

NOBU KNOWS

Barcelona

DISCOVER BARCELONA THROUGH
THE EYES OF NOBU



Hola Barcelona

Barcelona, the capital of Catalonia and the most vibrant city on the Mediterranean, has it all; beaches, mountains, rich culture and traditions, stunning architecture and dare we say it - one of the best gastronomic scenes in the world.

Whether it's your first or twenty-first time in the city, Nobu Hotel Barcelona offers you our own unique take on the must sees and must dos during your stay.

From exploring Gaudí's first house to sipping your first 'vermut'. From watching in awe at the locals creating 'castells' -human towers, to lazy beachside lunches. Barcelona is a city rooted in its history yet constantly evolving.

Let's explore it together.

NOBU HOTEL
BARCELONA

Benvinguts

Benvinguts a Barcelona - welcome to Barcelona. There are two official languages in Barcelona: Spanish and Catalan. Many public signs and announcements will be in both languages and at times also in English. Many people also speak some English, but why not try your hand at the local language and wish someone a bon dia!



The local currency is the euro and credit and debit cards, as well as Apple Pay, are widely accepted. Banks open from 8am - 2pm Monday to Friday.

Life in Catalonia starts early and ends late with bars and cafés open for breakfast from 7am or earlier and clubs don't shut until 6am. To get into the swing of things, have a large lunch around 2pm then a light dinner from 8:30pm followed by gin and tonics and cocktails until the early hours.

Most shops and supermarkets are closed on Sundays so use this as the locals do to enjoy vermouths and long lunches in the sun.

The metro is open until midnight every day apart from Fridays when it closes at 2am and on Saturdays when it is 24 hours. Taxis are readily available and affordable.



Don't Miss

IF YOU'RE NEW TO THE CITY OR ONLY HAVE A SHORT TIME TO EXPLORE, THESE ARE NOBU HOTEL BARCELONA'S MUST SEE PLACES

Gaudí has become almost synonymous with Barcelona and his unbridled creativity and imagination continues to stun and inspire over a century later.

Sagrada Familia

Gaudí's masterpiece, over 100 years in the making and still under construction, soars above the city, majestic and endlessly intriguing the design has constantly evolved since Gaudí's death. Now officially consecrated as a Cathedral, La Sagrada Familia has become an icon of Barcelona.

Casa Vicens

Gaudí's first house, designed as a summer residence for the wealthy Vicens family, shows his burgeoning interest in the natural world – a source of inspiration which would follow him throughout his career. The house, now restored and open to the public, demonstrates the rich variety of influences; from a North African smoking room to floral ceramic tiles which adorn the façade. Take a guided tour to discover more.

Casa Batlló

Now one of the most visited and photographed houses in the world, Casa Batlló was conceived as a family home of the Batlló family. The natural world shines through in this, one of Gaudí's most iconic buildings. From the broken mosaic (trencadís) of the façade to the dragon-inspired rooftop, Casa Batlló continues to inspire. Visit at night to see the house illuminated.





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La Pedrera

Casa Milà, more commonly known as La Pedrera, was also constructed for a wealthy family. The building, inspired by waves and the natural forms of the sea is just as unusual inside as out. Gaudí specially designed the furniture so it would fit the curves and corners of his unique apartment building and would come and check that no pieces had been moved out of place.



Torre Bellesguard

Standing on the site of a castle built for King Martin of Aragon in the 15th Century, Torre Bellesguard, or Casa Figueres, was built in the first years of the 20th Century. Aware of the important historic significance of the site, Gaudí incorporated the style of Medieval Gothic castles into the structure whilst still including his signature natural forms and modernist touches.



Park Güell

Park Güell was originally conceived as a gated residential community in the English style but only a few of the houses were ever completed. Gaudí designed the park during the height of his artistic genius, incorporating organic forms and natural shapes to create an iconic setting. A UNESCO World Heritage site the park also offers stunning views across the city.

*Nothing is
art if it
does not
come from
nature.*

ANTONI GAUDÍ

Montjuïc

Montjuïc, just a stone's throw from Nobu Hotel Barcelona, is the green lung of the city and also home to many of its museums and galleries as well as being the site of the 1992 Olympic Games.



