



Barcelona
Academy
of Art

WELCOME GUIDE



MEAM
Museum of European and American Music



Barcelona
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of Art

FUNDACIÓ
DE LES
ARTS
I ELS
ARTISTES

WELCOME TO BARCELONA

Barcelona, capital of Catalonia, is a Mediterranean and cosmopolitan city interspersed with Roman remains, medieval districts and the most beautiful examples of Modernism and 20th century vanguard.

In 1992, Barcelona gained international recognition by hosting the Olympic games which brought a massive upturn in its tourism industry.

In recent years, Barcelona has rapidly become a center for young, creative talent, with hundreds of startups as well as a booming music culture as the city hosts the biggest and best music events like Sónar and Primavera Sound in the spring. Many design, fashion, art and cinema artists find in Barcelona a place to live and find inspiration.

The population within city limits is 1.6 million and 5.3 million within its metropolitan area, making it the second-most populous city in Spain. Concerning the weather, Barcelona has four seasons: cool in the winter (average temperatures around 50 degrees Fahrenheit or 10 degrees Celsius) and warm in the summer (averaging 88 degrees Fahrenheit or 30 degrees Celsius).

Barcelona is generally a safe city and you can walk and sightsee without any problem.

However, as in any big city with much tourism, it is recommended to take some basic precautions to avoid uncomfortable situations. Watch your belongings and keep your bag and backpack well closed, especially in tourist areas and public transport.



NEIGHBORHOODS

- 1 **Barri Gòtic** - The Barri Gòtic, or Gothic Quarter, is the historical heart of Barcelona. It's enclosed between Via Laietana and the famous La Rambla. It's a charming area with narrow medieval streets filled with trendy bars, clubs and restaurants.
- 2 **Born** - El Born is one of the city's prettiest and most popular places to hang out. If you're into small galleries, vintage boutiques, and trendy tapas bars, you'll feel right at home.
- 3 **Eixample** - Eixample (meaning the Extension in English) is located in the upper part of Barcelona city center beyond Plaça Catalunya. Known for its modernist architecture, this is where Barcelona's urban pulse can be felt most strongly.
- 4 **Raval** - This area is the most multicultural and vibrant in the city, especially in the summer. You'll find hole-in-the-wall restaurants, skaters hanging out on the steps of the Contemporary Art Museum and a ton of graffiti and street art all around.
- 5 **Gràcia** - Once a town on the outskirts of Barcelona, the old part of Gràcia still has very much of a village feel and is renowned for its free-thinking spirit. Gràcia has a fantastic food market at its centre, as well as independent boutiques selling ethical fashion, craft beer, vintage bikes and organic vegetables.
- 6 **Poblenou** - Poblenou was once upon a time the industrial heart of the city. Today, the factories and warehouses are being converted into artist workshops, art and design schools and craft breweries. El Poblenou's golden, sandy coastline is its most obvious attractions. Bogatell Beach, created as part of preparations for the Barcelona Olympics in 1992, is a popular destination for both locals and tourists.



THE BASICS

Language

In Barcelona, people generally speak both Spanish and Catalan. As a romance language derived from Latin, Catalan shares many similarities with Spanish.

Most people can also speak English, so don't stress out over a language barrier. Here are a few useful phrases and some slang that you can learn:

- Bon dia – Good day (in catalan)
- Hola – Hello
- Que tal? – What's up?
- Hasta luego – See you later
- Adios – Goodbye
- Por favor – Please
- Gracias – Thank you
- Vale – Okay
- Perdón – Excuse me
- Lo siento – I'm sorry
- Ponme una caña! – Give me a beer!
- Guay – Cool/dope
- A tope – This is lit

Transportation

Metro: Barcelona currently has eight metro lines that can get you pretty much everywhere in the city. A single ticket will cost you 2,20€ but a T-10 Card, good for 10 rides costs 10,20€: www.tmb.cat

Taxi: Barcelona's licensed taxis are easily identified by their yellow and black exterior. NOTE: They have to charge you the amount displayed on the meter. Taxi App: Free Now

Autobus: The bus is another easy way to get around Barcelona. Check the different bus lines and routes on the following website: <https://www.tmb.cat/es/transportebarcelona/mapa/bus>

Bicing: Barcelona's bicycle sharing system. The service is restricted for Barcelona residents only and intended as a public transport service for short bicycle journeys of maximum 30 minutes in duration. www.bicing.barcelona

WHAT TO SEE

Museums

European Museum of Modern Art

First museum in the world exclusively dedicated to figurative art. Its collection of more than 300 works is structured into three categories: contemporary art from the 21st century, modern sculpture from the 20th century, and Catalan sculpture from the 20th century. [Free entry for BAA students]

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

The most important museum in Catalonia. Its large collection is divided into Romanesque Art, Gothic Art, Renaissance and Baroque Art, Modern Art, Drawings, Paintings, and Posters, Photography, and Numismatics.

