

-Barcelona Fun Facts –

Barcelona Region: Catalonia

Country: Spain

Barcelona by the Numbers:

- Population of Barcelona metro region: 4,900,000 inhabitants
- Area of Catalonia 19,955 sq. miles (about the size of New Hampshire and Massachusetts combined)
- Average Elevation of Barcelona: 39 ft above sea level
- Annual Rainfall: 23 inches
- Average Winter Temperature: 50 degrees F°
- Average Summer Temperature: 76 degrees F°

Quick Facts:

- Time Zone: Central European Time Zone (GMT+1)
- Country Dialing Code: 34 Area Code: 93
- Currency: Euro (EMU)
- Electricity: 220 volts @ 50Hz Type B-Two Round Pin plug
- Major Airport: Barcelona International Airport/El Prat (BCN), and Sabadell Airport(QSA)
- English Newspapers: "" & ""
- Spanish Newspapers: "La Vanguardia", "El Periodico de Catalunya" "El Mundo" & "El Pais"
- Principal Industries: Textiles, Chemical, Pharmaceutical, Motor, Electronic, Printing, Logistics, Publishing, Telecommunications, and Information Technology.
- Barcelona contains several works designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites: The works of Antoni Gaudi including Park Güell, Palau Güell, Casa Milà, Casa Vicens, [Sagrada Família](#) (Nativity façade and crypt), Casa Batlló, and the Crypt in Colonia Güell and the works of [Lluís Domènech i Montaner](#), Palau de la Música Catalana and the Hospital de Sant Pau.

Did You Know?

- There are four police forces in Catalonia: the Guardia Urbana (whose main responsibility is traffic), the Policia Nacional (National Police), the Guardia Civil (Civil Guard), and the Mossos d'Esquadra (Catalonia's autonomous police force).
- According to legend, Barcelona was founded by the Carthaginians and the city gets its name from the great Barca family of Carthage.
- Landmark Gothic buildings and world-class museums fill the historic city of Barcelona, while the whimsical creations of the *moderniste* movement and cutting-edge contemporary architecture highlight the newer part of town.
- The most visited tourist attraction in Barcelona, the Football Club Barcelona stadium, is also the biggest stadium in the world, sitting 100,000 spectators.
- For the 1992 Olympic Games, the whole seaside was rebuilt with beaches, restaurants and bars. Before the Olympic Games, all of the Barcelona's seaside used to be heavily industrialized with factories and a port.
- September 24th Fiestas de la Merce. Merce, the city's saint, is celebrated with parades, music and people dancing the sardana (typical Catalan dance).
- In the 19th century, Barcelona's restaurants were know to be some of the best in Europe.
- Regional dishes include: "Escudella i carn d'olla", the Catalan version of stew with a long list of ingredients including several kinds of beans, sausage, several meats, and vegetables; "Fideos a la Cazuela", noodles in a stoneware pot, served with pork ribs, sausages, ham and sofrito; and "Habas a la Catalana", made with broad beans, popular in the region and prepared with herbs and spices, mint and butifarra sausage.

Places of Interest:

- Barcelona Cathedral
- Sagrada Família
- Barri Gòtic
- Santa Maria del Mar
- Portal de l'Àngel
- Casa Batlló
- Casa Milà
- Palau Nacional
- Palau de la Música Catalana
- Arc de Triomf
- Castell dels tres Dracs
- La Rambla de Mar
- Torre de Collserola
- Park Güell
- La Boqueria
- Mies van der Rohe's Barcelona Pavilion

Orientation:

- located on the Mediterranean coast at 41°23'N 2°11'E 41.383°N 2.183°E.
- situated between the river mouth's of the Llobregat and the Besòs
- Barcelona is the capital of the Autonomous Community of Catalonia
- Madrid is 313 miles to the west, Seville is 516 miles to the southwest, and Valencia is 189 miles to the south

Barcelona National Holidays:

- New Year's Day - January 1st
- Epiphany – January 6th
- Good Friday – April 10th
- Easter Monday – April 13th
- Labour Day - May 1st
- ?????? June 1st
- St. John's Day – June 24th
- Assumption – August 15th
- National Day of Catalonia – September 11th
- La Mercè Day – September 24th
- Columbus Day – October 12th
- Day of the Immaculate Conception – December 8th
- Christmas Day- December 25th
- Boxing Day – December 26th