

Time Out

Barcelona

ENGLISH EDITION!

 **Barcelona**
Turisme

OFFICIAL GUIDE OF BCN

**MORE THAN
A CITY**

Barcelona province has hot springs, beaches, castles and more

OFF THE

BEATEN

TRACK

30 PLACES YOU
NEED TO VISIT
OUTSIDE
BARCELONA
FOR THE BEST
OF CATALAN
CULTURE, FOOD
AND HISTORY

COOL BARS:
WHERE THE TRENDY
KIDS ARE HANGING
OUT THESE DAYS

ARCHITECTURE:
WE REVEAL THE CITY'S
OTHER BUILDINGS THAT
ARE WORTH A LOOK

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The Best of BCN

Time Out Barcelona in English
January 2015

Barcelona's architectural masterpieces go beyond the world-famous landmarks **p. 20**

Features

14. Get out of here!

Beyond the city limits there's a whole spectrum of sights, activities and adventures to be had. Hannah Pennell explores the best of Barcelona province.

20. Building stories

Albert Forns takes a trip around the city to discover some of the most significant buildings that should be seen even if they aren't designed by the ubiquitous Gaudí.

24. Bar crawl

The bars in Barcelona almost outnumber the inhabitants (almost). Òscar Broc gives us a guide to the trendiest spots to hang out.

26. Art collectors

Eugènia Sendra revels in the MNAC's latest permanent collection, featuring works from the first half of the 20th century.

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At any time of the day or night, you'll find a great bar open in Barcelona **p. 24**

In the mood for shopping? Head straight for Passeig de Gràcia **p. 28**

Time Out
Barcelona

Our cover
IRISNEGRO

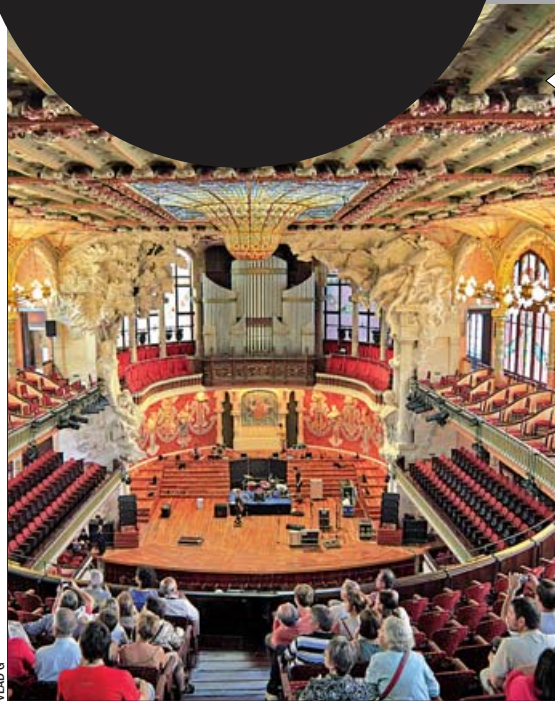
Via Laietana, 20, 1a planta | 08003 Barcelona | T. 93 310 73 43 (redaccio@timeout.cat)

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The hot list

BCN_JAN 2015



VLAD G



REAL CLUB DE POLO DE BARCELONA

THURSDAY	SATURDAY	
01	03	
Concert New Year Concert Musical feast at the Palau de la Música.	Sport Hockey Tournament The world's best in grass hockey face off.	
MONDAY	THURSDAY	SUNDAY
05	08	11
Family Kings' Procession The Three Kings come to town bearing gifts.	Film Xcèntric The CCCB's film festival returns for its 14th year.	Football Barça-Atlético The other Madrid team play the home favourites.

DON'T MISS!

37th Sant Antoni Run. Head to the Sant Antoni district to see the city's first 2015 road race. **SUN 18**

18th Monte-Carlo Historic Rally. See the crews set off in their classic cars en route to the south of France. **FRI 30**

TUESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY		WEDNESDAY
13	15	16		21
Exhibition Hiroshima-Nagasaki Show marking 70 years of the atomic bomb.	Concert Amélie Angebault French singer-songwriter performs at L'Auditori.	Concert Gustavo Dudamel The Venezuelan conducts at the Palau de la Música.		Exhibition Osvaldo Lamborghini Work by the Argentinian writer at the MACBA.
	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	24	25	29	30
	Catalan traditions Tres Tombs Celebrating the local patron saint of animals.	Children Ran de Mar Free puppet show for the under-eights.	Concert London Philharmonic Visiting orchestra play Beethoven and Chopin.	Dance What the body... This controversial show returns after 25 years.

TRES TOMBS DE BARCELONA



People of Barcelona

Giorgis

Singer and composer
42 years old

On your album 'Barcelonauta' you revive songs about the city from the '20s to the '50s. Are you singing about a real Barcelona or an idealised one?

We always idealise the past, like Woody Allen in 'Midnight in Paris', when the main character travels back to the Paris of the 1920s, only for a girl to tell him that everything was much better 30 years before that.

What got you investigating these old songs?

I was interested in Lindy Hop, the dance style from the '20s, and I discovered that in 1919 Barcelona had its own swing band, the Nic-Fusly orchestra, which played at the Ritz Hotel. I saw there were lots of original songs.

How many songs dedicated to the city have you found?

All over the world, there must be about 400. Many are from France, like a polka I discovered from 1890, or 'Barcelone' by Charles Trenet and Boris Vian. More recently there are songs by Marc Almond and Rufus Wainwright, Emmanuelle Seigner's 'Alone in Barcelona' and Sophie Marceau's 'F*** you, Barcelona'.

Do you think you'd feel this attraction to the past if you lived in a different city?

I feel I'm an ambassador for things that are beautiful and forgotten in music, and in Barcelona I've found lots. I came here because I fell in love. Lawrence Durrell said that 'a city becomes a world when one loves one of its inhabitants'. But I still work in Greece. And lots of Greek Barcelonaphiles have sought out my record.

'Lots of Greek Barcelonaphiles' – really??

Yes, you have no ideal Barcelona,



MARIA DIAS



AN OBJECT: A 'MANEKI-NEKO'

Those lucky waving cats, found in the 'epitome of kitsch' sections of local cheapo shops.



PLACE OF BIRTH: ATHENS

He grew up in Macriyani, a central neighbourhood in the Greek capital, at the foot of the Acropolis.

on the one hand, is Barça, but at the same time there are people who are attracted by the image of anarchist, rebellious Barcelona, and people who associate the city with the likes of Manu Chao, Ojos de Brujo...

And you don't want to compose your own song about the city?

Last summer I wrote eight instrumental pieces, each with the name of a Barcelona café: La Granja de Gavà, El Pastís, La Candela. I don't know if I'll record them: I'd need a lot of musicians. And I don't consider myself to be a musician.

No?

No, I started composing because I couldn't find the songs I wanted, and I decided to compose them myself. Now I want to record a digital single with a Catalan version of 'Il Mondo' by Jimmy Fontana – an important record! – and 2015 will be its 50th anniversary. –Jordi Bianciotto

BGN:
TOP SECRET

B. García & M. Sales

_ Try the city's best chocolate croissant at Can Foix in Sarrià. Melt-in-your-mouth yumminess for €1.50.

_ See the remains of one of Barcelona's 78 Roman towers inside the Women's secret lingerie store at Carrer Call, 1.

_ Legend has it Christopher Columbus was the son of a Catalan innkeeper who was executed on the gallows.

_ In the Hotel Catalonia Albinoni, there is a hidden 19th-century garden.

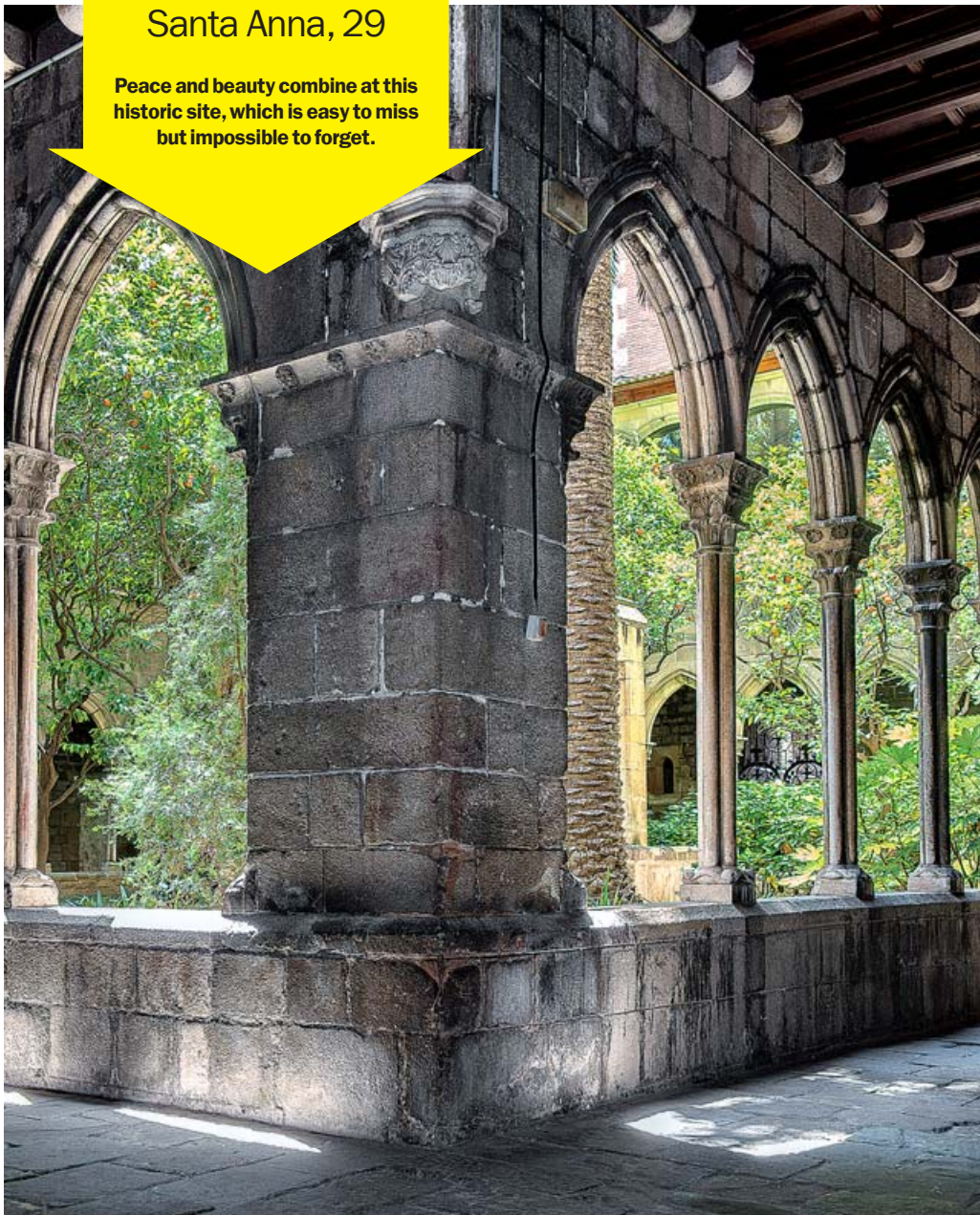
_ On Carrer Aiguader are the remains of the Migdia defensive wall, where Don Quixote fought his last battle.

I love BCN

Santa Anna church

Santa Anna, 29

Peace and beauty combine at this historic site, which is easy to miss but impossible to forget.



What am I doing here?



Jan Fleischer

Day trippin'

Barcelona is gorgeous, amazing, and we all love it. How can you not, with the Mediterranean right there, art and architecture everywhere you look, and always something going on – theatre, exhibitions, yummy eats and drinks, live music, cinema, and a party every day of the week.

But every once in a while it's great to get out of the big city and into something a bit smaller-scale. Whether it's to Figueres to see the Dalí Museum, along the Costa Brava to enjoy the rugged nature, or the Pyrenees for the quiet of the mountains (or the whoosh of skis), Barcelona's surroundings have just as much to offer as the city itself.

If you're here for only a short break, but have a day to get away, try Montserrat, the serrated mountain; Sitges, for a beach-town feel; or Girona, to walk the cobblestones and get an old-world vibe.

Montserrat is a wonder to see, with its natural rock formations that look like Gaudí had a hand in carving them. Visit the monastery, and take a hike with spectacular views on all sides. If you head down to Sitges, you should visit the church that overlooks the sea, wander the meandering streets (shops are even open on Sundays!), and stay for lunch along the seafront. And in Girona, the big attractions are the Jewish Quarter, the cathedral, the various museums and the houses lining the Onyar river.

You'll be glad you took the time to jump on the train and head out of Barcelona. And the city will be waiting for you when you get back.



Jan loves visiting the fishing village of Cadaqués.

WTF IS...

Learn to speak Barcelona with our vocab guide | By Jan Fleischer

Culer

FC Barcelona supporters are nicknamed *culers* (coo-LAYS), from the Catalan *cul*, or arse, because fans' bums hung off the benches in the first Barça stadium.



20 GREAT THINGS TO DO IN BCN

 **YOU'RE SHORT ON TIME AND BARCELONA IS FULL OF AMAZING SIGHTS. WHERE DO YOU START? HERE'S OUR GUIDE TO THE CITY'S ESSENTIALS**



1*

Do a vermouth crawl! Everything tastes better accompanied by a good vermut, especially with a bite to eat. Try the house vermouth at classics Bar Calders, La Pepita and Bar Electricitat.



2

Discover the city on foot

Barcelona is the perfect size for strolling around. Stunning buildings and parks abound, but there's also a Barcelona you won't find in the guidebooks: head up to Horta (above), get to know the charms of Sant Andreu, or discover the village-like Sarrià.

3

Explore modernisme

As well as the big hits, be sure to visit some of Gaudí's less-famed creations, such as Palau Güell and Casa Viçens. Works by other modernista architects not to be missed include Casa Amatller and the Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, a World Heritage Site.

4

Get to know the city's history

Barcelona is full of diverse cultures and heritages – with every step you take through its streets, you'll stumble upon some of its history. Plaça del Rei, Born Cultural Centre and Museum Marítim are just some of the city's must-sees.

5

See the city of Picasso's youth

Start at C/Mercè, 3, where the Picasso family once lived (the building no longer stands). Head to Els 4 Gats, where artists gathered to dine and discuss their trade. Lastly, go to the Museu Picasso, a beautiful medieval building housing works from Picasso's formative years.

6

Climb up the magical Montjuïc

This 'mountain' is perfect for a leafy walk with great views, although it takes a bit of legwork to climb. With buildings from the 1992 Olympic Games, as well as the Jardí Botànic and castle, it's worth it. Back at the bottom, the Mies van der Rohe Pavillion and CaixaForum are the ones to see.

7

Walk on the artsy side

Museums are on almost every corner in Barcelona, but one jewel not to miss is the MNAC, with Catalan art from the Romanesque period to the mid-20th century. On a smaller scale, the Palau Robert is free, has great exhibitions, and the building itself is worth a gander.

8*

THE RAVAL

Once called the 'Barrio Chino', this neighbourhood has inspired many a writer. Nowadays, it's a place where local businesses thrive in the form of unique shops and restaurants, while still maintaining some of its seedy underworld glamour. Urban culture is booming here, alongside gems such as the CCCB and MACBA.

9

Hit a high note in concert

Barcelona has excellent live music venues and wonderful concert halls. The Liceu opera house is a survivor in splendour, with gold leaf, plush red carpets and ornate carvings; L'Auditori is a sleek space with capacity for 2,400 concert-goers.

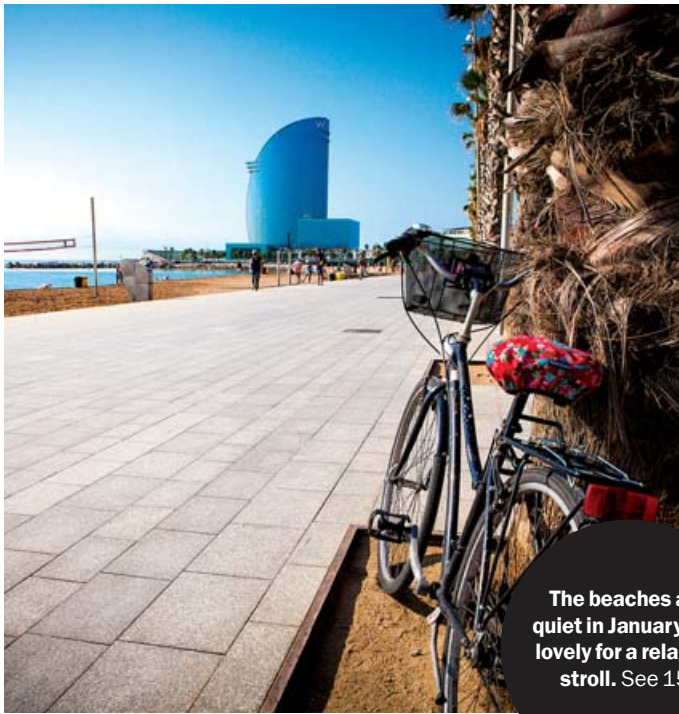
10

Visit the gay heart of the city

Barcelona's gay capital is definitely the Eixample, nicknamed Gaixample for the sheer number of

DID YOU KNOW?

► January 6 is Kings' Day and a big holiday in Catalonia – close on a million 'Kings' cakes' will be eaten here that day.



The beaches are quiet in January and lovely for a relaxing stroll. See 15.



11*
GO MARKET SPOTTING. BARCELONA HAS 43 OF THEM, SELLING FOOD, CLOTHES, HOMEWARES AND JUST ABOUT ALL YOU COULD EVER NEED.

The modernista market of Sant Antoni, which is currently undergoing a major renovation.

stores and clubs that cater to this clientele. Start the night with a drink in Museum or Plata Bar; if dancing till dawn is your goal, Metro is a great choice, as is Arena, where both boys and girls are welcome.

12

Perfect your path to heaven

Visit some of the city's magnificent churches such as Sant Pau del Camp, a rare example of Romanesque architecture, with a fantastical façade and extraordinary cloister. The graceful basilica of Santa Maria del Mar is perhaps the best surviving example of Catalan Gothic.

13

Savour the best in new Catalan cooking

Barcelona's creative cuisine offering is extensive, and though it can mean making more room on your credit card as well as in your stomach, if you dine in Dos Palillos, Moments or Tickets, it'll be an experience well worth it.

14

Discover your sweet tooth

For posh chocolates in fancy packaging, head to Escribà or Bubó, where every bonbon is a work of art. With the cold weather you might well fancy a hot chocolate, so stop by one of the cafés on C/Petritxol, serving the thick, rich drink favoured by locals.

15*

THE MED

This may not be the best month to take a dip in the sea (although there are some hardy souls who swim there every day of the year), but the almost consistently sunny weather means that heading down for a saunter along the beachfront, perhaps with a stop for a glass of something, is always a good idea.

16*

SEAFOOD

No one leaves Barcelona without sampling the seafood. The city toasts the fine and luxurious Galician restaurant Rias de Galicia in Poble-sec, as well as Cachitos in the Eixample, for their fantastic assortment of seafood. In Barceloneta, Can Solé serves up a spectacular haul of fresh seafood every day.

17

Much more than a club

For many visitors, a trip to Barcelona is not complete without heading to the Camp Nou. Even if football isn't your thing, you could take a seasonal turn or two around its ice rink.

18

Get out!

The best place to take a break here is in one of the many outdoor bars and cafés – yes, even at this time of year. Bar Colombo is a tapas bar with a sunny terrace overlooking the port, while another option is Bar Calders, a friendly hole-in-the-wall with a terrace.

19

Wander the neighbourhoods

Many Barcelona visitors stick to the central areas, but the city is so much more. Gràcia is full of life at all hours of the day, while Poble-sec and Sant Antoni are currently the places to be, especially for their top cuisine and quality entertainment.

20

Enjoy a really good party

Once you've got to know Barcelona by day, let it all hang out in the best clubs in town for an unforgettable night. Sidecar is where indie rockers have been getting their fix for 30 years, while Magic is the quintessential Barcelona rock club. If funk and hip hop are more your thing, your best bet is Marula.

► Although the shops are normally closed on Sundays in Barcelona, they'll be open on January 11 for the first weekend of the winter sales.

Barcelona... just a click away

Find more than 200 suggestions to suit a wide range of tastes



Barcelona is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city that offers visitors a wealth of different products and services. You will be surprised at what you can find when you visit the bcnshop.com website and the Turisme de Barcelona Tourist Information Points around the city.

There are many ways to visit Barcelona – in the company of friends, or with your family or partner – and a multitude of reasons to come here: the culture, cuisine, music, art... Whether you're planning to see the best-known attractions or you're looking for a truly special experience, at bcnshop.com you will find more than 200 suggestions to suit a wide range of tastes.

You're here to see Barcelona, but how will you get around? Here are just a few ideas. There are guided tours on foot, by bicycle or with special vehicles

like the Segway, which cover both the city centre and the lesser-known neighbourhoods; running tours and gastronomic excursions; panoramic hop-on hop-off bus tours or themed routes through specific districts; cooking workshops, wine and chocolate tasting, or craft workshops for the little ones; visits to historic buildings like the Palau de la Música, or to museums, taking advantage of the ArTicket or Barcelona multi-tickets, with free transport and discounts; and babysitting services, wheelchair, pram and pushchair hire, in addition to the standard left-luggage services and airport transfers.

There are many Barcelonas to explore. Which one is yours? Discover the full range of possibilities on offer by visiting bcnshop.com.

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From the city to the ski slopes – find ski getaways near Barcelona! Take advantage of your visit to Barcelona and enjoy a snowy escape. The Barcelona Skibus will take you to Catalonia's largest skiable area: Alp 2500 has a vertical drop of

935m and 117 runs to suit all levels, as well as 39 ski lifts. And once you set off from Barcelona, you'll be skiing in an unequalled natural setting in the blink of an eye.

BCN/CAT

HAVE FUN!



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Enjoy all the art in Barcelona with just one ticket: the best Romanesque and contemporary art, Pablo Picasso, Joan Miró, Antoni Tàpies... And Barcelona's many other masterpieces.



Kids

Barcelona has a wide selection of leisure activities to enjoy with your family or friends: Barcelona Zoo, Tibidabo amusement park, CosmoCaixa, MIBA (Inventions museum) and much more.

Buy your tickets at bcnshop.com



10%
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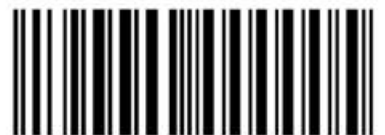
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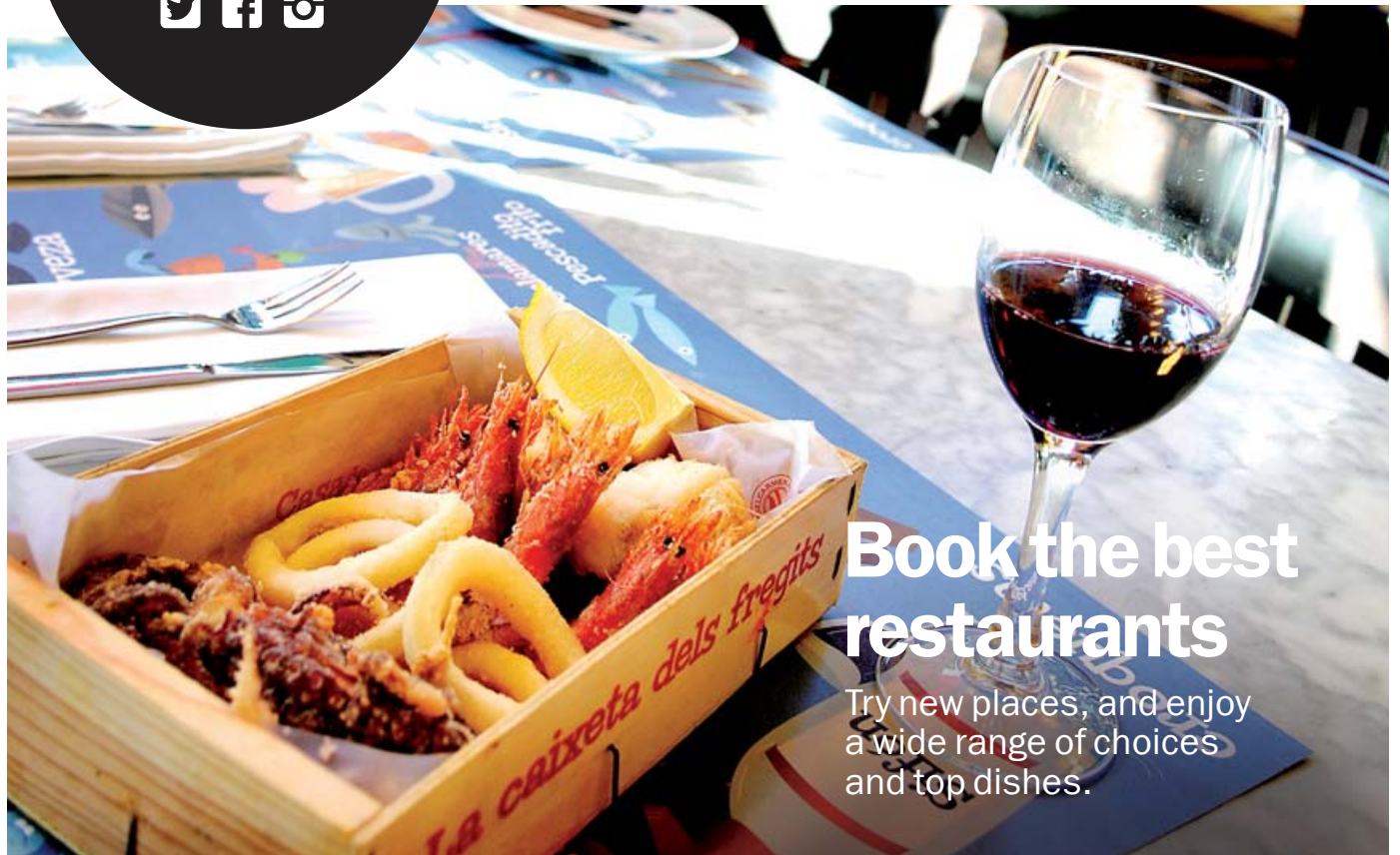
Participant stores: **Condal (Condal, 9), **Ramblas 136**, **Ramblas 140**, **Arcs** (Arcs, 10), **Passeig de Gracia** (Paseo de Gracia, 47), **Ferran 51** (Ferran, 51 – 53), **Ferran Sant Jaume** (Plaça Sant Jaume, 3), **Joan de Borbó** (Joan de Borbó, 57), **Maremagnum I** (Maremagnum. Local 32/33), **Maremagnum II** (Maremagnum. Local 104), **Argenteria** (Argenteria 65), **Plaça Comercial Born** (Plaça Comercial, 6), **Nova Bocana** (Passeig Mare Nostrum, 15), **Cucurulla** (Cucurulla, 1-3), **Plaça Catalunya** (Plaza Catalunya, 9), **Diagonal Mar** (C.C. Diagonal Mar. Local 2560. Avda Diagonal,3).

