
VisitBarcelona

#DontLetPlansGo

100
Things to do
in Barcelona
in 2018



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01

Lady Gaga

Jan 14, 16

The most spectacular diva returns

Lady Gaga returns to Barcelona for two consecutive performances to present her latest studio album "Joanne". GAGA made number one of the Billboard list with this album, the first female artist to achieve this four consecutive times in this decade. The latest pop star has already had such resounding successes as "Telephone" or "Alejandro". A successor to stars like Madonna or Kylie Minogue, the diva from New York, hasn't stopped reaping success since 2006, when she released the amazing "Just Dance". Today we can now speak of one of the greatest musical phenomena of all times. Lady GAGA is here to present her syncopated rhythms, a mixture of electro and pop, with stunning staging: the show is ready and not only her costumes.

Palau Sant Jordi:
livenation.es



02

Guitar BCN 2018

Jan 27-July 16

The festival for all tastes

This may essentially be a festival based on only one instrument, but the sounds, performers and styles on the programme could scarcely be more wide-ranging. The skill of the organisers, leading Spanish music promoters The Project, in bringing together Catalan, Spanish, European and international performers from a variety of musical genres is quite something. Flamenco to pop, classic Cuban to contemporary

Catalan, acoustic and electric, emerging and veteran acts – all this and more fills the many city venues that take part in Guitar BCN.

The 2018 edition of this eclectic festival features a programme as diverse and enticing as ever. The inaugural concert sees Jorge Drexler (27/1) perform at Gran Teatre del Liceu. Bob Dylan (30 and 31/03) is on stage at the same venue while Ringo Starr (26/6) plays at Palau Sant Jordi. Also on the bill are the mythical Deacon Blue (1/2) at sala Barts, India Martinez (17/2) at Sant Jordi Club, and other acts such as Rozalén (22/2), Rosario (2/3), M. Arnal i M. Bagés (3/3), David Otero (16/3), G3 (7/04), Asaf Avidan (26/04), Joan Queralt & The Seasicks (4/05), Pau Vallvé (10/05), Juanito Makandé (25/05) and many more.

guitarbcn.com

03

Gustavo Dudamel and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra

Jan 14

Monumentality at its finest

Gustavo Dudamel, from Venezuela, is conducting the

Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra at the emblematic New Year's Concert, broadcast in over 90 countries. He is now back at the Auditori to perform an extraordinary concert alongside the world-famous orchestra. An unforgettable evening, to enjoy the Adagio from Symphony no. 10 by Mahler and the Symphonie Fantastique by Berlioz.

L'Auditori:
auditori.cat



04

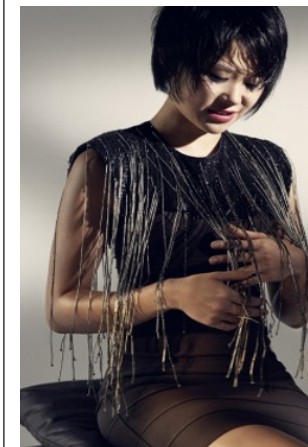
Yuja Wang & Chamber Orchestra of Europe (20/1)

Jan 20

An unmissable event

Yuja Wang is one of the leading pianists of today. She is now back in Barcelona to play her piano along with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the cultural ambassador of the European Union. The repertoire includes Chopin's Concerto no. 2 and the overture of A Midsummer's Night Dream by Mendelssohn.

L'Auditori:
auditori.cat



05

Rosemarie Castoro. Focusing on infinity

Until April 15

The minimalist artist of interrelation

The Macba presents the first institutional retrospective of Rosemarie Castoro, (1939-2015). The exhibition focuses on the period from 1964 to 1979. Castoro was a multidisciplinary artist, who formed part of the New York vanguard, with wide artistic experience that included abstract painting, conceptual art, street and studio performance actions, sculpture, installations and land art. "Rosemarie Castoro. Focusing on infinity" also analyzes her activist aspect. It examines how her interest for dance is shown in her way of reading a space and in the performance photographs of her works, which she describes as "stages and containers for the body".

MACBA:
macba.cat

06

Barcelona Obertura Classic & Lyric. Symphonic Festival 2018

Feb 11-24

Barcelona adores classical music

Barcelona's cultural scene includes three classical music venues: the modernista Palau de la Música Catalana, the historic Liceu opera house and the modern Auditori. Barcelona Obertura Classic and Lyric is a collaboration created in 2015 to promote a series of events in these three iconic places. It's an initiative that puts the rich variety of music played in Barcelona on the world musical scene as one the the cities that adores

classical music. In February, a Symphonic Festival has been created with the following programme: Barcelona Symphony Orchestra at L'Auditori (11/2); Josep-Ramon Olivé & Francisco Poyato at the same venue later in the day (11/2); the Palau de la Música Catalana plays host to the Münchner Philharmoniker (12/2); the Marinsky Orchestra performs at L'Auditori (13/2); Gounod's Roméo et Juliette is at the Gran Teatre del Liceu (14/2); violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja and pianist Polina Leschenko on stage at L'Auditori (15/2); another recital from the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra at L'Auditori (23/2); and finally soprano Diana Damrau, tenor Jonas Kaufmann and pianist Helmut Deutsch perform together at the Palau de la Música Catalana (24/2).

barcelonaobertura.com



07

Llum BCN 2018

Feb 16-18

Barcelona shines when night falls

Running since 2012, Llum BCN is a festival of light that aims to counter the darkness of winter with the splendour of light (llum means 'light' in Catalan) reflected on some of the city's most beautiful buildings and spaces. This year the Llum BCN festival has not only doubled in size, it's also moved to a new home: Poblenou, a district currently immersed in an intense process of transformation. Over a dozen well-known Spanish and

international artists have created installations that bring transformation by using light in six of the most emblematic locations in Poblenou; this year's guest artist is the Canadian Monique Saboya, who brings a selection of immersive art projects. At the same time, to demonstrate the city's emergent creativity and talent, students from 14 Architecture, Art and Design schools have prepared special artworks based on the creative use of illumination. Both series can be seen by following an easy-to-walk itinerary around the district.

Poblenou:
lameva.barcelona.cat



08

SÂLMON< Festival 2018

Feb 8-25

The dance artists of today

Lovers of the most daring, innovative, dynamic and even off-the-wall performing arts can't afford to miss this festival. The sixth edition of SÂLMON<, headed by the Mercat dels Flors, Barcelona's leading dance venue, features a packed two-week programme showcasing a range of formats by both local and international creatives



who work under the system of artistic residencies. It is very much an organic event, each year building on and evolving from the performances and creativity of previous festivals; it also adapts to what is happening in the world at large and the way that the use of public platforms, such as the stage, changes. This year the festival offers performances by artists such as Amalia Fernández, Anna Borralho and Joao Galante, Associació Blink Flash, Javier Vaquero and Streetjazz, among many others, who come together to bring us their imaginary worlds, desires, ideas and experiences.

Mercat de les Flors:
mercatflors.cat
salmon-dance.com

09

Brassaï. Paris' Eye

Feb 19-May 13

The photographer specialized in Paris

Gyula Halász (1899 - 1984) from Hungary, better known as Brassai, his pseudonym, was one of the photographers who undoubtedly redefined the potential of photography during the 20th century, as an artistic medium. Brassai focused particularly on the city of Paris, the core concept of some of the most iconic and significant images. His powerful and artistic eye captured vital moments of the everyday life of the city, especially its nighttime appearance and vitality. We now have the chance to observe his work in an exhibition organized by Fundació MAPFRE and curated by Peter Galassi.

Fundació Mapfre:
fundacionmapfre.org

© Estate Brassai Succession, Paris



10

Beehave

Feb 16-May 20

Bees in danger of extinction

Beehave is an exhibition project that reflects contemporary artists' growing interest in the survival crisis affecting honey bees and many other insect pollinators.

The exhibition at the Fundació Joan Miró will include a series of newly-produced installations that will invite visitors to approach a variety of aspects of the cognitive world of bees while providing them with

transformative immersive experiences. The show will also include a room with pieces by the artists responsible for the urban interventions.

From March 15th to June 17th, Beehave will also unfold throughout Barcelona with actions aimed at raising citizen awareness concerning the important role that honey bees play in preserving biodiversity, on which the endangered balance of our planet's ecosystems depends.

Fundació Miró:
fmirobcn.org

11

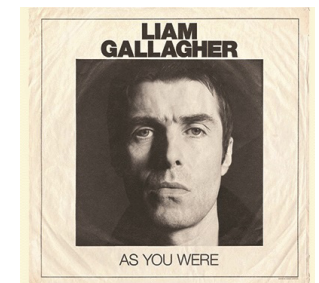
Liam Gallagher

Feb 24

Icon of britpop

In the nineties, the band of Liam and Noel Gallagher (Oasis) became one of the leading bands of the britpop movement. Their original style of singing and their stage presence undoubtedly led to Liam Gallagher to become one of the most well-known artists of British music. Oasis split up in 2009 and Liam Gallagher formed the band Beady Eye, which disappeared in 2014. In 2016, Liam started his solo career, releasing his first album "As You Were" in 2017. He is now in Barcelona to present it live, and he will surely run through some of the great tracks of Oasis.

Sala Razzmatazz:
salarazzmatazz.com





12

After the End of the World

Until Apr 29

The future of the Earth

"After the End of the World" is an exhibition about the planet of 2017, irreversibly transformed into an Anthropocene planet after two centuries of human intervention in natural systems. But it is also an exhibition about how we will reach the world of the latter half of the 21st century, and about our

society's responsibility to the generations who will be born and grow up in it. The project brings together voices from the various disciplines of creation and thought; together, artists, filmmakers, novelists, playwrights, architects, designers and scientists will imagine scenes, stories and escape routes to the different possible worlds that we can build, according to the decisions we make in the coming years—decisions in which we are all much more than mere spectators.

CCCB:
cccb.org

13

Sir John Eliot Gardiner & London Symphony Orchestra

March 6

One of the classical music events

One of the classical music events not to be missed this year is this concert by Sir John Eliot Gardiner conducting the London Symphony Orchestra. He will delight us with a program that includes Schumann and Berlioz. According to Gardiner, Berlioz is one of his personal refuges. The conductor also feels at home at the modernist temple of the Palau de la Música.

Palau de la Música Catalana:
palaumusica.cat



14

Andrea Chénier by Giordano

March 9-28

This stormy love story, set in the upheaval of the French Revolution, is a four-act opera by Umberto Giordano, which opened in La Scala of Milan in 1896. It is characterized by its great vocal and choral effectiveness. On this occasion the main role is shared between three tenors: the acclaimed German artist,

Jonas Kaufman, who made his debut at the Liceu with a staged opera; Antonello Palombi and Jorge de León. Sondra Radvanovsky takes on the female role and the main cast ends with the baritone, Carlos Álvarez. For the setting, the stage director David McVicar uses the sets by Robert Jones and costumes by Jenny Tiramani. Andrea Chénier forms part of the Barcelona Obertura Spring Festival.

Gran Teatre del Liceu:
liceubarcelona.cat





15

Zurich Marató de Barcelona, 40th anniversary

March 11

40th anniversary of one of Europe's most popular marathons

As running becomes increasingly popular with millions of people around the world, the numbers coming to take part in Barcelona's marathon grows each year. It's now the fourth largest marathon in Europe after Berlin, London and Paris, with over 17,000 people signing up. Doubtless part of the appeal is

the idea of running a 42.2km route around one of the continent's most aesthetically pleasing cities. The number of globally recognised landmarks passed by participants, such as the Sagrada Família and Camp Nou, as well as noteworthy "vistas" including the seafront, historic port and Ciutadella Park, make this a one-of-a-kind sporting event.

