]) is a neighborhood in the Ciutat Vella district of Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain. The neighborhood was constructed during the 18th century for the residents of the Ribera neighborhood who had been displaced by the construction of the Ciutadella of Barcelona. The neighborhood is roughly triangular, bordered by the Mediterranean Sea, the Moll d'Espanya of Port Vell, and the El Born neighborhood. This neighborhood has its own flag, and is serviced by its own stop on the Barcelona Metro line 4. This is a good starting point for whatever itinerary there may be to adventure through La Barceloneta. The yellow line, L4, which is the metro line that stops at La Barceloneta, is the most popular for pickpocketing. The neighborhood can also be discovered by taking Las Gorondrinas,[1] which leave from the front port of the Columbus monument. This way the marine strip can be discovered, but the real charm of this neighborhood is by getting lost in the side streets or alleyways. Torre Sant Sebastià is the terminus of the Port Vell Aerial Tramway; opened in 1931, it connects La Barceloneta with Montjuïc across Port Vell.

La Barceloneta is known for its sandy beach (which made an appearance in Don Quixote, book 2) and its many restaurants and nightclubs along the boardwalk. Over the past several years the quality of the sand on the beach has become a source of continued controversy. In February 2008, the World Health Organization began an inquiry designed to ascertain whether the sand meets WHO beach health and safety guidelines.

With its modernity, La Barceloneta continues to inhabit the scent of salt and marine life. For many, this is considered a luxury. La Barceloneta also attracts many cruise ships to dock.[1]

Among the attractions on Barceloneta's beach are German artist Rebecca Horn's "Homenatge a la Barceloneta" monument, and, where the beach gives way to the Port Olímpic, Frank Gehry's modern "Peix d'Or" sculpture.[2]

In the center of the neighborhood, there is a small museum, called "Casa de la Barceloneta", which is housed in a preserved building dating back to 1761.

Admission to the museum serves as an insight into the evolution of the neighborhood and its history. The house has a stone façade with letters and number engraved that are inscriptions of the plots used in construction

La Barceloneta is considered one of the best places to try fresh fish or paella in Barcelona.[7] A great selection of tapas are also offered off any menu. The most typical of the tapas of La Barceloneta would be called the "bomba." [1] It is a ball of potatoes filled with meat and the selection of spicy sauce or the classic aioli. A "caña," [1] a glass of beer from a barrel, is always served as well. Towards the beach, one might come across balconies with clothes hanging to dry, all types of shops, wineries, bars, and restaurants.

Gracia

Gràcia is a district of the city of Barcelona, Spain. It comprises the neighborhoods of Vila de Gràcia, Vallcarca i els Penitents, El Coll, La Salut and Camp d'en Grassot i Gràcia Nova. Gràcia is bordered by the districts of Eixample to the south, Sarrià-Sant Gervasi to the west and Horta-Guinardó to the east. A vibrant and diverse enclave of Catalan life, Gràcia was an independent municipality for centuries before being formally annexed by Barcelona in 1897 as a part of the city's expansion.

Today home to over 120,000 people, according to the Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Gràcia is both the smallest district by area, at 4.2 km², and the second most densely populated neighbourhood in Barcelona. One of the hippest, most cosmopolitan areas in the city, Gràcia's intimate, close-packed streets and predominately low-rise, Mediterranean architecture give it a distinct feel. Its old, one-way streets are organized around a series of plazas, including Plaça de Vila de Gràcia, Plaça del Sol and Plaça de la Virreina. "Old-world charm" [5] abounds.

The Gràcia population is a mix of young professionals and artists and a growing elderly population, with a significant portion of older Catalans who came of age as Franco came to power. Catalan flags adorn many a Gràcia window or terrace, symbols of the neighbourhood's fiercely pro-independence politics.

Compared to the other classic Barcelona neighbourhoods, Ciutat Vella and the rest of the old city, Gràcia is relatively void of major tourist attractions. In this bohemian enclave of Catalan urban life there aren't many international brands or fast-food chains. Instead, small gourmet street food outposts are common; there are an array of ethnic cuisines, from Japanese to Greek. Ubiquitous as well are the bountiful small cafes serve classic Spanish tapas and Catalan specialties. Shopping abounds in funky mum'n'dad shops selling stylish trinkets and vintage clothing. Talented artisans and artists can be found in the squares and in small ground floor shops.

Travellers say that Gracia good for shopping (e.g. on Carrer de Verdi) and the true local experience - city's atmosphere on its quiet placas and Catalan cuisine.[6]

Nightlife in Gràcia is dominated by Spanish café culture, with an abundance of small bars and restaurants that host late-night revelry and long conversations. At the weekends, one might hear any number of local live music acts, from a single guitarist to a four-piece band. As for clubs, Otto Zutz is a famous hotspot at the Western end of Gràcia.[according to whom?]

For transportation, Gràcia is served by the L3 (Green) and L4 (Yellow) lines of the Barcelona metro, with stops at Penitents, Vallcarca, Lesseps, and Fontana on the L3, and Joanic and Verdaguer on the L4. The Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat de Catalunya (FGC) also operate the Gràcia station of the Barcelona - Metro de Vallès line. Additionally, numerous bus and night bus lines in the TMB Barcelona system cover Gràcia. As with the rest of the city, bikes are very common.