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Get this

timeout.com/barcelona



Book the best restaurants

Try new places, and enjoy a wide range of choices and top dishes.



Find out what's on

Get the latest info on what to do while you're here in town

On our website you'll find details about what's on right now, and up-to-date news about the best of what Barcelona has to offer. With new events added each day, you'll have no excuse not to have fun.



Buy your tickets

Theatre, film, dance, festivals, concerts, kids shows...

You can also buy tickets to the city's biggest events through our website, whether for concerts, festivals or other cultural events. What's more, you can get discounts, get your tickets early and benefit from special offers.

Discover top ideas for exploring outside Barcelona: where to eat, what to do... at www.timeout.com/barcelona/getaways.

Explore the bustling and varied neighbourhoods of Barcelona at www.timeout.com/barcelona/by-area.



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MAKE A BREAK FOR IT

You don't have to go far out of the city to discover spectacular landscapes, amazing history and fabulous food. Welcome to Barcelona – now get out.

By **Hannah Pennell**

THE IMPRESSIVE VIEW
OF MONTSERRAT FROM
PEDRAFORÇA

DON'T FORGET YOUR TOOTHBRUSH

Waterways, monasteries
and cathedrals, castles

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

Geographically at the centre of Catalonia, Vic is a fantastically historical city, with lots to see. The local council has created an itinerary that takes in 32 buildings and sites, including a second-century Roman temple and remains of the city walls from the 14th century as well as various religious houses. The cathedral is one of the highlights with its myriad architectural styles including Romanesque, gothic and neo-classical. Next door is the Episcopal Museum, which contains some 20,000 objects including medieval paintings and sculptures. Finally, if you visit on a Saturday you'll find the magnificent main square (it's spacious, full of eye-catching buildings, and has beautiful arcades) filled with stalls for the extremely popular weekly market as well as fairs and other events throughout the year.

www.victurisme.cat

LET THE RIVER RUN

When Catalonia joined the Industrial Revolution, the power of the Llobregat River was harnessed as an energy source. As a result, colonies, consisting of factories – some of them very large and in most cases dedicated to textile production – together with housing for workers and services such as schools, churches, cafés and shops, bloomed all down its course. Nowadays, these colonies are testimony to the country's past, and 18 can be visited. We especially recommend Colònia Pons, just outside the town of Puig-reig, which stands out for its architecture and urban planning. The church is undoubtedly the settlement's most emblematic building, and has been dubbed the Cathedral of Alt Llobregat. www.parcfluvial.cat

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MONKS

Sant Benet de Bages was a powerful Benedictine abbey founded more than 1,000 years ago, towards the end of the tenth century. It was inhabited by monks until 1835, when the ecclesiastical confiscation policies promoted by Spanish politician Juan Álvarez Mendizábara forced them to abandon it. It was



then privatised in a piecemeal way. An adjoining factory was built in 1853, and in 1907, it was bought by the family of painter Ramon Casas, who commissioned architect Puig i Cadafalch to renovate it as a residence. The Casas family sold the monastery to the Caixa de Manresa savings bank in the year 2000, and it is now a cultural heritage centre. Each weekend, they offer workshops for families, giving parents and children the chance to get creative together. If you'd like to extend your trip there, the modern Mòn Sant Benet Hotel is located nearby. www.monstbenet.com

ON YOUR BIKE

If you're visiting with your family and looking for a unique experience that everyone will enjoy, try the Ecorail del Cardener, which takes advantage of old railway lines. Each 'carriage' consists of two pimped bicycles attached to either side of a platform, which you move along the train track by pedalling. Various platforms can be joined, so a group of you can travel the eight kilometre route together. If you're not up to pedalling, you can take the Trenpat mini train. As it's open only on Sundays, if you want to make a day of it, why not stay in the nearby town of Manresa on Saturday night, to get an early start on your bikes. Booking in advance is essential. Tel. 93 836 17 08. www.elcardener.com

CASTLES IN THE AIR

At the beginning of the tenth century, Anoia was on the southern border of Catalonia, which was in the process of winning territory back from the Saracens. As such, a series of

castles were constructed along this border as a defensive measure. With more than 1,000 years of history, Claramunt Castle is an icon of the region, one of the most spectacular forts in the country and the main attraction of the local Border Castle Trail. Access is on foot, but the 25-minute walk to the top of the hill will be well rewarded, with great views of the Conca d'Òdena river valley. The trail also includes the castles of Òdena, Tossa, Miralles and Vilademàger.

www.mhcat.cat

UP, UP AND AWAY

Stay overnight in Igualada, so you can make the necessary early start to go up in a hot-air balloon and fly over Anoia with Xavi Aguilera and his Camins de Vent company. Take-off will be around 7am, the best time for ballooning, as there's less wind, the air is cold and the atmosphere is stable. Once you've landed, you'll enjoy a drink to celebrate your 'hot-air balloon baptism', followed by a traditional breakfast. The whole experience takes around five hours, though the balloon ride itself lasts about 90 minutes.

www.caminsdevent.com

PICTURE-POSTCARD PRETTY

While there are plenty of gorgeous villages in the foothills of the Catalan Pyrenees, Castellar de n'Hug stands out for its location near the source of the Llobregat River. The tumbling waters are dramatic, and the red roofs of the local houses against the forested hills will provide plenty of photo opps. It's also the site of two Romanesque churches, dedicated to Santa Maria and Sant Vicenç. The village is located in the far north of Barcelona province, so we definitely recommend you make a real trip out of it and find accommodation in the area to properly appreciate the beautiful surrounds – a number of simple but practical options are available in the village itself. www.turismecastellardenhug.cat

DESTINATION MIDDLE AGES

If we tell you that the 'Salt Lords' lived in this castle between the 11th and 15th centuries, you might think that we're talking about a new volume in the 'Game of Thrones' series. But, in fact, these noblemen were the lords of Cardona, related to the main European royal families and with incredible influence that meant that the duke of Cardona was known as 'the king without a crown'. A visit to the castle gives you the chance to see the modern fortress as well as the remains of the old county citadel, such as the Minyona tower and Sant Vicenç collegiate. And from the top of the historic construction, you can enjoy fantastic views across the valleys of Cardener. www.cardonaturisme.cat

DON'T MISS!



PEDRAFORCA

This is one of the most emblematic mountains in Catalonia, not so much for its height (2,506 metres) but for its solitary location and its shape, crowned by a fork made up of two peaks separated by a large pass. It's worth seeing in person and, providing you're in reasonable shape, climbing up to the top is not a particularly daunting feat.

JUST BEYOND THE CITY LIMITS

Nature, history,
architecture, wine

PLANES AND BIRDS

As visitors come in to land at El Prat airport, it's almost certain that the large majority have no idea they are touching down just next to one of the best places for spotting birds in Catalonia, the delta of the Llobregat River. It forms part of the migratory route for certain species, and is considered a GIBA (global important bird area). The surprisingly unspoiled beach that touches the edges of the airport has a well-signed walk indicating the different things you can see.

www.portadeldelta.cat

A NATURAL HIGH

Although the Maresme area is known by many for its beaches, it's also home to the Bosc Vertical (the Vertical Forest), an adventure park located on the road from Dosrius to Canyamars with ziplines, bridges, vines, nets, snowboards... everything that kids and adults need to have a great time, following the numerous circuits that wind among the tall trees. www.boscvertical.com

WALK BETWEEN THE SEA AND THE HILLS

Catalonia is home to many natural parks, and the Parc del Montnegre i el Corredor, in Maresme, is one with a fabulous range of sights to see while you hike the hills – megalithic tombs, Romanesque churches, Iberian sites, fortified farmhouses, all can be seen in this region of 'mar i muntanya' (as the Catalans say 'sea and mountain'), inhabited since ancient times.

www.parcs.diba.cat

A HOT PLACE!

Head to Caldes de Montbui to enjoy the health benefits of thermal waters. In the centre of town, in the Plaça del Lleó, you'll find the Font del Lleó (Lion Fountain) from where waters come out of the ground at 74°C. Be careful not to scald your hand! While there, treat yourself to a session at one of the local spas, and visit the Thermalia Museum, which includes works by Picasso.

www.caldesdemontbui.cat

MAKING THE MOST OF MOTHER NATURE

Sant Miquel del Fai is located in a spectacular setting, perched on top of the Bertí clifftops. Here you can find amazing old buildings such as a 15th-century gothic monastery with its chapel carved out of a cave in the mountain, the beautiful caves of Sant Miquel and Tosques, and the Tenes and Rossinyol waterfalls. (Note that Sant Miquel is closed until January 14.)

www.santmiqueldelfai.cat

BARGAIN HUNTING

There are lots of reasons to visit the town of Igualada, but for many the main one is to take advantage of its factory-shops. With around 20



COLONIA GÜELL

DON'T MISS!



MUSEU CANTINTURÉ

In Esplugues de Llobregat, one of Barcelona's closest neighbours, you'll find this, the first museum in Spain dedicated to the art of tile-making. As well as the museum, you can visit the Pujol i Bausis ceramics factory, which supplied the leading modernista architects during the 19th and 20th centuries.

retailers offering deals, it's a great place to head to escape from the crowds in the shops of Barcelona for a while. Clothes for men, women and children, underwear, leather goods, shoes and toys are amongst the products you'll find. To make life even easier, most of the factories are located along two streets in the town, which

run parallel to each other, Avinguda de Balmes and Carrer de Santa Caterina, just behind the enormous Plaça de Cal Font.

www.igualada.cat

CREATED FROM ANOTHER WORLD

A trip to the Colonia Güell is a must for anyone who has 'see as many Gaudí creations as possible' on their bucket list. This social living and working project was dedicated to the production of textiles in Santa Coloma de Cervelló (Baix Llobregat), and constructed in 1890 at the behest of businessman Eusebi Güell – he wanted to transfer the industrial operations that he had in the Vapor Vell part of Sants in Barcelona city. Commissioned by Güell, Gaudí sought to create the sensation of a small city, and today it is still possible to see the inn, hospital, school, theatre and Güell crypt, which is said to be the basis for the Sagrada

SERGI LÓPEZ

GARRAF

Família design. A renovation project was carried out in 2000 by architect Òscar Tusquets. Note that you have to book your tickets in advance.

www.gaudicoloniaguell.org

REMEMBERING THE REPUBLICAN FLYBOYS

Located close to the town of La Garriga, Rosanes airfield was built in the 1930s by an Argentinian businessman with an interest in aeronautics. However, just a few years later, it was expanded and put to use by the Republican Air Force during the Spanish Civil War, becoming strategically important in the fight against Franco and his troops. Bomb shelters, command buildings and canteens for the troops can still be seen there, as well as the control tower.

www.aviacioiguerra.cat

GOING UNDERGROUND

At the Parc Arqueològic de les Mines de Gavà, you can visit Europe's oldest mines. The pits were dug some 6,000 years ago and continued working for 1,000 years. Variscite, a green-coloured mineral, was what drove the people of the time to mine this ground. It was made into jewellery, and historians believe that it had religious and magical significance for the Neolithic community that inhabited Gavà, who apparently devoted themselves to extracting the mineral from the ground.

www.gavaciutat.cat

GAUDÍ'S INSPIRATION?

Montserrat is well-known as one of Catalonia's major sights, attracting thousands of locals and visitors each day. However, why not head inside the mountain to explore the saltpetre caves in Collbató, with its incredible stalactites, stalagmites and columns formed by water erosion over thousands of years, which recall the work of Antoni Gaudí. The guided tours start with a climb of 244 steps, and once inside – where the ambient temperature is 14°C with humidity that can reach 97 percent – you will hear some of the legends about the caves that have existed for centuries.

www.collbato.cat

PAPER SCULPTURES

For many Catalans, Capellades is mainly famous for the various brands born there, such as Guasch handkerchiefs, Munich trainers and Punto Blanco underwear. However, it is more than a hub for clothing entrepreneurs. One of its main appeals for visitors is the 18th-century paper mill, now restored and converted into a working museum. Take the guided tour and discover how different types of paper, such as deckled and cigarette, were made to be sold in the American colonies.

mmp-capellades.net



CAVE OF SANT MIQUEL

MODERNISME BEYOND THE EIXAMPLE

The Vallès Oriental region is full of summer houses of the Barcelona bourgeoisie who wanted to find peace and cool away from the city. You'll find them in Cardedeu, l'Ametlla and Granollers especially, but if you have time to visit only one, head to the Raspall de la Garriga development. One of the mansions is nicknamed 'the bonbon', giving you a taste of what you'll find. The sgraffito on the façade will blow your mind.

www.turismevalles.net

AIMING HIGH

Wine tours are ten-a-euro-cent in these parts, but to learn about the art of viticulture with a twist, why not try Torres's Wine and Human Towers Experience. The full schedule includes a tour at the Torres location in Pacs del Penedès, a visit to the Museum of Catalan Wine Culture, dinner featuring Catalan specialities and participation in a rehearsal of the *castellers* (human tower builders) group, Castellers de Vilafranca. Every Wednesday and Friday, from 5pm.

www.torres.es

POP TO THE PENEDÈS

Known as the capital of cava, Sant Sadurn d'Anoia is the ideal place to learn how the sparkling wine is created. At the Centre d'Interpretació del Cava, opened in a distillery dating from 1814, you'll find explanations about the origins of cava and its production process as well as the culture, art and celebrations surrounding it. You will also become an expert on phylloxera, the plague that devastated the Penedès wine-making industry for decades.

www.enoturismepenedes.cat

If Vilanova i la Geltrú 'exists', there are a lot of reasons, one of which is Sergi López, the most popular actor in the town, the county and, probably, all of Catalonia. He has made over 50 films, half of them in France. And when he's there, he takes every opportunity to tell people that he is from Vilanova. 'I don't know if I have a complex or something, but I get embarrassed telling people that I am from Barcelona, because I'm not. And when I say that I am from Vilanova, people think that it's really exotic.' If you live in or are from Vilanova i la Geltrú, you tend to have sarcasm running through your veins. It's inescapable. 'Here we have a sarcastic sense of humour, it's a particular Vilanova humour. Anybody not from Vilanova thinks that we are very strange. And it's true that the town has a special feature: the carnival. It has always been celebrated here, and it's always had a sarcastic aspect. There was just a short pause for the Civil War... there are societies, such as the Grècia Grogà,

which were active for decades and which were dedicated to the humour of sarcasm.' Asked for his recommendations for the local area, López's opening shot is, 'From Vilanova, I would tell people to climb the Puig Montgròs to admire the hundreds of antennae that can be seen, and realise how far this human sickness extends.' Touché. Of course, he also recommends a Vilanova beach, the Far ('lighthouse' in Catalan). It's the place he goes when seeking inspiration. 'The sea is amazing', he says. And what does he suggest in nearby Sitges? He thinks. 'In Sitges, the espigó – it's a place for interesting romantic encounters. It is the best place in Sitges by a long shot.' Is that where you go with your lover when you don't want anyone to see you? 'No. It's probably a place to go on your own, actually...'. Ahem.

–*Andreu Gomila*

SEE MORE
Watch López in action in 'Dirty Pretty Things' and 'Pan's Labyrinth'



DELICIOUS DESTINATIONS

UP CLOSE

CARME RUSCALLEDA

MARESME



The parmentier with liver and truffle is one of the star dishes at Les Voltes de Sant Sebastià, in Moià.

ANÍS DEL MONO

Whether from having a tippie at a concert or enjoying a daily flaming coffee, the bottle of Anís del Mono anise liquor forms part of their history for many Catalans. In Badalona, one of Barcelona city's neighbours whose boundaries are more than blurred, you can visit the old Mono factory: the tubs, offices and distillation room are all in modernista style. Renovated, and now in perfect condition, the factory shows how people worked there for over 130 years. Book your tour in advance. -MV www.museudebadalona.cat/visites-anis.php

HOSTAL CAL FUSTER

Each member of this family-run business is in charge of one aspect of this hostel found deep in the countryside of Berguedà county. Husband Marcel is the cook. He produces exquisite dishes using local seasonal products as well as items from their own kitchen garden.

His wife Estel is in charge of the six-bedroom accommodation, and their children have the run of the home. Viver i Serrateix, the village to which Cal Fuster belongs, is a great starting-point for the Maquis Route – a walking itinerary that explores the countryside where once roamed the *maquis*, Republican freedom fighters who kept battling after the end of the Spanish Civil War – and sampling the wineries of the Pla de Bages region. -MV www.hostalcalfuster.com

LES VOLTES DE SANT SEBASTIÀ

Following a long career in the classic restaurants of Barcelona (Finisterre, Via Veneto) and Madrid (Zalacain, Jockey), chef Eduard Azuaza joined forces with Jaume Castany to create a new restaurant in the cellar of a medieval house in Moià, some 50 kilometres from Barcelona and located on an old Roman road. Here they serve traditional dishes such as *baïaton* (a local version of Pyrenean 'bubble-and-squeak' made with potato, cabbage and cured meats), and locally bred meat, like Moià veal. -MV www.lesvoltes.com

EL CIGRÓ D'OR

To eat like a king without having to pay for it with the crown jewels, try this restaurant in Vilafranca del Penedès from chef Oriol Llavina, located in the town's former meat market. You'll find many of the recipes that made Llavina famous with his first restaurant in Gelida: the delicious chickpeas dish, *trinxat amb rosta* (cabbage and potato fried with bacon) and *capipota* (rich stew that may include tripe, calves' feet and the like – *cap* in Catalan means head and *pota* leg). -MV www.restaurantmercat.cat

Despite her international expansion (Sant Pol to Tokyo to Barcelona, and along the way becoming the only female chef in the world to have seven Michelin stars), in her free time, Carme Ruscalleda is a provincial – in the best sense of the word, of course, meaning her love for her province of Barcelona. The cook, as well as often visiting the expanse of flat beaches close to her home, escapes to the Garraf region – 'an abrupt, fascinating coast, which is completely different from its neighbour' – when she can.

Ruscalleda says that in the counties that surround Barcelona city 'you can always find a new corner'. And if it's mountainous, even better. The chef believes that the rocks and cliffs in the interior of Catalonia have telluric powers. 'Bergueda is a very powerful area, an ocean of mountains that get into your spirit and shake it to the core'. And Montseny is 'a marvel of nature close to the coast'. Maybe it's because she has always lived beside the sea that mountains appeal to Ruscalleda. To the extent that hiking up to Collsacreu – the depression that connects Maresme and the Vallès area that is a stone's throw from Sant Pol

de Mar – has become a Friday afternoon ritual for her and her husband. 'The weekend is our busiest work time, and before submitting to it, we do the walk and enjoy an early supper at a restaurant that is also called Collsacreu,' she explains. After almost 25 years in charge at Sant Pau, there can be no doubt about her deep Maresme roots. 'Having such a restaurant here is a privilege. Maresme is an elongated county, with ports but connected to farmland and mountains.' Fifteen years ago, she had a 'very serious' offer to move the restaurant, but ultimately, 'when weighing up the pros and cons, having to uproot a very young child' was the most important consideration. Raül Balam, said child, has now grown up to take responsibility for bringing the best of Maresme cuisine to the Moments restaurant at Barcelona's Mandarin Hotel. He already has two Michelin stars. -Ricard Martin

DON'T MISS!



CALÇOTS

Although a Tarragona-born delicacy, you can enjoy this species of onion (perhaps best described as a larger, longer spring onion) across Catalonia at this time of year. If done properly, they are grilled, then served in piled high in terracota tiles. The technique is to peel off the charred outer layer, give it a generous dipping in the tomato and almond *romesco* sauce, then lower the white end into your mouth (you may get a bib to protect your clothing). To be followed by grilled meats and accompanied with lots of local red. Two places to try them close to Barcelona city – Can Portell and Masia Can Cortès.

STARSTRUCK
Sant Pau, Ruscalleda's restaurant in Sant Pol, has won three Michelin stars.



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Miguel Torres in his quest to find the best vineyards



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www.clubtorres.com

Open your eyes a little wider

Barcelona is much more than the Sagrada Família, the Palau de la Música and the Pedrera. Each neighbourhood has its architectural triumphs that have influenced professionals around the world, and which you can find by just looking beyond the obvious sights.

By **Albert Fornés** Photography **Iván Moreno**

Barcelona is an endless architectural showcase. The entire city, down to the most insignificant corner, makes up a 2,000-year-old blueprint of architectural problems and solutions. Barcelona's history is seen in every little tile:

from the modernisme of the affluent bourgeoisie to the barracks of Carmel, from the niches of the working class to the grandiose infrastructure. Even though the city has a very Catalan tendency of covering up the cracks in the concrete, Barcelona has always gone against the current to rethink and reform using integrative planning and the help of GATCPAC, a group of Catalan artists in favour of moving contemporary architecture forward. We wanted to identify the smaller buildings that have

undergone revolutionary changes, so we talked to young architects (Carles Enrich, David Bravo and the group MAIO) who came up with ten intelligent renovations that have made the city a better place.

1. EDIFICI DAVID. IGNASI MAS MORELL (1914)

Car makers nowadays may be concerned about declining car sales, but when Henry Ford was the Bill Gates of his time, it was considered a luxury to drive everywhere. This is precisely what you do in the Edifici David: it has a unique system of ramps that allow you to park inside the office, and even drive up to the top floor, all hidden behind the façade of a classical building. This automotive utopia, an icon of the 'gauche divine', celebrated its 100th anniversary by building a new gym and co-working spaces. **Aribau, 230-240 - Tuset, 19-21 (Sant Gervasi-Galvany)**

2. DISPENSARI ANTITUBERCULÓS. JOSEP LLUÍS SERT (1934-1938)

The density of the Raval district has always been a headache for community leaders, who see a cluster of problems in the area's dark and narrow streets. So recent plans have sought to add some culture in the neighbourhood by improving the area from Plaça dels Àngels to the Rambla del Raval and the new Filmoteca. The '30s Republican Generalitat wanted to sanitise the area around Plaça de Castilla and ordered the GATCPAC to create a tuberculosis clinic from a ruptured, L-shaped hospital building. It now includes an unusual garden and rooftop solarium, and houses a doctor's office. **Torres i Amat, 8-14 (Raval)**

3. REIAL ACADÈMIA DE MEDICINA. VENTURA RODRÍGUEZ (1761)

For millions of years, we trusted in the gods to cure our ailments, but during the



BUT WHY?

1. EDIFICI NERVIÓN

Why is it so difficult to find a straight line in a supposedly functional office block? Why are columns plonked in the middle of certain spaces? Why do no windows open to let in some air? On the positive side, though, it has great views and a fabulous location. We know what we're talking about. This is where Time Out Barcelona has had its home since 2013.
Via Laietana, 20

2. RENAISSANCE BARCELONA FIRA HOTEL

We like the Torre Agbar, the giant gherkin that became an instant Barcelona icon. We're also fans of Poblenou's Central Park, with its efforts to integrate vegetation and architecture. But, Monsieur Nouvel, what on earth happened at this hotel? What is it with all those palm trees?
Plaça d'Europa, 50-52

3. REPARATIONS

In the '60s and '70s, with Barcelona desperately in need of new housing, the Council turned a blind eye to various gross abominations committed to listed buildings in the Eixample neighbourhood. There are myriad examples, but one of the clearest is the reparation carried out in the '70s to this building on Bailèn.
Bailèn, 93

4. THE WRONG RESULT

Certain buildings have a lingering impact. This is doubtless what the architect was going for, but presumably to inspire admiration rather than stupefaction. Two examples where the latter is the general response: the building covered with blue tiles on Pare Claret; and the one in Carrer València that has rectangular windows set into huge circular surrounds.
Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 112 / València, 388

Enlightenment we decided that enough was enough, and it was time to cut open some cadavers to learn how the body really works. In the 18th century, dissections were done here in the anatomical amphitheatre of the Reial Academia de Medicina, with doctors cramming around the operating table where they butchered fresh corpses from the Hospital de la Santa Creu. Nowadays everything is still sordidly intact – the drain in the marble where they disposed of the guts will give you the shivers – but it's not so creepy any more. It's even used to stage operas.
Carme, 47 (Raval)

4. HABITATGES BARCELONETA. JOSEP ANTONI CODERCH (1954)

In the 1950s, tired of the rationalist uniformity that saw identical buildings erected all over Barcelona, just like in New York and Chandigarh, architects such as Josep Antoni Coderch changed tack by making peace with old traditions and incorporating local design trends. In Barceloneta, Coderch constructed a social-revolutionary block of buildings that combined the daring (unusual floor plans, and façades with pleating and no visible holes) with the neighbourhood's seaside spirit, such as the nautical blinds.

Pg. Joan de Borbó, 43 (Barceloneta)

5. LA FÁBRICA. RICARDO BOFILL (1973-1975)

In an old cement-making factory in Sant Just Desvern, Ricardo Bofill made two big dreams come true: opening the Walden 7, the iconic and monumental vertical neighbourhood, and transforming the tanks from the factory into his own home studio, taking advantage of the existing modules by integrating them into the new designs; for example, his office is inside a cement silo. 'People consider it the worst job in the world, but transforming the factory was a fun challenge.' They cleared the dust and planted vegetation, and the result has a futuristic aspect about it, with Eames armchairs and designer furniture.