But that's not all. The Barcelona marathon is much more, with entertainment for the crowds that includes concerts, traditional Catalan culture and different local drumming groups, a four-kilometre Breakfast Run the day before the race, a Kids Race, and Expo Sports, a fair focused on outdoor sports that has numerous stands from major sporting companies.

zurichmaratobarcelona.es

16

Barcelona Obertura Classic & Lyric – Spring Festival

March 11-15

The Barcelona Obertura Classic & Lyric reaches its peak

The Barcelona Obertura Classic & Lyric reaches its peak to offer with even greater exuberance, a selection of music and performances, to put the rich variety of music played in Barcelona on the international map, and place it on the world musical scene, as one of the cities that adores classical music. The three classical music theaters of the city (the modernist Palau de la Música Catalana, the Liceu -historic opera theater- and the modern Auditori) is holding the concerts of this festival. The Barcelona Symphony Orchestra at L'Auditori [11/3]; the Philharmonia Orchestra [12/3] at the same venue later in the day; Rafal Blechacz [13/3] and Mark Padmore [14/3] at Palau de la Música Catalana and finally the opera Giordano with Andrea Chénier at Gran Teatre del Liceu [9-28/3]

barcelonaobertura.com

17

Bach's Passion according to Saint Mark

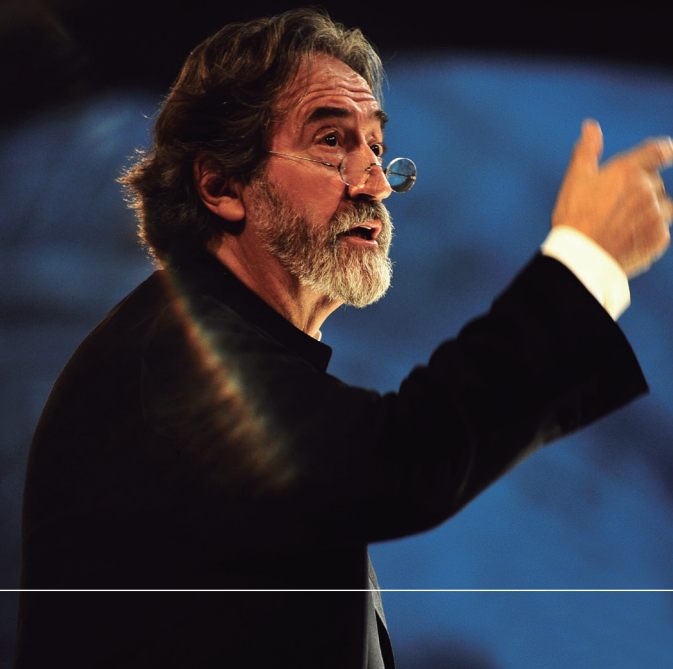
March 22

New interpretation of classic work

Jordi Savall is one of Catalonia's leading contemporary conductors and here he heads up a new interpretation of J.S. Bach's 'Passion according to Saint Mark' with El Concert des Nations and La Capella Reial de Catalunya (two vocal and instrumental ensembles formed by Savall himself), as well as the youth choir of

Amics de la Unió. While the original music of Bach has unfortunately been lost, the fact that a lot of it was either recycled from other works or used in latter compositions, plus the existence of the libretto by Picander, has led since the 1960s to a number of different projects to try and reconstruct it. Bach's Passion according to Saint Mark was first performed on Good Friday in 1731, making it a fitting piece to be played at the start of Easter week in Barcelona's impressive Auditori concert venue.

L'Auditori:
auditori.cat



18

Bob Dylan

March 30, 31

Music wouldn't be the same without him

What more can be said of a man who changed the world of popular music for ever. He exploded onto the scene 50 years ago with songs that have become anthems, such as "Blowin' in the Wind", "Masters of War" and "The Times They are a-Changin'". Since then he has released 38 studio albums that have traced his path through the world of rock and created lyrics rich enough to earn him the Nobel Prize for Literature. Now he is coming to the iconic Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona for a live performance of his songs from the album "Triplicate", reprising thirty great standards of North American music.

Gran Teatre del Liceu:
guitarbcn.com



19

Ferrari Land at PortAventura World

From March 23

A tribute to the world's sports car brand par excellence that people of all ages can enjoy

Already declared the best theme park in Spain by TripAdvisor users, PortAventura World has now taken visitor experiences to a whole new level with the 2017 opening of Europe's first Ferrari Land. This adrenaline-filled place with thrills for all ages covers 60,000m² and has numerous attractions, such as the Vertical Accelerator that offers a lifelike

Formula 1 experience as you accelerate in your F1-style cars from 0 to 180km/h in just five seconds and climb to a height of 112m along a 1km-track! What's more, this year sees the inauguration of a new kids's area in Ferrari Land with five attractions aimed at different age groups: for example, Junior Red Force is a mini roller-coaster that gives children the chance to experience the speed of the vertical accelerator, while Kids' Tower is a ricochet and freefall tower of nine metres, and Champions Race lets all the family feel like the drivers of a mythical Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa.

portaventuraworld.com/ferrari-land

20

TOTEM - Cirque du Soleil

From March 23-May 20

A show that celebrates the evolution of human life

The Cirque du Soleil, one of the world's largest theater companies, is returning to Barcelona with their new show, Totem, at the Gran Carpa Blanca in the Cultura District of L'Hospitalet.

Every new show by the renowned Cirque du Soleil is a sell-out wherever they perform. This time round, Totem features a total of 46 artists on stage including acrobats, actors, musicians and singers who perform 12 incredible numbers involving juggling, aerial acrobatics, contortionism and action. It is inspired by the ancient civilizations and depicts the evolution of the human species, from its amphibian origins to the final desire to fly. Attractive and cosmopolitan characters will excite and thrill the audience as they perform on the trapeze, skates, trampoline, hanging rings and much, much more.

An elegant and visually dazzling spectacle that strikes the perfect balance between high technology and the timeless allure of the circus.

Districte Cultural de L'Hospitalet :
cirquedusoleil.com



21

Disney. The art of telling stories

March 22-June 24

From classical stories to cartoons

Disney imaginary dates back many years. The childhood of millions of children from all over the world was marked by the versions that the Disney studios made of classical tales and legends, like King Midas, Hercules, The Three Little Pigs, The Grasshopper and the Ants, Snow White, Cinderella or Robin Hood. All this wealth of inspiration is now displayed at the exhibition "Disney. The art of telling stories". Through a wide range of drawings, visitors can wander through the creative background of the Disney studios. This illustrated material is complemented with production notes, storyboards and studies on people, which help to understand how classical stories became cartoon films.

CaixaForum:
caixaforum.es

22

La Quinzena: Metropolitan Dance Festival

March 1-18

A new dance festival has been created that inundates the metropolitan area of Barcelona

La Quinzena is a new dance festival which will display all styles and genres to a potential audience of 5 million people. "La Quinzena" Festival will take place all over the

metropolitan area of Barcelona, covering the municipalities of Barcelona, Badalona, Santa Coloma, L'Hospitalet, Cornellà and Espluges. Programmed in theaters, but also in streets, squares and subway stations, dance at its finest now has a Festival that includes classic and contemporary dance, hip hop, jazz, traditional dance and any other style. The program this first year includes performances by the Spanish-Dutch dancer, Marina Mascarell at the Mercat de les Flors and Aina Alegre at Sala Hiroshima. The festival closes with a participative show inviting the audience to come and dance.

Different venues:
dansametropolitana.cat



23

Festival Internacional de Jazz de Terrassa

March 7-23

Much more than just music

Jazz music, but also exhibitions, movies, family sessions, dance, competition and gastronomic routes. The Terrassa Jazz Festival has become a must for jazz lovers, and is now in its 37th edition. There will be almost thirty performances at different venues, including European jazz, the US scene and local talent. Performers include names like Nnenna Freelon, Terence Blanchard & The E-Collective and Uri Caine Ensemble.

Different venues:
jazzterrassa.org



24

G3 featuring Joe Satriani

April 7

Rock out with electric guitar legends

Barcelona's long-running annual guitar festival, GuitarBCN, this year includes this appearance by US musician Joe Satriani, whose extensive career has included collaborations with the likes of Mick Jagger, Glenn Hughes and Chad Smith as well as teaching some of today's most renowned guitarists. Satriani comes to the city

with the latest edition of his G3 tour; running almost every year since 1996, G3 sees Satriani take to the road with two special guests for a memorable concert experience that electric guitar fans can't miss. This Barcelona edition sees Satriani joined by John Petrucci of Dream Theater, and Uli Jon Roth, lead guitarist of Scorpions. As well as hearing these pros sharing a stage, it's your chance to hear Satriani perform from his latest solo album (his 16th!) What Happens Next, which was released in January.

Auditori del Fòrum:
guitarbcn.cat

25

Vladimir Ashkenazy

Apr 9

The prestigious pianist and conductor visits Barcelona

Born in Russia in 1937, Vladimir Ashkenazy is an acclaimed pianist and conductor. His began his career focused on the piano and is renowned for a lengthy and wide-ranging repertoire; different performances both as a soloist and in chamber music ensembles have earned him six Grammys. After several decades, he decided to branch into conducting and became the principal conductor of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra between

1987 and 1994. Ashkenazy's career has taken him all over the world, with stints at the Czech Philharmonic, the European Union Youth Orchestra, and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. He also has close links to Iceland through his wife, and in 1970 helped found the Reykjavik Arts Festival and is conductor laureate of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra. In Barcelona, Ashkenazy will conduct the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino from Florence, Italy – he replaces Zubin Mehta, the chief conductor of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino who has had to pull out due to health reasons. The bill features Beethoven's Seventh Symphony and Tchaikovsky's Symphony N° 4, Op. 36.

Palau de la Música Catalana:
palaumusica.cat



26

Saló Internacional del Còmic (International Comic Fair)

April 12-15

An unmissable date for comic fans

Pow! Zap! Comic book lovers rejoice. It's time once more for Barcelona's celebration of anything and everything to do with graphic novels. This year is the 36th edition of this International Comic Fair that's an unmissable event for fans of the likes of Batman, Asterix and Gokū. It has everything you'd expect: guest authors and illustrators, workshops, exhibitions,

stands selling memorabilia and books new and old, awards and video games. There's also a new 'Comic Kids' section, aimed at 5 to 12 year olds that hopes to encourage them to read and become a new generation of fans – activities include drawing, games, story telling and an exhibition that explains how comics are made. And who knows, maybe some of these youngsters will grow up to join the ranks of the many attendees who come to the fair dressed up. From Princess Leia to the Joker, Super Mario and Klingons, they create a colourful, amiable and lively universe where an addiction to comic books is the uniting force.

