

## "Best Landmarks in Barcelona"

Created By: Cityseeker

 16 Locations Bookmarked



 by manuefloresv 

### Plaça de Catalunya

"Barcelona's Main Square"

Nestled in the heart of the city is the Plaça de Catalunya, an upbeat and animated public square that you cannot miss on your visit to the city. The generous square with grassy lawns, shady trees, fountains that light up after dark, is surrounded by an abundance of bars, restaurants, and cafes. The square, because of its central location, is close to numerous city attractions making it the perfect spot for a midday meal or to people watch as you sip on a cup of joe.



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 Plaça de Catalunya, Barcelona



 by Paulo Valdivieso 

### Palau de la Música Catalana

"Holistic Visual Treat"

An eye-catching fixture of downtown Barcelona, the Palau de la Música Catalana boasts a striking modernist design. It was built in the early-20th century by architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner, who designed the now-iconic exterior to feature intricate carvings, red brick arches, and exquisite Spanish and Arabic architectural details. Inside, the concert hall is even more breathtaking with its gold accents, floral patterns, and exceptional stained-glass elements. Visitors to the Palau de la Música Catalana will be awed by the kaleidoscopic skylight whether they take in a show or simply tour this breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the past, the Palau de la Música Catalana has hosted such quality performers as Ella Fitzgerald, Paco de Lucía, Woody Allen, Ángel Corella, and Duke Ellington.



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 [www.palaumusica.cat/en/the-art-nouveau-building\\_23602](http://www.palaumusica.cat/en/the-art-nouveau-building_23602)

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 Carrer del Palau de la Música 4-6, Barcelona

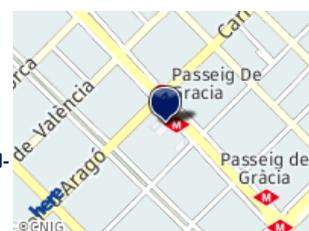


 by "Public Domain" 

### Casa Lleó Morera

"Art Deco & Ornamentation"

Part of the Illa de la Discòrdia, or Block of Discord, Lluís Domènech i Muntaner's design displays a spectacular use of mosaic, as well as stained-glass windows by Lluís Rigalt and sculptures by Eusebi Arnau. These decorative elements reflect Hellenistic, Gothic, and Renaissance influences, especially the stained-glass windows. Built between 1902 and 1906, the landmark stands in the same residential block as two other outstanding modernist buildings created by different architects in hugely different styles, hence the collective name: Block of Discord. Guided tours are available though tickets must be purchased online as they do not sell tickets at the house.



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 Passeig de Gràcia 35, Barcelona



by Ireland

## Manzana de la Discòrdia

"Modernista Madness!"

The name for this architecture-rich attraction makes reference to the golden apple of discord in Greek mythology given its unparalleled beauty. Comprised of three spectacular structures, the block plays host to what some would argue is Barcelona's most recognizable group of buildings. It is home to Gaudi's Casa Batlló, Domènich i Montaner's Casa Lleó Morera, and Puig i Cadafalch's Casa Amatller, all of which are famous for exemplifying the Modernista architectural movement. Stroll between the three at your own pace, but be sure to visit as no trip to Barcelona is complete without a detour to the Manzana de la Discòrdia.



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Passeig de Gràcia 41, Barcelona



by ChristianSchd

## Casa Batlló

"Awe-Inspiring Architecture"

Gaudi's masterpiece, the Casa Batlló is one of the most unique residential buildings ever constructed in the Modernista style. Its facade bedecked with a rainbow of colored tiles gives way to the entrance hall that evokes an underwater sojourn complete with wave-like walls, turtle-shaped skylights, and a staircase that resembles the spine of a mythical creature. The upper level Noble Floor features windows that open out onto Passeig de Gràcia and are flooded with natural light and the connected outdoor patio is a kaleidoscope of hues wrought in glass and tile. From the terrace, it's easy to understand why the house is called casa del drac locally, as the roof tiles resemble Sant Jordi's dragon. A marvelous expression of both creativity and architectural acumen, the Casa Batlló stands as a testament to Gaudi's psychedelic genius.



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Passeig de Gràcia 43, Barcelona



by Nikos Roussos

## La Rambla

"Iconic Barcelona Street"

Las Ramblas, a premier destination for both locals and visitors, stretches across central Barcelona from the Plaça de Catalunya to the waterside Columbus Monument. The popular pedestrian mall houses several notable attractions, including the Gran Teatre del Liceu and Palau de la Virreina, as well as plenty of opportunities for retail therapy. This cultural hub is lined with trees and filled with friendly crowds, particularly where restaurants offer outdoor seating amidst all the action. Whether relishing the sights and sounds of La Boqueria, one of the most spectacular markets in the world, or embracing the Catalan pace on a leisurely stroll, Las Ramblas is a must see in Barcelona.



