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TIME OUT BARCELONA

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SAVE THE DATE

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02 080 Barcelona Fashion

FEBRUARY 1-5

The first of this year's showcases for Catalan fashion sees up-andcoming designers rub shoulders with established local names. With a growing profile on the international circuit (last year's summer edition was championed by New York fashion icon Iris Apfel), the event includes a market, street food and music as well as catwalk shows that in recent years have featured globally renowned labels such as Mango. Custo Barcelona and Desigual, as well as smaller enterprises including Brain&Beast and Miriam Ponsa. Don't miss your chance to prepare your wardrobe for autumnwinter 2016/17 with the best that Barcelona creatives have to offer. www.080barcelonafashion.cat







O3TRIAL I ENDURO INDOOR INTERNACIONAL DE BARCELONA

FEBRUARY 7

It's a double bill: two of motocross's most exciting events come indoors at the Palau Sant Jordi stadium. Trial riders are judged on their ability to ride over boulders, tree trunks, blocks and other obstacles without picking up penalty

points. Enduro is an endurance challenge in which 14 riders at a time tackle off-road terrain against the clock — on the indoor course there's soft sand, rubble, log ramps, water and more — combining the speed of motocross in the fast sections and the skills of trial in the technical challenges. Local trial rider Toni Bou dominated the 2015 event, notching up his seventh consecutive win, while world champion Taddy Blazusiak took the enduro title.

www.trialendurobcn.com



04HIROSHI SUGIMOTO

FEBRUARY 16-MAY 8

Hiroshi Sugimoto (Tokvo. 1948) is considered one of the most important photographers of the post-war period. Since the early 1970s, he has created several ongoing bodies of work that turn on the polarities of animate and inanimate, real and unreal, past and present, concrete and abstract, visible and invisible. He has reinterpreted the classical photographic tradition, imparting a conceptual edge to such genres as the still life and the portrait. Sugimoto is a master craftsman, and his photographic prints are as

remarkable for their extreme perfection and visual beauty as for their conceptual and philosophical implications. Yet his technical virtuosity also enables him to capture hidden realities that are invisible to the human eye to show us things we otherwise wouldn't perceive. By playing on the slippage between the image the eye sees and the concept the mind grasps. he reveals the blind spots in our experience of the world. Taken as a whole, his work constitutes a profound meditation on perception. illusion, representation, life and death. This exhibition at the newly opened Fundación Mapfre shows more than 60 works in six series, including dioramas, seascapes, the Sea of Buddha series, portraits of wax figures, and lighting fields. www.fundacionmapfre.org

05MOBILE WORLD CONGRESS

FEBRUARY 22-25

Mobile phones are the defining technology of the 21st century, changing people's daily lives across the globe, and, since 2006. Barcelona has hosted the mobile industry's most important event. It's an exhibition and also a conference, at which mobile operators, tech companies and manufacturers come together. With presentations of all kinds of new devices, the congress is about much more than phones last year, virtual reality headsets from Samsung and Oculus, HTC and Valve were among the gadgets that generated most buzz. The four-day conference programme looks to the future with keynote speakers that have included top tech names such as Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, In 2015, 94,000 attendees from 201 countries came, making it the biggest yet.

www.mobileworldcongress.com





06LANG LANG, MOZART AND BEETHOVEN. A TRIO OF GENIUSES

FEBRUARY 26

Another exciting opportunity for classical music fans comes in the form of this concert from superstar pianist Lang Lang, who will perform for the first time with the Barcelona Symphonic and Catalan National Orchestra. At just 33, the Chinese musician - who was inspired to learn how to play the piano after seeing a Tom and Jerry cartoon when he was two - has already had a fantastically stellar career. Highlights include winning the International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians in his mid-teens, being the first Chinese pianist recruited by the Berlin and Viennese Philharmonics, selling out the Royal Albert Hall and Carnegie Hall, and providing music for the soundtrack of the Gran Turismo 5 video game. Renowned for his flamboyant style of playing and accessibility, this concert of works by Mozart and Beethoven is, understandably, being dubbed 'A Trio of Geniuses'. If you can't make it to this concert (or are a really big Lang Lang fan), he'll also give a chamber concert on February 24. www.auditori.cat

