



City Guide

BARCELONA

QUINTESENTIALLY

Barcelona

Barcelona offers one of the best city lifestyles in the world with superb restaurants, a vibrant cultural scene, lovely beaches and breathtaking landmarks around every corner. To experience the ultimate that Barcelona has to offer, explore our highly selective guide for the best selection of hotels, restaurants, nightlife and things to do in the city.



ACCOMMODATION

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MANDARIN ORIENTAL, BARCELONA

38-40 PASSEIG DE GRÀCIA, 08007 BARCELONA

Enjoying a central location on the prestigious Passeig de Gràcia, this hotel is perfectly situated, close to all the city's major attractions. Fusing high style with chic contemporary interiors, the Mandarin Oriental also has enticing indoor and outdoor spaces.

MAJESTIC HOTEL & SPA BARCELONA

68 PASSEIG DE GRÀCIA, 08007 BARCELONA

Majestic Hotel & Spa Barcelona has a 90-year history of excellence. The hotel is located in the heart of the city and close to many of Gaudí's best-known buildings, as well as exclusive shopping facilities, and Barcelona's most important landmarks.

HOTEL ARTS BARCELONA

19-21 CARRER DE LA MARINA, 08005 BARCELONA

This luxury hotel sits on the seafront, just a short walk from Barcelona's bustling centre. A blissful retreat, cultural hub, meeting space, and fine-dining destination rolled into one, Hotel Arts Barcelona is a place where exceptional service comes as standard and every guest is made to feel like part of the family.

W BARCELONA

1 PLAÇA ROSA DEL VENTS, 08039 BARCELONA

Located on the beachfront along the famous Barceloneta boardwalk, this striking hotel is the work of the world-renowned Spanish architect Ricardo Bofill. Its 473 guest rooms and suites offer panoramic views over the Mediterranean Sea and the city.

CASA FUSTER HOTEL

132 PASSEIG DE GRÀCIA, 08012 BARCELONA

This five-star luxury hotel is a well-known city landmark – its ornate façade dates back to 1908. Casa Fuster is beautiful inside too, with its mix of Art-Deco design and traditional furnishings. Up on the roof, find La Terraza-Mirador, a casual outdoor space complete with a viewpoint and pool.

Q U I N T E S S E N T I A L L Y

SIR VICTOR HOTEL

265 CARRER DEL ROSSELLÓ, 08008 BARCELONA

Sir Victor Hotel is Barcelona's latest funky addition to the hotel scene. The mood is low-key and welcoming, in a home-from-home kind of way; the rooms are spacious, the spa sumptuous and the décor tastefully modern. If you find clean lines and natural materials soothing, you're in for a treat. The rooms and suites boast low-slung beds, floor-to-ceiling walls, sleek oak floors and tasteful touches of Catalan design, true to Barcelona's singular creative heritage.

MERCER HOTEL

7 CARRER DELS LLEDÓ, 08002 BARCELONA

This luxury hotel is in the heart of Barcelona's Gothic Quarter, close to the cathedral. It's widely regarded as a place where guests can expect to find privacy and exclusivity in the city.

ÀBAC

1 AV DEL TIBIDABO, 08022 BARCELONA

The exclusive and elegant Àbac Restaurant & Hotel offers perhaps the most luxurious setting in all of Barcelona. Its rooms are decorated with a fine eye for detail and equipped with the most sophisticated in-room features, including hydro-massage and chromo-therapy baths. There is also a wonderful spa area.

GRAND HOTEL CENTRAL

30 VIA LAIETANA, 08003 BARCELONA

Think of this place as a home in the heart of Barcelona, where the amenities and luxuries of a five-star hotel are combined with a relaxed sense of style and elegance. The hotel is ideally situated between the Gothic Quarter district with its spectacular cathedral and the ancient walls of the El Born neighbourhood.

OHLA HOTEL

49 VIA LAIETANA, 08003 BARCELONA

Ohla Hotel is a five-star boutique hotel right in the centre of the city, on the site of the former palace of the first Count of Barcelona. Inside, the hotel's avant-garde interior design contrasts pleasantly with the building's neoclassical façade.

