# **Travel Guide for Budget Travelers**



Raul Fattore

Leisure for Less series 2016

An overview to all things Barcelona, with tips and secrets that will help you save money and get the most out of your visit.

Other books by this author:

**Save on Tours and Travel for Free (Volume 1)** 

**Attractions for Less or Even for Free (Volume 2)** 

Free Museums? Yes! (Volume 3)

How to Save €160 on 1, 2 and 3-Day Tours in Barcelona and get Free Transport (Volume 1)

**How to Save €110 on 30 Barcelona Attractions (Volume 2)** 

**How to Save €200 and get Free Entry to 29 Museums in Barcelona (Volume 3)** 

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Raul Fattore

www.barcelona-budget.net

# Introduction

Hello and welcome dear reader!

This eBook is a quick travel guide oriented to budget travelers who want to travel to Barcelona and get the most out their visit, without having to break the bank. Whether you're traveling for business or pleasure, or have a tiny budget, we'll provide comprehensive, insider tips.

Barcelona is a truly remarkable city. The truth is that with the right information, you can have a unique and amazing experience on any budget. Our goal is to give you the kind of valuable insider information on every Barcelona activity under the sun, and we'll save you money at the same time. We know secrets that other guides wish they knew or flat out refuse to tell you!

Our travel guide was designed from the ground up to give you the kind of insider information you need to get the most out of Barcelona in every way you can imagine. Whether you are a first time visitor to Barcelona or a seasoned traveler returning once more, we have a wealth of information to offer to you.

Though this travel guide will give you a good overview to all things Barcelona, we encourage you to read more in-depth articles by visiting our website <u>Barcelona Budget</u>. You will also find plenty of budget tips in our <u>Blog</u>, where you can also share your thoughts. We'll be glad to hear from you!

If you like this free travel guide or you find it useful, please share it with your friends and circles.

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# A Quick Guide to Barcelona

You might not need a travel guide to help you plan your trip to Barcelona—and you probably don't need one to convince you to go (come on, it's Spain!)—but when you are planning a trip it can be tricky to factor in all of the different components. There are the travel accommodations to consider, hotels, restaurants, and, of course, all of those famous Barcelona attractions to see!



And there is so much to see! From the Roman Columns to the Gothic Quarter, and from La Sagrada Família to the Magic Fountain of Monjuïc, you have a lot to pack into your trip. So much, in fact, that, no matter how long your holiday is, it probably doesn't seem nearly long enough to accommodate everything you want to do and see. This is where a travel guide can help you. At Barcelona Budget, we can provide you with a quick travel guide to Barcelona so you can be sure you don't miss anything you want to see on your trip.

## Why choose Barcelona?

You probably don't need an excuse to choose Barcelona over many of the alternative tourist destinations, but in case you do, Barcelona's climate makes it an excellent holiday choice during any time of year. Its warm summers and mild winters ensure there are always things to do, making it easier to plan your trip during the off-season to catch those better rates.

## What is there to see and do in Barcelona?

Barcelona has dozens of attractions to spark the varied interests of any traveller:

## **Shopping**

For shopping enthusiasts (or shop-a-holics), <u>La Rambla</u> is definitely a favorite amongst Barcelona's attractions. It is a tree-lined mall that contains activities, restaurants, kiosks,

shops, entertainment and cafés that span a kilometer (0.6 miles)—and its promenade is open day and night.

### **History**

For any history buffs planning a trip to Barcelona, there are a number of museums and art galleries such as the Maritime Museum, located on the Royal Dockyards, is a popular destination, as is the Christopher Columbus monument.

#### **Animals**

For any pet-lovers out there, the Barcelona Aquarium is considered to be one of the world's most important aquatic institutions. It was established in 1995 and houses more than 11,000 fish from 450 different species. The aquarium features an 80 metre long tunnel, and you may even be able to swim with the sharks!

#### Architecture

Many of Antoni Gaudí's architectural works have now been made into World Heritage Sites, including La Sagrada Família, which is one of the top attractions in Barcelona. While the gorgeous and intriguing Catholic basilica deserves a trip on its own to be fully appreciated, there are many other architectural gems in Barcelona, including La Pedrera, Park Güell and Casa Batllo.

## **Sports**

Barcelona even has a few interesting attractions for the sports enthusiasts out there—besides those 9 gorgeous beaches. You can check out Camp Nou Stadium, where the Barcelona soccer team plays, as well as the <u>FC Barcelona Museum</u>, which documents more than 100 years of Barcelona football history.

There is a lot to do when you get to Barcelona, but we can help. At Barcelona Budget, we can help create a quick guide of Barcelona, Spain for you so you can create a trip that will suit all of your interests—and at an affordable price, too.

# How to Plan Your Own Budget Trip to Barcelona

Barcelona is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. It has been home to some very famous artists: the likes of Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dali. There are many art galleries, lush public spaces, and beautiful architecture to explore in Barcelona.



