

5 great places to EAT WITH THE LOCALS

- 6 **CAN EUSEBIO**
C/ de Vila i Vilà 84
Poble Sec/Montjuïc ⑥
+34 (0)93 442 03 07
- A couple of years ago, Poble Sec was 'rediscovered' by the people of Barcelona. This neighbourhood in between Raval and Montjuïc hill is lively without the messiness of Raval, and is certainly cheaper than tourist-heavy areas like Born. Can Eusebio is a case in point: very good tapas for next to nothing. Seven euros for dinner, two euros for dessert? Hard to beat.
- 7 **LA COVA FUMADA**
C/ del Baluard 56
Barceloneta ④
+34 (0)93 221 40 61
- An old-fashioned bodega, family-run and very popular with the Barcelona locals. The menu couldn't be more Mediterranean: marinated sardines, chickpeas with *morcilla* (black pudding) and the like.
- 8 **PIM PAM PLATS**
Carrer del Rec 18
Born ③
+34 (0)93 315 20 93
www.pimpamplats.com
- Going for a night out? Then this is where to go for quick and hearty food that will get you through the night. Sit at a table at Pim Pam Plats and enjoy the staples of Italian cuisine, or go for a fine hamburger to the cheaper-looking little brother Pim Pam Burger, just around the corner.

- 9 **QUIMET D'HORTA**
Plaça d'Eivissa 10
Gràcia ⑩
+34 (0)93 358 19 16
www.quimethorta.com
- The owners of Quimet d'Horta think big. The wall of bottles behind the counter: big. The number of sandwiches they serve: impressive. They have 85 different *bocadillos* (sandwiches) plus 37 types of tortillas on the menu. The ideal place to end your visit to the quiet Horta neighbourhood.
- 10 **CASA FREIXO**
Rambla Bruc 36
Dret de l'Eixample ⑩
+34 (0)93 302 20 89
- This family-friendly Galician restaurant is filled with regulars at lunchtime. The lunch menu is nice indeed but we recommend coming back for dinner; especially their veal entrecote is delicious. And since Galicia lies at the coast (in the northwest of Spain), they also serve very good oysters and barnacles.

The 5 best bars

ALONG THE BEACH

111 EL PACÍFICO

C/ de la Vila Joiosa 52
Barceloneta ④
+34 (0)93 225 71 64
www.elpacifico.es

The closer to the water, the more expensive bars and restaurants tend to get, and unfortunately, they aren't always worth it. A general rule to follow in Barcelona: stay closer to the Barceloneta streets than to the waterfront. Try El Pacifico for instance: it has a beach view, a stark, pleasant interior, and good wine and cocktails.

112 MAMAROSA BEACH

Passeig del Mare
Nostrum 19-21
Barceloneta ④
+34 (0)93 312 35 86
www.mamarosabeach.com

You won't find anything classier than this bar on the ground floor of the W Hotel. The W Hotel basically seals off one side of the beach so the view goes all the way to Frank Gehry's *Peix*. Mamarosa Beach serves pastas, pizzas and other Italian classics, but it's better just to lounge here.

113 SANTA MARTA

C/ de Grau i Torras 59
Barceloneta ④
+34 691 23 68 02

A chunk of Italy in Barcelona, this colourful bar serves the cuisine of its owner's country (pizza, *piadina*) and mixes a good cocktail – both of spirits and of atmosphere. After all, with the pleasantly kitschy interior and the pop

music they play, it's amazing that having an aperitif here can be so relaxing.

114 AROLA

Carrer de la Marina 19
Poblenou ⑤
+34 (0)93 221 10 00
www.hotelartsbarcelona.com/en/Dining/Arola

The Arola at Hotel Arts may be best known as a restaurant, but few people know that it's also home to one of Barcelona's most luxurious cocktail bars. Enjoy the mouth-watering creations of master mixologist Diego in the chic bar or outdoors on the stylish terrace with a view across the Mediterranean, while local DJs spin their tunes.

115 VASO DE ORO

Carrer de Balboa 6
Barceloneta ④
+34 (0)93 319 30 98
www.vasodeoro.com

Five minutes away from the beach, you'll find this pleasant little bar, renowned for its beers. They also serve no-nonsense classic tapas. It's brown and lively and will make you want to stay a bit longer.