Q U I N T E S S E N T I A L L Y



RESTAURANTS

QUINTESSENTIALLY

LASARTE

259 CARRER DE MALLORCA, 08008 BARCELONA

One of Barcelona's few three-Michelin-star restaurants, Lasarte has been delighting Barcelona since 2006. Basque chef Martín Berasategui is often praised for his creativity and imagination, while the restaurant's wine list is regularly praised for high commendation too.

ÀBAC

1 AV DEL TIBIDABO, 08022 BARCELONA

On the restaurant scene, the Barcelona chef Jordi Cruz Mas is known for consistency and clarity seen in his avant-garde cuisine. Under his stewardship, Àbac has also won three Michelin stars, and continues to serve daring, adventurous food, which champions local produce and traditions.

MOMENTS

38-40 PASSEIG DE GRÀCIA, 08007 BARCELONA

Managed by Chef Carme Rusalleda and her son Raul Balaram, Moments offers fine Catalan cuisine, with a strong emphasis on high-quality fresh ingredients. Moments continues to win new awards and new devotees thanks to its creative and healthy cuisine, which draws inspiration from this highly cultured part of Spain.

ENOTECA PACO PÉREZ

19-21 CARRER DE LA MARINA, 08005 BARCELONA

Enoteca Paco Pérez, inside the Hotel Arts Barcelona, serves contemporary yet classic cuisine with outstanding quality and imagination. The restaurant's extensive wine cellar has more than 500 bottles to choose from. Enoteca also has a beautiful terrace, which is open during the summer season, for al fresco dining beside Port Olímpic.

DISFRUTAR

163 CARRER DE VILLARROEL, 08036 BARCELONA

Disfrutar means 'enjoy' in Spanish, an appropriate name for this intimate and welcoming restaurant, which serves innovative Spanish cuisine. At the end of 2015, after just a year in business, Disfrutar received its first Michelin star and was also awarded by the Spanish *Repsol Guide*.

DOS CIELOS AT MELIÁ BARCELONA SKY

272-286 CARRER DE PERE IV, 08005 BARCELONA

On the 24th floor of the Meliá Barcelona Sky, the brothers Javier and Sergio Torres have created a heaven for haute cuisine. The Dos Cielos terrace offers diners the chance to enjoy the textures, flavours, and experiences of the Torres brothers' cuisine in the open air and with the blue of the Mediterranean Sea as a backdrop.

TICKETS

164 AV DEL PARAL-LEL, 08015 BARCELONA

For chef Albert Adrià – best-known for his work at the world-beating restaurant elBulli – Tickets is a high-concept tapas restaurant, where the dishes take on near-theatrical roles. If you book a table, be prepared to join in the fun. This is a place to enjoy great food and good company.

THE ROOFTOP AT SIR VICTOR

CARRER DEL ROSSELLÓ 265, 08008 BARCELONA

Complete with its own sundeck and plunge pool, The Rooftop at Sir Victor is a secluded oasis above Barcelona's bustling streets. With views across Gaudi's Casa Milà and La Sagrada Família visitors can soak up the sights without leaving the bar. Enjoy a signature cocktail or choose a glass of natural wine from Barcelona's neighbouring wine region, Penedès.

ENIGMA

38-40 CARRER DE SEPÚLVEDA, 08015 BARCELONA

If Albert Adrià's Tickets restaurant is a show stopper, then his newer restaurant, Enigma is more of a high-end adult amusement park, offering diners playful, challenging dishes in a beautiful, highly decorative setting. Expect the unexpected.

VIA VENETO

10 CARRER DE GANDUXER, 08021 BARCELONA

Via Veneto is the restaurant by which others in Barcelona are judged. Book in here for excellent service, Michelin-starred cuisine and an exceptional wine cellar. In fact, the restaurant's Belle Époque design is well worth the visit alone.