El barrio gótico

First Roman settlement, baptized as Barcino and origin of the current city, it is the neighborhood with the most history in Barcelona. Walking through the Gothic Quarter is traveling through time to discover Romanesque sites, Gothic churches and royal palaces, which have not always been found in their current location.

The Gothic Quarter is located in the heart of Ciutat Vella, specifically between La Rambla and Via Laietana, delimited by the first wall that was built in the 1st

century BC. This fortification, with an approximate perimeter of one and a half kilometers, protected the first Roman colony that was established on Mount Táber and that located its organs of power in the same location where they are today: in the Plaza de Sant Jaume , ancient Roman forum. At the top of the Taber, the Romans also raised the temple of Augustus , of which four columns are preserved in the Hiking Center of Catalonia.

You can also visit the cathedral and the basilica dels Sants Màrtirs Just i Pastor , temples from the Middle Ages. The current cathedral was built between the 13th and 15th centuries on the same place where a Romanesque cathedral had been erected, and its impressive Gothic facade is even more modern, from the 19th century. The Sants Màrtirs Just i Pastor basilica, for its part, was built in the 14th century, but is considered the oldest in the city because a Romanesque church had been erected on its site, founded in 801 in homage to the saints. Justo and Pastor.

Within what was the first Roman city and what is strictly the Gothic Quarter, the monumental complex of the Plaza del Rei also stands out, consisting of the Saló del Tinell, the residence of the former residence of the counts of Barcelona in the 14th century ; the chapel of Santa Àgata, attached to the hall and built from 1302 to serve as a temple of prayer for the counts; and the viewpoint of the Rei Martí. The garden of the palace where the counts resided, a garden with porticos that communicates with the Saló del Tinell, was the seat of the Inquisition court in Barcelona and is currently part of the Frederic Marès Museum .

Starting from this Roman nucleus, the city expanded in concentric circles, first with the expansion of walls to the neighborhoods of El Raval and El Born , and later with the demolition of the fortifications and the urbanization of what is now Ensanche .

At the beginning of the 20th century, as Ildefons Cerdà had contemplated in his plan, it was decided to open a road that connected Ensanche with the port. This is how Via Laietana was born, which separates the Gothic Quarter from El Born and which made some houses have to be moved stone by stone.

Poblenou

The so-called Catalan Manchester has given way to an open, quiet neighborhood that lives facing the sea, where innovation and creativity are breathed. The Poblenou neighborhood, the most important industrial center during the 19th century, was completely transformed with the arrival of the Barcelona 92 Olympic Games and today there is another revolution, of an artistic nature.

The abundance of water, the large areas and the low price of the land favored that, during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Indian meadows were installed in the area, where the fabrics were boiled, bleached and dried. Vapors proliferated in the mid-19th century, later transformed into industries with electricity. At the end of the 19th century, Poblenou was the territory with the highest industrial concentration, to the point that Catalan Manchester was known.

Starting in the sixties of the same century, there was an intense process of de-industrialization that led to the abandonment of several factories and the consequent liberation of large plots that were recovered for different uses, such as lofts, studios, workshops, warehouses or headquarters of different entities, which coexisted with houses built during the 19th and 20th centuries, and which were articulated around the central core of the neighborhood, the Rambla del Poblenou .

With the 1992 Olympic Games began the great transformation of the neighborhood. Where the train tracks used to extend, the Villa Olímpica and the Port Olímpic were built, and the seafront was regenerated. Later, at the beginning of the 21st century, the Barcelona City Council launched the project 22, an ambitious urban transformation plan with the aim of converting two hundred hectares of industrial land into an innovative district that strategically concentrated activities of the knowledge society.

Thus, during the first years of the 21st century, the neighbourhood was remodelled with the construction of modern buildings, such as the Torre Glòries or the Barcelona Design Museum and the rehabilitation of others to give them new uses, such as the factory that it houses the artistic core of Palo Alto. In fact, in recent

years, the neighbourhood has evolved towards its creative side and has become the new district of arts and alternative culture in Barcelona.

Nowadays, Poblenou offers the possibility to enjoy beaches, museums, restaurants, to stroll along its boulevard, to contemplate the splendid aspect that some restored factories offer and even to enjoy the funerary art in its cemetery, the oldest in Barcelona, where illustrious Barcelonans are buried.

La Rambla

La Rambla is, without a doubt, the best known promenade in Barcelona. Located in the historic center of the city, it connects the Port Vell of Barcelona with the Plaza de Catalunya. There one can find from flower stalls and traveling actors to museums and historical buildings, passing by its numerous cafes, which animate the walk from morning until late at night.

