

GP Barcelona 2017 Travel Guide 🛛 🔆 🌢 🥐

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Welcome to Bantcelona!

Barcelona belongs to the Bant shard of Alara!



It is White for the peaceful, welcoming city, filled with magnificient architecture and religious temples, as the Sagrada Família or Barcelona's Cathedral.

It is Blue for its beach, the seafront full of restaurants and its busy port and airport.

It is Green because of the numerous parks around the city, as the Parc Güell, and the green grass of the Camp Nou.

Barcelona is Spain's second largest and most cosmopolitan city. It is the capital of Catalonia, a region of Spain with its own language (Catalan) and own culture and character.

Famous for breaking ground art, architecture and avant-garde chefs, the city eclipses many other for its creativity and forward thinking.

Get ready to visit the Bant-coloured city that shares the innovative spirit of Kaladesh, with all its buildings, parks, and fair inventions!

The Venue

The tournament venue is located in a rather big and well known exhibition center in Barcelona: the Fira de Barcelona. The Fira has two separate exhibition centers, which are not far from each other, but the one important for us is the one located in Montjuïc, right in front of Plaça Espanya.



Being in the heart of Barcelona, the venue's location makes it easily accessible and offers a wide range of accommodation options either in the city or in nearby towns, thanks to the great public transportation network available in the city and surroundings.

Public Transportation

Moving around Barcelona is easy. Metro, bus or train are all good options with reliable service that will get you anywhere. For more information check busses services and train services.

It is very easy to get to the venue. From the city center (Plaça de Catalunya) you can take either L3 (green) or L1 (red) lines to get to Plaça de Espanya. The venue is located two minutes walking from those metro stations. There are several bus lines that stop there. You can get out at any of the stops in Pl. Espanya. The ticketing system for Barcelona works by zones. If you want to



stay in Barcelona and move within the city you will just need to buy a one way ticket (not recommended) or a ticket valid for 10 trips (T-10, integrated with bus, metro, tram and train: $9.95 \in$).

There are also passes valid up to 5 days (starting at $8.40 \in$). If you want to explore the surroundings of Barcelona make sure to check out what zone are you travelling to as you will need to buy the appropriate ticket.

Arriving from the Airport

From El Prat BCN Airport

by Bus

AEROBÚS is the official shutlle bus service that connects Barcelona Airport (T1 and T2) with the city center (Plaça Catalunya). It has stops at the most strategic points in BCN: Plaça Espanya (where the venue is),Gran Via-Urgell and Pl. Universidad. It runs every day of the year, with departures every 5 minutes and the the journey takes about 30 minutes.

Price single ticket: 5,90 Eur More Info at: www.aerobusbcn.com

by Taxi

There is a Taxi Stop in front of T1 and T2. Aproximate price to Plaça Espanya: 20€



by Train

A few minutes walk from any terminal, the train goes from the Airport to Barcelona city every 30 minutes (from 6:00AM to 11:00PM). To get to the venue you should buy a 2 zones ticket (2,50€) and take the R2 line at the airport up to "Sants Estació" station. Once there you can buy a single Metro ticket (1 zone this time: 2,15€) and catch the Metro L3 (Green Line) up to "Espanya" station, where the venue is.

by Metro

The **metro line L9** (Orange Line) connects the airport to Barcelona. Please note that T-10 (10 trips pass) won't be valid in L9 if you are coming from or to the airport, so you will have to buy a special ticket (4,50 \in aprox). Take the metro up to "Torrasa" station and then change to L1 (Red Line) to "Espanya" station where the venue is.

From Girona Airport

Girona Airport is 103km (64.2 miles) North East of Barcelona, about 1hr 20 minutes train ride from Barcelona center but the Barcelona bus is the most convenient method of transfer between Girona Airport and Barcelona city center.



by Bus

The bus stops right outside the airport and will take you to Barcelona Nord (Barcelona's main bus terminal) in Barcelona city center. From there you can catch the metro underground system to take you to the venue, in Metro station "Arc De Triomf" (L1, Red Line) up to "Espanya" station where the venue is. **BEWARE!!! There are 2 different buses**, both operated by the same company. One goes "Girona Airport-Girona" and the other "Girona Airport-Barcelona". Make sure to catch the right bus! Tickets cannot be reserved in advance. **One way ticket: 15€, Two way ticket: 25€**

by Taxi

This is an expensive option and will cost you around ${\in}120$ for a one way trip.

