

**7th International Planetary Probe Workshop
14-18 June 2010**

**Planetary Protection Short Course
12-13 June 2010**

IPPW-7 ARRIVAL GUIDE



Welcome to IPPW-7!

This guide has been compiled to help visitors to IPPW-7 and to Barcelona get the most out of their time here. It should also answer some basic questions, make it easy to arrive, and provide information on things to do when not attending workshop sessions. Some important details (emergency numbers, expected weather, etc.) are also included. This file is intended to be read before or during your journey to Barcelona. But, it might be a useful reference once on-site also.

Important details about travel or costs should be checked with a suitable authority.

Use this document at your own risk!

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ARRIVAL

Barcelona is served by Barcelona International Airport (BCN) near the town of El Prat de Llobregat, about 12km (straight-line) from the centre of Barcelona. The airport is connected to the city by a train, scheduled bus transfers, a dedicated airport bus service (Aerobus), and taxis. There are 2 terminals — most flights arrive at T1, with the exception of EasyJet flights and some other low cost airlines that use T2. There are inter-terminal transfer buses, but it is worth making sure which terminal you need.

We recommend you to take the **Aerobus** from your terminal until the final stop, **Plaça Catalunya**, where you will then easily be able to connect to other transport to reach your final destination.

Airport Website: <http://tinyurl.com/IPPW7airport>

Aerobus: <http://www.aerobusbcn.com/>

Aerobus

Single ticket: €5

Approximate duration: 30 minutes

From the airport to the city centre (Plaça Catalunya):

Bus A1: Buses from T1 Everyday from 06:10 to 01:05, every 10 minutes
(between 07:30 to 22:25 frequency increases to every 5 minutes)

Bus A2: Buses from T2 Everyday from 06:00 to 01:00, every 20 minutes
(between 07:00 to 23:00 frequency increases to every 10 minutes)

From the city centre to the airport:

Bus A1: Buses to T1 Everyday from 05:30 to 00:30, every 10 minutes
(between 06:50 to 21:45 frequency increases to every 5 minutes)

Bus A2: Buses to T2 Everyday from 06:00 to 01:00, every 20 minutes
(between 06:50 to 22:20 frequency increases to every 10 minutes)

Taxi

A taxi from the airport to the city centre will cost around €30, and may be worth it if you are travelling with more than three people. They are black and yellow, and found by following signs at either terminal.

Train

For those on a tight budget and happy to spend a little more time and effort, the very cheapest way into the city is by train from T2 (use the free inter-terminal bus to get to the station from T1). Once at the station buy a T-10 transport card (see below for more details) and you will get to *Passeig de Gracia* (city centre) for €0.78 in 18 minutes (trains leave the airport at 08 and 38 minutes past each hour from 06.08 to 22.38) with onward connections via metro to CosmoCaixa or Hotel Almera all on the same ticket!

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

In Barcelona city there is an Integrated Tariff System and the cheapest way to travel by public transport (either bus or underground) is to use a travel card. The transport system is very comprehensive, and can be a bit overwhelming – however, it is worth getting to grips with it as it is cheap, efficient and will get you seeing more of the city. Whichever ticket you buy, you will need to put it through the machines, to get onto the platform of the metro or trains, or after boarding the buses or trams. The tickets cover the local RENFE services (Spanish railway), the Catalan FGC commuter trains, the Metro, the trams and the buses.

METRO

There are 6 metro lines in Barcelona, each identified by a number and a colour. Platform signs and decoration distinguish between lines and avoid confusion at interchanges. Direction is indicated by the final station on each line. Metro stations are easy to find at street level – a large red ‘M’ on a white diamond background.



