

Time Out

Barcelona

ENGLISH EDITION!


Barcelona
Turisme
OFFICIAL GUIDE OF BCN

BEST

WHAT'S MORE

Splash out on clothes from some of Barcelona's most standout designers

Get ready to spend with our guide to Barcelona's best shops, from indie boutiques to malls for all and high-street stores with amazing interiors

SHOPS

PLUS! TERRACES FOR WINTER SUN, PARTY NIGHTS, FESTIVE MARKETS


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The Best of BCN

Time Out Barcelona English Edition
December 2015

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Make the most of the shopper's paradise that is Barcelona with our guide to some of the best places in the city for retail therapy.

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PALO ALTO MARKET



MAY/ ZIRCLIS

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IVAN MORENO

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Our cover
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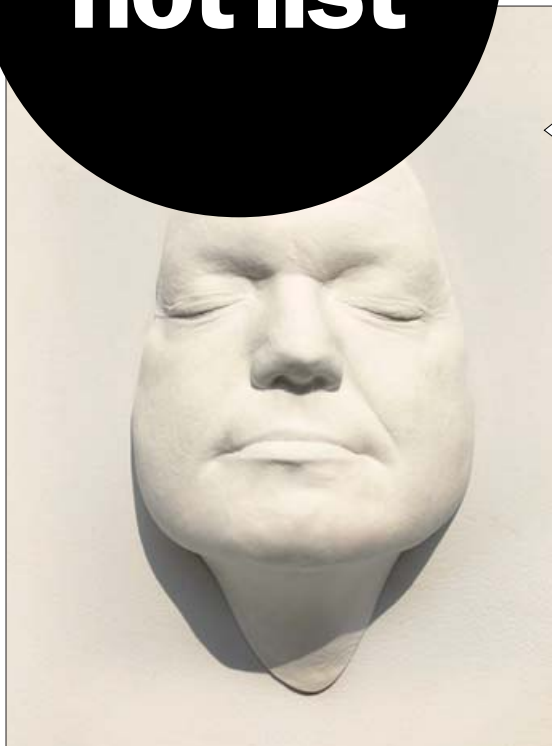

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The hot list



BCN_DEC 2015

	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	
	02	04	
	Concert St Germain French electronic music pioneer returns. See p. 44	Opera Lucia di Lammermoor Popular work by Gaetano Donizetti. See p. 28	
	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	
	09	10	12
	Concert Noa Israeli singer presents new disc. See p. 45	Ice skating ISU Grand Prix Final Top figure skaters compete. See p. 38	Motorcycling Superprestigio Dirt Track High-speed bikes race each other. See p. 38

DON'T MISS!

Un segle de fotografia de moda. An exhibition of almost 500 fashion photos. **TUE 01** (see p. 43)

El Lago de los Cisnes sobre Hielo. See *Swan Lake* as never before, performed on ice. **FRI 11** (see p. 53)

SUNDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY		TUESDAY
13	17	18		22
Football Barça vs. Deportivo Spanish league match at Camp Nou. See p. 38	Concert La música contraataca Emblematic music by John Williams. See p. 47	Art festival Drap-Art The focus is on recycled materials. See p. 38		Gospel The Voices of Jubilation Seasonal music at Palau de la Música. See p. 48
	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
	25	26	30	31
	Dance Trencanous acrobàtic Energetic version of <i>The Nutcracker</i> . See p. 53	Concert Concert de Sant Esteve Music to mark St. Steven's Day. See p. 49	Concert Johann Strauss Celebrate the New Year at L'Auditori. See p. 49	Traditions Campanades Cap d'Any Say 'hola' to 2016 on Montjuïc. See p. 38

Barcelona 1876



Please enjoy responsibly. 5,4%

People of Barcelona

Dani Lança
Singer-songwriter,
38 years old

What did you find in Barcelona that made you stay here?

I liked the fact that there was a lot of street art – that got me hooked. I had lived for a year in Berlin, and another year in Mozambique. I think that [my home country of] Portugal was too small for me.

Your musical roots are in Jamaica and Africa.

My parents had lived in Africa, and at home we listened to people like Bonga and Cesária Évora. Later it was Bob Marley and Peter Tosh. My musical language has developed through them and Fela Kuti, Nina Simone and Manu Chao.

Did you come to Barcelona because of Manu?

No, I hadn't even heard of Mano Negra!

But recently you've worked a lot with him.

Since 2013. Last year I went on tour around France and Spain with Manu, as a special guest, singing two of my songs at each show. Last month I performed with him at the party of *L'Humanité* in Paris, in front of several thousand people.

Does Lisbon have an advantage over Barcelona in terms of multiculturalism?

Yes, Portugal is half Arab and half gypsy, and there's a huge African influence. As a child, in a class of 30 students, 12 were African. But in Barcelona I was surprised by the number of artists that there were, and how easy it was to play and not just survive but live all right. For the past few years, this has got more difficult. Let's hope that the new mayor improves things.

Why is street music important?

Because it touches people in a way an onstage concert can't. The passer-by is going about their routine, an artist comes along and



MARÍA DIAS



AN OBJECT – A GUITAR

He associates the instrument with spontaneous performances in Plaça George Orwell.



PLACE OF ORIGIN – CASCAIS (PORTUGAL)

The city is close to Lisbon. When he was six, he moved farther north, to Aveiro.

takes the routine apart, carrying the listener to another place. That doesn't happen in a concert venue, where you've paid for a ticket and gone with certain expectations.

You're still alternating between concerts of all types.

And I'll keep doing that. A few days ago I played at a festival in Lithuania, and I also play on the street. I want to maintain human contact. To make *Radio Bemba* [a Manu Chao live album] work, you can't stay at home waiting for things to happen. Street performing is better – you see people's faces.

Your new album is called *Cidade loca*. Is Barcelona the 'crazy city'?

It's the cities of the world in general. The cities that manipulate time to make us work. Everything's focused on that, on work and money. What does it mean to do well? Making lots of money? Becoming famous? Music has to be a living thing, not a product. This record is about that.

–Jordi Bianciotto

**BCN-
TOP SECRET**

By Begoña García

_The Mercat del Ninot (Market of the 'Figure') takes its name from a ship's figurehead that once adorned a nearby bar.

_On the north corner of Av. de la Catedral and Via Laietana, there used to be a Hell Street. Under the ground there is a metro station that's never been used.

_Plaça Gal·la Placília is named after a Roman emperor's daughter who wed fifth-century visigoth king Ataül – the couple brought their court to BCN.

_During the time of the Spanish Inquisition, pyres were built in Plaça del Rei for burning false converts, Jews, witches and blasphemers.

I love BCN

Christmas lights Plaça Catalunya

The festive spirit fills the city with beautiful decorations like these, which light up the dark evenings.



QUINAMENY DE BARCELONA

What am I doing here?



Jan Fleischer

Hot topic: the weather

Ask any expat in Barcelona why they moved here, and the number one answer is, 'For the weather'. While many are from cooler climes, some of us come from sunshiney origins. Even though where I'm from is currently suffering a drought of record-breaking proportions and temps that would make any northern European weep with envy, I must say, I'm ready for a season around here. As I write this near the end of November, it's 22°C, and the sky is some sort of ridiculous Superman blue. Though you may find it odd to experience December in such unseasonable weather, you're likely happy about leaving your parka behind. Plus, you must be excited about sampling the local fare whilst sitting outside on a terrace (see page 22). And isn't it great that you can visit all the Christmas markets around town (see page 34) without an annoying umbrella or the shame of your reindeer balaclava? OK, we can't guarantee it won't rain this month, but you get the idea. While our interns from Chicago and St. Louis have the cheek to be yearning for snowman-building weather, you get to explore Barcelona from mountain to sea, and maybe even dip your toes in the Med. As for me, I just might go find more Christmassy weather where I can make snow angels or at least sit by a fire drinking mulled wine without breaking into a sweat. If that turns out not to be my thing, I'm lucky that I have Barcelona to come back to.


WTF IS...

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

Galets

On Christmas Day many Catalans eat soup with **galets** (*ga-LET*), large shell-shaped pasta. Look out for *sopa de galets* or *escudella* (often with meat) on menus. You may also find galet-shaped lights adorning city streets.



 Jan's never experienced a snowy Christmas

48 HRS IN BARCELONA

See the modernista lamp posts on Passeig de Gràcia.



Take the cable carto Barceloneta for bird's-eye views.



14:00-16:30

Down in the Born

Start at the Gothic cathedral just off Via Laietana. It's at least 1,500 years old and has recently undergone extensive renovation works. Next, head to El Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial, 12), an iron and glass structure built in 1876 as a market. From there you can stop in at the spectacular Santa Maria del Mar church (Pl. de Santa Maria, 1). Just next to it is Fossar de les Moreres, a square with great significance to the people of Barcelona; it was built over a cemetery where those who died fighting to defend the city in the 1714 Siege of Barcelona were buried. An eternal flame honours the memory of the fallen.

17:00-19:30

Sustenance and shopping

Stop for a break in one of the Born's lesser-known squares, such as

Sant Pere de les Puel·les or Sant Agustí Vell. The Born is an area that's packed with boutiques where you can pick up some designer shoes or one-of-a-kind gifts to take home. As you're strolling around, keep an eye out for The Box (Brosolí, 8), set up by three clothes designers; On Land (Princesa, 25), where both men and women can find new threads; and Studiostore (Comerç, 17), with everything from clothes and eyewear to original cushions.

20:00-23:30

It's time to eat

For dinner, try the Asian tapas at Mosquito (Carders, 46) – they'll melt in your mouth. Always a sure thing is a meal in one of the city's fresh markets, such as Santa Caterina (Av. Francesc Cambó, 16) with its attention-drawing rooftop, or try Mercat Princesa (Flassaders, 21), where you don't have to limit your choice to just one restaurant

COOL HUNTING

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

but can graze from 17 different food 'stalls'. To top off the night, head in the direction of the sea and have a drink in Absenta (Sant Carles, 36) to be sure to get a good night's sleep, or try the more upscale Zahara Cocktail Club (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 69) or Café de los Angelitos (Almirall Cervera, 26).

09:00-11:30

Trees and parks

Start your day with a big breakfast among the tree-lined streets of the Eixample Esquerre. El Velódromo (Muntaner, 213) opens at 6am, for those of you really keen to get going, while Travel & Cake (Rosselló, 189) opens every day from 9am and has an eclectic menu of sweet and savoury options. Once you've got your energy levels up, jump on public transport and head up to Gaudí's natural wonder, Park Güell – book on www.parkguell.cat/en to ensure you get in to the 'monumental' zone and save a euro. Bonus!

12:00-14:00

Gracious living

Grab a bite down the hill in Gràcia, at the woodsy and spacious Café Salambó (Torrijos, 51) or at La Pubilla

DO YOU KNOW?

► Last year, Barcelona residents spent about €45 each on tickets for the Gordo ('Fat one') Christmas lottery.



Visit Sant Pau to see its recently renovated buildings.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME IN BARCELONA. HERE'S OUR GUIDE TO THE CITY'S ESSENTIALS

(Pl. de la Llibertat, 23), specialising in old-school local food or, if the weather's nice, in a square such as Plaça del Diamant or Plaça de la Vila de Gràcia. While you're in the area, have a look around for some unusual souvenirs in the shop-lined streets – suggestions include Boo for clothes (Bonavista, 2) and Mueblé (Martínez de la Rosa, 34) for homewares.

14:30-18:00

Explore modernisme

Next stop: the Sagrada Família. Gaudí's masterpiece gets very crowded, but it's worth taking your time to appreciate his vision. Afterwards, walk over to Av. Diagonal to keep the modernisme theme going by taking a look at Casa de les Punxes (Rosselló, 260), Palau del Baró de Quadras (Diagonal, 373) and Casa Planells

(Diagonal, 332). Alternatively, take L5 of the metro from the Sagrada Família station to the Diagonal stop and stroll down Passeig de Gràcia to hit the modernisme biggies: La Pedrera (Provença, 261), Casa Amatller (Pg. de Gràcia, 41) and Casa Batlló (Pg. de Gràcia, 43).

WANDER OFF

Many visitors stick to the centre, but the city is so much more. Gràcia is full of life at all hours of the day, Sarrà retains much of its small-town feel, while Poble-sec and Sant Antoni are currently the places to be, thanks to their top cuisine and quality nightlife. And don't forget the modernista beauty that is the former Sant Pau hospital.

19:30-02:00

Big night out

Try the out-of-this-world double terrace of Invisible–Pizza Ravaló (Pl. Emili Vendrell, 1), Teresa Carles for a healthy vegetarian option (Jovellanos, 2), or the Mediterranean banquet that is Lo de Flor (Carretes, 18). After lining your stomach, get a couple of drinks in Negroni or Tahiti, both in the bar-laden street of Joaquín Costa (46 and 39, respectively), and then ease on down to the dance floors at Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113) and/or Marula (Escudillers, 39).

10:00-12:00

Mountain climbing

Head to the 'mountain' of Montjuïc. Depending on what you're in the mood for, you can visit the Joan Miró Foundation (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n), the Olympic Stadium and other nearby constructions from the 1992 Games, or walk around the

plentiful gardens, such as the Jardins Laribal (Pg. Santa Madrona, 2). Another highlight is the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC), with its ample collections and varied temporary exhibitions.

13:00-15:00

End on a beach spot

Take the cable car from Montjuïc to Barceloneta, with its beaches and boats, where you can relax with a vermouth and a paella. Most restaurants in Barceloneta specialise in seafood, taking advantage of the nearby Med. The prime real estate means some of the better spots aren't cheap, but if you're feeling flush, they're worth it. Try Can Solé (Sant Carles, 4), La Mar Salada (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 58) or El Suquet de l'Almirall (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 65). A great place for the more budget-conscious, with a huge terrace and fresh, scrummy dishes to go with their relaxed vibe, is Santa Marta (Grau i Torras, 59).

► The total prize money in 2014 was €2.24 billion, with each winning ticket scooping €400,000. The draw takes place every year on December 22.

Barcelona... just a click away

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



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

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

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

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

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

bcnshop.com



Barcelona SkiBus. From the city to the slopes

Make the most of the ski resorts near Barcelona!

Take advantage of your visit to Barcelona to enjoy a snowy getaway in the nearby Pyrenees mountains. The Barcelona SkiBus will take you to Catalonia's largest skiable area, Alp 2500, which has a vertical drop of 935 metres and 11.7 runs to

suit all levels, as well as 39 ski lifts. Jump aboard the SkiBus and you'll be skiing in a matchless natural setting in the blink of an eye. Barcelona also means snow!

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TICKETS AT
BCNSHOP.COM**

IT'S CHRISTMAS!



Sweet Christmas

If you have a sweet tooth, take the Barcelona Chocolate Tour and/or the Barcelona Sweet Tour, and enjoy your chance to sample the city's finest chocolates, sweets and cakes.



Bye-bye 2015

To say goodbye to 2015 and hello to 2016, experience an evening of the purest flamenco accompanied by the best gastronomy in one of Barcelona's flamenco venues.

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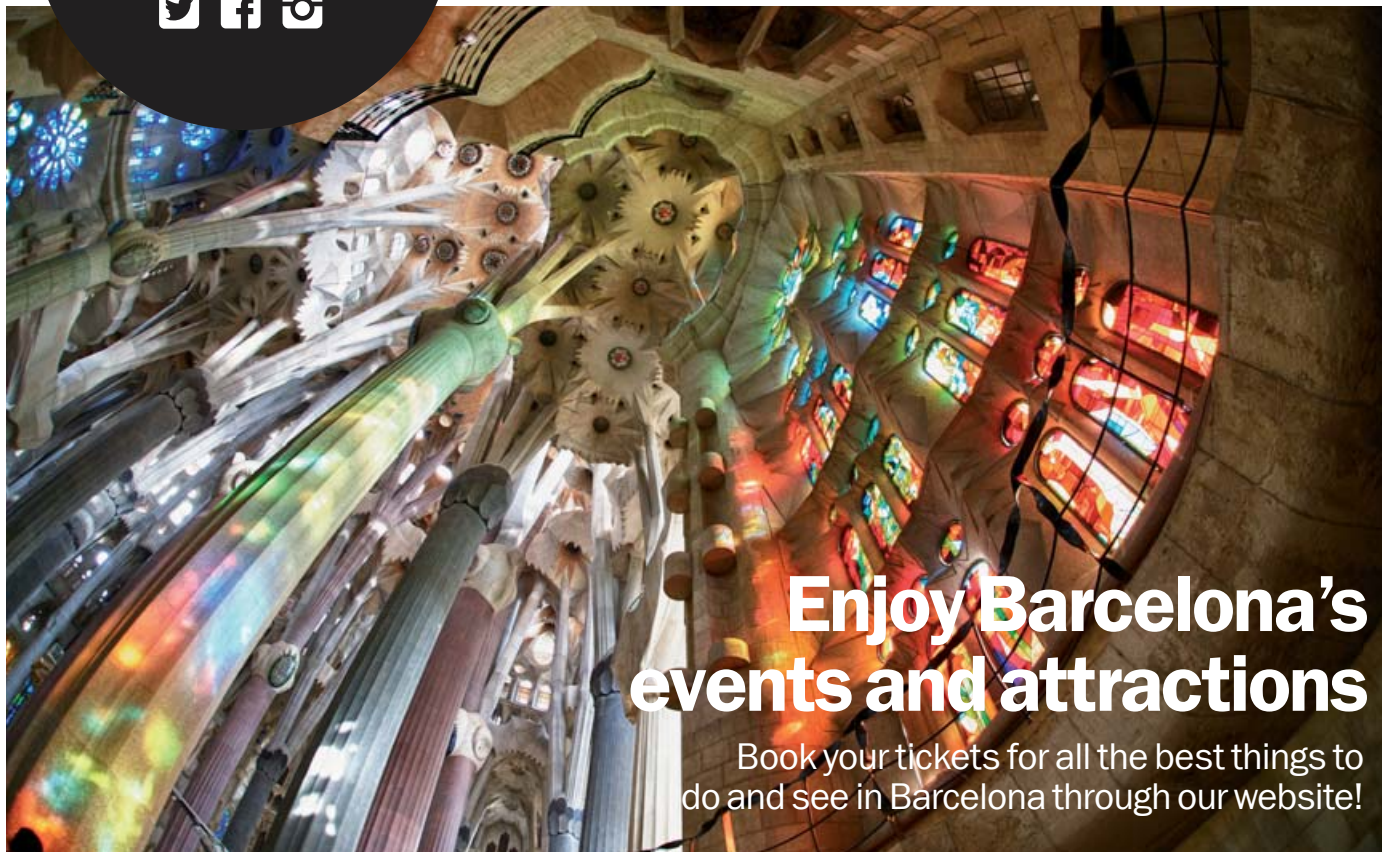
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Discover the best restaurants for a romantic meal in the capital

Whether you're looking for that first-date venue or a cosy place perfect for couples, a great restaurant is a sure way to that special someone's heart. Check out our list of romantic restaurants in Barcelona!

Book a table and enjoy a wide range of eateries and top dishes across the city at www.timeout.com/barcelona.



BIG improv comedy shows

Barcelona Improv Group (BIG) are back for a new season of fun!

See a brand-new show every month from Barcelona's best English comedy group. Every show has a unique theme and is completely unscripted, so you get a totally different experience each time.

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RETAIL THERAPIES

It can't have escaped your notice – Barcelona is a shopper's paradise. With boutiques, big-name chains, exclusive designers and everything in-between, the only problem is deciding where to start browsing. Here we reveal some of our favourites: independent shops with local products, high-street stores where the interior design plays as big a part as the stock, clothes from standout Barcelona creatives, and shopping centres for all eventualities. Get ready to spend.



UNIQUE INTERIORS

It was almost 50 years ago that the Madrid firm of **Cortefiel** opened in Barcelona's Portal de l'Àngel (No 38), bringing with it new collections of women's fashion. Today, this flagship store for a company that now includes Pedro del Hierro (high-end), Springfield (casual) and Women' Secret (underwear and nightwear) has enjoyed a major make-over. The new look is the work of Lázaro Rosa-Violán, who's responsible for other high-profile interior design projects in the city, and who mixes a contemporary feel with original features such as high ceilings.

Inaugurated this year, **Urban Outfitters'** Barcelona store (Plaça Catalunya, 4) is 1,870 square metres of industrial style at the heart of the city. On the ground floor a concrete wall has honeycomb-shaped lighting. Wooden floors, with Gaudí-inspired drawings, were hand-built by the shop's team. Displays and accessories have been created in-house, designed so each part of the shop adheres to the innovative style of Urban Outfitters. And large-scale artworks from Italian artist Agostino Lacurci bring a touch of softness.

Back on Portal de l'Àngel, one of the street's **H&M** stores (No 22) is located inside the former HQ of a local gas company, and its dramatic look is the handiwork of Javier Mariscal – the Valencian designer was also behind Cobi, the friendly mascot created for the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. For H&M, Mariscal harmonised the classic look of the building with the contemporary style of the popular Swedish chain.

Finally, for the ultimate in chic, tranquil shopping, check out the only Barcelona branch of **& Other Stories** (Passeig de Gràcia, 8). Although a sister store to H&M, it's clear that 'Stories' is the mature, sophisticated sibling, with clothes carefully arranged on rails by colour, enticing delicate jewellery, and an inviting ambience that makes it all but impossible to leave with your bank account untouched.



AOO

Three friends and former colleagues are behind this studio-shop in the always-worth-a-visit C/Sèneca. AOO stands for Altres Coses, Otras Cosas or Other Things, and what you'll find there are beautiful, specially selected items from both artisans and big brands to make your home an even better place. The range is ample – tea towels, perpetual calendars, notebooks with leather covers, cruet sets. Not only that, you'll find AOO's own products, including stools and boxes, all made of wood in a local workshop.

Sèneca, 8 (Gràcia)

📞 93 250 82 54

www.altrescoses.cat

IVORI

The Born is where Carola Alexandre runs this small but exquisite shop completely dedicated to Catalan design. The interior concept focuses on the original 19th-century ceiling, and Alexandre sells her own Ivori label alongside other labels and designers she's picked out, such as handmade jewellery from Penajewels, Mus&Roew shoes, unisex bags made from nautical material by Sila, Carner Barcelona perfumes, and more.

C/ dels Mirallers, 7 (Born)

📞 657 50 00 41

www.ivoribarcelona.com

WER-HAUS

For multifaceted shopping, this store located just a few steps away from Passeig de Gràcia is an ideal choice. Specialising in photography, with an art gallery and bookshop, they also stock menswear from a selection of avant-garde names and run a café serving breakfast and lunch. The owners, two Frenchmen and one Catalan, decided to join together thanks to their common interest in fashion and photography. The German-sounding name was inspired by minimalist aesthetics and pure lines from the start of the 20th century.

Aragó, 287 (Eixample Dret)

www.wer-haus.com

ÓPTICA TOSCANA

For a trip to the optician with a difference, head to this place that stands just over the road from Gaudí's emblematic Casa Milà (aka La Pedrera). Originally set up in Madrid, the company came to Barcelona a couple of years back, sticking to their approach of making their premises as appealing as their range of sunglasses. Among the brands on offer you'll find UK label Cutler and Gross, Mykita from Germany, and wooden sunglasses that are quite the thing in Barcelona these days.

