

# 4 Sleeping

Barcelona has an excellent range of accommodation, with high-end luxury hotels, small-scale boutique lodgings, and a varied spread of midrange and budget selections. The settings offer some fine choices in historic districts, facing the seaside or in the thick of charming neighbourhoods packed with restaurants and nightlife. The continuing economic crisis has slowed price increases, making the city reasonable value overall.

## BOOK YOUR STAY ONLINE

For more accommodation reviews by Lonely Planet authors, check out <http://lonelyplanet.com/hotels/>. You'll find independent reviews, as well as recommendations on the best places to stay. Best of all, you can book online.

## Hotels

Hotels cover a broad range. At the bottom end there is often little to distinguish them from better *pensiones* and *hostales*, and from there they run up the scale to five-star luxury. Some of the better features to look out for: rooftop pools and lounges, views (either of the sea or a cityscape – Sagrada Família, Montjuïc, Barri Gòtic) and of course proximity to the important sights. For around €100 to €140 there are extensive options for good doubles across a broad range of hotels and areas. The top-end category starts at €250 for a double, but can easily rise to €500 (and beyond for suites).

## Pensiones & Hostales

Depending on the season you can pay as little as €15 to €25 for a dorm bed in a youth hostel. If dorm living is not your thing but you are still looking for a budget deal, check around the many *pensiones* (small private hotels) and *hostales* (budget hotels). These are family-run, small-scale hotels, often housed in sprawling apartments. Some are fleapits, others immaculately maintained gems. You're looking at a minimum of around €35/55 for basic *individual/doble* (single/double) rooms, mostly without a private bathroom. (It is occasionally possible to find cheaper rooms, but they can be unappetising.)

Some places, especially at the lower end, offer triples and quads, which can be good value for groups. If you want a double bed (as opposed to two singles), ask for a *llit/cama matrimonial* (Catalan/Spanish). If your budget is especially tight, look at the economical options on Barcelona30.com.

## Apartment & Room Rentals

A cosier (and sometimes more cost-effective) alternative to hotels can be short-term apartment rental. A plethora of firms organise short lets across town. Typical prices are around €80 to €100 for two people per night. For four people you might be looking at an average of €160 a night.

One of the best options, with hundreds of listings is Air BnB ([www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com)). In addition to full apartments, the site also lists rooms available, which can be a good way to meet locals and/or other travellers if you don't mind sharing common areas. Prices for a room cost €30 to €60 on average.

Other apartment-rental services include the following:

**Oh-Barcelona** ([www.oh-barcelona.com](http://www.oh-barcelona.com))

**Aparteasy** ([www.aparteasy.com](http://www.aparteasy.com))

**Feel at Home Barcelona.com** ([www.feelathomebarcelona.com](http://www.feelathomebarcelona.com))

**Barcelona On Line** ([www.barcelona-on-line.es](http://www.barcelona-on-line.es))

**Friendly Rentals** ([www.friendlyrentals.com](http://www.friendlyrentals.com))

**Rent a Flat in Barcelona** ([www.rentaflatinbarcelona.com](http://www.rentaflatinbarcelona.com))

**MH Apartments** ([www.mhApartments.com](http://www.mhApartments.com))

If you want to do a short-term house swap, check out the ads on [www.loquo.com](http://www.loquo.com). Want to sleep on a local's couch? Try your luck at [www.couchsurfing.com](http://www.couchsurfing.com). To browse a large selection of accommodation at all price levels, check out Lonely Planet ([www.lonelyplanet.com/hotels](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/hotels)).

## Travellers with Disabilities

Many hotels claim to be equipped for guests with disabilities but reality frequently disappoints. Check out [www.accessiblebarcelona.com](http://www.accessiblebarcelona.com) for help with finding genuinely accessible accommodation. The same people also run [www.accessible.travel](http://www.accessible.travel).

## Lonely Planet's Top Choices

**DO** Magnificent boutique option overlooking the Plaça Reial.

**Casa Camper** Stylish option in El Raval with Vinçon furniture and hammocks.

**Hotel Casa Fuster** Plush rooms in a Modernista mansion in Gràcia.

**Hotel Omm** Fantastical Dalí-esque hotel with a 'peeling' facade.

## Best by Budget

€

**Casa Gràcia** Stylish hostel with colourful rooms, communal dinners, film screenings and other events.

**Amistat Beach Hostel** Small, warm and welcoming hostel, near the beach and restaurants of Poblenou.

**Hotel Marina Folch** Family-run budget hotel in Barceloneta.

€€

**Five Rooms** Small and charming with beautifully designed rooms.

**Poblenou Bed & Breakfast** Great-value spot in one of Barcelona's up-and-coming neighbourhoods.

€€€

[Hotel Neri](#) Beautiful, historic hotel on a tranquil spot in Barri Gòtic.

[Hotel Mercer](#) Peaceful retreat with medieval details and atmospheric rooms.

### Best Rooms with a View

---

[El Jardí](#) Charming views over the picturesque Plaça de Sant Josep Oriol.