by Train

If you prefer the train, first you need to take a bus to Girona. The bus station is just near the train station. The journey time to Barcelona from Girona is approximately 1 hr and 10 minutes and you will be dropped off in "Barcelona-Sants" station. See above the connections to the venue. You can look up the timetable information for the train transfer between Girona and Barcelona and by tickets at the **RENFE train site**.

by Car

If you have time, an attractive option could be to hire a car from Girona airport to Barcelona, and drive along the coast. You can then make a detour to one of the many beaches on route along the Costa Brava.

When checking car hire companies we recommend you to compare a few prices since there may be significant differences in rental rates. Check also if you can pick the car up at Girona and drop it off somewhere in Barcelona if you intend to make a one way trip.

Getting to the Venue

The Tournament will be held in Fira Barcelona-Montjuic, which is centrally located, easily accessible from the airport and very well connected to the public transportation network.

A link to the map here.

Metro: L3 (green line), L1 (red line) "Espanya" station. **Train (Renfe):** "Barcelona-Sants" station is linked to a complete regional, national and international rail network.

Connections from "Sants" station:

Bus: line 109 ("Plaça Espanya" stop). **Metro:** L1 and L3 ("Espanya" station). **Walking:** 15 minutes along Street "Tarragona".

Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat de Catalunya (FGC):

Lines S8, S33, R6, R5, S4 ("Espanya" station).



Hotels & Accommodation

Staff Apartments

Stay Together Barcelona Apartments

Ronda de Sant Pau, 1, 08015 Barcelona Twenty minutes walking to the venue and one minute away from the nearest metro station "Paral·lel" (L2, Purple Line, L3 Green Line) T. +34 636 17 20 77 - www.staytogether.es

Near the venue

Bcn Eixample Hostel

Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 423, 08015 Barcelona. Less than 10 minutes walking to the venue. 3 min. walking from metro station "Rocafort" (L1, Red Line). +34 606 97 47 40

In the close neighbourhood of the venue

Hostal Sans

Antoni de Capmany, 82, 08014 Barcelona. Near metro station "Mercat Nou" (L1, Red line). +34 933 31 37 00 - www.hostalsans.com

Hola Hostal Eixample

Napoles, 149-151 bajos, Eixample, 08013 Barcelona. 10 min. walking to metro station "Arc de Triomf" (L1, Red Line). +34 936 24 23 31 - www.holahostal.com

Sant Jordi Hostels - Gràcia

Carrer de Terol, 35, 08012 Barcelona. 5 min. walking to metro station "Fontana" (L3, Green Line) or "Joanic" (L4, Yellow Line). +34 933 42 41 61 - www.santjordihostels.com

Touristic Hotspots

One of the singularities of Barcelona is its architecture. During the XXth Century, the city lived an architecture hype, most represented by the works of Antoni Gaudí.



Sagrada Familia



Gaudí's unfinished masterpiece, this temple is one of the most iconic monuments in Barcelona. It's construction started in 1882 and we are still waiting!

You can see the work of other architects as Josep Maria Subirachs in some fronts of the building. This temple is full of various iconography and there is also

a museum dedicated to explaining Gaudí's vision and architectural plans.

Visiting the basilica takes approximately 1 hour and the admission fees start at $15 \in$. Buying tickets in advance is highly advisable, as large queues tend to form in front of the entrance.

Parc Güell



This public park, designed by Gaudí, is an extraordinary mix between architecture and nature. Besides the famous dragon fountain, the park offers great views over the entire city.

You should save at least 3 hours for the visit, as it's a bit tricky to get there with public transportation, but the visit is totally worth it.

You can get there from the metro stations of Lesseps or Vallcarca L3, in the green line. The park has an entry fee of $7 \in$.

Passeig de Gràcia



The wide boulevards, on both sides of the street, are bordered with shops, boutiques and restaurants. But what make the walk unique are the Art Nouveau (Modernisme) houses.

The most famous are Gaudí's Casa Batlló and Casa Milà (La Pedrera). Both are open for visiting, but large queues tend to form at the entrance. Plan your visit in advance!