Fira de Barcelona:
ficomic.com



27

Roger Waters

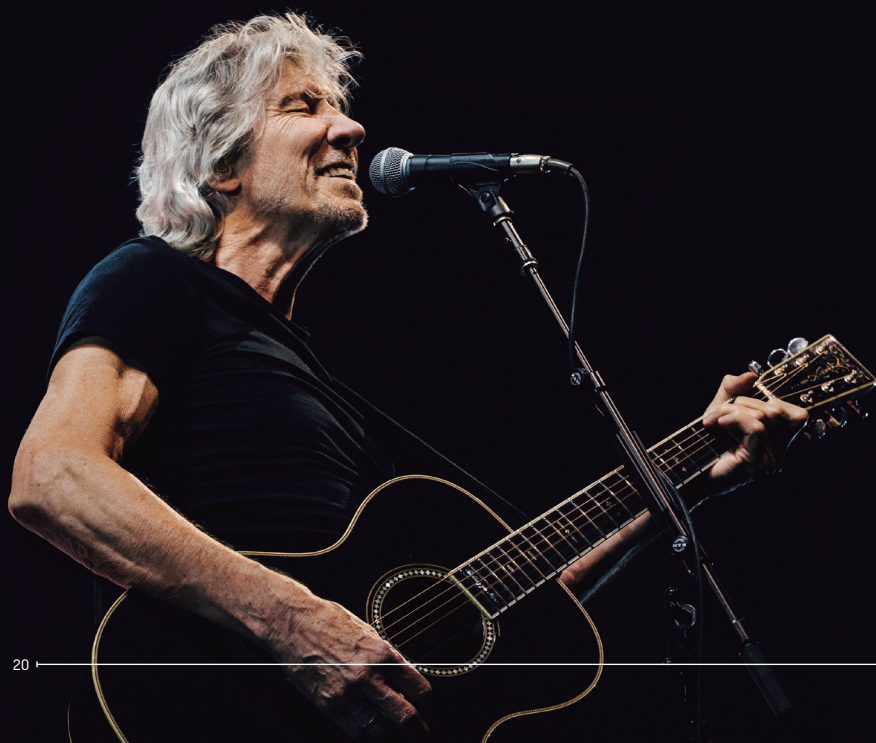
April 13, 14

Musical icon performs over two nights

When it comes to the greatest musicians of the 20th century, Roger Waters is up there near the top. Co-founder of Pink Floyd and later its creative driving force for many years, Waters is famed for his singing, song writing, composing and bass guitar playing, and he has so many accolades and achievements to his name that surely even he can't remember them all; to

mention just two, his 'The Wall Live' world tour (2010-2013) is to date the highest-grossing tour by a solo artist, and he was behind the epic 'The Wall – Live in Berlin' concert, played in 1990 to an audience of around 200,000. Roger Waters comes to Barcelona as part of his latest tour, 'Us + Them', which combines Pink Floyd tracks, solo hits and new material, such as *Is This Really the Life We Want?* (2017), his fourth solo record and his first rock album since 1992.

Palau Sant Jordi:
livenation.es



28

Rallycross World Championship: Catalunya FIA World RX 2018

April 14, 15

World's best rally drivers

For the fourth year running, the Circuit Barcelona Catalunya welcomes many top international rally drivers to the FIA World RX of Catalunya, which is also the inaugural event of the 2018 Rallycross World Championship. Among those taking part are such star names as Sébastien Loeb,

Petter Solberg and Matthias Ekström as well as the current title-holder, Swedish driver Johan Kristoffersson – don't miss your chance to see them and numerous other experts behind the wheel compete in these spectacular compact vehicles that are fitted with 600-HP engines. The FIA World RX of Catalunya is also part of the Horse Power Festival, which means that as well as being able to watch a series of exciting races, spectators can make the most of a wide range of activities related to motor sports and cars for all ages during the whole weekend.

Circuit Barcelona Catalunya:
circuitcat.com

29

Lana Del Rey

April 19

Indie star plays Barcelona's biggest concert venue

With the release of 'Video Games' back in 2011, Elizabeth Woolridge Grant, known professionally as Lana Del Rey, dived headfirst into the indie pop scene and has been making waves there ever since. Its elegant sound combined with Del Rey's distinctive vocal style created an internet hit and it's since been listened to over 200 million times on Spotify. Del Rey started experimenting with music in her late teens, learning the guitar, writing songs and performing in Brooklyn clubs. After five years of writing and recording, interspersed with a job working in the community helping the homeless and with drug and alcohol rehabilitation, her debut album was released in 2010, and the US musician has hardly stopped working since. She's collaborated with Brian Wilson, Courtney Love and Børns, performed at Kim Kardashian and Kanye West's pre-wedding event, and released a further four records.

Palau Sant Jordi:
livenation.es



30

Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell, 66th Trofeu Conde Godó

April 21-29

An amazing event with a strong following that is part of the ATP World 500

Created back in 1953 by the then Count Godó, Carlos Godó Valls, this tennis contest has become a popular event on the ATP World 500 (the third highest series of competitions for professional male players; other tournaments in this

part of the World Tour include the Queen's Club Championships, the China Open and the Dubai Tennis Championships) and is as much a social event for fans of the sport as a key clay fixture. Taking place in the warmth of the Barcelona spring in one of Spain's leading clubs, the Reial Club de Tennis Barcelona 1899, which has 18 clay courts including a stadium one with capacity for almost 8,500 spectators, this is an excellent chance to discover another side to the city's sporty character. This year's event sees ATP Top Ten players such as Grigor Dimitrov, Dominic Thiem, David Goffin and local favourite Rafa Nadal take part.

Reial Club de Tennis Barcelona: barcelonaopenbancsabadell.com



31

Sant Jordi Festival

April 23

One of the most popular festivals! The streets are filled with flowers and books to honour this Catalan tradition when people give their loved ones books and roses

The feast day of Catalan patron saint Sant Jordi (Saint George in English) on April 23 is one of the most festive in Barcelona. Across the region, it's celebrated as a day of love and literature; according to tradition, men gift a rose to their lover while women buy a book for their partner. City streets are filled with book and flower stalls, and people stroll around enjoying the special atmosphere. Many local organisations mark the day in their own way: this year Casa Batlló covers its façade with roses, while Casa de les Punxes holds activities that explore the legend of Saint George and the dragon. You

can also try the innovative Sant Jordi bread, a soft loaf that's made with cheese, spicy 'sobrassada' sausage and walnuts to create the colours of the Catalan flag. Barcelona is noted as a literary city; not only is it an important centre of publishing in both the Spanish and Catalan languages, in December 2015, UNESCO named Barcelona among the latest intake for its City of Literature programme. You can appreciate this facet of the city by taking a literary tour, or going to one of the special Sant Jordi events: Món Llibre, held the weekend before Sant Jordi (Apr 14, 15), is a literary festival for children and young adults held at the CCCB and MACBA; Sant Jordi Dialogues (Apr 19-21) are dedicated to authors, both national and international, in conversation about their work; and the Night of the Dragon (Apr 22) pays tribute to Catalan authors whose birth or death anniversaries fall this year.

lameva.barcelona.cat

32

Barcelona Bridal Fashion Week

April 23-29

Home-grown and foreign brands present their creations at this four-day event showcasing beautiful bridalwear for a memorable wedding

As anybody who's got married will say, organising a wedding takes a lot of work. Thank goodness then for events such as the Barcelona Bridal Fashion Week, which is just as relevant for anybody planning a wedding as those working in the bridal industry. Barcelona has a long tradition of creating bridalwear, thanks to local brands such as



Pronovias and Rosa Clará, and this event attracts close to 300 labels from almost 90 different countries, making it one of the biggest in the world. The trade fair (Apr 27-29) is ideal for professionals to network with designers and manufacturers. And if you're getting married and looking for a classic dress, want to discover cutting-edge trends or simply need inspiration, the fashion shows (Apr 23-27) feature beautiful outfits for the whole bridal party as well as party dresses and accessories for any special occasion. So prepare to be wowed by romantic, trendy, avant-garde and generally breathtaking creations that will make any wedding day one to remember.

Fira de Barcelona:
barcelonabridalweek.com

33

D'A Film Festival

April 26-May 6

Unmissable contemporary indie cinema

The D'A Film Festival of Barcelona is an essential springtime event for aficionados of contemporary indie and auteur cinema, both local and from around the globe; some of the films shown have already won awards at other festivals while many are getting their Spanish premiere. This year D'A reaches its eighth edition and on its programme for 2018 are features such as a retrospective of Japanese director Nobuhiro Suwa, and new and avant-garde Spanish talent whose works, both fiction and non-fiction, are produced at the margins of the mainstream industry. With close to 100 films being presented, one of the highlights of D'A is always the attendance of many of the directors whose works are being shown for round tables and Q&A sessions about their productions. As ever, various venues show the films selected for D'A: Aribau Club 1 and 2 cinemas, the Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCCB), the Filmoteca de Catalunya and SGAE Catalunya.

dafilmfestival.com



34

Spanish Formula 1 Grand Prix

May 11-13

Fast cars thrill fans at Barcelona's race circuit

Those loud engines are getting ready to rev once more at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya. Over three days in May, Barcelona hosts the fifth event, and the first in Europe, of this year's F1 Championship Season, the Spanish Grand Prix. This is undoubtedly one of the biggest dates on Barcelona's sporting calendar,

and an amazing opportunity to see the celebrated drivers and teams taking part in one of the most thrilling sports in the world. This circuit is regularly used as a test venue meaning that many of those participating are very familiar with its straights and curves, and feel right at home on its 4.66km. Current World Champion Lewis Hamilton won on this course last year, only his second victory on the Barcelona circuit, and will be looking to join the likes of Alain Prost and Jackie Stewart with a third chequered flag.

Circuit Barcelona-Catalunya:
circuitcat.com

35

Picasso's cuisine

May 25-Sep 30

The relationship of the artist with gastronomy through his work

This exhibition focuses on the approach of Picasso's work through an original theme: gastronomy. This approach is thoroughly investigated and includes all essential themes in the life of Picasso. The presence of food is constant in the artist's work and also in literary texts.

Museu Picasso:
museupicasso.bcn.cat

36

Barcelona Primavera Sound

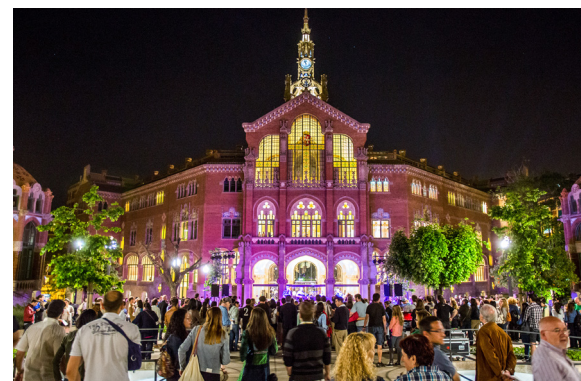
May 30-June 3

An amazing festival where you can discover up-and-coming and established musicians

For some years now, Barcelona has established itself as a premium music festival destination. Throughout the year, fans can enjoy a wide range of events dedicated to showcasing multiple genres, and in the summer in particular, the city draws crowds from near and far to revel in all fresco live shows from their favourite acts and the discovery of unfamiliar performers. Primavera Sound is undoubtedly one of the leaders of this pack, both for the public and music industry professionals; the latter are

served by Primavera Pro, a get-together that schedules debates, networking sessions, conferences, workshops and showcases. When it comes to the main festival, each year the roster of acts, both home-grown and from around the world, gets longer, more diverse and more inviting. Get your ticket this year and you have the chance to hear Father John Misty, Björk, Nick Cave, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Lykke Li as well as various DJ sets, Catalan and Spanish talent, and other big names – all adding up to a fantastic few days of top music.

Zona Fòrum:
primaverasound.es



38

Barcelona Hotel Tapa Tour

May 1-31

The third edition of the Hotel Tapa Tour is here

The Hotel Tapa Tour is an initiative designed to promote hotel cuisine through tapas, those tasty morsels that are so deeply rooted in Spanish popular culture. The challenge is to bring hotel cuisine to the outside world and show to both visitors from abroad and locals that it is a authentic culinary option when deciding where to eat out.