MNAC

The Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya is Catalonia's national gallery with a permanent exhibition charting the evolution of Catalan art from Romanesque religious murals to the turn of the century Modernist movement.

Caixa Forum

Housed in a former factory designed by Gaudí's contemporary, Josep Puig i Caldas, Caixa Forum houses a variety of art exhibitions and cultural activities focusing on national and international artists.

Fundació Joan Miró

One of Barcelona's most famous son's, Joan Miró has many sculptures and mosaics throughout the city, but in the Fundació Miró collects his most seminal works and paintings in one stunning location.

German Pavilion by Mies van der Rohe

Far from the unbridled natural world of the architecture of Gaudí are the clean lines of the Barcelona Pavillion by German architect Mies van der Rohe. Built in 1929 for the International Exhibition it is now considered one of the most important examples of modern architecture in the world.

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Castell de Montjuïc

The Castle on the brow of Montjuïc has a chequered history: from military garrison to war time prison. The Castle now hosts cultural events such as open air cinema and circus events during La Mercè city festival and also has stunning views over the city and coastline.

Jardi Botànic

Barcelona's botanic gardens provide a lush oasis in the bustling city, focusing on flora from Mediterranean style climates throughout the world.

Teatre Grec

The Teatre Grec is an open air amphitheatre used for concerts and plays, and the heart of the Festival Grec held in the city every July.

Olympic sites

The 1992 Olympic Games transformed the city of Barcelona. In Montjuïc, many of the sites still stand and are open to visit and enjoy from the Olympic stadium to Palau Sant Jordi and the outdoor diving pools at Piscina Montjuïc.



Gothic Quarter

The Gothic Quarter is the oldest part of Barcelona and is the beating heart of the city where hundreds of years of history and culture meet.

Barcelona Cathedral

Although many think La Sagrada Familia is Barcelona's Cathedral the city's cathedral is actually found in the Gothic Quarter. Completed in 1448, the Cathedral has been extended over the years and is now an example of Catalan Gothic style. Be sure to look for the door to nowhere – a door that was once connected to a third floor passageway.

El Call – Jewish Quarter

The former Jewish quarter can be found in the very heart of the Gothic Quarter. Narrow, winding streets house the buildings that were once home to a thriving Jewish community until all their expulsion from Spain in 1492. The area is home to the Synagogue, thought to exist since the 5th Century.

Roman city walls & Augustus Temple columns

Barcelona was a walled city until 1854 and parts of the original Roman wall which surrounded 'Barcino' still remain. Take a trip back in time over 2000 years by visiting the original stone columns of the Temple to Augustus – once the heart of the Roman settlement.

Plaça Reial & Plaça del Rei

Two royally named squares can be found in the Gothic Quarter. Plaça Reial, just off the Rambla, is a regal square with a central fountain and surrounded by restaurants and bars. Plaça del Rei is slightly more tucked away but reveals a rich history with two of its sides made up of the former Royal palace.

Mercat de la Boqueria

La Boqueria market is the central food and drink market for the centre of Barcelona situated on La Rambla where producers have traded their goods since Medieval times.



*"We crossed spacious streets,
with building resembling
palaces, in La Rambla
promenade; the shops were
well illuminated and there
was movement and life... I did
not decide to go to sleep, even
though I wished to, so I could
rise early and contemplate, in
daylight, this city, unknown
to me: Barcelona, capital of
Catalonia"*

HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN



Gastronomy

MICHELIN STARRED RESTAURANTS

Three Stars

Lasarte

Abac

DISFRUTAR

Cocina Hermanos Torres



Two Stars

Moments

Enoteca Paco Pérez

Cinc sentits

One Star

Atempo

Enigma

Xerta

Alkimia

Hisop

Caelis

Gaig

Angle

Oria

Hofmann

Via Veneto

Dos Palillos

Koy Shunka





Gastronomy

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN THE CITY -
WHATEVER YOUR TASTES

Catalan cuisine

El Quim de la Boqueria

Right in the heart of the Boqueria market enjoy market fresh classics served by Quim himself.