07BARCELONA BEER FESTIVAL

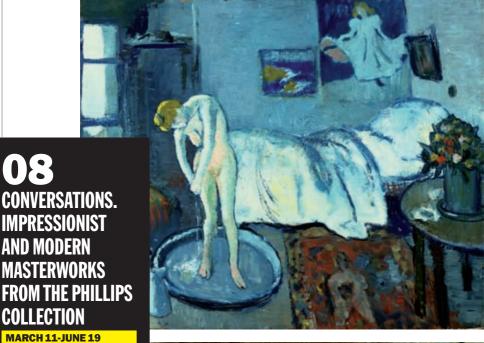
MARCH 4-6

Craft beers are big news in Catalonia, with breweries large and small springing up all over the region, catering to a public that's ever more knowledgeable about



their hops, malts, porters and ales. This popular festival, now in its fifth year, offers a chance to try over 300 craft beers from Catalonia and around the world, on rotation at a giant bar under the medieval stone arches of the city's maritime museum. Entrance includes the festival guide, a glass and two tokens, the festival's official currency, although you'll definitely need more to make the most of the beers and food on offer.

www.barcelonabeerfestival.com



MARCH 11-JUNE 19

08

Duncan Phillips was a US art writer and collector who, together with his mother, founded the Phillips Memorial Art Gallery in 1921 following the deaths of his father and brother a few years earlier. Today the Phillips Collection features an incredible range of modern and contemporary art - Renoir, Rothko, O'Keeffe and Van Gogh are among the artists whose work makes up the archive. This show at CaixaForumis one of various travelling exhibitions that the Phillips has organised and arrives in Barcelona following a recent stint in Asia.

www.obrasocial.lacaixa.es



09ZURICH MARATÓ DE BARCELONA

MARCH 13

With the rooftops of Barcelona's Palau Nacional as a backdrop, the Montiuïc fountains going at full blast and excitement in the air, over 19,000 runners gathered in Plaça Espanya for the start of the 2015 Zurich Barcelona Marathon. one of the city's biggest running events. It's been staged in various forms since 1978, and today attracts participants from all over the world. (just under half travel from abroad to take part) ranging from elite competitors to marathon veterans and first-timers. To help them get into the swing of things. there's the traditional Breakfast Run the day before the big event, along the final 4km of the 1992 Olympic marathon, and a pasta party, part of the Zurich Runners' Fair. The race itself is run over the classic 42.195km distance, taking in plenty of the city's sights, from the Camp Nou stadium to the Sagrada Família, and there's plenty of encouragement for flagging spirits along the way - last year there were 51 cheering points with music at each one.

www.zurichmaratobarcelona.com



10BARCELONA OPEN BANC SABADELL TROFEU CONDE GODÓ

APRIL 16-24

The Trofeu Conde de Godó is the longest-running tennis tournament in Spain and one of the most prestigious clay court contests on the ATP world tour 500. Held at Spain's oldest tennis club – the



Reial Club de Tennis Barcelona 1899 – since 1953, it combines world-class competition with a friendly club atmosphere, at a tournament that is as much a social as a sporting event. In recent years the Godó tournament seemed to be Spanish champion Rafa Nadal's private stamping ground, as he clocked up a recordbreaking eight titles between 2005 and 2013. However, in 2014 he was unseated by world No 6 Kei Nishikori, who went on to take the title again in 2015.

www.

barcelonaopenbancsabadell.com



12 SIMON BOCCANEGRA

APRIL 23, 26 AND 29

Barcelona's splendid Liceu opera house welcomes back an old friend this month - Plácido Domingo returns to its stage to mark 50 years since his debut there. He'll be performing in Verdi's Simon Boccanegra, a story of love, politics and freedom in 14thcentury Genoa. The original version of Simon Boccanegra, which premiered in 1857, was poorly received by audiences due to its complicated plot - Verdi was eventually persuaded to revise it some 23 years later, and the result found much more success. The opera will have eight performances, but if you want to see Domingo, he takes the lead role on April 23, 26 and 29.