Avinguda de la Indústria, 14 (Sant Just Desvern)

6. CANÒDROM MERIDIANA. ANTONI BONET (2010)

During the 1940s, under the parabolic cover of the Canòdrom, hundreds of people would come to watch the greyhound races. The betting led to fights at the end of every other day. It was a place of vices,' recalls a neighbour. When the seconds-long adrenaline rush ended, the players would turn back to the apathy of the bar and crowd up to the ticket window to place another bet. It was closed in 2006, initially to make room for a contemporary arts centre, but after a much-talked-about controversy, it became yet another business centre.
Concepción Arenal, 165 (Navas)

7. PAVELLÓ DE LA REPÚBLICA. ORIGINAL BY JOSEP LLUÍS SERT I LUIS LACASA (1937). REPLICATED BY ANTONI UBACH, MIQUEL ESPINET AND JUAN MIGUEL HERNÁNDEZ LEÓN (1992)

During the 1937 International Exposition in Paris, the Spanish Republic government decided

to use its space to denounce the atrocities of the war and gain support in the fight against fascism. Penniless but fuelled by rage, Josep Lluís Sert designed a trench-like building, and great artists of the era were asked to fill it with their art: Picasso hung his 'Guernica' while the paint was still drying. In 1992, Barcelona City Council wanted to pay tribute by creating an exact replica at Vall d'Hebron. It is now home to a library that contains important collections in regards to war, exile and fascism.

Avinguda Vidal i Barraquer, s/n (La Vall d'Hebron)

8. PALO ALTO. ANTONI VILA I BRUGUERA (1875)

Warehouses made into lofts and chapels converted into bookshops no longer surprise us, but it was different in pre-Olympic Barcelona. When such reuse of spaces was considered a conceptual crime, a group of pioneers, headed by Pierre Roca and Javier Mariscal, appropriated an old brickyard in Poblenou and, with a few renovations, set up their studios. After years of controversies over ownership and conflicts with the Council, there are now some 20 studios in the old Palo Alto factory, where architects, designers and artists work. The name comes from the height of the chimney, but also represents a creative focus on Google and Apple, Inc., based in Palo Alto, California.

Pellaires, 30 (Diagonal Mar and the Poblenou seafront). See p.34 for a new Palo Alto venture.

9. EDIFICI MEDITERRANI. ANTONI BONET (1960-1965)

Creating a building that fits the chamfered street corners has long caused headaches for architects working in Barcelona, not only due to the strange angles but also because the buildings end up with a lot of façade and very little access to the interior patio. In the 1960s, Núñez and Navarro found the architectural equivalent to the Coca-Cola formula that allowed buildings to spring up like weeds. Before this, the GATCPAC architects found imaginative solutions to the traditional chamfer, like this L-shaped corner designed by Antoni Bonet, with two buildings supported by concrete pillars that form an empty ground floor to enjoy more outdoor space in front.

Consell de Cent, 160-186 (Nova Esquerra de l'Eixample)

10. EDIFICI D'HABITATGES DEL CARRER DEL CARME. JOSEP LLINÀS (1992-1995)

Building a new development in Ciutat Vella is complicated thanks to the labyrinthine streets and difficult space between buildings. In the Raval, a solution was to integrate a new residential block into the area with a simple design and a nice patio space that spruces up the corner and surroundings. 'I wanted the building to take a step back and push its head forward,' explains Josep Llinàs. He also has many creative solutions for filling the dwellings with one of the neighbourhood's most valuable goods: natural light.

Carme, 55 (Raval)

EXHIBITION AT THE MMB UNDERWATER CAMERAS THE CHALLENGE OF PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE DEEP

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Musée Frédéric Dumas

Barcelona's

By **Oscar Broc**

MORNING: 9AM-2PM

SATAN'S COFFEE CORNER

21st-century caffeine

Are you so hip that you need daily injections of designer coffee? Satan's Coffee Corner is a café sanctuary that should be declared an official landmark of the mustachioed hipster. It's a tiny place tucked away in a curio shop, and is really nothing more than a window facing the street (pictured above centre). Minimalism in its most extreme form. And there's actually no need for much more: their product is so good that you'll want to eat the paper cup.

This is Barcelona's coolest (mini) café.

Peu de la Creu, 25

☎ 666 222 599

COSMO GALERIA

'Arty' breakfast

It's two for the price of one in this ultra modern café-slash-art-gallery. Cosmo is king among the trendy locales teeming around the bottom of C/Enric Granados, thanks to its merging of concepts. You can have a snack or eat lunch and laze around without a care in the world amid the Scandi-style

furniture and comfy sofas. Then take a stroll through the gallery and admire the modern art exhibitions. If you haven't got anything better to do, once you settle into an armchair with your laptop and a cup of coffee, not even a Delta Force extraction team could drag you away.

Enric Granados, 3

☎ 93 105 79 92

www.galeriacosmo.com

GRANJA PETITBO

The coolest brunch

You'll have to go to Granja Petitbo wearing Iron Man's

armour and fry other customers with lasers to find a free table there at the weekend. The orgiastic brunch is out of this world. It's the place to be for trend-setters and trend-followers alike, with its bright and relaxing surroundings. The menu seduces with organic eggs (order them with salmon!), international sandwiches, pancakes, salads, hamburgers and fresh juices. It's the brunch that brings in the most beards and designer frames per square metre in Barcelona.

Pg. de Sant Joan, 82

☎ 93 265 65 03

AFTERNOON: 3PM-7PM

TARANNA

Sandwiches, salads and beards

The new bohemian makes the pilgrimage to Tarannà (above left) as if they baked Urban Outfitters vouchers into their cakes. The place has everything to attract the coolest punters: a Nordic-style interior, communal wooden tables, exposed brick, windows that

open to the street, a terrace... And the menu provides manna from heaven for the most modern clientele, with high-quality healthy sandwiches that you can get with soups, salads or quiches. And if that doesn't make your ironic moustache twitch, they also do a vermouth hour and brunch: two compulsory subjects in the Sant Antoni barrio.

Viladomat, 23

☎ 93 106 11 93

www.tarannacafe.com

CARAVELLE

Global style

In-the-know expats living in Barcelona salivate like Pavlov's dogs when they think about Caravelle. It's a little slice of home in the Raval, in a bright and comfortable loft where you can gobble down an international

brunch, grab a delicious coffee, get stuck in to polenta with mushrooms, snack on homemade cakes, sip a cocktail or dine on an excellent house burger. A word to those with a more mainstream air about them: Caravelle is so trendy that your Desigual sweater will look like a plaid shirt.

Pintor Fortuny, 31

☎ 93 317 98 92

www.caravelle.es



EVENING: 7PM-11PM

OLÍMPIC

Retro vibe

Don't confuse this place with the Olimpia in Sant Antoni, which, incidentally, could also be listed here. This is the Olímpic, a classic in the neighbourhood that is enjoying a second coming as one of the best-kept secrets of modern Barcelona. For some reason, today's young in-crowd is clinging to this ramshackle space, an old bar in the Raval that has seduced the palate of the fresh set with its mix of vintage style and working-class hipster spirit. The crowd of

neighbourhood geeks and pop writers in galactic glasses is ace.

Joaquín Costa, 25

☎ 93 171 15 25

COLLAGE

Afterwork sustenance

It's been a rough day at the graphic design studio, hasn't it? Hang in there – you and your bowling shoes are welcome at Collage, where they serve up the most recommended and generous 'afterwork' snacks and drinks in the Born: international tapas leave the kitchen in a constant stream to encourage

your appetite before dinnertime. And you only have to buy a drink to dig in with your fork, so don't be stingy – order from among the gorgeous cocktails, current reinterpretations of classic and signature concoctions served by a bartender in tune with the boldness of modern taste buds.

Consellers, 4 ☎ 93 179 37 85

LA VIETNAMITA BORN

Vietnamese street food

The bowls of rice noodles, yum yum rolls and curry dishes from La Vietnamita attract the trendiest clients like 'The

Goonies' Sloth was drawn to chocolate. Less creepy are these experts in 100 percent Vietnamese street food who have turned their communal tables into a magnet for those who want to escape the mainstream of the set lunch menu. The space is small, light and filled with wooden tables where you eat fast, possibly with your elbows grazing a stranger next to you, once the cook shouts your name to go and collect your order. They also have another location in Gràcia.

Comerç, 17

☎ 93 310 09 61

www.lavietnamita.com

NIGHT: 11PM-?

33/45

Gin and tonic on cushions

After dinner you're in the mood for a relaxed gin and tonic spiced up with a bit of Klingon liquorice, right? Well, 33/45 is like the John Lewis and Ikea sofa departments procreated. If you sniff around to the left of the bar, you'll find yourself in a macro salon full of mismatched

armchairs, sofas, and fluffy cushions, where you can get the night going as God intended. Along with Betty Ford just down the street, this haven of comfort, where they host the odd gig of electronic music, is one of the busiest bunkers among the Raval's most up-to-the-minute crowd.

Joaquín Costa, 4

☎ 93 187 41 38

<http://3345.struments.com>

EL CICLISTA

The drinking cycle

The trendy and the bicycle are like Marty McFly and his skateboard: inseparable. El Ciclista (above right) is a hybrid that takes advantage of this in that it's a top-notch cocktail bar that also serves as a sanctuary for fans of pedalling their way round the city. The whole bar is decorated with recycled bicycle

bits, like the doorknobs, and the tables made from wheels – and even the art hung like museum pieces on the walls. The interior is one of a kind, and the G&Ts are good enough for the hipster cyclist to stop terrorising old ladies crossing streets for a couple of hours. What they do when they leave is none of our business.

Mozart, 18

☎ 93 368 53 02

A modern story

The MNAC presents its new-look modern art collection, including works from the end of the 19th century until 1950, taking in Catalan modernisme, the avant-garde, and the art of the Spanish Civil War. By **Eugènia Sendra**



LLUÍS MASRIERA

1



MIGUEL UTRILLO

2

The MNAC has devised a new presentation for its unique modern art collection, which was begun after the Universal Exhibition of 1888, and is made up of institutional purchases (depending on the tastes and financial health of the Junta de Museus) and donations, both from private donors and artists. But the exhibition – which spans the 90 years from 1860 to 1950, and will occupy the 5,000 square metres of the first floor of the Palau Nacional – is not merely a succession of styles and historical categories, nor an overarching narrative driven by big-name artists, reveals Juan José Lahuerta, head of collections at the museum. ‘We wanted the collection to unfold on its own terms, and to show both the “major” arts, painting and sculpture, and also more popular forms, such as posters, cinema and photography, which are an essential part of modern art.’

The result, he promises, is groundbreaking from a museological and museographical perspective. The artworks – almost 1,000 are being brought up to the galleries for the first time, and most belong to the museum, apart from those ceded by the Sagrada Família and the Jujol family – are organised in four categories, to offer a complex vision of the history of art from the late 19th century to the first half of the 20th.

1. The new artist

The permanent exhibition begins with an attempt to define the

modern artist, because to understand the collection we need to understand the new conditions under which art was being produced. According to Lahuerta, ‘Ocell de golfa’ (‘Attic Bird’), a brilliant work by the silversmith and painter Lluís Masriera, encapsulates the new artistic paradigm: the painter has left the academy for the workshop – where he takes on apprentices, such as the subject of the painting – and has become a bohemian figure, defying convention.

2 & 3. Modernismes

The collection explores modernisme and art nouveau in a second section, titled in the plural,



NAMES & NUMBERS

The MNAC’s permanent collection of modern art has been extended from 600 pieces on display to 1,350. The best-known names (Fortuny, Casas, Gaudí and Jujol) are shown alongside artists rescued from relative obscurity, such as Torné Esquius, Antoni Fabrés and Josep Lluís Pellicer. They have also found space for Zuloaga, Romero de Torres and Sorolla; the female artists Lluïsa Vidal and Mela Mutermilch, and international names such as Sisley and Munch.



Modernismes, to reflect the complexity and diversity of the movement. Highlights include the work of Miquel Utrillo, an illustrator and art promotor, who helped found the artists' café Els Quatre Gats with Ramon Casas and Santiago Rusiñol. He painted this postcard-like image of a gently idealised Sitges, busy with tourists. 'During this period, Barcelona was a city marked by conflict,' remarks Lahuerta, 'and artists represented the idea of modern life with humour and irony.'

Josep Maria Jujol's furniture is also included in the Modernismes section. For Lahuerta, Jujol was the only architect able to follow 'the eccentric and sometimes delirious example of Gaudí'. This desk for filling musical scores is proof of Jujol's imagination and virtuosity, and also reflects the tastes of his clientele, who commissioned daring pieces (the desk was designed to accompany a piano decorated with chinoiserie, which has not survived).

4. Female creators

Mela Mutermilch, a Polish painter who established her reputation in Paris, is interesting for several reasons: as a female artist – 'women are poorly represented in the collection, a fact that has to do with the history of art and the history of this country' – and also because of her connection with the avant-garde. Muter, as she signed her works, painted this portrait of Josep Dalmau, an antiquarian and art dealer, and a driving force behind the introduction of modern

art movements to Catalonia. She was one of the first modern artists to exhibit at Dalmau's gallery.

5. Rediscoveries

The new presentation of the collection revives lesser-known artists such as Pere Torné Esquius, who will be the focus of an upcoming single-artist exhibition at the MNAC. Known as the illustrator of works such as 'Els dolços indrets de Catalunya' ('The Sweet Places of Catalonia'), which had a prologue by the poet Joan Maragall, Torné Esquius was also a noted painter, associated with *noucentisme* and the post-impressionism of Félix Vallotton. Lahuerta emphasises the contrast between Esquius's 'apparently sweet' interiors and unsettling aspects such as the absence of (and traces left by) the human figure.

6. War and the avant-garde

The last subsection of the permanent exhibition focuses on art made during the Spanish Civil War, 'when artists implicated themselves politically in a revolutionary event, and avant-garde experiments became propaganda mechanisms', concludes Lahuerta. Pere Català Pic's 'Aixafem el feixisme' ('Let's Crush Fascism'), an iconic image related to photomontage and the works of John Hearteld, is shown beside other manifestations of modernity, and an epilogue (with works from the Dau al Set group, heirs of surrealism) that reflects some of the attempts to revive artistic life after the Civil War.



PERE TORNÉ

Shopping & Style

Street of fashion

Whatever your budget, there is a shop for you along Passeig de Gràcia. **Eugènia Sendra** explores the options



Shopping along Barcelona's grand Passeig de Gràcia is quite an experience. Not only does it have breathtaking modernista buildings and top-notch restaurants and cafés, you'll find all manner of retailers from luxurious brands to the most affordable. New faces arrive frequently – Versace just opened its extravagant doors – so here's our guide to where's currently worth heading.

THE EXCLUSIVES

Stella McCartney's first store in Spain occupies a fiercely modern space within an elegant modernista building. Her sharp tailoring meets flashes of neon in her 1980s revivalist style, and is

complemented by lingerie, childrenswear and accessories. Do not expect leather shoes or bags, however – Stella is a product of her parents.

Valentino is no newcomer to Passeig de Gràcia, but with the finishing touches put on the shop (with a room covered in wood just for handbags) and window dressings that show off the couture dresses close-up, it's become a must-see classic.

First came Miu Miu, and now mama **Prada**'s in town. The flagship store of the Italian firm is a temple of accessories – perfect leather handbags, sunglasses with romantic frames and, of course, the shoes, starring the



beloved platforms. There are also the collections that Miuccia Prada likes to surprise us with season after season.

Barcelona's oldest design house and a pioneer in the local catwalk scene, **Santa Eulalia** was founded in 1843 and remains a seriously upmarket proposition. The prêt-à-porter selection at the shop is fresh and up-to-the-minute, and includes labels such as Balenciaga, Jimmy Choo and Ann Demeulemeester.

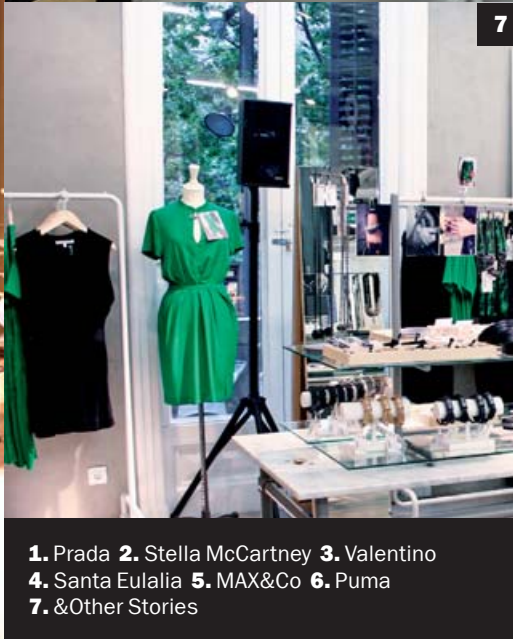
THE MORE AFFORDABLE

Pieces for every day for the urban and elegant woman, with sharp and clean silhouettes inspired by Italian tailoring. This is the philosophy of **MAX&Co.**, the most

affordable brand of the house of Max Mara. If the cocktail trousers are out of your comfort zone, you can always try the shoes or the mini bags, or you can simply enjoy the furniture that decorates this shop with a 1950s feel.

On a well-lit corner – in front of La Pedrera and a veteran shop on the Passeig, Carolina Herrera – the three-storey shop that is **Hoss Intropia** shows off its sophisticated and feminine clothing and accessories.

Started as a jeans company at the end of the 1970s, Italian brand **Diesel** is an essential stop for anyone looking for bold but wearable urban trends. Renowned for its slick marketing, the product



1. Prada 2. Stella McCartney 3. Valentino
4. Santa Eulalia 5. MAX&Co 6. Puma
7. &Other Stories

ranges prove this store is as much substance as style.

The window displays at **Vinçon** mark a break in the sequence of fashion shops that now dominate Passeig de Gràcia. It's one of the oldest shops on the street, in addition to being a leader in the world of design, and the prices are right whether you're just looking for that one perfect touch for your home or you're a real designer gourmet. For these reasons and more, Vinçon is still an essential destination.

THE HIGH STREET ON A BUDGET

Puma isn't the only sports shop on Passeig de Gràcia (you'll also find Nike and Adidas), but it does have a

more coveted spot next to the mini shopping centre Bulevard Rosa and the new location of Hackett. You've got to stop in if you're a fan of limited-edition trainers; and while you're there, you might as well check out the brand's 'lifestyle'-orientated clothing line.

Mango's flagship store shows off all the brand's lines (womenswear, He by Mango, Kids, Sport & Intimates and Mango Touch). Step inside and you'll find out why this isn't your everyday clothes shop: the well-kept and spacious interior gives the clothes and accessories room to breathe and stand out.

Zara Home is now open at number 30 on Passeig de Gràcia,

but for many the reason to head to Spanish powerhouse **Zara** is the fashion. Ideal for those who like to wear the latest trends but prefer to make smaller investments.

& Other Stories, the latest store from the Swedish firm behind H&M to land in Barcelona, already has an impressive band of followers. The stars of the show are the shoes, accessories and the line of cosmetics and beauty products. But don't pass by the clothes, which are influenced by French and Nordic designs.

THE BOTTOM LINE The winter sales start in Barcelona on **Wednesday 7 January. Time to go bargain hunting!**

THE DETAILS



UNDERFOOT

In May last year, five Art History students launched a campaign to protect the Gaudí-designed pavement tiles in Passeig de Gràcia. Robberies and badly-positioned tiles motivated the #SosPanotGaudí efforts.



LIGHT THE WAY

The street's lampposts are multi-taskers. Not only do they light our way, but their bench bases give us somewhere to rest. And all since 1906, when they were designed by city architect Pere Falqués i Urpí.



LOCATION IS EVERYTHING

When first built in the late 19th century, Passeig de Gràcia mainly consisted of large family houses. As it became popular, apartment blocks were constructed to give more people the chance to live there.

You inspire us

Cristian Zuzunaga uses design as a way to understand the world.

By **Eugènia Sendra**

At school, Cristian Zuzunaga was a fan of biology because he got to play with dyes and inspect tiny particles through a microscope. But in the end, he chose a career in design. He wanted to understand how communication works, and unravel the mysteries of globalisation and architecture. His leitmotif is the pixel, which he adapts into blankets produced by local textile organisations, rugs designed for British company Brintons, and curtains made for Kvadrat inspired by Photoshop's grey grid. Colours, volumes and optical illusions are incorporated into hand-made pieces, using a concept that moves between the digital and the analogue. Zuzunaga sees himself as an artist but he's also an international businessman, working between London, Barcelona and the Garrotxa area south of the Catalan capital. Always on the lookout for new ways to explore creativity, his latest ventures are floor tiles and a small fashion collection.

www.zuzunaga.com

GET THE LOOK!

THE OUTPOST

He admires the harmony, selection and quality of the pieces on sale at this Eixample shop (Rosselló, 281).

CHURCH'S

He's treated himself to a pair of figure-shaping shoes from the English brand. church-footwear.com



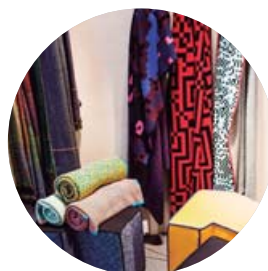
BACK TO TYPOGRAPHY

Before his discovery of textiles, Zuzunaga always worked on paper, and now he's gone back to his roots as a printer; he has a Swiss letterpress machine from the 1950s.



'SUPERMODERNITY'

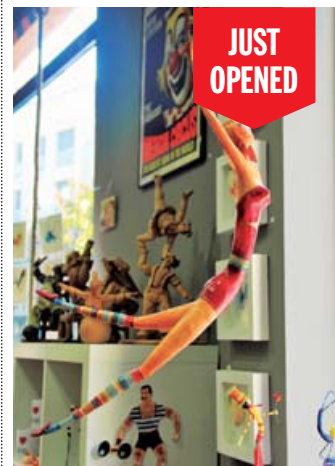
The designer wrote his thesis on modernity, inspired by a trip to Shanghai, a city he saw becoming westernised, and the ideas of anthropologist Marc Augé.



PERUVIAN ORIGINS

Geometric angles and the infinite designs of the Peruvian Sacsayhuaman fortress inspired his collection of Cuzco pouffes, on sale at Matèria (Rector Ubach, 43).

Life in the big top



Walk into a place full of juggling balls, unicycles, shoes for clowns and trapeze artists, and 'diabolos', and you instantly know what its raison d'être is. But Papallona Circus Arts Shop is not just a shop for budding and experienced acrobats, lion tamers and tightrope walkers. It also has ambitions to establish itself as a gallery, exhibiting all manner of works that have been inspired by the big top and its inhabitants.

Vicent Llorca, the man behind the magazine 'Zirkòlika' and the founder of Papallona, cites Picasso and Richard MacDonald amongst the great circus artists, and describes the selection of creatives whose work he has sourced for circus lovers like him. Paintings by Anna McNeil, drawings that Joan Soler-Jové did of Catalan clown Charlie Rivel, creations from the illustrator Jorge Ochagavía, posters from old shows and photographs. The gallery houses sculptures, images of trapeze artists captured on paper by Paola Micheo, and the silhouette-adorned ceramics of Marta Velasco, not forgetting live performance art – Papallona has promised to host regular street circus events. –E. Sendra

PAPALLONA CIRCUS ARTS SHOP

Av. de Francesc Cambó, 30-36
www.papallonacircus.com

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ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

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*****  *****

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Information and sales:
barcelonacard.com
bcnshop.cat


BarcelonaCard

Sale samples

Accessories for the young, old and four-legged. By **Laia Beltran & Eugènia Sendra**

Spirit of the skies

Nature has always been a common theme in the collections of Mexican shoe designer Anaid Cano, who creates under the label name of Kupuri. And in the case of Boréas, inspiration has come from above – specifically the aurora borealis. One of the models that best defines the amazing meteorological phenomenon is this leather boot: it features a metallic flash on the toe and elastic, and then fades to black. Just like the northern lights in a dark sky. Find the Kupuri range at Strada (Marià Cubí,2).



A unique bag

Four different types of bag – satchel, bowling, tote and clutch – plus a palette of ten colours and extras that add a personal touch, such as initials, the number of straps, the combination of zips and more. The likelihood of coming across another bag just like yours will be minimal if you go for a tailor-made creation courtesy of Mattea Bags. From €75. www.matteabags.com

Crowning glory

Blankets, sleeping bags, pouffes, storage for toys.



The textile products of Catalan company Pilolos Kids are enchanting, thanks to their characteristic prints featuring stars and dots. Our particular favourites, though, are the reversible birthday crowns, which have a big star on the front where you can attach a 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, depending on how old the birthday boy or girl is. This is a classic of Pilolos Kids and can be bought through their online shop. Crown, €24. www.piloloskids.com

Woof-woof!

They say that owners and dogs end up looking like each other. So get ready to hear barks of delight if you give your pet a hand-made collar from Brott Dog. Are you a dedicated follower of fashion? Then make sure your furry best friend is too. Whether you prefer tartan, animal print or amazing colours, you'll find them all in the latest elegant collection from the Barcelona company. www.brottdog.com



Object of desire

BUCKLE UP

Carolina Iriarte infuses each of her creations with elegance and simplicity, and that includes her belt bags. Made of leather, the Hoover Belt pays homage to sci-fi books from the 1950s. www.iriarteiriarte.com



Welcome Urban Outfitters



Urban Outfitters, the fashion and accessories chain opened in Philadelphia back in the 1970s and which for years has been the go-to place for the hipster community, has just inaugurated its first Barcelona shop. Stephen Briars, the creative director, describes it as an 'inspiring habitat that offers a mix of labels for men and women as well as

gadget, music and book ranges'. Set up in a space that recycles the industrial chic of the Habitat branch that used to occupy the two floors in the El Triangle shopping centre, they have also added artwork by Agostino Lacurci. The main attraction will be the fashion collection, with highlights including Won Hundred, Libertine-Libertine, Unif, Pippa Lynn, Stussy and Baron Von Fancy, as well as the chain's own line and its vintage range that recovers key pieces from its archives. It'll be hard to miss this new kid on Barcelona's fashion block... not least because some of its designs have become renowned for their controversy. –E.S.