Petit Comitè

By the acclaimed chef, Nando Jubany, Petit Comitè offers high quality traditional cooking.

Pur

A new restaurant by Nando Jubany focusing of the freshes, seasonal produce.

Tapas

Paco Meralgo

A classic tapas bar with high quality produce. Get a seat at the bar to be where the action is.

Cal Pep

Located in the Born area, Cal Pep offers traditional fare, specialising in seafood.

Bar Cañete

Located just off the Rambla, Bar Cañete offers a menu as impeccable as its white-jacketed waiters.

Quimet i Quimet

A one room wonder, it's standing room only at Quimet i Quimet where sensational tapas is washed down by vermut and craft beer.





Gastronomy

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN THE CITY -
WHATEVER YOUR TASTES

Seafood **RiasKRU**

A high altar to all things seafood, Rias de Galicia offer the most sumptuous selection Spain has to offer.

Estimar

Rafa Zafrá brings what he loves from his childhood on the Costa Brava and what he learned working with the Adrià brothers to create Estimar.

Creative **Gresca**

Quality, seasonal ingredients meet the creativity of Rafa Peña at the tiny Gresca restaurant. For those fancying a lighter bite try Gresca Bar located next door.

Mont Bar

Small plates which overflow with creativity and innovation adorn the menu of Mont Bar. Be sure to book first.

Pepa Bar a Vins

The more sophisticated sister of Bar del Pla in the Born neighbourhood, Pepa Pla serves up plate after plate of sumptuous flavours and textures.



Bars & Nightlife

For the nightowls, Barcelona offers an endless array of bars and clubs. From sophisticated cocktail bars to dancing until dawn, in the Catalan capital there is something for everyone.



Cocktail bars

Dry Martini
Two Schmucks
Sips
Hemingway
Galileo
Boca Chica
Tandem
Paradiso
Solange

Live Music

Jamboree
Harlem Jazz Club
Heliogàbal
Marula Café

Clubs

Razzmatazz
Sala Apolo
Shoko
Opium
Sutton

LGBTI

Arena
La Rosa
Punto BCN
Night Barcelona



Catalonia on a plate

Pa amb tomàquet

Pa amb tomàquet, literally bread with tomato, is a staple of Catalan cuisine and extremely simple to make. Toasted bread is rubbed with garlic then a tomato and finished with olive oil and a sprinkle of salt. A perfect accompaniment to any meal or snack.

Fer el vermut

The concept of an aperitif is found all over the world and Catalonia is no exception. Around midday, before lunch, Catalans gather for snacks of olives, cockles, and crisps all washed down with a vermut – often from the area around Reus, near Tarragona.



Museums & Galleries

ENJOY THE RICH CULTURAL LIFE OF THE CATALAN CAPITAL AT ONE OF THE MANY MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES



Art Galleries

MNAC

Museu Picasso

Caixa Forum

Museo Frederic Marès

Contemporary Art

MACBA

CCCB

Fundació Miró

Fundación Antoni Tàpies

Fundació Suñol

Fundació Vila Casas

Moco Museum

Design

Disseny Hub Barcelona

Photography

Palau de la Virreina

Fundación Mapfre

History

Museu d'Història de Catalunya

Museu d'Història de Barcelona

Museu Marítim

Science

CosmoCaixa



More than Gaudí

When thinking about Barcelona and architecture it's normal that just one name springs to mind, but the Catalan capital is more than just Antoni Gaudí. From modernist masterpieces to brutalist behemoths, Barcelona is an architecture lovers paradise.



Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau

Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau was conceived to replace the old main city hospital of the same name that had stood in Raval since the 13th Century. The underground tunnels and separate pavillions were cutting edge for their time and the architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner rose to the occasion to design a modernist masterpiece fit for the flourishing Barcelona of the turn of the century. Having recently undergone a full restoration, Hospital de la Santa Creu i Santa Pau is a stunning example of the rich imagination and craftsmanship of the Modernist movement.