5 lovely ANTIQUES AND VINTAGE shops

191 MUEBLES RAM

C/ de Cartagena 164
Dret de l'Eixample ⑩
+34 (0)93 265 57 80
www.11870.com/pro/muebles-ram

RAM furniture was originally a props shop for movies and used to only rent its ware; only things they had two pieces of were for sale. Now it welcomes the public to peruse its nostalgia-heavy wares: chrome chairs, 70s tables and sofas, radio sets and lamps.

192 L'ARCA

C/ dels Banyes Nous 20
El Gòtic ②
+34 (0)93 302 15 98
www.larca.es

Trousseaus, sheets, table linens and other antique textiles from the 18th to the 20th century, including antique wedding dresses. The store has its own workspace; there used to be a textile factory at the same location.

193 ANTIQUE BOUTIQUE

Carrer de Sèneca 16
Gràcia ⑪
+34 (0)93 415 86 48
www.antiquestboutiquebcn.com

Antique Boutique likes things in their original shape, sure, but the owners also have their own collection. It features a lot of metal, without turning really industrial. Their 'Juliette Table', for instance, is shiny and new, elegant and with an air of the boudoir about it.

194 AGAINST

Carrer del Comte
d'Urgell 47-51
Sant Antoni ⑦
+34 (0)93 301 54 52
www.againstbcn.com

Against specializes in architect-designed furniture and decorative arts from the mid-20th century. Pieces are sold as near to their original condition as possible. The prices match the store's ambition, which is only logical.

195 OTRANTO

Passeig de Sant
Joan 142
Dret de l'Eixample ⑩
+34 (0)93 207 26 97
www.otranto.es

Otranto salvages the most beautiful pieces from houses that are getting demolished: handrails, toilets, ornamental pieces and even street lamps. If you think that's not going to fit in your hand luggage, you should still visit the store for its incredible collection of mosaic tiles.



The 5 best OUT-OF-THE-BOX sights close to the Ramblas

- 231 **ANATOMIC THEATRE**
Carrer del Carme 47
Raval ①
- This stunning anatomical amphitheatre is where students of medicine used to watch as their teachers cut into human bodies, spread out on the marble slab in the middle. This neo-classicist space with baroque flourishes served all through the 18th century. Only open on Wednesdays, between 10 and 12 am. Admission is free.
- 232 **BETLEM CHURCH**
Carrer del Carme 2
Raval ①
- The Church of Bethlehem boasts a baroque façade (from 1681), which is rare in Barcelona. The interior however was destroyed during the Civil War. The church is quite popular around Christmas time because of its traditional nativity scenes.
- 233 **ANTIGUA CASA FIGUERAS**
Les Rambles 83
Raval ①
- Located halfway down the Ramblas, this former pasta factory was built in 1820 and decorated by modernist artist Antoni Ros i Güell in 1902. It's as heavily decorated as a wedding cake, only with mosaics, wrought iron and stained glass. Look for the plaque in the pavement with symbols of various trades.

- 234 **CORTE INGLÉS TERRACE**
Plaça de Catalunya 14
Eixample ②
+34 (0)902 22 44 11
www.elcorteingles.es
- There's really no reason to be at Plaça de Catalunya, except when Barça is celebrating a victory. If you want to get a good sense of the square, you'd better visit the El Corte Inglés department store. The cafeteria on the top floor used to be hilariously outdated, but in 2016 it had a makeover and now it's a delicatessen bar. The view is as great as ever.
- 235 **PLAÇA DEL BONSUCCÉS 6**
Plaça del Bonsuccés 6
Raval ①
- The Ramblas can get very crowded. If your agoraphobia kicks in, it's good to know that you only have to turn the corner to find this adorable little square. It's a good place to sit down and relax.



231 ANATOMIC THEATRE



364 DESIGN MUSEUM

363 **PERFUME MUSEUM**

Passeig de Gràcia 39
Eixample ⑨
+34 (0)93 216 01 21
www.museudelperfum.com

Bit of a misleading name, since the collection consists mainly of perfume bottles. Still, it's very informative on the history of perfume through the ages, plus of course on the bottles they came in. The collection comes in two parts: one is an historical overview and one is dedicated to 'industrialized perfume', i.e. the industry that appeared in the 18th century.