Provença, 247 (Eixample Esquerre)

📞 93 467 59 78

www.opticatoscana.coi

PICNIC



MARIA DIAS



SCANDI STYLE

A small concept store with a notable Scandinavian aesthetic, this is the second shop opened by Joan Rodríguez and Raquel Bârcena, but they've purposely chosen to do something quite different at Picnic from their first venture, Padam. Here it's clothing, accessories and fashion magazines that rule the stylish roost, and it's a roll-call of local creatives – trousers from Paloma Wool, socks from Pacifico, and dresses by Béhulah (Rodríguez and Bârcena's label). You'll also find sunglasses, shoes and jewellery.

Picnic. Verdi, 17 (Gràcia)

📞 93 016 63 53

www.facebook.com/picnicstorebcn

MED WINDS

With a new store just opened on Rambla de Catalunya (No 100), this fashion label inspired by the Mediterranean lifestyle has taken off since its launch online in 2011. Using only small-scale producers from the Med region, mainly in Spain and Italy, they create limited clothing series for men and women, which have become much sought after. Clean, beautiful lines, simple colours and prints that call to mind the Mediterranean countryside. Complete your look with a bag or wallet from the Handmed collection.

Elisabets, 7 (Raval)

📞 93 619 01 79

www.medwinds.com

NUOVUM

If you like shopping in places full of innovation and fresh ideas, somewhere called Nuovum seems like a safe bet. Found close to La Rambla, this store is a hub for the latest

collections from upcoming fashion designers. The conceptual jewellery of Alba Casares contrasts with the ceramic shapes featured on the Pedrusco pieces. Olend's minimalist rucksacks clash with the ethnic styles of Mooz Design, the printed caps from Outsiders Division with the two-colour ties created by Mi Teta. Not a place for conventional fashion.

Pintor Fortuny, 30 (Raval)

📞 667 61 29 55

www.nuovum.com

IT REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING

Created in December 2013 as a pop-up store and online shop, its first permanent shop opened in November 2014, but the remit hasn't changed: to give a platform to emerging, independent designers from Barcelona. The concept is to let these up-and-comers have a space to tell their story, an outlet where people can appreciate their labours of love. What will you find? The wooden sculptures and containers from Ricardo Tena, and Loope leather bags – the handiwork of architect Mónica Juvera, who set herself the challenge of making her creations with a single piece of material.

Sagristsans, 9 (Barri Gòtic)

📞 93 318 60 20

www.itremindsmeofsomething.com

MAGNESIA

Magnesia offers a window on the work of artists from around the world, discovered by owner Leticia during her travels or while scouring websites. The furniture in the store is renovated, the floor is made of original hydraulic cement tiles, and everything with a price tag on it is dripping with creativity – from the Lieke van der Vorst illustrations to the Penélope Vallejo flowerpots, the patterned cushions and bags made with Cloud9 Fabrics organic cotton, and the Paddy Wax Library collection of candles. You're bound to fall in love.

Torrent de l'Olla, 192 (Gràcia)

📞 93 119 01 87

www.magnesiabcn.com

CUERVO COBBLERBLACK BIRD

Perfect for finding something for the footwear fetishist in your life, this shop features shoes designed and created by the two proprietors, Teresa Folguera and Emili Guirao. Having originally set up as a clothing and accessories business, the two gradually found themselves drawn to the cobbler side of their enterprise, and Guirao ended up taking lessons on how to make the shoes that Folguera designed (and she, in turn, is now taking classes in shoemaking). Handmade in the south of Spain, their models are based on classics like Oxfords and Derbys but given modern, individual touches.

Sèneca, 2 (Gràcia)

📞 93 368 13 81

www.cobblerblack.com



SHOPPING CENTRES



Eat, shop and be merry, all in one place

If you want all your shops in one place, you'll be glad that Barcelona is well-endowed with shopping centres, each with its own personality and particular appeal. If you prefer something on a smaller scale, with independent boutiques as well as various big-name stores, **Pedralbes Centre** (Av. Diagonal, 609) is an excellent choice. In the Les Corts neighbourhood, it's somewhat off the beaten track for many and tends to be slightly overlooked in favour of neighbouring department store **El Corte Inglés** and the nearby **L'illa** shopping centre. However, this means that **Pedralbes** has fewer crowds, making a morning of shopping there a more pleasurable experience, which is only enhanced by the manageable size of the retailers and the building itself. The above-mentioned **L'illa** (Av. Diagonal, 557) is a modern three-level centre that has all the familiar shops as well as some quality places for eating and drinking. If you're shopping with children in tow, this is a

great place to head, thanks to the outside space that's equipped with a park, rides and trampolines, and varied family-friendly eateries and cafés. If you tend to find shopping centres too indoorsy, and prefer the sensation of being out and about when browsing and purchasing, on the other side of Barcelona, **La Maquinista** (Potosí, 2) has been specifically designed as an open-air commercial centre. Alternatively, for anyone wanting to combine their shopping with a beach trip, **Diagonal Mar** (Av. Diagonal, 3) is located just minutes from Bogatell beach. Unsurprisingly, all of Barcelona's shopping centres have excellent dining options, with former bullring **Las Arenas** (Gran Via de Les Corts Catalanes, 373-385, pictured) and the **Glòries** mall (Av. Diagonal, 208) both exceptional in this area. **Las Arenas** has several restaurants on its roof, offering the bonus of city views with your meal, while at **Glòries**, a food hall designed in the style of a traditional city market is on offer. Finally, if you're a fan of a bargain, half an hour outside the city is **La Roca Outlet Village** (www.larocavillage.com). It's open seven days a week, with regular coach service to and from Barcelona, so you can stroll the stores and find cut-price Armani, Burberry, Gucci, La Perla, MaxMara and Versace, among many others.



HIS OWN PASSIONS

From the outside, this shop looks as though it could be in New York or Paris. And from the inside as well. That's the magic of a signature concept store – it symbolises the vast and cosmopolitan aesthetic imagination of the creator, who in this case is the Chilean interior designer Jaime Beriestain. The shop, a clear labour of love, reflects Beriestain's own interests and passions – cooking, reading, vintage decorative items – and it's also a space to showcase his own products in the shape of chairs, rugs, towels and candles.

Beriestain. Pau Claris, 167 (Eix. Dret)

📞 93 515 07 82

www.beriestain.com



MARIA DIAS



MADE IN SPAIN

In the shadow of the Santa Caterina market, this charming gift shop takes you on a trip around the crafts of Spain – local products with a history – without having to leave Barcelona. Woven products from Jaen and ceramics from the central Spanish town of Talavera. The silkscreen notebooks by Sr. Ferrer call to mind Mallorca, while the blankets of Ezcaray and Chimbo soaps from La Rioja and Bilbao, respectively, are reminiscent of everyone's favourite yaya ('granny').

La Local. Bòria, 21 (Born)

📞 659 39 33 85

www.lalocalbarcelona.com



MARIA DIAS

LA CENTRAL DEL RAVAL

Based in a former chapel, this bookshop began by specialising in the Humanities. However, today La Central has become one of Barcelona's benchmark spaces for readers, authors and publishers. You'll find titles on anthropology, architecture and design, art and film, photography, but also collections of poetry and artworks, among others. La Central has a notable selection of foreign-language novels in Barcelona, with a great variety of books in English, and not just bestsellers or classics.

Elisabets, 6 (Raval)

📞 93 317 02 93

www.lacentral.com

GIDLÖÖF

For lovers of all things vintage, Gidlöof is an absolute goldmine. They boast a collection of Scandinavian furniture from the '40s and '50s, including dining chairs, tables, armchairs and tea sets, items that Sophia and Guim stock up on during their visits to Sweden every three months. These are objects with decades of history that, before touching down in Barcelona, are screened for aesthetics and quality. Sophie also likes to pick up curtains and turn them into aprons, bibs and cushion covers, while Guim designs furniture.

Passatge Mercantil, 1 (Born)

📞 93 368 22 25

www.gidloof.com

BRAIN&BEAST

If you take fashion seriously but always with a pinch of salt, check out the workshop-flagship store of Brain&Beast where you'll find the iconic (and fun) pieces of clothing from the eponymous brand, created by Àngel Vilda, César Olivar and Verónica Raposo, which include T-shirts featuring illustrations of Yves Saint Laurent and Iris Apfel (the epic New York fashion muse is shown on their Facebook page as a loyal client), zombies, vampires and the brand's gorilla logo. You can also check out glasses from Hyde's and accessories from Musa Bajo el Árbol.

Canvis Nous, 10 (Born)

www.brainandbeast.com

THE OUTPOST

Undoubtedly one of Barcelona's best place to find the latest trends for the modern man, right on the line that runs between the classic and the innovative. With a strong list of shoe-makers in stock, such as Church's, Mark McNairy and Herschung, The Outpost is also excellent for a range of accessories, with the likes of Maquedano hats, belts from Roland Pineau and Orciani, and cashmere scarves from Begg & Co. You might give him a tie again this year, but, oh, what a tie.

Roselló, 281 (Eixample Dret)

📞 93 457 71 37

www.theoutpostbcn.com

DESIGNERS TO LOVE



BRAVA FABRICS

Unique prints (think bears, cassettes, chillis), environmentally friendly cotton and Barcelona design and production. Impeccable credentials plus stylish and elegant – that's the clothing of Brava Fabrics. www.bravafabrics.com

CORTANA

Designer Rosa Esteve creates dresses with atemporal, ethereal beauty, elegant pieces for women who want to avoid trends. Natural materials – silk muslins, satin, organza and cotton tulle – enhance the feminine lines. [Flassaders, 41](#)



OSCAR H. GRAND

The revival of classic tailoring in Barcelona is largely down to Grand, his designs and personal style. In his shop you'll find trousers, shirts, jackets and overcoats – dress like a dandy without breaking the bank. [Barra de Ferro, 7](#)



COLMILLO DE MORSA

In record time, Elisabet Vallecillo and Javier Blanco have converted Colmillo into a cult label. But their Gràcia and Born shops also stock work by various exciting young creatives, with whom they share tastes and concerns. [Vic, 15](#)





HELP AT HAND

To get the most out of your Barcelona Christmas shopping experience, make sure you check out the website barcelonashoppingline.com. Available in English, French and German, as well as Spanish and Catalan, it's full of information to help you find all kinds of shops, with a map, suggested routes and information about related events.

parents' wallets) want, they can invest in pieces they like. The works on display are full of colour and stars – dreaming children, love-struck magicians, imaginary animals and naughty aliens.

Sèneca, 31 (Gràcia)

📞 93 237 78 65

www.plomgallery.com

IMPOSSIBLE PROJECT

Impossible Project is a worldwide venture that in 2008 bought the last functioning Polaroid factory (in Austria) to ensure that the brand's 200 million instant cameras around the world wouldn't become useless in the blink of an eye. Today they make not only the film but their own range of analogue cameras as well. At this outpost in Barcelona, they sell original accessories, cameras in a range of formats and colours, as well as the latest Impossible creations, books and magazines.

Tantarantana, 16 (Born)

📞 93 318 38 19

www.impossible-barcelona.com

LA CUINA D'EN GARRIGA

This is a two-for-the-price-of-one place in the shape of a delicatessen that's a veritable paradise of locally made and foreign products combined with a highly regarded restaurant (photographer Mario Testino was a recent diner). If you're shopping for a demanding gourmand, this is the place to visit. Stock up on gift baskets containing olive oil, preserves and dried fruits; local biscuits, sausages and cheeses; and specialised tools. Plus it's the chance to take a break from your hard work with a well-deserved spot of sustenance.

Consell de Cent, 308 (Eixample Dret)

📞 93 215 72 15

www.lacuinadengarriga.com



BRUSSOSA

As well as striking jewellery and scarves, what you'll find in Brussosa is European-made leather bags, all created using artisanal production methods. The Brussosa sisters only select high-quality items that will last for generations – the majority are Italian labels, such as Numero 10, Vive la Difference, Majo and Campomaggi, but they have also created their own eponymous line of bags. In 2009, the sisters opened their first shop next to Turó Park, and it went so well that four years later they opened

another, close to Passeig de Gràcia.

Provença, 292 (Eixample Dret)

📞 93 414 4603

www.brussosa.com

PLOM GALLERY

This is an art gallery where the main target audience is children. It's the brainchild of Martha Zimmerman, herself a mother who also works as a representative for illustrators and moves in the circles of many artists. She's created a place for the little ones to learn about art, and, if they (and their



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Peru



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iedbarcelona.es · ied.es



WINTER TERRACES



One of the best things about Barcelona is being able to grab a bite or a drink outside in a square or on a restaurant terrace. But what about during the colder months? Can you still enjoy people watching and a breath of crisp air? The answer is yes, and we'll tell you where you can have lunch or a nice vermouth and a snack when the winter sun is shining. We've also found some of the best-equipped spaces in the city where you can sit outside at night without catching your death of cold. Outdoor heaters and fellow outdoor types provide enough warmth to chase the chill away. By Xavier Sancho

EL JARDÍ DE L'APAT

You don't have to go to out to the countryside to have a *calçotada* (traditional Catalan feast starring the humble *calçot*, which is similar to a leek, and mountains of grilled meats). You don't even have to go beyond Collserola park on Tibidabo. You just have to get to this restaurant, located near Carmel Park. They have more than ten set menus, including a *calçotada* menu that includes endless *calçots*, barbecued meats, a drink, bread and dessert. Their terrace is raised a few metres above the pavement, and is shaded with umbrellas and hundred-year-old trees. At some point during the meal, someone is bound to say, 'It doesn't even seem like we're in Barcelona.' Whoever does, pays.

Albert Llanas, 2 (Horta-Guinardó)

☎ 93 285 77 50

www.eljardidelapat.cat

LA FONT DEL GAT

Located in a building constructed for the International Exposition of 1929 that makes for an incomparable setting, this restaurant is an oasis of tranquility and nature. It's so dreamy that you'll want to write poems on the napkins and draw pictures on your electricity bills. They have set lunch menus, and they'll also do set dinner menus for groups. In the winter months, the café closes at 6pm. Just when the sun is beginning to set and everyone starts thinking about heading down to lower ground. And just when someone decides it's a good time to burst into song. Whoever does, pays.

Pg. de Santa Madrona, 28 (Montjuïc)

☎ 93 289 04 04

www.lafontdelgat.com

BARCELÓ RAVAL

The Barceló Raval Hotel offers two terrace experiences. One is on the rooftop, located almost 80 metres above the ground and boasting 360-degree views of Barcelona. To call this aerial view of our fair city a skyline would be a bit pretentious. The other terrace is located on the ground floor, which opens onto Rambla del Raval and Plaça Manuel Vázquez Montalbán, and belongs to BLounge, the hotel's bar, restaurant and club. The experience here is more 'Raval-y', and so, by definition, less peaceful than you might find in other spots. Still, you can sip a cocktail surrounded by scenes that look like they're out of 'Slumdog Millionaire'.

Rambla del Raval, 17-21 (Raval)

☎ 93 320 14 90

www.barcelo.com/Raval

FILFERRO

This place has an Italian air about it, plus it gets excellent midday sun. What's more, it's located in a small and protected square, creating a sort of microclimate. Unlike other



spots in Barceloneta that have shed their seagoing identity to attract customers looking for the cheapest meals their budgets can buy, Filferro offers an excellent range of local cuisine. The bread is from the Baluard bakery, now a benchmark with both restaurants and locals. The restaurant's ambience is what used to be described as 'yuppie', though now, what with the ravages of neo-liberalism, the yuppie seems more like an endangered species.

Sant Carles, 29 (Barceloneta)

☎ 93 221 98 36

www.restaurante-filferro.com

CAN GANASSA

Another Barceloneta terrace, Can Ganassa is also in a well-protected square to keep out the winter cold. But there, the products, the style and the service are everything you would imagine in this neighbourhood. The waiters are welcoming and cheerful – just what you need at the end of a long day. The design here is defined by the very lack of it, unlike the atmosphere, which is great. Out on the terrace, the sun beats down hard at lunchtime, and the fact that it's a bit far from the beaches, and that Passeig de Joan de Borbón hasn't filled up yet, means that finding a table is not completely out of the question.

Plaça de la Barceloneta, 6 (Barceloneta)

☎ 93 221 75 86

www.canganassa.com

CENTRE CÍVIC CAN DEU

Jazz concerts, men playing dominoes, and children running around everywhere. Families, party people with hangovers, and women returning from the market. Aside from all this you'll find good things to eat and drink at the bar. In the middle of the courtyard is a fountain surrounded by benches, while inside the building there are workshops, exhibitions and other activities traditionally associated

with local community centres, which is what this is, after all.

Plaça de la Concòrdia, 13 (Les Corts)

☎ 93 410 10 07

www.cccandeu.com

LA CANDELA

With no offence to the historians and pedants of the city, Plaça de Sant Pere is known to many as Plaça of La Candela. This idyllic location, with its church, photogenic lamp post, and tiled street, is one of the prettiest corners of the neighbourhood. And, in the midst of this Barcelona diorama is the restaurant's terrace. The food is a fusion, but very modest. They have a set lunch menu, but if you go at a popular hour, you'll die of starvation before getting a table. That's why we recommend you dine under the winter sun, read the paper and, most importantly, ask yourself, 'Where in the world would I be better off than right here?'

Plaça de Sant Pere, 12 (Born)

☎ 93 310 62 42

LA VINYA DEL SENYOR

Location is everything. And this classic of the Born district has one of the most coveted terraces in the city. That said, they've also got an enviable wine menu, with an ample selection of bottles and wines by the glass that they change regularly. Their anchovy olives and *longaniza* (spicy pork sausage) are magnificent. And even if you already know, we'll tell you again because you may have walked past their terrace several times and not been able to find a seat. So, if you look outside and it's raining so hard that it seems like the end of days, don't stay in. Run to this terrace, fast – because you won't have a better chance to enjoy it. When the good weather comes, so do the groups of tourists, university students, wedding parties...

Plaça Santa Maria, 5 (Born)

☎ 93 310 33 79

www.facebook.com/vinyadelsenyor

EL TÍO CHE

Is there anything more unnatural than sitting on a terrace in December, when all they say about the warm Mediterranean climate seems like a bad joke? Well, go ahead and sit at this terrace and enjoy a nice summertime drink, the horchata. Seeing people sitting on the terrace of El Tío Che, located in the most traditional and beautiful part of the Rambla de Poblenou, one would think that climate change is a fallacy. It's true that horchata is a state of mind, like summertime, or New York. Don't think that they don't serve less summery options here, they do. But going to El Tío Che and not having an horchata is like going to Italy and not eating pizza.

Rambla del Poblenou, 44 (Poblenou)

☎ 93 309 18 72

www.eltioche.es

FOR THE EVENING

Sit out under a clear Mediterranean night sky—the stars shining, the moon gleaming – and enjoy some fabulous al fresco food and drink



tables. Sweden has been completely metabolised by Barcelona here, and this bar is like any other in Gràcia. Well, almost. This is a fantastic place where, in a fit of journalistic laziness, we could say that there's a great vibe. Apart from the owner, some of the servers and a few customers, what will remind you the most of Sweden is the cold you'll experience out on the terrace in winter. But never mind – it's still a great alternative to the neighbouring and overcrowded Plaça Virreina. There are only four tables outside Cafè Suec, where you'll find all sorts: the kind of people who go swimming on Christmas morning, hypothermic smokers, and hunters taking advantage of the bar windows to get a good view of their prey.

C/ de les Tres Senyores, 1 (Gràcia)
☎ 93 213 30 49

BAR LOBO

The restaurant group Tragaluz took a few years to figure out what Lobo was going to be. It went through many changes in its structure, its concept and its food. Would it be a club upstairs? And would there be a DJ on the floor below? Maybe it could be an informal restaurant? A Japanese restaurant? Maybe a sort-of Japanese restaurant? While all this confusion was occurring inside, Lobo's terrace became the civilised option in the small square outside, where it competes with its neighbouring terraces from Mirinda and Segarra. Very popular with tourists, Lobo's terrace wins extra points during the winter months for the comfort factor.

Pintor Fortuny, 3 (Raval)
☎ 93 481 53 46
www.grupotragaluz.com

EL MERENDERO DE LA MARI

Sometimes, when you find yourself in the midst of winter, eating at this seafood restaurant that specialises in rice dishes, you feel like a Japanese soldier who, decades after WWII, continues to wander armed through the jungle, convinced that you still have an empire to

HOTEL CLARIS

There's something about a terrace that really draws 'em in. If there's no terrace, it's not like people stand around complaining about it. But if there is a terrace, they'll queue up to get a seat. It's like the line, 'If you build it, they will come,' that the little girl keeps telling her dad in *Field of Dreams*. Some time ago, the good folks at Hotel Claris decided to keep their terrace open during the winter months. Although the cover that keeps the heat in does block some of the view, it also serves to ensure a cosy area where you can dine on their gastronomic offerings such as turbot with couscous, or eggs with potatoes and caviar. They also have a cocktail bar, and you can enjoy live music there three times a week.

Pau Claris, 150 (Eixample Dret)
☎ 93 487 62 62
www.hotelclaris.com

ORIO

Its location makes Orio one of the most interesting eateries in Barcelona. Right on C/Ferran and with an open-air terrace on the Pas de l'Ensenyança, Orio, which belongs to the Sagardi group, is a tapas bar with designer pretensions. Inside, the room is presided over by a huge rowing boat. Outside, meanwhile, the terrace has half a dozen tables with outdoor heaters, all of which help to give this narrow passageway a welcoming, cosy feel. Feast on typically Basque *pintxos* (often described in shorthand as tapas on bread), or opt for a

warming hot dish. When it comes time to pay the bill, you might find it a bit higher than you'd have liked (it's hard to get away with paying less than €20, even if you just have tapas), but sitting on a terrace that's so much in demand gives you a certain caché.

Ferran, 38 (Barri Gòtic)
☎ 93 330 03 03
www.oriogastronomiavasca.com

CAFÈ SUEC

No one comes to this 'Swedish Café' to get ideas for their next Ikea visit. You also aren't likely to find any Volvo keys lying around on the





BAR CALDERS

Tapas are a great option for terrace dining – feast on them at places across the city

yourself a spot on the terrace at sunset, and watch the atmosphere change as the evening turns into night.

Arai, 5
 📞 637 589 269

A CONTRALUZ

A restaurant in a garden, A Contraluz is beautiful and tasteful. The cuisine is Mediterranean and modern, but not at all intimidating. The ambience is a bit refined yet magnificent, filled with plants and other green zones. The place is so romantic that when the waitress comes to take your order, be sure you don't lose focus on ordering the *merluza a la naranja* (hake with orange) and unwittingly drop to one knee and propose to her. The terrace is designed to be accessible year round without anyone losing any digits to frostbite. The outdoor space is covered and heated, an increasingly popular choice for local restaurants that don't want to suffer more losses than necessary among their smoking clientele.

Millanesat, 19 (Sarrià)
 📞 93 203 06 58
www.grupotragaluz.com

BAR CALDERS

This cul-de-sac named after the late Catalan writer and illustrator Pere Calders, who was renowned for his storytelling, has recently become home to one of the loveliest spots in Sant Antoni. They have books by the author, the draught beer flows freely, and there's a selection of tapas that sends shivers of pleasure through the district. Obviously, the best thing to try is the vermouth. They stock four brands, but if you want to try a Priorat, then you should go for the one from Falset. The outdoor terrace is one of the district's best kept secrets, and once you're in on it, you'll just keep coming back.

Parlament, 25 (Sant Antoni)
 📞 93 329 93 49

TAPAS 24

It won't be long before the sun never sets on Chef Carlos Abellán's empire, and a squirrel will be able to scamper from one of his places to the next without ever touching the floor. One of Abellán's most successful businesses is this tapas restaurant, right off Passeig de Gràcia. Its terrace, complete with heaters and protective wall, is one of the few spots you can eat outside without everyone on the street passing you thinking that you lost a bet. The *bikini* (toasted ham and cheese) sandwich is delicious, the croquettes are out of this world, and the prices are reasonable. Drivers stopped at the light will look at you with so much envy that you'll feel happy to be you.