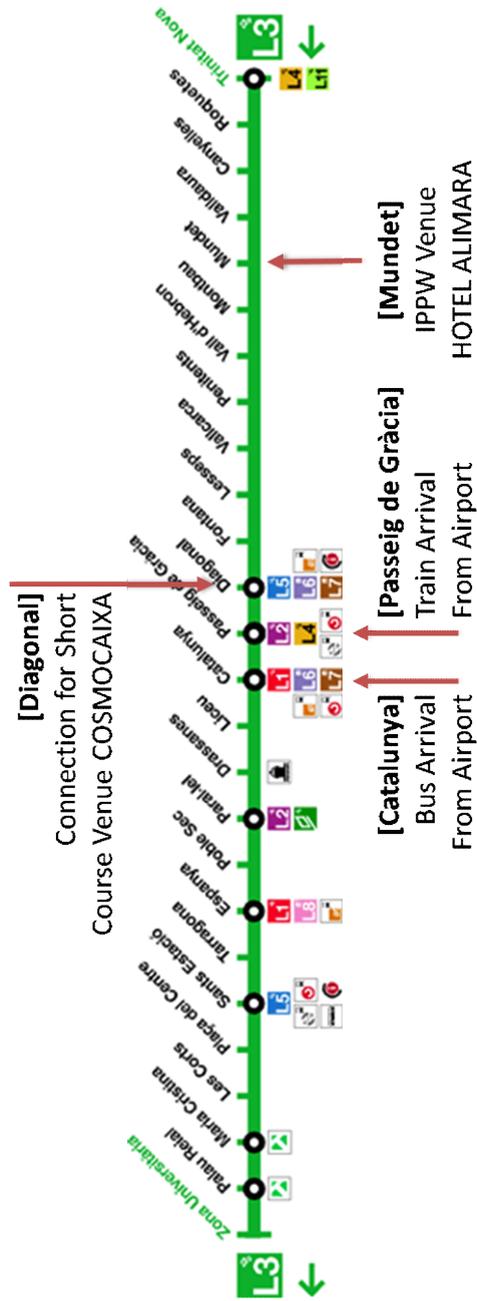
For IPPW, the most important line is **LINE 3 – GREEN**. The conference venue, Hotel Alimara, is adjacent to the **MUNDET** station on Line 3. See the sketch on the next page.