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Las Ramblas, Barcelona

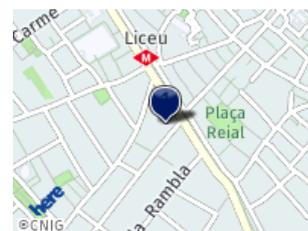


by Marie Thérèse Hébert & Jean Robert Thibault

## Gran Teatre del Liceu

"Grand Opera House"

Featuring an air of striking regality that can be attributed to its historic dull rose facade, the Gran Teatre del Liceu is a longstanding symbol of Barcelona's prized culture. Perhaps the most important theater in Barcelona, the Gran Teatre del Liceu was built in 1847 as a venue for opera performances. The original building showcased a modern aesthetic designed by architects Miquel Garriga i Roca and Josep Oriol Mestres, and while the theater was rebuilt after a fire in 1994, a handful of cherished artifacts from the first structure remain. The main facade, the Hall of Mirrors, and staircase notably represent the historic Gran Teatre del Liceu as it was originally conceived. As important as ever, the new theater stays



true to its roots by staging an exciting program of operas, concerts, and ballets performed by some of the most reputable companies in the world. It even houses a symphony orchestra and choir that perform throughout the year. With 2,292 seats, the Gran Teatre del Liceu is certainly grand, and it has one of the largest opera auditoriums in Europe.

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La Rambla 51-59, Barcelona



by Naval S

## Barcelona Gothic Quarter

### "Medieval Heart of the City"

Barcelona's oldest residential district is a maze of narrow streets housing some fantastic examples of Gothic architecture. Lots of trendy young designers have opened up outlets here over the last few years, along with some classy but not too flashy restaurants, including tapas bars that fill up with the city's youth most nights. Alongside Gothic buildings like the imposing Cathedral of Barcelona, you can see the most concentrated remains of the Roman period here, between Plaça de la Catedral and Plaça Sant Jaume. The old Roman walls still demarcate the boundary between this and its adjacent districts. This spirited neighborhood, known locally as Barri Gòtic, is one of the city's most atmospheric and enchanting explorations serving up style in spades.



Between La Rambla and Via Laietana, Barcelona



by trioptikmal

## Casa Milà

### "An Architectural Wonder"

Antoni Gaudí, the architect who built this jewel of Catalan modernism, wanted the facade to reflect his romantic and anti-classical ideas about design. It was built for the Milà family between 1906 and 1910. Neither the family nor the public were much impressed, and it was dubbed La Pedrera (stone quarry) as an insult. Only later in 1984 did it win great acclaim when the UNESCO declared it a World Heritage Site. Now internationally celebrated, Casa Milà is a prime example of Gaudí's civil architecture; it is aesthetically interesting and unique as well as outstandingly practical. Call +34 90 220 2138 for more details.



[www.lapedrera.com/es](http://www.lapedrera.com/es)



Carrer Provença 261-265, Barcelona

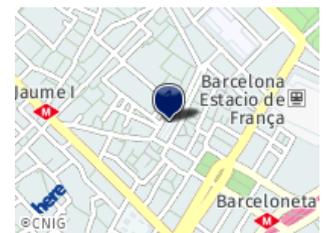


by Catedrales e Iglesias

## Basilica de Santa Maria del Mar

### "Gothic Grandeur"

While competition for the most outstanding religious structure in Barcelona is high given architectural masterpieces like the Sagrada Família and Barcelona Cathedral, this basilica is quite spectacular. It was built between 1329 CE and 1384 CE, giving visitors a glimpse into Gothic history and serving as an important stop along any tour of the Barri Gòtic. The austere Basilica de Santa Maria del Mar boasts a lovely 15th-century stained-glass window shaped like a rosette, as well as impressive sculptures on the facade and tympanum. Mass is held in the Santísimo chapel except on Sundays when it is held in the main altar. Mass is regularly conducted in Catalan, as well as in Spanish on select days.

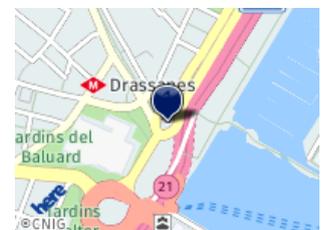


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Plaça de Santa Maria 1, Barcelona



## Columbus Monument

### "In Search of New Discoveries"

This grand monument to Christopher Columbus opened to the public in the summer of 1888 during the famous Universal Exposition. As the legend goes, Columbus alighted on Barcelona's shores first after returning from his arduous voyage to the New World and the Americas. The structure was designed by Gaietà Buigas i Monravà, who won a contest for Spanish artists that was held to determine who would have the prestigious honor. The 51-meter (168-foot) metallic column is topped by a statue of Christopher Columbus symbolically pointing out to sea in commemoration of his historic voyages, above the hustle and bustle of Las Ramblas. There is an elevator that whooshes to the top that afford stunning views of the iconic street as well as Barcelona's seafront and ports. Among the many sights that unfold from the 60-meter height, visitors can look for the Santa Maria del Mar's towers, Mount Montjuïc with its looming castle, Parc Natural de Collserola and Port Vell.