URBAN OUTFITTERS

Plaça de Catalunya, 4
www.urbanoutfitters.com

nice things

Paloma S.



www.nicethingspalomas.com

Things to Do

California style

Maria Junyent strolls amongst the 150 stalls of the newly created Palo Alto Market, and goes home with her bags full

Raver Jewish

For two years, Raver Jewish was the brains behind the Apocalypse Miau sessions at Sala Apolo and today is a non-stop DJ who plays at markets, clubs, after-hour joints and any number of strange places. He provided part of the soundtrack for the inaugural Palo Alto Market in December, and is set to return. www.raverjewish.com



Smoooth Clothing

Endless roads, superfine close-ups of golden eagles, white tigers and marijuana fields. Smoooth are pros in making high-definition, ultra-realistic, full-printed cotton sweatshirts. www.smooothclothing.com



BCore

A re-release of 'Rainy Day Music' by The Jayhawks, the marvellous 'Either/Or' from Elliott Smith or the deluxe, multi-colour edition of the latest record by The New Pornographers. On the stall of Barcelona's independent record label you'll find these and other musical gems. www.bcoredisc.com

Coco Books

Kids aren't forgotten at Palo Alto. At the first edition, publishers Coco Books organised four workshops, one of which, Art with Fingerprints, involved finger painting to create images of animals. www.cocobooks.es

Paloma Wool

Designer Paloma Wool's collection is a gorgeous selection of limited-edition pieces, delicate and restrained, like this jumpsuit with a cut-out on the waist and V-shaped neck, printed with an illustration by Blanco Miró. www.palomawool.com



Kibuka Street

Around 20 food trucks have parked up at Palo Alto, including one from Kibuka restaurant, which headed out from Gràcia loaded down with makis and other Japanese specialities for the hungry shoppers. www.kibuka.com





Shoelaces

A union between designer Curro Claret, Camper and the Fundació Arrels has produced these lamps made out of shoelaces; unique pieces created by people at risk of social exclusion.

www.curroclaret.com



Don Fisher

Don Fisher's fish are material, hand-made and have a zip. Amongst the catch, you'll find salmon, sardines, mackerel or carp. Inside, they're flesh-coloured with 'bones', and even prettier than the exterior.

www.donfisher.bigcartel.com



A00

Founders Oriol Villar, Clara Quintana and Marc Morro describe A00 as a place to easily find things that are difficult to find, produced in collaborative projects with other designers or selected from other brands.

www.altrescoses.cat

Palo Alto Market sets up in Pellaies, 30, the first weekend of every month

Bamboo Bikes

Bamboo is amazing. It absorbs more CO2 than trees, grows and matures very easily and, what's more, is extremely resistant and flexible. Its nickname is 'vegetable steel'. So, naturally, one day a team of people decided to make bikes from it.

www.bamboo-bikesbarcelona.com



MORE MARKETS



ENCANTS NOUS

The word *encants* comes from the Latin *in quantum*, meaning 'auction'. Dating from the 14th century, it's one of the oldest second-hand markets in Europe. You'll find everything there—books, mattresses, wedding dresses. In September 2013, the market moved to a gleaming new home but kept its traditional spirit of bargain-hunting and browsing. ▶ Av. Meridiana, 69. Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 9am-8pm.

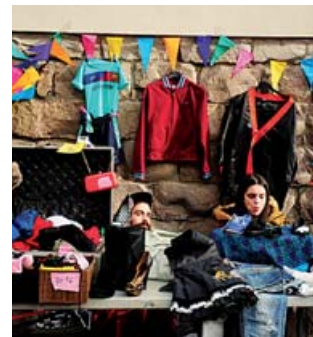


MERCAT DE SANT ANTONI

There aren't many good reasons to get up early on Sunday, but visiting this weekly second-hand book market may count. Currently housed in a temporary canopy while the historic modernista market is renovated, you can find great bargains and old editions on the many stalls. However, the best part of this market is its energy, whether inside the tent or outside with the collectors exchanging stickers, coins and stamps. ▶ Urgell (between Tamarit & Floridablanca). Every Sunday 9am-2.30pm.

FLEA MARKET

With the motto of 'one man's rubbish is another man's gold', once a month a group of vendors set up pitch on a space outside the Maritime Museum from where they sell and exchange all manner of goods. The Flea Market wants to be more than its name suggests, to also be a place for recycling and encouraging a reduction in waste and excessive consumption by finding new ways to use old objects. ▶ Plaça Blanquerna. 11am-8pm. Free.



Things to Do

Day by day

► **Information and sales:**
Tourist Information Points and
www.visitbarcelona.com

FREE This activity is free

* The dates of league matches may be moved forward or back one day, depending on TV broadcast schedules

Thursday 1

Kids

Festival of childhood

Games, sport, workshops and activities for kids 12 and under. *Fira de Barcelona - Montjuïc (Av. de la Reina Maria Cristina, s/n.). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 10am-8pm. Until Jan 4. More info: www.festivalinfancia.com.*

Traditions

FREE Kings' Day market on Gran Via

Toys, sweets and games are on sale at this temporary market. (*Gran Via Corts Catalanes, between Rocafort & Muntaner*). M: Psg de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). Mon-Fri 11am-10pm; Sat & Sun 10am-10pm (except Jan 5, 10am-3am). Until Jan 6.

Ice rink

Practise your double and triple turns, or just focus on not falling, at this enormous and seasonal ice-skating rink. (*Pl. de Catalunya*). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). Sun-Thu 10am-9pm; Fri, Sat, days before public hols 10am-11pm. Jan 1: 11am-11pm. Until Jan 6. Admission and skate rental: €10/1h; €7/30 mins. More info: www.bargelona.cat.

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See Barcelona from a new perspective with a guided tour to the rooftop of this historic church.

(*Plaça de Santa Maria, 1*). M: Jaume I (L4). Mon-Fri noon-5pm; Sat & Sun, 11am-5pm (every hour, last visit 4pm). €10. €8 (reduced). More info & reservations: *Itinera Plus*. Tel. 93 342 83 33.

Friday 2

Festival

Drap'Art: International Creative Recycling Festival of Catalonia

Collective exhibition of artists from round the world showing work made with recycled materials, market and various activities.

CCCB (*Montalegre, 5*). M: Catalunya (L1, L2, FGC). 11am-8pm. Jan 2-4. Info: www.cccb.org.

Kids

Sónar Kids: Kumisho electronic trio

Music, illustrations and animation with live projections and audience participation. Ages 4 and over. *CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26)*. M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). 1pm-5.30pm Jan 2-4. €6.

Traditions

Ice rink

Games, sport, workshops and activities for kids 12 and under. (*Pl. de Catalunya*). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

FREE Nativity Scene in Plaça de Sant Jaume

Visit the city's annual portrayal of the birth of Jesus. (*Pl. de Sant Jaume*). M: Jaume I (L4). 10am-10pm. Until Jan 7.

Saturday 3

Al fresco

Living Nativity Scenes from all over Catalonia

Live representations of the Christmas story are popular in towns around Catalonia. Get a

taste of the tradition here. *Poble Espanyol (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13)*. M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). Jan 3-4. Noon & 4pm. €5.

Sport

The 67th International Kings' Day Hockey Tournament

Reial Club de Polo de Barcelona (Av. Doctor Marañón, 19-31). M: Zona Universitaria (L3). Jan 3-6. More info: www.hockeyreyes.com

Kids

Tripula Presenting a revolutionary invention: the Hot Air Balloon!

Two crazy scientists have discovered a new way to travel. Family show for all ages. *El Born CC (Pl. Comercial, 12)* M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1). 5pm-6.30pm. €3.

Clarineterium +5

Clarinet show for the whole family. *CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8)*. M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). Sat 5.30pm; Sun noon. €6.

Traditions

FREE Kings' Day market on Gran Via

Games, sport, workshops and activities for kids 12 and under. (*Gran Via Corts Catalanes, between Rocafort & Muntaner*). M: Pg. de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4).

FREE Nativity Scene at Barcelona City Hall / 'Brull, the Catalan Nativity'

Exhibition of crib figures created by Catalan sculptor José M. Brull. *Ajuntament de Barcelona (Pl. de Sant Jaume, 1, Sala Ciutat)*. M: Jaume I (L4). Until Jan 7. More info: www.bcn.cat/nadal.

Tour

Let's go sailing

Take a trip on the sea aboard the three-masted schooner

'Santa Eulalia'. *Museu Marítim (Av. Drassanes s/n)*. M: Drassanes (L3). Every Sat 10am-1pm. €12. Advance booking required: reserves. mmaritim@diba.cat.

Sunday 4

Football

► * League fixture. RCD Espanyol - SD Eibar

The latest local match. *Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100)*. Cornellà de Llobregat. FGC: Cornellà Riera. Date and time to be confirmed. More info: www.rcdespanyol.com.

Kids

Festival of childhood

Games, sport, workshops and activities for kids 12 and under. *Fira de Barcelona - Montjuïc (Av. de la Reina Maria Cristina, s/n.)*. M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Tripula Presenting a revolutionary invention: the Hot Air Balloon!

Live representations of the Christmas story are popular in towns around Catalonia. Get a taste of the tradition here. *El Born CC (Pl. Comercial, 12)* M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1).

Tour

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery

Visit one of Barcelona's historic cemeteries. *Cementiri de Poblenou (Av. Icària, s/n)*. M: Llacuna (L4). 1st and 3rd Sun/month 10.30am (Catalan) & 12.30pm (Spanish).

Traditions

FREE Kings' Day market on Gran Via

Games, sport, workshops and activities for kids 12 and under. (*Gran Via Corts Catalanes, between Rocafort & Muntaner*). M: Pg. de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4).

Things to Do

FREE Sardanes

The traditional Catalan circle dance. (Pl. Nova in front of C/ Bisbe). M: Jaume I (L4). 11.15am.

Monday 5

Traditions

FREE Kings' Day Procession

The night kids have been waiting for all year when the Three Kings parade through town. 4.30pm: The Three Kings disembark in the port. 6pm: Grand procession through the streets of the city, with floats, street performers and more. (Moll de la Fusta - Portal de la Pau). M: Drassanes (L3). More info: www.bcn.cat/nadal.

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

Games, sport, workshops and

activities for kids 12 and under. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building of the Catalan Modernism, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site 1997. (Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Daily tours 10am-3.30pm. €18. €11 (reduced).

Tuesday 6

Traditions

Ice rink

Practise your double and triple turns, or just focus on not falling, at this enormous and seasonal ice-skating rink. (Pl. de Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

FREE Kings' Day market on Gran Via

Games, sport, workshops and

activities for kids 12 and under. (Gran Via Corts Catalanes, between Rocafort & Muntaner). M: Pg. de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4).

FREE Nativity Scene at Barcelona City Hall / 'Brull, the Catalan Nativity'

Live representations of the Christmas story are popular in towns around Catalonia. Get a taste of the tradition here.

Ajuntament de Barcelona (Pl. de Sant Jaume, 1, Sala Ciutat). M: Jaume I.

Wednesday 7

Cinema

Original language cinema at the Filmoteca

Film cycles focusing on classic cinema and great directors. Filmoteca de Catalunya (Pl. de

Salvador Seguí, 1-9). M: Liceu (L3) & Paral·lel (L2, L3). Screenings: Tue-Fri 5pm-10pm; Sat & Sun 4.30pm-10pm. €4. €3 (reduced). More info: www.filmoteca.cat.

Traditions

FREE Nativity Scene in Plaça de Sant Jaume

Visit the city's annual portrayal of the birth of Jesus. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

Tour

► Torre Bellesguard

Tours of Gaudí's modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). In Catalan: Wed, Fri, Sun noon. In English: Tue-Sun 11am. €16. €12.80 (reduced).



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Things to Do

Thursday 8

Cinema

FREE Xcèntric Festival

Director Pedro Costa's 'Cavalo Dinheiro' (2014).
CCCB (Montalegre, 5).
M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Catalunya (L1, L3). 8pm.

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See the city of Barcelona from a new perspective with a guided tour to the rooftop of this historic church.
(Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building of Catalan modernism, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997.
(Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Friday 9

Cinema

Original language cinema at the Filmoteca

Film cycles focusing on classic cinema and great directors.
(Pl. de Salvador Seguí, 1-9). M: Liceu (L3), Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Tour

► Torre Bellesguard

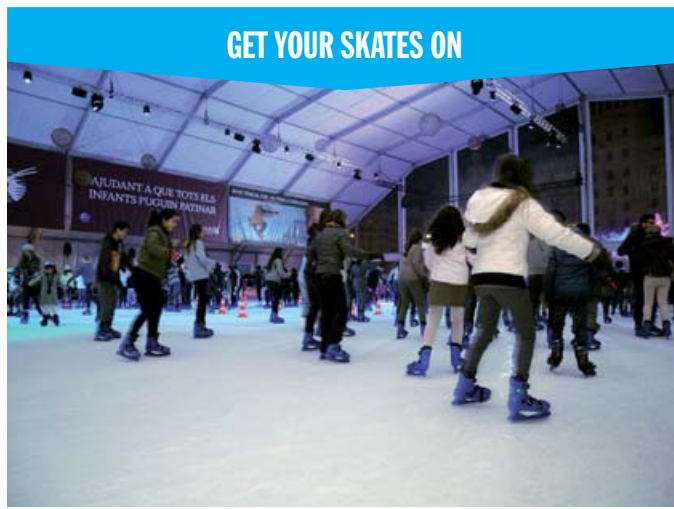
Tours of Gaudí's modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Saturday 10

Cinema

FREE Film cycle: For the love of art

Director Robert Bresson's 'Lancelot du Lac' (1974).
MNAC (Parc de Montjuïc). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 7pm.



Ice rink in Plaça Catalunya

Currently covering 1,400m² of Barcelona's central square, this temporary rink – Europe's largest – is a great place to have fun with friends and family. Or go alone and make believe you're at the Winter Olympics about to win individual gold. Until 11 Jan. www.bargelona.cat

Dance-swing

FREE Want to dance?

Grab your partners for this swing session at the museum.
MNAC (Parc de Montjuïc). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 4pm-5.45pm.

Sunday 11

Football

► * League fixture. FC Barcelona – Atlético de Madrid

One of the big matches this month for Barça fans. *Date and time to be confirmed.* More info: www.fcbarcelona.cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Traditions

FREE Sardanes

The traditional Catalan circle dance. (Pl. Nova in front of C/ Bisbe). M: Jaume I (L4).

FREE Sant Andreu district 'Tres Tombs' Procession

Procession in honour of St.

Anthony Abbot, with domestic animals, pets and horse-drawn carriages. Barri de Sant Andreu. M: Sant Andreu (L1). More info: www.bcn.cat.

Tour

FREE Guided tour of Montjuïc Cemetery

Visit Barcelona's hillside cemetery. Cementiri de Montjuïc (Mare de Déu del Port, 56-58). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 2nd & 4th Sun/month, 11am (Catalan) & 11.15am (Spanish).

Monday 12

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See Barcelona from a new perspective with a guided tour to the rooftop of this historic church. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building

of Catalan modernism, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Tuesday 13

Cinema

Original language cinema at the Filmoteca

Film cycles focusing on classic cinema and great directors. (Pl. de Salvador Seguí, 1-9). M: Liceu (L3), Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Tour

► Torre Bellesguard

Tours of Gaudí's modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Wednesday 14

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See Barcelona from a new perspective with a guided tour to the rooftop of this historic church. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building of Catalan modernism, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997. (Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Thursday 15

Cinema

Xcèntric Festival

Artaud/Carasco: 'Per un cos nou'.
CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Catalunya (L1, L3). 8pm. €4. €3 (reduced).

Things to Do

Friday 16

Cinema

Original language cinema at the Filmoteca

Film cycles focusing on classic cinema and great directors.
(Pl. de Salvador Seguí, 1-9). M: Liceu (L3), Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Tour

► Torre Bellesguard

Tours of Gaudí's modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo.
(Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Saturday 17

Traditions

Sant Antoni's Annual Festa Major

Annual festival with music, processions and other activities in the Sant Antoni district.
M: Poble Sec (L3) Rocafort & Urgell (L1) & Sant Antoni (L2). Jan 17-27. More info: www.bcn.cat.

Sunday 18

Sport

37th Sant Antoni District Running Race

The 37th annual 10k race is part of the Sant Antoni district's Festa Major celebrations.
(Floridablanca, 41) M: Poble Sec (L3), Sant Antoni (L2) & Rocafort (L1). 9.30am. €15-€25. More info: www.cursasantoni.cat.

Football

► * League fixture. RCD Espanyol - Celta de Vigo

Espanyol take on the visitors from Galicia.
Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100). Cornellà de Llobregat. FGC: Cornellà Riera.

Date and time to be confirmed.
More info: www.rcdespanyol.com.

Traditions

FREE Sardanes

See Sun 4. (Pl. Nova in front of C/ Bisbe). M: Jaume I (L4).

Tour

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery

Visit one of Barcelona's historic cemeteries.
Cementiri de Poblenou (Av. Icària, s/n). M: Llacuna (L4).

Monday 19

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See Barcelona from a new perspective with a guided tour to the rooftop of this historic church.
(Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building of Catalan modernism, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997.
(Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Tuesday 20

Cinema

FREE Film cycle: For the love of art

Director Robert Bresson's 'Lancelot du Lac' (1974). MNAC (Parc de Montjuïc). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Tour

► Torre Bellesguard

Tours of Gaudí's modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo.
(Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).



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Things to Do

Wednesday 21

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See Thu 1. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Palau de la Música

See Mon 5. (Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Thursday 22

Cinema

Original language cinema at the Filmoteca

Film cycles focusing on classic cinema and great directors. (Pl. de Salvador Seguí, 1-9). M: Liceu (L3), Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Xcèntric Festival

Films by underground director Peter Emanuel Goldman. CCCB. (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 8pm. €4. €3 (reduced).

Tour

► Torre Bellesguard

Tours of Gaudí's Modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Friday 23

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See Thu 1. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Palau de la Música

See Mon 5. (Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Saturday 24

Kids

FREE Ran de Mar

Puppet show for the whole family El Born CC (Pl. Comercial, 12) M:

Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4) & Arc de Triomf (L1). 6pm. €5. €5 for ages 8 and older. Under-8s free.

Traditions

FREE Sant Antoni district 'Tres Tombs' Procession

Procession in honour of St. Anthony Abbot, with domestic animals, pets and horse-drawn carriages. Barri de Sant Antoni. M: Poble Sec (L3), Rocafort & Urgell (L1) & Sant Antoni (L2). Info: www.bcn.cat

Sunday 25

Football

► * League fixture. RCD Espanyol – Almeria CF

Espanyol play host to the Andalusian team.

Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100). Cornellà de Llobregat. FGC: Cornellà Riera. Date and time to be confirmed. More info: www.rcdespanyol.com.

Kids

FREE Ran de Mar

Puppet show for the whole family. El Born CC (Pl. Comercial, 12) M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4) & Arc de Triomf (L1). 12.30pm. €5 for ages 8 and older. Under-8s free.

Traditions

FREE Sardanes

See Sun 4. (Pl. Nova in front of C/ Bisbe). M: Jaume I (L4).

FREE Guided tour of Montjuïc Cemetery

See Sun 11. Cementiri de Montjuïc (Mare de Déu del Port, 56-58). M: Espanya (L1, L2; FGC).

Monday 26

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See Thu 1. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Palau de la Música

See Mon 5. (Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Tuesday 27

Cinema

Original language cinema at the Filmoteca

Film cycles focusing on classic cinema and great directors. (Pl. de Salvador Seguí, 1-9). M: Liceu (L3), Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Tour

► Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building of the Catalan Modernism, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site 1997.. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Torre Bellesguard

Tours of Gaudí's Modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Wednesday 28

Sport

FREE 18 Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique

The classic cars are in town to get checked over before they head out on Fri 30. (Av. de la Catedral). M: Liceu (L3), Jaume I (L4). More info: www.rallyracc.com.

Al fresco

FREE BruumRumm!

A spectacle of light and colour. DHUB (Pl. de les Glòries Catalanes 37-38 M: Glòries (L1). Daily 9.30pm-11pm.

Tour

► Torre Bellesguard

Tours of Gaudí's Modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). In Catalan: Wed, Fri, Sun noon. In English: Tue-Sun 11am. €16. €12.80 (reduced).

Thursday 29

Tour

► The rooftops of Santa Maria del Mar

See Barcelona from a new perspective with a guided tour to the rooftop of this historic church. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

Friday 30

Sport

FREE 18 Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique

The classic cars set off on their race that will end Feb 4 in Monaco's Port Hercule. (Av. de la Catedral). M: Liceu (L3), Jaume I (L4). More info: www.rallyracc.com.

Cinema

► Original language cinema at the Filmoteca

Film cycles focusing on classic cinema and great directors. (Pl. de Salvador Seguí, 1-9). M: Liceu (L3), Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Tour

► Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building of the Catalan Modernism, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site 1997.. (Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Saturday 31

Tour

► The Secret Pedrera

Delve into the corners of Gaudí's fabulous construction with this night-time tour. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5) and Provença (FGC). Wed-Sat 7pm to 10.30pm. Various sessions in Catalan, Spanish and English available. €30.

Sights

Architecture

Basilica de la Sagrada Família

(Mallorca, 401). M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5). T. 93 513 20 60. Oct-Mar: 9am-6pm; Jan 1 & 6: 9am-2pm. €14.80. Guided tour/with audio guide: €19.50. Barcelona's most famous landmark, begun by Antoni Gaudí in 1891 and still unfinished to this day. Ticket sales help fund the ongoing construction of the most popular tourist attraction in Spain.

► Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi

(Plaça del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3), Jaume I (L4). T. 93 318 47 43. Nov 11-Apr 7: Mon-Sat 10am-6pm. Sun 4pm-7pm. €4. €3 (reduced). Guided tour (including belltower): €12. €8 (reduced). Visit one of Barcelona's grandest Gothic churches, and enjoy the views from its belltower.

► Casa Batlló

(Pg. de Gràcia, 43). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L3, L4). T. 93 216 03 06. 9am-9pm. €21.50. €18.50 (reduced). Last admission: 8pm. More info: www.casabatllo.cat. The sensuality and harmony of its interior, combined with Gaudí's use of colours, shapes and light make this a must-see for admirers of the architect's work.

► Gaudí Crypt at Colònia Güell

(Claudi Güell, 6 - Santa Coloma de Cervelló). M: Espanya (L1, L3) + FGC (S33, S8, S4): Colònia Güell station. T. 93 630 58 07. Nov-Apr: Mon-Fri 10am-5pm. Sat, Sun, public hols 10am-3pm. Closed Jan 1 & 6. €9 (incl. audio guide). €7.50 (reduced). Gaudí's hidden treasure is a UNESCO World Heritage Site inside Colònia Güell, a planned textile factory and residential area just 20 minutes outside Barcelona.

► Gran Teatre del Liceu

(La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 485 99 14. Guided

tour: Mon-Fri, 9.30am & 10am. €14. Thirty-minute tour: €6. Check times and info: www.liceubarcelona.cat.

Visit one of the world's great opera houses: discover the impressive concert hall and exclusive private rooms that make this one of Barcelona's most emblematic buildings.

► La Pedrera

(Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 902 202 138. Nov 3-Mar 2: 9am-6.30pm. Jan 1, 11am-6.30pm. Closed Jan 12-18. Last admission: 6pm. €20.50. €16.50 (reduced).

Many Barcelona residents consider this building to be Gaudí's true masterpiece. In fact, some of its apartments are still private homes. The roof terrace represents modernista architecture at its finest.

Palau Güell

(Nou de la Rambla, 3-5). M: Drassanes (L3) & Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 472 57 75. Nov-Mar: Tue-Sun 10am-5.30pm. Last admission: 4.30pm. Closed Mon except public hols. Closed Jan 1 & 6-13. €12. €8 (reduced). Built by Antoni Gaudí in the late 19th century, this palace belonged to his principal patron. A visit to the roof terrace is highly recommended.

► Palau de la Música Catalana

(Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 295 72 00. Daily 10am-3.30pm. €18. Reduced: €11. Under 10s free. Step inside one of the most beautiful Art Nouveau buildings in the world, architect Lluís Domènech i Muntaner's ornate concert hall, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Sant Pau, Modernista monument

(St Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau (L5). T. 93 553 78 01. Nov-Mar: Mon-Sat 10am-4.30pm. Sun, public hols 10am-2.30pm. Closed Jan 1 & 6. Self-guided tour: €8. €5.60 (reduced). Guided tour: €14. €9.80 (reduced). Under 16s

free. More info: www.santpaubarcelona.org.

Tour the buildings and grounds of the Hospital Sant Pau, one of the world's largest Art Nouveau monuments, and Lluís Domènech i Muntaner's most important work, recently restored and opened to the public.

► Torre Bellesguard

(Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). Nov-Mar: Tues-Sun 10am-3pm. Closed Mon, Jan 1 & 6. Panoramic tour: €7 (audio guide to exterior + remains of Martin the Humane's palace + audiovisual centre). Guided tour: €16 (tower exterior and interior + roof terrace access). In English, Mon-Sat 11am. In Spanish Mon, Wed, Fri noon. In Catalan Tue, Thu, Sat noon. Discover the modernista castle that Antoni Gaudí built at the foot of Tibidabo mountain.

Leisure

► O Aire de Barcelona, Arab Baths

(Pg. de Picasso, 22). M: Barceloneta (L4) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 295 57 43. Mon-Fri: first entry 10am; last entry between 10pm and midnight. Sat, Sun and days before public holidays: last entry between midnight and 2am. More info: www.airedebarcelona.com. These Arab baths revive the ancient tradition of bathing as a form of relaxation, in a gorgeous setting.

► Barcelona Urban Forest

Barcelona Bosc Urbà (Plaça del Fòrum, s/n). T. 93 117 34 26. M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). Nov-Mar: Sat, Sun & public holidays 10am-3pm. €8-€19 (prices vary depending on age and circuit chosen). Get some high-adrenaline exercise in an urban adventure park with over 30 attractions, including zip lines, bungee jumping, trampolines and more.