Public Transport Website: <http://www.tmb.cat>

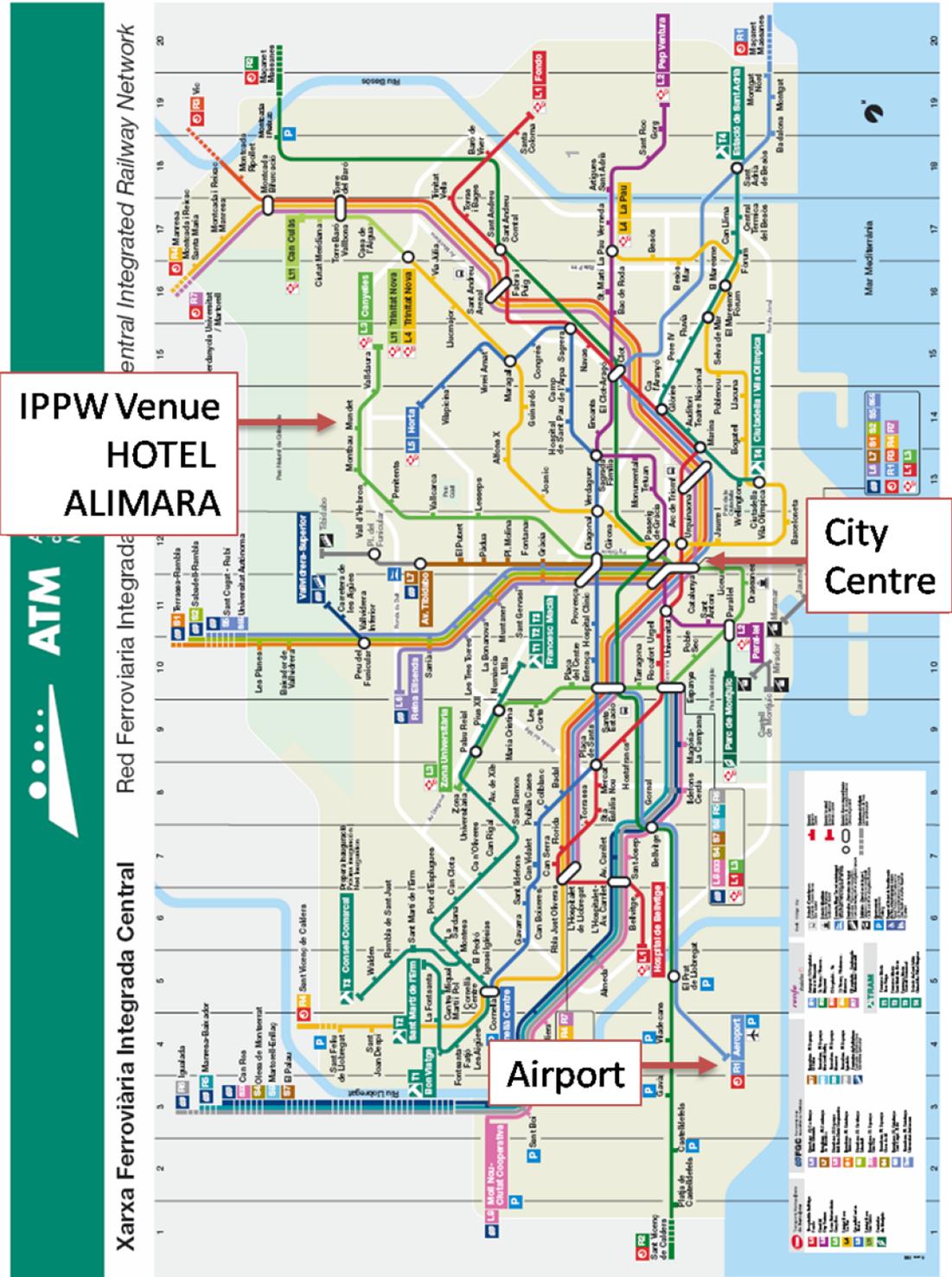
Where to Buy Tickets

- Any train, FGC, metro or tram station
- Metro ticket offices
- TMB Customer Service Centres

<p style="text-align: center;">T-10 (Zone 1 - €7,80) (Recommended)</p> <p>The travel card “T-10” allows 10 journeys on any means of transport (trains, buses, trams). A single ticket can be used for any combination between 1 person making 10 journeys and 10 people travelling together on 1 journey (provided it is validated 10 times). You may change mode of transport (e.g. switch from bus to metro, etc.) to complete a journey within a period of 75 minutes.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">T-Dia (Zone 1 - €5,90)</p> <p>Unlimited journeys in the zone defined by the first use of the card, starting from time of first use until the end of service on that day (i.e. not a moving-window 24hour pass). Each passenger requires their own ticket (unlike a T-10).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Individual Tickets (€1,35)</p> <p>Single journey tickets are also available, and the only kind available directly from bus drivers.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Barcelona Tourist Travel Cards</p> <p>Tourist travel cards are valid for an unlimited number of journeys in a fixed number of consecutive days. 2 days: €11,20; 3 days: €15,90; 4 days: €20,40; 5 days: €24,10. Each passenger requires their own ticket (unlike a T-10).</p>



METRO LINE 3



METRO, TRAM, FGC NETWORKS

WEATHER

The weather in Barcelona is typically Mediterranean. Summers are hot, winters mild, and most rainfall is in spring and autumn. It is unlikely to rain during the week of IPPW (June rainfall averages 40mm in the month). The average June temperature is 24°C (75°F) during the day and 16°C (61°F) at night. Even if it doesn't feel too warm, the sun will be strong. The Mediterranean Sea is available nearby to cool off in ...