Numerous five-star and five-star GL hotels across the city are taking part in this signature-tapa trail/competition in which local produce, gastronomic innovation and sustainability plays a decisive role. During the event, each hotel will serve two different tapas: a tapa that is part of the competition and will be judged by a panel of culinary experts, and a 'good-cause' tapa that isn't part of the competition. Funds raised during the event will be donated to a social or environmental cause, while the success of the first editions of the Hotel Tapa Tour, another one is already planned for the autumn!

hoteltapatour.com

37

International Museum Day (May 18) & The Night of Museums (May 19)

The perfect excuse to visit Barcelona's museums, both during the day and until the early hours, seeing the exhibitions and enjoying special activities

May sees two excellent events for those who love visiting museums. On May 18, International Museum Day is celebrated, a European initiative that sees numerous institutions open their doors for free and put on a special programme of

activities. The aim is to raise awareness in visitors about the key role museums and other cultural centres can play in the development of society. The following evening, Barcelona holds its Night of Museums, when participating venues stay open late into the night, offering a different way to experience the permanent and temporary exhibitions currently on show, as well as the chance to enjoy different activities, such as family workshops, live performances and guided tours. This is also a global event, one that started in Berlin in 1997 and is now celebrated in around 120 European cities each year. Signed up to the two events in Barcelona are a wide variety of centres whose specialisations include art, archeology, history, author, ethnology, paleontology, ceramics, zoology, movies, design and much more.

lameva.barcelona.cat
icom.museum

39

Patum Berga

May 30-June 3

One of Catalonia's most ancient cultural traditions

Experience one of Catalonia's longest-running cultural traditions, an annual event that in 2008 UNESCO declared to be part of its list of Intangible Cultural Heritage: the Patum of the north Catalan town of Berga. The festivities, which date back to medieval times, take place during the week of Corpus Christi and originated as part of the Catholic Church's efforts to educate congregations about the holy scriptures; in the face of general illiteracy, theatrical representations of the fight between good and evil were employed, and over time, these became more elaborate and the focus of the celebrations. A patum is defined as a figure that represents a fantastical creature and appears in processions and traditional festivities, although it's also the sound ['pa-tum'] made by the drums that play a key role in the numerous parades involved. Today's Patum is an amazing sight, with celebrations featuring fireworks, live music, acrobatics, characters including eagles, dwarves and giants, angels and demons, and locals dressed in period costume.

Berga:
lapatum.cat

40

Barcelona Obertura Classic & Lyric: Fin de saison

June 3, 5, 7, 8

Incredible classical music performances

Created with the aim of telling the world about Barcelona's buoyant, extensive classical music scene, Barcelona Obertura Classic & Lyric brings its current season to a close with five world-class concerts in some of the city's most memorable venues. Kicking off the series is conductor Kazushi Ono and the Barcelona Symphony

Orchestra performing Dvorak's Requiem by at L'Auditori. That's followed by acclaimed French baritone Philippe Jaroussky taking the male title role in Gluck's 1762 opera Orfeo ed Euridice at the Palau de la Música Catalana. June 7 has two events scheduled: Puccini's Manon Lescaut at the Liceu Opera House starring Ludmyla Monastyrskya and Gregory Junde; and at the outdoor Teatre Grec, there's an evening concert of Händel's Water Music and Music for the Royal Fireworks. Finally, the season ends with a bang, as Sir Simon Rattle conducts the Berliner Philharmoniker at the Palau de la Música.

Various venues:
barcelonaobertura.com



41

Catalonia's Craft Week (Setmana d'artesanía de Catalunya) and The Craftroom

First week of June

The beauty of Catalan crafts

For the sixth year, the tradition and contemporary beauty of craft making across Catalonia is celebrated with this week of events aimed at both professionals and the general public. Numerous activities are scheduled to take place throughout the region – for those who are involved in the sector,

round table discussions explore the role of such crafts in the modern world, while everybody can enjoy such happenings as exhibitions, guided tours, workshops, concerts performed using artisan instruments and more. One of the highlights of the event is The Craftroom, a fair held in Barcelona that features numerous Catalan artisans, both established names and younger creatives, who come to showcase their products. Browse the stalls in El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria and discover locally made jewellery, clothing, accessories, items for the home, and gifts, among many other beautiful objects.

El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria and other venues:
ccam.gencat.cat

42

Orfeo ed Euridice with Jaroussky

June 5

World-famous French baritone performs in iconic venue

For centuries now, Greek myths and legends have provided inspiration for artists, writers and musicians; with their tragic tales, intense emotions and enduring life lessons, these classic stories remain as relevant for audiences today as two millennia ago. Once such example of this is Christoph Willibald Gluck's adaptation of the story of Orpheus and Eurydice, which he wrote in the 1760s. The work was the start of a new departure in the work of the German composer, heavily influenced as it was by French opera and a desire to move away from the Italian school and return opera to its simpler origins and focus on human drama and passions. Taking the male title role is Philippe Jaroussky. The French baritone triumphed at the Palau de la Música Catalana last season with his interpretation of Bach's Cantatas and now returns to take on the challenge of playing Orpheus.

Palau de la Música Catalana:
palaumusica.cat



43

Barcelona Design Week

June 5-14

An essential event for the design community

Barcelona Design Week (BDW) returns to the city from June 5 to 14. One of the most important Design Weeks on the international calendar, this one is organised by the BCD Barcelona Design Centre. It's both a key meeting point for companies and professionals of the sector and a fascinating event for anyone interested in creativity.

This year, the BDW includes around 100 activities taking place in different parts of the city, although the main focus of activities will once more be Barcelona Disseny Hub's building, where the opening ceremony, the congress and the main exhibition will take place, along with other items on the programme. Parallel activities such as workshops, talks, exhibitions and other initiatives based on creativity are held throughout the city (BDW City). All in all, it's an unmissable week in Barcelona during which design, creativity and innovation are the star performers.

Different venues:
barcelonadesignweek.com

44

Extreme Sailing Series™

June 14-17

High-performance sailing close to shore

For the second year, Barcelona hosts an event in the Extreme Sailing Series, a season of sailing events specially designed for the enjoyment of spectators. In 2018, the Extreme Sailing Series takes in eight countries on three continents, and the races attracts some of the best sailors in the world who compete in hydro-foiling GC32 catamarans along short, quick courses that last 10 to 15 minutes each. Barcelona is its third stop this year and for four days, the city will be full of free activities all based around the world sailing and which are open to all. To watch the impressive spectacle of the participating catamarans, head to the free-to-enter Race Village located beside the Hotel W in Plaça Rosa del Vents, or from Sant Sebastià Beach. Or, if you prefer, opt for a VIP experience that lets you race on board one of the high-speed boats as a Guest Sailor; dry land VIP options are also available!

extremesailingseries.com

4.5

Gran Premi Monster Energy MotoGP de Catalunya

June 15-17

One of Valentino Rossi's favourite race tracks which won't fail to impress motorbike-racing fans

Another big Barcelona sporting weekend arrives as the MotoGP World Championship returns with the Monster Energy Catalonia Grand Prix. There's always a lot of local interest for this event, thanks to Catalonia's tradition of producing world-class

motorbike drivers such as Marc Márquez (last year's overall champion), Dani Pedrosa and Pol Espargaró, while other Spanish stars include Jorge Lorenzo. This race was added to the championship schedule in 1991 although there was already a Spanish MotoGP event because of the level of local success in the sport. It's run over 25 laps and the popular Italian driver Valentino Rossi says it's one of his favourite tracks. Indeed Rossi has won it six times since 2001, with Australian Casey Stoner the only other man to have any impact (in 2007 and 2011) on the Spaniards' hegemony over this course, although last year's winner was Italian Andrea Dovizioso. So join the excited crowd and see if a home favourite can once more regain this particular crown.

Circuit Barcelona-Catalunya: circuit.cat



4.6

Sónar. 25th Anniversary

June 14-16

25 years of this prestigious music festival

Sónar is a festival of advanced music and multimedia art. But it's also much more than that: Sónar has become an international benchmark by developing what is essentially music to become an explosion of multimedia language, art and electronica, attracting fans eager for innovation from all over the world in the process. Over three dates, and divided

into Sónar by Day and Sónar by Night, hundreds of activities take place in various venues of the city, including concerts, DJ sessions, screenings, debates, conferences and an abundance of multimedia projects. This year Sónar marks its 25th anniversary and organisers are celebrating the auspicious occasion in style, as seen by the artists who have already confirmed their presence: Thom Yorke,

Gorillaz, LCD Soundsystem, Modeselektor, Cornelius, GoldLink, Rosalía, Yung Lean, A-Trak, Alva Noto, Amp Fiddler x Tony Allen, Niño de Elche & Israel Galván, Fatima Al Qadiri, Laurel Halo, Chino Amobi, Charlotte de Witte and Henry Saiz.

sonar.es



47

Imagin Extreme Barcelona

June 16-17

Barcelona turns into the world capital of extreme sports

While some of us are quite content to enjoy traditional sports such as football, tennis and cycling, there's a growing number of aficionados for extreme sports, so-called for their high levels of risk whether that be from the sheer speed or height involved or due to the complexity of the equipment involved. Unsurprisingly, Barcelona, a place known for its love of the cutting-edge and challenging, is the host of the International Action Sports and Urban Lifestyle Festival. It's two days full of stunned gasps, holding your breath, and relieved, thunderous applause. That's if you're in the audience, of course. For the experts whirling on their BMX bikes, twisting and turning on their skateboards and inline skates, and leaping on their scooters, it's a very different story. This outdoor festival has something for everybody, not only the competitions but also food trucks, a market, kids' events and more.

Parc del Fòrum:
imaginextremebarcelona.com



48

Festival REC.0 Experimental Stores

May 9-12 (New date)

Fashion pop-up stores in former factories

The latest edition of Rec.0 Experimental Stores takes place in the old industrial district of Rec in Igualada, just 40 minutes from Barcelona. This fashion festival, which transforms one-time textile factories into pop-up fashion stores, sees leading labels and designers hold special sales of stocks at seriously low prices.

Festival Rec.018 Experimental Stores combines major international brands with some

of the best in Catalan fashion. Over 80 labels take part including: Levi's, Adidas, Mango, Sita Murt, Pepe Jeans, Kickers, Lacoste, Ikks, Nice Things, Camper and Castañer, as well as Catalan designers and labels, like Miriam Ponsa, Josep Abril, Txell Miras, Who, Susi Sweet Dress, Carlota Oms and Dorotea. Children's clothing labels also participate, such as Tiny Cottons, yporqué, Bean's Barcelona, Boboli, Piu et Nau and many more. Rec.0 isn't just about fashion, though. At Rec Street Food, visitors can visit around 40 food trucks and pop-up bars, and there's also the chance to enjoy a range of concerts, recitals, dance, video screenings, performed on the festival's three stages.

Igualada:
rec0.com



4.9

Festival Jardins de Pedralbes

June 6-July 13

A fantastic experience at the magnificent palace of Pedralbes

Only created five years ago, the Festival Jardins de Pedralbes has enjoyed a rapid rise to success thanks to three key features. The first is the setting. Pedralbes Palace is a splendid 1920s building located in the uptown part of the city, and its landscaped gardens of fountains, statues, lawns and many types of flora play host to the festival's concerts. The second key is the programme. From esteemed stars such as

Tom Jones, Zaz Angus, Julia Stone, Jessie J, to cult figures including Simple Minds and local acts like Miguel Ríos, Sara Baras, Niña Pastori, Ainhoa Arteta & Josep Carreras, Miguel Poveda or Pastora Soler, the bill is always carefully curated; and as well as the main concerts, there's a special day dedicated to families. Finally, festival organisers Concert Studio have consistently made gastronomy a priority, collaborating with chefs to ensure the whole festival experience is one to remember.

Palau Reial de Pedralbes:
festivalpedralbes.com



50

A Vista d'Hotel. Barcelona Hotel Terrace Week

June 2-12

There are views of Barcelona you won't be able to see if you don't visit the roof terraces of Barcelona's most iconic hotel.

Entertainment, cocktails and tapas...

