



*The Ultimate*

# BARCELONA TRIP PLANNER

PLANNING TIPS + PRINTABLE  
CHECK LIST & SCHEDULE



BY

*Forever Barcelona*

Private tourguides for memorable experiences

# Got your flight yet?

1. **If you haven't got your flight yet**, prioritize one that arrives in the afternoon. This way your room will be ready by the time you check in and you'll be able to freshen up, then go for a walk before local dinner. If you are on your own, a walk down La Rambla is always a safe bet. [Read this](#) to plan your ride from the airport to your hotel.
2. **If you don't have too much time for visiting**, then plan for a morning landing and book a private tour that collects you at the airport and drops you off at your hotel/apartment around lunch time. That'll give you a good overview of the city and keep you active. Besides that, your guide will be able to give you plenty of ideas for lunch and for the rest of your time in the city.

# Got a place to stay?

1. **Figure out what area of the city you want to stay in**. It depends a lot on your personality and needs. Read [this post](#) to get an idea of what each area looks like, and their pros and cons.
2. **We'll be sending you in a couple of days a very complete email on our favorite hotels**, sorted out by location, number of stars and special features – a great help to narrow down your choices! But if you can't wait, you might want to start browsing our hotel posts [here](#).

# Plan your meals

We'll also be sending you a couple of emails with lots of restaurants and food recommendations. But this is what you need to know beforehand:

1. **Is breakfast not included in your accommodation?** Check [this](#) out.
2. **Many restaurants take Sunday or Monday off**, so it's worth [planning those meals](#) in advance to avoid unpleasant surprises. Same for the entire [month of August](#) and some [Christmas days](#).
3. **Locals eat LATE**. As a rule of thumb, don't plan lunch for earlier than 1PM or dinner before 8.30PM (and know that locals won't arrive until you are done with desert). If you are an earlybird, [this post](#) will save your life.
4. **Tapas can be eaten both for lunch or dinner**. But most tapas bars and restaurants don't take reservations (check them in advance, and if they don't, go when they open to secure a table and avoid crowds).
5. **Tourists eat paella for dinner (locals do it for lunch)**

# Plan your sightseeing

In the next days we'll be sending you several emails dedicated to the top sightseeing areas and sites in Barcelona, and lots of tips and ideas to explore them on your own. But here are some things you should start taking into account:

1. **If you can afford it**, a private tour will give you the best overview and the most in-depth understanding of the city monuments, history and culture. At [ForeverBarcelona.com](https://foreverbarcelona.com) we have walking and chauffeured itineraries for all needs: half days, full days and multiple day itineraries.
2. **If you'll be on your own, remember there's 3 sites that you should ABSOLUTELY book in advance**: Sagrada Familia church, Park Guell and Palau de la Música Catalana – because tickets sell out. It's not a bad idea to get tickets in advance for La Pedrera, Casa Batlló and the Picasso Museum (especially if you are planning to visit them in the morning or if you are coming on a weekend or during high season any day of the week).
3. **If you'll be on your own, don't be too optimistic or ambitious**: plan only one area or big site for the morning, and one area or big site for the afternoon only. On private tours we can cover much more than that, but that's because we know our way around and can skip lines! ;)
4. **If you have limited time in the city**, make Sagrada Familia a TOP PRIORITY, along a walk down Passeig de Gràcia and a walk around the Gothic Quarter and La Rambla (don't miss the Boqueria market if it's open!).
5. **If you have several days in town**, add Park Güell to your list, and spend an afternoon exploring the Hill of Montjuic (extra points if you hook it up with the Magic Fountain Show at night!). Consider also a day trip out of town: Montserrat, Girona and the Dali Museum are top destinations, but there are a few more options (yep! We take you to [all these places](#))

# Add some fun

A vacation doesn't have to be just about sightseeing. What are your favorites and the favorites of your travel mates? If time allows, make sure to spice up your stay with other activities. Here are some examples (but we'll be definitely be sending you some emails about that, too!):

- FOOD LOVERS will love to take a [food tour](#), or a cooking class, or go on a wine tasting. More ideas [here](#).
- SPORT LOVERS will want to visit the FC Barcelona stadium, or ride a bike, or plan a hike. More ideas [here](#).
- KIDS will love to go to the zoo or the aquarium, visit a science museum, or be taken to an amusement park. More ideas [here](#).
- TEENS are harder to please, but you'll find some ideas [in this post](#).
- Plus you can consider some [beach](#) time, [a sail](#) in the Mediterranean, some shopping, a quirky museum, going to a spa...
- You might also be able to attend some local traditional event taking place during your stay (wait for our email about that!)