Diputació, 269 (Eixample Dret)
 📞 93 488 09 77
www.carlesabellan.com



BAR LOBO

defend. It's winter, it's cold out, and the ocean view from your table isn't very appealing, romantic or refreshing. You're imagining others throughout the city eating lovely stews loaded with so many calories that they'll be able to sit out on their balconies afterward in their T-shirts. But here you are, with your seafood paella, basking in the outdoor heating. It's a lost battle, perhaps, but it's also a sweet and delicious defeat.

Plaça de Pau Vila, 11 (Barceloneta)
 📞 93 221 31 41
www.merenderodelamari.com

OVISO

This is a timeless classic, like Bob Dylan albums, John Ford films and Evelyn Waugh novels. It's a place you always have to take your friends when they visit Barcelona. And your mother-in-law, if you never want her to visit again. With its bohemian and meditative interior vibe, Oviso has a terrace that's a sociological study with metal tables. The kitchen is not as ambitious as it is effective, but you can get a dish for a fiver, and you can eat until 1am. We recommend you try to find

TRILL AT RAZZMATAZZ

DIRTY AT RAZZMATAZZ



CLUB MARABÚ AT UPLOAD CLUB



THE BEST PARTIES IN BARCELONA

KEEP ON

#01

TRILL AT RAZZMATAZZ

They call it 'Internet club music'. Spain's biggest Future Beats club night takes over Barcelona's five-room Razzmatazz club (Almogàvers, 122) every Saturday evening, and features the up-and-coming stars of the hardcore continuum – artists who are writing the future of dubstep, garage and jungle, such as AarabMuzik, Baauer, Nguzunguzu and local Alizzz. Party like it's 2016!

www.facebook.com/trillrazzmatazz

#02

LIBIDO AT NITSA CLUB

It's seven years since Gon and I started our adventures on the edges of electronic music at Nitsa@Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113), and we're still going hard. With an

upbeat soundtrack of '90s house, served with plentiful helpings of disco, boogie and soul, Libido has become an institution. The line-up mainly consists of local DJs, although we also invite monthly international guests to mix things up a bit.

www.facebook.com/libidobarcelona

#03

SWITCH BAR

If you end up at Switch (Francisco Giner, 24), you might well find Sunny Graves, Fede Erdán, Abu Sou or Nehuen at the decks. In this half-bar, half-club hybrid hangout, which is managed by the impeccable Deckard, they serve generous cocktails that you can enjoy in two connected spaces (one more laid-back, the other with a DJ booth and bar) with music selected by the best DJs in town. Not to be missed.

www.facebook.com/SwitchBar

#04

33/45

The ideal place for a quick drink before the night really gets going – but don't be surprised if you get stuck (in the best sense of the word) with a soundtrack that runs from Burial to Bonobo via Björk and James Brown. 33/45 (Joaquín Costa, 4) is a haven of great taste, and has become a BCN nightlife essential.

www.facebook.com/33.45bar

#05

CLUB MARABÚ AT SALA UPLOAD

Club Marabú (Sala Upload in Poble Espanyol, Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guardia, 13) is the electronic club night Barcelona needed. With a '90s aesthetic, promoters Canada and Drakis have devised a party whose USPs are musical eclecticism and an out-of-control dance floor.

www.clubmarabu.com

NITSA CLUB

From afterwork to xurros, party on till dawn

Going clubbing requires planning and premeditation – but sometimes it just doesn't happen that way. You start out with a few innocent beers and plenty of good intentions, and end up struggling to find your way home. It's a familiar story in Barcelona where drinks with work colleagues can easily segue into a 7am breakfast of samosas outside Apolo club. A rough game plan for a lost Friday night might start at the after-

work session at Collage (Consellers, 4), with its top-notch cocktails and free tapas. Then, as it's next door, how about a stand-up supper at Bar del Pla (Montcada, 2)? Try the oxtail with foie gras – it's delicious, sustaining and comes in small portions (after three cocktails at Collage you won't have room for much more). You're on a roll, so mosey across the Born to the venerable Magic Club (Passeig de Picasso, 40) to dance to punk, rock and new wave until 6am. Now it really is time for bed, but on the way home, drop in at Xurreria San Roman (Consell de Cent, 211) and stave off the inevitable hangover with *xurros con xocolate* – long, sugary, doughnuts to dip in hot, thick chocolate sauce. Or one last beer, who knows?

DANCING!

By **Pau Roca**

#06

DUETS AT NITSA CLUB

Nitsa's claim to be Barcelona's top club night for electronic music is undisputed, but if you can time your visit to coincide with Duets you're doubly fortunate – this is a session that features two top-name DJs sharing the decks. Past nights have starred Prins Thomas and Skatebard, Madteo and DJ Sotofett, and Ivan Smagghe and Marc Piñol. Double trouble.

www.nitsa.com

#07

WEDNESDAYS AT MOOG

The city's pocket-sized Berghain keeps delivering big names in international techno, with the most authentic atmosphere in Barcelona. Its only remaining real techno club has an uncompromising music policy

that mixes locals regulars – Gus Van Sound, Olmos, Uroz – with label nights and special guests (Arc del Teatre, 3).

www.masimas.com/es/moog

#08

EL DIRTY AT RAZZMATAZZ

Competing with Nasty Mondays at Apolo for the title of the wildest party in town, El Dirty at Razzmatazz has a tagline that says it all: 'All the hits you can imagine mixed all together (now!)'. With all the attitude and energy of a gay-friendly party night, it's ideal for clubbers who can't wait until the weekend.

www.facebook.com/eldirtyderazzmatazz

#09

CHURROS CON CHOCOLATE

A playlist that's a potpourri of kitsch (from commercial radio hits to mariachi hymns)

plus an anarchic, up-for-it atmosphere. Entrance is free, everyone is welcome and it takes place once a month at Apolo. If you want to discover the secret of happiness, mark it on your calendar. You won't regret it. www.facebook.com/Churros-con-Chocolate-353099171375605/

#10

VENTÚ

VenTú has redefined the concept of the afternoon vermouth for a new generation. That means fewer grandpas sipping aperitifs and nibbling olives, more live music, party atmosphere and uninhibited dancing, all with a glass of ice-cold vermouth in hand. With ever-changing venues, this is a perfect early afternoon shindig for the last day of the week, proving that Sundays are the new Fridays.

www.ventubcn.es

MUSICAL MASTER

At Barcelona's Liceu opera house this month, a production of Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* sees Peruvian tenor Juan Diego Flórez take the male lead for the first time.

By **Andreu Gomila**



Born in Lima 42 years ago, Juan Diego Flórez had his stage debut at the age of 21. A maestro of bel canto, he takes the role of Lucia's lover Edgardo in the production at the Liceu this month.

For a singer of your renown, what does it mean to incorporate the role of Edgardo into your extensive repertoire?

The role of Edgardo is very similar to other bel canto roles that I've sung, for example in *The Sleepwalker* and, more recently, *The Favourite*. My voice has changed, particularly in the middle range, and it's much more comfortable for me to sing in this central part of the voice – it's slightly more sonorous and expressive, which fits very well with the role of Edgardo. It's an excellent part, full of very expressive, very moving moments. I'm very happy to sing an opera that I've always admired and that, in addition, was the opera that I saw the great Alfredo Kraus perform live in New York.

What is the significance of Donizetti to you, having successfully sung some of his other operas, such as *The Daughter of the Regiment* and *Don Pasquale*?

Donizetti was a voice specialist, he knew it very well and wrote brilliantly. However, singing his operas requires a lot of technical skill because they're very difficult. For example, the role of Edgardo is extremely hard. It was debuted by none other than Duprez, the singer who, together with Nourrit, was the best in Europe at the time. *The Daughter of the Regiment* is another very tricky work, especially the 'Ah, mes amis' aria, but Donizetti knew how to write for the voice and he knows how to put each challenging part in the right place.

And in Barcelona, what inspires you?

Barcelona is a city I've been to many times – I love it. I love the climate, especially when in the rest of Europe it's full-on winter. The opera house is a place where I feel at home, and the public has also supported me, I've felt that typical Barcelona warmth. The Liceu is also known for its severity – and the difficulty required to win over its public – but I have to say that the combination of an understanding public and a warm public can only be found in Barcelona.

Your father played popular Peruvian music. In what ways has he influenced you?

My father was a singer of Peruvian music, of Criollo waltzes from the coastal area, and was a great performer of [Peruvian singer and composer] Chabuca Granda's works. My father always had a well-trained voice, almost a tenor's voice. He used breathing and nuances very well, and I'm sure that hearing him has played its part in the way that I sing opera.

Why did you dedicate yourself to opera if you could have been a pop star?

Before entering the conservatory, I didn't listen to classical music or opera. It was when I went into the conservatory that I discovered my voice

and decided to dedicate myself to opera. But it wasn't immediate. In my first year I was undecided and didn't know whether to keep doing pop or change to opera. Ultimately it was classical music that won me over. I joined the national choir, and after a while decided that I wanted to do opera. I was fascinated with how the human voice could manage to do so much and sing so beautifully.

Gastón Acurio, Mario Vargas Llosa and you are currently the most famous Peruvians in the world. What is your relationship with them?

I have a very good relationship with both of them. I even did a TV show with Mario Vargas Llosa, and we've seen each other on many occasions. He's been in the audience for several of my performances, such as in Salzburg, Madrid and Barcelona. Gastón Acurio

“

DONIZETTI WAS A VOICE SPECIALIST AND WROTE BRILLIANTLY. HOWEVER, SINGING HIS WORKS REQUIRES A LOT OF TECHNICAL SKILL BECAUSE THEY'RE VERY DIFFICULT”

is also a friend, and even though I don't see him as often as Mario Vargas Llosa, we do keep in touch.

Which Peruvian dishes do you like the most? Do you cook them?

Yes, I like to cook some of my favourite Peruvian dishes at home. I suppose ceviche is the king of Peruvian cuisine. But there are others that I like a lot, such as *papas a la huancaína* (potatoes in a cheese and chili sauce) and *la causa* (mashed potato with corn and meat).

Peruvian cooking is currently a big trend around the world. Why do you think that is?

I think it's always been very good, it just hasn't been promoted in the way it is now. It's especially thanks to Gastón Acurio that Peruvian cooking is now thriving as it is, and that we can find so many great Peruvian restaurants in different countries. In addition, three of the 50 best restaurants in the world are in Peru.



BARCELONA OBERTURA

Barcelona's classical music open to the world

Barcelona Obertura Classic & Lyric is a new venture that brings together the city's key classical music venues – the Gran Teatre del Liceu, L'Auditori and the Palau de la Música Catalana – and concert organiser Ibercamara in a joint venture. Already well-known to many for their top-class performances, this latest association aims to extend the global reach and reputation of these venues even further, and demonstrate Barcelona's wealth of classical music programming.

UNMISSABLE PERFORMANCES

An extensive programme for 2016 has been created, with themes including Stars of the Piano, Musical Spring and Festival of the Arts. It features concerts that highlight the work of a range of composers, from Gershwin to Händel, Dvorak to Verdi, with eminent musicians and conductors from around the world coming to Barcelona to perform in the spectacular surrounds of the three participating venues. Among the enticing range of scheduled events, next month, Sir John Eliot Gardiner will lead a performance of Mozart's 'Great mass in C minor' at L'Auditori, while the same venue welcomes pianist Lang Lang in February, and later in the year, Daniele Gatti conducts the Wiener Philharmoniker at the Palau de la Música. At the Liceu opera house in April, Plácido Domingo returns to the theatre 50 years after his debut there, to sing the titular role for three nights of a production of Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra*.

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR

This month's production of Lucia di Lammermoor at the Liceu is part of the Barcelona Obertura programme. Written by Gaetano Donizetti in the 1830s, based on the 1819 novel *The Bride of Lammermoor* by Sir Walter Scott, the story takes place in Scotland, and is a familiar one – Lucia and Edgardo fall in love despite a feud between their respective families, and tragedy ensues.

www.barcelonaobertura.com

Shopping & Style

Edited by
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Misui. It's a word that catches the eye without instantly revealing what it means. Could it be the name of the latest hit cuddly toy, the one your kids will be asking Santa for? Good guess, but it's actually a shortening of Mi Suiza ('My Switzerland' in Spanish), a creative venture from watch company Unión Suiza that, as it celebrates its 175th anniversary, has decided to go back to its origins. When the Vendrell family started the business, it was a jewellery-making enterprise, and now the descendants of the founders have brought on board talents such as strategy director Joan Gomis, interior designer Diego Ramos and artist Marc Monzó as artistic director to give shape to a project that is inspired by the new luxury movement.

Creative collaborations

Local, sustainable production, careful artisanal assembly, and the use of unchanged noble materials are the brand's priorities. This is emphasised during a visit to the main floor of the Unión Suiza flagship store in Avinguda Diagonal, a space where luxury takes on a parabolic dimension. Monzó

Nouveau luxe jewellery

Catalan watch company Unión Suiza has launched a line of high-end jewellery.

By **Eugènia Sendra**



MARC MONZÓ

guides us through each of the collections that they've created with designer Estela Guitart – there are pieces made with precious stones from the famous Munsteiner house in Germany, which has been persuaded to make special cuts for Misui. Other examples, such as the 'Via' collection from Guitart, play with the shapes and patterns allowed by gold leaf. What's notable is that Guitart and Monzó have created a top-of-the-range line, making it sophisticated without sacrificing style, as highlighted by the irreverent and punky necklaces in the 'Fruitful' collection, which is the work of Monzó.

Misui's concept of jewellery is extensive – the brand is looking to collaborate with craftspeople in the Barcelona area who stand out for their savoir faire. Milliners Nina Pawlowsky and Cristina de Prada as well as shoemaker Norman Vilalta have been the first to join the project, which seeks to collaborate with the city's creative culture.

MISUI

Av. Diagonal, 482 (Sant Gervasi).

www.misui.es

EXCLUSIVE The jewels are the stars

PENDANT

In the Light/Beam collection, the linearity of baguette-cut diamonds is teamed with platinum to create this striking piece (€3,450).



EARRINGS

Yellow gold from sustainable sources, and aquamarines and citrines from Munsteiner star in the delicate Klar collection by Estela Guitart (€7,400).

NECKLACE

Multicoloured flashes of light feature, courtesy of golden beryls, citrines, amethysts and morganites, specially cut by the Munsteiner workshop (€14,900).



RING

Adorn and adore your finger with this double gem ring from the Klar collection featuring golden beryl and morganite, and 18k gold (€3,850).

You inspire us

Otter is a wood-based digital project, and the multifaceted Maria Carvajal is the woman behind it. By **Eugènia Sendra**

Maria Carvajal is euphoric. She studied audiovisual communication as a way to give shape to what she had going on in her head and, after years of doing a variety of jobs (including saleswoman, scriptwriter, stylist and digital strategist), she has found the space and time for her own project, alongside Mike San Román. Just launched, Otter is a platform for users dreaming of made-to-measure wooden furniture that can actually be made. Carvajal says her taste for carpentry comes from her dad, and that Otter started to take shape after she spent four months looking for someone who could make a dining table for her home. She likes getting into the spirit of projects, linking people, making them feel cared for. That's why she decided to share on a blog what she's learned while practising holistic osteopathy. She's a zen freelancer who speaks eloquently, and says she's turned 30 with her head held high.

www.otter.es

GET THE LOOK!

STYLISH EYES

Carvajal favours Òptica Toscana – more than 20 years of experience and a great range (Provença, 247).

SIGNATURE SHOES

A fan of small labels, Carvajal loves Deux Souliers shoes – find them at Colmillo de Morsa (Flassaders, 12).

MARIA DIAS



RELATED PROJECTS

If the magazine *Freunden von Freunden* visited her house, they would come across designs by local creators, such as lights from Denoe Design.



GLASSES FOREVER

When it comes to glasses, Carvajal opts for Mykita; when it's sunny, she wears her much-loved Alfred Kerbs shades.



PERFECT DUETS

Carvajal likes robust, solid, Japanese-style furniture, and the personality that each object creates. In this case, she was seduced by the burnt wood table by Zach Dallman.

A decade of vintage



It was back in 2005 when Renier Guerra opened one of Barcelona's first shops dedicated to vintage luxury goods. A lover of antiques and one-off pieces, this Cuban entrepreneur decided to baptise his new space with the words they used in his family to denote grace and style when dressing, *Le Swing*.

The shop's moved since then – from the Raval neighbourhood to the Born – and a second emporium, *Blow*, has opened, but Guerra and his partner Guiselle Berntson are still doing the same as they were a decade ago: selling special, quality products that have a story behind them. The two travel regularly to Los Angeles and Paris, and select each accessory and piece of clothing one by one, from brands such as YSL, Chanel and Hermès (the Kelly bag is one of their most sought-after articles). Loyal clients wait with devotion for new arrivals at *Blow*, which focuses on pieces from the '80s to today, and *Le Swing*, the truly vintage space, with stock that dates from between the '20s and '80s. They change their products each season, and the gamut of styles and prices (from €20 to €2,000) is wide-ranging. Guerra insists you don't need a lot of money to dress with swing. –E.S.

LE SWING / BLOW
Rec, 16 / Bonaire, 6 (Born).
www.leswingvintage.com

Sale samples



BCN in your pocket

BCN Brand is a company that smoothly sums up the verb *diversify*. They began with trainers, then moved onto swimwear, moped helmets, sunglasses, mobile covers and more. The latest addition – made in partnership with Catalan leather company Lugalpell – is a colourful collection of purses and wallets, some adorned with BCN Brand's own monogram, the modernista tiles of Barcelona's streets. **Purse:** €65. **BCN Brand** (*Canvis Nous, 7*). www.bcnbrand.com

At Chie's feet

Yes, we confess it. We're big fans of the designer Chie Mihara. She

surprises us with every new collection, thanks to her fresh, genuine vision of shoes for women. Perhaps it's because she's always willing to break the rules, play with vibrant colours and combine impossible textures with confidence.

Among the different lines that Mihara has created for this autumn-winter season we like the most futuristic (pictured below), with ankle strap, gold toe and an imposing heel.

Nuce by Chie Mihara: €266. **Find at Sueños Negros** (*Verdi, 13*). www.chiemihara.com.

The star of René

They say that René Lacoste was a pioneer in many areas, including tennis and business, which he combined to come up with the crocodile polo shirt. To pay homage to its spiritual father, the brand has created a range that includes jumpers, sweaters

and polo shirts inspired by the '70s, and which are decorated with self-referential, light-hearted phrases. From 'Tennis Anyone?' to the proclamation that 'René did it first', this is a line that's perfect for true Lacoste-philies. **Lacoste** (*Passeig de Gràcia, 51*).

A one-off mug

Recovering the essence of design and ensuring that function and materials are what give an object its shape are key parts of the approach taken by the small producer of domestic

items, Matimañana (*matí* and *mañana* are the words for 'morning' in Catalan and Spanish,



respectively – however, in this case it refers to a phrase that's popular in the southern Ebre area of Catalonia, which means 'the early bird catches the worm'). It's easy to fall in love with their line of sturdy and elegant mugs made of glazed ceramic and a wooden handle. The other virtue of Matimañana is that they're firm supporters of local production, resulting in limited editions that are all made in the Barcelona area. **Grey Mug:** €23. **Buy at OMG BCN** (*Plaça de la Llana, 7*) or online at www.m-m.com.

By Laia Beltran and Eugènia Sendra



Clothes that emerge



The designer and psychologist Lourdes Verdugo has saluted the sun for many years, as part of her daily yoga routine. In fact, her experience of this practice is so intense that it helped inspire the creation of her most recent clothing range, Asana. It stays loyal to her restrained, minimalist style but includes a dark element.

Comfortable, versatile pieces that ease the freedom of movement, and that she's dubbed, appropriately enough, with the names of different asanas (yoga positions).

And it's true that to get dressed is to emerge. For women, Verdugo has created tops, long dresses (such as the seductive Tadasana, which outlines the silhouette), sweatshirts and various bodysuits (the Ubhaya Padhanghustasana is beautiful, leaving the whole back uncovered and which is like wearing a second skin). For the men, there's a selection of sweatshirts and jackets. Every Asana piece is created in a striking palette of black and grey. –L.B.

VERDUGO

Find the line at Ivori, Mirallers, 7. www.verdugoclothing.com

Object of desire

LEATHER BONBONS

SUR/SAC are fans of elegant accessories, as well as local and Italian artisans who work with leather. The result is beautiful bags, the kind you keep forever. **Eleonora Mini** (€240). Available at Nonchalante, Aribau, 203. www.sursac.es



Sporty times

Trainers for every occasion – and there's no doubt that for travelling they make comfortable companions. By **Eugènia Sendra**

At Number Shoes (Espaseria, 7) and Odd Barcelona (Mallorca, 279) you'll find more unique trainers

RUNNER'S SPIRIT



OXFORD STYLE? YES, SIR

A new incarnation of the Nike Free Inneva. Light, flexible and breathable. €176. Pg. de Gràcia, 29

DRESSING UP



URBAN SNEAKERS

Designed in BCN, you can identify this cosmopolitan footwear by its circle. €99. Vialis, Verdi, 39

FORCEFUL MESSAGE



PURE MINIMALISM

Cos say it loud and clear with their bare-bones, lace-free trainers. €99. Pg. de Gràcia, 27



UNORTHODOX VERSION

What makes them different from Asics' iconic trainer? Look at the tongue. €105. Diagonal, 543



TWEED RETURNS

Labels like Meyba are rediscovering the classic material. €89.95. Buy in Conti, Av. Diagonal, 512



NEW BLOOD

Camper's new creative director Romain Kremer makes his mark with the Gemma. €199. València, 249



ODE TO THE '90S

A women's version, in neoprene, of the Adidas Tubular, recognisable by the sole. €100. Pg. de Gràcia, 3



BARCELONA BRAND

Munich's Futura range comes in seven colour options. €114.95. Antic de Sant Joan, 4



LIFTED UP

These Stella McCartney running shoes have a hint of platform. €497. Pg. de Gràcia, 102

Things to Do

Read about
out-of-town
Christmas
markets
on p. 64

Ding dong, merrily on high

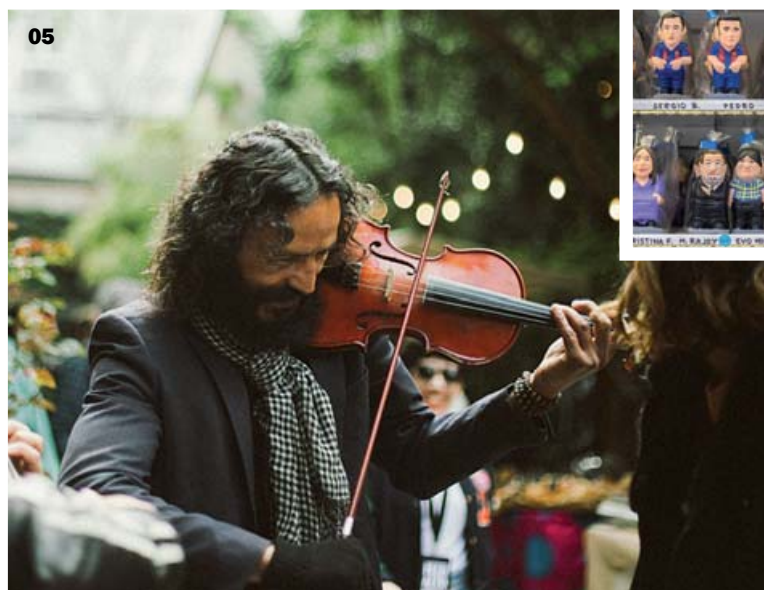
Barcelona is a hotbed of seasonal markets, with gifts, ornaments and much more for you to stock up on. By **Hannah Pennell**

1 Traditional For Barcelona residents, a trip to the **Santa Llúcia market** (Pl. de la Catedral, until Dec 23) is almost obligatory at this time of year. First held in 1786, it sells ornaments, Christmas trees, greenery and logs with faces. These are *tiós*, which are 'fed' by children in the days leading up to Christmas Eve, when said minors beat the log to make it defecate (*cagar* in Catalan, hence this fun activity is sometimes known as *cagatió*) presents. Santa Llúcia is also the place where local families go to stock up on items for their *pessebres* (nativity scenes), which are typical in many Catalan homes. As well as Jesus, Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels and the Three Kings, you'll find Roman soldiers, peasants and a big selection of animals, and not forgetting battery-powered fires and waterwheels, various buildings, and bridges and rivers. But the star for many is the *caganer*. Another word deriving from *cagar*, this one refers to a squatting figure, trousers round his ankles, in the process of doing his business. Traditionally, the *caganer* is dressed as a Catalan peasant, in red *barretina* hat, white shirt and black trousers. However, some bright spark had the idea of producing *caganers* in the form of celebrities, and today you'll find shelves of politicians, footballers and other famous people all doing what comes naturally. The only downside to Santa Llúcia is the sheer number of people. If you're not fond of crowds, the markets of **Sagrada Família** (Plaça Sagrada

Família, until Dec 23) and **Sants** (Plaça de Sants, Dec 6-24) offer the same range of products but generally with fewer browsers.