CURRENCY & CASH

Catalunya, within Spain's borders, is inside the Euro zone. You may enter Spain with an unlimited amount of currency. Exporting more than €6000 requires a customs declaration. Changing currency is straightforward at the usual exchange services at the airport. Travellers Cheques are not in common use, but can be exchanged at banks, bureaux de change (Catalan: *Canvi*, Spanish: *Cambio*), and some hotels. Banks offer the best rates. Rates in cash dispensers are also reasonable. The usual machine limit is €300 per day.

Note that payment by credit or debit card usually requires showing a photographic ID together with your card. A drivers license or passport suffices for overseas visitors. Servei Caixa machines not only dispense cash, but also will provide you with theatre or concert tickets, and credit for mobile phones.

Note that the local notation for the decimal point is a comma , rather than period. Further, the period can delimit each third power of ten – the convention is directly the opposite of that in many other countries. This applies for all quantities, so foreigners sometimes need to think about the meaning of numbers presented as 1.235,14 (one thousand two hundred and thirty five point one four).

LANGUAGES

Barcelona has two local languages: Catalan and Castellano (Spanish). Most signs are in both, and most menus in tourist areas are also in English and French, and sometimes German. English is broadly spoken and understood, especially by younger people. Catalan is a pure romance language, akin to Langue d'Oc or Provençal, spoken by around 10 million locals, and another 10 million people elsewhere. It is NOT a dialect but a full language with a pure Latin grammar. Catalans are very proud of their independent culture.

ELECTRICITY

Electrical current is 220V or 225V, 50Hz. European-style two-pin plugs are standard.

TELEPHONE

The international dialling code for Spain is 34. The Barcelona area code for fixed line telephones is 93, and cell phone numbers start with a 6. Internet cafes or "locutorios" are scattered throughout the city, and the city has a growing public WIFI system (<http://www.bcn.cat/barcelonawifi/en>) as well as free WIFI in increasing numbers of cafes and bars.

LOCAL TIME

The local time in summer is GMT+2h. Much more importantly, Barcelona operates on Spanish Time. Days are long in Barcelona. Morning (*el mati*) lasts until 1 or 2pm. Lunch is typically between 2pm and 4pm (*migdia*). The afternoon (*la tarde*) starts at 4pm, and lasts until dinner, between 9pm and 11pm. You will find tourist restaurants that offer more standard eating times, but if you want the authentic experience, most restaurants are empty until 10pm at the weekends. These hours also inform shop opening times – big shops in the city centre open from 10am until 8.30pm or even 10pm in the case of Corte Ingles – however, most smaller shops are shut from 2pm until between 4.30-5.50pm, but then stay open until 8.30pm. Some museums also shut for a couple of hours in the middle of the day, and then open until 7 or 8pm – so the best thing for some afternoon free time is to take a siesta or go to the beach or the park.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Please do avoid any form of emergency. In case it becomes necessary to get assistance with any kind of emergency, unfortunately there are several different numbers, in the following table. If in doubt, start with the European Emergency Number – 112.

General Emergencies	112
Medical Emergencies	061
Guàrdia Urbana (Local Police)	092
National Police	091
Mossos d'Esquadra (Catalan Police)	088
Guardia Civil Police Force	062

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Barcelona is a relatively safe city with low crime rates. The main nuisance is petty theft by pickpockets in the dense tourist areas. There are teams of very adept thieves who are expert at exploiting tourists' bewilderment. Visitors arriving are often tired in unfamiliar surroundings, struggling with baggage and language and heat - with larger than average quantities of cash from a recent exchange - and they form easy targets.

PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR POCKETS AND BAGS!

- Do not keep wallets or money in back pockets.
- Wear backpacks and other bags on your FRONT when riding on escalators or in elevators, or walking through crowded streets.