► Poble Espanyol

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3). T. 93 508 63 00. Mon 9am-8pm; Tue-Thu 9am-2am; Fri 9am-4am; Sat 9am-5am; Sun 9am-midnight. €11. €6.25 (reduced).

Built for the Barcelona Exposition of 1929 by modernista architect Puig i Cadafach, Poble Espanyol is an open-air museum on Montjuïc with replicas of traditional streets, squares and buildings from all over Spain.

► Gaudí Experience

(Larrard, 41). M: Lesseps (L3). T. 93 285 44 40. Nov-Mar: 9am-8pm. Closed Jan 6. €9. €7.50 (reduced). A fascinating interactive journey that uses 4-D technology to take you inside Gaudí's creative universe. A new way to discover the architect and his world.

► Port Aventura

(Av. Alcalde Pere Molas. Km. 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train: Port Aventura. T. 902 20 22 20. January 1-6, 10am-7pm. More info: www.portaventura.es. PortAventura is a theme park located one hour south of Barcelona. Its six themed zones (Mediterranean, Far West, Sesame Adventure, Mexico, China and Polynesia) cover 119 hectares, with 30 attractions, 100 processions every day, 75 restaurants and snack bars, and 27 craft and gift shops.

► Barcelona Zoo

(Parc de la Ciutadella, s/n). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Ciutadella/Vila Olímpica (L4). T. 902 45 75 45. Jan 1-Mar 29: 10am-5.30pm. €19.90. Children (ages 3-12): €11.95. One of the city's best-loved attractions, which has been open for over 100 years. Nowadays it's home to more than 2,000 animals, representing some 315 species.

Laboratories of 'what if...?'

Sound art takes over the Tàpies Foundation. Artistic Director Laurence Rassel talks about listening and museums as laboratories. By Eugènia Sendra



Something is always in motion at the Tàpies, even if it's barely perceptible. All trace of Kerry James Marshall has been removed – except for the odd packing case labelled 'fragile' – and in the pause before the space is invaded by sound for the exhibition 'Interval. Sound Actions', Laurence Rassel, the museum's artistic director, talks about listening, open-source software and Chris Marker.

The Tàpies is gearing up for a major exhibition of sound art.

It may be the first major exhibition we've dedicated to the subject, but it's not a sudden decision, rather it's a continuation of our research into the exhibition, the institution, and the possibility of experimenting physically with artworks within the space, whether

they're sound or movement-based. It's nothing new: Tàpies was always interested in contemporary music.

What are you exploring in 'Interval. Sound Actions'?

We want to see how sound penetrates the exhibition space, how it generates ways of seeing, and how listening influences the way visitors circulate. I imagine people stopping in unexpected spaces to listen to works by Nicoline van Harskamp, Susan Philipsz, and Theo Burt, some of the participating artists.

Will you do without headphones?

Luís Nacenta, the curator, and I, don't want an exhibition full of loudspeakers and headphones. For me, listening, like the contemplation of other artworks,

has to do with attention, and that takes priority.

You're going back to the spirit of the laboratory that choreographer Xavier Le Roy explored in his 2012 exhibition at the Tàpies.

Brian Eno offered to create a piece for the exhibition, and he'll be working in situ to complete 'The Ship'. It reminds me of that feeling of risk and 'let's see what happens' that I felt with Le Roy, and connects with the idea of the Tàpies Foundation as a space of possibilities, a laboratory which can produce good things, bad things, surprises...

Does that sense of risk mark you out from other museums?

I think it's important that there should be museums that work

with certainties, that build and affirm, that archive and lay down history, but there also have to be places that prioritise the question 'what if...?' For me, a museum is a space where you can encounter history and things you don't yet know about: that possibility of running up against the unknown is essential, although it's also difficult to defend.

Has your pro-open source software, cyberfeminist approach left its mark at the Foundation?

When Miquel Tàpies and Núria Anguila contacted me in 2008, they knew my background. We opened up the Foundation's archive, and the way we showed the institution's open source started a relationship with other audiences, who have identified with our institutional practices. We show them how we work, and at the same time we ask how others are working.

The interrogation of artistic practices is the genesis of everything...

I studied fine arts and drawing in Belgium, but then I asked myself: 'What is the world of art? How does it work?' The decisive moments were a seminar on Marxist-Feminist film theory with Noël Burch, Napster and the accessible technology of the '90s, the privilege of being able to work with Chris Marker through the art organisation Constant... As Xavier Le Roy says, I too am a product of my circumstances.

What did you create with Chris Marker?

We explored mapped memory. Next to his CD-ROM 'Immemory', we placed a blank disc, Roseware, so that people could fill it with their memories in the form of sound, text and images. Technology was available to everyone to create with, we still thought it was a tool of collective empowerment...

Interval. Accions sonores is at the Fundació Tàpies until February 15



LLENÇÀS (1917), JOAQUIM TORRES-GARCIA, COLLECCIO PARTICULAR

Barcelona, neutral zone

★★★★

Fundació Miró
Until February 15

Describing what was happening in Barcelona between 1914 and 1918 is a daunting task. Even more so if we're looking through the lens of the arts. But that's what the curators of the exhibition *Barcelona, zona neutral (1914-1918)*, Fèlix Fanés and Joan M. Minguet, have attempted. Have they succeeded? They've made a valiant effort, although there are literary sources that go much

deeper than what's on display here. Barcelona during this period was one of the most interesting cities in Europe in terms of its social dynamism. It was home to an intellectual class who were debating whether their national art should be based on the very best of the international avant-garde, or on folk art and the glorious medieval past. It was the time of the *Mancomunitat*, the short-lived Commonwealth of Catalonia, its first attempt at self-government – albeit an extremely limited one – since 1714. A time of risky business, racketeers, high-

In the back of the net

Back in 2008, the English National Ballet was commissioned to create a performance that featured ten iconic moments, good and bad, from the history of the national football team. While the team sport has a rough and ready image that seems a million miles from the delicate flights of ballet, 'The Beautiful Game' proved that the disciplines are two halves in the same game. This month, Catalan choreographer Cesc Gelabert will premiere a similar undertaking



JOAN TORRES

based on key moments from the story of FC Barcelona. He brings together two of the region's most popular non-verbal languages (although anyone who's been to Camp Nou may take issue with the non-verbalness of it) to manifest the poetry in each and how the protagonists use their bodies to communicate with those watching.

Foot-ball
Teatre Nacional de Catalunya.
January 22 to February 1

stakes card games, fleas and fast-living ladies.

Barcelona was a sanctuary and a refuge. On one hand, Catalan artists travelled to Paris in search of fame and customers, much as they do now. Paris was 24 hours away by train, no travel papers required. And the best French artistic magazines could be bought on La Rambla. Paris was the spiritual home of Catalan thinkers and artists.

There were also Catalan artists who took up the French cause, such as J. M. Junoy or Feliu Elias, who contributed to propaganda magazines and even visited the front. Take Josep Clarà, who produced sketches of the trenches and the combatants that refute preconceived ideas about 'noucentisme'.

Meanwhile, many French artists touched down in Barcelona while they waited for the fog of war to disperse. Artists like the Delaunays, husband and wife; the millionaire Francis Picabia; the Cubist Gleizes; and brother and sister Lloyd and Olga Sacharoff. Many of them worked with gallery owner Josep Dalmau. But contemporary art, as we know all too well, is a minority sport. Looking for a truly influential cultural icon of the period? Try Charlie Chaplin.

– Ricard Mas

FOOTNOTE The show includes previously unseen works such as Clarà's drawings of the front.

FROM THE UK TO BCN

This month, the Liceu opera house plays host to three very different performances that each have a link with a corner of the UK.



MARIA STUARDA

This three-act opera relates what happened when Mary Stuart took on Elizabeth Tudor. This version of the Queen of Scots' story faced early trouble with the censors.

January 2, 3, 7, 8 and 10.



VAN MORRISON

Here as part of the Suite Festival, the Northern Irish musician's five-decade career has no end in sight – a set at last summer's Cambridge Folk Festival was described as 'blistering'. January 19.



SIMON KEENLYSIDE

The English baritone is no Liceu novice, having sung there the parts of Hamlet and Don Giovanni. This recital combines his beloved German 'lieder' with French 'melodie'. January 21.

The Arts

Music

Thursday 1

Classical

New Year's Concert

See in 2015 with a splendid concert in the amazing setting of the Palau.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm €25-€52.

Opera

► Opera nights at Palau Dalmaes

Regular evening of operatic music in the beautiful 16th-century baroque-style building, performed by the Petita Companyia Lírica de Barcelona.

(Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4). Thurs 11pm. €20 (includes a drink).

Friday 2

Blues

► Friday blues at Palau Gomis

Get the weekend started with a live blues session in the Born neighbourhood.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Fri 6pm. €11 (includes entrance to the museum's art collection).

Classical

New Year's Concert

See in 2015 with a splendid concert in the amazing setting of the Palau.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €25-€52.

► BCN guitar trio

Works by Isaac Albeniz, Manuel de Falla, Astor Piazzolla and Paco de Lúcia are performed on the Spanish guitar by Luis Robisco, Manuel González and Xavier Coll.

Palau de la Música Catalana

(Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Noon. €28-€32.

Flamenco

► Opera and flamenco

Two of Spain's finest musical cultures, zarzuela and flamenco, join forces in this energetic, emotional show. On the programme at the Poliorama since 2004, this is the most seen flamenco show in Barcelona – it tells the love story between two 'bailaoras'.

Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3, FGC). 7pm. €35-€49.

► The most authentic contemporary flamenco at Tablao Cordobés

One of the classic flamenco venues in Barcelona, this show takes place in the beautiful surrounds of the Tablao Cordobés.

(La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3). Every day 8.15pm & 10pm. €42.50

Opera

► Mary Stuart / Gaetano Donizetti

Grand opera about the 16th-century conflict between Mary Queen of Scots and Elizabeth I.

Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 2, 3, 7, 8 and 10 January. 8pm. €8-€176.

Traditional Celtic

Celtic Legends

Show featuring traditional Irish music and dance, performed by dance company created back in 2002 and that has since toured the world.

L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) & Marina (L1). 2-3 January. 9pm €25-€40.

Saturday 3

Classical

New Year's Concert

Welcome 2015 with a splendid

concert in the amazing setting of the Palau.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm. €25-€52.

Flamenco

Flamenco festival... and other birds

Performance dedicated to the memory of flamenco maestro Paco de Lucía, who died last year.

Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 8.30pm. €22 (on the door). €18 (in advance).

Gospel

Christmas Gospel Concert

The Alabama Gospel Choir perform seasonal spirituals from the 19th century on what is their eighth visit to Barcelona.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 10.30pm €24-€51.

Sunday 4

Classical

New Year's Concert

Welcome 2015 with a splendid concert in the amazing setting of the Palau.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 5pm €25-€52.

► Guitar stars

Flamenco and classical compositions performed by guitarist Alen Garagic.

Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L4). 7pm. €20.

Flamenco

► Flamenco gala

Special event featuring *cantaora* Fefa Gómez.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9.30pm. €35-€49.

Monday 5

Classical

Bach in Barcelona

Every Monday and Wednesday lunchtime, this historic venue hosts a concert of music from the German maestro.

Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Mon & Wed 1pm. €16. reservas@bachinbarcelona.com. T. 679 305 718.

Flamenco

► Show at the Palacio del Flamenco

Enjoy an evening of Spanish dance and music, with the possibility of eating and drinking while you watch the show.

(Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC). Daily 6.40pm, 8.30pm & 9.40pm. Options: show only; show + one drink; show + different menu options. €28-€85. More info: www.palaciodelflamenco.com.

Tuesday 6

Classical

Night of Spanish guitar

'A musical portrait of Andalusia' performed by Rolando Saad, with Joaquín Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* the star piece.

Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 7pm. €20-€55.

New Year's Concert

Welcome 2015 with a splendid concert in the amazing setting of the Palau.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €25-€52.

Wednesday 7

Classical

Strauss Gala / Astana Philharmonic Orchestra

Founded in 1988, a year after Astana became the capital of Kazakhstan, the musical company

The Arts

performs a selection of Strauss's waltzes, marches and polkas.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm €18-€56.

Flamenco

► The most authentic contemporary flamenco al Tablao Cordobés

One of the classic flamenco venues in Barcelona, this show takes place in the beautiful surrounds of the Tablao Cordobés. (*La Rambla, 35*). *M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3). Every day 8.15pm & 10pm. €42.50*

Thursday 8

Classical

Vivaldi's Four Seasons

Violinist Emma Aleexeva and conductor Svilen Simenov head this musical evening of the classic Vivaldi piece and a performance of Pachelbel's Canon.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm €22-€49.

Jazz

► Live jazz at Jamboree

The Three Tenors – no, not those ones. These are three tenor sax players, Lluç Casares, Gianni Gagliardi and César Joaniquet, who take to the stage at tonight's live session.
Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm and 10pm. €12 (on the door). €10 (on web). See website for full programme details: www.masimas.com/jamboree

Friday 9

Blues

► Friday blues at Palau Gomis

Get the weekend started with a live blues session in the Born neighbourhood.
MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Fri 6pm. €11

(includes entrance to the museum's art collection).

Classical

New Year's Concert

Welcome 2015 with a splendid concert in the amazing setting of the Palau.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm €25-€52.

Flamenco

► Flamenco extravaganza

Live show of Spanish dance and music in restaurant in the heart of the city.
Tablao Flamenco Nervión (Princesa, 2). M: Jaume I (L4). Thu 7pm-10pm. Show + drink: €14. Show + dinner: €27.90. Fri 8pm-10pm. Show + dinner: €25.

Saturday 10

Classical

► Art of the Spanish guitar

Barcelona guitar duo Carmen perform in elegant church setting.
Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L4). 9pm €20.

Handel's 'Messiah' - New Year concert at Palau Güell

A classic of the festive season, Handel's *Messiah* is performed in one of Gaudí's lesser-known but just as splendid buildings.
Palau Güell (Nou de la Rambla, 3-5). M: Liceu, Drassanes (L3). 8pm. €35.

The Lord of the Rings

The mega-successful film is broadcast with accompanying soundtrack music provided by the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra.
Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1). 7pm. €25-€42.

The greatest Hollywood soundtracks

The Cinema Symphony Orchestra plays the music from such popular movies as *ET*, *Titanic*, *Grease*, *Jurassic Park* and *West Side Story*.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau

de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €25-€52.

Flamenco

► The most authentic contemporary flamenco al Tablao Cordobés

One of the classic flamenco venues in Barcelona, this show takes place in the beautiful surrounds of the Tablao Cordobés. (*La Rambla, 35*). *M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3). Every day 8.15pm & 10pm. €42.50.*

Sunday 11

Classical

New Year's Concert

Welcome 2015 with a splendid concert in the amazing setting of the Palau.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm €25-€52.

The Lord of the Rings

The mega-successful film is broadcast with accompanying soundtrack music provided by the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra.
Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1). 11am. €25-€42.

Jazz

Jazz concerts at Milano Cocktail Bar

Chill out to jazz tunes with a cocktail in hand.
Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 8.30pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Monday 12

Flamenco

► Show at the Palacio del Flamenco

Enjoy an evening of Spanish dance and music, with the possibility of eating and drinking while you watch the show.
(Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC). Daily 6.40pm, 8.30pm & 9.40pm. Options: show only; show +

one drink; show + different menu options. €28-€85. More info: www.palaciodelflamenco.com).

Tuesday 13

Indie

Crappy Tuesdays

Weekly club session to brighten up the dullest day of the week.
Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Midnight. €14 (on the door). €13 (in advance).

Wednesday 14

Classical

Bach in Barcelona

Every Monday and Wednesday lunchtime, this historic venue hosts a concert of music from the German maestro.
Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Mon & Wed 1pm. €16. reservas@bachinbarcelona.com. T. 679 305 718.

► Spanish guitar maestros

Classic Spanish sounds performed by Pedro Javier González.
Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €19.

Flamenco

► The most authentic contemporary flamenco al Tablao Cordobés

One of the classic flamenco venues in Barcelona, this show takes place in the beautiful surrounds of the Tablao Cordobés. (*La Rambla, 35*). *M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3). Every day 8.15pm & 10pm. €42.50.*

Thursday 15

Catalan

Lluís Llach presents Terra i Cultura

The Terra i Cultura (Land and Culture) prize was created back in 2008 to honour the best original

The Arts

music based on Catalan poems. *Born Cultural Centre (Pl. Comercial, 12)*. M: *Jaume I, Barceloneta (L4)* and *Arc de Triomf (L4)*. 8pm. €10.

Classical

Missa Salisbrugensis

Grand choral piece composed by F.I. von Biber written for 53 voices and designed to be performed collectively by various groups of singers and musicians. Conducted by Jordi Savall. *Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)* and *Marina (L1)*. 9pm. €10-€40.

Pierre-Laurent Aimard

The French pianist performs works by Bach. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 16-17 January. 8.30pm. €20-€40

Opera

► Opera nights at Palau Dalmases

Regular evening of operatic music in the beautiful 16th-century baroque-style building, performed by the *Petita Companyia Lirica de Barcelona*. *(Montcada, 20)*. M: *Jaume I (L4)*. Thurs 11pm. €20 (includes a drink).

Swing

Banc Sabadell Festival del Mil·lenni: Amélie Angebault

The French singer-songwriter and guitarist and accompanying musicians perform a lively swing-inspired jazz set. They will perform from their latest album, 'Double Face'. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)* & *Marina (L1)*. 9pm. €15.

Friday 16

Blues

► Friday blues at Palau Gomis

Get the weekend off to a musical start with a live blues concert staged in the

Renaissance-era *Palau Gomis*, today home to the European Museum of Modern Art. *MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern (Barra de Ferro, 5)*. M: *Jaume I (L4)*. Fri 6pm. €11 (includes entrance to see the Museum art collection).

Classical

Gustavo Dudamel. Orquestra Simfònica Bolívar de Venezuela

Dudamel is an accomplished, experienced conductor, who began directing musical groups as a teenager, and is now director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. He performs here with his regular collaborators, the Venezuelan Bolívar Symphony Orchestra, of which he is also the director. The programme features works by Beethoven and Wagner. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 16-17 January. 8.30pm. €32-€160.

Orquestra Simfònica del Liceu performs Schumann, Falla and Brahms

The resident Symphony Orchestra of Barcelona's Liceu opera house performs a programme of works by Schumann (Overture from *Scenes from Goethe's Faust*), Falla (*Nights in the Gardens of Spain*), and Brahms (*Symphony n°.1*). *Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)* and *Marina (L1)*. 8.30pm. €10-€56.

Flamenco

Flamenco show

Three sessions of energetic dancing and lyrical music showcasing a key part of Spanish culture. Singers Luis El Granaino and Miriam Vallejo are joined by dancers Adrian Santana Nuñez and Isabel Rodriguez Jimenez, and musicians Tuto and Jacobo Sanchez. *Sala Tarantos (Plaça Reial, 17)*. M: *Liceu (L3)*. 8.30pm, 9.30pm and 10.30pm. €10 (on the door). €8 (web).

Pop – Rock

Gerard Way

The former My Chemical Romance frontman leaves his emo roots behind and heads in a new pop direction. He's here to launch his first solo album, 'Hesitant Alien'. *Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113)*. M: *Paral·lel (L2, L3)*. 8pm. €20.

Saturday 17

Jazz

► Live jazz sessions at Jamboree

Seven-man group promoted by local label Blackcelona take to the stage with their mix of funk, soul, jazz and rock sounds. Tonight they exclusively present their first album, *Is This Soul?* *Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17)*. M: *Liceu (L3)*. 8pm and 10pm. €12 (on the door). €10 (web). Find details of the programme at: www.masimas.com/jamboree

Classical

Orquestra Simfònica del Liceu performs Schumann, Falla and Brahms

The resident Symphony Orchestra of Barcelona's Liceu opera house performs a programme of works by Schumann (Overture from *Scenes from Goethe's Faust*), Falla (*Nights in the Gardens of Spain*), and Brahms (*Symphony n°.1*). *Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)* and *Marina (L1)*. 7pm. €10-€56.

Young musicians series. Beatriz García i Sergi Gironès, clarinet

Barcelona's Modernisme Museum has launched a series of concerts dedicated to children and young people. This month's event feature clarinetists García and Gironès play works by Koch, Poulenc, Kovacs, Crusell, Montilla and Rossini. *Museu del Modernisme Català (Balma, 48)*. M: *Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4)*. 7pm. Limited seating. More information and bookings: 93 272 2896 and mmcat@mmcat.cat.

Sunday 18

Classical

► Spanish Guitar Maestros

Award-winning Barcelona guitarist Xavier Coll shows off his skill at this concert in the beautiful city-centre church. *Santa Maria del Pi church (Pl. del Pi, 7)*. M: *Liceu (L3)*. 9pm. €19.

Musical residences at La Pedrera

The Foundation of Caixa Catalunya and La Pedrera join forces to promote young musical talents. The musician currently enjoying the residency is clarinetist Victor de la Rosa, who has an accomplished career behind him already, with experience performing and teaching both here and abroad. In this evening's concert, he gives a solo recital featuring works from Kóvacs, Gershwin and Donatoni, amongst others. *La Pedrera (Provença, 261-265)*. M: *Diagonal (L3-L5)* and *Provença (FGC)*. 6pm. €12.

Orquestra Simfònica del Liceu performs Schumann, Falla and Brahms

The resident Symphony Orchestra of Barcelona's Liceu opera house performs a programme of works by Schumann (Overture from *Scenes from Goethe's Faust*), Falla (*Nights in the Gardens of Spain*), and Brahms (*Symphony n°.1*). *Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)* and *Marina (L1)*. 11am. €10-€56.

Viena Symphony

Barcelona's Municipal Band performs symphony works by Beethoven, Bruckner and Mahler in versions specially designed for bands, plus the Yiddish Dances of Adam Gorb. *Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)* and *Marina (L1)*. 11.30am. €14.

Opera

Una voce in off / La voix humaine

Performance of two one-act operas that share common features, partly

The Arts

due to the influence of La voix humaine composer Francis Poulence on Xavier Montsalvatge, the man behind Una voce in off. Both tell stories where a key figure is absent from the action, an absence that affects the respective female leads in each.
Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 5pm. €8-€127.

Monday 19

Jazz – Blues

Suite Festival: Van Morrison

The Northern Irish musician Van Morrison comes to Barcelona to perform as part of the Suite Festival, a new series of concerts being staged at the Liceu opera house featuring leading musicians both local and from abroad. Woody Allen kicked off the event on New Year's Eve, and Morrison is this month's invited artist.
Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €15-€19.

Classical

Banc Sabadell Festival del Mil·lenni: Ignasi Cambra

Young Barcelona pianist Ignasi Cambra is becoming a familiar face on the city's stages, despite only debuting as soloist in February last year at l'Auditori. Although Cambra was due to study at Barcelona business school, his plans changed suddenly when he won a scholarship to go to the US to do a university course in music. Tonight he performs a two-part concert, featuring two Beethoven sonatas, 'Tempest' and 'Moonlight', followed by pieces from Brahms, Chopin and Ginastera.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1-L4). 9pm. €18-€39.

Flamenco

► Show at the Palacio del Flamenco

Enjoy an evening of Spanish dance and music, with the possibility of

eating and drinking while you watch the show.
(Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC). Daily 6.40pm, 8.30pm & 9.40pm. Options: show only; show + one drink; show + different menu options. €28-€85. More info: www.palaciodelflamenco.com.

Tuesday 20

Classical

► Art of the Spanish guitar

Barcelona guitar duo Carmen perform in elegant church setting.
Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L4). 9pm €20.

Opera

Una voce in off / La voix humaine

Performance of two one-act operas that share common features, partly due to the influence of La voix humaine composer Francis Poulence on Xavier Montsalvatge, the man behind Una voce in off. Both tell stories where a key figure is absent from the action, an absence that affects the respective female leads in each.
Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €8-€127.

Wednesday 21

Classical

Bach in Barcelona

Every Monday and Wednesday lunchtime, this historic venue hosts a concert of music from the German maestro.
Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Mon & Wed 1pm. €16. reservas@bachinbarcelona.com. T. 679 305 718.

Flamenco

► The most authentic contemporary flamenco al Tablao Cordobés

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venues in Barcelona, this show takes place in the beautiful surrounds of the Tablao Cordobés. (*La Rambla*, 35). *M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3)*. Every day 8.15pm & 10pm. €42.50.

Opera

Simon Keenlyside

British baritone gives solo recital at the Liceu opera house, where he has previously performed in ensemble works. Born into a musical family (his father and maternal grandfather were both violinists), he studied at the Royal Northern College of Music, where he was mentored by baritone John Cameron who led him to develop an affection for German lieder which is reflected in the works he performs here.

Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). *M: Liceu (L3)*. 8pm. €8-€70.

Thursday 22

Jazz

Jazz concerts at Milano Cocktail Bar

Chill out to jazz tunes with a cocktail in hand.

(*Ronda Universitat*, 35). *M: Catalunya (L1, L3)*. 8.30pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Opera

Una voce in off / La voix humaine

Performance of two one-act operas that share common features, partly due to the influence of *La voix humaine* composer Francis Poulence on Xavier Montsalvatge, the man behind *Una voce in off*. Both tell stories where a key figure is absent from the action, an absence that affects the respective female leads in each. *Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59)*. *M: Liceu (L3)*. 8pm. €8-€127.

Pop – Flamenco

Banc Sabadell Festival del

Mil-lenni: India Martínez 'Camino de la Buena Suerte'

Spanish singer Martínez performs at the Mil-lenni Festival, with the spotlight on her latest album *Camino de la Buena Suerte* (The Good Luck Route). She successfully combines traditional Andalusian 'cante jondo', a pure style of flamenco music, with more mainstream pop sounds, which have brought her a decade full of hits, and a nomination at the Latin Grammy Awards.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). *M: Urquinaona (L1-L4)*. 9pm. €20 - €68.