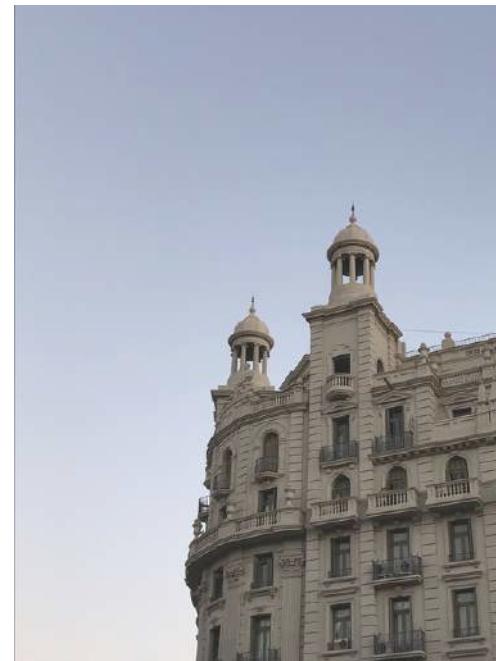
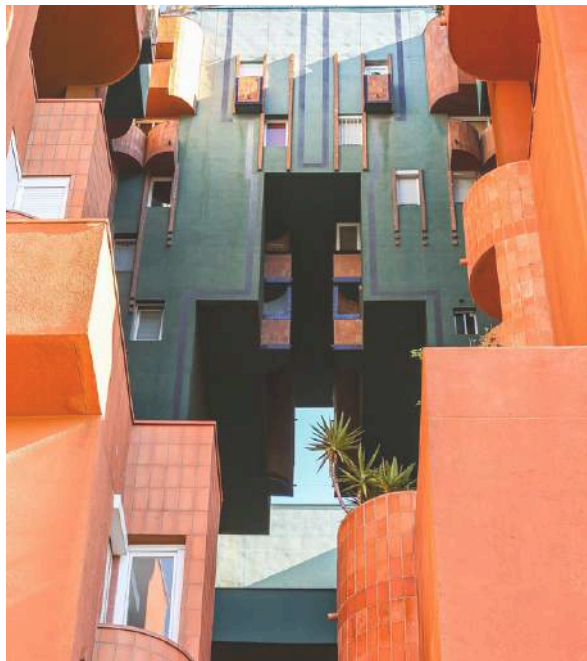
Casa de les Punxes

Casa Terradas also known as Casa de les Punxes due to the unique pointed roofs crowning its turrets, was designed by Josep Puig i Cadafalch for the three sisters of Bartomeu Terradas Brutau. Again, recently renovated and open to the public, Casa de les Punxes is reminiscent of a Medieval castle with the natural forms of the Modernist movement ever present.

Palau de la Musica Catalana

This stunning example of the unbridled imagination of Modernist architecture stands out, surrounded by the 17th Century buildings of the Sant Pere neighbourhood. This concert hall, designed by Lluís Domènech i Montaner is a must visit for any lover of architecture, better yet is attending a recital to see this Palace of Music in all its glory.

More than Gaudí



German Pavilion by Mies van der Rohe

Designed by Van der Rohe for the 1929 International Exhibition, the German Pavillion was made to blur interior and exterior spaces, to create an ideal zone of tranquillity, and is now considered one of the most important examples of modern architecture in the world. The Pavillion was also home to specially designed furniture, most notably the Barcelona chair, now considered iconic.

Casa Bloc

Casa Bloc was built in the 1930's in the working class district of Sant Andreu to create a communal living space, defend the collective identity and also to improve workers living conditions. Considered an important example of rationalist architecture the building has been refurbished and visitors can now enter apartment 1/11, furnished exactly as the architects had originally intended.

Walden 7

Ricard Bofill's architecture studio is located in a former cement factory in Esplugues, and these brutalist surroundings can be seen in his other work such as the residential block Walden 7. With a name inspired by science fiction novels, Walden 7 was built in modules, designed to move as family sizes and needs shifted. Visits can only be arranged by appointment as this is still a residential area.

Shop until you drop

Santa Eulalia

The most luxurious department store in Barcelona.

Cortana

Ultra feminine designs to fall in love with.