13BARCELONA BRIDAL FASHION WEEK

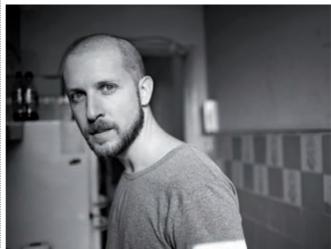
www.liceubarcelona.cat

APRIL 26-MAY 1

Whether you're planning an all-out nuptial extravaganza or a minimalist hipster ceremony, you'll find ideas galore at this fair dedicated to everything to do with weddings. Divided into two parts, the first five days see a festival of catwalk shows at the Fashion Shows, with designers setting out their trends for the season, long. medium and short dresses (in all shades from the most virginal white to green, pink and black), and not forgetting looks for 21stcentury grooms. The second part is the Professional Trade Fair: three days of stands from over 200 different labels who can kit out the happy couple and all their attendants.

www.barcelonabridalweek.com





14 D'A, FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE CINEMA D'AUTOR DE BARCELONA

APRIL/MAY

Cinema d'autor – auteur cinema – can be hard to define: in its own words, Barcelona's Festival

Internacional de Cinema d'Autor showcases 'the best art-house and indie movies from all over the world'. Last year over 70 films were screened at citycentre cinemas, including Argentinian director Juan Schnitman's 'scorchingly good' debut, El Incendio, which ended up winning the critics' award. The festival also organises O&A sessions with directors, and keeps audiences abreast of news and events with its own newspaper, The D'Aily News. www.cinemadautor.cat

15 SALÓ INTERNACIONAL DEL CÓMIC

MAY 5-8

Spain punches above its weight in the comic world, producing more than its fair share of world-class illustrators, and this, the country's biggest annual comic festival. reflects the strength of the tradition. Last vear's attendees included veteran DC draughtsman José Luis García López, Enrique Sánchez Abulí, who scooped the Gran Premio for Torpedo 1936, his ultra-hard-boiled crime series, and American comic book theorist Scott. The festival is huge. occupying two floors with displays from big publishers, independents, shops, underground comics and fanzines. There's also world-class cosplay, author signings all weekend, and comic workshops for adults and kids

www.ficomic.com



16 SPANISH FORMULA 1 GRAND PRIX

MAY 13-15

Barcelona once more plays host to a thrilling three days of motor racing, as the top drivers in Formula 1 take to the Barcelona-Catalunya circuit in nearby Montmeló. It's a big weekend for the city, as thousands of fans of Ferrari, Williams, Mercedes et al. descend to watch their



teams in the qualifiers and then the all-important Sunday race, which marks the first European Grand Prix of the season. It's not a straightforward venue for the competitors, with overtaking complicated, but it is one they tend to be familiar with as many of the teams use it as a test circuit, Last year, Nico Rosberg triumphed with Mercedes teammate Lewis Hamilton coming in second – Rosberg was the ninth winner at Montmeló in as many years, highlighting the vagaries of the track.

www.circuitcat.com



THE NIGHT OF MUSEUMS LOOP FESTIVAL

MAY 21

The idea of visiting a museum at night holds a strange allure - it's no longer the compulsory dose of culture on a school trip, but a mysterious domain waiting to be explored. The Night of Museums can trace its roots back to 1997. and today, supported by the Council of Europe and UNESCO, it has spread to over 4.000 museums in 40 countries. In Barcelona last year, 81 museums opened for free from 7.30pm to 1am, including the city's most popular ones - the MNAC, the Picasso Museum and the MACBA - and new additions such as the Museu del Disseny de Barcelona. Special events included music. late-night drawing workshops, and the Van Van street food market on Montiuïc. And if a night-time tour isn't enough for you, it's followed by International Museum Day, with free museum entry all day.