The sights of Barcelona are a pleasure to behold, from the mix of architecture to the seemingly endless lines of trees, the café terraces full of people and the seafront with its bars, bustle and bathers. But there is another side of Barcelona that deserves to be seen, and that's the view across its rooftops. Now in its seventh year, Barcelona's Hotel Terrace Week is the perfect time to head to the top of some of the city's finest hotels and appreciate the expansive panoramas you can enjoy from these

privileged terraces. What's more, it's not just a question of savouring a fine mojito or refreshing G&T accompanied by lip-smackingly good tapas, because all the places taking part lay on special events to make the experience even more appealing. Live music performances, DJ sets, magic shows, wine and other tastings, even synchronised swimming displays – this is no ordinary way to watch the sun set over the city on a balmy summer evening.

masquehotelbarcelona.com

51

Festival of Sant Joan

June 23

The night that celebrates the beginning of the summer

The festival of Sant Joan (Saint John in English) is one of the most popular festivals among the residents of Barcelona. It commemorates the arrival of summer, and the occasion is marked with bonfires and fireworks, as has been the traditional way of doing it for generations. Throughout the city people burn piles of wood and old furniture, while fireworks and firecrackers fill the air throughout the night. Music and popular festivities flood the streets, the squares and the beach. The coca de Sant Joan (a sweet flat bread traditionally topped with fruit and pine nuts, although other varieties are also available) is a must-try. It's a delicious dessert that's typical of the night of Saint John and is usually eaten accompanied by a glass or two of cava. And even though this is really the shortest night of the year, for many people it is, without a doubt, the longest one.

lameva.barcelona.cat



52

Benvinguts a pagès

Jun 9, 10

As well as being a hub for new technologies and innovative scientific research, Catalonia continues to have an active agricultural sector and this event created in 2016 is a great opportunity to discover local food producers. Benvinguts a Pagès (which can be translated as 'Welcome to the Farm') is a weekend that sees farms throughout Catalonia open their gates to show their fields, equipment, animals, and products including honey, cheese, olives, fruit and vegetables, all free of charge. You can also meet fishermen and go on board their boat, and most regions offer a range of complementary activities related to the land, produce and nature. What's more, at participating restaurants you can enjoy Benvinguts a Pagès set menus, giving you the chance to sample fresh, seasonal local produce. And if you really want to make a weekend of it, accommodation in hotels, country houses and hostels is offered at special rates. Welcome to the farm!

benvingutsapages.cat



53

Vida 2018

Jun 29-Jul 1

Global stars headline seaside music festival

With the season of outdoor music festivals in full swing, Festival Vida is ideal for anybody looking for an intimate event in a beautiful venue and with a line-up including some of the biggest names in music. The coastal town of Vilanova i la Geltrú is a short train ride to the south of Barcelona and provides a refreshing change of pace and atmosphere from the city. Attendees love the festival's

location in the gardens of a 16th-century country house with two main stages, a VIP section and a Club area for DJ sets; nearby woods provide smaller performance areas, picnic zones and a kids' zone. Accommodation options include the Vida Campsite, which this year has a swimming-pool, additional shady areas and an extended bar service along with food trucks and a (paid) bus shuttle to the festival. Last but not least, acts this year include St Vincent, Franz Ferdinand and Hookworms.

Vilanova i la Geltrú:
en.vidafestival.com

54

Bruno Mars

June 20

Award-winning US musician

For an evening full of bling, high-paced dancing and stormingly popular songs, you could do a lot worse than bag some tickets to see the multi-award-winning Bruno Mars (earlier this year he won all six Grammys that he was nominated for) at the Barcelona concert of his current '24k Magic World Tour'. Still only 32, Mars has essentially dedicated his life to his art; born into a family of musicians, he first took to the stage when he was four and he's been working hard ever since, becoming one of the most-liked pop stars of recent times, both on and off stage, along the way. His influences are numerous (think Elvis, Prince, Little Richard and Michael Jackson) and as well as singing, he plays piano, guitar and drums not to mention dancing like a dream. Don't miss his energetic show that's already been seen by thousands of fans around the world.

Estadi Olímpic:
livenation.es



55

Ringo Starr & All Star Band (Guitar Bcn Festival)

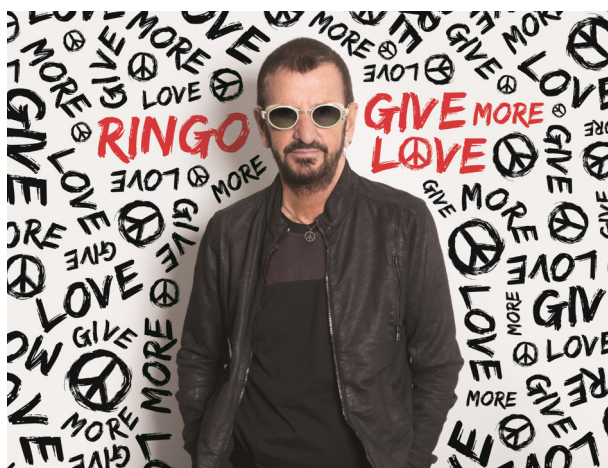
June 26

World-famous drummer

A real coup for Barcelona's Guitar Festival sees Ringo Starr come to perform at the city's biggest concert venue. This English musician clearly needs no introduction – as drummer for The Beatles, his name is instantly recognisable. However, he was in the band for just eight years, 1962-1970, of an extensive musical career that includes singing, composing

and, since 1989, performing with his All-Starr Band, which features various musicians successful in their own right. Starr has garnered many plaudits for his skill on the drums, and earlier this year, he was named Sir Richard Starkey (his given name) for his contributions to music. His appearance at GuitarBCN 2018 is the first time he's performed in Barcelona post-Beatles and sees the Palau Sant Jordi converted into an amphitheatre-style venue; on the programme will be songs from his latest album, 2017's Give Me More Love, as well, of course, as Fab Four classics.

Palau Sant Jordi:
guitarbcn.com



56

Nits d'Estiu (Summer nights)

June-September

The art nouveau landmarks and other places in the city offer music, food and entertainment including open-air films

Throughout the summer, most evenings see special cultural and gastronomic activities held at venues around the city. Many modernista spaces, such as Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site, Palau Güell, Casa Amatller, La Pedrera, and Casa Batlló, host concerts, suppers, drinks and audiovisual shows. In turn, several cultural venues, including Poble Espanyol, CaixaForum and El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria, open late at least one night a week, allowing you to enjoy their exhibitions and special activities away from the daytime crowds and heat. Film fans can head to open-air

screenings like Sala Montjuïc, which shows movies at the castle on top of Montjuïc, Gandules, a free event at the CCCB where the audience sits in deckchairs (gandules in Catalan), and Cosmonits, a programme of sci-fi films at CosmoCaixa. Finally, the city's parks host evening concerts and the Liceu goes al fresco with the outdoor screening of one its operas.

Various venues:
visitbarcelona.com



57

080 Barcelona Fashion

June 25-29

A showcase for new styles, trends and concepts

Barcelona is home to a thriving fashion industry and twice a year, the community gets to show off its skills at the 080 Barcelona Fashion event. New talent combines with well-known international brands and established Catalan labels to offer audiences the opportunity of seeing a spectrum of styles, trends and concepts. At the summer 2018 edition, the 22nd, over 30 brands and designers fill the Sant Pau Modernist Site with catwalk shows and glamour that showcase the looks that will be hitting the streets and shops in coming seasons. There are also prizes up for grabs awarded to the best collections, emerging designer and international brand, as well as talks and activities for those looking to break into the fashion industry, and a commercial and business area for buyers interested in the Catalan market.

Sant Pau Recinte Modernista:
080barcelonafashion.cat

58

Guns N' Roses

July 1

Iconic riffs and an award-winning tour

From an introductory guitar riff that started as a warm-up exercise, an iconic song was born. 'Sweet Child O' Mine' fired the US rock group Guns N' Roses into the big time and the record books: their debut album, Appetite for Destruction (1987), is the biggest-selling first record

of all time in their home country, a success that is in no small part built on the back of that single. The fortunes of Guns N' Roses haven't always been so shiny, unfortunately, with various members leaving in the 1990s including emblematic guitarist Slash after disagreements with lead singer Axl Rose. However, the band never totally broke up and the original line-up eventually reunited, along with some new additions, in 2016. Their 'Not In This Lifetime Tour' has been on the road ever since, covering the world and becoming one of the highest-grossing tours ever. And now it's in Barcelona.

Palau Sant Jordi:
livenation.es



59

Lenny Kravitz

July 5

Cool sounds and cool style

Known as much for his style as his sounds, Lenny Kravitz is one of the coolest musicians in the industry – and has been for quite some time now. After a childhood surrounded by musicians and being inspired by the likes of the Jackson Five, Miles Davis and Fela Kuti, his own career started at the end of the 1980s, and really got going in the 1990s with hits like 'It Ain't Over 'til It's Over' and 'Are You Gonna Go My Way'. Winner of the Grammy for Best Male Rock Vocal Performance four years in a row from 1999, Kravitz is famed for playing numerous instruments when recording as well as doing backing vocals. Away from music, he's appeared in several movies and even has his own interior design company. This summer he's in Barcelona as part of his Raise Vibration tour – put on your shades and get ready to rock!

El Poble Espanyol:
livenation.es



60

Shakira

July 6 & 7

Unbeatable figures

With her latest album "El Dorado", Shakira continues to beat records: a few hours after its release, it was number 1 in iTunes in 37 countries and it achieved 5 of the 10 first places in the Latin iTunes charts. The album is now number one in the "Billboard Top Latin Albums". Her video "Chantaje" has been viewed over 1400 million times. With these figures, her performance in Barcelona, within the "El Dorado World Tour", is sure to be an outstanding event.

Palau Sant Jordi:
livenation.es

61

Pearl Jam

July 10

More than rock stars

Pearl Jam come to Barcelona as part of their latest world tour, a promotional event for the release of their eleventh studio album. The Seattle band, whose sound is an alt-rock style that's more complex than the 'grunge' label it's usually given, has kept its four core members since its creation in 1990, no mean feat in such a demanding industry. This consistency has doubtless contributed to Pearl Jam's

three decades of awards and album sales in the millions, as has the group's conscious effort to always follow their own path. As well as making music, they're active in numerous social, political and environmental movements, while also resisting rules of the entertainment business (eg, in the 1990s they refused to make videos for their singles) that they feel need to be broken. No wonder their many adoring fans look upon them as so much more than rock stars.

Palau Sant Jordi:
livenation.es





62

VinyaSons

July-August

Summer festival of Catalan music and wine

Bringing together three popular elements of Catalan culture, music, wine and gastronomy, this annual festival organises intimate concerts (many of them outdoors) in wineries around the Penedès, Bagès and Empordà areas of Catalonia. Vinya means 'vine' in Catalan, and sons translates as 'sounds', describing the fusion of these two art forms, and during the summer months numerous events around the region showcase their natural relationship.

Combining beautiful Catalan landscapes, the warm evenings of the season, quality musical performances, and tastings of local wines, cavas and other specialities, it's the ideal marriage of food, drink and entertainment. Among the artists taking part, you might hear a chamber orchestra, a barbershop quartet or a rising Catalan pop star. What's more, VinyaSons is an excellent opportunity to sample local wine and cava varieties you might not yet be familiar with, and discover why Catalan wines are increasingly popular with critics and the public alike.

Various venues:
vinyasons.com

63

Pride Barcelona

June 23-30 (New date)

Barcelona is covered in the colours of the rainbow

The 10-year anniversary of Pride Barcelona, the Med's largest gay pride event, takes place from June 23 to 30. The city will be filled with music, workshops, dance, sports, live shows, exhibits, the biggest foam party in Europe, galas and more; and based on the success of past editions, it's likely that over 200,000 participants will join in with the fun and festivities that always have a serious message behind them. Among the programme's highlights are: the reading of this year's LGBTI manifest, which sets out the aim and focus of Pride (Jun 23, 7pm, Plaça Universitat); varied activities for all at the Village and Main Stage (Jun 29-30, Avinguda Maria Cristina); and, of course, the fabulous Parade, including a pre-party and closing celebrations (Jun 30, start: Avinguda Paral·lel).

pridebarcelona.org



64

Grec Festival de Barcelona

July 1-31

You'll be amazed by Barcelona's GREC Festival!

For many Barcelona culture lovers, summer means one thing: the Grec Festival, a wide-ranging arts event that sees the city through one of the hottest months of the year and into its traditional holiday period. Theatre, dance, music, circus and children's activities fill Barcelona's venues, although it is the iconic Teatre Grec, an outdoor amphitheatre in Montjuïc, that not only gives the festival its name but also provides the location for some

of the most atmospheric performances. Each year, an extensive programme is put together by the organisers, a wide-ranging selection that features national and international artists and offers cultural experiences for all tastes and ages.