2 For the kids Another long-running market that sets up its stalls this month is the **Fira de Reis de la Gran Via** (Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes between Calabria and Muntaner, from Dec 18). In times past in Catalonia, the big gift-giving day wasn't December 25 – instead, everybody had to wait until the morning of Kings' Day, January 6, following the overnight visit of the Three Wise Men, who would leave presents for those who'd behaved themselves in the previous year. Nowadays, children still get excited about the arrival of Balthazar, Melchior and Caspar (although Father Christmas increasingly gets a look in). The Fira de Reis is the place for parents to go for toys and sweets for their offspring, and where kids are taken to get them even more excited about the impending festivities.

3 Contemporary Inaugurated last year, the monthly **Palo Alto** (Pellaires, 30, Dec 5-6) street market has established itself on the Barcelona agenda as a must-go for anyone looking for the latest products from the city's indie designers. Stalls with clothes, accessories, homewares,





02



04

01. Catalan children will be eager to see what the tíó is hiding under his blanket for them
 02. The atmosphere at the Santa Llúcia market is quintessentially Christmassy
 03. The DesignMarket pop-up event is hip and happening
 04. Amuse friends and family with a pooing Messi or Merkel
 05. Enjoy live music as you browse the stalls at Palo Alto

Edited by
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stationery, gadgets and more are accompanied by live music, and gourmet food and drink, all in a verdant former factory. Another option if you're looking for special gifts where the design factor is premium is the **DesignMarket** at the Disseny Hub (Plaça de Glòries, Dec 18-20). This pop-up event gives young creatives (anyone who's been producing for less than ten years) the chance to sell their wares – all participants have to apply and are chosen by members of ADI-FAD, a cultural association that promotes industrial design. If past editions are anything to go by (this is the fourth) you'll find furniture, decorations and illustrations.

And this year, *Time Out Barcelona* is joining in the fun with its own Christmas market, held in collaboration with **ChicPlace** (Rbla Catalunya, 34, Dec 18-23). More than 40 shops will be setting up stalls selling artisanal products and creations by young designers including jewellery, homewares and clothing.

4 Second-hand
 If you're interested in a Christmas that's less reliant on conspicuous consumption, why not buy presents that are 'not new to you'. **Flea Market** (Plaça Blanquerna, Dec 6 & 13) is one of the city's longest-running second-hand markets, with books, music and clothing among the main products available. Another such event is **Lost & Found** (Estació de França, Dec 12-13), which has vintage as well as second-hand goods. Pretty much anything goes here – you could discover comics, toys and even old computers among the stalls – which is all part of the appeal, along with the thought that the recipient of any gift you buy at a second-hand market is unlikely either to get another just like it, or want to take it back as soon as the shops open.

All Barcelona Highlights Tour

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 BARCELONA GUIDE BUREAU

Things to Do

Day by day

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

FREE This activity is free

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

Tuesday 1

Traditions

FREE Fira de Nadal de Santa Llúcia

Barcelona's most important Christmas market has everything you need for a Catalan Christmas. See page 34.

(Plaça de la Catedral). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC) & Jaume I (L4). Daily 10am-8.30pm. Until Dec 23.

FREE Fira de Nadal de la Sagrada Família

Market in front of the Sagrada Família, with trees, mistletoe wreaths and more. See page 34. (Pl. de la Sagrada Família, 1). M: Sagrada Família (L5). Daily 10am-10pm. Until Dec 23.

Tours

► **Santa Maria del Mar rooftop**

Guided tours to the top of this historic church for great city views. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4). Mon-Fri 12pm to 5.15pm (various times and languages). Sat, Sun, public holidays 11am to 7pm (various times and languages). €10 (general). €8 (reduced). Booking: www.riostabarcelona.com.

► **La Pedrera by day**

Enjoy one of the most spectacular buildings in Barcelona. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3,L5) and FGC: Provença. Until Dec 24 daily 9am-6.30pm. Dec 26-Jan 3 daily 9am-8.30pm. From €20.50.

Sant Pau modernista monument

Once a working hospital, this network of pavilions was designed

by Lluís Domenech i Montaner. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5). Tours in various languages; consult for schedule. Mon-Sat 10am-4.30pm. Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. €14. €9.80 (reduced).

► **Torre Bellesguard**

Tours of Gaudí's modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). Visit with audio guide: Tue-Sun 10am-3pm. €9. Reduced €7.20. Guided tour: Sat noon (Spanish); Sat, Sun 11am (English). €16. €12.80 (reduced).

► **Palau de la Música**

Tour this emblematic building of Catalan modernisme. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Daily tours 10am-3.30pm. €18. €11 (reduced).

► **Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi**

Visit the 14th-century Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi and its belltower. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Noon, 1.30pm, 5pm. Catalan, Spanish, English. €10 (adults). €8 (children 7-16 years). bcnshop.com

► **Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins**

Spectacular night-time event that includes rooftop video mapping, screenings in different parts of the building and a glass of cava. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença. Wed-Sat 7pm-9pm (box office from 6pm). €34. Reduced: €17.

► **Liceu opera house**

Discover Barcelona's glorious opera house, carefully restored after a devastating fire in 1994. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). Mon-Fri 9.30am & 10.30am. €16.

Wednesday 2

Tours

El Born Centre Cultural

Guided tours of site with 18th-century remains discovered below a former market. (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 256 68 51. Sat, Sun 12.30pm, Wed, Sun 5.30pm in Spanish; Sat, Sun 4.30pm in English; Sat, Sun

noon in French. Spanish: €8.80; English and French: €10.56.

► **La Pedrera by day**

See Tue 1. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5) & FGC: Provença.

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

This year the traditional Pessebre – Nativity Scene – is inspired by pop-up books. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4). 10am-10pm. Until Jan 6.

FREE Fira de Nadal de Santa Llúcia

See Tue 1. (Plaça de la Catedral). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC) & Jaume I (L4).

Thursday 3

Shopping

FREE The Shopping Night

Late-night shopping on some of Barcelona's most exclusive streets. (Passeig de Gràcia & surrounds). M: Pg. de Gràcia (L2,L3,L4) & Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC). 8pm-1am. Info: www.theshoppingnight.com.

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a l'Ajuntament de Barcelona

Nativity scenes taken from the collection at Barcelona's Ethnology Museum. (Plaça de Sant Jaume, 1, Galeria del Pati). M: Jaume I (L4). 11am-8pm. Until Jan 6. barcelona.cat/nadal

FREE Fira de Nadal de Santa Llúcia

See Tue 1. (Plaça de la Catedral). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC) & Jaume I (L4).

Tours

► **Secret Basilica del Pi**

Evening visits to the 14th-century Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Wed-Fri 9pm; Sat 9.30pm. €19 (general). €16 (in advance). bcnshop.com or www.adsentiabarcelona.com.

► **Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins**

See Tue 1. (Provença, 261-265,

entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

► **Santa Maria del Mar rooftop**

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

Friday 4

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

See Wed 2. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

FREE Fira de Nadal de Santa Llúcia

See Tue 1. (Plaça de la Catedral). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC) & Jaume I (L4).

Tours

► **Palau de la Música**

See Tue 1. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

► **La Pedrera by day**

See Tue 1. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5) & FGC: Provença.

Saturday 5

Al fresco

FREE Mostra d'Art

Over 40 artists show their work for sale in two pretty squares. (Pl. Sant Josep Oriol i del Pi, s/n). M: Liceu (L3). Sat 11am-8pm; Sun 11am-2pm.

Tours

Sortim a navegar amb el pallebot Santa Eulàlia

Take a trip on a beautifully restored three-masted schooner. Maritime Museum (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3). Every Sat. Meet 9.30am; boat trip 10am-1pm. €12 adults. €6 kids. Reservation necessary: reserves. mmaritim@diba.cat.

The other Pedrera

Extended visit to discover hidden corners of Gaudí's popular building, and find out about the changes it's gone through. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença. Every Saturday 12.15pm. €12.

Things to Do

► **Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi**
See Tue 1. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Kids

En Jan Titella

Puppeteers and musicians bring the adventures of young Jan Titella to life. *Palau de la Música* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 11am, 12.30pm, 5pm. €11. For children aged 2-5.

'Toca, Toca'

How to protect the different ecosystems of our planet.

CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. Sat, Sun 11am (Catalan), 1pm (Spanish), 4pm (Sp.), 6pm (Cat.). Until Dec 18. For kids 5 and above. <http://agenda.obrasocial.lacaixa.es>

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

See Wed 2. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

FREE Fira de Nadal de la Sagrada Família

See Tue 1. (Pl. de la Sagrada Família, 1). M: Sagrada Família (L5).

Sunday 6

Kids

Ni piu al bosc

Mamma and Hans discover the songs of forest birds in a puppet show with live music. *Poble Espanyol* (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 12.30pm. Dec 6 & 13. €12. Reduced: €8. poble-espanyol.com

Decora l'Arbre de Nadal amb Lego Education

The Lego Foundation invites you to create Christmas tree decorations. *CosmoCaixa* (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. 11am-3pm. Dec 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13. <http://agenda.obrasocial.lacaixa.es>

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a l'Ajuntament de Barcelona

See Thu 3. (Plaça de Sant Jaume, 1, Galeria del Pati). M: Jaume I (L4).

Tours

► Palau de la Música

See Tue 1. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery

Explore one of Barcelona's historical cemeteries. (Av. Icària, s/n). M: Llacuna (L4). 1st and 3rd Sun 10.30am (Catalan) & 12.30pm (Spanish).

Football

► * League fixture. RCD Espanyol - Levante UD

Espanyol face the Valencian club. Date and time TBC. www.rcdespanyol.com. Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà.

Monday 7

Kids

Decora l'Arbre de Nadal amb Lego Education

See Sun 6. *CosmoCaixa* (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo.

Traditions

FREE Fira de Nadal de la Sagrada Família

See Tue 1. (Pl. de la Sagrada Família, 1). M: Sagrada Família (L5).

Tuesday 8

Tours

Sant Pau modernista monument

See Tue 1. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5).

► La Pedrera by day

See Tue 1. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5) & FGC: Provença.

Traditions

FREE Fira de Nadal de Sta Llúcia

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Things to Do

See Tue 1.

(Plaça de la Catedral). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC) & Jaume I (L4).

Wednesday 9

Tours

► Torre Bellesguard

See Tue 1. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

See Wed 2. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

Thursday 10

Ice skating

ISU Grand Prix Final BCN 2015

Top international figure skaters compete for the prize in the culmination of the Grand Prix circuit series. CCIB (Pl. de Willy Brandt, 11-14). M: Maresme-EI Fòrum (L4). Dec 10-13. www.isu.org

Tours

► Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins

See Tue 1. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Traditions

FREE Fira de Nadal de Sta. Llúcia

See Tue 1. (Plaça de la Catedral). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC) & Jaume I (L4).

Friday 11

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

See Wed 2. (Pl. de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

FREE Fira de Nadal de la Sagrada Família

See Tue 1. See page 34. (Pl. de la Sagrada Família, 1). M: Sagrada Família (L5).

Tours

► Liceu opera house

See Tue 1. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Saturday 12

Sport

Superprestigio Dirt Track III - Enduro Trial Indoor

Sixty truckloads of earth, sand and clay provide the track for an indoor dirt biking spectacular. Palau Sant Jordi (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 6pm. €25-€130. www.dtxbarcelona.com

Kids

It Dansa

Brilliant choreography, energetic dance and audience participation. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). Mon-Fri 10.45am & 12.45pm. €13.

FREE Festival DAU

Tabletop games from Scrabble and chess, to modern classics like Carcassonne and Ligtetto, as well as RPGs and wargames. Fabra i Coats (Sant Adrià, 20). M: Fabra i Puig i Sant Andreu (L1). Dec 12 & 13. www.barcelona.cat/nadal

Sunday 13

Tours

FREE Guided tour of Montjuïc Cemetery

Visit Barcelona's hillside graveyard, which is as much an art museum as a final resting-place. Cementiri de Montjuïc (Mare de Déu del Port, 56-58). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 2nd & 4th Sun 11.15am (Spanish).

Football

► * League fixture. FC Barcelona - RC Deportivo de la Coruña

Barça take on the Galician side. Date and time TBC. For more info: www.fcbarcelona.cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Kids

Ni piu al bosc

See Sun 6. Poble Espanyol (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Traditions

FREE Fira de Nadal de Sta Llúcia.

See Tue 1. (Plaça de la Catedral). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC) & Jaume I (L4).

Monday 14

Tours

Sant Pau modernista monument

See Tue 1. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5).

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

See Wed 2. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

Tuesday 15

Traditions

FREE Fira de Nadal de la Sagrada Família

See Tue 1. See page 34. (Pl. de la Sagrada Família, 1). M: Sagrada Família (L5).

Tours

► Liceu opera house

See Tue 1. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Wednesday 16

Tours

► Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins

See Tue 1. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a l'Ajuntament

de Barcelona

See Thu 3. (Plaça de Sant Jaume, 1, Galeria del Patí). M: Jaume I (L4).

Thursday 17

Tours

► Secret Basilica del Pi

See Thu 3. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Friday 18

Traditions

FREE Fira de Reis de la Gran Via

Market stalls supply all you need for a present-giving frenzy on Kings' Day. See page 34. (Gran Via Corts Catalanes, 580, between C/Rocafort and C/Muntaner). 10am-10pm (Jan 5, 10am-3pm). Dec 18-Jan 6.

Festival

Drap'Art: Festival Internacional de Reciclatge Artistic de Catalunya

Features the 'Colectiva Drap Art '15' expo, as well as street art installations, events, workshops and cinema. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). Dec 18-Jan 3. Exhibition 11am-8pm. Christmas market 11am-10pm. www.cccb.org.

Saturday 19

Al fresco

FREE Fira de Consum Responsable

Promoting responsible consumerism with an emphasis on sustainable local goods and services. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC). Sat 10am-9pm. Dec 19-Jan 4. barcelona.cat/nadal

FREE Nadal: activitats per a tots

Festive activities from dance, sports and hop-hop to music. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC). Dec 19-Jan 4. www.barcelona.cat/nadal

Kids

El somni de volar

'The dream of flight' at the 3D

Things to Do

planetarium. **CosmoCaixa** (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. Noon-6pm. From Dec 19. For kids 8 and above. €4. agenda.obrasocial.lacaixa.es

The Gourmets Vocal Quartet

Gospels and spiritual from this four-piece male voice quartet. **CaixaForum**(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC). Dec 19 & 26 5.30pm. Dec 20, 27, 28, 29 & 30 noon. €6.

Concert de Nadal

Eight-piece female vocal group Wimen perform a family concert with showstopping popular tunes. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5). 7pm. €15. Reduced: €12. Free for under-12s.

Traditions

Christmas at Poble Espanyol

Living Nativity scenes, live music,

craft demonstrations, workshops for kids and Santa's grotto. **Poble Espanyol** (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 10am-9pm. Dec 19-20. €12. Reduced: €7.

Tours

Sortim a navegar amb el pallebot Santa Eulàlia

See Sat 5. Maritime Museum (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).

The other Pedrera

See Sat 5. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Sunday 20

Traditions

Christmas at Poble Espanyol

See Sat 19. **Poble Espanyol** (Av. Francesc Ferrer

i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Football

* League fixture. RCD Espanyol - UD Las Palmas

Espanyol face visitors from the Canary Islands. Date and time TBC. www.rcdespanyol.com. Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà.

Monday 21

Al fresco

FREE Christmas activities for all

See Sat 19. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

Tours

Liceu opera house

See Tue 1. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Tuesday 22

Tours

Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

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

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a l'Ajuntament

See Thu 3. (Plaça de Sant Jaume, 1, Galeria del Patí). M: Jaume I (L4).

Wednesday 23

Tours

Gaudi's Pedrera. The Origins

See Tue 1. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.



Things to Do

Traditions

FREE Fira de Nadal de Santa Llúcia

See Tue 1.
(Plaça de la Catedral). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC) & Jaume I (L4).

Thursday 24

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a Pl. Sant Jaume

See Wed 2.
(Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

Al fresco

FREE Nadal: Actividades per a tots

See Sat 19.
(Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

Friday 25

Sport

Copa Nadal de Natació

the Christmas Cup, a 200m swim across the port was first held in 1907. Barcelona Port (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I and Barceloneta (L4).

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a la Pl. Sant Jaume

See Wed 2. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

Saturday 26

Al fresco

FREE Mostra d'Art

See Sat 5. (Pl. Sant Josep Oriol i del Pi, s/n). M: Liceu (L3). 11am-8pm.

Tours

► Palau de la Música

See Tue 1. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Sunday 27

Kids

Festival de la Infancia

Sports, educational activities, games and more for a fun day out with all the family. Fira de Barcelona (Av. de la Reina Maria Cristina, s/n.). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC). 10am-8pm. Dec 27-Jan 4. €12. Reduced: € 7. www.festivalinfancia.com

Ma, me, mi...Mozart

Mozart's greatest works arranged for young audiences. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) & Marina (L1). Noon. €10. From 0-8 years.

Trencanous de butxaca

A pocket-sized version of classic Christmas ballet *The Nutcracker*. Poble Espanyol (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 12.30pm. €13. Reduced: €8.

www.poble-espanyol.com

Vine a cantar The Beatles amb Trau

No previous experience is required to take part in this family concert, recreating Beatles' classics. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) & Marina (L1). 4pm & 6.30pm. €12.

Monday 28

Tours

The other Pedrera

See Sat 7. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Al fresco

FREE Nadal: Actividades per a tots

See Sat 19. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

Tuesday 29

Tours

► Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

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

Wednesday 30

Traditions

FREE Fira de Reis a Gran Via

See Fri 18.

(Gran Via Corts Catalanes, 580, between C/Rocafort and C/Muntaner).

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

See Wed 2.
(Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

Thursday 31

Sport

FREE Cursa popular de San Silvestre - Cursa dels Nassos

It's the 'noses race' – not a race for noses, but marking the tradition that on Dec 31, you may see a man who has as many noses as there are days left in the year... C/ de la Selva de Mar/Plaça de Ramon Calsina. M: Selva de Mar (L4). 10km. www.bcn.cat/cursanassos.

New Year's Eve

FREE Campanades de Cap d'Any a Montjuïc

New Year's Eve extravaganza on Montjuïc, with music, fireworks, lights and projections, and a chance to take part in a New Years' tradition: eat 12 grapes, one by one, in time with the 12 chimes of midnight, to bring good luck for the year ahead. Av. Reina Maria Cristina - Pl. d'Espanya. M: Espanya (L1-L3-FGC). 9pm-12.15am. www.barcelona.cat/nadal

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTIES Bid farewell to 2015 and say 'hola' to 2016



W HOTEL

Gourmet meals, live music, fireworks, and the traditional 12 grapes to eat at midnight. This luxury venue has them all. From €240 pp. www.w-barcelona.cat



POBLE ESPANYOL

One of the city's biggest New Year's Eve parties, popular among students, has been going for more than 25 years. www.poble-espanyol.com



CAMPANADES

Barcelona's official party sees fireworks and theatre on Montjuïc, with the amazing fountains as backdrop. www.barcelona.com



SALA APOLO

The iconic Barcelona club brings the year to a close with Nitsa sessions from local DJs such as Fra and Kosmos in its two spaces. www.sala-apolo.com

Sights

Architecture

Basilica de la Sagrada Família

(Mallorca, 401). M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5). T. 93 513 20 60. 9am-6pm. Dec 25-26 9am-2pm. Guided tour/with audio guide: €19.50. Barcelona's most famous landmark, begun by Antoni Gaudí in 1891 and unfinished to this day. Ticket sales help fund the ongoing construction of Spain's most popular tourist attraction.

► Basilica de Santa Maria del Mar

(Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 310 23 90. Mon-Sat 9am-1pm, 5pm-8.30pm; Sun and public holidays 10am-2pm, 5pm-8pm. Wheelchair access. Known as the 'cathedral of the Ribera', this church is one of the most perfect examples of Gothic architecture, thanks to the harmony of its proportions and its inherent serenity.

► Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi

(Plaça del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 318 47 43. 10am-6pm. Closed Dec 25-26. €4. €3 (reduced). Guided tour (including bell tower): Sat noon, 1.30pm, 5pm, 6.30pm; Sun noon, 1.30pm, 5pm (book in advance). €10. €8 (reduced). La Basílica del Pi Secreta (night-time tour): Thu, Fri 9pm (9.20pm English); Sat 9.30pm (9.50pm English). One of Barcelona's grandest Gothic churches, with great views from its bell tower.

► Casa Batlló

(Pg. de Gràcia, 43). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 216 03 06. 9am-9pm. Last entry: 8pm. €21.50. €18.50 (reduced). www.casabatllo.cat. The sensuality and harmony of its interior, combined with Gaudí's use of colours, shapes and light, make this a must-see for admirers of the architect's work.

► Gaudí Crypt at Colònia Güell

(Claudi Güell, 6 – Santa Coloma

de Cervelló). M: Espanya (L1, L3) & FGC: Colònia Güell (S4, S8, S33). T. 93 630 58 07. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat, Sun, public hols 10am-3pm. Closed Dec 25-26. €9 (incl. audio guide). €7.50 (reduced). Gaudí's hidden treasure is a UNESCO World Heritage Site inside Colònia Güell, a planned textile factory and residential area 20 mins from Barcelona.

► Gran Teatre del Liceu

(La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 485 99 14. Guided tour: Mon-Fri 9.30am, 10.30am. €16. 25-minute tour: Daily (various times). €8. www.liceubarcelona.cat Visit one of the world's great opera houses: discover the impressive concert hall and exclusive private rooms that make this one of Barcelona's most emblematic buildings.