www.barcelona.cat/ lanitdelsmuseus

18

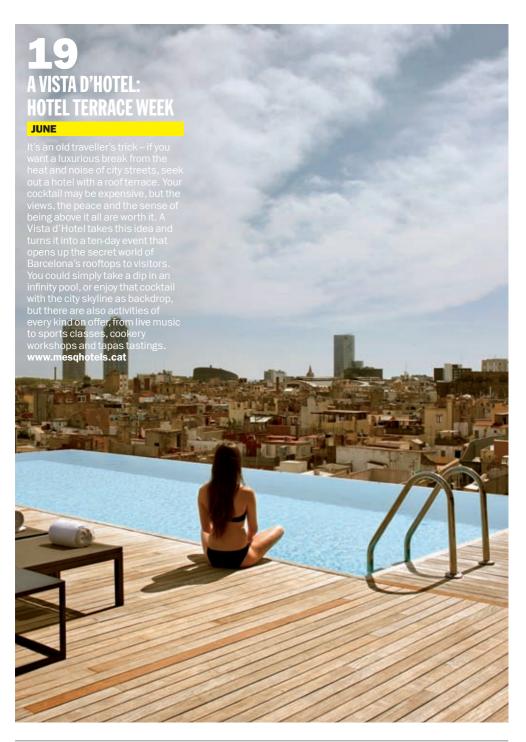
MAY 26-JUNE 4

Loop is an international gathering for the video art community artists, gallery-owners, curators. collectors and researchers - and also a festival that brings challenging contemporary art to the heart of the city. Loop Fair is a curated selection of artists' films presented by galleries (June 2-4);

Loop Studies offers panels and professional meetings at which experts share knowledge; and the Loop Festival shows video art in venues all over the city, from museums to cinemas. In 2015. Antoni Miralda took over a stall at La Boqueria market to show works as part of his FoodCultura project (see No 47), and in the Hotel de Catalunya, 45 invited galleries displayed one video per room, with festivalgoers roaming the corridors to take in the whole show.

www.loop-barcelona.com







20FESTIVAL JARDINS PALAU REIAL PEDRALBES

JUNE-JULY

Carving out a niche for yourself in Barcelona's festival calendar isn't easy, but the Jardins Palau Reial Pedralbes Festival has decided to do it by force of sheer class, starting with the location – the leafy gardens of a royal palace no less, with an open-air seated auditorium in front of the main façade. Spread over a month, the programme favours big names and old favourites – 2015 saw concerts from the Pet Shop Boys, Bob Dylan, Spandau Ballet, Goran Bregovic and the Orquesta Buena Vista Social Club. To round out the experience, audiences could enjoy a pre-concert meal prepared by Michelin-starred chefs, the Torres brothers.

www.festivalpedralbes.com

21PIKNIC ELECTRONIK BARCELONA

JUNE-SEPTEMBER

This weekly, family-friendly, electronic music event started in Canada, and has now spread to Dubai, Melbourne, Paris, Cannes and Lisbon as well as Barcelona, Running throughout the summer, from June to September, it's become one of the city's most popular al fresco events of the season. The appeal comes not only from the music, provided by top DJs from home and abroad, but also its ecological ethos and chilled ambience that makes it fun for groups of friends, families with young kids, and music enthusiasts alike.

www.piknicelectronik.es

22 SUMMER NIGHTS AT...

JUNE-SEPTEMBER

Summer nights in Barcelona are nothing short of a joy. The midday heat is long gone, leaving in its wake a warm temperature that's perfect for making the most of what the city has to offer in a relaxed, chilled way. Fortunately, some of Barcelona's most striking buildings have clocked on to this, and throw open their doors for evening cultural activities. La Pedrera. Casa Batlló, Torre Bellesguard, Palau Güell, Sant Pau modernista monument and FL Born Cultural Centre are among the beautiful landmarks that organise live music, food and wine tastings, guided tours and more, in an al fresco nocturnal ambience that is nothing short of inviting.

www.visitbarcelona.com



24 MONSTER ENERGY MOTOGP CATALONIA GRAND PRIX

JUNE 3-5

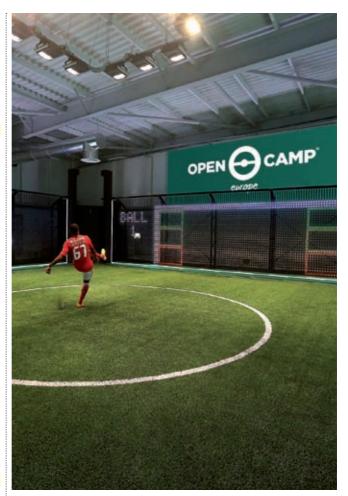
Spanish drivers, including several Catalan-born, have dominated this event in recent years. With the exception of 2011, since 2010 it has been won by either Mallorcan Jorge Lorenzo or Catalan Marc Márquez (the latter in 2014, when he was just 21), and the home crowd will be hoping for a similar success this year. The chances are good with the likes of Dani Pedrosa. Pol Espargaró and his brother Aleix all likely to be on the starting grid alongside Lorenzo and Márquez. What's more the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunva is renowned as one of the best-designed tracks of recent times, creating the conditions for an exhilirating contest over the 25 laps that make up this MotoGP event.