Friday 23

Blues

► Friday blues at Palau Gomis

Get the weekend off to a musical start with a live blues concert staged in the Renaissance-era Palau Gomis, today home to the European Museum of Modern Art.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern (Barra de Ferro, 5). *M: Jaume I (L4)*. Fri 6pm. €11. (Includes entrance to see the Museum art collection).

Jazz

► Live jazz sessions at Jamboree

On stage tonight are the Big Dani Organic Trio, a trio headed by saxophonist Big Dani Perez and joined by Víctor Puertas on Hammond B3 and drummer Marc Ruiz.

Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). *M: Liceu (L3)*. 8pm and 10pm. €12 (on the door). €10 (web). Find full programme details on the web: www.masimas.com/jamboree

Saturday 24

Classical

Hélène Grimaud and Lyon National Symphony Orchestra

As part of its ongoing exchange programme with Barcelona's own Symphony Orchestra, the internationally renowned Lyon

Symphony returns to the Catalan capital with piano soloist Hélène Grimaud. They perform pieces by Saint-Saëns, Brahms and Bruno Mantovani, director of the Paris Conservatory.

Auditori (Lepant, 150). *M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1)*. 7pm. €10 - €56.

Venice and La Pietà

Today sees the launch of a series of small-scale monthly concerts at Barcelona's Music Museum focusing each time on a different composer, as well as city academies and musical cafés from their respective eras – for 2015, the theme for the series is Baroque musicians and will include performances of works by Bach and Purcell. This inaugural event throws the spotlight on Vivaldi, Venice and La Pietà music school. *Museu de la Música (Lepant, 150)*. *M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1)*. Noon. Ticket included in museum entry fee.

Mozart's Symphony No. 40

The Vallès Symphony Orchestra perform this symphony as well as pieces by Baguer and Bach. The ensemble is directed by brothers and artists in residence, Abel and Arnau Tomàs. This is part of a series of performances by different symphonies.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). *M: Urquinaona (L1,L4)*. 7pm. €18 - €68.

Classical – Children

Ma, me, mi... Mozart! Family concert

Aimed at young music lovers from the age of two, this 45-minute concert features a range of string instruments (guitars, mandolins, lutes, etc) as well as bass clarinet, accordion, violin, voice and even a saw to produce works by Mozart in a colourful setting. *Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. *M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1)*. 5pm and 6.30pm. €10; children under-one, free.

Flamenco

► Show at the Palacio del Flamenco

Enjoy an evening of Spanish dance and music, with the possibility of eating and drinking while you watch the show.

(*Balmes*, 139). *M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC)*. Daily 6.40pm, 8.30pm & 9.40pm. Options: show only; show + one drink; show + different menu options. €28-€85. More info: www.palaciodelflamenco.com.

Sunday 25

Classical

Hélène Grimaud and Lyon National Symphony Orchestra

As part of its ongoing exchange programme with Barcelona's own Symphony Orchestra, the internationally renowned Lyon Symphony returns to the Catalan capital with piano soloist Hélène Grimaud. They perform pieces by Saint-Saëns, Brahms and Bruno Mantovani, director of the Paris Conservatory. *Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. *M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1)*. 11am. €10 - €56.

Classical – Children

Ma, me, mi... Mozart! Family concerts

Aimed at young music lovers from the age of two, this 45-minute concert features a range of string instruments (guitars, mandolins, lutes, etc) as well as bass clarinet, accordion, violin, voice and even a saw to produce works by Mozart in a colourful setting. *Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. *M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1)*. 10am, noon and 5.30pm. €10; children under-one, free

Jazz

Ray Gelato & Barcelona Blues Band

British jazz musician Ray Gelato comes to Barcelona to perform his smooth swing sounds as part

The Arts

of the Saxorama Festival. The singer and saxophonist will be joined not only by the renowned Barcelona Blues Band but also by special guests Sax Gordon, Dani Nel-lo and Big Dani Pérez. *Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm and 10pm. €20 (on the door), €15 (web).*

Opera

'Francesc Viñas' end-of-competition concert

Annual singing competition organised in memory of Catalan tenor Francesc Viñas that attracts young musicians from around the world. The Liceu collaborates with some of the finest opera houses around the world to organise preliminary contests, with the respective winners coming to Barcelona for the final and concert of winners.

Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 6pm. €8 - €28.

Monday 26

Classical

► Spanish Guitar Maestros

Award-winning Barcelona guitarist Xavier Coll shows off his skill at this concert in the beautiful city-centre church.

Santa Maria del Pi church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €19.

Tuesday 27

Flamenco

Giulia Valle presents Libera

Bass player Valle moves towards groove sounds with her latest project.

Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). Every day 8.30pm, 9.30pm and 10.30pm. €12 (on the door). €10 (web).

Wednesday 28

Classical

Bach in Barcelona

Every Monday and Wednesday

lunchtime, this historic venue hosts a concert of music from the German maestro.

Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2,L3). Mon & Wed 1pm. €16. reservas@bachinbarcelona.com. T. 679 305 718.

Veus polifòniques de Sardenya

Concert to inaugurate the 'Voices of the Mediterranean' exhibition being staged at the Music Museum. The show brings together examples of the voice and how it can be used from places including Ibiza, Corsica, Sicily, Turkey, Israel and Syria. This performance focuses on voices from the island of Sardinia. *Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) i Marina (L1). 8.30pm. €15.*

Flamenco

► The most authentic contemporary flamenco al Tablao Cordobés

One of the classic flamenco venues in Barcelona, this show takes place in the beautiful surrounds of the Tablao Cordobés. *(La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3). Every day 8.15pm & 10pm. €42.50.*

Thursday 29

Gospel

I Series of Gospel and Spirituals at the MEAM

Gospel Joy is a group created 15 years ago in La Garriga, formed by a small number of people with a shared love for gospel music. Over the years it has grown to now include some 30 singers and three musicians

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Thu 8.30pm. €14. (Includes entry to Museum's art collection).

Classical

Philharmonia Orchestra London. Beethoven and Chopin

The Philharmonic, conducted by

Clemens Schuldt and with pianist Daniil Trifonov perform Beethoven's overture from Coriolanus and his Symphony No. 3, Heroica, as well as Chopin's Concert for piano and orchestra No 2.

Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1). 8.30pm. €24 - €128.

Iván Martín, piano

A mixed bag of compositions are played by Martín, including Enric Granados' Allegro de concierto, Debussy's Joyous Island, and Three Sonatas from Soler.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1,L4). 8.30pm. €15 - €25.

Friday 30

Blues

► Friday blues at Palau Gomis

Get the weekend off to a musical start with a live blues concert staged in the Renaissance-era Palau Gomis, today home to the European Museum of Modern Art.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Fri 6pm. €11 (includes entrance to see the Museum art collection).

Classical

Romantic Symphony of Rakhmaninov

Violin soloist Hilary Hahn returns to Barcelona to perform a concert with compositions old and new. As well as Rakhmaninov's Symphony No 2 op. 27, the audience will enjoy Brahms Concert for violin and orchestra, as well as a piece commissioned by the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra from Benet Casablanca, resident composer at the Auditori.

Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1). 8.30pm. €10 - €56.

Electronic

Dnit. Electronic concert

Regular event featuring electronic musicians from around the world. Tonight the special guests are Serial Cut, a graphic design studio from Madrid.

CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1,L3,FGC). 10pm. €6.

Saturday 31

Classical

► Bcn 4 Guitars

This group features two men, two women and four guitars. While each of the musicians have established solo careers, they play together to enhance their repertoire and present a new way for audiences to enjoy guitar compositions.

Santa Maria del Pi church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9.30pm. €19.

Romantic Symphony of Rakhmaninov

Violin soloist Hilary Hahn returns to Barcelona to perform a concert with compositions old and new. As well as Rakhmaninov's Symphony No 2 op. 27, the audience will enjoy Brahms Concert for violin and orchestra, as well as a piece commissioned by the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra from Benet Casablanca, resident composer at the Auditori.

Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L1). 7pm. €10 - €56.

► Classical music at the MEAM

Continuing the weekly classical concerts in the impressive surrounds of the European Museum of Modern Art.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Sat 6pm. €19 (includes entrance to the art collection at the museum).

Exhibitions

Aixíu Fotogràfic de Barcelona

(Pl. Pons & Clerch, 2). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 34 20. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm. Closed Sun and public holidays.

FREE The daguerreotype. The beginnings of photography Until Feb.

Aixíu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona

(Santa Llúcia, 1). M: Jaume I (L4) & Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 256 22 55. Mon-Fri 9am-7.30pm; Sat 9am-1pm. Closed Sat, Sun and public holidays.

FREE Eating in Barcelona. A century of menus from the Archive (1880-1980) Until 30 Apr. Looking at the socialisation of eating out in the city during the 20th century.

Blue Project Foundation

(Princesa, 57). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 182 43 71. Tue-Sun, 10am-8pm. Mon, closed. Closed until 7 Jan. €3.

Chen Zhen: In-Between Until 22 Feb. The first time this Chinese artist has been shown in Spain, it contains five installations from different points in his career.

CaixaForum

(Av. Francesc Ferrer & Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 476 86 00. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. 5 Jan 10am-6pm. Closed 1 & 6 Jan. Adults €4. Under 16s free.

► **Captive beauty** Until 5 Jan. Small-format works from the Museo del Prado's collection.
► **'Genesis' by Sebastião Salgado** Until 8 Feb. Photographs of landscapes, animals and people, far from the modern world.
► **The most important thing. Portraits of refugees** Until 18 Feb. Large-format portraits, in which refugees show the most important object they brought from home.
FREE Three narratives. Participation Until 15 Feb. Works from the 'la Caixa' contemporary art collection.
► **Another expo. Unknown visions through art.** Until 11 Jan.

See photos, drawings, books and more on display, without discovering the artist behind them until you get to the very end of the show.

Can Framis. Fundació Vila Casas

(Roc Boronat, 116-126). M: Glòries (L1), Poblenou (L4) & Llacuna (L4). T. 93 320 87 36. Tue-Sat 11am-6pm; Sun 11am-2pm. Closed Mon and public holidays and 1-6 Jan. Adults €5. Students & pensioners €2.

Permanent exhibition

Contemporary painting collection, housed in a former cotton mill in Poblenou.

Agustí Puig. Va voler ser boira i va voler ser vent Until 22 Feb.

Fifteen pieces by the Catalan painter and engraver, focusing on man and his context.

Castell de Montjuïc

(Ctra. de Montjuïc, 66). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 256 44 45. Oct-Mar: Mon-Sun and public holidays 10am-6pm. €5. Reduced: €3.

Montjuïc, the construction of a castle Permanent exhibition, telling the story of Montjuïc and its castle.

Doble Creu Sculpture by Carles Berga. Permanent exhibition.

Romania: Libertate Until 11 Jan. A photographic portrait of Romanian society during the last years of the dictatorship of Nicolae Ceauşescu.

Catalan Fortresses Until 31 Mar. Looking at historical ways that Catalonia has defended itself.

Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona

(Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 306 41 00. Tue-Sun & public holidays 11am-8pm. 5-6 Jan 11am-3pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. €6. Reduced entry for pensioners and students on Wed (except public holidays): €4. Under 16s & unemployed: free.

Arissa. The shadow and the photographer, 1922-1936 Until Apr. More than 160 black and white photographs from all stages of the artist's career.

Goshima: Shadowland Until 12 Apr. Film installation projected in 3-D.

CosmoCaixa

(Isaac Newton, 26). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). T. 93 212 60 50. Tue-Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), 1 & 6 Jan. €4 (permanent and temporary exhibitions). Under 16s free. First Sun of month free.

► **Permanent exhibition**

Barcelona's science museum.

► **Mediterranean** No end date. The natural history of the Mediterranean region, and the conservation challenges it faces in the future.

► **Let's talk about drugs** No end date. The effects of drug consumption.

Cúpula del Centre Comercial Las Arenas

(Cúpula del Centre Comercial Las Arenas. Plaça d'Espanya, s/n). M: Espanya (L2-L3-FGC). Mon-Sun and public holidays, 10am-9pm. (Last admission 8pm). €12. Reduced: €7. Under 7s free. More info: www.humanbodies.eu

Human Bodies Until April. An exhilarating journey inside the human body, in which everything you see is real.W

El Born Centre Cultural

(Plaça Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I (L4) & Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 256 68 51. Tues-Sun and public holidays, 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. €6. Reduced: €4. Under 16s free. Sun 3pm-8pm free. First Sun every month free, 10am-8pm.

El Born Centre Cultural Under the cast iron superstructure of one of the city's most striking 19th century markets lies an urban archaeological site dating to the 1700s, unique in Europe.

Barcelona 1700. From stones to people. Permanent exhibition 18th-century society in Barcelona was dynamic and forward-looking, but marked by the wars that affected the city from 1691 to 1714.

Until it is done! The siege of 1714 No end date. Examining the siege of Barcelona that lasted for more than a year and ended with capitulation to Bourbon troops on September 11 1714.

Hiroshima-Nagasaki End date tbc.

Marking the 70th anniversary since the atom bomb was dropped on the two Japanese cities, and brought the Second World War to an end.

Espai VolART-Fundació Vila Casas

(Ausiàs March, 22). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 481 79 85. ue-Fri 5-8.30pm; Sat 11am-2pm, 5-8.30pm; Sun 11am-2pm. Closed Mon and public holidays & 1-6 Jan. €1. Reduced: 50¢.

Works with trees (and other vegetables)

22 Jan-26 Apr. **Jordi Fornàs / Joan Pedragosa** 22 Jan-26 Apr
Subirà-Puig, son of the trees 22 Jan-26 Apr

Filmoteca de Catalunya

(Pl. de Salvador Seguí, 1-9). M: Liceu (L3) & Paral·lel (L2-L3). T. 93 567 10 70. Tue-Sun, 4-9pm. €4. Reduced: €3.

The enchanted world of Jacques Demy

Until 31 Jan

Fundació Antoni Tàpies

(Aragò, 255). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 487 03 15. Tue-Sun 10am-7pm. Closed Mon and 1 & 6 Jan. €7. Students and pensioners, €5.60.

Antoni Tàpies. Collection # 9 Until 15 Feb. A new selection of Tàpies's works from the Foundation's collection.

Interval. Sound Actions Until 15 Feb. An exhibition/essay about listening contexts. See article on p. 44.

Fundació Francisco Godia

(Diputació, 250). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4) & Provença (FGC). T. 93 272 31 80. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-3pm. Closed Tue. €7. Reduced €4.

Permanent exhibition With works by Ramon Casas, Santiago Rusiñol, Joan Miró and Miquel Barceló.

El Greco. Rusiñol's gaze Until 2 Feb. Marking the 400th anniversary since the death of 'El Greco', and remembering the efforts by Catalan artist Santiago Rusiñol – who was heavily influenced by his predecessor –

The Arts

to re-evaluate the work of Doménico Theotocópuli.

Fundació Joan Miró

(Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 443 94 70. Oct-Jun: Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Thu 10am-9.30pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. €11. Temporary exhibition: €7. Espai 13: €2.50.

Permanent exhibition The largest public collection of Miró's work.

Barcelona, neutral zone Until 15 Feb. Examining the artistic landscape in Barcelona during World War One. See review p.45.

If we go on, we'll surely laugh / Óscar Perales Until 18 Jan. A collection of photographs of Tortell Poltrona, the Catalan clown who founded Clowns Without Borders. **Espai 13: With your own hands / Rita Ponce de León** Until 15 Mar. Series of pieces created by Ponce de León inspired by a person she knows and conversations they've had together.

Fundació Suñol

(Passeig de Gràcia, 98). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 93 496 10 32. Mon-Fri 11am-2pm & 4-8pm; Sat 4-8pm. Closed 12-18 Jan. Closed Sun and public holidays, and 5 Jan. €6. €4 Reduced: €2.

► **Josep Suñol Collection. 'On Paper'** Until 10 Jan. Works on paper by artists including Picasso, Dalí, Chillida, Tàpies and others.

► **Perfect Lovers. Art in the time of AIDS** Until 24 Jan. Works by artists who have explored the impact of AIDS.

► **Lúa Coderch / 'Or'** Until 10 Jan. Coderch is a Peruvian artist now living and working in Barcelona. This show features a video-installation about generating value and charisma.

Jardí Botànic

(Doctor Font i Quer, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 256 41 60. Oct-Mar: every day, 10am-6pm. Closed 1 Jan. €3.50. Reduced €1.70.

Jardí Botànic (MCNB) Plants from Mediterranean climate zones all over the world.

Salvadoriana. Barcelona's cabinet of curiosities

Until Feb 2016. Reconstruction of one of Barcelona's earliest natural history collections.

La Pedrera, sala d'exposicions

(Provença, 261-265). Provença (FGC). T. 93 214 25 80. Mon-Sun, 10am-8pm (last entry: 7.30pm). €3.

Lissitzky Until 18 Jan. Works by the painter, designer, architect and photographer.

La Virreina Centre de la Imatge

(La Rambla, 99). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 316 10 00. Tue-Sun & public holidays, 12am-8pm.

Ai Weiwei. On the Table Until 1 Feb. The career of the world's best-known and most influential Chinese dissident artist.

Objectiu BCN. Portraits of the city Until 25 Jan. Photographic study of Barcelona, the result of an educational project carried out in 12 civic centres.

MACBA. Museu d'Art Contemporani

(Plaça dels Àngels, 1). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Sant Antoni (L2). T. 93 412 08 10. Mon-Fri 11am-7.30pm; Sat 10am-9pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-3pm. Closed Tues (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. Whole museum ticket: €10 (reduced €8).

► **Art & Language: Uncompleted. The Philippe Méaille collection** Until 12 Apr. Conceptual works from of the Art & Language movement.

► **Collection 2014: The Immaterial Legacy** Until Jun. Changes and ruptures in art and society between the late '70s and early '80s.

► **The Passion according to Carol Rama** Until 22 Feb. Pieces by Italian artist Carol Rama.

► **Nonument (Convent dels Àngels)** Until 8 Feb. Social architecture and critical urban design.

► **Oskar Hansen. Open form** Until 6 Jan. The legacy of the Polish architect.

► **Sigalit Landau / Phoenician sand dance** Until 15 Feb. Video sculptural work by Landau reflecting on important global

events from the past two decades or so.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern

(Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 319 56 93. Tue-Sun, 10am-8pm. €7. Reduced €5.

► **21st century art.** New exhibition from the museum's collection with almost 300 paintings and 80 sculptures.

MIBA. Museu d'idees i Invents de Barcelona

(Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 332 79 30. Tue-Fri 10am-2pm, 4pm-7pm; Sat 11am-8pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2pm. 5 Jan, 10am-7pm. 6 Jan, 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 5 Jan. €8. Reduced €6.

► **Permanent exhibition** The fascinating world of creativity and inventing.

MUHBA Museu d'Història de Barcelona

(Pl. del Rei). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Tues-Sat 10-7pm; Sun 10am-8pm. Public holidays 10am-2pm. 6 Jan, 11am-2pm. Closed Mon & 1 Jan. €7. Reduced: €5. Under-16s free. Free admission Sun from 3pm.

► **Permanent exhibition** An archaeological tour of the Roman colony of Barcino, the origins of the city we know today.

► **Latvia. The fight for freedom** (Capella de Santa Àgata) Until 11 Jan. The exhibition presents a journey through the contemporary history of Latvia and its struggle for freedom after half a century of occupation.

MUHBA. Park Güell

(Olot, s/n. Casa de la Guarda). T. 93 256 21 22. 25 Oct - 23 Mar: daily, 8.30am-6pm. The Casa de la Guarda museum in Park Güell is part of the 'monumental area' of the park, and visits are covered by general conditions for admission. Access with ticket only. More information: www.parkguell.cat.

Permanent exhibition. The Casa de la Guarda, Park Güell

and modernista Barcelona.

MUHBA Refugi 307

(Nou de la Rambla, 169). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 256 21 22. Sun: guided visits by appointment only. 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm. Closed public holidays. €3.40.

► **MUHBA Refugi 307** 400 metres of underground passageways bear witness to the city's suffering during the Civil War.

MUHBA. Santa Caterina

(Pl. de Joan Capri). T. 93 256 21 22. Mon-Sat 10am-2pm Closed Sun and public holidays.

FREE Permanent exhibition.

Archaeological display among the foundations of the Santa Caterina market.

Museu Blau

(Pl. de Leonardo da Vinci, 4-5, Parc del Fòrum). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). T. 93 256 60 02. Tue-Fri 10am-7pm. Sat & Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. €6. Reduced: €2.70. Museum & Botanical Gardens €7. Reduced: €5

Planeta Vida. Permanent exhibition

The history of life and evolution on our planet.

Museu de Badalona

(Pl. Assemblea de Catalunya, 1). Badalona. M: Pep Ventura (L2). T. 93 384 17 50. Tue-Sat 10am-2pm, 5-8pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-2pm. Closed 1 & 6 Jan. €6.48. Reduced: €2.16.

Permanent exhibition Baetulo, a Roman City. Visit the underground remains of the Roman baths and the Decumanus Maximus.

Museu de Montserrat

(Abadia de Montserrat. 08199 Montserrat). Monistrol de Montserrat. T. 93 877 77 45. Mon-Sun 10am-5.30pm. €7. Reduced: €4.

Permanent Exhibition Paintings by El Greco, Caravaggio, Tiepolo, Monet, Sisley, Degas, Pissarro, Miró, Dalí and Picasso
Prints, by Joaquim Chancho Until 15 Mar. Original graphic

The Arts

works on paper.

Jana Sterback *Until 15 Mar.*

Almost anthropological analysis of the human condition from this multi-cultural contemporary Czech artist.

MEB: Museu de l'Eròtica

(La Rambla, 96). *M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 318 98 65. Mon-Sun 10am-12pm. 1 Jan, 12 noon-12 midnight. Adults €9. Reduced: €8*

► **Permanent exhibition** The history of eroticism.

Museu de la Moto de Barcelona

(Carrer de la Palla, 10). *T. 933 186 584. 15 Sep-14 Jun: Tue-Sat 10.30am-2.30pm & 3.30-7.30pm. Sun 10.30am-2.30pm. Closed Mon & 1 Jan.*

► **The history of the motorbike in Catalonia** 36 of the most representative models.

► **Bultaco, a legendary motorbike** *Until Nov.* The museum pays homage to one of the greatest Spanish motorbike manufacturers.

Museu de la Música

(L'Auditori. Lepant, 150). *M: Glòries (L1) & Marina (L1). T. 93 256 36 50. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. €5. Reduced: €3.50. Free admission Sun from 3pm.*

► **Permanent exhibition.** A journey through different periods in the history of music.

► **Phonos, 40 years of electronic music in Barcleona.** *Until 28 Jun.* The Phonos laboratory was created in 1974 and soon became a Spanish pioneer in electro music, through experimentation and composition.

Museu de la Xocolata

(Comerc, 36 - Antic Convent de Sant Agustí). *M: Arc de Triomf (L1). T. 93 268 78 78. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-3pm. Closed 25 & 26 Dec, 1 & 6 Jan. €5. Group ticket: €4.*

► **Permanent exhibition** The story of chocolate, from its origins to its arrival in Europe in the 16th century, with a special focus on Barcelona.

Museu del Disseny de Barcelona

(Edifici Disseny Hub Barcelona. Pl. de les Glòries Catalanes, 37-38). *M: Glòries (L1). T. 93 256 68 00. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. More information: www.museudeldisseny.cat*

From the world to the museum. Product design, cultural heritage

Permanent exhibition. Daily objects that are considered from a museum's perspective.

Dressing the body. Silhouettes and fashion (1550-2014)

Permanent exhibition. Clothing for women that examines way the gender have changed their shape through what they wear.

Extraordinary! Decorative and applied arts collections (3rd-20th century)

Pieces of art from across the centuries including ceramics, textiles, furniture and clocks.

Graphic design: from trade to profession

Permanent exhibition. Tracing the change during the second half of the 20th century that saw the professionalisation of graphic design.

Museu del Futbol Club Barcelona

(Aristides Maillol, s/n. Estadi FCB. Gates 7 or 9). *M: Les Corts (L3). T. 902 18 99 00. 2 Jan-5 Jan: 9.30am-7.30pm. 7 Jan-27 Mar: 10am-6.30pm. 6 Jan / Sun: 10am-2.30pm. Closed 1 Jan. €23. Children: €17. Under 6s and FCB members, free.*

► Camp Nou experience

Permanent exhibition that lets you discover 100 years of the club's history including a visit to the Camp Nou stadium.

Museu del Modernisme Català

(Balmes, 48). *M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 272 28 96. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. Closed 1 & 6 Jan. €10. Reduced: €7.*

► Permanent exhibition

350 works by 42 of the most important artists of the Catalan Modernisme movement.

Museu Egipci de Barcelona

(València, 284). *M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 488 01 88.*

Mon-Sun 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. Closed 1 & 6 Jan. €11. Reduced €8.

► **Permanent exhibition** Almost a thousand exhibits provide a glimpse into life in Ancient Egypt.

Museu Frederic Mares

(Plaça de Sant Iu, 5). *M: Liceu (L3) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 35 00. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun, public holidays 11am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. €4.20. Reduced: €2.40.*

Rafael Casanova. The popularisation of a monumental sculpture

Until 11 Jan. Comparison of two statues of the hero of the 1714 Barcelona siege. **A look back at 1700. Engravings from the Gelonch Viladegut collection** *Until 11 Jan.* Images of Catalonia from the start of the 18th century.

Museu Marítim de Barcelona

(Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). *M: Drassanes (L3). T. 93 342 99 20. Daily 10am-8pm. Closed 1 & 6 Jan. €5. Reduced: €4.*

Underwater cameras. The challenges of submarine photography (Naus de les Drassanes) *Until 12 Apr.* The historical evolution of underwater images.

Pirates of the Mediterranean *Until 29 Mar.* Looking at the history of local pirates down the ages. **Catalunya Ciutats** *Until 22 Feb.* **Barcelona World Race** *Until 6 Apr.* Exhibition focused on the biennial sailing regatta that sees teams compete to be the first to return to the starting port of Barcelona.