HOW TO REACH HOTEL ALIMARA (IPPW VENUE)

Address: Calle Bereguette 126
Barcelona

Tel. +34 93 427 00 00

WGS84: N41°26'02.53" E002°08'51.00"

Web: <http://tinyurl.com/ippwAlimara>

From City Centre

Take the **metro line 3 (green)** direction Trinitat Nova to **Mundet**. Use exit signed “Can Marçet”, and you will find the hotel one block to the south (left) on Carrer de Bereguette (see map on next page).

From Airport

Metro Line 3 goes from **Passeig de Gracia** and **Plaça Catalunya**, so to get from the airport, take either the Aerobus to Plaça Catalunya or the train to Passeig de Gracia and change onto the metro – you will need to buy a separate ticket (see above) if you have travelled on the Aerobus.

From CosmoCaixa

Bus 60 goes directly between CosmoCaixa and Hotel Alimara, every 10-15 minutes and takes about 25 minutes, and yes – you can use your T-10 ticket. The link below takes you to a timetable and plan of the route. The stop for CosmoCaixa is called UOC when arriving from Alimara, and ComsoCaixa when leaving. The stop for the hotel is called Mundet. Many buses have an electronic display that indicates the next stop — or ask the driver for help.

NOTE

1. Bus 60 Information: <http://tinyurl.com/ippwBus60>
2. Maps available on page 10.
3. A Google Earth™ file (.kmz) is available for download from the IPPW website with all important IPPW locations indicated. See: <http://planetaryprobe.eu/download.php> (under “Location Information”)

HOW TO REACH COSMOCAIXA (SHORT COURSE VENUE)

Address: Carrer Isaac Newton 26
Ronda de Dalt
Barcelona

Tel. +34 93 253 74 67

WGS84: N41°24'46.38" E002°07'53.35"

Web: <http://tinyurl.com/ippwCosmo>

From City Centre - FGC

1. Take the Ferrocarrils de La Generalitat (**FGC- L7**) from Plaça Catalunya (aerobus) or Passeig de Gracia (train from airport) to Av. Tibidabo
 - Number of stops: 6
 - Waiting time: 2 mins
 - Journey time: 8 mins
2. Then, one of the following options:
 - Walk from Av. Tibidabo station (10 minutes, including a steep uphill section)
 - Take the historic Tramvia Blau up the steep section, then walk (€2,50, 10 minutes, departure each 30 minutes)
 - Take bus 196 from Av. Tibidabo/Plaça Kennedy (5 minutes, using the same ticket as the train), to the CosmoCaixa stop (opposite entrance).

From City Centre - Taxi

A taxi from the city centre to CosmoCaixa should cost around €12. Maximum taxi capacity is 4 passengers.

From Hotel Alimara

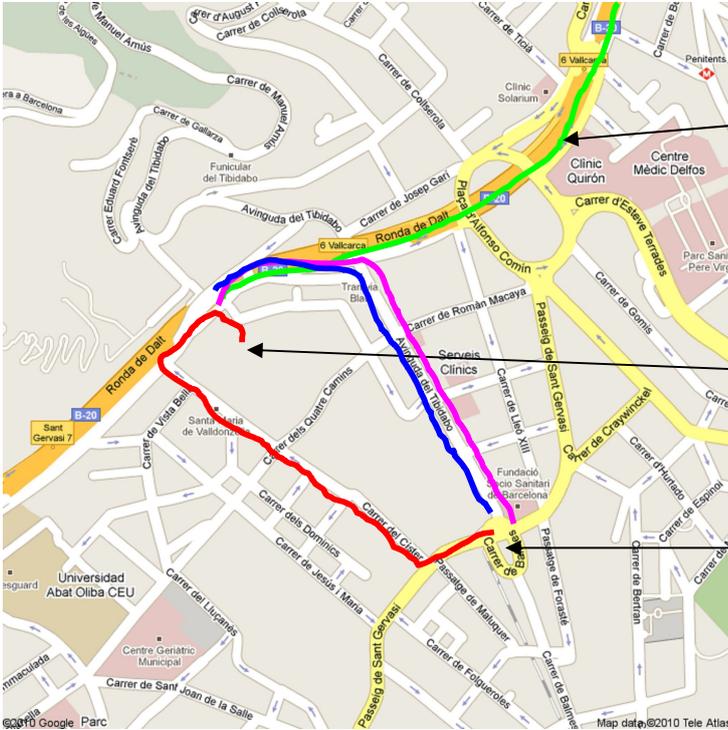
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MAPS