► La Pedrera

(Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 902 202 138. Until Dec 24 9am-6.30pm. Last entry: 6pm. From Dec 26 9am-8.30pm. Last entry: 8pm. Closed Dec 25. €20.50. €16.50 (reduced). Many Barcelona residents regard this as Gaudí's true masterpiece. The roof terrace represents modernista architecture at its finest. Enjoy the spectacular design at night with 'Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins', a tour and rooftop videomapping featuring multiple screenings accompanied by music (7pm-9pm).

Palau Güell

(Nou de la Rambla, 3-5). M: Drassanes & Liceu (L3). T. 93 472 57 75. Tue-Sun 10am-5.30pm. Last entry: 4.30pm. Closed Mon except public hols, and Dec 25-26. €12. €8 (reduced). Built by Gaudí in the late 19th century, this palace belonged to his principal patron.

► Palau de la Música Catalana

(Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 295 72 00. 10am-3.30pm. €18. €11

(reduced). Under-10s free. Step inside one of the most beautiful modernista buildings in the city, today a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Sant Pau, modernista monument

(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau (L5). T. 93 553 78 01. Mon-Sat 10am-4.30pm; Sun, public hols 10am-2.30pm. Closed Dec 25-26. Self-guided tour: €8. €5.60 (reduced). Guided tour (various times): €14. €9.80 (reduced). First Sunday of month and under-16s free. More info: www.santpaubarcelona.org. Tour the buildings and grounds of Hospital Sant Pau, one of the world's largest Art Nouveau monuments, restored and opened to the public in 2014.

► Torre Bellesguard

(Bellesguard, 6-9). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. T. 93 250 40 93. Tue-Sun 10am-3pm (last entry 2.30pm). Closed Mon and Dec 25-26. Panoramic tour (audio guide to exterior, remains of Martin the Humane's palace, audiovisual centre): €9. Guided tour (tower, roof terrace): €16; in English – Sat, Sun 11am. Discover the modernista castle that Antoni Gaudí built at the foot of Tibidabo mountain.

Leisure

► Aire de Barcelona, Arab Baths

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

► Barcelona Urban Forest

(Plaça del Fòrum, s/n). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). T. 93 117 34 26. Sat, Sun, public holidays 10am-3pm. Closed Dec 25-26. €11-€27 (depending on age and circuit). Zip lines, bungee jumping and trampolines for high-adrenaline fun.

► Gaudí Experience

(Larrard, 41). M: Vallcarca, Lesseps (L3). T. 93 285 44 40. 10.30am-6pm. Dec 24, 31 10am-3pm; Dec 25 noon-6.30pm. €9. €7.50 (reduced). A fascinating interactive journey that uses 4-D technology to take you inside Gaudí's universe.

► Poble Espanyol

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3). T. 93 508 63 00. Mon 9am-8pm; Tue-Thu, Sun 9am-midnight; Fri 9am-3am; Sat 9am-4am. €12. €7, €8.40, €9.50 (reduced). Built for the 1929 Barcelona Expo, Poble Espanyol is an open-air museum on Montjuïc with replicas of streets, squares and buildings from all over Spain. Regularly hosts live music events.

► Tibidabo Amusement Park

(Plaça del Tibidabo, 3-4). Bus Tibibus (T2A) from Plaça Catalunya. FGC: Av. Tibidabo + Tramvia Blau or Bus 196 + Funicular del Tibidabo. T. 93 211 79 42. For info and times: www.tibidabo.cat. Sky Walk: €12.70. Children under 120cm: €7.80. Amusement park: €28.50. Children under 120cm: €10.30. Inaugurated in 1899, Tibidabo features both classic rides and new attractions with amazing views over the city.

► PortAventura

(Av. Alcalde Pere Molas. Km. 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train: Port Aventura. T. 902 20 22 20. For prices and times contact tourist offices or visit portaventura.es. An hour south of Barcelona, this theme park has six zones of attractions, processions, eateries and shops.

► Barcelona Zoo

(Parc de la Ciutadella, s/n). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Ciutadella/Vila Olímpica (L4). T. 902 45 75 45. Daily 10am-5.30pm. Dec 25 10am-2pm. €19.90. Children (ages 3-12): €11.95. Open for more than 100 years, this is one of the city's best-loved attractions, home to more than 2,000 animals.

The Arts

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Poetry of the object

Discover the 'anti-paintings' of Joan Miró in a show at his Foundation. By **Eugènia Sendra**

A pin and a feather. These rudimentary objects that he'd found were all Joan Miró needed to create his first painting-object, 'Portrait d'une danseuse'. A year earlier, in 1927, the artist had announced his intention to 'assassinate painting', and his interest in the new forms of expression that were materialising as sculptures, collages and assemblages. The Joan Miró Foundation explores the artist's relationship with the world of objects – one that occupied him throughout his career – in a

“

He wanted to break down the distance between painting and life

monographic exhibition, Miró and the Object, that presents previously unseen works and reveals his multifarious interests and his visual poetry. 'He had always collected objects, even before he set out for Paris,' explains curator William Jeffet, 'and he incorporated them into his works to break down the distance between painting and life, to mix painting and life together.'

A stone, a Miró

Joan Prats, art promoter and personal friend of Miró's, said it long ago: 'I pick up a stone and it's a stone; if Miró picks it up, it's a Miró.' The artist gathered all manner of things in his studio, from rocks, pieces of root and other fragments found in nature, which he sometimes included in his work, to manufactured products, including Mallorcan

siurells (traditional clay whistle figurines), dolls or tin cans. Part of this collection is on display at the Foundation; it's also the subject of a book, *El Ojo de Miró (Miró's Eye, 2015)* published by La Fábrica. 'He kept objects as a source of inspiration,' says Jeffet, 'gradually building up an imaginary museum, based on his personal poetics, with its roots in Mallorca and Catalonia, and a strong element of the countryside. He also kept objects that served as models for his sculptures.' Miró studied the objects, sketched them and then composed the final artwork – he left nothing to chance.

Miró and the Object covers an extended period, starting with the first still lifes to which Miró stuck images of objects, and taking in the deliberately ripped canvases; the Paris years and his experiments with assemblage; his sculptures of objects cast in bronze; the works he created with his friend ceramicist Josep Lloréns Artigas; and a final, more radical period, in which he burnt his canvases to reveal the stretcher frame beneath, a moment that connects with the Miró retrospective organised by the Musée Pompidou in 1974. 'Miró presented himself as a young artist, connected to the contemporary scene, and not a relic of the past,' says Jeffet, who questions the value of showy, spectacular exhibitions, with hard-to-see pieces and huge leaps in scale. 'Small works are as visually arresting and as poetic as large ones.' Miró knew how to find the materials and formats to express his poetics.

Miró i l'objecte is on at the Fundació Joan Miró until January 17, 2016.

www.fmirobcn.org



'Projet pour un monument' includes a bell, iron and towel

Seasonal sounds



Back in the mid-17th century, when Oliver Cromwell, a Puritan, ruled England, all Christmas festivities were outlawed, which meant no carols. Imagine no Christmas. Imagine a December without all the old faves playing over and over. All right, maybe that one we could cope with, but surely one of the best ways to feel the joys of the season is through music. It's a time of year that is loaded with melodies, from traditional tunes to nostalgic pop songs. They bring back memories of family gatherings, get parties going and, yes, drive shoppers a little bit crazy. Across Barcelona this month various Christmas concerts are taking place in some of the city's most iconic venues, giving you the chance to enjoy a magical concert in wonderful surroundings. At the **Liceu opera house** on Sundays 20 and 27, a prestigious children's choir take to the stage as part of a rendition of a classic festive Catalan tale, *Els Pastorets (The Shepherds)*. Handel's *Messiah* is a peerless Christmas performance, and you can choose between two

interpretations this year – the first takes place at the beautiful **Palau de la Música Catalana** (Thu 10), and the second in the lovely basilica of **Santa Maria del Mar** (Fri 18). The Palau is also the setting for New Year (Sun 20, Fri 25, Sun 27 and Thu 31) and St. Stephen's Day (Sat 26) concerts of classical music. **L'Auditori** plays host to a variety of musical events during the Christmas period. First on the bill is a two-night run of 'The Magic of Broadway for Christmas' (Sat 19, Sun 20) featuring songs and overtures from some of the world's best-known musicals such as *The Sound of Music* and *Annie*, plus a number of Disney hits. Families shouldn't miss the unusual but doubtless entertaining combination of clown and clarinet in 'Clown Leandre i els Barcelona Clarinet Players' (Sun 27-Tue 29, pictured).
—Hannah Pennell

FOOTNOTE If you're around at the start of January, the Palau and Auditori continue their season of festive events.

DANCE SPECIALS

FROZEN BIRDS

Swan Lake is a great Christmas favourite for all ages – enjoy a new take on the ballet with an 'on ice' performance. Fri 11, Sat 12. Auditori Fòrum, CCIB. www.eurospectacles.com

FLYING HIGH

For a change to the typical Christmas night telly, head to the Liceu for an acrobatic version of *The Nutcracker*. Fri 25, 9.30pm. Gran Teatre del Liceu. www.promoconcert.es

Capturing a century

Revel in a series of fashion photos taken for magazines and advertising campaigns between 1903 and 2013 at this new exhibition at Barcelona's Design Museum. The images come from the museum's archive of fashion photography, and highlight how not only clothing, accessories, hairstyles and make-up have changed over the decades, but also camera techniques and technology. The work of 35 photographers is featured, stunning testimonies to the designers and stylists involved. One of those in the show is Oriol Maspons, whose career included work for *Paris Match* and French *Elle*, as well as commissions with a literary spin, such as the cover photo for an edition of *Poet in New York* by Federico García Lorca. Another is Leopold Pomés, a multi-talented artist and self-taught photographer, who in the 1960s



ORIO MASPONS. VESIT DE PERTEGAZ, BARCELONA. 1966

co-founded a Barcelona omelette restaurant called, fittingly, Flash Flash. —H.P.

Distinció. Un segle de fotografia de moda is at the **Museu del Disseny (Pl. de les Glòries Catalanes, 37-38) until March 27, 2016.**
www.museudeldisseny.cat

Being true to oneself



TEATRE NACIONAL DE CATALUNYA

This month the Teatre Nacional de Catalunya stages *El público* (translated into English as either *The Public* or *The Audience*) by Federico García Lorca. Written between 1929 and 1930, it sees the Spanish playwright use the theatre world to explore conflicts between public and private personas, the repression of desire, and the importance of doing whatever one wants. Lorca struggled with such issues himself, torn between the public representation of himself as a successful poet and the pressures

he felt as a homosexual. It's a surrealist work, moving between fiction and reality, where identities are in constant metamorphosis. There is no known complete manuscript of *El público* in existence, and it wasn't published or performed until 40 years after Lorca's death in the early days of the Spanish Civil War. —H.P.

El público is performed in Spanish at the **Teatre Nacional de Catalunya (Pl. de les Arts, 1) from Dec 17 to Jan 3.**
www.tnc.cat

The Arts

Music

Tuesday 1

Classical

Coral Orfeo Català Series

Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle with the choir of the Orfeo Català. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €20, €30.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Carmen, Barcelona Duo de Guitar perform candlelit concert. *Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29)*. M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 9pm. €20. Discount at tourist offices. Info: bcnshop.com.

Jazz

Arnau Obiols / 'Libèrrim'

Jazz composition and improvisation with Catalan drummer Obiols. *Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17)*. M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €12 (box office). €10 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Flamenco

► Palacio del Flamenco show

A full cast of guitarists, singers and dancers, and the rhythms of the *cajón*, heels and palms. (*Balmes, 139*). M: *Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC)*. Daily 6.25pm, 8.15pm & 10.30pm. Options: show only; show + one drink; show + different menu options (including tapas). €45-€160. €10 discount at tourist offices. palaciodelflamenco.com

► The Aristocracy of Flamenco

Celebrating 45 years of the Tablao Cordobes by bringing together the most talented performers in contemporary flamenco. (*La Rambla, 35*). M: *Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3)*. 6.30pm, 8.15pm, 10pm, 11.30pm. €44-€78.50. tablaocondobes.com

► Live Flamenco

The passion of flamenco in an intimate tablao on the Plaça Reial.

Sala Tarantos (Plaça Reial, 17). M: *Liceu (L3)*. Daily 8.30pm, 9.30pm, 10.30pm. €10 (on the door). €8 (web). www.masimas.com/tarantos

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

Casa Camarón celebrates the legacy of a flamenco legend. *Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230)*. M: *Verdaguer (L4,L5)*, *Sagrada Família (L2,L5)*. Mon-Sat 8pm (supper), 9pm-10pm (show). www.casacamaron.com.

► Flamenco at Palau Dalmases

Baroque space is the setting for a live flamenco show. (*Montcada, 20*). M: *Jaume I (L4)*. Daily 6pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm. €25 (includes one drink). bcnshop.com.

Wednesday 2

Flamenco

► Stories of Love

A full cast performs the traditions of opera, zarzuela and flamenco. *Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115)*. M: *Catalunya (L1, L3)*. 7pm. From €38. Info: bcnshop.com

Acid Jazz – Electronic

St Germain

Ludovic Navarre, deep house pioneer of the 'French Touch'. *Sala Razzmatazz (Almogàvers, 122)*. M: *Marina (L1)*, *Bogatell (L4)*. 9pm. €39. More info: www.livenation.es.

Classical

► Bach in Barcelona

Twice a week, cellist Jurgen van Win performs Bach's Suites in an 11th-century monastery. *Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101)*. M: *Paral·lel (L2,L3)*. Mon & Wed 1pm. €16. €7.99 children 8-17. Free for under-7s. T. 679 305 718. reservas@bachinbarcelona.com

La Santa Espina

The Vallès Symphonic performs Enric Morera's choral work with conductor Rubén Gimeno. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 9pm. €16-€51.

► Spanish guitar maestros

Pedro J. González performs in a beautiful setting. *Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7)*. M: *Liceu (L3)*. 9pm. €23. bcnshop.com

Thursday 3

Jazz

Lone Rhino Club

Live jazz at Milano Cocktail Bar. (*Ronda Universitat, 35*). M: *Catalunya (L1, L3)*. 9pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Indie

Banc Sabadell Festival Mil·lenni – Micah P. Hinson

The gravel-voiced Texan maverick brings his mix of Americana and folk. *Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113)*. M: *Paral·lel (L2,L3)*. 9pm. €25. www.festival-millenni.com

Opera

Opera at Palau Dalmases

La Petita Companyia Lírica de Barcelona perform in historical venue. (*Montcada, 20*). M: *Jaume I (L4)*. Every Thu. 11pm. €20. www.palaudalmases.com

Flamenco

► Tablao Flamenco Nervión

City centre restaurant hosts flamenco performance. (*Princesa, 2*). M: *Jaume I (L4)*. Thu, Fri, Sat 8pm-10pm. Show + drink €16.90; show + supper €27.90.

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Tue 1. *Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230)*. M: *Verdaguer (L4,L5)*, *Sagrada Família (L2,L5)*.

Friday 4

Blues

Blues at the MEAM

Blues and swing with the Queen Quartet. (*Barra de Ferro, 5*). M: *Jaume I (L4)*. Every Friday. 6pm. €14. meam.es.

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Performing since he was nine, Joan Benejam is a guitar expert. *Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29)*. M: *Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC)*. 7pm. €20. Discount available at tourist offices. bcnshop.com.

Chamber concert

Christian Tetzlaff and Lars Vogt play Brahms' sonatas. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries & Marina (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)*. 8.30pm. €18-€28.

Jazz al fresco

FREE 47th Voll-Damm Festival Internacional de Jazz de BCN – La Font Màgica

The soundtrack to Barcelona's Magic Fountain show incorporates jazz tunes as part of the festival. *Fonts de Montjuïc*. M: *Espanya (L1,L3;FGC)*. 8pm.

Opera

► Lucia de Lammermoor

Popular 19th-century work by Gaetano Donizetti. See page 28. (*La Rambla, 51-59*). M: *Liceu (L3)*. Dec 4,5,7,10,11,12,14,15,17,18,20,23,27,29. 8pm (except Dec 20 5pm and Dec 27, 6pm). €10-€325. www.liceubarcelona.cat.

Flamenco

► Palacio del Flamenco show

See Tue 1. (*Balmes, 139*). M: *Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC)*.

Saturday 5

Flamenco

► The Aristocracy of Flamenco

See Tue 1. (*La Rambla, 35*). M: *Drassanes/Liceu (L3)*.

► Tablao Flamenco Nervión

See Thu 3. (*Princesa, 2*). M: *Jaume I (L4)*.

The Arts

Pop – Rock

L.A.

Mallorcan indie group presents new disc *From the City to the Ocean Side*. *L'Auditori* (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9pm. €20.

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Tue 1. *Santa Anna Church* (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC).

Jazz al fresco

FREE 47th Voll-Damm Festival Internacional de Jazz de BCN – La Font Màgica

See Fri 4. *Fonts de Montjuïc*. M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC).

Opera

► Lucia de Lammermoor

See Fri 4. (*La Rambla*, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Find more concerts on our website timeout.com/barcelona

Sunday 6

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Tue 1. *Santa Anna Church* (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC).

Flamenco

► Stories of Love

See Wed 2. *Teatre Poliorama* (*La Rambla*, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 9.30pm

Blues – Jazz – Swing

Barcelona Big Blues Band + Agustí Burriel

Vocalist Agustí Burriel joins BCN's most energetic big band. *Jamboree* (*Pl. Reial*, 17). M: Liceu

(L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Monday 7

Classical

► Spanish guitar maestros

Luís Obispo gives a recital in this beautiful church. *Santa Maria del Pi Church* (*Pl. del Pi*, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23. bcnshop.com

Jazz – Funk – Hip hop

WTF Jam Session

Anything goes at the long-running jam hosted by Aurelio Santos. *Jamboree* (*Pl. Reial*, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €5 (box office). €4 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Flamenco

► Grand Flamenco Gala

Enjoy a grand performance of the classic Spanish music genre. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (*Palau de la Música*, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9.30pm. From €38. bcnshop.com

Opera

► Lucia de Lammermoor

See Fri 4. (*La Rambla*, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Tuesday 8

Flamenco

► Live Flamenco

See Tue 1. *Sala Tarantos* (*Plaça Reial*, 17). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

Jazz

David Viñolas presents 'Cap al Capvespre'

David Viñolas Trio presents debut album *Cap al Capvespre* recorded this summer. *Jamboree* (*Pl. Reial*, 17). M: Liceu

(L3). 8pm, 10pm. €12 (box office). €10 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Wednesday 9

Singer-songwriter

Banc Sabadell Festival del Mil·lenni – Nicola di Bari

A living legend of Italian song, Nicola di Bari's five-decade career spans countless album and prizes. *L'Auditori* (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9pm. €26-€54. More info: www.festival-millenni.com

Classical

► Spanish guitar maestros

Manuel González performs in the historical basilica. *Santa Maria del Pi Church* (*Pl. del Pi*, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23. bcnshop.com

► Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 2. *Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp* (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2,L3).

Jazz

Noa

Israeli singer Achinoam Nini ('Noa') presents new album *Love Medicine*. *Gran Teatre del Liceu* (*La Rambla*, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8.30pm. €24-€65. www.theproject.es

Thursday 10

Post-rock – Jazz

► Get the Blessing

Portishead's rhythm section and Radiohead's drummer present post-rock-jazz album *Astronautilis*. *Jamboree* (*Pl. Reial*, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €35 (box office). €30 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

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Major de Sarrià, 72 (Sarrià)
Vidriena, 15 (Ciutat Vella)
C.C L'illa Diagonal - C.C Arenas

www.vialis.es

The Arts

Opera

Opera at Palau Dalmases

See Thu 3.
(Montcada, 20). M: *Jaume I* (L1).

Gospel

The Sey Sisters

Soul and gospel concert for the Make a Wish Foundation Spain. *Santa Maria del Pi Church* (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €15. www.theproject.es

Friday 11

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Fri 4.
Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC).

Blues

Blues at the MEAM

Blues and funk with the Alex Zayas Quartet.
(Barra de Ferro, 5). M: *Jaume I* (L4). Every Friday. 6pm. €14. meam.es.

Pop-Rock

Izal

Madrid's Izal are latest sensation on the Spanish indie scene.
Sant Jordi Club (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1, L3;FGC). 9pm. €22. www.theproject.es

Jazz

La Locomotora Negra

Tour the world's great jazz cities with BCN's best-loved big band. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €15-€52. www.theproject.es

Lluís Coloma Quartet

Live jazz at Milano Cocktail Bar. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 9pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Opera

► Lucia de Lammermoor

See Fri 4. (*La Rambla*, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Flamenco

► Palacio del Flamenco show

See Tue 1. (*Balmes*, 139). M: *Diagonal* (L3, L5, FGC).

Saturday 12

Classical

Carmina Burana

Carl Orff's classic is one of the most popular choral works of all time.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm. €26-€53. www.promoconcert.es

Sibelius 150 years - Kullervo

Sibelius's exploration of the Finnish epic *Kalevala*, with the Helsinki Male Voice Choir.
L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), *Monumental* (L2). Dec 12 7pm, Dec 13 11am. €10-€56.

Benefit concert

Fund-raiser for the Nou Xamfrà Sant Miquel Foundation. *Santa Maria del Pi Church* (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 7pm. More info: www.basilicadelpi.com

Flamenco

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Tue 1. *Casa Camarón* (Roger de Flor, 230). M: *Verdaguer* (L4, L5), *Sagrada Família* (L2, L5).

Pop-Rock

Gemeliers

Twin Spanish teen pop sensations and kids' TV stars, the brothers Oveido hit BCN.
Sant Jordi Club (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1, L3;FGC). 7pm. €25-€50. www.theproject.es

The Beatles Tribute

The Mersey Beatles pay tribute to

the Fab Four. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 10.30pm. €26-€53. www.promoconcert.es

Soul - Funky

Kelly Lee Evans

One of the most powerful voices in contemporary soul and funk presents new album *I Remember*. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €22 (box office). €18 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Sunday 13

Classical

Sibelius 150 year - Kullervo

See Sat 12. *L'Auditori* (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), *Monumental* (L2). 11am

Let's sing 'The Messiah'

Family concert featuring choirs from the Palau's outreach project.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 12.30pm. €11.

Benefit concert

Coral Carmina sing in aid of the Ada Foundation.
Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 6.30pm. www.basilicadelpi.com

Anna Prohaska

The acclaimed Austrian soprano in concert of Baroque arias.
L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), *Monumental* (L2). 7pm. €10-€52.

Monday 14

Classical

► Spanish guitar maestros

See Wed 9. *Santa Maria del Pi Church* (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9.30pm.

Flamenco

► The Aristocracy of Flamenco

See Tue 1. (*La Rambla*, 35). M: *Drassanes/Liceu* (L3).

Jazz - Funk - Hip hop

WTF Jam Session

See Mon 7. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Opera

► Lucia di Lammermoor

See Fri 4. (*La Rambla*, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Tuesday 15

Flamenco

► Flamenco at Palau Dalmases

See Tue 1. (*Montcada*, 20). M: *Jaume I* (L4).

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Discover the soul of flamenco.
Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 9pm, €20 (discount at tourist offices). bcnshop.com.

Gospel

Chicago Mass Choir

Chicago's great gospel choir presents 'A Spiritual Tribute to B.B. King'.
Barts (Av. Paral·lel, 62). M: *Paral·lel* (L2, L3). 9pm. €28-€42. www.theproject.es.

Contemporary jazz

Jen Shyu feat. Mat Maneri & Randy Peterson

Shyu visits Jamboree with album *Sounds & Cries of the World*. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Wednesday 16

Post-rock - Jazz

Duot & Andy Moor

Jazz two-piece Duot (sax,

The Arts

drums) meets the guitar of Andy Moor.

Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €12 (box office). €10 (online in advance).

www.masimas.com/jamboree

Classical

► Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 2.

Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101).

M: Paral·lel (L2,L3).

Flamenco

► The Aristocracy of Flamenco

See Tue 1.

(La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes/Liceu (L3). tablaocordobes.com

Thursday 17

Classical

► Spanish guitar maestros

Ekaterina Záyitseva is a renowned Spanish guitarist.

Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23.

Discounts at tourist offices. bcnshop.com.

The Music Strikes Back

The Orquestra Camera Musicae play the music of *Star Wars* and other hit films.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €35.

Opera

► Lucia de Lammermoor

See Fri 4. (*La Rambla, 51-59*). M: Liceu (L3).

Opera at Palau Dalmaes

See Thu 5. (*Montcada, 20*).

M: Jaume I (L4).

Jazz

Biel Ballester Trio with Steeve Laffont

The great jazz manouche guitarist Steeve Laffont brings gypsy fire to the BB trio's swing.

Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Flamenco

► Palacio del Flamenco show

See Tue 1. (*Balmes, 139*). M:

Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC).

Friday 18

Classical

► Spanish guitar maestros

See Thu 17.

Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Blues – Rock

Après Minuit (Cece Giannotti) presents Déjà Voodoo

Giannotti's latest project travels from rock to reggae via roots grooves and soundtracks.

Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Blues at the MEAM

Roots and blues with Alex Guitar. (*Barra de Ferro, 5*). M: Jaume I (L4). Every Friday. 6pm. €14. meam.es.

Pop

Rosario

Rosario Flores brings her powerful voice and flamenco roots to bear on rock, pop and bossa nova.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €18-€54. theproject.es



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The Arts

Saturday 19

Classical

Christmas concert

Festive show of the Capella de Música. *Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7)*. M: Liceu (L3). 6.30pm.

Festival of Waltzes and Dances

The Strauss family's waltzes and dances with the Vallès Symphonic in traditional Christmas concert. (*Palau de la Música, 4-6*). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. €16-€51.

Music at the Museum

Irene Mas Salom (soprano) and Esther Piñol (harp) play Debussy, Strauss, Britten and more. *Museu del Modernisme (Balmes, 48)*. M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). 7pm. More info: www.mmbcn.cat.

The Magic of Broadway

The OBC joins forces with soloists and choirs to perform show tunes and Disney classics in special Christmas concert. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries & Marina (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)*. Dec 19 7pm; Dec 20 11am. €35, €42.

Christmas concert

Barcelona's Accordion Chamber Orchestra play a seasonal programme. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries & Marina (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)*. 6.30pm. €12-€20.

El Pessebre

The great cellist Pau Casal's Christmas oratorio, with a message of peace, faith and hope. *Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59)*. M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €10-€91.

Arias and choruses from famous operas

The Ukrainian State Orchestra presents Verdi's greatest arias. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 10.30pm. €26-€53. www.promoconcert.es

Jazz – Swing

Omisól Sisters

Whisking audiences to '30s

America with vocal swing in the style of the Andrews sisters. *Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17)*. M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Pop – Rock

Rosendo

Final concert in veteran Spanish rocker Rosendo's two-year tour. *Sant Jordi Club (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7)*. M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €28. www.theproject.es

Sunday 20

Classical

The Magic of Broadway

See Sat 19. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries & Marina (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)*. 11am.

The Music Strikes Back

See Thu 17. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Noon.

Johann Strauss – New Year Concert with ballet

The Strauss Festival Orchestra and Ballet Ensemble with a set inspired by Vienna's New Year's waltz-fest. (*Palau de la Música, 4-6*). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Dec 20-Jan 3. Check with venue for times. €27-€54. www.promoconcert.es

Christmas concert

BCN's Municipal Band performs music by Fauré, Lencen and von Suppé, and Catalan Christmas carols. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Glòries & Marina (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)*. 6pm. €12-€16.

Bach Cantantes

The Cor Lieder Camera perform J.S. Bach's Cantatas at the Palau. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. €20.

Jazz – Swing

La Locomotora Negra / Round Christmas

BCN's veteran big band play

Christmas classics.

Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €25 (box office). €22 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Young musicians

Musical Residencies

Barcelona pianist Ricard Rovirosa performs with Octavian Lup. *La Pedrera (Provença, 261-265)*. M: *Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC: Provença)*. 6pm. €10. www.lapedrera.com

Monday 21

Classical

Christmas concert with ESMUC

Graduates of the Higher School of Music of Catalonia in a seasonal concert. *La Pedrera (Pg. de Gràcia, 92)*. M: *Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC: Provença)*. 8pm. €20. www.lapedrera.com

► Spanish guitar maestros

Concert by musician Xavier Coll. *Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7)*. M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23. bcnshop.com

Jazz

Lluís Coloma Quartet

Live jazz at Milano Cocktail Bar. (*Ronda Universitat, 35*). M: *Catalunya (L1, L3)*. 9pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Tuesday 22

Classical

Cantagrans. A night of opera and zarzuela

Great opera tunes – from *Carmen*, *Nabucco* and *La Traviata* – and the best of Spanish zarzuela. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150)*. M: *Marina (L1)*, *Monumental (L2)*. 7pm. €5.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Tue 1. *Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29)*. M: *Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC)*.

Gospel

The Voices of Jubilation

Montreal's Jubilation Gospel Choir pays tribute to Ray Charles with a special Christmas programme. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €18-€42. www.theproject.es

Soul

Izah/Soul Christmas

Born in Manchester and raised in BCN, vocalist Izah is a rising star on Spain's soul and r'n'b scene. *Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17)*. M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Wednesday 23

Classical

► Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 2. *Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101)*. M: *Paral·lel (L2, L3)*.

► Spanish guitar maestros

See Mon 21. *Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7)*. M: Liceu (L3).

Jazz

Marc Ferrer Trio

Live jazz at Milano Cocktail Bar. (*Ronda Universitat, 35*). M: *Catalunya (L1, L3)*. 9pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Thursday 24

Flamenco

► Stories of Love

A full cast performs the traditions of opera, zarzuela and flamenco. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. From €38. bcnshop.es

Opera

Opera at Palau Dalmaes

See Thu 5. (*Montcada, 20*). M: *Jaume I (L4)*.

The Arts

Friday 25

Jazz

Jazz & Christmas

Randy Greer and the Ignasi Terrassa trio get into the festive spirit. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €18 (box office). €15 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Opera

Roberto Alagna / The stars of Shakespeare

The world-famous tenor sings operatic works inspired by Shakespeare. *L'Auditori* (Lepant, 150). M: Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 8.30pm. €24-€88.

Saturday 26

Jazz

Jazz & Christmas

See Fri 25. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Classical

St Stephen's Day concert

The 100th anniversary of this traditional choral concert. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. €18-€68.

► Spanish guitar maestros

Concert by the Barcelona Guitar Trio. *Santa Maria del Pi Church* (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23. bcnshop.com

Choir, ballet and orchestra of the Russian Army of Saint Petersburg

Spectacular choreography and costumes bring Russian folklore to the Med. *L'Auditori* (Lepant, 150). M: Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9.30pm. €26-€45. promoconcert.es

Sunday 27

Flamenco

► Stories of Love

See Wed 2. *Teatre Poliorama* (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 9.30pm.

Singer-songwriter

Banc Sabadell Festival del Mil·lenni – Joan Dausà

Multi-talented Catalan actor and musician closes his Jo Mai Mai tour. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Dec 27, 28. 8pm. €16-€30.

Monday 28

Classical

► Spanish guitar maestros

See Wed 2. *Santa Maria del Pi Church*

(Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Noon.

Jazz – Funk – Hip hop

WTF Jam Session

See Mon 7. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Tuesday 29

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Flamenco vs classical. *Santa Anna Church* (Santa Anna, 20). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 9pm, €20 (discount at tourist offices). bcnshop.com.

Opera

► Lucia de Lammermoor

See Fri 4. (*La Rambla*, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Flamenco

► Live Flamenco

See Sun 1. *Sala Tarantos* (Plaça Reial, 17). M: C

Wednesday 30

Flamenco

► Gran Gala Flamenco

Enjoy a grand performance of the

classic Spanish music genre. *Teatre Poliorama* (*La Rambla*, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 9.30pm. From €38. bcnshop.com

Classical

Johann Strauss. New Year concert

Enjoy Strauss's waltzes to start the New Year celebrations. *L'Auditori* (Lepant, 150). M: Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9pm. €26-€45. promoconcert.es

► Spanish guitar maestros

See Sat 26. *Santa Maria del Pi Church* (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Thursday 31

Jazz

New Year's Eve at Milano

Live jazz at city centre Cocktail Bar. (*Ronda Universitat*, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 1am-3am. For tickets call 93 112 71 50 or www.camparimilano.com.

Dance – Hip hop – R'n'B

New Year's Eve at Jamboree Dance Club

Hip hop, R'n'B and dance music courtesy of DJ Yoda and DJ Eley. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). €20 (box office). €15 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

SPANISH SOUNDS



RAIMON

The great Valencian protest singer and leader of the '60s Nova Canço movement. Dec 3-4, 9pm. *L'Auditori* (Lepant, 150). €20-€35.



DANIEL ANGLÈS

The musical theatre actor and director presents debut album, *Punto de Rocío*. Dec 14, 9pm. *L'Auditori* (Lepant, 150). €18-€28.



RAPHAEL

The popular singer performs his greatest hits with full orchestral accompaniment. Dec 21-22, 9pm. *Gran Teatre del Liceu* (*La Rambla*, 51-59). €15-€75.



CARLOS NUÑEZ

The Galician folk and Celtic music specialist pays tribute to The Chieftains. Dec 30, 9pm. *Palau de la Música* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). €18-€39.

Exhibitions

Arxiu Fotogràfic de Barcelona

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

FREE Pérez de Rosas Until May 21, 2016. A visual history of Barcelona from 1931 to 1954.

Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona

(Santa Llúcia, 1). M: Jaume I (L4) & Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 256 22 55. Mon-Fri 9am-8.45pm; Sat 9am-1pm. Closed Sun, public holidays and December 19, 26.

FREE The Art of Silk in Barcelona Until Apr 30, 2016. Exploring 500 years of the city's silk guilds.

Biblioteca Pública Arús

(Pg. Sant Joan, 26). M: Arc de Triomf (L1). T. 93 256 59 50. Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-3pm. Tue, Thu 4pm-9pm.

FREE 400 years of Rosicrucianism in the world Until Dec 4. Four centuries of the secret society.

FREE The legacy of Frederick S. Pearson Dec 14-Jan 15. Marking 100 years since the death of the US engineer and entrepreneur.

Blue Project Foundation

(Princesa, 57). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 182 43 71. Tue-Sun, 10am-8pm. Closed Mon and Dec 6, 8, 22-31. €3.

Joachim Koester. Making bodies with machines Until Jan 10, 2016. Work by conceptual Danish artist who uses video and photography. **Michelangelo Pistoletto** Until Mar 28, 2016. The Italian painter is a key figure of Arte Povera.

CaixaForum

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 476 86 00. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. Dec 24, 31 10am-6pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1. Adults €4. Under-16s free.

Animals and pharaohs Until Jan

10, 2016. Looking at the role of the animal kingdom in Ancient Egypt.

Drawing Versailles Until Feb 14, 2016. Works by French painter Charles Le Brun, including preparatory drawings for Versailles.

Can Framis. Fundació Vila Casas

(Roc Boronat, 116-126). M: Glòries (L1) & Poblenou, Llacuna (L4). T. 93 320 87 36. Tue-Sat 11am-6pm; Sun 11am-2pm. Closed Mon, public holidays and Dec 24-Jan 3. €5. Reduced: €2.

More of Bigas and more of Luna Until Dec 20. Various artworks from late Catalan creative Bigas Luna.

Invented realities Until Dec 20. Photographer Oriol Joloch includes surrealism in his works.

Castell de Montjuïc

(Ctra. de Montjuïc, 66). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 256 44 45. Mon-Sun, public holidays 10am-6pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1. €5. Reduced: €3.

Montjuïc, the construction of a castle Permanent exhibition. **Doble Creu** Sculpture by Carles Berga. Permanent exhibition. **Watching the city** Until Feb 28, 2016. Views of Barcelona.

CCCB

(Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 306 41 00. Tue-Sun & public holidays 11am-8pm. Dec 24, 26, 31 11am-3pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Dec 25, Jan 1. €6. Wed (except public holidays) and for pensioners and students: €4. Under-16s & unemployed: free.

+Humans Until Apr 10, 2016. How the future may be for our species. **World Press Photo** Until Dec 13. Stunning images that capture news stories from around the globe.

CosmoCaixa

(Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. T. 93 212 60 50. Tue-Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Dec 24, 31 10am-6pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and

Dec 25, Jan 1. €4 (permanent and temporary exhibitions). Under-16s free.

► **3D Planetarium** No end date. New installation lets you explore space.

► **Flooded forest** No end date. Living exhibit with over 100 species of flora and fauna from Brazilian jungle.

► **Year 2100 experiment** Until Jan 24, 2016. Life in the year 2100 and the 22nd century.

► **Accelerating science** Until Jan 10, 2016. An exhibition focused on the work of CERN.

► **Talking about drugs** No end date. Programme that aims to prevent the consumption of drugs.

El Born Centre Cultural

(Plaça Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 256 68 51. Tue-Sat, 10am-7pm. Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Dec 26 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and Dec 25, Jan 1. €6. Reduced: €4.20. Under-16s free. Sun 3pm-8pm free. First Sun every month free, 10am-8pm.

FREE Barcelona 1700. From stones to people No end date. 18th-century Barcelona was dynamic and forward-looking, but marked by war.

FREE Until it is done! The siege of 1714 No end date. Examining the 14-month siege of Barcelona that ended with capitulation to Bourbon troops on September 11, 1714.

FREE Incavi Dec 1-Jan 3. Event that promotes Catalan wine.

Espai VolART-Fundació Vila Casas

(Ausiàs March, 22). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 481 79 85. Tue-Fri 5pm-8.30pm; Sat 11am-2pm, 5pm-8.30pm; Sun 11am-2pm. Closed Mon, public hols and Dec 24-Jan 3. €1.

(CH-CH2)n Until Dec 13. Art that employs acrylics on wood, resin and mixed techniques.

Connections Until Dec 13. Works from late Catalan sculptor, Albert Coma Estadella.

Fundació Antoni Tàpies

(Aragò, 255). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 487 03 15. Tue-Sun 10am-7pm. Closed Mon and Dec 25, Jan 1. €7. Students and pensioners: €5.60.

Tàpies: An Artist's Collection Until Jan 10, 2016. Works the late Catalan artist created between the '40s and the '80s, and pieces by other artists from his collection.

Fundació Catalunya-La Pedrera

(Pg. de Gràcia, 92). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 902 202 138. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. Jan 1 11am-6.30pm. Closed Dec 25. €3. Reduced €2.

Find more cultural events on our website timeout.com/barcelona

Modernisme. Art, workshops, industries Until Feb 7, 2016. The work of countless artisans in the modernisme movement.

Fundació Joan Miró

(Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 443 94 70. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Thu 10am-9pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. €11. Temp exhibition: €7. Espai 13: €2.50.

Permanent exhibition Most important public collection of works by the Catalan artist.

Espai 13: When Lines are Time Until Dec 8. An exploration of the industrial world by Rubén Grillo.

Miró and the Object Until Jan 17, 2016. See page 42.

Nadala: Art de foc, art de badoc Until Jan 10, 2016. Each year the Fundació Joan Miró commissions a special festive installation.

Photography in the lobby Until Jan 17, 2016. A series of images by Aleydis Rispa that forms a cosmology of planets and stars.

Fundación MAPFRE

Casa Garriga i Nogués (Diputació, 250). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 401 26 03. Mon 2pm-8pm; Tue-Sat 10am-8pm. Sun and public holidays 11am-7pm.

FREE The Triumph of Colour Until Jan 10, 2016. Impressive

The Arts

exhibition of works by the likes of Van Gogh, Gauguin and Seurat.

Fundació Suñol

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

► **Italia. The Six Senses** Until Jan 9, 2016. Re-examination of late 20th-century Italian works held by the Suñol Foundation.

► **Rosa Amorós. Debris and urges** Until Jan 23, 2016. Works from the '90s to the present day.

FREE ACTE 33 Until Jan 23, 2016. 'The Artist and the Stone' by Matteo Guidi and Giuliana Racco.

Gaudí Exhibition Center

Museu Diocesà (Pla de la Seu, 7). M: Jaume I (L4) and Liceu (L3). T. 93 268 75 82. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm. €15. Reduced: €12. More info: www.gaudiexhibitioncenter.com

Walking with Gaudí Interactive exhibition which looks at the life and work of Antoni Gaudí.

Hash Marihuana & Hemp Museum

(Ample, 35). M: Drassanes (L3). T. 93 319 75 39. Daily 10am-10pm. Public holidays 2pm-10pm. Dec 24, 31 noon-8pm. €7.50. Under-13s free.

Permanent exhibition Past, present and future of cannabis.

FREE Grow on Until May 1, 2016 Marking the 30th anniversary of Sensi Seeds, the world's main supplier of cannabis seeds.

Jardí Botànic de Barcelona

(Doctor Font i Quer, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 256 41 60. Permanent display: Daily 10am-5pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1. €3.50. Reduced: €1.70. Temporary exhibition: Tue-Sun, Mondays that are public holidays 10.30am-4.30pm. €5. Reduced: €2.50.

Jardí Botànic (MCNB) Plants from global Med climate zones.

Salvadoriana. Barcelona's cabinet of curiosities Until Apr 2016. Reconstruction of one of BCN's earliest natural history collections.

La Virreina Centre de la Imatge (La Rambla, 99). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 316 10 00. Tue-Sun and public hols, noon-8pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1.

FREE Catalonia in Venice. Singularity Dec 17-Feb 14, 2016. Exhibition curated by Chus Martínez to represent Catalan art at the 56th Venice Biennale.

MACBA. Museu d'Art Contemporani

(Plaça dels Àngels, 1). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Sant Antoni (L2). T. 93 412 08 10. Mon-Fri 11am-7.30pm; Sat 10am-9pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-3pm. Closed Tues (except public holidays) and Dec 25, Jan 1. €10. Reduced: €8.

► **Species of space** Until Jan 31, 2016. Examining the spaces that define us by the way we use them.

► **Sergi Aguilar. Reverse/Obverse** Until Jan 31, 2016. Retrospective of work by Barcelona sculptor.

► **Miserachs Barcelona** Until Mar 27, 2016. Work of Catalan photographer who documented 20th-century Barcelona.

► **Carlos Bunga. Capella** Until Feb 7, 2016. Show built around the chapel where it's being staged.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern

(Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 319 56 93. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. €9. Reduced: €7.

► **21st-century art** Permanent exhibition of almost 300 paintings and 80 sculptures.

Museu Etnològic

(Pg. de Santa Madrona, 16-22). M: Poble Sec (L3), Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 424 68 07. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays) and Dec 25, Jan 1. Combined ticket for Museu Etnològic + Museu de les Cultures del Món: €5. Reduced: €3.50.

Contemporary art Permanent exhibition that aims to understand our society by

comparing different places and times.

Land of potters Until Jun 2016 Looking at trades associated with water, such as potters and diviners.

The sacred, the profane and the festive Until Jun 2016 Exploring the origins and prevalence of religious expression in Catalonia.

MIBA. Museu d'Idees i Invents de Barcelona

(Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 332 79 30. Tue-Fri 10am-2pm, 4pm-7pm; Sat 10am-8pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2pm. Dec 24 10am-7pm. Dec 31 10am-5pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. €8. Reduced: €6.

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

MUHBA Oliva Artés

(Espronceda, 142-146, Parc Central del Poblenou). M: Poblenou (L4). T. 93 256 21 00. Mon-Fri visits with prior booking only; Wed 10am-2pm; Sat-Sun 11am-3pm, 4pm-6pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1.

FREE Interrogate Barcelona, from industrialisation to the 21st century Permanent exhibition looking at recent city history.

MUHBA Park Güell

(Olot, s/n. Casa de la Guarda). M: Vallcarca (L3). T. 93 256 21 22. Daily 9am-6.45pm. The Casa de la Guarda museum is part of the 'monumental area' of the park, and visits are covered by general conditions for admission. Access with ticket only. www.parkguell.cat

Permanent exhibition The Casa de la Guarda, Park Güell and modernista Barcelona.

MUHBA Plaça del Rei

(Pl. del Rei). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-8pm. Dec 6, 8, 26 10am-2pm. Closed Mon and Dec 25, Jan 1. €7. Reduced: €5. Under-16s free. Free Sun from 3pm.

Permanent exhibition Tour of the

Roman colony of Barcino.

Deported Barcelona Dec 11-Jan 31, 2016. Video installation that remembers Barcelona residents who were deported from the city to Nazi concentration camps.

MUHBA Refugi 307

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

MUHBA Refugi 307 Underground passageways highlight the city's suffering during the Civil War.

MUHBA Santa Caterina

(Pl. de Joan Capri). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Mon, Wed, Sat 7.30am-3.30pm; Tue, Thu-Fri 7.30am-8.30pm. Closed Sun, public holidays.

FREE Permanent exhibition. Remains among the foundations of the Santa Caterina market.

MUHBA Turó de la Rovira

(Marià Labèrnia s/n). Bus: 119,V17. T. 93 256 21 22. General access has no fixed timetable. Museum areas: Sat, Sun 10am-3pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1.

Permanent exhibition Barcelona to the limit.

Museu Blau

(Pl. de Leonard da Vinci, 4-5, Parc del Fòrum). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). T. 93 256 60 02. Tue-Fri 10am-6pm. Sat 10am-7pm. Sun & public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €6. Reduced: €2.70. Museum & Botanical Gardens: €7. Reduced: €3.50. Temp exhibition: €5. Reduced: €3.50.

Drawings by Luis Feo Until Jan 31, 2016. Artwork inspired by scientific illustrations.

Nutrition, vital instinct Until May 29, 2016. Fundamental concepts of food and nutrition.

Museu de Badalona

(Pl. Assemblea de Catalunya, 1. Badalona). M: Badalona-Pompeu Fabra (L2). T. 93 384 17 50. Tue-

The Arts

Sat 10am-2pm, 5pm-8pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-2pm. Temporary exhibition: Tue-Sat 5pm-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. Closed Mon and Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. €6. Reduced: €4.80.

Permanent exhibition Remains of the Roman city of Baetulo. **FREE Toys and games in ancient times** Until Feb 28, 2016. Playtime items on loan from different Catalan archaeological museums.

Museu de Montserrat

(Abadia de Montserrat. 08199 Montserrat). FGC: Monistrol de Montserrat + zip train. Mon-Sun 10am-5.45pm. Dec 25 10am-1.45pm. €7. Reduced: €6. Temporary exhibition: €3.30.

Permanent Exhibition Paintings by El Greco, Caravaggio, Monet, Degas, Pissarro, Dalí and Picasso. **Ramón Calsina, Remembrance** Until Jan 17, 2016. Retrospective of work by the late Catalan artist. **Roger Ballen, Fate** Until Jan 6, 2016. Photos from New York artist.

MEB: Museu de l'Eròtica

(La Rambla, 96). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 318 98 65. Daily 10am-midnight. Dec 24 10am-5pm. Jan 1 noon-midnight. Closed Dec 25. Adults €9. Reduced: €8.

► **Permanent exhibition** History of eroticism and its portrayal in art.