364 **DESIGN MUSEUM**

Plaça de les Glòries
Catalanes 37
Dret de l'Eixample ⑩
+34 (0)93 256 68 00
www.museudeldisseny.cat

The Design Museum is just a couple of years old and we urge you to go and discover it. It has exhibitions on the four branches of design: space, product, information and fashion. It's housed in a handsome, original piece of architecture, right next to Torre Agbar.

365 **SHOE MUSEUM**

Plaça de Sant Felip
Neri 5
El Gòtic ②
+34 (0)93 301 45 33

There's 300 years of footwear on display in this one-room-museum. A charming oddity, this one, and it's located on Plaça de Sant Felip Neri, one of the most beautiful squares of El Gòtic, so that makes two reasons to come here.

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HIP HOTELS & HOTELS IN HIP PLACES

416 HOTEL PRAKTIK VINOTECA

Carrer de Balmes 51
Eixample ☉
+34 (0)93 454 50 28
www.hotelpraktikvinoteca.com

Eixample is heavy on traffic but that shouldn't be a problem when you're staying in one of Hotel Praktik Vinoteca's soundproofed rooms. The hotel employs a wine expert, hence the word 'vinoteca' in its name. Beautiful rooms and a great location: Passeig de Gràcia is close (for shopping), as is Plaça de Catalunya (to catch the bus to the airport).

417 PARS TEATRO HOSTEL

Carrer d'Albareda 12
Poble Sec/Montjuïc ☉
+34 (0)93 443 94 66
www.teatrohostel.com

Discovering Barcelona on a budget? Try this affordable hostel. You won't have your own room (they only have dormitories) but the service is excellent and the hotel design is quirky and lovable. Poble Sec is an up-and-coming neighbourhood, not too far from the centre and yet not central enough to be noisy.

418 HOTEL BRUMMELL

Nou de la Rambla 174
Poble Sec/Montjuïc ☉
+34 (0)93 125 86 22
www.hotelbrummell.com

Another hotel in Poble Sec. This boutique hotel has a minimalist design, a sun deck with a small pool, a restaurant (The Box Social) and 20 compact rooms with free Wi-Fi and rainshowers. The penthouse rooms have their own little terrace.

419 BARCELÓ RAVAL

Rambla del Raval
17-21
Raval ☉
+34 (0)93 320 14 90
[www.barcelo.com/
barcelohotels](http://www.barcelo.com/barcelohotels)

This four-star hotel doesn't come cheap, but the experience will be memorable. The purple tower, entirely covered in metal blinds, has been injected into popular Raval district like an alien *Fremdkörper* into a human body. The entrance hall is exuberantly glamorous, the rooms impeccable and the roof terrace provides a 360-degree view of the neighbourhood.