CosmoCaixa and how to reach it



Green line showing bus 60 from Hotel Alimara

Cosmocaxia (short course venue)

FGC station exit, with red line showing walking route to Cosmocaxia, blue line showing Tramvia Blau route, and pink line showing bus 196

Hotel Alimara and how to reach it



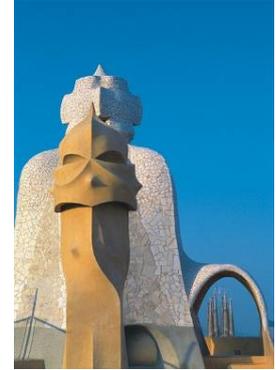
Exit from metro line 3 Mundet station with red line showing route to Hotel Alimara and green line showing bus route to CosmoCaixa

Hotel Alimara

To CosmoCaixa

TOURISM IN THE CITY

Barcelona houses a great number of museums, which cover different areas and eras. The National Museum of Art of Catalonia (MNAC) offers a well-known collection of Romanesque art while the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art (MACBA) focuses on post-1945 Catalan and Spanish art. The Fundació Joan Miró, Picasso Museum and Fundació Antoni Tàpies hold important collections of these world- renowned artists. Several museums cover the fields of history and archeology, like the City History Museum, the Museum of the History of Catalonia, the Archaeology Museum of Catalonia, the Barcelona Maritime Museum and the privately-owned Egyptian Museum. CosmoCaixa is a science museum that received the European Museum of the Year Award in 2006, and is the host venue of the Planetary Protection Short Course at IPPW.



The Rambla, the Ribera, Plaça de Catalunya, Passeig de Gràcia, Diagonal and the numerous shopping centres scattered round the city and its suburban areas attract a large part of the shoppers. But throughout the city one finds many lesser known shopping streets and neighbourhood shops, besides the city markets and street fairs. A nice introduction to the city can be had by taking the Tourist Bus, follow the links on the Barcelona Tourist Office page below.



The Barri Gòtic (Gothic Quarter) is the heart of the city. A walk through its ancient streets is essential to get an idea of the layers of Barcelona's history: from the Roman walls to the Picasso museum through the well-preserved Gothic buildings. You shall visit the Cathedral, whose origins go back to the 13th century and is notable for its medieval choir stalls, fine Gothic chapels and shady cloister.



Barcelona faces the sea. The 1992 Olympic Games gave the city the opportunity to redesign its seafront, which now stretches along four kilometres of beaches. To the south, Montjuïc Park is the site of the Olympic Village and provides unbeatable views of the seafront. The new World Trade Centre is located in the harbour. La Rambla extends, via a walkway, over the sea to the Mare Magnum, a leisure complex which houses the Aquarium (the biggest aquarium in Europe, very family oriented), and is close to the refurbished Barceloneta beaches.



Some of the best websites for further information are listed below:

Barcelona Tourist office pages

<http://tinyurl.com/ippwTourism>

The city council tourism pages (English version - but there is more information if you are able to read Castellán or Catalan. Also links through to museums.

<http://tinyurl.com/ippwBcnCity>

Spotted by Locals: we like this site for suggestions of restaurants, cafes etc.