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

(Parc de Montjuïc). *M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 622 03 60. Oct-Apr: Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun, public holidays 10am-3pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. €12. Free admission Sat afternoon, from 3pm. Temporary exhibitions: ask at museum. Admission includes admission to the museum's roof terraces.*

► **Permanent exhibition** The world's most important collection of

Romanesque art and Catalan Modernisme.

► **New presentation of the 19th and 20th century collections** *No end date.* The MNAC expands its permanent collection to include works from the early 20th century. See article on p. 26

► **Pearl oyster-makers and oval-makers. Baroque, avant-garde and agrarian** *Until 11 Jan.*

► **Carles Casagemas. The artist beneath the myth** *Until 22 Feb.* Friend of Picasso who died at an early age, but still left behind an accomplished if small body of work.

Museu Olímpic i de l'Esport Joan Antoni Samaranch

(Av. de l'Estadi Olímpic, 60). *M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 292 53 79. Oct-Mar: Tues-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. €5.10. Students: €3.20. Under-7s and over-65s: free.*

► **Permanent exhibition** Experience sport and the Olympic spirit.

Museu Picasso

(Montcada, 15-23). *M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 30 00. Tue-Sun 9am-7pm; Thu 9am-9.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), 25 & 26 Dec, 1 & 6 Jan. €14 (combined ticket for museum + temporary exhibition). Collection only: €11. Temporary exhibition only: €6.50.*

Permanent exhibition More than 3,800 works from different periods in Picasso's life.

The David Douglas Duncan bequest (part 2) *Until 11 Jan.* War photographer and friend of Picasso, Duncan captured the Spanish artist on film, particularly during the late '50s.

Palau Robert

(Pg. de Gràcia, 107). *M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 93 238 80 91. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm. Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm.*

FREE Women. Afghanistan Sala 1. *Until 15 Feb.* Photographs documenting the reality of life for women in Afghanistan.

FREE Romanesque times. Art, life and awareness Sala 3. *Until 18 Jan.* Travel back 1,000 years to

The Arts

discover the lifestyles, technology and innovations of the time.

FREE Eugeni Xammar: The journalist who explained the world to us Sala 4. *Until 31 Jan.*

Examination of Catalan foreign correspondent in early and mid-20th century.

Pis-museu Casa Bloc

(C. d'Almirall Pròixida, 1-3-5). *M: Torras i Bages (L1). Guided visit by appt. in Catalan, Spanish and English: reservations must be made before Thu. Guided tours: Sat 11am & 12.30pm. 93 256 34 63. Information line: Tue-Fri 10am-1pm; Sat, Sun 3-5.30pm. More info: www.museudeldisseny.cat.*

Casa Bloc A symbol of rational social housing in Barcelona.

Reial Monestir de Santa Maria de Pedralbes

(Baixada del Monestir, 9). *M: Reina Elisenda (FGC). T. 93 256 34 34. Oct-Mar: Tues-Fri, 10am-2pm; Sat & Sun, 10am-5pm. Public holidays, 10am-2pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and 1 Jan. €4.40. Reduced: €3.10.*

Permanent exhibition Murals under the magnifying glass. Paintings from the Sant Miquel Chapel.

Theatre

El Molino

(Vilà i Vilà, 99). *M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Tel. 93 396 71 91. www.elmolinobcn.com. Ticket offices: Thur-Sat, 5-9pm. Tickets available via Ticketea, Atrapalo, Telentrada, Entradas.com and ticket offices.*

El Molino Show-Time Wed 6.30pm. Thu 9.30pm. Fri 6.30pm. Sat 8pm. €33.

The Chanclettes – #DPUTUCOOL Wed 9.30pm. Thu 6pm. Fri 10pm. Sat 11pm. Drag act celebrating 20th anniversary with new show.

Alvaro Carmona. Yo soy (I am) Sun 7.45pm. Stand up examining the mysteries of the self. In Spanish.

Godoy y yo Sun 6pm. New show from Uruguayan-Catalan comic, Godoy. Monologue in Spanish.

Teatre Gaudí Barcelona

(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 120). *M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5) & Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5) T. 93 603 51 52. www.teatregaudibarcelona.com. Ticket offices open one hour before performances start.*

T'estimo però no tant Wed-Thur 10pm. Fri-Sat 10pm. Sun 8pm. I love you – but not that much.' Fast-moving comedy about two housemates and their complicated love lives. In Catalan.

Somriures i llàgrimes Sun, 12 noon. *Until 11 Jan.* Adaptation of *The Sound of Music*, one of the world's best-loved musicals. In Catalan.

Teatre Lliure: Gràcia

(Montseny, 47). *M: Fontana (L3) & Joanic (L4). T. 93 238 76 25. www.teatrelivre.com. Ticket offices open Mon-Fri 5-8pm. Weekends and public holidays from 5pm*

Somni americà. 29-30 Jan, 8.30pm. 31 Jan, 9pm. Theatrical piece based on work by some of the great 20th-century US playwrights. In Catalan.

Teatre Lliure: Montjuïc

(Pg. Santa Madrona, 40-46). *M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC) & Poble Sec (L3). T. 93 289 27 70. www.teatrelivre.cat. Ticket offices open: Weekdays 9am-8pm (Plaça Margarida Xurgú) & 3 hours before performances start (Sala Fabià Puigserver).*

Pulmons Wed-Fri 9pm. Sat, 6pm & 9.30pm. Sun, 6.30pm. 7-18 Jan. €15-€29. Translated version of play by British playwright Duncan Macmillan about a couple thinking about having a baby. In Catalan.

El rei Lear 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29 & 30 Jan, 8.30pm. 17, 24 & 31 Jan, 9pm. 18 & 25 Jan, 6pm. Classic Shakespeare play.

Mi gran obra Wed-Fri 9pm. Sat, 6pm & 9.30pm. Sun, 6.30pm. 22-24 Jan, 6.30pm. 25 Jan, 4pm. A large-scale play, what director David Espinosa would do if money were no object, only created with tiny model actors and sets. In Spanish.

Teatre Nacional de Catalunya

(Pl. de les Arts, 1). *M: Glòries (L1). T. 93 306 57 00. www.tnc.cat. Ticket*

offices open Wed-Fri 3-7pm. Sat 3-8.30pm. Sun 3-5pm.

El somni d'una nit d'estiu, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 15 & 16 Jan, 8pm 10 & 17 Jan, 5pm & 9.30pm. Sun, 6pm. *Until 18 Jan.* €28. Reduced: €14 & €24. Shakespeare's magical comedy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Teatre Poliorama

(La Rambla, 115). *M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 317 75 99. www.teatrepoliorama.com. Ticket offices open Tue-Fri, from 5pm. Sat & Sun, from 4pm.*

Polònia, the musical Wed & Thu, 8.30pm. Fri, 9pm. Sat, 6.30pm & 9.30pm. Sun, 6.30pm. 11 Jan, 6pm. *Until 11 Jan.* €15-€39. *No end date.* Musical version of satirical Catalan TV show *Polònia*, poking fun at Spanish and Catalan public figures and politicians.

Teatre Tivoli

(Casp, 8). *M: Catalunya (L1, L3). Pg. de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 902 888 788. More info: sisteractemusical.com. Ticketmaster, Atrapalo, Grup Balanyà and Teatre Tivoli's own ticket offices (on days with a programmed performance, from 5pm).*

► Sister Act, the Divine musical

Tue, Wed & Thu, 8pm. Fri & Sat, 5.30pm & 9.30pm. Sun, 6pm. *Until May.* €27-€69.50. Comedy musical about singer Dolores forced to go into hiding in a convent. In Spanish.

Teatre Victòria

(Av. Paral·lel, 65-67). *M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 329 91 89. www.teatrevictoria.com. Book office: Wed-Fri, from 5pm. Sat & Sun, from 4pm until performance starts.*

Mar i Cel Thu 8.30pm. Fri 9.30pm. Sat 5.30 & 9.30pm. Sun 6pm. *No end date.* €29-€46. Dagoll Dagom's popular musical, a version of Angel Guimera's seafaring tale of corsairs and captives. In Catalan.

Dance

Mercat de les Flors

(Lleida, 59). *M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93*

329 91 89. www.mercatflors.cat. Ticket offices open one hour before performances start.

Nubes / Aracaladanza 6pm. 10, 11, 17 & 18 Jan. €8. *Clouds* takes its lead from the surrealism of Magritte, to create a succession of magic, dreamlike sequences.

Sessió 2 SECCIÓ IRREGULAR

7pm. 14, 15 & 16 Jan. €12. Visual artist Marc Vives looks to the mid-19th century and '60s for his input to this special performance.

Òlelés 8.30pm & Sun 6pm. 9-11 & 15-18 Jan. €16. Jordi Cortés and Damián Muñoz are the protagonists in this piece about two men, who were once like brothers, meeting up again after 40 years.

Constelaciones / Aracaladanza

24 Jan, 8.30pm; 25 Jan, 6pm. €12. Dance based on the colourful work of Joan Miró, with black, red, blue, green and yellow are the dominant tones.

2: Dialogue with Lucinda 24 Jan, 6pm; 25 Jan, noon. €8. Dancer Nicole Beutler presents a personal reinterpretation of the first pieces by Lucinda Childs.

What the body does not remember 8.30pm. 29 Jan-1 Feb. €25. Controversial choreography by Wim Vandekeybus and his Última Vez company returns to the Mercat after 25 years as part of a new world tour.

Gran Teatre del Liceu

(La Rambla, 51-59). *M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 485 99 13. www.liceubarcelona.cat.*

Swan Lake 1 Jan, 8pm. 4 Jan, 5pm & 9pm. 5 Jan, noon. €21-€99. Tchaikovsky's beautiful ballet performed by the Moscow National Ballet company.

Teatre Nacional de Catalunya

(Pl. de les Arts, 1). *M: Glòries (L1) & Monumental (L2). T. 93 306 57 00. www.tnc.cat. Ticket offices open: Wed-Fri 3pm-7pm. Sat 3pm-8.30pm. Sun 3pm-5pm.*

Foot-ball Wed-Sat, 8pm. Sun, 6pm. 22-31 Jan. €9.50-€19. Catalan choreographer brings moments from FC Barcelona's history to life through dance. In English and Catalan. See article on p. 45.

Food & Drink

Edited by
Ricard Martín
martin@timeout.cat
@RicardMartn

A coffee culture

Three quarters of Barcelona residents drink coffee on a daily basis. Poet and writer **David Castillo** relates his own history with the brew



I grew up with the smell of coffee in my nostrils. My mother opened a Granja Catalana, a typical local bar, at the start of the '60s in the neighbourhood of Vallcarca, on a road where there were two large factories belonging to the Bruguera publishing house, producer of the majority of the comics and paperbacks for Spain and South America. Before going to school, I would see printers, linotypists and office workers taking their turn at the bar alongside housewives, shopkeepers and a few taxi drivers

who were friends of my father, who at that time drove a Seat 1500 around the city. The aroma of coffee is inextricably linked in my mind with the croissants we had delivered from the old Fontanet in Plaça Lesseps, and the whole place is impregnated with the same sensations that the maracas set off in the Serge Gainsbourg song 'Couleur Café'. The secret to making an excellent cup of coffee was not to press the coffee too hard into the industrial coffee machine – made out of stainless

steel and with no concession to minimalism – but not too gently either because otherwise the drink would be watery and that's no way to win clients.

Barcelona has long been influenced by the consumption of coffee, a product that many consider a soft drug, which it surely is. Before the revolution that saw the arrival en masse of induction – or Italian, which are the biggest-sellers – cafetieres, everyone headed out to the nearest bar, or the work café, to get the day going with a strong cup of coffee. It was also typical to order an alcohol-infused 'carajillo' or 'cigaló', or a 'perfumat', which instead of cognac or rum was laced with a dash of anise liquor, preferably El Mono with its brand image featuring a monkey with the face of Darwin, and which inspired Malcolm Lowry in his famous novel, 'Under the Volcano'. A rise in the price of coffee could cause outrage. I still have an issue of satirical weekly 'L'Esquella de la Torratxa' in which criticism was aimed at coffee-makers for their attempts to increase the cost of a cup of coffee or get rid of the free shot of rum that they served at the time. Such references in print to the local coffee culture go back even further. In the recently published book 'Barcelona, City of Cafés (1880-1936)' (Viena Edicions and the Ajuntament of Barcelona), Paco Villar quotes Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen, who visited in 1862: 'In no other countries have I seen such elegant cafés as in Spain; even Paris is far outdone in terms of luxury and good taste.'

THE BOTTOM LINE Many locals head out for a 'second breakfast' around 11am, to see them through to lunchtime.

WHAT TO ORDER



TALLAT

This 'cut coffee' should neither be too milky nor imitate a macchiato. It's a slightly-bigger-than-normal espresso with a good slug of hot milk, and ice cream shop Delacrem has nailed it. Enric Granados, 15-17.



CIGALÓ

Surprisingly simple – a dash of rum, cognac, anise (OK, any liquor) in a hot coffee – this can hit the spot on a cold day. The team at the Bar Bodega Escala in Hostafrancs are experts in the art. Rector Triadó, 27.



SUAU

Fizzy coffee? We know what you're thinking, but this import from the south of Catalonia (Ribera d'Ebre) puts some fun into your cup. Try it at Casa Mariol, where they sell a bottled version. Rosselló, 442.



COPYRIGHT PHOTO

Chef by proxy

At Petit Comitè, Nandu Jubany is striving to make Catalan cuisine shine. By **Pau Arenós**

Nandu Jubany is the food world equivalent of a triathlete: he runs, he swims, he rides a bike. Or to put it less metaphorically, as well as being head honcho at Can Jubany in Calldetenes – one of the top ten restaurants in Catalonia – and creating the incredible feasts that have made him the King of the Wedding Breakfast, he shares his not inconsiderable know-how with hotels (the Majestic in Barcelona and the Hermitage in Andorra) and

other smaller establishments.

His relationship with the Majestic has an extra dimension: he also manages Petit Comitè, a restaurant whose mission statement remains unchanged since the days of its original boss Fermí Puig – to make Catalan cuisine shine, when all too often it's covered by a layer of dust. Not long ago, back in 2008, chef Ashley Palmer-Watts, then of The Fat Duck and today head of London

restaurant Dinner, described his only experience of Catalan cuisine from a visit to Barcelona. When he named the restaurant, his interviewer blushed bright red. It's a place that churns out third-rate fodder for tourists, about as Catalan as La Pedrera is Martian. But the issue remains valid: are there enough places championing the local culinary heritage, ones that can show a visitor what Catalan food is really about?

Nandu Jubany is part of the resistance: 'We do 100 percent Catalan cooking. We don't use yuzu or soya. I want to revive recipes from the past, but in a modern style.' He's not your average chef by proxy. He delegates to his head chefs but scrutinises their performance like Sylvester watching Tweety-pie in his cage. 'I'm not just in this for the money,' he says, to explain his commitment to hands-on involvement.

To the jubilant accompaniment of a 2011 Pas Curtei, a full-bodied Penedès red, I settled down to a tasting menu of 20 dishes. This is not food for the faint of heart or stomach. Nandu takes a classic dish and works his magic on it. There's barbecued pig's ear; truffle cannelloni (a masterpiece!); and a whole poularde chicken, roasted in a casserole. If Palmer-Watts ever returns to Barcelona, he should do a masters degree at Petit Comitè. He'd soon realise that what he ate seven years ago has nothing to do with the authentic food of this land.

PETIT COMITÈ
Ptge de la Concepció, 13
T. 93 550 06 20

The lovers

★★★★★

Raventós i Blanc de Nit 2011
DO Cava. Vol. 12%. €13.95

Awarded 95 points by the respected jury of 'Decanter' magazine for its 2010 vintage, this pale rosé cava is one of the most elegant of its kind, and promises to improve year after year. With just the right proportion of *monestrell*, the heart of this cava is made up of *macabeu*, *xarel·lo* and *parellada*, also native varieties. The renowned Raventós i Blanc cellar always works with eco-friendly viticulture techniques, and is gradually introducing biodynamic agriculture. Ideal for a romantic celebration: notes of dried roses and fennel, with a pungent acidity.

–Meritxell Falgueras

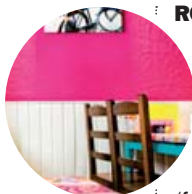


Perfect for surprising your partner and turning a grey day into a pink night.

GOOD FOOD ON A BUDGET

LA TAQUERÍA

Mexican street food done really well: phenomenal tacos and quesadillas made with care using quality cheddar. Weekends are reserved for more traditional fare such as *aguachiles* and chicken with *mole* sauce. The ambience is also a cut above, with modern Mexican décor.
Ptge de la Font, 5. T. 93 126 13 59

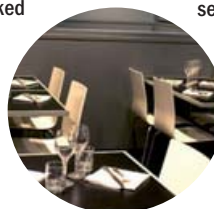


ROMERO

If you want to keep your spending down (and without having to resort to fried food), Venezuelan chef José Antonio Camacaro makes dishes that can be described with the adjectives 'fresh' and 'Mediterranean' (and with touches from his own country), but without the clichés. His cuisine is suitable for coeliacs and has vegetarian options.
Baileñ, 115. T. 93 457 06 40

LATA-BERNA

Juanjo Martínez, former executive chef at the Hotel Arts, has opened a space for creative tapas. Innovations like a smoked burrata cheese with rosemary and tomato and muesli compote sit next to classic tapas with original presentations.
Torrent de les Flors, 53.
T. 93 193 02 88



JUICY JONES

At first glance, this might look like a Rasta bar, perfect for enjoying a fresh fruit juice after a late-night rave. But in fact they serve good, varied meals at Juicy's: exotic salads and cold dishes, stews with Indian touches, as well as all kinds of smoothies, juices and delicious filled baguettes. They always use organic produce, and the menu is 100 percent vegan.
Hospital, 74. T. 93 285 15 68

TRUE TASTES OF ITALY Forget about 'la mamma' stereotypes

SARRIÀ

ZERO ZERO 39

Contemporary – and economic – take on Italian cooking where fish and seafood are the stars. *Laforja, 130.*

POBLE-SEC

LA TRÍFULA

Delicious representative of the best products from Piedmont, the heart of the world's truffle culture. *Elkano, 69.*

CUCINE MANDAROSSO (VERDAGUER I CALLÍS, 4) IS 'ITALIAN HIPSTER': GOOD QUALITY, CHEAP AND BOHEMIAN

EIXAMPLE DRET

EL OSO GOLOSO

Tiny and fun gay-friendly Italian with home-made dishes to be enjoyed on the great terrace. *Diagonal, 366.*

POBLE NOU

PIAZZA GRANDE

A tad more expensive, but the Roman pizza, fine and crispy, is worth it. *Juli González, 10.*

An enigma inside a mystery



IVAN GIMÉNEZ

What is happening with Albert Adrià's Enigma? In October 2013, the restless chef announced that he would be moving 41°, his Michelin-starred cocktail and snack bar, to a bigger venue; half would be the renewed 41°, offering quality cuisine to 16 diners, while the second space would be given over to the Enigma project, with a concept similar to the original 41°. But having crunched the numbers, he realised that to create a profitable enterprise he would need a staff of 60. And that simply wasn't possible.

'I hadn't realised that the name I chose would be so appropriate,' Adrià laughs, when asked about the future of Enigma. He plans to open a different version of Enigma in April: with food served from 5pm to midnight, at which point the cocktail bar will open. In the meantime, Adrià's not taking a break – he's just opened Mexican haute cuisine eatery Hoja Santa, with Mexican chef Paco Méndez.

HOJA SANTA

Av. Mistral, 54
T. 93 348 21 94

La Venta



MONICATEDELA/EL PERIODICO

★★★★

Pl. del Dr. Andreu, s/n (Sarrià)

T. 93 212 64 55. P: around €50

People talk a lot about traditional food; historical food, not so much. On November 11 last year, the guests at La Venta's 110th anniversary celebrations sat down to a special set menu, designed to mark the occasion (it's still available but only with advance booking). The owners of this unique institution, Lluís Vinyes and Josep Vilella, promise that some of the special dishes will also feature as part of the standard à la carte menu.

The menu commemorates more than a century of serving food to locals and tourists alike, and is prepared by a team that has worked together for 30 years. Some of their dishes and puddings remain engraved on the city's collective culinary memory, which, historically, has always had a markedly French bias.

Their Barcelona-style roast meat cannelloni – a dish that was imported by Italians, and caught on in Barcelona although not in the rest of Spain – are the traditional Catalan version, made from a hearty assortment of roast meats: chicken, pork, pheasant, beef and whatever else takes their fancy.

They follow this with *arròs a la gandula*, the 'lazy man's paella', in which all the seafood comes shelled and the fish boned, a Barcelona classic also known as *arròs Parellada*, after the lawyer

who always ordered it at the long-vanished Café Suís.

Reflecting the strong influence of French cuisine on the city's menus, the third course was monkfish a *l'Orly* with Nantua sauce, a dish that dates back to the early 20th century, accompanied on this occasion by the traditional seafood sauce of béchamel and crayfish butter. But the star turn was the *filet de bou en crosta* – beef Wellington – as once served at the now-defunct restaurant Reno. This dish earned more compliments than any other on the menu – perfectly prepared beef, wrapped in pastry and finished in the oven. It's one of the best beef dishes currently being served in Barcelona, far better than some of the oh-so-fashionable cuts from the Far East and their exorbitant prices. The beef Wellington is available if you order it in advance, and this dish alone justifies a visit to this establishment with the best possible view of Barcelona.

–Marcelo Aparicio

THE BILL

(For 1)

1 centennial menu €47.00

TOTAL (with VAT) €47.00

Time Out Barcelona food & drink critics review anonymously and pay their own bills.



FERRAN SENDRA

Cooking as a fine art

The doors open at Disfrutar, an ambitious project dreamt up by former head chefs from El Bulli. By **Pau Arenós**

They're artists. I already thought so and the procession of 27 small dishes that the lads cook and serve in just two hours does nothing to alter my impression. I mention the time factor because at a feast like the one I experience at Disfrutar, speed is of the essence. If it had lasted longer, if there had been any more time between one course and the next, my attention would have faltered and my appetite failed me. It happens a lot in big restaurants where the clocks run slow. But the pace at which they bring out cocktails, appetisers, starters, seafood, fish and meat – the sections into which their two menus, the tasting menu and the festival version, are divided – is timed to perfection.

The first 12 courses are so stunning that they cast a shadow over the 13th, marinated mackerel and cauliflower

tabbouleh. It's still a good dish, but it just can't compete with the tomato *polvoró*, a take on the traditional crumbly Spanish shortbreads; the spaghetti with bacon from Iberian hams; and the crispy egg yolk with wild mushroom jelly. These creations are simply in another league.

While Albert Adrià re-imagines his 41° project (see left), the

place to head for cooking in the best tradition of El Bulli, that pure combination of technique and feeling, is Disfrutar. Owners Oriol Castro, Eduard Xatruch and Mateu Casañas tested the concept with the Compartir restaurant in Cadaqués, on the Costa Brava. But Compartir – 'to share' in Catalan – is no Disfrutar – 'to enjoy'. Compartir is the little brother on a beach holiday. Disfrutar is grown up, works in a high-flying career (neurosurgery) and drives a sports car.

Everything the trio learned at El Bulli, where they were head chefs and inventors, has been applied here. I've watched Disfrutar gradually come together, from the time it was nothing but an empty space. To step inside now, and see the bar and ceiling covered in coloured tiles, to walk through the kitchen where 32 people are hard at work – that's right, this

incredibly technical art form needs a lot of gifted hands – to enter the great white chamber of the dining room with seating for 50: it's all a bit like reaching out to touch a mirage and finding that the shimmering image before you is real. 'It's the Cadaqués connection', according to my hosts, what with the whitewashed walls and restrained light of the seaside town.

The front-of-house service is excellent: waiter Toni Boada, whom I know from his time at Cafè 1907, finishes off several dishes at my table. In my notes, I have underlined the macaroni several times – made with ham jelly, the cooking process is completed before your eyes with a carbonara foam of egg yolk and grated parmesan. It's Macaroni 2.0 that awakens memories of a whole world of bygone pasta dishes.

Over the last year, Barcelona saw around 30 interesting-looking new restaurants open. That's an impressive figure: chefs are a brave breed. Particularly convincing launches were El BistrEau, the Hoja Santa/Niño Viejo double act, and the multi-space El Nacional. Although Disfrutar is still taking its first steps, it's clear that it's a restaurant destined to leave its mark on the city. And not on any metaphorical walk of fame, but in a much more profound place.

DISFRUTAR

Villarroel, 163 (Esquerra de l'Eixample). T. 93 348 68 96
P: €65 (taster menu, without wine) and €95 (festival menu, without wine)

WHAT ELSE?

Look out for

The bar – it has a set menu but there's no need to book.

Ideal for

Those planning to take up serious foodie-ism as a hobby.

Anathema to

Anyone who hated El Bulli, without having eaten there.

Bravas: More than just a potato

Chop potatoes. Fry. Serve with spicy sauce. Easy? Well, not everyone gets it right, so here's our guide to the city's best. By **Ricard Martín**

If you're no fan of spicy food, ask for the sauce on the side

ALL THE CLASSICS



BAR MARÍN

A family has run this place for the past 30 years and they're keeping their bravas recipe close to their chest. Pg Torras i Bages, 16.

SAUCY SUCCESS



EL BAR

The chef's special sauce includes minced chorizo sausage, tomato with roasted chilli and home-made mayo. Calàbria, 118.

REWRITING THE RULE BOOK



PAN&OLI

A mini serving of whipped bravas topped with a garlic, chilli and paprika sauce. What happens when inspiration strikes. Galileu, 30.



BAR TOMÁS

Best in town? Some say yay, others a big nay. We're not getting involved, but the old bar merits a look-see. Major de Sarrià, 49.



VIVANDA

These potatoes are roasted rather than fried and served with a bottle of spicy oil, so burn junkies can go all out. Major de Sarrià, 134.