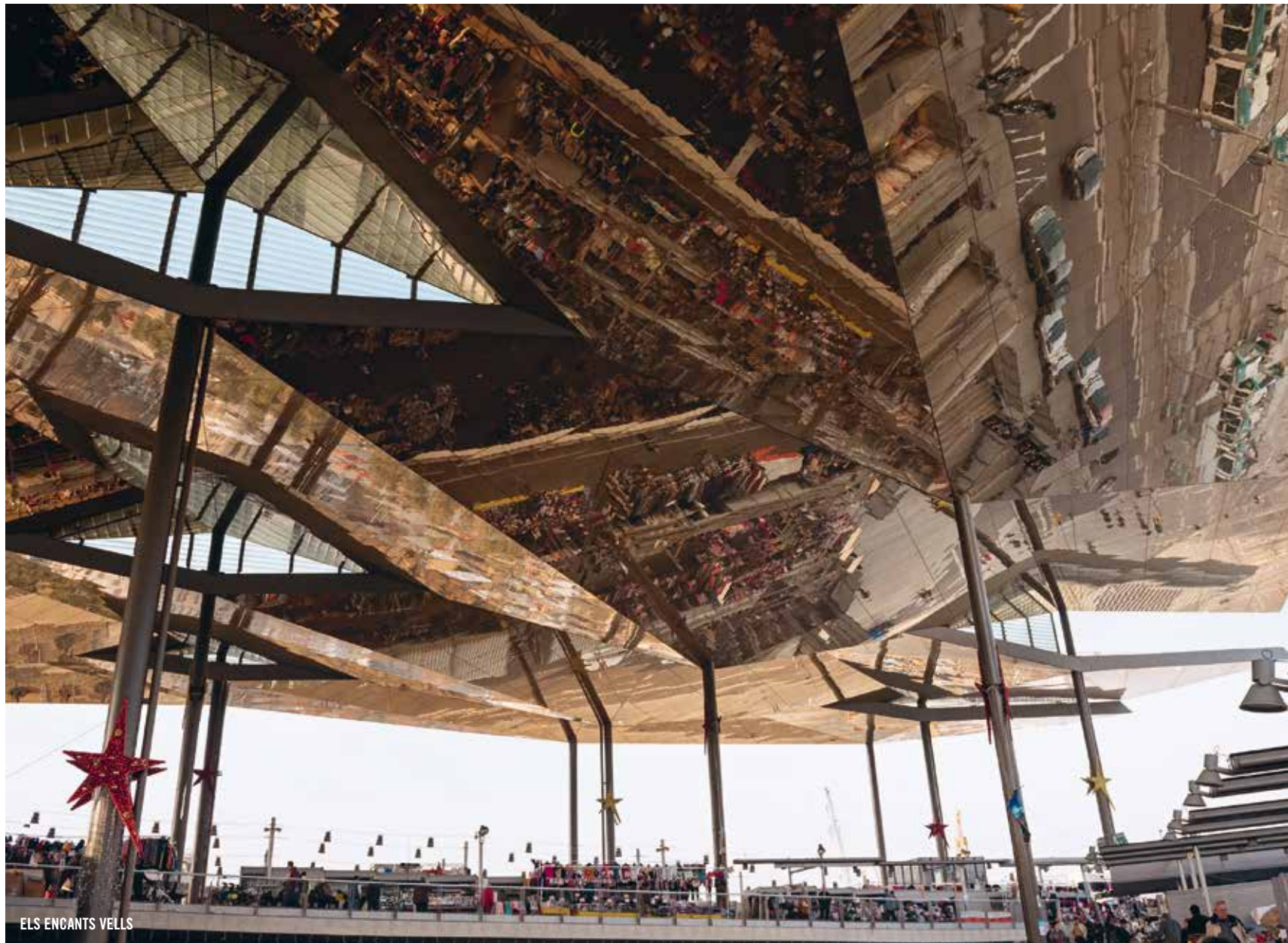
420 BANYS ORIENTALS

C/ de l'Argenteria 37
Born ☉
+34 (0)93 268 84 60
www.hotelbanysorientals.com

Named after the Arab bathhouse that used to be here, Banyes Orientals is an up-to-date, stylish hotel, with small rooms in simple colours. Located in the Born, which means enormous amounts of tourists during the day but no traffic at night. The number of great restaurants, coffee houses and clothes stores in the immediate vicinity is enormous.



418 HOTEL BRUMMELL



ELS ENCANTS VELLS

5

CATALAN PHRASES

that will make people like you

- 456 **BON DIA / BONA TARDA / BONA NIT / ADÉU** It's silly, but speaking the tiniest bit of Catalan will make the locals treat you like a visitor instead of like a tourist. Start off any conversation with these three phrases meaning good morning, good afternoon and good evening. *Adéu* means goodbye.
- 457 **SISPLAU / GRÀCIES** *Sisplau*, short for *si us plau*, translates as 'as you like it' and means 'please'. *Gràcies*, pronounced the exact same way as Spanish *gracias* means 'thank you'.
- 458 **PERDONI, QUANT COSTA AIXÒ?** 'Excuse me, how much is this?' Hopefully the shopkeeper will answer in English, because an introduction to numbers in Catalan is going to take a while. Whatever he says, *Es una mica car, no?* (That's a bit expensive, isn't it?) is always a good response.

459 **EM DIC... SÓC DE... MOLT DE GUST.**

'My name is... I'm from... Pleased to meet you'. If your interlocutor takes all this to mean you speak Catalan, your next useful phrase is going to be *No ho entenc. Parla anglès?*: 'I don't understand. Do you speak English?'

460 **T'ESTIMO. DEIXA'M EN PAU.**

Love comes quickly, so be prepared. *T'estimo* means 'I love you'. Unwanted suitors can be chased off with a harsh *Deixa'm en pau* or 'Leave me in peace'.