Various venues:
lameva.barcelona.cat/grec



65

European Balloon Festival

July 12-15

The biggest gathering of hot air balloons in Spain.

The European Balloon Festival in Igualada is the biggest gathering of hot air balloons in Spain (this year is the 22nd edition) and welcomes around 25,000 visitors over four days at the start of July. It's a meeting point, a competition and a festival in one, with more than 50 balloons taking to the air. Competitive flights take place early in the morning and at dusk, when conditions are ideal, and if you want a taste of the high life, balloon rides can be booked in advance. But there's plenty to enjoy from ground level, whether it's the different skill challenges in the competition, live music, kids' activities and workshops, or the magical Night Glow event, in which balloons are fired up but don't take off, glowing like lanterns and accompanied by a fireworks display.

Igualada:
ebf.cat

66

Gala Dalí (Gala, artist and muse of the 20th century)

July 6-October 14

An artist in her own right

Gala is known worldwide for being the wife and muse of Salvador Dalí. She is the center of this exhibition organized jointly by the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya and the Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí of Figueres. It explores the enigmatic figure of Gala and her relationship with numerous artists and intellectuals. It will therefore be a great opportunity to discover

this significant person for surrealism and its influence. The exhibition includes works from institutions throughout the world, such as the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, the Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza (Madrid), The Salvador Dalí Museum of St. Petersburg (Florida), the Museo di Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto, and the Pinakothek der Moderne of Munich. You will also be able to see a selection of paintings, drawings and photographs from other artists associated with surrealism such as Max Ernst, Picasso, Man Ray, Cecil Beaton and Brassai.

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya:
museunacional.cat

© Gala Salvador Dalí



67

Cruïlla Festival

July 12-14

Interesting bands that play indie and alternative music

Perhaps not as well-known as its Barcelona summer music festival peers, Primavera Sound and Sónar, Cruïlla is ideal for those people looking for top-notch indie and alternative musicians, along with smaller crowds and a more compact programme. Based in the same venue as Primavera, the Parc del Fòrum, this year's programme has already got music fans excited: the opening night headliners include Jack White, Bunbury and Seasick Steve; Friday 13 is anything but bad luck with a line-up featuring Prophets of Rage, N.E.R.D. with Pharrell Williams, Chad Hugo and Shay Haley, electronic star Kygo,

Gilberto Gil, and local acts like La Pegatina and Joana Serrat; and the closing evening is a treat with the likes of David Byrne, Orbital, Fatoumata Diawara, young Basque band Belako, Catalan star Nuria Graham, and a performance from the always amazing Barcelona theatre group, La Fura dels Baus. Add in food trucks, a market with clothes, accessories and beauty treatments, free WiFi and a cashless payment system, and your perfect summer weekend is set!

Zona Fòrum:
cruillabarcelona.com

68

Barcelona Beach Festival

July 14

The best EDM and electronic music.

The best in current electronic music and EDM (Electronic Dance Music) is showcased at this year's Barcelona Beach Festival 2018, which is marking its fifth anniversary and is held once more at the Platja del Fòrum and the Parc de la Pau in Barcelona. Each year, this festival gains in reputation as the greatest contemporary dance music extravaganza, with line-ups that bring together the very best Spanish and international DJs. Passing through the booth this year are some of the best-known names from the current scene such as David Guetta, Don Diablo, Axwell*Ingrasso, The Chainsmokers, Oliver Heldens and Spanish house star JP Candela. In an incomparable setting with the beach as a backdrop, and nearly 14 hours of uninterrupted music, the BBF has established itself as the best one-day electronic music festival in Spain.

Zona Fòrum:
bcnbeachfestival.com
livenation.es

69

33rd LEN European Water Polo Championships, Barcelona 2018

July 14-28

Another major sporting event

Barcelona is no stranger to welcoming international sporting contests to the city; among the numerous events it's hosted in recent times are the 1992 Summer Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, the 2010 European Athletics Championships, and the 2013 World Aquatics Championships. And this July, it will be the venue for another such fixture, as water polo

stars arrive to compete in the European Championship. Fittingly, the sport has a long history in Catalonia, and since the 1980s, local teams and players have triumphed at both European and global levels; one such player, Manel Estiarte, took part in six Olympic Games and is now recognised as the world's greatest water polo goal scorer. At this year's competition in Barcelona, 16 male and 12 female teams are taking part, including current champions Hungary (women) and Serbia (men), while the Spanish sides will doubtless be hoping for the advantages provided by a home crowd.

Bernat Picornell Swimming Pools, Montjuïc:
wp2018bcn.com



70

Vijazz

July 6-8

Jazz, wine and summer in Catalonia

Now in its 12th edition, this summer festival celebrates the exceptional partnership of jazz and wine. Taking place in the Catalan town of Vilafranca del Penedès, a short train ride from Barcelona, a variety of venues host tastings and concerts featuring some of the biggest names in jazz in the world. Musicians like Chick Corea, Maceo Parker and Chano Domínguez, among a long list of other stars, have elevated Vijazz to the list of Europe's best jazz festivals. When it comes to the wine and

cava, this is your chance to try some of the best reds, whites, rosés and cavas from the celebrated region of Penedès; around 40 different wine-makers take part, alongside local restaurants offering specially created tapas and numerous producers of Catalan gourmet specialities including ham, cheese and smoked fish. It's also a great opportunity to explore the town in between chilling out to the music and sampling the delicious food and drink.

Vilafranca del Penedès:
vijazzpenedes.com





71

16th San Miguel Mas i Mas Festival

July-September

One of the city's leading music promoters stages concerts at its iconic venues

While most of the people involved with organising live music in Barcelona head off on a well-deserved holiday in August, the yearly Mas i Mas festival keeps the city's concert scene going with a packed programme of performances including jazz, classical music, blues, soul, song music, flamenco, electronic music, theatre and dance. Mas i

Mas is one of Barcelona's most emblematic music companies, as the owner of the historic Jamboree jazz club, as well as techno club Moog and the flamenco venue Tarantos, all of which are located in the very heart of the city. These three all host shows during the festival along with equally iconic venues as the Palau de la Música Catalana, El Born Centre de Cultura i Memòria...

This year's edition includes jazz artists such as pianist Bruce Barth, trumpeter Eddie Henderson and his Quartet, singer René Marie, Catalan jazzman Joan Chamorro accompanied by upcoming stars from the local scene and leading Spanish saxophonist Perico Sambeat playing alongside Henderson and Barth in a tribute to Blue Note recordings from the 1960s and 1970s.

masimas.com/festival

72

Circuit Festival and Girlie Festival

August 9-19

The world's biggest LGBTI festival. A unique atmosphere with packed events all over the city.

With the beaches full and holiday season in full swing, Barcelona welcomes back two of its most emblematic summer events, Circuit Festival and Girlie Circuit. Billed respectively as the biggest international gay festival and the biggest international lesbian festival, and both produced

by Barcelona's Matinee Group, they see thousands of visitors from across the world come to the Catalan capital for days of parties. Circuit is 11 days of fun with a programme that includes: pool parties, including the biggest and most popular event of the festival, the Water Park Day (which lasts all day and goes on into the night) at the nearby La Isla Fantasia water park; DJ sessions (with performances by some of the biggest names on the gay scene); and club nights. Girlie follows a similar pattern albeit for fewer days, this year running from August 14 to 19.

circuitfestival.net



73

Trofeu Joan Gamper

August

An opportunity to see the new signings in action at the majestic Camp Nou

FC Barcelona gets a new season of football underway with its traditional friendly that is named after the club's founder. The Joan Gamper Trophy is played towards the middle of August, once players return from their summer break, and it provides fans a great opportunity to see some of Barça's new signings in action before the serious

business of leagues and competitions begins. It's also a fantastic chance to visit the majestic Camp Nou stadium, Europe's largest and a must-see for any real soccer aficionado; indeed it's one of the most-visited places in Catalonia. To contest the trophy (until 1996, it was actually a four-team competition with two semi-finals and a final played, but a rise in other pre-season events meant that it was scaled back), the club invites an international challenger: this year Barça take on the Argentinian team, C.A. Boca Juniors.

FC Barcelona Stadium:
fcbarcelona.cat





74

Castells de Sant Fèlix de Vilafranca

August 30

One of the memorable Catalan traditions

Of all the memorable Catalan traditions, which include 'fire runs' and dancing 'giants', it's arguably the human towers that have the most impact on those watching them. To enjoy a true festival of these castells, head to Vilafranca de Penedès for its annual festa major at the end of August, which commemorates the town's

patron Sant Fèlix. This year, four of Catalonia's leading casteller groups take part, including the local Castellers de Vilafranca, the Colla Vella dels Xiquets and the Colla Joves Xiquets, both from the nearby town of Valls (another keen casteller place), and the Minyons of Terrassa. Each human tower is an exemplary example of team work, from the crowd forming the supporting pinya at the bottom via the columns formed as each level rises and culminating with the youngest members of the crew scampering right to the very top to crown the construction, which is officially completed once the smallest of all (l'enxaneta) raises his or her hand. Cue thunderous applause.

Vilafranca del Penedès:
festamajor.vilafranca.cat

75

Mercat de Música Viva

September 12-16

A music festival at Vic, a beautiful town near Barcelona

Every September, the beautiful central Catalan town of Vic hosts an extensive 'market of live music', which this year celebrates its 30th anniversary, aimed at giving both professionals and the public the chance to hear a wide range of different genres and discover new acts, as they enjoy five days of concerts and related activities. A lot of the focus is on artists from Catalonia, Spain and the Mediterranean area, but musicians from other places can also be found on the programme. Performances, some of which are free, are given across the city at venues both indoors and out, including the emblematic Plaça Major, and throughout the event the streets are filled with buskers, adding to the musical extravaganza taking place. While there, it's also worth taking the time to explore Vic, a place rich with history, from the Roman temple to the cathedral, ecclesiastical museum, and medieval and modernista buildings. And don't forget to try the local gastronomic speciality, cured meats.

Vic:
mmvv.cat

76

Picasso Discovers Paris

Sep 19-Jan 6

Impressionist and Symbolist pieces from Paris

Barcelona's Picasso Museum is one of its most-loved art centres, focusing as it does on the early years of the Spanish painter's life; he moved with his family to Barcelona in 1895 when he was 14 and already well established in his art studies. The city played a key role in his development; in places such as Els Quatre Gats café, he regularly met with other creatives involved in the avant-garde movement. But he was a man constantly looking for new experiences and inspirations, and this exhibition at the Museu Picasso looks at the impact that his first two visits to Paris had on him. Among the artists on show are Manet, Degas, Cézanne and Gauguin (on loan from the permanent collection of the Musée d'Orsay in Paris and the Musée national Picasso Paris), whose work Picasso first encountered in person when he was in the French capital.

Museu Picasso:
museupicasso.bcn.cat



© Pablo Picasso / Musée national Picasso, Paris



77

Festival of La Mercè

Septembrer 21-24

The city pulls out all the stops to celebrate the festival dedicated to one of its patron saints. Hundreds of free activities all over the city blending tradition and the latest trends.