Museu de la Moto de Barcelona

(C/ de la Palla, 10). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 318 65 84. Mon-Sat 10.30am-7.30pm; Sun, public holidays: check with museum. Dec 6, 8 10.30am-2.30pm. Closed Dec 24 afternoon, Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. €7. Reduced: €5. Under-8s free.

► **Permanent exhibition** From Dec 1. New exhibition of national and international motorcycles.

► **Bultaco, a legendary motorbike** Until Feb. Tribute to one of Spain's great motorbike manufacturers.

Museu de la Música

L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1). T. 93 256

36 50. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon and Dec 25, Jan 1. €5. Reduced: €3.50. Free admission Sun from 3pm and for under-16s.

► **Permanent exhibition** Take a trip through musical history.

► **Tridimensional sculpture** Until Jan 17, 2016. Homage to the guitar.

► **Miquel Llobet** Until Jan 17, 2016. Remembering one of Catalonia's most prestigious guitarists.

Museu de la Xocolata

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

► **Permanent exhibition** The story of chocolate from its origins.

Museu de les Cultures del Món

(Montcada, 12-14). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 23 00. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Dec 25, Jan 1. €5. Reduced: €3.50.

► **Permanent exhibition** Art, books and objects gathered in Asia, Africa, Oceania and the Americas.

► **Writings. Symbols, words, powers** Until Jan 31, 2016. Tracing the development of writing.

Museu del Disseny de Barcelona

(Edifici Disseny Hub Barcelona. Pl. de les Glòries Catalanes, 37-38). M: Glòries (L1). T. 93 256 68 00. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon, Dec 25, Jan 1. €6. Reduced: €4. Temp exhibition: €4.40. Reduced: €3. Combined: €8. Reduced: €5.50. Free Sunday 3pm-8pm and first Sunday of the month.

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

Permanent exhibition. Daily objects seen from a museum perspective.

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

Permanent exhibition. How women change their shape with clothes.

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

Permanent exhibition. Art from across the centuries. **Graphic design: from trade to profession** Permanent exhibition. Tracing the professionalisation of graphic design.

Distinction Until Mar 27, 2016. See page 43.

Museu del FC Barcelona

(Aristides Maillol, s/n. Gates 7 and 9). M: Les Corts (L3). T. 902 18 99 00. Until Dec 20 Mon-Sat 10am-6.30pm, Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Dec 21-30 daily 9.30am-7.30pm. Dec 31 10am-2.30pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1. Some parts of tour are closed on match day. €23. Children: €17. Under 6s & FCB members, free.

► **Camp Nou Experience** Discover 100 years of the club's history and visit the stadium.

Museu del Mamut

(Montcada, 1). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 268 85 20. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1. €7.50. Reduced: €5. Children (6-15): €3.50.

► **Permanent exhibition** See remains of woolly mammoths and other Ice Age animals.

Museu del Modernisme Català

(Balmes, 48). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 272 28 96. Tue-Sat 10.30am-7pm; Sun, public holidays 10.30am-2pm. Closed Mon, Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. €10. Reduced: €7. mmbcn.cat

► **Permanent exhibition** Works by 42 key artists of the Catalan modernisme movement.

Museu Egipci de Barcelona

(València, 284). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 488 01 88. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. Closed Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. €11. Reduced: €8.

► **Permanent exhibition** Hundreds of exhibits provide a glimpse into life in Ancient Egypt.

► **Tutankhamun. Story of a discovery** No end date. 1922 archaeological expedition that uncovered the pharaoh's tomb.

Museu Frederic Màres

(Pl. de Sant Iu, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 35 00. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun, public hols 11am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Dec 25, Jan 1. €4.20. Reduced: €2.40.

Permanent exhibition Valuable artworks and objects. **Maillol and Greece** Until Jan 31, 2016. How a trip to Greece inspired sculptor Aristides Maillol.

Museu Marítim de Barcelona

(Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3). T. 93 342 99 20. Daily 10am-8pm. Closed Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. Temp exhibitions & visit to Santa Eulàlia schooner: €7. Reduced: €3.50. Permanent exhibition closed for remodelling.

7 vessels, 7 stories Until Dec 31. Semi-permanent show of some of the museum's model vessels.

Ona-Ola-Wave. Surf in Catalonia Until Jan 17, 2016. How surfing has grown in popularity.

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

(Parc de Montjuïc). M: Espanya (L1, L3;FGC). T. 93 622 03 60. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun, public hols 10am-3pm. Closed Mon (except public hols), Dec 25, Jan 1. €12. Roof terrace €2. Free entry Sat afternoon from 3pm. Temp shows: ask at museum.

► **Permanent exhibition** Important collection of Romanesque art and Catalan modernisme.

► **Xavi Gosé** Dec 11-Mar 20, 2016. Marking the centenary of the death of this acclaimed Catalan artist.

► **Undamaged.** Until Feb 28, 2016. Still lifes from Spain's Golden Age.

► **Stories in metal.** Until Jan 17, 2016. European medals.

Museu Olímpic i de l'Esport Joan Antoni Samaranch

(Av. de l'Estadi Olímpic, 60). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 292 53 79. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Dec 25, 26, Jan 1. €5.10. Students: €3.20. Under-7s and over-65s: free.

The Arts

► **Permanent exhibition** Explore in-depth the worlds of sport and the Olympic Games.

► **International Biennial of Sports Photography: Fotosport 2014** Dec 16-Feb 14, 2016. Renowned sports photography event.

Museu Picasso

(Montcada, 15-23). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 30 00. Tue-Sun 9am-7pm; Thu 9am-9.30pm. Dec 24, 31 9am-2pm. Closed Dec 25, Jan 1. €14 (combined ticket for museum + temporary exhibition). Collection only: €11. Temp exhibition: €4.50.

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

Picasso and Reventós Until Jan 10, 2016 The relationship between Picasso and the Reventós family.

Picasso's passion for El Greco Until Jan 17, 2016. This exhibition compares work by the two artists.

Palau Robert

(Pg. de Gràcia, 107). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 93 238 80 91. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm.

FREE Catalan actresses of the 20th century Until Mar 27, 2016. Local stars of the stage.

FREE Natural paths, vital itineraries Until Dec 31. A reflection on the role played by nature in our personal development.

FREE Baltasar Porcel. Mallorca, Barcelona, the world Until Feb 28, 2016. Remembering the Mallorcan writer and journalist.

Pis-museu Casa Bloc

(Pg. Torras i Bages, 91). M: Torras i Bages (L1). Guided tours in Catalan, Spanish and English: reservations must be made in advance before Thu. Guided tours: Sat 11am. Information line: Tue-Fri 10am-1pm; Thu 3pm-5.30pm. Individual visits: €3. Info: tel. 93 256 68 01 or www.museudeldisseny.cat.

Casa Bloc A symbol of rational social housing in Barcelona.

Reial Monestir de Santa Maria de Pedralbes

(Baixada del Monestir, 9). FGC: Reina Elisenda. T. 93 256 34 34. Tue-Fri, 10am-2pm; Sat, Sun 10am-5pm. Public holidays 10am-2pm. Closed Mon (except public hols) and Dec 25, Jan 1. €4.40. Reduced: €3.10.

Permanent exhibitions Including murals, plants and other treasures.

Theatre

El Molino

(Vilà i Vilà, 99). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 205 51 11. www.elmolinobcn.com. Ticket offices: Thur-Sat, 5-9pm. Tickets available via Ticketea, Atrapalo, Telentrada, Entradas.com and ticket offices.

New Year's Eve at El Molino Thu 31 9pm-6am. €25-€150. Supper, 'Cabaret Experience' show, party favours, drinks and dancing.

Cabaret Experience Until Dec 26. Thu 9.30pm; Fri, Sat 6.30pm, 9.30pm. From €24. Cabaret, circus, song and dance.

Teatre Gaudí Barcelona

(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 120). M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5). T. 93 603 51 52. Ticket office: opens an hour before function starts. www.teatregaudíbarcelona.com.

Sugar (Con faldas y a lo loco) Dec 18-Jan 31. Tue-Wed, Fri 9.30pm; Sat 6.30pm, 9.30pm; Sun 6.30pm. €24. Musical in Catalan.

Trencanous Dec 13-Jan 31. Sun noon. Family performance of *The Nutcracker*.

Teatre Lliure (Gràcia)

(Montseny, 47). M: Fontana (L3). T. 93 289 27 70. teatrelliure.com

Ser-ho o no Until Dec 6. Tue-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 9pm; Sun 6pm. €15-€29. Comedy in Catalan. **Rhum** Dec 10-Jan 10. Tue-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 5.30pm, 9pm; Sun 6pm. €12-€23. Circus show in Catalan and Spanish.

Teatre Lliure (Sala Fabià Puigserver - Montjuïc)

(Pg. Santa Madrona, 40-46/Pl. Margarida Xirgu, 1). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC) & Poble Sec (L3). T.

93 289 27 70. www.teatrelliure.com

Edipo Rey Dec 3,5,6. Thu 7.30pm; Sat 10pm; Sun 5pm. €15-€29. Classic from Sophocles. In Spanish.

Conillet Until Dec 6. Wed-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 5.30pm, 9pm; Sun 6pm. €15-€29. Monologue. In Catalan. **Medea** Dec 3,4,6. Thu, Sun 10pm; Fri 7.30pm. €15-€29. Work by Seneca, Euripides and others. In Spanish. **Antígona** Dec 4,5,6. Fri 10pm; Sat, Sun 7.30pm. €15-€29. Another iconic play from Sophocles. In Spanish. **El rei Lear** Dec 17-Jan 31. Tue-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 7pm; Sun 6pm. €15-€29. Shakespeare tragedy. In Catalan.

Teatre Nacional de Catalunya

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

Capas / Cia 'EIA' Dec 2-4. 11am. €10. Family show featuring circus acts, music and dance. **El públic** Dec 17-Jan 3. Wed-Sat 8pm; Sun 6pm. No show Dec 24 and 31. €14-€28. See page 43. In Spanish.

Teatre Poliorama

(La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 317 75 99. Ticket office: Tue-Fri from 5pm. Sat, Sun from 4pm until start of performance. teatrepoliorama.com.

BITS. Tricicle Until Jan 31, 2016. Wed-Fri 9pm; Sat, Sun 6.30pm. €15-€25. Tricicle are a popular Catalan comedy trio whose stage work is mainly physical comedy and mime.

Somriures i llagrimas Until Jan 3, 2016. Sun noon. €10, €12. Translated version of *The Sound of Music*. In Catalan. **Luis Piedrahita** Dec 11, 12. 11.30pm. €18, €20. Monologue from Spanish writer and performer.

Teatre Tívoli

(Casp, 8-10). M: Catalunya (L1, L3), Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 902 888 788. www.mammamia.es

Mamma Mía Until Feb 28, 2016. Tue-Thu 8pm; Fri, Sat 5.30pm,

9.30pm; Sun 6pm. €25-€69.90. Abba's mega-popular musical. In Spanish.

Teatre Victoria

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

Mar i Cel Until Jan 10, 2016. Thu 8.30pm; Fri 9.30pm; Sat 5.30pm & 9.30pm; Sun 6pm. €29-€46. Dagoll Dagomm's popular musical about corsairs and captives. In Catalan.

Dance

CCIB - Auditori del Fòrum

(Rambla Prim, 2-4). M: El Maresme-Fòrum (L4). T. 902 730 039.

El Llac dels Cignes sobre gel Dec 11, 9pm. Dec 12 6pm. €29.90-€39.90. Festive 'on ice' version of *Swan Lake*.

Gran Teatre del Liceu

(La Rambla, 92). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 485 99 00. www.liceubarcelona.cat

El Trencanous acrobàtic Dec 25. 9.30pm. €27-€95. Classic ballet *The Nutcracker* with an acrobatic twist.

Mercat de les Flors

(Lleida, 59). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC), Poble Sec (L3). T. 93 426 18 75. Ticket office opens an hour before function starts. www.mercatflors.cat

Sàlmon Festival Until Dec 5. Extensive dance festival that showcases local and international companies and choreographers, who bring innovation and creativity to the stage. **Festival Hop** Dec 13. Free. Annual urban dance contest that takes in different forms of the genre. **[Hullu]** Dec 27-29. 6pm. €18. Blick Théâtre presents a show that pairs puppets with live dancers. For ages 12 and up. **Imsonni** Dec 27-29. 8pm. €15. Theatre of objects. For ages 12 and up.

Food & Drink

Edited by
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More than a fad

Big Al's, Timesburg and La Burguesa. Three new eateries prove the gourmet burger is here to stay. By **Laura Conde**



Three gourmet hamburger joints, all of them franchises, have opened their doors recently, confirming: a) the obsession with things carnivorous is not just a passing trend, and b) the general public is canny, and won't accept anything but the highest quality.

Big Al's (Còrsega, 178. T. 93 408 82 23) has recently touched down in Barcelona, preceded by the success of its two branches in Sitges – the first opened in 2012 – and by the status conferred by being named the place with Spain's best burger on TripAdvisor. And the fact is, what you find

inside this restaurant that is completely American in spirit and philosophy is the real deal. Big Al's takes its name from the owner, Alan, an American of considerable size who couldn't believe there was 'no 100 percent American hamburger' to be found in BCN. And since Mohammed would not come to the mountain, Big Al's was born, a place where the small burger weighs in at 200g, the large at 400g, and both arrive at the table inside a delicious brioche bun. 'We're traditional American, no gourmet experiments, but our philosophy is slow food, and we do

everything ourselves,' explains Àlex, the manager. The meat is tender, well-flavoured, fresh from the Pyrenees every day, and comes with starters including pulled-pork nachos, quesadillas and the Big Sissy onion rings. To accompany the festival of meat, there are 12 craft beers on tap, including such way-out delicacies as Pecan Mud – €6 for half a pint.

For their part, the team at **Timesburg** have just opened their fourth branch near the Sagrada Família (Rosselló, 520. T. 93 463 80 17), sticking to the game plan they started out with:

interesting spaces, refurbished to maintain original features, high ceilings, tiled floors, wooden furniture and an aura of cool that makes the perfect match for their excellent hamburgers. These run the gamut from classics to originals such as the Osaka burger, with wakame, teriyaki sauce and Japanese mayo. The fries – cooked to a recipe from María Antonia, the grandma of one of the three partners – are delicious, and there are also chicken burgers and even a tofu veggie burger.

“

Alan couldn't believe Barcelona had no 100 percent American burgers

Between the traditional spirit of Big Al's and the hipster vibe of Timesburg, we find **La Burguesa Garden** (Doctor Fleming, 23-29. T. 93 200 63 27), which caused controversy on social media recently with a poster featuring the illustration of a naked woman whose body had lines drawn on representing cuts of meat. It's part of a mural that's the crowning glory of a restaurant decorated on a garden theme, with a silver-plated food truck inside that functions as a bar. This is their fourth branch in Barcelona, joining those in the Diagonal Mar and La Maquinista shopping centres, and the one on Carrer Tuset. It's a friendly eatery where Girona beef is served on excellent artisanal buns, with only local ingredients and a fun menu you can use as a base to personalise your order.

PHOTOS: MARÍA DIAS

Casa Lucio



MARIBEL DIAS

★★★

Viladomat, 59 (Sant Antoni).
T. 93 424 44 01. P: €45.

Over 18 years ago, Casa Lucio was one of the first wine cellars in the city to serve tapas and more substantial dishes to accompany the wines they displayed on their shelves, as well as top-quality fresh products that not only formed the basis of the menu, but which you could – and still can – buy to take home. The formula was a success. Today, Casa Lucio has been refurbished, incorporating an open-air bar space as an anteroom to the impressive dining room. This is the setting for the exquisite and original dishes created by Maribel, one of the great Catalan chefs, who has now been joined by her son Alex, doubling the pleasures and sensations offered by her cooking.

Alex has studied Asian cuisine but doesn't want to upstage the spirit and criteria that his mother's cooking has established.

Recommendations are tricky because, unintentionally, Maribel and Alex have created something unheard of on Barcelona's restaurant scene – two styles of cooking from a single kitchen. Maribel's *callos* (beef tripe with chickpeas), pork tripe with Caesar's mushrooms, yellowfoot-mushroom omelette, and salt cod with clams are without equal.

Alex's cep sashimi with a conserve of ceps (aka *funghi porcini*), black chanterelles and Caesar's

mushrooms, his gilt-head bream tartare, Iberian pork fillet teriyaki, and low temperature-cooked salt cod with a basil pil-pil sauce reveal a young chef who draws inspiration from culinary traditions at home and abroad. 'This is a renovation,' says Alex, 'and a promise that we'll carry on developing without walking roughshod over our traditions. I don't have a specific style and it would be pretentious of me to invent one for myself. What I do is the result of combining the best imported ingredients used in Peruvian, Thai and Japanese cuisine with the traditional way of doing things.'

Regulars at this original and tasteful restaurant welcome this new wave that has revitalised the menu at Casa Lucio, long considered one of the best places to eat on a highly competitive local dining scene. –*Marcelo Aparicio*

THE BILL

(For 2)

1 vermouth with 'Gilda' pintxos..	€17
1 cep sashimi	€14
1 salt cod with clams	€18
1 pork tripe with mushrooms.....	€15
2 PIR (Priorat)	€14
2 coffees.	€2

TOTAL (inc VAT)..... €80

Time Out Barcelona Food & Drink critics review anonymously and pay their own bills.

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Unique art and cocktails

At Bacanal it's art, 'brinners' and unexpected cocktails. By **Laura Conde**

Walking down C/Sepúlveda I spot an establishment that describes itself as a café-bar-art gallery. I peep through the spotless windows into a spacious room, whose high ceilings are supported by striking bare columns, wooden tables, classroom chairs, and walls covered in art, including two decorated with murals. *Esquire* and *AD* are displayed on a ladder that

serves as a magazine rack, and I catch a whiff of freshly baked cakes. There's a backyard with parking for bikes.

It's undeniably cool, but the subconscious is a wily creature and sets to work: it all reeks of the typical Sant Antoni hipster café, aimed at a clientele who aren't struggling to get by on local salaries. I'm about to give it a miss

when, to my surprise, I spot gossip magazine *Cuore* on one of the tables and, my curiosity piqued equally by the intriguing set-up and J-Lo's struggles with upper-lip hair, I decide to step inside.

102-year-old customers

Seeing a copy of football daily *Sport* next to *Cuore*, I begin to warm to Bacanal's style. 'It's for a customer of ours who's 102 and comes in every day,' explains Juan, one of three co-owners. Fully convinced, I take a seat and glance at a menu that proves Bacanal is one of those classic Barcelona bars where you can eat (and drink) at any time of day – if you fancy a 'brinner', that painful portmanteau which means to eat a breakfast dish for supper, you can indulge yourself there.

For a more conventional experience, start the day with an excellent coffee from El Magnífico, a juice or a smoothie. 'We have organic options, but not the whole menu, because we're obsessed with keeping prices down, although it's all local produce,' says Juan. The cocktail menu is full of surprises: while classics like the mojito are absent, there are plenty of less familiar creations such as the Joker (grape juice-infused vodka with limes). I order one with Grey Goose while flicking through *Cuore*, and realise that avoiding orthodox hipsterdom is a great idea, and that the great love of J-Lo's life will always be P Diddy.

BACANAL

Sepúlveda, 164 (Sant Antoni).
T. 93 011 70 07.

Single barrel

★★★★

Massipa de Scala Dei 2013.
DO Priorat. 13%.

A single-estate limited-edition white – 800 bottles from historic vines, made at one of the oldest wineries in the Priorat. With that as the headline, you know you're going to taste a wine with body and soul. Massipa lies at 700m, an estate with red clay soils where they grow Garnatxa Blanca, with notes of Mediterranean fruits, and Xenin, which gives a good level of acidity. 'We wanted to revive white wines from Scala Dei, since they were so successful in the past,' says oenologist Ricard Rofes. The wine is fermented in the same 1,000-litre barrel in which it is aged for 15 months. And because the Priorat is a land not only of whites but of rosés too, they've created the Pla dels Àngels. But we'll talk about that some other time. –*Merixell Falgueras*



Get your bottle at Celler Gelida in Sants (Vallespir, 65) for €25

Coffee time

The name Albert Adrià is synonymous with innovation, experimentation and a multifaceted approach to cooking. With five restaurants in Barcelona, the Catalan chef must be one of the hardest working men in the city, and it seems he's unaware of the concept of 'taking a break', because, on top of everything else, he's just published a book of recipes that feature coffee from top Italian brand Lavazza. Adrià says in the introduction to *Cooking*

that the project was a 'challenge'. But he's risen admirably to the task, creating some 21 dishes where coffee is no bit player. The stylish English-Spanish publication includes cocktails such as the Ciudad de Dios (City of God), taken from Adrià's 41° restaurant, dessert ideas like waffles and eclairs, and, perhaps most



surprisingly, savoury plates including beef tenderloin with coffee béarnaise sauce, and grilled little gem lettuces with coffee vinaigrette.

'COOKING COFFEE. ALBERT ADRIÀ FOR LAVAZZA' is published by Montagu Editores and retails at €25. Find it in Adrià's restaurants such as **Tickets (Av. del Paral·lel, 164)** and **Pakta (Lleida, 5)**.
www.libreriagastronomica.com



JORDI CORTINA

Matsuhisa at the griddle

Hideki Matsuhisa, a key mover on BCN's restaurant scene, steps into the world of bars with a Japanese-style grill. By **Pau Arenós**

Just as Albert Adrià's culinary empire has taken over Avinguda del Paral·lel and the neighbouring areas, Hideki Matsuhisa is doing the same with Via Laetana: in 2001 he opened Shunka (Sagrastans, 5), where today he plays an advisory role, Koy Shunka followed in 2008 (Copons, 7), and now there's Kak Koy – Japanese for 'cool'.

Like Koy Shunka, the group's flagship, Kak Koy was designed by Pere Cortacans, who is also Matsuhisa's head PR person – and, unexpectedly, an expert in space left by the old Nostromo, just as Koy Shunka did with La Odisea, both notable restaurants in a bygone Barcelona. The fictional detective and gourmet created by Manuel Vázquez Montalbán, Pepe Carvalho, was a customer at both. For February

2016, Cortacans has plans for a fourth restaurant, on Carrer dels Tallers – another Shunka. Matsuhisa's delicious empire is on the rise, although not with unnecessary haste.

Kak Koy's speciality is its griddle, built by local grill-makers Jospser and under the charge of Jaume del Río, a native of the Terres de l'Ebre region, probably

the most Japanese landscape in Catalunya. The *itamae* ('chef') Makoto, who has moved from Koy Shunka, is responsible for the precise slicing of the spectacular squid sashimi, and the eel chirasi sushi, a tiny luxury in three bites.

Matsuhisa wants Kak Koy to be seen as a bar, which is why the kitchen is in the dining room, or vice versa: 'We want to be closer to the customers.' Having a bar to dine at is a definite trend, as chefs around town agree, and Kak Koy's two bars allow diners to share the space with the cooks, who double up as waiters. The stools anchor the bar to its past: they belonged to Nostromo. 'There will be some dishes from Shunka and some techniques from Koy. I believe in the future. And in training people. This place and the next are dedicated to the people who

work with me,' says Matsuhisa.

Cortacans serves me two sakes in the traditional fashion, the cup brimming over. I prefer the Dewa Sansan Junmai Ginjo, 'perfectly imperfect' in the words of the architect. The bottle of *aigua acabada de fer* ('freshly made water' – it's filtered tap water) suggests a less wasteful way of doing things.