www.circuitcat.com

25 VINTAGE IN BARCELONA

JUNE 4-5

The vintage trend is hotter than ever in Barcelona, and this annual event may be the ultimate place to indulge vourself if you're a lover of the retro. Held at Els Encants Vells. the oldest market in Europe (and vou can't get much more vintage than that, right?), it's two days of festivities where you can buy anything from clothes to albums. furniture to cars. To add to the ambience, a soundtrack will be provided by DJs and live performers giving their all in soul. R'n'B and electro swing. Workshops and activities for kids will be organised, while food trucks serve up sustenance for the shoppers. vintageinbarcelona.com



26 OPEN CAMP

JUNE 16

Cities that host Olympic Games are given a great opportunity for regeneration and new development, and so it was with Barcelona, whose 1992 Games signalled an investment that revamped many areas and converted the city into a world-class destination. It has gone from strength to strength in the two decades since, and now its

Olympic Stadium is poised to provide yet another reason to visit with the opening of Open Camp. This experience-based theme park, the first of its kind in the world, will combine digital technologies and the concept of open sport (where participation is more important than competition) to give visitors the chance to feel like an elite athlete for the day. You'll be able to try out different activities, see your efforts in slo-mo repetition, and find out via your smartphone if anyone's beaten your time.

www.opencamp.info





28 LUIS DE MORALES: BETWEEN THE HUMAN AND THE DIVINE

JUNE 16-SEPTEMBER 25

His name may not be as well-known as contemporary El Greco, but Luis de Morales was certainly one of the best Spanish painters of the 16th century. Dubbed 'The Divine' thanks to his concentration on works with religious themes, he painted

using a style of extreme realism. Living at the time of the Counter-Reformation, and influenced by different schools including the Lombardy and Flemish ones. De Morales produced numerous portrayals of the Virgin mother and child, his meticulous. detailed approach creating rich, starkly memorable paintings that are very much of the Mannerist movement. This show is staged by the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunva, an iconic site on Montjuïc that houses the world's most important collection of Romanesque art and Catalan modernisme.

www.museunacional.cat

29LNR TOP 14 FINAL

JUNE 24

FC Barcelona's emblematic stadium, the Camp Nou, makes history by staging its first rugby match - and does it in style by hosting the final of the French rugby league season. With France playing host to the UEFA Euro 2016 football competition for much of June, an alternative venue had to be sought for this key rugby match, and where better than the biggest stadium in Europe? Not only is the Catalan capital within easy reach for travelling French supporters, but the unique setting also makes this an electrifying proposition for rugby fans from around the world

www.lnr.fr/rugby-top-14

30BARCELONA OBERTURA

JUNE 27

Barcelona Obertura Classic and 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. Already wellknown to many for their top-class performances, this latest association aims to extend their global reach and reputation even further, and demonstrate Barcelona's wealth of classical music programming. For this year, a star-studded line-up has been created (including the concerts of Sir John Eliot Gardiner and Lang Lang in January and February), and this appearance by conductor Daniele Gatti with the Wiener Philharmoniker on June 27 at the Palau is another highlight of what promises to be an enticing range of performances.

www.barcelonaobertura.com





33 080 BARCELONA FASHION

JULY

The best and brightest of Barcelona's fashion world come together once more for the summer edition of this biannual event. Inaugurated back in 2008, it's survived the bumpy years of the crisis, and grown in scope and size. The focus is very much on local creatives, both large and small, and offers a chance to appreciate the latest from established designers while spotting names to watch.

www.080barcelonafashion.cat



34CRUÏLLA BARCELONA

JULY 8-10

Cruïlla festival stakes its reputation on value for money early tickets for 2016 went on sale last year at just €55, a bargain for three nights of music. The headliners at the 2015 edition included Jamie Cullum, Franz Ferdinand and Sparks, Cocorosie, Afro-funk legend Osibisa, and representatives of BCN's music scene including Els Catarres and Seward. It's also the world's first cashless festival, allowing attendees to pay for everything from food to merchandising using a PayPal account linked to a smart wristband.

www.cruillabarcelona.com

35 BARCELONA HARLEY DAYS

JULY 16

Thousands of bikers roar into Barcelona each July for this celebration of the classic

US Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

Acclaimed as the biggest Harley event of its kind in Europe, this weekend of free activities is ideal both for true aficionados and anyone curious about the

eternal appeal of these speed machines. Guided tours, demo rides, concerts, a flag parade and, of course, a lot of stylish motorbikes, clothing and accessories mean a full-on three days of Harley action for the million or so visitors expected.

barcelonaharleydays.com



36 SAN MIGUEL MAS I MAS FESTIVAL

The Mas family run several of Barcelona's most important music venues including legendary jazz club Jamboree, Los Tarantos Flamenco Tablao, and techno club Moog. This means they have an enviable contact list of Spanish and international performers for the Mas i Mas festival, which last

enviable contact list of Spanish and international performers for the Mas i Mas festival, which last year ensured that Barcelona's music scene kept going through August with over 300 concerts at

their own venues as well as the Born Cultural Centre, the Reial Cercle Artistic and the Palau de la Música. The genre-hopping programme is strong on jazz and flamenco: in 2015 there was veteran Barcelona swing band La Locomotora Negra, the Anton Jarl Quintet recreating John Coltrane's A Love Supreme for its 50th anniversary, and a closing concert from rising flamenco star Rocío Márquez. But the festival casts its net wide: 2015 also saw Polish singer Katarzyna Rooijens performing with the Barcelona Gipsy Klezmer Orchestra, Menorcan pianist and improviser Marco Mezquida, and techno from Sebastian Mullaert.

www.masimas.com



37TROFEU JOAN GAMPER

AUGUST

Joan Gamper was the Swiss sports enthusiast who founded FC Barcelona way back in 1899, and this preseason friendly is held in his honour every year in August, hosted by the club at the Camp Nou. Originally held as a tournament (1966-1996), it became a one-off match in 1997 due to the team's increasingly busy calendar, but it still has a special status – it's a commemoration of Barça's history, offering fans a chance to see new signings in action and reacquaint themselves with the team before the season begins. Unsurprisingly, the home

team has won a disproportionate 38 out of 50 cups, notching up a 3-0 victory last year against AS Roma. The invited teams are picked from among the best in the world – regular guests include Bayern Munich and Argentina's Boca Juniors, so while the result may be a foregone conclusion, there's plenty of footballing talent on display.

www.fcbarcelona.com

38 CIRCUIT FESTIVAL

AUGUST 2-14

With 11 solid days of parties, club nights and top DJs in sweltering August heat, Barcelona's Circuit Festival, organised by party promoters Matinée Group, is billed as the biggest international gay and lesbian event in Europe, and draws 71.000 attendees from all over the world. Parties take place in the best-known gay clubs in Barcelona and Sitges, alongside the parallel lesbian Girlie Circuit. The annual highlight is the Water Park Party, a 24-hour extravaganza with a crowd of 12,000 last year. And for those with the stamina, when the party ends, the fun continues in Ibiza.

www.circuitfestival.net

39 Festa Major de Gràcia

AUGUST 15

It's the culmination of months of work: the streets of the Gràcia district are transformed into elaborate creations for the annual neighbourhood festival. Residents use recycled materials. papier-mâché and oodles of imagination as some 25 associations compete for the title of best-decorated street. Last year's winner was a Japanese garden with a huge dragon, a sumo giant and thousands of coloured streamers, while runners-up included Paris in the 1940s, a fairground and steampunk

fantasies. The party lasts all week, with visitors from across the city attracted by the decorations, live music until late in the district's squares, and food, drink and family activities during the day.

www.festamajordegracia.cat



CASTELLS (SANT FÈLIX-VILAFRANCA)

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER

Since castells — human towers – were recognised by UNESCO in 2010, the Catalan tradition, which dates back to the 18th century, has been seen all over the world. But there's nowhere better to experience it than in its heartland. the Catalan countryside. Vilafranca is the capital of the Alt Penedès region, famous for its cavas and wines, and every summer some of the best groups, or colles castelleres, from around the region are invited to join the Castellers de Vilafranca in a grand display to mark the Festa Major de Sant Fèlix. There's stiff competition to build the highest tower - nowadays towers nine or even ten people high are not uncommon. It's a nail-biting wait as the tower rises, with ever smaller castellers climbing up the backs of the lower layers until the youngest child of all reaches the top and raises one arm in the air. The combination of skill, strength and nerve makes for a mesmerising spectacle, and when a tower is raised and dismounted without collapsing, the reaction is euphoric. www.festamajorvilafranca.cat