It is a worthwhile travel destination, but travelling can be an expensive venture. We all want to save money, but you deserve that vacation, so we are going to share some tips to help plan your own budget trip to Barcelona.

## How to get there

The best way to find the best rates on airline tickets is to travel during the week, and travel on a "red eye" (late at night) flight. If you book your flight online, it's best to use a site that compares the prices of multiple travel sites and airlines. Sometimes sites specialize in last minute deals.

Airlines and hotels in Barcelona mark down their services to make sure they have people to fill their seats and their rooms. You may be able to take advantage of these deals if your departure days are somewhat flexible. It will also help if you take your vacation to Barcelona in the "off season" when the tourist traffic is not as heavy in the city.

# **Transportation**

Transportation costs can add up while on vacation because you are moving around from place to place. You definitely don't need to rent a car to get around in Barcelona. To save money, you should consider walking or biking a majority of the time if you are physically able.

With the internet, it is also very easy to see and plan routes on the <u>public transportation</u> <u>system in Barcelona</u>; this will really save you money. Of course, there is also the option of a taxi when you really need it.

#### Accommodations

You don't have to stay in five star hotels to have a great time on your trip to Barcelona. If you have no problem sharing a room with other people, using hostels can be a great way to save money while travelling.

It's also a great idea to choose accommodations that include a free breakfast with your stay. Just remember to take the time to shop around and compare prices and amenities to get the best value.

## What to do while you're there

Local restaurants will often provide more reasonable prices than restaurants that are located in tourist areas and cater to travelers. Find establishments that are a bit off the beaten path and you should save money. Many <u>Barcelona tours</u> can cost money and do not move at the pace that you want.

You could save a lot of money and time by getting your hands on a detailed map of Barcelona and going on a walking tour. Doing a tour this way will enable you to see all of the famous sites at a very low cost. You may also be able to find coupons and money saving deals at various major tourist attractions in Barcelona if you go in the "off season."

# Four Great Travel Tips for Exploring Barcelona with Less Budget

If you are planning a trip to Barcelona right now, you might be feeling a bit overwhelmed. Let's face it, there is no possible way you're going to see everything there is to see in one trip; however,



if you plan your activities out well, you can see a lot of the things you've really been wanting to see, while still saving money (and, hey, any money you save on this trip can go towards your next trip to Barcelona!).

Here are a few <u>sightseeing</u> tips you can use to help you see more of Barcelona while spending less of your budget:

# 1) Why pay for regular transportation when you can get your transportation and sightseeing done in one?

The Barcelona Bus Turístic is one of the most interesting and convenient tourism features of Barcelona. A <u>Barcelona Bus Turístic</u> ticket gets you transportation to 44 tourist spots in Barcelona.

You can get on and off the bus as many times as you like for as long as you like, and you can combine 3 different tours with the same ticket, so you can take your time and see as much of Barcelona as you like.

# 2) Why not combine lunch and a walking tour in one?

Why pay for lunch and a tour when you can go on a guided gourmet walking tour of Barcelona? Sample some of Barcelona's most famous culinary delights, learn where the best restaurants get their local ingredients, and take part in the culinary traditions.

### 3) Take the budget-friendly version of the art tour.

If you are an art lover and plan to see lots of Barcelona's great artwork, then buy the <u>Articket</u>. You'll receive admission to 6 of the most significant museums for a fraction of the cost—and you won't have to wait in any lines either.

Not only will you save money, but you will save time not having to wait, freeing up time to fit more sightseeing into your stay in Barcelona.

# 4) If you really want to make the most out of your trip to Barcelona while also saving the most, visit our website today.

Here at Barcelona Budget, we not only provide you with offers like the gourmet walking tour and the Articket, but we also provide you with tons of discounts on some of the most popular tourist attractions.

There are lots of tourist activities to choose from, and you can select from amongst any of the discounted options to make the most of your trip. We also have insider information on the most budget-friendly tourist ideas and activities, including the tourist hot spots that are free or have a very low fee.

We know how tough it can be to holiday on a limited budget—especially when you have a family to share the experience with—but we also know how important it is to be able to take those opportunities. That's why we're dedicated to taking the financial stress out of your travels.

Visit our website (<u>www.barcelona-budget.net</u>) for a list of more tourist activities you can participate in, and tips on how to save money on your trip, so you can enjoy your holiday without any financial worries.

# Ten Trip-Saving Tips for Things to Do In Barcelona

The unique and beautiful city of Barcelona is the world's fourth most popular tourist destination. If Barcelona is on your bucket list, take note of our budget-friendly suggestions for visitors to this marvelous city known for its diverse history, art and architecture.



One of the reasons <u>Barcelona tourism</u> thrives year-round is due to its warm summers and fairly mild winters. As a result, there are a lot of <u>things to do in Barcelona</u>, any time of the year.

## History, Art and Architecture

In Barcelona, history is before you at every turn, from the medieval alleys to the Roman Temple of Augustus to the Plaça Sant Felip Neri, where you can see the impact of the bombings from the Spanish Civil War. Don't miss the Gothic Cathedral and the Museum of History of Barcelona.