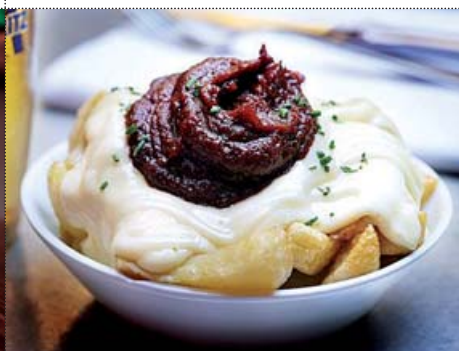
TAVERNA DEL CLINIC

Golden spud cylinders. Tasty red sauce. Topped with black sesame seeds, chives and Maldon sea salt. Rosselló, 155.



TAVERNA MEDITERRÀNIA

You don't get a historic venue, just straight-up delicious 'chef's' bravas in this quality tapas spot. Enric Granados, 58.



FÀBRICA MORITZ

Their Catalan-style bravas come topped with garlic mayonnaise (*alioli*) and spicy oil. Ronda Sant Antoni, 39.



LATA-BERNA

OK, they're not bravas, but these meat-wrapped balls (*patates d'Olot*) are a rich treat for the carnivores amongst us. Torrent de les Flors, 53.

We are not fond of
straight lines.
We prefer curves and
asymmetry.

"La Pedrera", Casa Milá — Barcelona

Wine in Moderation. 11,5°

Wine in Moderation.eu
Arti de Vivre



Codorníu Cuvée Barcelona.
Our Origin.



CODORNÍU

We are not
champagne.
We are
Codorníu.

Since 1551.

Catalan cuisine

7 portes

The eponymous Seven Doors open on to as many dining salons, all kitted out in elegant 19th-century décor. Long-aproned waiters bring regional dishes, including a stewy fish *zarzuela* with half a lobster, a different paella daily (shellfish, for example, or rabbit and snails), a wide array of fresh seafood, and heavier dishes such as herbed black-bean stew with pork sausage, and *orujo sorbet* to finish. Reservations are available only for certain tables; otherwise, get there early.

Passatge Isabel II, 14.
T. 93 319 30 33.
Barceloneta (L4)

Agut

Barcelona has a wealth of eateries that have improved over the years. Many are back on the map after having been forgotten, and some have the added bonus of having modernised without going over the top, to catch up with the demand for the quality products that their clients want. One such case is Agut.

Gignàs, 16. T. 93 315 17 09.
Drassanes (L3), Jaume I (L4)

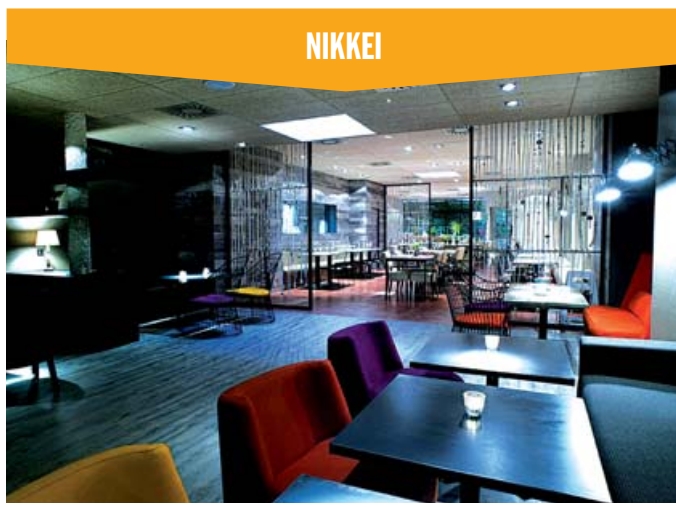
Bar Velódromo

This classic serves quality dishes from early morning until the wee hours. With Jordi Vilà (one of the city's masters in the kitchen) at the helm, they produce an endless succession of dishes and tapas that will teach you about Catalonia's gastronomic heritage. The full menu is available all day, so if you fancy some Iberian ham or *capipota* at 7am, or a croissant for a midnight snack, just say so.

Muntaner, 213. T. 93 430 60 22.
Hospital Clínic (L5)

Freixa Tradició

The return of Josep Maria Freixa to his family home, now that Ramón has gone off to enjoy fame in Madrid, has resulted in an authentic festival of traditional cuisine: pig's trotters with prunes and pine



Peruvian avant-garde

Gastón Acurio, the Ferran Adrià of South America and the driving force behind Peru's culinary revolution, has set up shop in Barcelona. Tanta is an excellent setting for introducing quality Peruvian cuisine to the city. Còrsega, 235. T. 93 667 43 72.

nuts, cuttlefish with artichokes, and perhaps the finest macaroni in Barcelona.
Sant Elies, 22. T. 93 209 75 59.
Sant Gervasi (FGC)

Gaig

It's currently all the rage for Barna's top chefs to set up more-affordable offshoots, and this one is under the guiding hand of Carles Gaig. The Fonda Gaig schtick, like that at Petit Comitè, is a return to grandmotherly Catalan basics, and the favourite dish here is the *canelons* – hearty, steaming tubes of pasta filled with shredded beef and topped with a fragrant béchamel. The various dining rooms manage to be both modern and wonderfully comfortable.
Còrsega, 200.
T. 93 453 20 20.
Hospital Clínic (L5)

Casa Lepoldo

Rosa Gil, the heart and soul of this lovely eatery, has carried out a veritable revolution here, and with excellent results. The cuisine has improved – which is really saying something. They

have two standout dishes: the *capipota* and the oxtail.
Sant Rafael, 24.
T. 93 441 30 14.
Paral·lel (L2,L3)

Wine bars

Bar Nostàlgic

Although located in the fashionable Sant Antoni market area, this bar does not mimic the Nordic aesthetic of most new local establishments. They serve a good selection of wines, particularly from Catalonia, plus they have good beer on tap and an impressive list of gins, malt whiskies and special rums. Gin and tonics, spritz... they make it all, including tapas to please even the most sybaritic palates.
Viladomat, 38. *Sant Antoni (L2)*

Can Cisa/Bar Brutal

This restored neighbourhood bar combines a classic bodega at the entrance with a wine bar at the back. They stock 300 wines, all from organic or bio-dynamic producers around the world, without chemicals or

additives, at accessible prices.
Princesa, 14. T. 93 319 98 81.
Jaume I (L4)

Casa Mariol

At the Casa Mariol Wine Bar, which is part of the bodega of the same name, you'll have the chance to get to know Suau, which is a version of a drink (a blend of soda and coffee) that was popular in the Ribera de l'Ebre region decades ago. You can also taste cask wines from the Ebre, accompanied by a nice *clotxa* (bread stuffed with herring, onions, tomatoes and garlic), and then top it all off with delicious cakes from Batea (a town also in the Ebre).

Rosselló, 442.
T. 93 436 76 28.
Sagrada Família (L2,L5)

Magatzem Escolà

It looks like a hoarder's paradise of wine bottles, but the shop's staff know exactly where everything is. You'll find a great variety of products, which is the result of a company that really knows its business and has spent more than half a century dedicated to wine distribution. Watch out for their wine tasting and cocktail events.

Comercial, 13.
T. 93 167 26 55.
Barceloneta (L4)

Monvínic

This is one of the largest information centres for wine not only in Europe but the world over. It's also a wine bar and restaurant. The latter – which focuses on traditional cuisine with a creative touch – is excellent, by the way.
Diputació, 249.
T. 93 272 61 87.
Universitat (L1,L2)

Seafood

Els pescadors

Josep Maulini and his wife have turned this into a lovely spot, combining antique furniture with modern décor, and retaining its air of a small-town bar. One delicious recommendation:

Food & Drink

grilled sardines in sauce, though they don't always have them. Rice dishes are a staple on the menu, and never disappoint.

Plaça Prim, 1.

T. 93 225 20 18. Poblenou (L4)

Rías de Galicia

This restaurant is the setting for the Iglesias family's wonderful relationship with the finest seafood. The menu includes Cantabrian lobster with garlic, John Dory and txangurro crab cannelloni. And when it's in season, they have the exquisite Bordeaux lamprey.

Lleida, 7. T. 93 423 45

70. Espanya (L1,L3,FGC)

Tabarca Langosta's Club

Tino Martínez, sailor and chef extraordinaire, has opened an unusual restaurant in Barcelona specialising in lobster: he has recovered the recipes of the lobster fishermen from the island of Tabarca, and he does so with a menu that includes lobster and rice cooked in the lobster stock. *Comte Borrell, 160. T. 661 074 704. Universitat (L1,L2)*

Pizza

La Bella Napoli

Is there anyone who doesn't know about these wonderful pizzas? Get yours in the authentic Italian atmosphere, with noisy, cheerful waiters. Book a table if you're going at the weekend.

Margarit, 14. T. 93 442 50 56.

Paral·lel (L2,L3)

La Bricciola

A real Italian trattoria with good pizzas and fantastic pasta. Features a good wine list and some great Italian grappa.

Oizinelles, 19. T. 93 432 19 33.

Mercat Nou (L1)

Murivecchi

This restaurant-trattoria is a direct relative of Un Posto al Sol on C/Urgell, and they both make really good pizzas.

Princesa, 59. T. 93 315 22 97.

Jaume I (L4)

Piazze d'Italia

A temple of southern Italian cuisine with an innovative and provocative twist. The pizza chef makes the dough spin and dance above his fingertips before transforming it into an outstanding crust. Dare to try their sweet Nutella pizza, which is completely over the top, but not to be missed.

Casanova, 94. T. 93 323 59 77.

Rocafort (L1)

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Tapas

Bar del Pla

Positioned somewhere between a French bistro and a tapas bar, the Bar del Pla serves tapas and small plates (divine pig's trotters with foie, superb *pa amb tomàquet*). Drinks include Mahou on tap (a fine beer, often ignored here because it's from Madrid), plus some good wines by the glass.

Montcada, 2.

T. 93 268 30 03.

Jaume I (L4)

El Jabali

This deli bar, which is reminiscent of Paral·lel in its heyday, is a great place to eat wonderful tapas – try the patatas bravas, the chicken salad and the cured sausage – while sipping on good wine. It's also a nice place to sit on the terrace and do some serious people-watching.

Ronda Sant Pau, 15.

T. 93 441 10 82.

Paral·lel (L2,L3)

Tapas 24

Another nu-trad tapas bar focusing on quality produce. Among the oxtail stews, fried prawns and cod croquettes, however, fans of chef Carles Abellan will also find playful snacks more in keeping with his signature style. The McFoie Burger is an exercise in fast-food heaven, as is the *bikini*, a small version of his take on the ham and cheese toastie.

Diputació, 269. T. 93 488 09 77.

Passeig de Gràcia (L2,L3,L4)

SE Asian

Bangkok Cafè

Squeezed into a matchbox-sized space, this tiny Thai restaurant serves delicious curries with a genuinely fiery kick – and cool Thai beers to quench the flames. With its few tables and high level of success, make sure you reserve (way) in advance.

Evarist Arnús, 65.

T. 93 339 32 69.

Plaça del Centre (L3)

Batik

A simple, unpretentious restaurant with lovely décor and a wide selection of Indonesian, Thai and Malaysian dishes. Try the €14 sampling menu and take a gastronomic tour.

València, 454.

T. 93 231 60 15.

Sagrada Família (L2,L5)

El Petit Bangkok

Authentic Thai specialities include nem sausages and a range of curries and wok dishes. Serious connoisseurs of Thai food consider this one of the best restaurants in the city.

Vallirana, 26. T. 616 185 196.

Padua (FGC)

Gado Gado

In the Gothic quarter, the long-established Betawi is a popular choice for Indonesian food, with fresh spices and dishes that balance sweetness and heat. Their other restaurant, in Gràcia, also serves Thai specialities. Try the eponymous gado gado salad, with a rich peanut sauce, or *bakmi goreng*, traditional stir-fried noodles with egg and vegetables, or their delicious curries.

Or, 21. T. 93 179 85 58.

Joanic (L4)

Mé

Delicious Vietnamese and Thai specialities fused with other world cuisines, as in their mackerel ceviche with daikon radish and sprouts. Fantastic beef tartare with sweet basil and matchstick fries.

París, 162. T. 93 419 49 33.

Diagonal (L3,L5) & Provença (FGC)

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Clubs

Edited by
Ricard Martín
martin@timeout.cat
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MORE NITSA NIGHTS



BMC HOMIELAND TOUR

After stops in Milan, New York and Mexico, Brodinski brings his BMC Homeland Tour to Barcelona. Gener8ion and Sam Tiba are the homies sharing the Apolo stage. (Friday 10)



VITALIC LIVE!

The French electronic music composer, who brought out his first 12" at the tender age of 20 but really made his name with 2005's 'OK Cowboy', treats us to a live set. (Friday 28)



TOKEN PRESENTS APHELION

Surgeon, Inigo Kennedy and Ctrl are amongst the Token artists showcasing the label's latest compilation, part of an 11-date European tour. (Sat 31)

The techno star who wasn't

Anders Trentemøller looked set to make it big as a dance DJ – but one day decided to go in a different direction. By **Javier Blánquez**

It's been a while since Anders Trentemøller tired of dance music. In his early days as a producer – he brought out his first EP in 2003, but he's been in the limelight for ten years thanks to the maxi 'Beta Boy' – his sound was at the forefront of contemporary techno: elastic, progressive, embellished with melodies, comparable to James Holden or Nathan Fake, it was an excellent cure for the boredom that the minimalism of the time could induce. Every vinyl and remix released with the name Trentemøller was manna for DJs on the lookout for extraordinary new material. He seemed set to stun the global dance scene.

But the Danish producer quickly burst his own bubble. The truth was, he said, that melancholic pop and soundtracks were more his thing. An admirer of David Lynch, he wanted to achieve the turbulent, trembling, almost transparent

sound, which whispers during the darkest moments of the oeuvre from the 'Twin Peaks' director. Following an impeccable debut album, 'The Last Resort' (2006), a classic of progressive minimalism, his career took its U-turn and he's

“**He admitted that melancholic pop and soundtracks were more his thing.**

never returned to producing easy-access music for DJs. Whenever he can, he plays live in public, at festivals and with a band. For many techno fans, his 'desertion' was a big loss, leaving a space no one else has been able to fill with the same quality or emotion. On the

plus side, we've gained a musician capable of connecting the sensibilities of the indie public and the clubber, using sounds from the border between the two worlds: dark pop, half-goth, and dub. What's more, his withdrawal hasn't been complete: from time to time, Trentemøller plays at clubs, knowing he has a debt with a public who still worship him and miss his celestial house harmonies.

His sessions have the feel of a live performance – there are machines on stage, keyboards and controllers – with clubber material to keep up the tone, tempo and energy, and enough bass drums, joy and energy to make you whistle, raise your arms and leave the club in a sweaty glow. To paraphrase the man himself: 'I won't let you down'.

ANDERS TRENTEMØLLER
Nitsa Club@ Sala Apolo. January 30, 12.30am. www.sala-apolo.com

FROM ANOTHER PLANET



CHRISTIAN BERTRAND

Gerard Way

Leaving behind the hard emo sounds of his former band My Chemical Romance, with his debut solo album, Way embraces glam rock and Britpop. And he has a new haircut to boot! See him perform from 'Hesitant Alien' at Sala Apolo. *Friday 16, 8pm.*

Sessions

Nasty Mondays

Tattoos, sweat and rock'n'roll: the city's wildest Monday-night party. Don't miss it.

Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Mon, midnight. €15 (on the door). €14 (advance).

Crappy Tuesdays

Indie, electro pop, post punk and rock provide the soundtrack to this high-energy club night.

Sala Apolo (details above). Tue, midnight. €14 (on the door). €13 (advance), includes one drink.

Raw Rebels

Dance to the best beats of the '40s, '50s and '60s, with local and international DJs. In the heart of the city.

Sidecar Factory Club (Pl. Reial, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Tue, 12.30am. €5. Price includes one drink.

Canibal Sound System

Live acts, DJs and roots music make for an underground vibe at this long-running club night.

Sala Apolo (details above).

Wed, 12.30am. €12 (on the door). €9 (advance). Price includes one drink.

Plástico

Led by Jordi Gelpi and Josep Xortó and with regular guest appearances, this is one of the city's top mid-week night spots.

Sidecar Factory Club (details above). Wed, 12.30am. €7 including one drink

Cupcake

Take a trip down memory lane without forgetting to live in the moment, with hits from the '70s right up to the present day.

Sala Apolo (details above). Thu, 12.30am. €10 (on the door). €8 (advance). Price includes one drink.

Happy Techno

The beat will get you at these weekend parties dedicated to new-age and old-school dance music, brought to you by local and international DJs.

City Hall (Rambla Catalunya, 2-4). Sat, 12.30am. €12-€18 depending what time you arrive and if you sign up on guest list. Price includes one drink.

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Make room up at the bar

Laia, aka 'Big Mama', has turned a hipster bar into one of the friendliest gay hangouts in BCN. By **Cristina Carbonell**



Whoever you are – and even if you don't know exactly who that is yet – you'll feel right at home at La Federica. In fact, you'll want to bring your family and all your friends. For Laia, who's been running the bar for a year, this kind of hospitality comes naturally. Her mother would cook up a big pot of beans that they'd share with the builders who were working on their house. And this welcoming energy means La Federica has 'a lot of life at the bar'. Trans-, homo-, hetero- or

asexual, accompanied or solo, everyone makes as much room as they can to share the bar.

Before she took over the bar, Laia made puddings for the previous owners. In fact, many people know her as Big Mama, from back when she made her living baking cakes. 'The logo on my business cards was an amply proportioned lady called Big Mama, and people would remember me – they saw a round person and knew who I was; it never failed.'

Cakes are her forte, but she's also a great cook. Her pumpkin croquettes are a perfect example. After studying Chinese medicine and radiology, she did the catering for a car-racing team. For three years she fed 200 diners per sitting.

But her good taste and kitchen skills go back even further. Laia learned to cook when she was 14, when she went to visit her dad, during the 10 years he lived abroad. 'My grandmas taught me how to cook, and when I went to see him I'd make all the classics: cannelloni and roasts.'

“

Trans-, homo-hetero- or asexual, at La Federica, everyone shares the bar

One of Laia's grandmothers had a farm, and sold her produce at the market in Gràcia; the other had a charcuterie in Santa Caterina market. Cooking is in Laia's blood, but she's most grateful to them for teaching her 'dedication, perseverance and most of all, never to give up'. This is what Laia tells herself every day.

She knows she's only passing through at La Federica, that before summer she'll be winding up her residency and moving on somewhere else, and she doesn't know where. But wherever she goes, the great flavours and relaxed atmosphere will be going with her.

LA FEDERICA
Salvà, 3 (Poble-sec)
93 600 59 01

THIS MONTH



CINEMA AT ZUMZEIG

The third Thursday of each month, LGBT collective Open screens a queer film at Zumzeit in Sants. Zumzeit's also a bistro, perfect for a tippie and a nibble before or after the show. (Béjar, 53)



SOMOSLA

This session brings together lesbians and gays who want to have fun with a great soundtrack – they play a wide range to get you moving. This month it's on Friday 16 at La [2] de Apolo. (Nou de la Rambla, 111)



CHOCOLATE CON CHURROS

At the city's top LGBT monthly party, the Churros gang liven up a Sunday afternoon (and on into the wee hours) with snacks, dressing-up prizes and lots of bad behaviour at Apolo. (Nou de la Rambla, 113)

Getaways



1. La Corrida, Puig-Reig
2. El Cau de Bruixes, Centelles
3. Cava Jazz, Font Rubí
4. La Festa de Sant Sebastià, Matadepera

Culture outside the city

Across Catalonia this month, festivities old and new are taking place. **Nick Chapman** selects some of the best

1. La Corrida

In Spain, Saint Anthony the Abbot is the patron saint of domestic animals, especially hoofed ones, and of muleteers, carters and coachmen. Puig-Reig holds a horse fair the weekend after his feast day, with a procession of decorated carts and carriages to celebrate these traditional professions. But the real excitement comes later: 'La Corrida' means 'the race', and on a track outside town, riders on horses, ponies, mules and donkeys compete to grab coloured ribbons dangled over the course.

www.puig-reig.cat
Jan 17-18

2. El Cau de Bruixes

'Centelles, land of witches', runs an old Catalan saying, and whether the town's reputation for witchcraft has any basis in fact, the Cau de Bruixes – or 'Witches' Den' – embraces the idea wholeheartedly. Taking place a week before the town's carnival celebrations, it's a festival that fills the streets of the town with medieval music and theatre, while the 'Magic Market' has stalls selling all kinds of esoteric goods, from herbs and natural remedies to amulets.

www.centelles.cat/caudebruixes
Jan 31

3. Cava Jazz

Font Rubí nestles in the hills of the Alt Penedès, surrounded by vineyards and cava wineries. When another year's vintage has been laid down, the town puts locally produced fizz together with homegrown jazz in the Cava Jazz festival, now entering its 17th year. Each concert is sponsored by a cava producer, and the price of the ticket includes a complimentary glass of cava and nibbles. The Gramophones Allstars play on Saturday, January 24, and the festival continues until May.

www.font-rubi.org
Jan 24

4. La Festa de Sant Sebastià

Matadepera's feast of Saint Sebastian begins when a pine tree is felled in the nearby forest then stripped of branches and bark. A crowd of volunteers carry it shoulder high into the town, where it's hauled upright and firmly anchored, to tower over the main square. The following weekend, it becomes the centrepiece of the festivities, with circle dances and songs. Climbers compete to shin up the bare trunk and touch a leg of ham hung from the very top – the quickest time takes the prize.

www.matadepera.cat
Jan 10-25



www.barcelonaesmoltmes.cat

Barcelona Top Ten Urban fauna

1

Peregrine falcons at the Sagrada Família

In Catalan, the name of these birds translates as 'pilgrim falcons' and maybe that's why, a decade ago, they chose the most emblematic religious building in the city for nesting. In 2014 four chicks were born, and now around 50 of these birds inhabit the city.

2

Eixample cockroaches

Not as welcome as the falcons, especially if you surprise one at night while admiring the local modernista façades. They are enormous and disgusting, but on the plus side, they're a pretty dark-red colour that coordinates perfectly with the buildings' ornamentation.

3

Hospital de Sant Pau cats

When the historic building by Domenech i Montaner functioned as an actual hospital, a colony of cats lived there, looked after by health workers and volunteers. The felines provided company to patients and distraction while waiting to see a doctor.

4

Tiger mosquitos

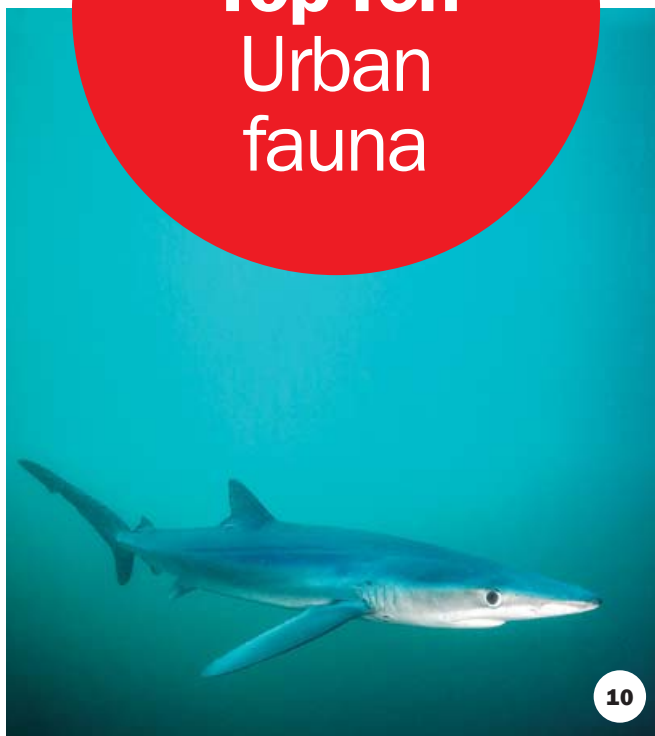
It's said that they arrived via the tyre of a truck in the industrial heartland of Catalonia.

Infiltration into Barcelona was inevitable. They are silent, the sods, and next to impossible to get rid of now – we should have done it back when they started circling overhead. Lucky that they hate citronella.

5

Tous bears

This plague is even more difficult to eradicate than the tiger mosquito, because you can always count on some women being prepared to wear the bear pendant, ear-rings, bracelet,



10



6

ring, etc. And sometimes the whole lot together. Created by Rosa Tous in 1985, you'll find this teddy at any time of the day or night on the city streets.

6

Brazilian parrots

In the beginning they were two, but non-stop procreation means these bright green birds have got rid of the sparrows that Barcelona's 30-somethings remember from their youth. Thanks to the parrots' screeches, if you wander down



5

Av. Diagonal with your eyes closed, you could almost imagine you're in a jungle.

7

'Quissoflautes'

This is the local equivalent of a crusty or a dirty street punk (the name combines the words for 'puppy' and 'recorder'). They are often accompanied by dogs that seem as hypnotised and sleepy as the rats of Hamelin. Some people say the animals are drugged. What on earth is the world coming to?

8

Snowflake

It's 11 years now that Barcelona has been in mourning for Snowflake, its much-loved albino gorilla. Perhaps we should be grateful that the primate's genes didn't play ball and gift us a snow-white descendant that would have made the Zoo even more crowded than it already is.

9

Dancing goat

A while back, on Passeig Sant Joan, you could see a goat dancing on top of a chair, at the instigation of a group of gypsies. One day, the lot disappeared. Rumour has it the poor creature ended up in the pot, before it could be offered respite from its exertions by a new law on animal protection.

10

Blue sharks on the coast

Last summer, there were reports of blue sharks close to the beaches of Maresme. None were seen in Barcelona, whether due to the pollution or because the sheer quantity of swimmers meant that no one could actually spot the sharks. This is one of the smaller type of shark, but still, you don't really want to meet one while doing the breaststroke.

By Ada Castells

A woman with her hair in a high ponytail, wearing a vibrant red ensemble consisting of a jacket and trousers, is walking from left to right. She is carrying a large, light-colored tote bag and wearing red flat shoes. The background is a textured pink brick wall. In the upper left corner, several large pink balloons are visible. The overall mood is bright and cheerful.

kipling

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