Barcelona celebrates the end of summer with a city festival to honour one of its patron saints, La Mercè, whose feast day is September 24. It's a huge event that runs for several days with many free activities for all ages taking place across the city. Among the most popular are the procession of 'giants' and 'big heads', elaborate papier-mâché constructions that represent

both historical characters and fantastical beasts, the display of castellers ('human towers') in front of City Hall, and the correfoc, which literally means 'fire run' and sees demons with firecrackers dancing with well-protected members of the public under their showers of sparks. Throughout the festival, Ciutadella Park hosts numerous events including theatre and dance shows and there are also concerts, audiovisual shows and other cultural contributions from a guest city, which this year is the Portuguese capital of Lisbon. BAM is the music festival of La Mercè, and offers a full programme of concerts. At night, fireworks fill the sky with fabulous pyrotechnic displays befitting such an important fixture on the Barcelona calendar.

lameva.barcelona.cat

78

Sitges Festival Internacional de Cinema Fantàstic de Catalunya

October 5-14

This festival is a must for fans of gore, horror and fantasy film

Inaugurated years ago as the world's first film festival dedicated to the fantastic genre, today it's become the region's biggest celebration of the moving image. The picturesque seaside town of Sitges, 30 minutes down the coast from Barcelona, hosts hundreds of films from around the globe, including animation, rom-com and gangster as well as its core

themes of gore, horror and fantasy. This year's event, the 51st, celebrates the anniversaries of various iconic movies, including John Carpenter's Halloween (1978), which is also tied into a retrospective on slasher films, and 2001: A Space Odyssey and The Night of the Living Dead, both released in 1968. Organisers are also using the 200th anniversary of the publication of Frankenstein to explore the role of women in many of the movies based on the seminal novel.

Running in parallel to the screenings are exhibitions, master classes and Q&A sessions, special events focused on television series, the chance to see films using virtual reality technology, plus a crowded Zombie Walk through the streets of Sitges.

Sitges:
sitgesfilmfestival.com



79

Fira de la Mediterrània

October 4-7

Visual arts, circus performances, dance, art, storytelling and theatre are combined with classic elements of Catalan culture.

Located in the heart of Catalonia, the historical town of Manresa hosts this yearly festival dedicated to local culture and global music. For industry professionals, it's promoted as a 'market of performances', which for the general public means it's a great opportunity to discover visual arts, circus, dance, art, music, narration and theatre that combine tradition with contemporary creativity. The programme is understandably packed, with acts running during the day and at night, and with both street performances and shows in various local venues. So you might one moment see a display of hip hop and the next a concert by a Congolese band, followed by a new take on acrobatics and then a sword dance. All of which is interspersed with some of the most classic elements of Catalan culture such as 'human towers' (castells), 'fire runs' (correfocs) and 'giants' (gegants).

Manresa:
framediterrania.cat



80

Barcelona Triathlon by Santander

October 7

The profile of this three-pronged sporting event is definitely on the up; it's now part of both the Olympics and the Paralympics, and athletes such as the British Brownlee brothers have raised audience interest in the swimming, cycling and running challenge. It's also becoming popular among amateurs looking for a more varied exercise endeavour than that offered by just sticking to one sport. Unsurprisingly, then,

the Barcelona Triathlon attracts thousands of competitors each year to its beachfront setting. With three distances available, participants can choose between supersprint, sprint and Olympic and take part either as individuals, in pairs (where the two complete the course together) or as a relay team (with two or three members sharing the effort). As well as the sporting action, the day before the competition the Triexpo show is held, a place to find the latest in triathlon trends and accessories, making it ideal for stocking up on new kit and meeting some of the other people taking part.

Platja de la Nova Mar Bella:
barcelona-triathlon.com

81

Picasso-Picabia

Oct 11 2018-Jan 13 2019

Two great artists together

Two artists. Both with Spanish roots, both working at the avant-garde, constantly experimenting with new forms of expression, both at the heart of Parisian artistic movements. While Picasso is arguably more well-known today than Francis Picabia, each made considerable

contributions to 20th-century art. This exhibition, in the beautiful modernista building that houses the Fundació Mapfre, takes visitors on a journey, starting with the emergence of Cubism around 1910, then moving on to Dadaism (of which Picabia was a major protagonist) and the years in the mid-1920s when both Picasso and Picabia were invested in what the curators are calling 'monstrous classicism'. The show ends with an examination of the paths each man took towards the end of their lives; Picasso concentrated on studies of the human body, while Picabia (who died in 1953, 20 years before his peer) took a reductive approach, creating

understated monochromes. Compare and contrast these two men who challenged convention by 'killing the painting' as a way to rejuvenate it.

Fundació Mapfre:
fundacionmapfre.org



82

Saló Nàutic Internacional de Barcelona

October 10-14

Prepare to set sail. Well, to at least imagine yourself setting sail on one of the magnificent vessels on display at this year's Barcelona Boat Show. This will be the 57th edition for this event that sees the city's Port Vell fill

up with the latest yachts, speedboats and catamarans for potential buyers to peruse, and the interested to ogle. All the principal makers of sporting and leisure boats are represented, with hundreds of gleaming crafts on show, alongside numerous stands where you can try the latest technological advances in the

sector along with the newest must-have accessories and equipment. You can also sample a variety of water sports, including paddle surf, kayak and canoeing, all at the Fun Beach area.

Moll de la Fusta / Moll d'Espanya:
salonnautico.com



83

Toulouse Lautrec

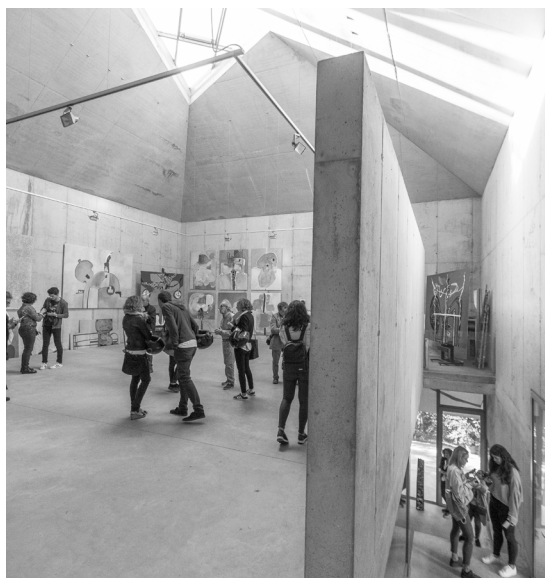
October 17 2018-

January 20 2019

Look again at the French artist

The work of Henri-Raymond de Toulouse-Lautrec is instantly recognisable, with its swathes of strong colour, portrayals of a certain Parisian lifestyle at the end of the 19th century, and posters advertising everything from recitals to bikes. A pioneer of the post-Impressionist movement, he was extremely prolific and produced hundreds of works before his early death at 36. This exhibition at CaixaForum looks in the main at the artist's years in Montmartre, his nocturnal life and relationship with the cabarets and underworld of the French capital, through a series of paintings, posters and other items. After your visit to the show, it's well worth exploring the building of CaixaForum. Designed by celebrated Catalan modernista architect Josep Puig i Cadafalch, it was originally a textile factory and featured a number of spacious halls that now lend themselves perfectly to exhibiting art. A guided tour is on offer, which includes a visit to the impressive rooftop.

CaixaForum:
caixaforum.es/barcelona



84

48h Open House Barcelona

October 20-21

People. Architecture. Urbanism

This is the number one architectural event in the city of Barcelona - an open house weekend in October

that includes more than 200 buildings of all kinds, shapes and sizes. This initiative, which here is organised by the 48h Open House Barcelona Association, started off in London in 1992 and since then the Open House concept has taken root worldwide: New York, Dublin, Galway, Tel Aviv and, since 2010, Barcelona all have their own weekends dedicated to local architecture. 'Open House' offers an exceptional opportunity to understand and 'feel' architecture based on the architectural experience; the programme invites

everyone to come and explore and appreciate the value of a well-constructed and designed space. What's more, in recent years, the scope of Barcelona's event has widened to include cities and towns in the metropolitan area and on the Maresme coast - on the list of buildings to visit, you'll find churches, schools, sports centres, apartment blocks, libraries and restaurants.

Various Venues:

48hopenhousebarcelona.org



85

Mercat de Mercats

October 19-21

Everything from creative tapas to traditional dishes

This 'market of markets' has become an unmissable event on Barcelona's calendar for lovers of good food and drink, featuring three days of the best that the city's many fresh food markets

have to offer. Anyone who's been in Barcelona for more than about a day knows full well that its food markets (of which there are an impressive 39), are a joy to behold. From the smallest neighbourhood establishments to the world-famous Boqueria, the products on sale are varied, colourful and endlessly enticing. Fish, meat, fruit and vegetables, eggs of all sizes, pre-cooked legumes, dried fruits... and all served by really knowledgeable stallholders. Visit the Mercat de Mercats in front of the Cathedral to try tapas, buy fresh, healthy food, and see some of the best chefs in the city and from around Catalonia show

off their know-how and the traditions of local cooking. If you're so inclined, there are also wine, cava, vermouth, coffee and even olive oil tastings, among numerous other such activities.

Avinguda de la Catedral:
somedemercat.cat

86

Beefeater Festival In-Edit

October-November

One of Barcelona's most popular film festivals which specialises in music documentaries

One of Barcelona's most popular film festivals, In-Edit focuses on music documentaries with productions that take in the whole spectrum of popular sounds. Created back in 2003, its audience numbers more than doubled in size for the 2004 edition, from 1,200 to 2,800, and less than ten years later more than 30,000 people streamed through the doors of the various venues



that host In-Edit screenings.

It all goes to prove that the organisers were spot on in thinking that there was a ready-made audience that loves the partnership of music and film. Doubtless part of its appeal is the range of musicians featured; you might catch the behind-the-scene story of Marianne Faithfull, The Stooges, John Coltrane or Gary Numan. You could also discover some of the more unusual acts that have emerged over the years and whose fascinating stories have been captured on film, as well as delve into the background of rhythms and sounds from around the world that are perhaps less familiar to you.

in-edit.org

87

Mostra de vins i caves de Catalunya

Date and venue to be confirmed

Wine and cava aficionados shouldn't miss this fair, which this year marks its 38th edition and is an excellent opportunity to get to know many of the locally made vintages, along with some typical regional foods. Catalonia has a long history of wine-making, with the Greeks first introducing vines to the northern Empordà area, and the Romans following suit albeit further south in Tarragona. In recent times, the profile of Catalan winemakers has grown significantly among both critics and the general public, and the quality of their output is generally agreed to improve year on year. Areas such as Priorat, Montsant and Costers del Segre are renowned for their products, while the one with the largest number of vineyards, Penedès, is the source of many popular cava and wine varieties. The weekend wine fair promises once more to be a time of sampling fine wine, brilliant bubbly and appetising bites to eat.

incavi.gencat.cat



88

50th Voll-Damm International Jazz Festival of Barcelona

October-December

Half a century of the oldest of all festivals held in Barcelona

A new music festival was created on November 3, 1966 in Barcelona, where jazz played the leading role. The Barcelona Jazz Festival didn't take place between 1977 and 1979, so 2018 sees it celebrating its 50th edition. From the start, the festival has aimed to bring the various styles of jazz music to the public, and to be a platform for both established and emerging artists. The first performance of this year's edition sees the brilliant Cameron Graves and his trio debut in Barcelona at Sala Luz de Gas. His

modal jazz is combined with romantic classical music of an European flavour and death metal, to create a truly unique sound. And in July, the Grec Festival pays tribute to the Jazz Festival with a series of five special concerts, including Pat Metheny (7th) and Cécile McLorin Salvant (25th). Throughout 2018, more of these concerts takes place to celebrate half a century of the oldest festival in Barcelona.

Various venues:
jazz.barcelona

89

Loop Barcelona

Nov 8-17 Festival

Nov 15-17 Fair

Exhibitions, concerts, talks and film screenings explore the potential and challenges of video art.