NIGHTLIFE

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BOCHA CHICA

12 PASSATGE DE LA CONCEPCIÓ, 08008 BARCELONA

In the heart of the city's Eixample district lies Bocha Chica, an upmarket cocktail bar that pairs world-class mixology, with old-world décor. Sink into one of the low sofas here and enjoy observing the cool crowd.

DRY MARTINI

162-166 CARRER D'ARIBAU, 08036 BARCELONA

When this bar first opened, a little over 40 years ago, its cocktail menu was as short as its name. Since then the staff at this Eixample bar have expanded their repertoire to take in both classic and newer drinks. However, the old-school wood and brass décor remains the same.

PARADISO

4 CARRER DE RERA PALAU, 08003 BARCELONA

Step through a fridge door at this (relatively) ordinary looking sandwich shop, and you enter Barcelona's best speakeasy bar. If the wood-panelled décor doesn't appeal to you, the drinks, by award-winning mixologist Giacomo Gianotti, certainly will.

BAR MUT

192 CARRER DE PAU CLARÍS, 08037 BARCELONA

This compact, refined bar, just off Avinguda Diagonal, has a great wine selection, a refined wood and tile interior, a good range of spirits and the kind of price points that keep out the riff-raff.

MIRABE

2 CARRER MANUEL ARNÚS, 08035 BARCELONA

There can't be many other places in the city offering drinks with a view quite as spectacular as Mirabe. This hilltop bar and terrace in Sant Gervasi area is available for events and it makes the perfect spot for sundowners too.

SUTTON

13 CARRER DE TUSET, 08006 BARCELONA

Want to mix with the city's elite? Then come along to this well-established nightclub, known for drawing in Barcelona's It crowd, plying them with Grey Goose vodka and getting them to dance until dawn.

BLING BLING

8-10 CARRER DE TUSET, 08006 BARCELONA

The clue is really in the name here. If you make it past the doormen, you'll be able to take in this sparkly, hard-partying, heavily decorated club, which has both a VIP room and a 'zona privée'.

ECLIPSE AT W BARCELONA

W BARCELONA, 1 PLAÇA DE LA ROSA DELS VENTS, 08039 BARCELONA

Set on the 26th floor of the W Barcelona hotel, Eclipse combines breathtaking views of the sea with well-chosen guest DJ sets, great cocktails, and an impressive sushi menu.

RESTAURANT CARPE DIEM LOUNGE CLUB

32 PASSEIG MARÍTIM DE LA BARCELONETA, 08003 BARCELONA

Set beside the Port Olímpic, this decadent lounge and restaurant is one of the city's prime party spots after dark. The décor combines Balinese and Arabian influences, while the music is supplied by the city's best DJ talent.

OPIUM

34 PASSEIG MARÍTIM DE LA BARCELONETA, 08003 BARCELONA

This club, bar and beach terrace in Barceloneta, right next to Hotel Arts Barcelona, is hard to beat in terms of location. Add in a great roster of international talent – David Guetta, Lil' Pump, Bob Sinclair and Armin Van Buuren have all played here – and you can see why, for many club-goers, Opium is pretty addictive.



RETAIL

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PASSEIG DE GRÀCIA

If you are a fashion lover, Passeig de Gràcia is an essential destination in Barcelona. Its large designer stores are a pleasure to peruse, whether you have any intention of making a purchase or not. Look out for Prada, Gucci, Loewe, Burberry and Dolce & Gabbana.

TERESA HELBIG

184 CARRER DE MALLORCA, BARCELONA

Local womenswear designer Teresa Helbig has gained an international reputation for her skilful use of luxury materials. The store stocks her collections, as well as her perfume range.

STUDIOSTORE DESIGN STUDIO BY LAFEDE

6 BIS PASSATGE DE SANT BENET, 08003 BARCELONA

Take home a token of local artistry when you visit this design studio, shop-end gallery. Run by local creative, Lafede, Studiostore is a great place to pick up quirky interior items, such as neon light sculptures.

BEATRIZ FUREST

1 CARRER DE L'ESPARTERIA, 08003 BARCELONA

Barcelona's leading leather goods designer Beatriz Furest can trace her family's role in the city's fashion trade back to the late 19th century. Come to her store to try out her exquisite shoes, bags and accessories, as well as a small, but perfectly formed womenswear collection.