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Plaça del Portal de la Pau, Barcelona



by Bracketing Life

## Plaça d'Espanya

### "Old Gateway to Barcelona"

This stopover on the way to Montjuïc was once the gateway to the city because of the creu coberta found in the square. The creu coberta was a Gothic cross that symbolized arrival in Barcelona. Historically, criminals were hanged in this part of the city, often remaining on display to dissuade newcomers from straying from the "path of righteousness." Urbanization plans for the area began in 1908 and ended in 1929, the same year as the Universal Exposition of Barcelona. Beyond the architectural jewels surrounding the square, there is a fountain in its center designed by Josep Maria Jujol, a disciple of Gaudi.



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Avenida del Paral·lel, Barcelona



by "Public Domain"

## Torre Agbar

### "Inspired by the Montserrat Mountains"

Conceived by famed French architect Jean Nouvel and his team, the 38-story Agbar Tower is a monument to art and sustainability. Sustainable materials, temperature-regulating windows and computer-directed elevators combine to create this iconic symbol of Barcelona. Visitors to the tower should also take note of the fact that the amazing structure has no indoor columns. The view from almost any floor is truly spectacular, providing a vista of all of the points of interests in the city, including Gaudi's Sagrada Família. Though the view from the interior is breathtaking, the exterior of the tower is just as wonderful to behold. Over 4500 windows cover the tower in its entirety, and all of them can be lit by LED lights in dazzling displays of color and design. There is a souvenir shop on-site where visitors can purchase T-shirts as well as more high-end gifts.



www.barcelonaturisme.com/wv3/en/page/517/torre-agbar.html

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Avinguda Diagonal 211, Barcelona

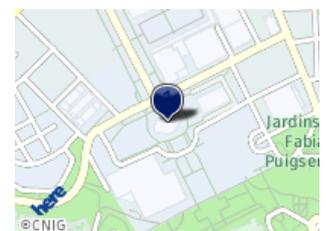


by photographerglen

## Magic Fountain of Montjuïc

### "Colorful Fountain"

The Magic Fountain of Montjuïc occupies the original space of The Four Columns. Built for the World Fair in 1929, the man-made masterpiece is the brainchild of Carles Buigas. Having faced the brunt of the Spanish Civil War, it was restored to its magical charm in 1955. Concentric pools surround the state-of-the-art mechanized features. Stop by every half hour in the evening for a breathtaking visual display. The chromatic lights give the water a dancing illusion as it synchronizes with the rhythm of the music that accompanies the show. The shapes and colors are constantly



changing, and the effect is mystical and enchanting.

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[www.barcelona.cat/en/what-to-do-in-bcn/magic-fountain](http://www.barcelona.cat/en/what-to-do-in-bcn/magic-fountain)

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Plaça Carles Buigas, Barcelona



by :Puigalder

## Montjuïc Castle

### "Military Museum"

This historic castle is perched atop the Montjuïc hill not far from the Barcelona port. The original structure was built in the mid-17th Century during the Catalan Revolt, at which time armies under King Philip IV sieged much of what is today eastern Spain, though the landmark saw significant expansion and improvement from 1751 to 1779. The building that protects the harbor today has become a symbol of centralist repression and the abolition of Catalan liberties, reminding visitors of Barcelona's complex history. Visitors can reach Montjuïc Castle by cable car and enjoy breathtaking ocean views from its scenic vantage point as well as tours of the landscaped grounds.



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[www.barcelonaturisme.com/wv3/en/page/1142/castell-de-montjuic.html](http://www.barcelonaturisme.com/wv3/en/page/1142/castell-de-montjuic.html)

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Carretera de Montjuïc 66, Barcelona



by Bernard Gagnon

## Hospital de Sant Pau

### "Heart Meets Art"

These opulent grounds are architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner's most important work. Construction began in 1902 and the project was finally completed in 1930 by Montaner's sons. Once a thriving hospital complex, the structure houses 48 wards decorated with mosaics, sculptures, and murals; separated by gardens; and connected by underground tunnels. Fully functional by 1930, the Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau closed down in 2009 in order to be fully renovated and converted into a cultural center and museum. Guided tours are available by prior arrangement. Get on booking your tour as you won't want to miss this breathtaking example of the Modernista architectural style.



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