On both sides of the promenade you will find some of the most historic points of the city, such as the Gran Teatro del Liceo, the La Boqueria Market or the Palau Güell. La Rambla receives different names depending on its sections; that is why this walk is also called «Las Ramblas». If you walk from the Plaza de Catalunya to the Columbus monument, you will discover its different sections:

- La Rambla de Canaletes, with its famous Canaletes fountain, where Barça fans meet to celebrate their triumphs. Tradition holds that the visitor who drinks water from this fountain returns to Barcelona.
- La Rambla dels Estudis, so called because, in the XV century it housed the Estudio General or University. It is also known as Rambla dels Ocells, since a bird market used to be located there. Here are the Baroque church of Betlem, from 1729; the Palau Moja, from 1784; and the modernist building of the Royal Academy of Sciences and Arts, from 1894, which houses a small astronomical observatory and a clock that marks the official time in Barcelona.
- La Rambla de Sant Josep or les Flors, the only place in the city where flowers were sold in the 19th century and which still retains this activity today. In La Rambla one will find the famous La Boqueria Market. Also in

this section are the Palau de la Virreina (1778) and the popular Casa dels Paraigües, with curious Japanese-inspired decoration from 1858.

- La Rambla dels Caputxins (or Rambla del Center), named for an old convent of Capuchin friars, ranges from the Gran Teatre del Liceu to Pla del Teatre. In this older section of La Rambla, open as a promenade, you will find the Miró mosaic, the Palau Güell, the Hotel Oriente, the oldest in the city, and Plaza Reial
- La Rambla de Santa Mònica, next to the port, houses the parish of Santa Mònica, the Palau Marc, from 1781, the old cannon foundry (1777), where the main bell of the Barcelona cathedral was built and, closing the promenade, the monument to Columbus.

The origins of La Rambla in Barcelona date back to 1766, when it was decided to build a wide crossing that would follow the route of the old medieval wall that had been demolished six years earlier. Very soon, La Rambla became one of the nerve centers of the city. All kinds of people gathered around it, since it was a very wide avenue that was distinguished from the narrow alleys of the old neighborhoods of the city.

La Rambla owes its name to the channel that transported rainwater from the mountains to the sea and through the city. When the wall was built in the 15th century, the channel was diverted and convents were built around it, which later, with the destruction of the wall, were used for other public areas.

Main tourist attractions

Sagrada Familia

Gaudí's unfinished cathedral

Address: Sicília, 286

<https://sagradafamilia.org/es/home>

It is the masterpiece of Antoni Gaudí and the most visited monument in the city. Recognizable from afar by its towers that rise towards the sky, it has two exterior facades that impact the visitor. However, it is inside that the brilliance of Gaudí is reflected, who dedicated forty years of his life. Currently the basilica is still under construction and its completion is scheduled for 2026. Gaudí, aware that he would not finish his work, left the plans to his successors. Since his death in 1926, the modernist genius has watched the construction progress, since his grave is located in the crypt.

It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Gaudí applied all the findings he had previously achieved with other projects of his, such as Casa Batlló, Torre Bellesguard, La Pedrera and, above all, the crypt of Colonia Güell. In the architect's own words, «I tested the structure of the Sagrada Familia for the first time in Colonia Güell. Without this pre-trial I would not have dared to adopt her for the temple.

The floor plan of the building is a Latin cross basilica with five ships, the nave with three ships and an apse with a very large ambulatory, consisting of seven polygonal chapels and two spiral staircases that go up to the choirs, where the singers are located. For the design of the structures, Gaudí was inspired by the forms of nature and created columns in the shape of a tree trunk that turn the interior of the basilica into a huge stone forest, which is illuminated with the gaps located between the columns, some skylights or skylights, conceived from hyperboloids, built with gold and green glass pieces, through which sunlight enters.

The symbolism of its three main facades stands out: that of the Nativity, highly decorated and full of life, and the only one that Gaudí could see completed; that

of the Passion, which represents the passion, death and resurrection of Christ, more austere and simplified, which was designed by the sculptor Josep Maria Subirachs between 1987 and 2009; and that of Glory, much larger and more monumental than the rest, which is currently being built.

Casa Milà / La Pedrera

An impressive Gaudí building on Passeig de Gracia

Address: C. Provença, 261-265

<https://www.lapedrera.com/es>

Casa Milà, more popularly known as La Pedrera, for its quarry-like exterior, was the last civil work of the architect Antoni Gaudí before dedicating himself exclusively to the Sagrada Família. It is a visit that you cannot miss. Built between 1906 and 1910, in 1994 it was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

The result of the architect's imagination and pragmatism was an aesthetically impressive and prodigious work from the architectural point of view. The building not only has a structure of columns and floors free of load-bearing walls, so that all the walls can be demolished without affecting its stability, but its façade - entirely made of stone - is self-supporting and must not withstand loads of the plants. In addition, Gaudí built an underground garage, a very innovative element in his time.

What most attracts the visitor's attention is, without a doubt, the façade of La Pedrera, which simulates the moving sea, where the waves play with the wrought iron algae that are, in fact, the balconies. These were largely designed by Josep Maria Jujol. Casa Milà received much criticism and was derogatively named La Pedrera, a popular name by which it is known to date.