MED WINDS RAVAL

7 CARRER ELISABETS, 08001 BARCELONA

This local label works with textile suppliers, workshops and artisans in the region. What results, is a beautifully crafted line of men's and women's clothes that capture the spirit of the city, with proceeds going back into the community.

Q U I N T E S S E N T I A L L Y

LA COMERCIAL

73 CARRER DEL REC, 08003 BARCELONA

From Aesop skincare to Alessi homeware, La Comercial is the place to find chic little accessories and gifts in the city. The shop has a great fragrance selection and is good for mid-priced men's watches too.

AVINGUDA DIAGONAL

This very long avenue stretches from the northeast tip of Barcelona and goes all the way up to the fashionable south-west residential area called the Zona Alta – the high zone – though you don't need to go all the way up there to pick up some fine items. The best shopping on Av Diagonal begins where the avenue crosses Passeig de Gràcia, near the city centre.

PLAÇA DE FRANCESC MACIÀ

This popular shopping area lies in the Sarrià-Sant Gervasi district. It has many top boutiques and cafes and a lovely park called Turó Park nearby. You will also find one of Barcelona's best shopping centres here, L'illa, which houses many top fashion brands as well as an excellent food court in the basement.

SANTA EULALIA

93 PASSEIG DE GRÀCIA, 08008 BARCELONA

Originally opened as a haberdashery in the early 19th century, Santa Eulalia is now one of Barcelona's leading men's and women's wear retailers. Though it stocks everything from Valentino to Balenciaga, the store also offers its own bespoke tailoring service, and it has a great bistro and champagne bar.

VILA VINITECA

7 CARRER DELS AGULLERS, 08003 BARCELONA

Take home one of Spain's great vintage wines from this well-stocked wine dealership, in the city's Gothic Quarter. Vila Viniteca also sells some great food.



CULTURE

QUINTESSENTIALLY

MUSEU NACIONAL D'ART DE CATALUNYA

PALAU NACIONAL, PARC DE MONTJUÏC, 08038 BARCELONA

“One museum, a thousand years of art” is the slogan of the National Museum. Set within the historic 1929 Palau Nacional, this place is dedicated to Catalonia’s rich Gothic and Romanesque history.

MUSEU D'ART CONTEMPORANI DE BARCELONA

CARRER DELS ÀNGELS, 08001 BARCELONA

Come here to see new, high-brow art exhibitions. MACBA’S programme offers a complex vision of contemporary culture, in which today’s art becomes a key element for understanding current social, economic and political dynamics.

MUSEU PICASSO

15-23 CARRER DE MONTCADA, 08003 BARCELONA

The Pablo motherlode! Opened in 1963, the permanent collection of 3,500 pieces has now been spread across five adjoining palaces, two of which are devoted to temporary exhibitions. The artist’s early years are especially well represented here, offering visitors insight into the formative years Picasso spent nearby at La Llotja art school.

FUNDACIÓ JOAN MIRÓ

PARC DE MONTJUÏC, 08038 BARCELONA

The Fundació Joan Miró was created by the titular Spanish artist, principally with works from his own private collection. With an interdisciplinary approach, the Fundació organises temporary exhibitions of 20th and 21st century artists, as well as academic activities and projects in collaboration with other institutions and organisations.

GALERIA MARLBOROUGH

68 CARRER D'ENRIC GRANADOS, 08008 BARCELONA

The Barcelona outpost of this venerable London gallery doesn’t rely on Marlborough’s esteemed reputation (the UK gallery has represented Henry Moore, Francis Bacon, and Lucian Freud), but instead has developed an impressive retinue of Iberian artists. Head here to see something new.

Q U I N T E S S E N T I A L L Y

LA SAGRADA FAMÍLIA

401 CARRER DE MALLORCA, 08013 BARCELONA

Antoni Gaudí's beautiful, towering Modernista masterpiece has been under construction since the architect's death in 1926. He dedicated more than 40 years (out of which 14 exclusively) to the project, and he is buried beneath the nave. With modern, digital stone-carving techniques, the building's custodians hope to finish in 2026.

