

3-DAY TRAVEL GUIDE

3 Days in Barcelona for Art & History Lovers

A 3-day Barcelona itinerary for art and history lovers, with Gaudí's Eixample, the Gothic Quarter, and a third day at Montserrat, El Born or Montjuïc.



AT A GLANCE

01

*Day One***Gaudí's Eixample**

Sagrada Família Basilica / Casa Batlló / Sips Cocktail Bar

02

*Day Two***Gothic Quarter, Then the Beach**

Mercat de la Boqueria / Barceloneta Beach / Sips Cocktail Bar

03

*Day Three***Pick Your Adventure**

OPTION A

Montserrat

OPTION B

Museum Day in El Born

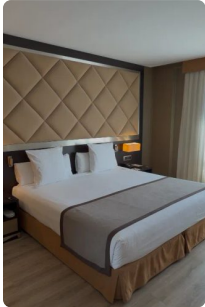
OPTION C

Up Montjuïc Hill

EIXAMPLE

Day One: Gaudí's Eixample

Today's all Eixample, strolling down Passeig de Gràcia. First coffee at RIPA and paella at Can Plaça, then Gaudí back to back: the Sagrada Família, Casa Batlló, and La Pedrera. We'll wrap up with tapas and a late round of cocktails at Sips.



STOP 1 / 9:00 AM

Hotel HCC St. Moritz

This four-star hotel is tucked inside a restored 1800s building one block off Passeig de Gràcia. Okay, I loved it. Our room was spacious and beautifully designed, with a gorgeous bathroom, and we were right in the center of...

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STOP 2 / 10:30 AM

RIPA Coffee

Tiny specialty coffee bar that roasts its own beans, and the motto is "nice people drink good coffee" - shop the beans. There's no seating inside, just a bright yellow counter and a couple of benches out front where you can...



STOP 3 / 12:00 PM

Can Plaça

This is a tapas and paella house right by Plaça de Catalunya. We went in for paella and - no exaggeration - got the BEST one of our whole Barcelona trip. The grains had soaked up this deep seafood flavor but still came out al...



STOP 4 / 1:30 PM

Sagrada Familia Basilica

Gaudí's unfinished basilica in the Eixample, 140 years in and still going! From the outside, it looks unlike any other basilica I've ever seen. Inside, the light streaming through the stained glass is just otherworldly. I...

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STOP 5 / 3:00 PM

Casa Batlló

Gaudí's 1904 apartment-block rebuild on Passeig de Gràcia, one of the city's main attractions. A dragon theme runs throughout the building, inside and out, like no other house you'll ever walk through. The audioguide rebuilds...

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STOP 6 / 4:00 PM

La Pedrera - Casa Milà

Gaudí's rippling limestone apartment block on Passeig de Gràcia - everyone calls it La Pedrera. Its size and rippling stone facade make it feel unlike anything else on the avenue. Inside you pass a period apartment and the...

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STOP 7 / 5:30 PM

Massimo Dutti

So it's a clothing store - but it's inside an 1898 modernista house on Passeig de Gràcia, and the floors are still laid out like rooms someone actually lived in. You end up browsing past old fireplaces and tall windows, and...

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STOP 8 / 7:00 PM

Local Tapas

This is a tiny tapas place on Carrer d'Aribau where the kitchen takes Catalan bar plates somewhere way more creative. The baked cheese with fig and jam was my favorite thing on the table - and then the eggplant tempura showed...

EIXAMPLE

Day One: Gaudí's Eixample

Continued - stops 9-9



STOP 9 / 8:30 PM

Sips Cocktail Bar

Sips was named the World's Best Bar in 2023, and the main room doesn't even have a counter-the bartenders mix drinks right among the crowd. We opted to book the tasting menu instead. It's about 75 euros each with 10-15...

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GOTHIC QUARTER · EL RAVAL · BARCELONETA

Day Two: Gothic Quarter, Then the Beach

Today we're walking through the Gothic Quarter before heading toward Barceloneta. We'll start with Basque cheesecake at Jon Cake, then visit the cathedral and Les Galeries Maldà before stopping for oysters and cava at La Boqueria. After the beach, we'll finish with tapas and cocktails at Sips.



STOP 1 / 9:00 AM

Jon Cake | Santa Caterina

This is a tiny store that does one thing: Basque burnt cheesecakes. Best cheesecake I've ever had. HANDS DOWN. Velvety, sweet and salty at once, with...