Camp Nou

Easy to reach by subway, the stadium of the FC Barcelona is always a nice place to visit.

A guided tour in the stadium and the entrance in the museum costs $23 \in$. There is a gift shop where you can find all the FC Barcelona's merchandising.

Basílica Santa María del Mar

Built between 1329 and 1383, Santa María del Mar is a beautiful basilica considered the best and most complete example of Catalonian Gothic architecture.

The Cathedral



This magnificent Gothic cathedral was constructed between the 13th and 15th centuries. It is located very close to the city center. You can visit it by walking from Plaça Catalunya or by taking the metro to Jaume I metro station L4. The admission to the temple is free, but you can pay some extras (from 3 to $7\in$) to visit the roofs and the cathedral's museum inside.

As you visit the Cathedral and Barri Gòtic, you will also see some older ramparts from the Roman era of Barcelona, the Roman baths and the Barcelona City History Museum where you can visit the underground remains of the city.

Las Ramblas & Barri Gòtic



Another perfect place to have a nice walk. You can start the walk at Plaça Catalunya and walk down the Ramblas (If you pay attention, you'll see people dressing as statues).

While walking down, take a stop at the Mercat de la Boquería (it will be on your right), a unique food market in the center of the city. When you get to the Liceu

(there is a metro station), you should turn left and sneak into the old quarter, through street Portaferrissa or Ferran. Try to get to the Plaça del Pi (not so easy) and have a coffee there, then walk down to the Cathedral and back to the Ramblas to get down to the Maremagnum and the harbor.

Be very careful with your belongings, as the Ramblas is known to be an area full of pickpockets.

Arc de Triomf & Parc de la Ciutadella



You can take the metro to Arc de Triomf and walk down through the arch until you get to the Park.

It is a nice place to have a walk in the morning, as the park is full of fountains and places to relax. The zoo is right next to it, but it does not worth a visit. Make sure to visit the Freak-shops around the Arc de Triomf area if you are looking for

Magic products, board games or comic books!

Less known places

Bosc de les Fades Café

If you want to have a drink in the woods, here's a place you must visit. El Bosc de les Fades (The fairies' forest) is a mystery forest with the best products to satisfy your thirst! Here's the link with all the info.

Parc del Laberint

This labyrinthine park is the oldest garden of Barcelona. Created by a Catalan marquis and an Italian architect in late 18th century, this "Kaladesh" kind of park is a nice place to visit and enjoy your free time. It is located in the district of Horta and you can go there from the metro station of Mundet L3. Although it is far away from the city center it is worth visiting if you have the time. The admission fees are around 2€ and it's free on Sundays. Ideal for romantic couples!

Food and drinks

Catalonia has been noted for its delicious and refined cuisine. It is famous for its concept of "mar i montanya", combining the products of the sea and the mountains to create inventive dishes.

Traditional Spanish cooking draws on European impressions from the north, Moorish influences from the south and, thanks to early explorers, ingredients from the Americas and the Far East. Spanish food is exciting and diverse.



Right next to the venue there is the Arenas Barcelona mall which is full of shops of all kinds and in the top floors there are several restaurants. Also, just walking outside the venue you will be able to find plenty of places to eat without having to look around too much.

The following list is a compilation of highlighted bars and restaurants for eating across Barcelona at a reasonable price.

Mercat de la Boqueria

A market with tons of different options and food around the world. La Rambla, 91 08001 Barcelona. Pl. Catalunya (L1 red, L3 green).

Rosa del Raval



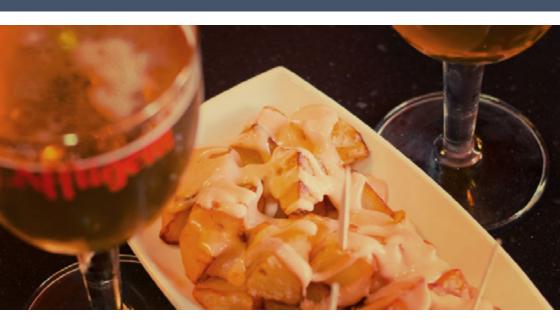
Small Food and Drinks Bar-Restaurant. Mexican fusion cuisine. You are advised to book a table if going with a small group. Carrer dels Àngels, 6, 08001 Barcelona. Liceu + 5 min. walking (L3, green)