The main floor houses a large exhibition space and a floor that recreates a house from the early twentieth century. Also worthy of noting is the 800 m² loft, which Gaudí conceived independently of the rest of the building. Formerly this place, where the laundries were located, acted as a thermal regulator and insulated the building from extreme temperatures. And finally the roof, one of the most spectacular elements of the building. An unusual cover, full of artistic force, which has nothing to do with the architecture of Gaudí's time.

Batló House

A Gaudí building that hides dragons and skulls on its facade

Address: Passeig de Gràcia, 43

<https://www.casabatllo.es/>

This building, located in the heart of the Eixample, is one of the most famous in the city. The architect Antoni Gaudí designed it at the beginning of the 20th century, at the height of modernism, to make it the residence of the Batlló family. It is a true work of art, both outside and inside. If you pass by, when you walk through Passeig de Gràcia, the first thing that will catch your attention is its facade.

It is one of the most important works of Catalan modernism. Its wavy facade stands out, combining stone, wrought iron, glass mosaic and ceramics. The noble floor and the first floor incorporate slender stone columns with bone shapes decorated with floral motifs. The balcony railings, made from a single cast iron piece, are shaped like a mask; and the upper roof is shaped like a dragon's back with large iridescent scales. The result is a set full of symbolism and colors.

Inside the house, Gaudí created a new distribution with wavy shapes and was inspired by the animal world and the seabed to create skylights with turtle shell shapes and railings that look like the backbone of a large animal. You will also find a patio lined with tiles, which incorporate relief shapes, with various shades of blue, and that evenly distribute the light that enters through the large iron and glass skylight. The details on the doors, the windows and the ergonomic shapes are a constant throughout the building.

At the top of the house are the attic, where the laundry rooms, the storage rooms, the water tanks and other dependencies of the service used to be. Finally, on the roof, on the dragon's back, you will find four groups of winding chimneys, covered with a mosaic of tiles, which are equipped with hats on top so that the wind does not obstruct the smoke outlet.

Modernist enclosure of Sant Pau

A Gaudí building that hides dragons and skulls on its facade

Address: Carrer de Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167

<https://www.santpaubarcelona.org/>

The Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau is, without a doubt, the most important work of the architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner, who began its construction in 1902, was inspired by the most modern hospital centers in Europe. The objective was to build a health center where the sick could walk and not feel cloistered. The result was a set of pavilions of modernist architecture and ornamentation, surrounded by gardens and connected to each other by a network of underground tunnels.

In 1926, the old Hospital de la Santa Creu, located on Carrer del Hospital, where the Catalan Library is currently located, and one of the oldest in Europe, was moved to this new hospital center. For this reason, it is very often called the Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau.

Domènech i Montaner conceived of the hospital as a garden city. For this reason, the site has its own urban layout oriented on a north-south axis, designed so that maximum sunlight reaches its main facades. The buildings were built with the materials and decoration typical of a neo-Gothic-inspired modernism. Highlights in the hospital include the profuse use of ceramics, exposed brick, and sculptures that incorporate extensive iconography, reflecting the author's religious and historicist vision.

The site has been, since 2014, a knowledge center where institutions, companies and organizations dedicated to research in the fields of health, sustainability and education, such as the United Nations or the World Health Organization, reside.

The Magic Fountain of Montjuïc

A mixture of music, light and color, which offer a gift for the senses.

Address: Pl Carles Buïgas, 1

<https://www.barcelona.cat/es/que-hacer-en-bcn/fuente-magica>

The Magic Fountain of Montjuïc is a show of music, light and color that has become a symbol of Barcelona. Built for the 1929 Universal Exposition by Carles Buïgas, the fountain incorporated music in the 1980s and was completely restored on the occasion of the 1992 Olympic Games.

The Magic Fountain, the main element of the set of waterfalls and lakes of the Maria Cristina axis, has some seven billion viable combinations of water and light, thanks to the possibility of combining the hydraulic and lighting elements available to it. 2,600 liters of water per second flow from this fountain, dancing to the rhythm of Disney songs, classical music, soundtracks or melodies from the eighties and nineties, among which "Barcelona", the Olympic hymn of Barcelona 92, stands out, which was performed by Freddie Mercury and the Catalan soprano Montserrat Caballé at the Magic Fountain.

From November 1 to January 5

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, except December 28

8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

With music and color: 8:00 p.m. / 8:30 p.m.

Poble Espanyol

An opportunity to get to know some of the areas of Spain in a single day

Address: Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13

<https://www.poble-espanyol.com/>

El Poble Espanyol is an open-air museum that reproduces representative buildings from all over Spain. In addition, in this space you can see samples of contemporary art and enjoy Spanish crafts and gastronomy.

The Poble Espanyol complex, on the Montjuïc mountain, occupies a space of 49,000 m² and houses 117 full-scale buildings, representative of 15 of the Spanish autonomous communities. These buildings make up a real town, with its streets,

houses, squares, theaters, restaurants and craft workshops. In Poble Espanyol you can also visit the Fran Daurel Museum, with a private collection of contemporary art that includes works by Miró, Dalí and Picasso, as well as enjoying entertainment venues such as discos, a theater or flamenco.