MERCAT MÚSICA VIVA **DF VIC**

SEPTEMBER

If you love music and want to explore the coolest local sounds, vou should head to the central Catalan town of Vic for its annual autumnal festival. The 'Market of Live Music' celebrates its 28th edition this year, and if the line-up is anything like the 2015 edition, it'll be well worth the trip. Over 50 acts took to the stage including La Pegatina, an ensemble group renowned for its energetic ska and rumba performances. Núria Graham, one of the most promising young Catalan acts around, and Pxxr Gvng, Spanish trap pioneers riding high after their 2015 appearance at Barcelona's Sónar electronic music festival. The Market was set up for industry pros to seek out new stars from Catalonia and Spain, so why not follow their example for an unforgettable four days of live music.

www.mmvv.cat





43 HIPNOTIK

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Hipnotik is Barcelona's yearly celebration of the Spanish hip hop scene. With a profile that is gradually expanding, the one-day festival welcomes both promising young acts and more veteran names such as recent visitors Sho-Hai, one of the fathers of local rap, and Fyahbwoy, who has successfully



translated reggae and dancehall sounds into Spanish. Staged at the Centre of Contemporary Culture of Barcelona, the event features three different stages with performances and MC battles throughout the afternoon and evening. A separate venue hosts various topstyle and b-boy competitions, and a conference on a hip hop-related theme. It promises to once more be an exuberant celebration of street culture where the motto is freedom of expression.

www.hipnotikfestival.com



44. SITGES FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE CINEMA FANTÀSTIC DE CATALUNYA

OCTOBER

Inaugurated 49 years ago as the world's first film festival dedicated to the fantastic genre – ie, fantasy, horror, sci-fi and cult – today it has become the region's biggest celebration of the moving image. The picturesque seaside town of

Sitges, which is some 30 minutes down the coast from Barcelona. hosts hundreds of films from around the globe, providing movie fans with around ten days of screenings of all types, from animation to rom-com via slasher and gangster. The festival has also adapted to the times, with an evergrowing section dedicated to TV series, and a feature on films made on mobile phones (aptly named 'Phonetastic'). Last year it launched Sitges Pitchbox, giving screenwriters and directors the chance to pitch to potential producers, and perhaps see their creations up on a Sitges screen some time soon.

www.sitgesfilmfestival.com

45BEEFEATER IN-EDIT

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

At first glance a film festival dedicated solely to films about music sounds like a highly specialist proposition. But when you look back at the movies screened at the In-Edit festival since its inaugural edition in 2003. you realise that film and music are a match made in heaven. Take Searching for Sugarman, which won best documentary at the festival in 2012 - a musical documentary that became a worldwide hit and relaunched the career of long-forgotten singer Sixto Rodriguez. While the best documentaries of recent years make up most of the programme, there are also Hollywood bio-pics. legendary tour movies, single concert films and unclassifiable gems from the vaults. Last year. the festival's tribute to Tony Palmer, a hugely influential musical documentary maker, was an example of the festival's diversity, featuring his films on subjects as varied as Leonard Cohen, Ginger Baker, Maria Callas, Yehudi Menuhin and the northern soul scene at Wigan Casino, In-Edit has turned an unlikely idea into one of the city's best-loved film festivals, and one of the biggest music film events in the world.

www.in-edit.org



47ANTONI MIRALDA

OCTOBER 2016-APRIL 2017

Catalan artist Antoni Miralda is renowned as a food-artist, a discipline he's developed since the 1970s (coinciding with a move to the US) that studies food and its different impacts on societies across the world. His creations tend to be large-scale and this show will feature 14 of the projects he's undertaken in the States. Sculptures, drawings, photographs. visual recordings, sketches and other materials will feature, enabling visitors to witness how Miralda uses food to explore themes of nature and economics, as well as examining our changing relationship to food and its usage. www.macba.cat

