

5 exceptionally STYLISH RESTAURANTS

- 21 **LA DAMA**
Av. Diagonal 423
Eixample ⑨
+34 (0)93 209 63 28
la-dama.com
- La Dama is housed in Casa Sayrach, the Modernist marvel you never heard of. The reason is obvious: this turreted, elegant building is not open to the public... unless you go dining at La Dama. Cheap it is not, but the Galician veal, the wine cellar and the majestic surroundings make it all very much worthwhile.
- 22 **LLAMBER**
C/ Fusina 5
El Born ③
+34 (0)93 319 62 50
llamber.com
- A *gastrotaverna* paradoxically combining wood panelling with a slightly industrial feel, and a place to be seen. It is in the heart of upmarket El Born, right next to the renovated Mercat del Born.
- 23 **7 PORTES**
Passeig Isabel II 14
El Born ③
+34 (0)93 319 30 33
7portes.com
- 'Seven doors' give access to as many dining salons, all with a 19th-century feel. Even the waiters with their long aprons look like they've been there for at least a century. 7 Portes serves classic Catalan cuisine in generous portions. In a neighbourhood full of tourist traps, it's a relief to find something as dependable as 7 Portes.

- 24 **FONDA ESPAÑA**
C/ Sant Pau 9-11
El Raval ①
+34 (0)93 550 00 00
hotelespanya.com/
en/fonda-espana-
restaurant/
- Architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner, creator of marvels such as the Hospital de Sant Pau and the Palau de la Música, designed the dining room of Hotel España, and it's simply stunning. The kitchen of chef German Espinosa does the location more than justice.
- 25 **WINDSOR**
C/ Còrsega 286
Dreta de l'Eixample ⑩
+34 (0)93 237 75 88
restaurantwindsor.com
- Windsor, taking up the entire ground floor of the building, is divided in separate spaces, some small and private, some bigger and more opulent. During lunch it attracts businessmen, in the evening people who like the waiters' hands-on approach and the excellent, classic but classy food. Windsor knows how to handle tradition.



22 LLAMBER

The 5 OLDEST BARS in town

136 ELS 4GATS

C/ Montsió 3

Barri Gòtic ②

+34 (0)93 302 41 40

4gats.com

Fashioned after the French cabaret *Le chat noir*, Els 4Gats was meant to feed the body as well as the soul. It quickly became the hangout for Barcelona's artists and intellectuals; at one point it even had its own cultural magazine. The interior mixes elements of a traditional Catalan tavern with artistic touches. The lamps and furniture give the whole a slightly medieval feel.



137 LONDON BAR

C/ Nou de

la Rambla 34

El Raval ①

+34 (0)93 318 52 61

London Bar used to be the hangout for the likes of Dalí, Picasso and Hemingway. The interior hasn't changed in over a century. You could call this 'faded art-deco splendour' and it's very easy to love. They have lots of little concerts in the bar, so if you like it in the morning – there's something very classy about having your first cup of coffee here – do go back in the evening.

138 CAFÉ DE L'OPERA

Les Rambles 74

Barri Gòtic ②

+34 (0)93 317 75 85

cafeoperabcn.com

Café de l'Opera started out as a *chocolateria* (chocolate cafe) sometime before 1831, then became a restaurant and found its current shape in 1929. It looks a little like a stage inside, as if you're waiting for a larger-than-life character to enter. The mirrors are engraved with feminine figures. A pleasantly old-fashioned place for a drink. Careful: on the Rambles, therefore pricey.

139 LA CONFITERÍA

C/ Sant Pau 128

El Raval ①

+34 (0)93 140 54 35

confiteria.cat

Why is a bar called 'the confectionery store'? Because it used to be just that. Its modernist decorations were preserved, as well as the glass cupboards and the shop windows. It's a slightly Parisian-feeling bit of history and worth a visit.

140 CAN CULLERETES

C/ Quintana 5

Barri Gòtic ②

+34 (0)93 317 30 22

culleretes.com

According to the *Guinness Book of Records* Can Culleretes (founded in 1786) is the second-oldest bar/restaurant in Spain. They call the various spaces 'salons' and they have murals of 19-century Spaniards enjoying themselves.



223 GANIVETERIA ROCA

Plaça del Pi 3

Barri Gòtic ②

+34 (0)93 302 12 41

ganiveteriaroca.cat

Ganivet is Catalan for 'knife'. If you're looking for a great kitchen knife, this store is where you should go. They also sell other kitchen utensils, manicure and pedicure utensils, and more. The store has its own workshop. The interior takes you right back to 1911, when the store was founded.

224 FARMÀCIA GALUP

C/ Pau Claris 83

Dreta de l'Eixample ⑩

+34 (0)93 317 72 83

farmaciagalup.com

Several of the stores that are protected by the city of Barcelona are pharmacies, which makes sense: people like being healthy. *Farmàcia Galup* offers a wonderful example of a historic shop interior: on the walls of this 1927 pharmacy you can still see the ads for Galup products. Probably the fastest way to pick up a new toothbrush and some art at the same time.

225 CASA BEETHOVEN

Les Rambles 97

El Raval ①

+34 (0)93 301 48 26

casabeethoven.com

Pushed into a corner next to cultural institute La Virreina, this shoebox store, open since 1880, sells sheet music, classical music on vinyl and some gift articles (e.g. music boxes). A lovely store for browsing.



268 **THE VIEW
FROM CCCB**

C/ Montalegre 5
El Raval ①
+34 (0)93 306 41 00
cccb.org

If you're visiting Barcelona on the first Sunday of a month, make your way to the Centre for Contemporary Culture: on this day you can access the top floor for free. From the building's 5th floor, you have an unusual perspective of Barcelona: from Montjuïc to the sea, and all across the roofs and courtyards of the city centre.