The Poble Espanyol architectural museum was built in 1929 for the International Exposition held in Barcelona. The aim was to build a town that would bring together the best examples of Spanish architecture, from the Andalusian courtyards to the Catalan farmhouses, the Castilian stately houses, the typical wooden balconies of the Basque Country or the Romanesque churches. The venue was to be demolished at the end of the exhibition, but thanks to its popularity it remained.

Born Cultural Center

An old restored market with an 18th century site

Address: Plaça Comercial, 12

<https://elbornculturaimemoria.barcelona.cat/>

An old municipal market in Barcelona. Designed by Josep Fontserè i Mestre and built between 1874 and 1876, it is a rectangular market, with two large naves with domes at their intersections and four smaller naves. The structure is supported on cast iron columns and is covered by flat glazed tile.

One of the most notable iron architecture markets in Barcelona hides an important site from the Modern Age.

In the subsoil of what was the market, the remains of the medieval and modern city were discovered in 2002, an exceptional archaeological site due to its state of conservation and its dimensions. You can see remains of 42 streets and 60 houses that were part of the Ribera neighborhood, which was demolished by King Felipe V to build the Ciudadela military fortress after the war of 1714.

Nowadays, after the excavation, restoration and musealization tasks, the old market of El Born has become a center of culture and memory of the War of Succession, where literary, theatrical and musical activities are also organized.

MNAC

One of the most representative art museums in Barcelona and Catalonia

Address: Parc de Montjuïc

<https://www.museunacional.cat/ca>

The Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya is located in the Palau Nacional de Montjuïc, built for the 1929 International Exposition. In 1934 it opened its doors as the Museu d'Art de Catalunya, bringing together the medieval collection. Subsequently, in 1995, as the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, the new rooms for Romanesque art were inaugurated, and the public presentation of the collections was subsequently expanded, a process that culminated in 2004 with the new presentation of modern art.

You will be able to see the best collection of Romanesque mural painting in the world and the most representative artists of Catalan modernism, such as Gaudí or Casas. The Gothic art, great European painters of the Renaissance and Baroque, for example, Titian and Velázquez, and the collection of photography complete the background.

MACBA

exhibition of art and contemporary cultural practices

Address: Plaça dels Àngels, 1

<https://www.macba.cat/es>

It is the Museum of Contemporary Art of Barcelona. It has established itself internationally as a model in contemporary art: on the one hand, its collection has experienced considerable growth, which currently allows us to trace a tour of some of the artistic references of our time; and on the other, it has developed lines of work, based on risk-taking and the will to work as a laboratory, which have positioned it as a key centre in the field of research and in the generation of new dynamics for the analysis and reflection on artistic activity.

Caixa Forum

Culture for all audiences at your fingertips

Address: Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8

<https://caixaforum.es/es/barcelona/home>

A great cultural and educational center in an old factory of modernist architecture, designed by Josep Puig i Cadafalch, the CaixaForum dazzles with its architecture.

Located at the foot of the Montjuïc mountain, it occupies the building of the old Casaramona factory, in a modernist style. It is a building of more than 12,000 m², made of exposed brick, which received the Annual Prize for Artistic Buildings in 1913 and was declared a Historic Monument of National Interest in 1976.

The building, remodelled by, among others, the Japanese architect Arata Isozaki, is a set of horizontal single-storey buildings, to facilitate the movement of goods through a system of internal streets that, at the same time, served as firewalls, a system similar to that of the Hospital de Sant Pau. The centre has five exhibition rooms that host samples of ancient, modern and contemporary art, and organizes different activities (cinema, music, conferences, cycles of literature and thought, etc.), as well as school and family educational programs.

Ciudadella Park

The first public park in the city

Address: Passeig de Picasso, 21

https://www.barcelona.cat/es/que-hacer-en-bcn/parques-y-jardines/parque-de-la-ciudadella_92086011921.html

The space that hosted the 1888 Universal Exposition is now a large park with two museums, an extensive collection of public art, and much more. With more than seventeen hectares, the Ciudadella Park is the largest urban park in Barcelona after that of Montjuïc and a true museum of outdoor sculptures.

The park, laid out on the grounds of an old military citadel, was designed by Josep Fontserè i Mestre taking the Luxembourg Garden in Paris as a model. It opened in 1881, and in 1888 it hosted the Universal Exposition of Barcelona, of which its

restaurant is conserved, the work of Domènech i Montaner that is ascribed to the first period of Barcelona's modernism. The greenhouse and the umbráculo are also conserved, destined for the conservation of botanical species, and the arsenal, current seat of the Parliament of Catalonia, has survived from the old military fortress. The Barcelona Zoo, located in the park, dates from 1892.

In addition to its large landscaped expanse, its central lake, and the more than one hundred species of flora, many of them planted in the 19th century, in the Ciutadella park its monumental waterfall stands out, built between 1875 and 1888 from a general design by Josep Fontserè, which he made on a hydraulic project by Antoni Gaudí. Throughout the park you will find sculptures and busts of great artistic value by authors such as Frederic Marès, Josep Clarà, Josep Llimona and Pablo Gargallo, who contributed to the Ciutadella Park being declared a Historic-Artistic Monument in 1951.