48 GARMIN BARCELONA TRIATHLON

OCTOBER 2

An Olympic sport since 2000, and due to become part of the Paralympics at this year's Games in Rio, this three-pronged endurance contest has found a natural home in Barcelona, thanks to the city's spacious streets and ample seafront. Sponsored by Garmin since 2008, last year's event attracted some 4,000 triathletes aged between 16 and 73, who competed in one of the three different categories on offer: Olympic, Sprint and Supersprint. And even if you don't fancy a dip in the Med followed by a brisk bike ride then running as fast as you can to the finish line, take yourself to the Meta area, equipped with a large screen to watch all the action, sponsors' stalls, food and merchandising.

www.garminbarcelonatriathlon.com

49FIRA MEDITERRÀNIA A MANRESA

OCTOBER 13-16

The Fira Mediterrània in Manresa, 70 minutes by train from Barcelona, fills the city's streets and squares with music, dance, theatre, storytelling and the visual arts, from traditional folk customs and world music to contemporary art forms like graffiti and 3D mapping. It's an explosion of creativity inspired by the popular



culture of Catalonia and the Med. Last year's programme included over 100 events, with a mixture of free outdoor shows and ticketed indoor concerts and performances. The line-up was headed by Catalan singersongwriter Roger Mas and flamenco guitarist Tomatito, while the World Music programme featured Asian Dub Foundation Sound System, Cheikh Lô, DakhaBrakha and Ester Rada. There were folk musicians from Catalonia and Valencia, traditional Catalan festivities from castells to sardanes, and theatre events for the whole family.

www.firamediterrania.cat





53 CHRISTMAS SHOPPING + THE SHOPPING NIGHT BARCELONA

DECEMBER

Barcelona is a fantastic city for shopping, and this festive time of year is a brilliant moment to make the most of everything its stores have to offer, whether you're looking for gifts for everybody on your list or just want to treat yourself. From world-famous high street chains to independent boutiques selling locally made one-off pieces of clothing, jewellery and Barcelonathemed objets d'art, Christmas shopping here can be a truly eniovable experience. What's more. to make the task even better, at the start of December, The Shopping Night Barcelona will see the shops along Passeig de Gràcia and its surrounds open into the early hours, with live music, food and drink all adding to the special atmosphere.

www.theshoppingnight.com barcelonashoppingline.com

54CHRISTMAS: FIRA DE SANTA LLÚCIA

DECEMBER

One of Barcelona's most traditional fairs, having been staged since the late 18th century, you'll find all manner of Christmas ornaments and gifts on sale there. The main attraction are the figures for the nativity scenes that many Catalan families set up in their homes at this time of year. You'll find an amazing range of characters and accessories beyond the essential Holy Family, shepherds and three kings. Most surprising to many is the *caganer*, which literally means the

'defecator', and is usually a man dressed in traditional Catalan costume who squats in the corner of the crib, apparently to represent the returning to the ground of what we take out it. However, some innovative soul decided to start creating caganers in the shape of contemporary celebrities, meaning you can buy likenesses of Barack Obama, Pope Francis and Leo Messi all doing their natural business, which could arguably be the most original Christmas present you'll find this year. www.barcelona.cat/nadal

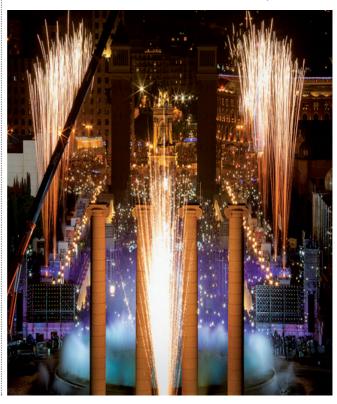
55 NEW YEAR'S EVE

DECEMBER 31

It's time once more to bid farewell to the old and welcome

the new, and where better to do that than in Barcelona, a place that perfectly combines a love for the past and the future. The biggest party of the night will take place in Avinguda Reina Maria Cristina, just next to Placa Espanya, with an enormous firework and musical extravaganza focused on the fountains of Montjuic as 2016 comes to an end and 2017 gets going. Local tradition dictates that as the bells strike midnight, 12 grapes need to be eaten before the last dong is heard, to ensure good luck for the year to come. If you're looking to keep the festivities going, clubs such as Apolo and Razzmatazz host special events, while back on Montiuïc. Poble Espanyol is the destination of choice for many voung people.

www.barcelona.cat/nadal



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