Picasso Museum

The museum has a collection of over 3,500 works and is a key reference for understanding the formative years of Pablo Picasso.

Museu Can Framis

Owned by the Fundació Vila Casas, the art museum Can Framis holds a collection of paintings from artists born or living in Catalonia dating from the 1960's onwards.

CCCB

The Contemporary Cultural Center is an interdisciplinary center dedicated to the contemporary visual arts, literature, philosophy, film and music. Its ever-changing exhibits are always guaranteed to be thought-provoking dealing with various subjects such as technology, climate change or gender politics.



WHAT TO SEE

Sight-seeing

Basílica de la Sagrada Família

Antoni Gaudí worked for over 40 years to build this unique temple that was intended to become a universal masterpiece combining all symbols of Christianity. Construction still continues today and its completion is scheduled for 2026, a date symbolic of the centenary of Gaudí's death.

Park Güell

The park designed also by Gaudí, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is magical, with twisted stone columns supporting curving colonnades, merging with the natural structure of the hillside.

The Cathedral

This Gothic Cathedral is one of the finest and most historic buildings in the city. It is dedicated to the copatron saint of Barcelona, Saint Eulalia of Barcelona and its construction started in 1298 and was only completed in 1913.

Palau de la Música Catalana

This concert hall is an incredible showcase for the most outstanding Modernista workmanship ever created. It is designed as a magical music box that combines all the applied arts: sculpture, mosaic, stained glass, ironwork.

Parc de la Ciutadella

It is the largest park in the center of Barcelona, located next to the Born neighbourhood. Built at the end of the 19th century, it was the first public park in the city. You can row around on a boat upon the lake, play table tennis, or simply stroll among the fountains..

Horta's Labyrinth

Located on top of the hill of Horta, this garden holds an incredible neoclassical-style labyrinth standing at its center, ponds, waterfalls, Tuscan columns, and elegant pavilions representing Roman temples. A green haven to escape the busy city life.

The Carmel Bunkers

Built as anti-aircraft fortifications in 1938, during the Spanish Civil War, the bunkers are atop the hill of Turó de la Rovira and offers the best view of the city by far!

FUN!

Food and drinks

Famous for being one of the foodie capitals of Europe, Barcelona abounds with fantastic restaurants, fresh produce and a rich gastronomic culture.

Here's some must-eat food (and drinks) you definitely have to try while roaming around the city!

Pa amb tomàquet: This is an essential dish that can be enjoyed as an accompaniment with every meal. It's basically bread-rubbed with garlic and the juice of a tomato and seasoned with olive oil, salt, and pepper.

Patatas bravas: Consists in wedges of fried potato traditionally topped with both alioli– the Catalan condiment of choice – and a spicy tomato sauce which gives the dish its name: only the 'brave' could take the heat.

Fideuà: Fideuà is a seafood dish and close relative of the world famous paella, made using short noodles instead of rice.

Horchata: It's a sweetish drink with a milk-like appearance and rich, velvety texture. Come the hot summer months, locals can be found sipping it throughout the day as a refreshing and nutritious snack.

Vermut: In recent years, the fortified wine known as vermouth or vermut in Catalan has enjoyed a veritable revival. It is common for groups of friends to meet at a bar in the afternoon for the vermuteo.

Cava: Cava is Catalonia's sparkling wine and point of pride for Catalan winemakers. The region of Catalonia is the only place where cava can be officially produced.



WHERE TO EAT

Restaurants

This is a list of some of the most authentic and delicious restaurants in Barcelona in our humble opinion. Give it a try and let us know what you think!

Tapas:

- Quimet & Quimet (Poeta Cabanyes, 25)
- Terra d'Escudella (Premià, 20)
- Morro Fi (Consell de Cent, 171)
- Xampanyet (Carrer de Montcada, 22)
- Bar Ramón (Carrer del Comte Borrell, 81)
- El Diset (Carrer Antic de Sant Joan, 3)

Fancy dinner:

- La Mar Salada (Passeig de Joan de Borbó, 58-59)
- El Nacional (24 Bis Passeig de Gràcia)
- Senyor Parellada (Argenteria, 37)

Nightlife

Barcelona's nightlife is legendary. Here's a short list of the most popular places to have a drink and dance all night!

- L'Ovella Negra (Carrer de Zamora, 78)
- 33/45 Bar & Gallery (Carrer de Joaquín Costa, 4)
- Bar Marsella (Carrer de Sant Pau, 65)
- Razzmatazz (Carrer dels Almogàvers, 122)
- Apolo (Carrer Nou de la Rambla, 113)