Tibidabo

The amusement park with the best visits in Barcelona

Address: Plaça del Tibidabo, 3, 4

<https://www.tibidabo.cat/>

The Tibidabo mountain is known by the locals as the magic mountain. In addition to being the lung of Barcelona, in Tibidabo you will find a curious mix between old and modern buildings, between calm and action, and you will contemplate one of the best views of Barcelona. Some of the highlights are:

- Tibidabo Amusement Park: the oldest in Spain and one of the first in Europe. It opened in 1899 and still retains some of its original attractions
- The Temple of the Sacred Heart: a monumental neo-Gothic building crowned by a bronze statue of the Sacred Heart. It has an elevator that allows you to go up to the top of the temple, from where you can see all of Barcelona. Known as the Tibidabo church, it houses a majestic crypt decorated with mosaics, biblical scenes and alabaster cladding
- The Collserola Tower : built for the Barcelona 92 Olympic Games, it was designed by the architect Norman Foster. It is 288 meters high and its tenth floor, which is 115 meters, houses a viewpoint that offers panoramic views of the city.

- The Fabra Observatory: opened in 1904, it is owned by the Royal Academy of Sciences and Arts of Barcelona. It is the fourth oldest observatory in the world. Currently he focuses his activity on astronomical research and also collects meteorological and seismic data

La Boqueria Market

The best market in the world according to CNN

Address: La Rambla, 91

<http://www.boqueria.barcelona/inicio>

La Boqueria is not a simple market; it is a monument to gastronomy, an explosion of colors, aromas and sounds. It was opened in 1840, but its origins date back to the 13th century. It currently occupies 2,583 m² and almost three hundred stops.

The Catalan gastronomic culture is of extraordinary wealth and La Boqueria is proof of this. In the market you will find everything: fruit and vegetables, fish and seafood, meat, preserves, legumes, cheeses.... You will discover in La Boqueria both local products and imported food, Catalan specialties and world cuisine, traditional and contemporary. Also, around it, in the spaces delimited by the arcades, you will see numerous restaurants where you can taste the products that are sold in the market.

Although the current market opened in 1840, its origins date back to the Middle Ages. In the space it occupies, as early as the 13th century, merchants and farmers set up street vendors to sell their products to travelers entering or leaving the city. Over time, the stops were moved until they were at the foot of the disappeared convent of Sant Josep, which burned in 1835, during the burning of convents.

On its site, located on La Rambla , the Barcelona City Council built an arcaded plaza. The new market was inaugurated in 1840 with the name of Mercado de Sant Josep and its roof was completed in 1916.

Currently, La Boqueria is a mandatory stop for its architecture, its environment and its offer. In 2005 it received the award for the best market of the year in the sixth edition of the International Public Markets Conference, and in 2017 the American chain CNN considered it the best market in the world.

Park Güell

Park and work of art in one space.

Address: 08024 Barcelona

<https://parkguell.barcelona/es?q=es>

A park and a work of art, a World Heritage Site since 1984. Park Güell is a true open-air museum, a symbol of modernism in Barcelona in which Gaudí put architecture and urban planning at the service of his fundamental source of inspiration. , nature.

Conceived as an urbanization for the most affluent classes of industrial Barcelona in the early 20th century, Gaudí designed Park Güell with the intention of creating a space for luxury homes immersed in a natural environment and taking advantage of the best views of Barcelona.

In the monumental area of Park Güell, open every day of the year, you can visit:

- The Plaza de la Naturaleza: a large esplanade delimited by a wavy bench covered in mosaic, from which the whole city can be seen and which has become one of the most emblematic images of Barcelona. The Plaza de la Naturaleza should be the Greek theatre of the urbanization, a space for the performance of shows, visible from all the plots.
- The Hypostyle Room: designed to house the urbanization market, the hypostyle room is dominated by its 86 fluted columns - some of them inclined - that support the weight of the Plaza de la Naturaleza. The columns have an internal conduction designed to collect the rainwater that fell on the square. The small domes on the ceiling of the room are adorned with very original ceramic mosaic panels that incorporate small objects from everyday life
- The Dragon's Staircase: a majestic stone staircase organized into three sections, through which the water collected in the cistern under the hypostyle room runs. At the top of the steps we find the mosaic-covered dragon or salamander, which has become the icon of the park and an omnipresent "souvenir" in Barcelona's shops
- The lodge pavilions: at the main entrance to what should have been the urbanization are two pavilions: the one on the left, designed to serve as the concierge, and the one on the right, which served as a residence for

the doorman. The roofs of both pavilions are built with the traditional Catalan partitioned vault, covered in ceramic mosaic

Palau Sant Jordi

Legacy of the 92 Olympics.

Address: Passeig Olímpic, 5-7

<https://www.palausantjordi.cat/>

The jewel of the Montjuïc Olympic Ring is a palace whose mechanized structure is adapted to host all kinds of events. Designed by the Japanese architect Arata Isozaki on the occasion of the Barcelona 92 Olympic Games, its construction was an engineering prodigy.