Created in 2003, Loop is a platform that focuses on the possibilities and challenges presented by video art, one of the key artistic movements of modern times. Each year, Loop hosts professionals (including curators, collectors and gallery-owners) and the public for a gathering where they can explore the latest technological and other developments in the moving image sector and see the work of new and established creatives who use video as their main tool. Loop Festival runs for around 10 days and includes screenings, exhibitions, concerts, talks

and other live events at numerous venues around the city (highlighting the flexible character of the format). Running concurrently is Loop Fair, a shorter but just as intense event that features work selected by an international committee of specialised collectors, and looks for new ways to present art considering the rapidly changing ways that audiences have of experiencing moving images nowadays.

loop-barcelona.com

90

Velázquez from the Museo del Prado

Nov 20-March 2019

A master painter in the spotlight

One of the greatest painters in history is the protagonist of this extensive new exhibition at CaixaForum. Diego Velázquez was born in Seville in 1599 and, before his death 61 years later, produced some of the most renowned works from Spain's acclaimed Golden Age. His renditions of the Spanish royal family (created in his role as the lead artist of the court of Felipe IV) such as 'Las Meninas' are particularly famed, but the Baroque artist also captured religious scenes as well as more down-to-earth subjects, including 1629's 'The Drunks'. Today, the most important collection of his works is held in Madrid's Prado Museum and that's the source of many of the pieces on show here, which are compared and contrasted with those of several of his Spanish and European contemporaries such as Zubarán, El Greco, Murillo and Ribera. Don't miss this excellent opportunity to see a spectacular selection of 17th-century paintings at Barcelona's beautiful CaixaForum venue.

CaixaForum:
caixaforum.es/barcelona

91

95th Jean Bouin

Nov 25

The most prestigious and historical running race in Barcelona

Feel the asphalt beneath your feet and relish the sense of achievement of crossing the finishing line and maybe even beating your personal best by taking part in one of Barcelona's most prestigious sporting challenges. With 94 competitions under its belt, the Jean Bouin (named after the eponymous French long-distance

runner who took part in the 1912 Stockholm Olympics and beat various world records; he was killed in the First World War) has earned the honour of becoming the oldest running race in Barcelona. The event, which is deeply rooted in the city's sporting culture, attracts all kinds of top-level runners every year, with over 11,000 people taking part in the two Open events (5km and 10km) and 2,000 entrants in the youth categories. The Jean Bouin is organised by Mundo Deportivo, Spain's oldest sports newspaper and one that belongs to the Grupo Godó, Catalonia's leading communications group.

Start: Av. Rius i Talet / Av. Maria Cristina (Parc de Montjuïc)

jeanbouin.
mundodeportivo.com



92

Festival BEFF: Barcelona Ethical Fashion Fest

November

The sustainable fashion festival

BEFF (Barcelona Ethical Fashion Fest) is the most innovative festival in Spain and southern Europe focused on sustainable fashion. The initiative was created by the Barcelona Sustainable Fashion association and was held for the first time in November 2014. It aims to raise awareness in society about the advantages of sustainable fashion, and to develop and encourage its creation, production, sale and use. At the same time, BEFF is committed to creative fashion and the change needed in the fashion industry to meet sustainable criteria and quality, without forgetting style. If you go, you'll find local fashion brands, independent designers and sustainable fashion boutiques taking part in fashion shows and hosting pop-up stores. Leading professionals take part in conferences to discuss different aspects that concern fashion today, such as social and production problems, and thus providing an insight about the path to follow and the future of fashion.

modasosteniblebcn.org



93

Salón del Manga de Barcelona (Manga Fair)

November 1-4

Celebration of Japanese culture

It's time for cosplay outfits to come out of the wardrobe once more as Barcelona hosts the 24th edition of its Manga Fair. Having held an event dedicated to this Japanese art form for almost a quarter of a century highlights just how committed fans of all ages in and around the city are

to the perennially popular comic books and Japanese pop culture in general. It's a full-on weekend that includes special guest appearances by illustrators and writers from around the world, new releases, marathon cinema and television sessions, live concerts of J-pop and other music, plus workshops that look at different aspects of manga and anime while others provide the chance to learn how to dress up as favourite characters. In addition, there are, naturally, a wide range of stands for browsing CDs, DVDs, comics, books, illustrations and merchandise.

fcomic.com

94

Festival del Mil·lenni

Nov 2018-May 2019

A wide range of excellent established and rising musicians

Further proof that Barcelona attracts the most incredible range of musicians to perform here comes in the shape of this popular music festival, which this year reaches its 20th edition. Starting in late autumn and spread out over various months through to the spring, the 'Millennium Festival' (the name comes from the fact that it was inaugurated back at the turn of the millennium) features an average of 50 concerts, bringing joy into the lives of music fans during what is the quietest time of year for such happenings. Its appeal is increased ten-fold by the effort of organisers Concert Studio to create an eclectic programme that really lives up to the adage 'something for everybody'. Already lined up for the 20th Festival Mil·lenni are Swedish indie singer-songwriter José González, Galician multi-instrumentalist Carlos Núñez with his traditional end-of-year concert, and Catalan group Sau, which is marking its 30th anniversary.

Various venues:
festival-millenni.com





95

The Shopping Night Barcelona

Nov 29

Shopping, drinks, food and fun

The Shopping Night Barcelona has firmly established itself as an essential night out in the lead-up to Christmas, with shops, restaurants and bars along the iconic Passeig de Gràcia and several of the surrounding streets opening late into the night. That means you have the chance to browse the luxury designer stores, popular high-street brands and other boutiques that are located in this part of the

Eixample neighbourhood, as well as stopping for a drink and something to eat. This will be the ninth edition of the Shopping Night Barcelona and each year organisers opt for a stylish theme around which to base the evening's events (last year it was the Gauche Divine, a key movement in the 1960s that opened the Catalan capital to the cultural vanguard, changing it forever), making it an even more memorable night. Food trucks, live music, street performers and other activities complete this experience which is a great way to begin the festive season.

Passeig de Gràcia and surrounds:
theshoppingnightbcn.com

96

Human Rights Film Festival

November

Cinema with a social conscience

This is the 15th edition of the Barcelona Human Rights Film Festival, which aims to be a non-commercial bridge between cinema and the defence of human rights; the organisers want to make audiences think, raise awareness, denounce injustices, reflect on humanity's social and cultural diversity, and search for a sustainable human race – unsurprisingly, these objectives have led the festival to become one of the world's most important events on this subject. It

screens over 100 films related to the theme of human rights, many of which are premieres, divided into different sections including full-, half- and short-length, fiction and documentaries. Parallel activities include workshops, masterclasses in universities, and sessions in penitentiary centres. Subject matter at last year's festival included the cases of 16 people who disappeared under the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile, a short about female genital mutilation in Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia, and a documentary about the 'honour' killings of women in Palestine and other Arab societies.

festivaldecineyderechoshumanos.com



97

Drap-Art Festival

December 16-30

Festival of art and environmental sustainability

Created in 1995 as a festival that put the spotlight on art made using recycled materials and objects, Drap-Art continues to have a strong resonance over 20 years later; the Drap-Art team believe strongly in the power of art as a tool for action and transformation to tackle environmental issues. Nowadays, the organisation also promotes emerging artists, designers, artisans and other creative professionals from across Europe and other parts of the world who re-use and upcycle their primary materials; Drap-Art now has events in Montevideo (Uruguay), Pittsburgh (USA) and Buenos Aires (Argentina). As such, the festival speaks to us through its exhibitions about environmental, political and social issues from the perspective of artists of different nationalities whose objective is to put forward collective and shared solutions aimed at more sustainable development. As well as the art shows, you will also find workshops for a wide range of audiences, lectures and round tables, live music, and performances.

drapart.org

98

Fira de Fia-Faia - Bagà and Sant Julià de Cerdanyola

December 24

A traditional Christmas Eve celebration in a natural park close to the Pyrenees

In the Catalan towns of Bagà and Sant Julià de Cerdanyola, situated in the Natural Park of Cadí-Moixeró, December 24 doesn't mean the arrival of Father Christmas. Instead, to mark the longest night of the year, the two municipalities come together to celebrate the ancient festival of Fia-Faia. Declared by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2015, this pre-Christian tradition starts with the lighting of a bonfire up in the mountains in a spot that's visible from below. Torches made from a plant thought to have cleansing properties are lit from the bonfire and carried down to the two towns, creating a beautiful river of flame. Later in the evening, all the torches are left to burn in the centre of each town, and a poetic line is recited: 'Fia-faia, que nostro Senyor ha nascut a la paia' – 'Fia-faia, our Lord has been born on straw'.

baga.cat

99

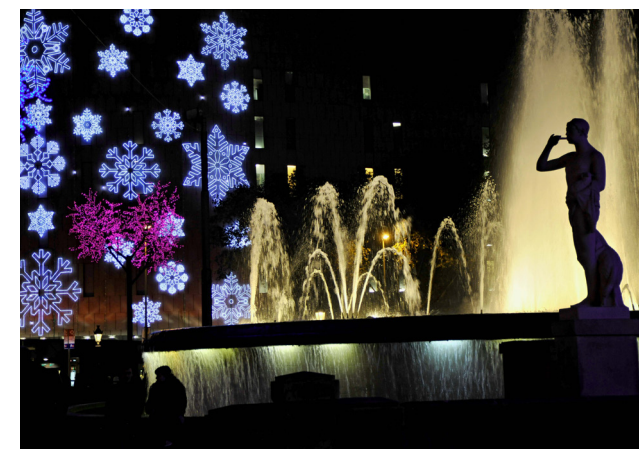
Christmas in Barcelona

Markets like Santa Llúcia, living nativity scenes, fairs promoting responsible consumption, and beautiful lights all make a Barcelona Christmas well worth experiencing

The festive season in Barcelona is special for many reasons. Firstly there are the traditional elements, like the Christmas markets, particularly the Santa Llúcia one by the cathedral, which has been held since 1786 and is where local families go to buy figures for their cribs. Talking of which, pessebres

(which is what cribs are called in Catalan) can be seen in places around the city including Plaça Sant Jaume, City Hall and the Reial Monestir de Pedralbes. And pessebres vivents ('living nativity scenes') feature real people (and animals) acting out the Christmas story – if the chance comes up to see one, for example at Poble Espanyol, don't miss it. On a more modern note, Barcelona is conscious of the need to be environmentally aware at this time of year, and Plaça Catalunya hosts a fair promoting responsible consumption, as well as fun and games for all ages. As the glittering lights brighten the streets at night, why not feast on some roasted chestnuts from one of the stalls around town before enjoying a concert of Christmas music?

lameva.barcelona.cat





100

New Year's Eve

December 31

You have to experience New Year's Eve in Plaça Espanya at the foot of Montjuïc at least once

Greet 2019 by celebrating New Year's Eve in Barcelona. For the past few years, crowds have gathered at in Plaça d'Espanya, along Avinguda Reina Maria Cristina, and at the foot of Montjuïc. This is the venue for Barcelona's biggest celebration with a spectacular firework display, music and live performances. And after joining in the local tradition of eating 12 grapes before the 12 strokes of midnight come to an end, you will find many venues perfect for

spending the first hours of the new year. You can go to great clubs like the Razzmatazz or Sala Apolo, which organise parties until daybreak on January 1, or you can enjoy the celebrations laid on at Poble Espanyol, which are very popular with young people. You can also go to restaurants or flamenco clubs, which usually offer an evening full of entertainment with meals, music and dancing all included.

Avinguda de la Reina Maria Cristina,
Pl. Espanya:
lameva.barcelona.cat

Barcelona is much more



There's so much left to discover

www.barcelonaismuchmore.com

Photos: stained glass window of the Colonia Güell, bicycle tourism in the Penedès, Castellans in Vilafranca del Penedès, Cardona Castle, Montserrat and enogastronomy in Subirats.

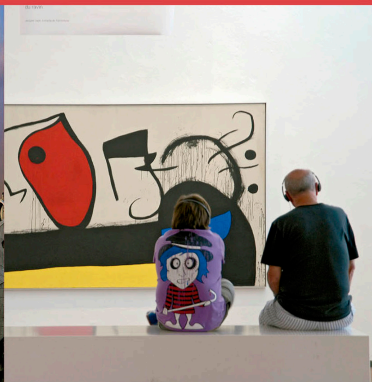
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