The anchovy with tofu is excellent, as are the two oysters (the griddled oyster is good, the one with the citrus-based ponzu sauce even better). The octopus with cucumber is good; the Iberian pork fillet with salad lacks something; the crunchy-skinned chicken brochette is consistent – it's accompanied by a sauce whose recipe they've been using and evolving for ten years; the prawns are sinfully delicious; and the royal sea cucumbers (*espartenyas*) with grapes and Wagyu beef fat are masterful. The razor clams, which are opened before charring to get the most out of the process, and the Wagyu beef rib are enough to make you howl with delight.

Matsuhisa is one of the great names in Barcelona's culinary history: he has transcended the role of chef to become a vitalising presence, essential to the city's restaurant scene. His nigiri can stand comparison with the best. But that's another story, the story of Koy Shunka. Today it's Matsuhisa at the griddle.

KAK KOY
Ripoll, 16 (Gòtic).
Price: €30-€40 without wine.

WHAT ELSE?

Look out for:
The non-existent (for the time being) reservations policy.

Recommended for:
Those just discovering Japanese-style grills.

Stay away if:
You don't fancy eating in the kitchen.

LA PASTISSERIA BARCELONA

Award-winning pastry chef José María Rodríguez makes creative croissants with flavours such as crema catalana and capuccino. Aragó, 228.



IVÁN MORENO

XOCOLATERIA ORIOL BALAGUER

Balaguer is a recent holder of the award for best Spanish butter croissant, and he says he has a bit of a fetish for the French pastry. Fusina, 5.



IVÁN MORENO

FORN MISTRAL

At this historical bakery, the secret of the croissants is in the lard, while the butter is imported from France. Ronda de Sant Antoni, 96.



IVÁN MORENO

XOCOCAKE

At this temple to chocolate, among the cakes, sweets and biscuits you'll find a finger-lickingly-good chocolate croissant. Gran de Gràcia, 17.



IVÁN MORENO

Croissants: buttery bites

Get your day off to a great start with one of the city's best pastries, whether sweet or savoury.

By **Ricard Martín & María José Gómez**

XACOLATA

Despite the chocolatey name, this Poblenou place also has savoury croissants such as the tomato, mozzarella and olive one. Sancho de Àvila, 173.



IVÁN MORENO

BUBÓ

This Born bakery takes its croissants very seriously, creating light and crispy pastry on both the plain and chocolate (below) versions. Caputxès, 10.



HOFMANN

Mey Hofmann is one of Barcelona's best-known chefs, and her croissants are renowned, with fillings that include mango and mascarpone. Flassaders, 44.



LE PETIT GOURMET

Authentic French treats baked by a team from the Gascony region. As well as croissants, they have pain au chocolat and eclairs. Travessera de Gràcia, 126.



Food & Drink

Catalan cuisine

7 portes

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

Passatge Isabel II, 14.
T. 93 319 30 33.

M: Barceloneta (L4)

Don't go hungry. Book restaurants at timeout.com/barcelona

and wonderfully comfortable. *Còrsega, 200.*
T. 93 453 20 20.
M: Hospital Clínic (L5)

Bar El Velódromo

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

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

Wine bars

Agut

Barcelona has a wealth of eateries that have improved over the years. Many are back on the map after having been forgotten, and some have the added bonus of having modernised without going over the top, to catch up with the demand for the quality products that their clients want. One such case is Agut. *Gignàs, 16. T. 93 315 17 09.*
M: Drassanes (L3), Jaume I (L4)

Freixa Tradició

The return of Josep Maria Freixa to his family home, now that his son Ramón has gone off to enjoy fame in Madrid, has resulted in a real celebration of traditional cuisine: pig's trotters with prunes and pine nuts, cuttlefish with artichokes, and perhaps the finest macaroni in Barcelona. *Sant Elies, 22. T. 93 209 75 59.*
M: Sant Gervasi (FGC)

Restaurant Gaig

It's currently all the rage for Barna's top chefs to set up more-affordable offshoots, and this one is under the guiding hand of Carles Gaig. His approach in this restaurant, as in his other ventures, is a return to grandmothers' Catalan basics, and the favourite dish here is the *canelons* – hearty, steaming tubes of pasta filled with shredded beef and topped with a fragrant béchamel. The various dining rooms manage to be both modern

Can Cisa/Bar Brutal

This restored neighbourhood bar combines a classic bodega at the entrance with a wine bar at the back. They stock 300 wines, all from organic or bio-dynamic producers around the world (so no nasty chemicals or additives) at accessible prices. *Princesa, 14. T. 93 319 98 81.*
M: Jaume I (L4)

Casa Mariol

At the Casa Mariol Wine Bar, which is part of the bodega of the same name, you'll have the chance to get to know *suau*, which is a version of a drink (a blend of soda and coffee) that was popular in the Ribera de l'Ebre region decades ago. You can also taste cask wines from the Ebre, accompanied by a nice *clotxa* (bread stuffed with herring, onions, tomatoes and garlic), and then top it all off with delicious cakes from Batea (a town also in the Ebre). *Rosselló, 442.*
T. 93 436 76 28.
M: Sagrada Família (L2,L5)

Bar Nostàlgic

Although located in the fashionable Sant Antoni market area, this bar does not mimic the Nordic aesthetic of most new local establishments. They serve a good selection of wines, particularly from Catalonia, plus they have cold beer on tap and an impressive list



Food & Drink

of gins, malt whiskies and special rums. Gin and tonics, spritz... they make it all, including tapas to please even the most sybaritic palates.

Viladomat, 38. M: Sant Antoni (L2)

Magatzem Escola

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

Comercial, 13.

T. 93 167 26 55.

M: Barceloneta (L4)

Monvínic

This is one of the largest information centres for wine not only in Europe but the world over. It's also a wine bar and restaurant. The latter – which focuses on traditional cuisine with a creative touch – is excellent, by the way.

Diputació, 249.

T. 93 272 61 87.

M: Universitat (L1,L2)

Seafood

Els Pescadors

Josep Maulini and his wife have turned this into a lovely spot, combining antique furniture with modern décor, and retaining its air of a small-town bar. One delicious recommendation: grilled sardines in sauce, though they don't always have them. Rice dishes are a staple on the menu, and never disappoint.

Plaça Prim, 1.

T. 93 225 20 18. M: Poblenou (L4)

Rías de Galicia

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

Lleida, 7. T. 93 423 45 70.

M: Espanya (L1,L3,FGC)

CONSCIENTIOUS EATING



Healthy fast food

The trend for healthy fast food is still going strong in Barcelona, and the recent opening of Teresa's adds to the options. This flexitarian place has 15 cold-pressed juices made in-house as well as sandwiches, soups, salads and tacos. *Argenteria, 31 (Born). www.teresasstairway.com*

Tabarca Langosta's Club

Tino Martínez, sailor and chef extraordinaire, has opened an unusual restaurant in Barcelona specialising in lobster: he has recovered the recipes of the lobster fishermen from the island of Tabarca, and he does so with a menu that includes lobster and rice cooked in the lobster stock.

Comte Borrell, 160. T. 661 074 704.

M: Universitat (L1,L2)

Pizza

La Bella Napoli

There can be few Barcelona residents who haven't tried the wonderful pizzas served in this place with an authentic Italian atmosphere and noisy, cheerful waiters. Book a table if you're going at the weekend.

Margarit, 14. T. 93 442 50 56.

M: Paral·lel (L2,L3)

La Bricciola

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

Olzinelles, 19. T. 93 432 19 33.

M: Mercat Nou (L1)

Murivecchi

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

Princesa, 59. T. 93 315 22 97.

M: Jaume I (L4)

Piazze d'Italia

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

Casanova, 94. T. 93 323 59 77.

M: Rocafort (L1)

Tapas

Bar del Pla

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

Montcada, 2.

T. 93 268 30 03.

M: Jaume I (L4)

El Jabalí

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

Ronda Sant Pau, 15.

T. 93 441 10 82.

M: Paral·lel (L2,L3)

Tapas 24

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

Diputació, 269.

T. 93 488 09 77.

M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2,L3,L4)

La Tieta

Chickpeas with prawns, potato omelette, mushrooms with garlic and parsley, amazing olives – the problem is knowing where to start. La Tieta offers good wine (no classics, just what takes their fancy that week), bottles of vermouth and an endless flow of draught beer, while the food is good traditional fare made from fresh ingredients, with skill and enthusiasm.

Blai, 1. T. 93 186 35 95.

M: Paral·lel (L2,L3)

Taverna Mediterrània

Chef Fran Monrabà, a kind of iconformist, has renovated this restaurant by introducing a non-stop kitchen of traditional intentions and determination. Classic tapas made with a touch of added imagination and well made – recommendations include Andalusian-style fried squid rings, and delicious stuffed roast pork. *Enric Granados, 58. T. 626 86 68 21. M: Diagonal (L3,L5); FGC: Provença*

Turning the corner

At the beating heart of the Raval, you'll find Veusambveu, a bookshop and publishing house that specialises in gender issues and feminism. By **Cristina Carbonell**

The Raval is the city centre *barrio* where Barcelona's past, present and future collide. New hotels, restaurants and trendy boutiques spring up amid the legacy of the district's long history of social exclusion and life on the margins, while large immigrant communities struggle to find their place in a city full of promise that so often fails to deliver. It's what gives the area its 'edge' and its charm – but the problems faced by its residents are real.

If you leave the MACBA behind and stroll to the end of Carrer de Joaquín Costa, turn right down Carrer del Carme, then take the plunge down the uninviting Carrer d'en Roig, which turns out to be the purest essence of the Raval. Carry on along the street until you find a shop on the corner of Carrer de Picalquers, with a sign that reads Veusambveu ('Voices with voice'). There's a table covered in books, and upcycled pallet shelves with even more. And if you feel a kind of invisible attraction pulling you inside, don't be surprised – as founders Gemma, Ernest and Màrius explain, that's the intention. They don't want the door to be a border that excludes anyone, they want the street and the shop to flow into each other.

Veusambveu is a bookshop and publishing house that specialises in feminism, gender issues and critical thinking (while most of their stock is in Catalan and Spanish, there is a small foreign-language section, with various tomes in English and Italian, including children's stories, a collection of essays about the role of women, and special books exploring what



artisan books are and how to create them), but as soon as you step inside you can sense there's more to it than that. The team explain that they are also active members of La Ravala – a pugnacious local association that fights for the rights of the most vulnerable people in the district – with the enthusiasm and the conviction of people who are speaking from the heart. Veusambveu's mission is to get the knowledge out there, in the certainty that culture is a powerful tool for social change.



They sell books, but they're also committed to the fight against inequality

They sell books, it's true, but they also work within the district to alleviate social and economic hardship.

And the headquarters from which they plan their battles is the back room of the shop, where they hold regular workshops, talks, conferences and exhibitions that all relate to a single, unambiguous end – they want the theory you can find in their books (both those they sell and those they publish) to make the leap and become practice out on the street. They want to bring people together to eliminate the desperation at the margins of society, and put diversity in its rightful place.

VEUSAMBVEU
Picalquers, 2. T. 685 70 34 74.
www.veusambveus.com

NEARBY



ZELIG

Gay/straight spot popular with both Raval locals and visitors from farther afield. It's laid-back, with an alternative vibe and unmissable cocktails.
Carme, 116. www.zelig-barcelona.com



LAS FERNÁNDEZ

Excellent restaurant run by three sisters from León who combine ingredients from their native region with interiors straight out of an Almodóvar film.
Carretes, 11. www.lasfernandez.com



A double life

Francesco Tristano, an excellent classically trained pianist, is back in Barcelona to perform a club session with a techno sound. By **Javier Blánquez**

Anyone who has paid the least bit of attention to the career and work of Francesco Tristano already knows that he is a musician with a double life – or triple, if we count the family. And what might for somebody else be the source of monumental stress, in his case is a situation that has an overwhelming artistic logic. Enamoured as much with techno as classical music, Tristano is both a career concert pianist and a producer with an attachment to machines – before midnight, his repertoire includes composers such as Bach, Ravel and Stravinsky, while after 12am, he makes a beeline straight for the dance clubs. He's already performed twice in Catalonia this year – first, in June at Barcelona's Sónar electronic music festival, where he presented a showcase

of his own material, which gravitates towards Detroit techno and house, and then again in July, when he gave a piano recital at the Auditori in Girona. It's these drastic leaps between styles that have made him into a unique artist, as well as radically contemporary.

On this latest visit, he's wearing his electronica hat, with an appointment in Room 2 of the club Razzmatazz. This means we get the chance to experience his live show – extensive, strongly improvised, and full of tempo and optimistic spirit where he combines software and keyboards, dense harmonies and agile beats, paying his own particular tribute to current tech-house trends beyond the typical minimalist language, which often impoverishes electronic music. Everything Tristano does

live is shown off in a great light on his latest electronic album, *Body Language Vol. XVI*, released on the influential Get Physical label. Included in the mix is a DJ session – with sections taken from themes by Cardopusher,



It's the drastic leaps between styles that make him radically contemporary

M.A.N.D.Y., Joe Zawinul and DJ Pierre – but practically all the material is his own, juxtaposed harmonically, squaring the beat, and at the same time unifying the whole discourse with his own personal magic glue, the

keyboard. Tristano plays and plays, demonstrating an exquisite virtuosity at the service of the mix. This converts his live performances into very physical experiences, with real action onstage, while at the same time they're a dialogue between distant styles and musical genres – in time and technology, but not in sentiment. It's the kind of thing that Pet Shop Boys were likely imagining when they wrote the lyric about 'Che Guevara and Debussy to a disco beat'. That's what Tristano does: he imports classical knowledge to the most exciting hedonism of the dance floor. He's always impressive.

Francesco Tristano performs at The Loft at Razzmatazz on December 19 from 1am.
www.salarazzmatazz.com

KILLER MUSIC



Assassin aka Agent Sasco

Sala Apolo has an early Christmas present for fans of the Jamaican DJ renowned for his dancehall and reggae hits. With collaborations with Kanye West and Kendrick Lamar under his belt, Assassin has a new album out, released just last month. *La [2] de Apolo*, Wednesday 16, 10pm.

Sessions

Nasty Mondays

Tattoos, sweat and rock 'n' roll: the city's wildest Monday night party. Miss it at your peril.

Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Mon midnight. €15 (on the door). €14 (advance).

Raw Rebels

Dance to the best beats of the '40s, '50s and '60s, with local and international DJs, in the heart of the city.

Sidecar Factory Club (Plaça Reial, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Tue 12.30am. €5. Price includes one drink.

Canibal Sound System

Live acts, DJs and roots music make for an underground vibe at this long-running club night.

Sala Apolo (details above). Wed 12.30am. €12 (on the door). €9 (advance). Price includes one drink.

Anti-Karaoke

This is the hard rock version of karaoke, with dressing up and

obsessive fans, all under the watchful eye of MC, US comedian and actor Rachel Arieff.

Sidecar Factory Club (details above). Thu 10pm. €8. Price includes one drink.

Cupcake

Take a trip down memory lane without forgetting to live in the moment, with hits from the '70s right up to the present day.

Sala Apolo (details above). Thu 12.30am. €10 (on the door). €8 (advance). Price includes one drink.

The Bus Music Club

Session celebrating non-commercial, non-mainstream and underground music.

Razzmatazz (Almogàvers, 122). M: Bogatell (L4). Thu midnight. €15 (on the door). €13 (advance). Price includes one drink.

Happy Techno

The beat will get you at this weekend party dedicated to new-age and old-school dance music. *City Hall (Rbla Catalunya, 2-4). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). Sat 12.30am. €12-€18 (depends on arrival time and if you sign up on guest list). Price includes one drink.*

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Getaways

The spirit of the season

Get to know some of the best local festive traditions, with these different events happening around the province of Barcelona in the coming weeks. By **Nick Chapman**



1. La Cavalcada de Reis (Igalada)
2. Fira Avícola Raça Prat
3. Els Pastorets de Calaf
4. Festa del Blat de Moro (El Prat de Llobregat)

1. Festa del Blat de Moro

December 8 is a national holiday in Spain, honouring the Virgin Mary of Immaculate Conception – also known as ‘La Puríssima’. In Gironella, in the Berguedà region, it’s also the date of a Christmas fair that celebrates a regional speciality – *blat de moro escairat*, a type of maize with large, white grains that are peeled and dried. It features in the local version of *escudella de Nadal*, the hearty soup that’s a centrepiece of Catalan Christmas lunch. Over 2,000 portions are made and served during the fair, as visitors browse stalls in the streets of the old town. *Gironella, Dec 8*

2. Fira Avícola Raça Prat

In the run-up to Christmas, El Prat del Llobregat is the venue for one of the region’s biggest agricultural fairs. On the delta of the Llobregat river, El Prat is home to Barcelona airport, but also, further inland, to many farms that supply the city’s markets and tables. The area’s best-known products are its artichokes and a unique breed of poultry, the *gall potablava* (‘blue-legged chicken’). If you’re not actually in the market for a squawking chicken for Christmas Day, you can taste local produce at the Fira Tapa food fair and at the town’s restaurants, which offer special menus. *El Prat del Llobregat, Dec 12*

3. La Cavalcada de Reis

January 6 is celebrated across Spain as Kings’ Day. It’s eagerly awaited by children as, traditionally, it’s the Three Wise Men who bring them their gifts at this time of year – although nowadays they’re likely to get presents from Santa Claus too. The grand arrival is re-enacted in processions, and nowhere is it celebrated more enthusiastically than Igualada (this year marks the town’s 120th anniversary of its Kings’ Day parade). On the night of January 5, 1,200 pages accompany their Royal Highnesses through town, carrying ladders to climb up to balconies along the route to distribute gifts – and over six tonnes of sweets. *Igalada, Jan 5*

4. Els Pastorets de Calaf

Christmas wouldn’t be Christmas in Catalonia without a performance of *Els Pastorets*, a traditional Nativity play that retells the Christmas story from the shepherd’s point of view. With its roots in medieval mystery plays, most modern performances are based on a script written in 1916. The village of Calaf offers a spectacular version with over 100 actors and cutting-edge special effects to bring the story to life, plus a cast of characters that includes Lucifer and the Angel Gabriel. There’s also plenty of comedy – and audience participation – in the tale of two little shepherds on their way to Bethlehem. *Calaf, Dec 25, and every Sunday in Jan 2016.*



www.barcelonasmuchmore.com

Catalan snow

Ski season is open! Head to the nearby Pyrenees for a variety of options to enjoy the snow, and discover what's new in the resorts this winter. By **Nick Chapman**

Catalonia is one of the few winter sports destinations where you can ski to your heart's content on high mountain pistes, while enjoying a Mediterranean climate – sun, mellow temperatures and outstanding light conditions – throughout the entire season.

To improve your experience in the Pyrenees, the five ski stations that make up the Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat (FGC) group – La Molina, Vall de Núria, Vallter 2000, Espot and Port Ainé – have undergone notable improvements in preparation for this new season, with the creation of new pistes and improvements in existing facilities to extend the total skiable area to almost 150km of slopes.

ONLINE INFO

All five FGC ski stations have updated their websites to incorporate Smart Moutain – SmartTrail 3D maps, offering intuitive and interactive navigation systems, which can be personalised by users so you can get the most out of your mountaintop experience.

LA MOLINA

One of the region's most popular stations, La Molina, sees the opening of two new pistes and its first technological slalom. The brand-new Pista de Coll Sisè links Quatre Camins and Pista Llarga, while in the Pista Llarga area, you'll discover a new slope for beginners and sledges, which comes equipped with a 165m conveyor belt. The station will also host the first technological slalom in the Pyrenees. This new facility located on the Pista Trampolí will



01



02



03

allow skiers to feel like pros for the day. Once you've completed the route, you'll be given details of your time and speed, and you'll be able to download a video of your performance from La Molina's website, thanks to cameras set up along the piste.

FOR FAMILIES

If you're heading to the mountains with children, two of the resorts have improved their services for younger fans of the snow. At Vall de Núria, their existing children's snow park has had an upgrade, with new tubing runs and stand-up snow scooters. Over at Port Ainé, the snow tubing and toboggan slopes have been remodelled to give kids the chance to have even more fun on their trip to the Pyrenees.

SPECIAL TICKET DEALS

Meanwhile, there is a range of offers on passes (*forfaits*), which mean skiers can get more out of their day. The ATOTANEU 6.0 and 5.0 passes, valid at all of the FGC ski stations, give access to over 150 discounts and promotions, covering everything from accommodation, equipment, ski and snowboarding classes, and meals out, with a total value of €1,000.

Throughout this season, the FGC group and the cross-country stations of the Mancomunitat de Municipis are offering a special deal – holders of 6.0 and 5.0 passes can enjoy free cross-country skiing all season, while holders of the TotNòrdic cross-country pass get one day's free skiing at each of the FGC stations. Other offers include a 20 percent discount for families with more than three members, and the special freestylers' pass at Port Ainé, from only €16.

1. At Vall de Núria there's fun in the snow for all ages 2, 3. Enjoy various winter sports and amazing views at all the FGC ski stations, such as Port Ainé

PHOTOS: FERROCARRILS DE LA GENERALITAT



www.catalunya.com

Barcelona Top Ten Who's who at the bar

1. Freelance hipsters

Screenwriter, graphic designer, journalist, blogger... the first thing they all do when entering a bar is ask for the WiFi password. These customers are bad for business, because they stay for hours and only order the occasional Red Bull or coffee to keep them going.

2. Compulsive gamblers

Another disaster for bars, they spend ages on the slot machines and order next to nothing as they're so focused on those spinning apples and pears. Having said that, the gamblers are more welcome than the freelancers because at least they're pouring money into the machines.

3. Fusspots

A decaf white coffee, not too heavy on the coffee, with warm milk and brown sugar. Oh wait, it's too hot. Hang on, the milk tastes off. Are you sure it's decaf? Yes, sometimes it's easy to understand why bars reserve the right to refuse admission. It's for clients like these.

4. The unquenchables

One round, just one more, definitely the last one... that's how time flies as the empty glasses build up, tongues get looser and bladders fuller, and everyone is best friends, and the next day you swear you'll be healthy from now on and won't go drinking for at least a month, and then suddenly a WhatsApp appears – 'Fancy a quick one?'

5. Readers

They come in, do a quick recce, spot their favourite newspaper and make a beeline for it. And if someone's already reading it? They mutter and grumble,



4



6

besiege the hapless person with the paper, pestering them until they give it up. Readers would never dream of buying a paper, which makes them the worst of all – ruining not only the bar's business, but also the newspaper vendor's.

6. Regulars

These customers have decided to deal with the loneliness of city life by turning their local bar into a kind of parish church. They usually know everything, and



5

what they don't know, they make up. Armed with dominoes and brandy-laden coffee, they're worse gossips than concierges, but as they're usually men, they don't have such a bad rap as the (often female) concierges.

7. Tourists

They're usually quieter than the locals, and they often eat more, especially if we're talking about tapas. They have an unfortunate tendency to order sangria and their friendliness grows in proportion to the amount of alcohol consumed – until it explodes out of them.

8. Salespeople

In suit and tie, and carrying cases full of samples, they spend handsomely using the company credit card and are usually on their Blackberrys doing business while waiting for a client. They'd chuck it all in to be at the bar with their mates and not for work.

9. Non-working parents

These are the parents who, once they've dropped the children at school, go together for breakfast at the nearest bar. They're a danger for private and public institutions because of their poisonous conversation about the poor teachers who they reckon are doing everything wrong for their little angels.

10. The self-important

They elbow their way through to get a place at the bar, not giving a thought to shouting 'nena', 'jove', 'jefe' ('girl', 'young man', 'boss') or whatever it takes to get the attention of whoever's serving. They assume they deserve to have their order taken first, and they never tip because they don't have time.

By Ada Castells

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