The Palau Sant Jordi is the largest indoor facility in Barcelona. The Japanese architect Arata Isozaki designed it as a multipurpose space and provided it with a structure and mechanized materials that give it great flexibility.

The dome that covers the palace was built at ground level and was raised for 10 days with 12 hydraulic jacks. Due to its versatile structure, it is an ideal setting for all kinds of activities, from concerts to basketball, tennis and other championships. It has even been transformed into a motocross track and an artificial pool for the celebration of the world swimming championships. The Palau Sant Jordi has a capacity of 16,159 spectators seated at sporting events and a maximum capacity of up to 17,960 people at concerts.

Outside the palace, the artistic installation "Utsurohi" (Change) by Aiko Miyawaki stands out. It is a delicate set of 36 concrete cylinders crowned by metal rings and steel cables that shine in a very special way in the evening light.

Montjuïc Castle

A castle with 360° views of the city of Barcelona

Address: Ctra. de Montjuïc, 66

<https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/castelldemontjuic/ca>

At the top of the Montjuïc Mountain, 173 meters high, there is a construction that bears the name of Montjuïc castle. It is an ideal enclave for defense, with 360 degrees of views over the territory. During the War of the Reapers, in 1640, the first fortress was built, which has lasted until today.

Montjuïc Castle has served both to defend Barcelona and to bomb it at different times in its history. At the end of the 19th century, the building began to be used as a prison. In 1940, the president of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Lluís Companys, was shot in the castle, and in 1963 Franco inaugurated a military museum, which closed its doors definitively in 2009. Currently, the Montjuïc castle is owned by the Barcelona City Council.

The visit to t

- The access bridge and the facade: they were designed by Cermeño in 1751 for the defensive improvement works. The access bridge is in a neoclassical style. Its two columns welcome visitors to the castle.
- The bastions: Montjuïc castle has four bastions, two of them on the main facade and the other two inside. These structures, which protrude from the wall, served to protect the fortification.
- The parade ground: in the highest part of the castle is the parade ground. Around this, the fundamental rooms for the life and management of the fortification were located.
- The terrace and the watchtower: from the patio you will reach the terrace. This is the highest area of the enclosure. From here you can contemplate a panoramic view of the city of Barcelona.
- The sea wall: This is a 155 meter long wall that faces the sea. From here you will have an impressive image of the port of Barcelona.
- The moat: also built by Cermeño. Today, it is a beautiful garden area where many activities take place.

- The Hornabeque and the ravelin: Located between the first level and the second room is the Hornabeque, a set of defensive elements. The ravelin is the main element of which the hornabeque is part. The latter is located in the center of the moat.
- The sea and land lunettes: they were extensions of the bastion and served to reinforce the security of the castle
- The covered path: this is the corridor that surrounds the fortification. In days of yore, it was the first line of defense because it kept enemy infantry away.

In addition, from the terrace of the courtyard you can see Barcelona, the port, the Barcelona coast, the Mediterranean Sea and Baix Llobregat

Camp Nou

The most visited stadium in Europe

Address: C. d'Arístides Maillol, 12

<https://www.fcbarcelona.com/en/club/facilities/camp-nou>

The Camp Nou is the most visited stadium in Europe. It was inaugurated in 1957 with the name of FC Barcelona Stadium, but it adopted the name of Camp Nou due to the fact that it replaced the old field of Les Corts. In the 2000-2001 season the name was made official after a popular consultation by mail.

The dimensions of the Camp Nou are 105 × 68 meters, which, added to a height of 48 meters and an area of 55,000 square meters (250 meters long and 220 wide) make it one of the largest stadiums in Europe and the third largest in the world, after the São Paulo field in Brazil and the one in Mexico City. The capacity of the Camp Nou is 99,354 people.

The visit to the Camp Nou, Camp Nou Experience, begins with a "tour" of the stadium that takes the same route that Barça players carry out from the dressing room and up to the field of play. In addition, you can access the presidential seats, the bench and the press room, while the audio service tells the story of the stadium and of FC Barcelona's great victories.

The tour ends with access to the FC Barcelona Museum, where photographs and souvenirs explain the club's trajectory over more than a hundred years. In the museum, you will also find the trophies that the club has won and personal belongings of the great legends that have played at Barça during its history.

Picasso Museum (La Ribera, El Born)

The first museum in the world with the artist alive

Address: C. Montcada, 15-23

<http://www.museupicasso.bcn.cat/es>

The Picasso Museum is located in the Ribera neighborhood, today known as El Born, more specifically in the splendid Montcada street, a vestige of the stately Barcelona of other times and the most important nucleus of medieval civil architecture in the city. The almost four thousand three hundred works exhibited by the gallery are spread over five palaces that share a central courtyard and a large noble staircase that allows access to the museum.