STOP 2 / 10:30 AM

Cathedral of Barcelona

Barcelona's Gothic cathedral, right in the heart of the Gothic Quarter. We only saw it from the outside and I was floored, all that classic old...

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STOP 3 / 11:30 AM

Les Galeries Maldà

This is Barcelona's oldest shopping arcade, tucked into the Gothic Quarter behind a doorway so narrow you'll walk right past it - look for the colorful...

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STOP 4 / 1:00 PM

Mercat de la Boqueria

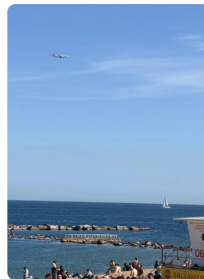
Barcelona's big food market sits right off La Rambla, and it's not just for tourists. There are fishmongers, butchers, nuts, fruit, candy, all under...

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STOP 5 / 2:30 PM

B-ONE

This is a Mediterranean spot by the Barceloneta marina, with big terraces looking straight out at the moored yachts. We grabbed a table outside and...

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STOP 6 / 4:00 PM

Barceloneta Beach

This is the city's own beach - a short walk from the Gothic Quarter, right at the foot of the old fishermen's quarter. I LOVED wandering around here....

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STOP 7 / 5:30 PM

Sensi Tapas

Modern tapas in the Gothic Quarter. Every single thing we ordered was a HIT! This was my FAVORITE restaurant in my entire Barcelona trip. The truffle...

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STOP 8 / 7:00 PM

Sips Cocktail Bar

Sips was named the World's Best Bar in 2023, and the main room doesn't even have a counter-the bartenders mix drinks right among the crowd. We opted

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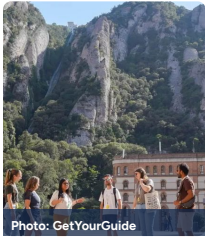
CHOOSE YOUR ROUTE

Day Three: Pick Your Adventure

Today you pick your own adventure. Option A gives Montserrat the full day. Option B stays in El Born for the Palau de la Música and Museu Picasso, while Option C follows a shorter art-and-history route through the FC Barcelona Museum, MNAC, and Montjuïc Castle.

OPTION A

Montserrat



STOP 1 / 9:00 AM

Montserrat

Montserrat is a jagged mountain and historic monastery about an hour northwest of Barcelona, known for the...

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OPTION B

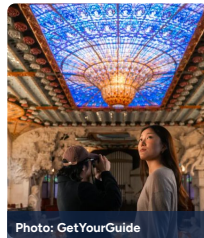
Museum Day in El Born



STOP 1 / 9:00 AM

Zenith Brunch

Zenith is an all-day brunch place a few blocks off Passeig de Gràcia - huge, high ceilings, open kitchen. No reservations either, so you can usually...



STOP 2 / 10:30 AM

Palau de la Música Catalana

This 1908 concert hall was built for a Catalan choral society. It's the only Catalan Art Nouveau concert hall on...

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STOP 3 / 12:00 PM

Museu Picasso

The Museu Picasso fills a row of medieval stone palaces in El Born with more than 4,000 works by Picasso. Go for the early...

[BOOK THIS STOP >](#)


STOP 4 / 1:30 PM

Kevabró

Kevabró is this tiny döner counter in Eixample - they stack the meat by hand and bake the flatbread on site all day. We ducked in for a light snack...



STOP 5 / 3:00 PM

El Nacional Barcelona

Okay, picture a giant restored hall just off Passeig de Gràcia - four restaurants and a handful of bars sharing one room, each its own island for meat...

CHOOSE YOUR ROUTE

Day Three: Pick Your Adventure

Continued - choose Option A, Option B, or Option C

OPTION C

Up Montjuïc Hill



STOP 1 / 9:00 AM

FC Barcelona Museum

FC Barcelona Museum is an interactive sports museum where you can learn about the history, trophies, and...

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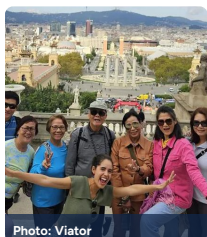


STOP 2 / 11:00 AM

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

At the top of the Montjuïc steps, a domed palace holds Catalonia's national art...

[BOOK THIS STOP >](#)



STOP 3 / 12:30 PM

Castell de Montjuïc

This star-shaped fortress sits 173 meters above the harbor on Montjuïc, where it was built in 1640 and expanded in the...

[BOOK THIS STOP >](#)