<http://www.spottedbylocals.com/barcelona>

This is a useful site if you are travelling with kids, with suggestions for entertainment

<http://www.kidsinbarcelona.com>

Our first suggestions for family visits include:

- Aquarium (<http://tinyurl.com/ippwAquarium>)
- Tibidabo – amusement park for all ages and great view of the city
- Montjuïc – museums, castle, parks, the Magic Fountain and the Spanish Village
- Cable cars – across the harbour and up Montjuïc
- Ciutadella Park and Zoo
- Beaches!



ABOUT BARCELONA

Barcelona was founded on the Mediterranean coast, between two rivers, over 2,000 years ago. It is located in the north-east of the Iberian Peninsula, just a short distance from France. Since then, it has been the traditional gateway to Spain. Through it entered Romans, Arabs and Christians, as well as the many diverse cultures, which came to enrich its heritage. The traces of this history and diversity can be followed as you walk through the city; through its Gothic Quarter, built on the Roman ruins; through its art-nouveau Eixample district, presided over by Gaudí's exuberant architecture, which at the same time reveals an ordered and rational urban layout. This diversity and harmony are also apparent in the character of the people of Barcelona, who are enterprising and hard-working, enjoy life and, in particular, have great civic pride and are lovers of culture.

In just over two decades, Barcelona has completely transformed its range of facilities and attractions. It has done so by displaying a dynamic character and pioneering spirit, which are perfectly visible in its new urban and architectural layout. The city continues to enjoy spring-like climatic conditions, and offers the visitor its own unique lifestyle, which is particularly evocative and appealing. It combines the best of the tranquil Mediterranean coast with the thrust and capacity for innovation of a young society.

OUTSIDE THE CITY

Beaches

The city beaches stretch north from Barceloneta and the Port Olímpic – they are great for a short visit, or to combine with bars and restaurants. The beaches to the south of the city at Platja de Castelldefels (a 20 minute train ride south from Plaça Catalunya station, with 2 trains an hour) are much cleaner and worth the effort if you want to spend more than a couple of hours (they also have cafes and bars despite being out of the city).

For a beach day trip, we would suggest Sitges, further south. It is the preferred destination for locals, with a proper town, several beaches, some museums and many restaurants and bars. There are 4 trains an hour from Estacio Sants or Passeig de Gracia stations, and the trip takes about 45 mins (you would need a 3 zone ticket rather than the 1 zone ticket that you would need in the city).

Montserrat

The jagged mountain of Montserrat holds a special significance for Catalans, and is well worth a day trip, which can easily be done without a car. There is a monastery with the famous Black Madonna, associated museums of monastery life and a great art collection, and wonderful walking in a truly spectacular natural park. It is possible to book on a trip on a coach with a guide from the tourist information centre underneath Plaça Catalunya. However, it is also very easily reached by public transport, taking a train from Plaça Espanya station and then either a cable car or rack-and-pinion railway to the monastery. From this level, funicular trains can take you to the summit, or you can hike up the well-marked trails.

There are various combination tickets which save money, but you have to know how you want to travel (e.g. the cable car doesn't operate in high winds). There is more information at the links below, and there is also a helpful desk in Plaça Espanya station dedicated to Montserrat visitor information and ticket sales. Plaça Espanya is a huge underground station, but as long as you follow signs for line R5 you will find the correct part of the station whichever entrance you use.

Rack and Pin railway and funiculars <http://tinyurl.com/ippwMontserrat>
Cable Car <http://tinyurl.com/ippwMontserrat2>
Monastery <http://www.abadiamontserrat.net/angles>

Figueres

About 2 hours on the train from Barcelona is the town of Figueres, where you will find the Theatre-Museum Dali, one of the most incredible day trips for an insight into the creative mindspace of Salvador Dali. There is not much else to say about the town itself, but it is s starting point to reach some of the more isolated and scenic parts of the coastline of Catalunya and the beautiful old port village of Cadaqués.

Figueres Dali Museum: <http://tinyurl.com/ippwDali>

Cadaqués: http://www.cbrava.com/cadaques_uk.htm



Northern Catalunya Coastline



Cadaqués