At the express wish of Picasso, and thanks to the help of his secretary and friend Jaume Sabartés, Barcelona was able to permanently host a museum with the youth work of the Malaga artist. In fact, Picasso had a special bond with Barcelona since the Ruiz Picasso family decided to settle in Barcelona at the end of the 19th century, when young Pablo was fourteen years old. Thus, the one who would be one of the great geniuses of 20th century painting lived his first formative years in the Catalan capital, studied at the Lonja School of Fine Arts and took his first steps as a painter. At eighteen, in the midst of the splendor of modernism, Picasso experienced the opening of the Els Quatre Gats café, the centre of Catalan intellectuals and where the young artist exhibited his first works.

The Picasso Museum in Barcelona, opened in 1963, was the first Picasso museum in the world and the only one created in the artist's lifetime, who in 1919 had ceded to the city one of his capital works, "L'arlequí". The museum originated in the Palau Aguilar, with the private collection of Picasso's friend Jaume Sabartés i Gual and other collections with works by the artist that were in different museums in the city, such as the Plandiura collection or the legacy of drawings by Lluís Garriga i Roig. Even Gala and Salvador Dalí Gala yielded works from their collection.

Over the years, the collection has been expanding and, with it, the museum has grown, with the annexation of adjacent buildings. The last donation the museum received dates from 2015: the archive of Brigitte Baer, specialist in the painter's graphic work. These funds make the Picasso Museum in Barcelona the world benchmark for the study of drawings and engravings by the artist.

Currently, the Picasso Museum exhibits the most important collection of the Malaga genius until its blue era, within a monumental set of unmatched Catalan Gothic architecture.

Visit Barcelona with a tour with the Tourist Bus

<https://www.barcelonabusturistic.cat/es>

Do you want to discover Barcelona from the comfort of a bus? Discover the most emblematic corners of Barcelona. You choose where to get on and where to get off, as many times as you want. And during the journey, you can enjoy an audio guide in 16 languages, free Wi-Fi, a city map and tourist information.

You have three routes that will take you through different sectors of the city. Not only will you enjoy icons such as the Sagrada Familia, Casa Batlló or La Pedrera, but you will also have the pleasure of discovering their best-kept secrets. An original and fun way to discover a unique city.

Green Route

From the Port Olímpic to the Forum, passing through Poblenou and enjoying the best views of the city's beaches.

Green Route Bus stops:

1. [Bogatell Beach Stop - Poblenou Cemetery \(in Forum\)](#)
2. [Poblenou stop \(in Forum\)](#)
3. [Diagonal Mar Park stop \(in Forum\)](#)
4. [Forum stop](#)
5. [Diagonal Mar Park stop \(in Port Olímpic\)](#)
6. [Poblenou stop \(in Port Olímpic\)](#)
7. [Bogatell Beach Stop - Poblenou Cemetery \(in Port Olímpic\)](#)
8. [Olympic Port stop](#)

Blue Route

From the Port Olímpic to the Forum, passing through Poblenou and enjoying the best views of the city's beaches.

Blue Route Bus stops:

1. Bogatell Beach Stop - Poblenou Cemetery (in Forum)
2. Poblenou stop (in Forum)
3. Diagonal Mar Park stop (in Forum)
4. Forum stop
5. Diagonal Mar Park stop (in Port Olímpic)
6. Poblenou stop (in Port Olímpic)
7. Bogatell Beach Stop - Poblenou Cemetery (in Port Olímpic)
8. Olympic Port stop

Red route

From Plaça de Catalunya to Ciutadella Park, passing through Passeig de Gràcia, Diagonal, Sants Station, Montjuïc and Port Vell.

Red Route Bus Stops:

1. Casa Batlló stop - Antoni Tàpies Foundation
2. Stop Passeig de Gràcia - La Pedrera
3. Francesc Macià - Diagonal stop
4. Sants Station stop
5. Covered Cross Stop
6. Plaza de España stop
7. CaixaForum stop - Mies Van der Rohe Pavilion
8. Poble Espanyol stop
9. MNAC stop
10. Olympic Ring Stop
11. Joan Miró Foundation stop
12. Montjuïc Cable Car Stop
13. Miramar stop - Costa i Llobera Gardens

14. World Trade Center Parade
15. Columbus Stop - Maritime Museum
16. Port Vell stop
17. Stop Museum of the History of Catalonia
18. Olympic Port stop
19. Zoo stop
20. Pla de Palau stop - Parc de la Ciutadella
21. Gothic Quarter stop
22. Plaça Catalunya stop

Getting around Barcelona

By walk: it is the most simple but effective way to visit the Old Town, Gothic Quarter, the old fishing village of Barceloneta and the beach, the fantastic Palau de la Música Catalana in the Born district, and on the way to the road the Barcelona garden - La Cuitadella. This is a great area of Barcelona and it is really the best way to spend a day.

Buses and Metro: the Barcelona metro is the fastest way to get around. You can buy a 10-trip card for around 11 euros, which allows you to transfer twice within 1 hour and 15 minutes. It allows to combine the metro with the bus system, and the "tram".

Tickets and fares

<https://www.tmb.cat/es/tarifas-metro-bus-barcelona>

Barcelona metro map

<https://www.tmb.cat/es/transporte-barcelona/mapa/metro>