Castañer

Creators of the first wedged-espadrilles.

Etnia Barcelona

The coolest sunglasses in town

Cuervo CobblerBlack

Traditional cobblers making beautiful bespoke shoes.

Colmillo de Morsa

Local designers for the creative set.

La Manual Alpargatera

First fashionable espadrilles in history.

The Outpost Barcelona

The finest mens clothes, shoes and accesories.



Beyond Barcelona

DISCOVER BEAUTIFUL BEACHES, IDYLIC
VILLAGES AND STUNNING LANDSCAPES
OUTSIDE BARCELONA

Montserrat

The 'sacred mountain' of Montserrat is less than an hour north of Barcelona and stuns in its natural majesty and spiritual atmosphere. Whether you hike to the top or enjoy the funicular to the Abbey be sure not to miss one of the oldest boys choirs in Europe sing during ceremonies and communal prayer.

Penedès Wine región

Just thirty minutes from Barcelona is one of the oldest wine regions in Spain. Penedès is the main producer of Cava as well as varieties of red and white wine with local, autonomous grapes. Many well known wineries such as Freixenet and Codorniu have their vineyards here but be sure to visit smaller, family owned wineries to discover the rich history of this wine-making region.

Sitges

This pretty White town, just thirty minutes outside the city, sparkles on the coast of the Mediterranean. It's almost Balearic vibes create a town ideal for families and friends alike with sandy beaches, seafront bars and vibrant bars once the sun goes down.

Costa Brava

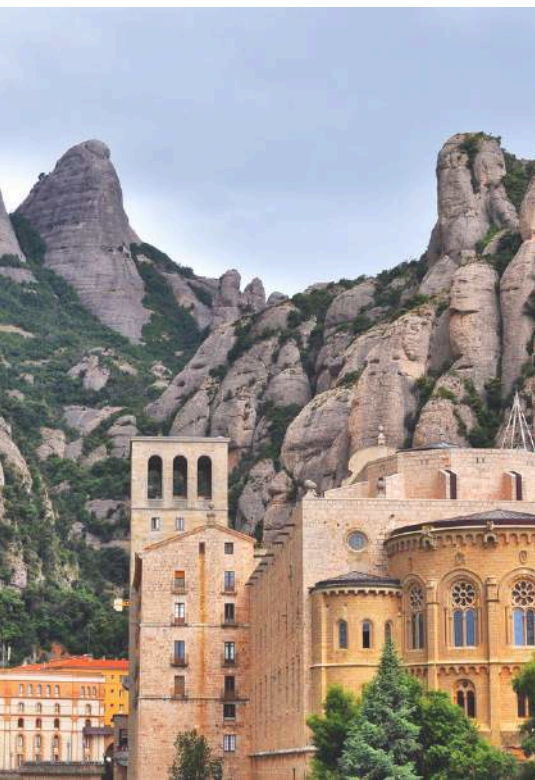
One of the most stunning coastlines in the world lies just a couple of hours north of Barcelona. From natural wildlife reserves, hidden coves and sparkling seas to fresh seafood and quaint villages, the Costa Brava is truly one of the most beautiful areas of Catalonia.

Girona

Nestled between the Pyrenees and the Mediterranean Sea, Girona has been a strategically important town for centuries. Home to one of the best preserved Jewish quarters in Europe, Girona had a flourishing Jewish community from the 12th Century until the Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492. Girona Cathedral, used as a mosque when the Moors reached the French border, was originally built in the 11th Century and continually added to and renovation up to the 18th Century. Many locations in Girona were used in filming for Game of Thrones.

Tarragona

The Roman city of Tarraco was originally more important than the settlement of Barcino further north. The grandeur of the Roman town can be seen in the various monuments open to visitors such as the Amphitheatre overlooking the Mediterranean sea and the Roman Circus. The 12th Century Cathedral was built on the site of a Roman temple and was also used as a Moorish mosque. The city also has an impressive beach and coastline.



*Allow me to state
here how much I
love Barcelona ,
an admirable city,
a city full of life,
intense, a port
open to the past
and future.*

LE CORBUSIER