# Plan your evenings

Your evenings in Barcelona shouldn't just be about going to dinner and then back to the hotel (or even worst: roaming around empty streets (did you think fun options would pop out of no-where without planning in advance? Wrong!). We'll be emailing you with loads of ideas too, but here are some:

- The Magic Fountain Show in Montjuic (check out first what's their schedule during your stay – and plan dinner nearby)
- Flamenco show or concert in Palau de la Música
- Cocktail bar, wine bar or rooftop bar with views.
- Second round of deserts (check schedule first): gelatto in Gelaaati di Marco, cakes at Bubo Born, or (for the hardcore and best with reservation) desert tapas in the back room of Espai Sucre.
- Late night partying and clubbing

# Goodbye Barcelona !

- **If your flight is departing REALLY early**, you might want to spend your last night at an airport hotel – but that's missing one last night of fun in the city. Considering there won't be traffic that early and that the average ride to the airport is around 20 minutes... you might as well stay in town.
- **Time things well:** besides that 20 to 30 minutes taxi ride to the airport, you'll be required to arrive at least 2 hours earlier for an international flight (1.5hrs if you are flying to a domestic Spanish airport). Don't be afraid to be there too early: there are loads of restaurant options (mostly fast food and cafés, but some decent ones too), and as many shops as in the best shopping mall of the city. No time to get bored! There's also some small playgrounds for kids in the terminals.
- **Do not plan any sightseeing for that morning unless your flight is departing later than at least 4PM.** Consider the time you'll need for visiting, plus lunch, plus the rides from and back to the hotel, then on to the airport. No need to rush or risking missing your flight.

# Anything else?

**Don't worry:** in the following days we'll be sending you many more tips and ideas, and you'll find many more in our blog. But if you couldn't find what you need, let us know and we'll be happy to help!

**NOW ALL HANDS ON DECK!**

*Print out the following check list and schedule planner and get on with it.*

# BARCELONA TRIP PLANNING CHECK LIST by ForeverBarcelona

(Check as you book/decide/confirm, then add plans to the Schedule Planner)

**BASICS:**

- Flight IN
- Flight OUT
- Transfer from airport to city
- Transfer from city to airport
- Hotel or Apartment

**MEALS:**

- |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <u>DAY 1</u>                    | <u>DAY 2</u>                    | <u>DAY 3</u>                    | <u>Day 4</u>                    | <u>DAY 5</u>                    | <u>DAY 6</u>                    | <u>DAY 7</u>                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner |

**TICKETS:**

- Sagrada Familia
- Park Güell
- Palau de la Música
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTIVITIES:**

- |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <u>TOURS</u>                   | <u>_____ 'S faves</u>          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

**PERSONAL NOTES:**

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BARCELONA TRIP SCHEDULE PLANNER by **ForeverBarcelona**

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MORNING							
LUNCH							
AFTERNOON							
DINNER							
EVENING							
NOTES	<p><i>Some museums close after 2PM. Boqueria Market closed. No visits allowed at the Cathedral of St. Eulàlia.</i></p>	<p><i>Boqueria market partially closed.</i></p>	<p><i>Boqueria market partially closed after local lunch.</i></p>	<p><i>Boqueria market partially closed after local lunch.</i></p>	<p><i>Boqueria market partially closed after local lunch.</i></p>		

Flight IN (date, time, Flight number): \_\_\_\_\_ Flight OUT (date, time, Flight number): \_\_\_\_\_

Staying in (hotel or apartments full name and address): \_\_\_\_\_

Enjoy your stay in  
Barcelona !