269 **TORRE DE
COLLSEROLA**

Carretera de
Vallvidrera al
Tibidabo
Tibidabo
+34 (0)93 406 93 54
torredecollserola.com

This Norman Foster-designed radio tower, built for the 1992 Olympics, has since become an iconic part of the Barcelona skyline. It is open to the public: you can take an elevator to the observation deck (560 metres above sealevel) where you'll have a 360-degree view on Barcelona and the nature on the other side of Collserola Hill.

270 **ROOFTOP OF SANTA
MARIA DEL MAR**

Plaça de Santa
Maria 1
El Born ③
+34 (0)93 310 23 90
santamariadelmar
barcelona.org

If you take a guided tour of the Santa Maria del Mar (which certainly isn't a waste of time), you'll not only get a better look at the rose windows and the marks of the 1428 earthquake, but you will also have the opportunity to go on the roof. Needless to say, the view is priceless.

5 STREETS

you need to discover

271 **CARRER
DE TORRIJOS**

Gràcia ①

The main artery of Paris-like Gràcia district is Carrer de Verdi, but only a stone's throw away is Carrer Torrijos. It takes you from Abaceria Central Market, past neighbourhood stores (including a great pastry shop, a Mexican deli and several tiny boutiques) to sunny and green Plaça de la Virreina.





368 **PERFUME MUSEUM**

Passeig de Gràcia 39
Dreta de l'Eixample ⑩
 +34 (0)93 216 01 21
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 'industrialised perfume', i.e. the industry that appeared in the 18th century.

369 **DESIGN MUSEUM**

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

370 **MOCO**

C/ Montcada 25
El Born ③
 +34 (0)93 629 18 56
mocomuseum.com

The museum for MODern and CONtemporary art was founded in Amsterdam in 2016 and branched out to Barcelona in 2021. The collection includes work by Andy Warhol, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Banksy, Salvador Dalí, Damien Hirst, Keith Haring, KAWS, Hayden Kays, Yayoi Kusama, David LaChapelle, Takashi Murakami... And it's right next to the Picasso museum, ideal for a museum double bill.

5

STYLISH PLACES

to spend the night

441 HOSTAL GOYA

C/ Pau Claris 74
Dreta de l'Eixample ⑩
+34 (0)93 302 26 65
hostalgoya.com

The front door to Hostal Goya may not look like much, but the building contains vintage *modernista* decoration. The rooms are crisp and minimalist, so that the original design elements get a chance to stand out.

442 KIMPTON VIVIDORA BARCELONA

C/ Duc 15
Barri Gòtic ②
+34 (0)93 642 54 00
kimptonvividora.com/en

A recent addition to the Barcelona hotel scene, the Vividora is incredibly stylish. It explicitly presents itself as a pet-friendly hotel. Located in Barri Gòtic, which means enormous amounts of tourists during the day but hardly any traffic at night. The number of great restaurants, coffee houses and clothing shops in the immediate vicinity is enormous.

443 POBLENOU BED & BREAKFAST

C/ Taulat 30
Poblenou ⑤
+34 (0)93 221 26 01
hostalpoblenou.com

A 1930s two-storey house with beautiful façade, handsomely renovated rooms and – this should be the clincher – situated in Poblenou, a neighbourhood that is considered Barcelona's next big surprise. Discover it before everybody else does.

444 ROOM MATE GERARD

C/ Ausiàs Marc 34
Dreta de l'Eixample ⑩
+34 (0)93 182 80 31
room-matehotels.com/es/gerard

Colourful and quite opulent, the Gerard is a place for the discerning traveller. It comes with a beautiful sun terrace and a gym. Nearby Passeig de Sant Joan features a wealth of restaurants, wine bars, and terraces with a view of the Arc de Triomf.

445 THE 8

C/ Aragó 281
Dreta de l'Eixample ⑩
+34 (0)93 676 43 78
the8bedandbreakfast.com

THE 8 is a boutique hostel. They really like minimalism here: black and white rule. Bathrooms come with Rituals products, the breakfast space doubles as a lounge. Carrer Aragó is a really busy street, but the noise is non-existent inside.



The 5 best MOVIES shot in Barcelona

461 **TODO SOBRE
MI MADRE**
1999

Pedro Almodóvar's best movie is (coincidentally?) also his only movie shot in Barcelona. A sprawling story, *All About my Mother* features Penelope Cruz as an HIV-positive nun and Carmen Maura as the grieving mother taking care of her.

462 **VICKY CRISTINA
BARCELONA**
2008

Woody Allen transforms Barcelona in a dream-like place where American women go to confront (and possibly live) their dreams. Light-hearted, yet surprisingly touching.

463 **THE PASSENGER**
1975

Partly set and shot in Barcelona, this Michelangelo Antonioni movie stars Jack Nicholson as a journalist who assumes the identity of a deceased hotel guest, in order to start a new life.

464 **REC**
2007

A 'found footage' horror film that takes place at number 34 of the Rambla de Catalunya. Utterly chilling. Spawned 3 sequels and an American remake.

465 **BIUTIFUL**
2010

This Mexican-Spanish drama shows a very different side of Barcelona: the poverty of illegal migrants, street vendors and sweatshop employees. Javier Bardem plays a dying man who can't cope with the accident he caused (in which several illegal migrants were killed). A bleak movie, directed by Alejandro González Iñárritu (*Amores Perros*).



BOTANICAL GARDEN