PARC JOAN MIRÓ

2 CARRER D'ARAGÓ, 8015 BARCELONA

Completely integrated into the urban fabric designed by Cerdà in the late 19th century to the expansion of Barcelona, Joan Miró Park occupies the site of the old city slaughterhouse. It is composed of a large plantation of pine, oak and palm trees, as well as the famous sculpture Woman and Bird by Joan Miró.

PARC GÜELL

5 CARRER D'OLOT, 08024 BARCELONA

Parc Güell is an iconic space in the city of Barcelona designed by famous architect Antoni Gaudí and declared UNESCO World Heritage. To ensure the conservation and maintenance of the Monumental Zone, there is a schedule and an entry fee.

CASA MILÀ

92 PASSEIG DE GRÀCIA, 08008 BARCELONA

Described variously as rising dough, melted lava and a stone lung, the last secular building designed by Antoni Gaudí, the Casa Milà (popularly known as La Pedrera, 'the stone quarry') has no straight lines. It is a stupendous and daring feat of architecture, and the culmination of the architect's experimental attempts to recreate natural forms with bricks and mortar (not to mention ceramics and even smashed-up cava bottles).

PALAU REIAL DE PEDRALBES

686 AV DIAGONAL, 08034 BARCELONA

Behind a 250-metre-long wall covered by bougainvillea, lie Barcelona's most majestic gardens: the Jardins del Palau Reial de Pedralbes. Both French and English in style, a touch Romantic and very luxuriant, they take you back to a time where splendour and majesty were key landscape features.

Q U I N T E S S E N T I A L L Y



WELLNESS

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43 THE SPA

19-21 CARRER DE LA MARINA, 08005 BARCELONA

Situated on the 42nd and 43rd floors of the Hotel Arts Barcelona, 43 The Spa has wonderful views, out over the sea. There's a hydrotherapy pool, dry sauna, steam bath, and a spectacular outdoor terrace, as well as a wide range of face and body treatments on offer.

THE SPA AT MANDARIN ORIENTAL, BARCELONA

38-40 PASSEIG DE GRÀCIA, 08007 BARCELONA

Complete with seven private treatment rooms, a twin-lane swimming pool and a fully-equipped fitness centre, the spa at Barcelona's Mandarin Oriental promises guests the full wellness experience. If it's relaxation you're after, the spa menu offers signature therapies such as the Oriental Qi ritual specialised facials. French Podiatrist, Bastien Gonzalez also offers treatments in his Pedi:Mani:Cure Studio.

AIRE DE BARCELONA

22 PASSEIG DE PICASSO, 08003 BARCELONA

Aire has revived the spirit of the ancient Greek and Roman bathhouses, in a beautiful 17th century building, beside El Born Market. Come here for hydrotherapy, massages, as well as more esoteric offerings, such as a red wine bath.

SPA HAMMAM RITUELS D'ORIENT

50 CARRER DE LORETO, 08029 BARCELONA

Spa Hammam Rituels d'Orient is a sanctuary of wellbeing in the midst of the city, a space that's safe from the troubles of everyday life. Come here for massage, hammam, and face and body treatments.

METROPOLITAN BALMES

215 CARRER DE BALMES, 08006 BARCELONA

One of the city's better-appointed gyms, the spa at Metropolitan Balmes has an ice fountain, saunas, Turkish baths, a solarium and beauty salon, as well as plenty of treatments and classes.

Essential Information

Local Office

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Telephone

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Official Language

Catalan and Spanish

Telephone Code

+ 34

Emergency

112

Currency

Euro

Time

UTC+1h

Electricity

The standard electrical voltage in Barcelona is 230v.
The electrical outlets take a two-pronged plug.

Safety

Barcelona is one of the safest cities in the world – you should be fine, wherever you go. The only problem you might find in Barcelona is the occasional pickpocket targeting busy tourist areas, so keep your bag closed and an eye on your belongings when you find yourself in a crowd.