Una Mica de Japó

Homemade Japanese traditional food. Nice dishes and very good entrees and desert. Go early or book a table as the place is very small. Urgell + 3 min. walking (L1, red)

Pim Pam Plats/Burguer

Burguer place with homemade fries. Fresh ingredients bought in the market every day. Carrer del Rec, 18, 08003 Barcelona. Jaume I and 5 min. walking (L4, yellow)



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Michael Collins Pub

Classic Irish pub right in front the Sagrada Familia. Live music on Mondays. Plaza Sagrada Familia, 4, 08013 Barcelona. Sagrada Familia (L2 purple, L5 blue)



Local Game Stores

El Nucli



El Nucli is the closest to the venue. It is near Sants Estació train and metro station and around the area of Plaça Espanya. It is a great place to find some Magic products, supplies and singles, as well as board games. They have Magic scheduled events throughout the week and it is also a place to meet new people and play some casual games. Closed on Monday!

C/Vallespir 24. Phone +34 93 339 15 28 How to arrive: Metro Stations L1 Plaça Sants, L3/L5 Sants Estació www.elnucli.es - info@elnucli.es

Ingenio



Located in Arc de Triomf, Ingenio is a big shop with a lot of rarities in stock. You can find Magic products and table-top games. They run a lot of scheduled events during the week.

There are some other freak shops in the area such as comic book stores, bookstores, and miniature games related.

Passeig de Sant Joan 16. Phone +34 93 245 03 15 How to arrive: Metro Station Arc de Triomf www.ingeniobcn.com - ingenio@ingeniobcn.es

Maná Infinito



Only two streets away from Sagrada Família, Maná Infinito is a good place to include in a route. Great place to acquire singles or spend some time playing with friends. They run scheduled Magic events throughout the week.

C/Lepant 238. Phone +34 93 002 32 19 How to arrive: Metro Station L2/L5 Sagrada Família, L1 Glòries

Gigamesh



Very close to Arc de Triomf, it is a specialized science fiction and fantasy bookstore. You can find a wide catalogue of books, board games and some Magic singles and accessories.

C/ Bailen 8. Phone +34 93 246 63 59 How to arrive: Metro Arc de Triomf www.gigamesh.com/libreria

Indústria 61



Here you can find board games,MTG products, accessories and singles. They also run Magic events during the week.

C/ Indústria 61. Phone +34 93 457 20 55 How to arrive: Metro Station L2/L5 Sagrada Família, L4 Joanic www.industria61.com industria61web@gmail.com

Safety Tips

Barcelona is a big city, and as in every big city there are tourists, and with tourists there are people who like to take advantage of visitors. Beware pickpockets, especially in crowded places like train and metro stations and squares, and remember to always keep your belongings near you and secure, even in the venue and while playing.



Emergency phone number: 112

The cops in Barcelona and Catalonia are called Mossos d'Esquadra. The nearest office to the venue is located in Carrer d'Iradier, 9 (P.C. 08017).

Mossos phone number: +34 933 06 23 10

Electricity: 220VAC, 50Hz, European-type plug. Calling code: +34 (0034). Time zone: GMT+1, CET Currency: Euro (€) Average temperature in March: around 16°C (60°F)

Some language help:

Yes = Sí / No = No Please = Por favor / Thank you = Gracias I need help = Necesito ayuda I don't understand = No entiendo Excuse me = Disculpe / I don't speak Spanish = No hablo español I like it = Me gusta / How much is it? = ¿Cuánto cuesta? Cheap = Barato / Expensive = Caro Beer = Cerveza / Ham = Jamón

Contact Information

Should you have an issue that requires the help from a local Judge you may contact one of them and they'll do their best to help you.

Claudi Cisneros: +34 689.325.586 l claudi.cisneros.camps@gmail.com Arthur Cohen: +34 628.735.222 l arthurcohenjr@hotmail.com Gimena Pombo: +34 663.543.196 l gimena.pombo@gmail.com Ferran Jovell Megias: +34 626.577.321 l ferran.jovell@gmail.com

Credits

This guide was written by the judges (now, after this experience, all) Catalans:

Albert Queralt Diogo Santos Ferran Jovell Gimena Pombo Jorge Rua Miquel Moya

Fell free to share this travel guide!