Other Barcelona highlights include museums dedicated to some of the most famous artists, including <u>Pablo Picasso</u> and Salvador Dali, whose museum is located just a short trip away, in the neighboring town of Figueres.

Not everyone is a savvy or highly-organized trip planner. Sometimes you find yourself with much more free time than you imagined – which can sometimes seem like you aren't making the most of your trip.

If you, like many, did not plan your daily itinerary while in Barcelona, here are the top places and things you should see and do while in Barcelona. Save your trip with these tips:

## 10 Top Places to See and Things to Do

- **1. LAS RAMBLAS**: This busy part of town is full of lively shops, restaurants, cafes and attractions. Don't miss La Boqueria, a large public market easily accessed from Las Ramblas.
- **2. COLUMBUS MONUMENT**: A monument dedicated to Christopher Columbus and his voyage to America. It stands at almost 200 feet tall!
- **3. GOTHIC QUARTER**: Located in the central part of Barcelona's old city, the Gothic Quarter contains many cultural landmarks and buildings that date back as far as medieval times
- **4.** LA SAGRADA FAMÍLIA: This beautiful and ornate church was started in 1882 and construction continues to this day. The estimated completion date is 2026.
- **5. PASEO DE GRACIA, CASA BATLLÓ AND THE MODERNIST BUILDINGS**: These famous buildings, created in the early 20th century, clash dramatically and are located at the now commonly called The Block of Discord.
- **6. PARC GÜELL**: This fascinating outdoor park, easily accessed by bus, was originally designed by Antoni Gaudí as a housing community.
- **7. THE MAGIC FOUNTAIN OF MONJUÏC**: The Magic Fountain of Monjuïc is a free attraction, located in the Montjuïc neighborhood. The fountain showcases musical performances and a light show.
- **8. TIBIDABO**: This Mountain is known for its amusement park, it is also a fantastic place to see some of the city's best panoramic views and visit the Temple de Sagrat Cor.
- **9. PORT OLÍMPIC**: This marina, located north of the harbor, was created for the Olympics in the early 1990's. One of the highlights at the port is a giant bronze whale sculpture.
- **10. MONTJUIC HILL**: This area, considered the city center for museums, is a great place to see a stunning view of the water and the city, and stroll through gardens, museums and monuments.

Barcelona has many wonderful sights, sounds and flavors to offer travelers. No matter what you love about traveling: architecture, history, heat, beaches, or great food, you'll find it all in Barcelona. Let us, <u>Barcelona-Budget</u> help you plan the trip of a lifetime!

# Guide to Barcelona's Art, Culture, Hotels and Going Out

Barcelona is one of the world's most popular travel destinations, and with good reason. Vibrant with art, rich in history and magnificent with culture, it is an unforgettable and beautiful place to spend a vacation, no matter your interests.



As with any popular tourist destination, it helps to plan your trip carefully before you depart, so that you can get as much done as possible in the time you have. That will of course take time, effort and research, but here is a very <u>brief primer on Barcelona</u> as a vacation spot you will never forget.

### **World Famous Art and Architecture**

It goes without saying that if you visit Barcelona, you will see a wild and wonderful variety of artworks. Street artists abound, sharing their talent with passersby. Brightly colored ceramic tile work is very common, adding a flair of beauty to even mundane buildings.

Much of the architecture is very old and beautifully decorated, making it impossible to miss Barcelona's artistic culture, even if you don't deliberately seek it out. If you do, there are many art galleries to choose from.

The <u>Picasso Museum</u> is a very famous gallery dedicated to an extremely famous artist, as is the Fundació Joan Miró. The Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya is a more varied gallery, exhibiting a spectacle of the work from Medieval Romanesque Art to Modern Art.

#### **A Vibrant Culture**

Of course, there is more to culture than just art. Barcelona is a haven for cultural aficionados of all stripes. It is home to the Catalonia National Symphonic Orchestra, and hosts the Sónar Music Festival, a celebration of electronic music.

Barcelona also has a strong and enthusiastic athletic culture that caters to athletes and sports fans alike. Cycling, swimming, walking and jogging are pleasant activities in such a beautiful city.

The city also is the home of the tremendously popular football team, the <u>FC Barcelona</u>. Following a game or an event, Barcelona offers a <u>delicious range of restaurants</u> to satisfy the hungry traveler.

# **Hotels for Every Budget**

After a day of enjoying the sights, sounds and flavors of Barcelona, you will need a home away from home to rest your tired feet. The <u>choice of hotel</u> may not be the most colorful decision you make while planning your vacation, but it might be the most important.

It is vital to find a hotel that will not strain your budget. It is also important to find one that is close to the places you plan to visit. If you will not be spending much time at the hotel, there is no need to seek out a particularly fancy place.

#### **A Wonderful Destination**

No matter what you choose to do with your time, Barcelona has a lot to offer. Whether you want a leisurely stay or a high-energy holiday, Barcelona's vibrant culture has something for you.

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