[Ohla Hotel](#) Take in the staggering view over the old city from the rooftop terrace.

[Barceló Raval](#) A fabulous roof terrace in El Raval.

### Best Hotel Pools

---

[Grand Hotel Central](#) In a great location on Via Laietana, this place has a rooftop infinity pool.

[W Barcelona](#) Splendid poolside fun just a short stroll from the beach.

### Best Style Hotels

---

[Cami Bed & Gallery](#) Seven unique rooms in an art-filled Modernista building.

[Chic & Basic Ramblas](#) Boasts serious design cred, particularly in the lobby with its vintage decor.

## NEED TO KNOW

---

### Price Ranges

These € signs indicate the price of a double room per night during high season. Prices include private bathroom unless otherwise stated.

€ less than €75

€€ €75 to €200

€€€ over €200

### Room Tax

Virtually all accommodation is subject to IVA, the Spanish version of value-added tax, at 10%, plus an additional tax of €1.21 per person per night. These charges are usually included in the quoted rate.

### Seasonal Rates

Some hotels, particularly at the lower and mid-levels, maintain the same prices year round. Others vary the rates for *temporada alta*, *temporada media* and *temporada baja* (high, mid- and low seasons). Low season is roughly November to Easter, except during the Christmas/New Year period. Whenever there is a major trade fair (they are frequent), high-season prices generally apply. Conversely, business-oriented hotels often consider weekends, holiday periods and other slow business times to be low season. Booking on the web is often cheaper than turning up at the door.

### Reservations

Booking ahead is recommended, especially during peak periods such as Easter, Christmas/New Year, trade fairs and throughout much of summer (although August can be quite a slack month owing to the heat). If you arrive without prebooked lodging, the Plaça de Catalunya's [tourist office](#) can help.

### Check-In & Check-Out Times

Check-in time is around 2pm or 3pm. If arriving earlier, you can usually leave your luggage at reception. Always reconfirm if arriving late in the evening. Check-out time is generally noon.

---

## 4Where to Stay

Neighbourhood	For	Against
<b>La Rambla &amp; Barri Gòtic</b>	Great location, close to major sights; perfect area for exploring on foot; good nightlife and dining options	Very touristy; noisy; some rooms are small, lack windows
<b>El Raval</b>	Central option, with good local nightlife and access to sights; bohemian vibe with few tourists	Can be noisy; seedy and run-down in parts; many fleapits best avoided; feels unsafe to walk late at night
<b>La Ribera</b>	Great restaurant scene and neighbourhood exploring; central; top sights including the Museu Picasso and the Palau de la Música Catalana	Can be noisy; overly crowded; touristy
<b>Barceloneta &amp; the Waterfront</b>	Excellent seafood restaurants; local easygoing vibe; handy access to the promenade and beaches	Very few sleeping options; outside of Barceloneta can be far from the action and better suited to business travellers
<b>La Sagrada Família &amp; L'Eixample</b>	Wide range of options for all budgets; close to Modernista sights; good restaurants and nightlife; prime gay scene (in the 'Gaixample')	Can be very noisy with lots of traffic; not a great area for walking; a little far from the old city
<b>Gràcia &amp; Park Güell</b>	Youthful, local scene with lively restaurants and bars	Far from the old city; few formal options (but lots of rooms for rent)
<b>La Zona Alta</b>	Good nightlife and restaurants in parts	Very far from the action; spread-out area, requires frequent metro travel; geared more towards business travellers
<b>Montjuïc, Poble Sec &amp; Sant Antoni</b>	Near the museums, gardens and views of Montjuïc; great local exploring in El Poble Sec; locations in El Poble Sec are also convenient to El Raval	Somewhat out of the way; can be a bit gritty up by El Sants train station

## 4 La Rambla & Barri Gòtic

La Rambla is lined with boxy hotels, glorious boutique options, *pensiones* and fleapits, and in the labyrinth of the Barri Gòtic are scattered countless others.

### ALBERG HOSTEL ITACA

HOSTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 301 97 51; [www.itacahostel.com](http://www.itacahostel.com); Carrer de Ripoll 21; dm €21-24, tw/d €60/70, apt €90-150; iW; mJaume I)

A bright, quiet hostel near the cathedral, Itaca has spacious dorms (sleeping six to 10 people) with parquet floors and spring colours, and two doubles. There's a lively vibe, and the hostel organises activities (pub crawls, flamenco concerts, free daily walking tours), making it a good option for solo travelers.

### KABUL

HOSTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 318 51 90; [www.kabul.es](http://www.kabul.es); Plaça Reial 17; dm €18-29; aiW; mLiceu)

The dorm rooms are small and cramped, the service is brusque, and if you're a light sleeper you can forget about falling asleep before 4am. But for partiers, centrally located Kabul is a top choice. It's easy to meet with other travellers with its nightly activities (pub crawls, club nights) and lively common areas (including a lounge with pool table, and a roof terrace).

### VRABAC

GUESTHOUSE

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %663 494029; [vrabacquesthouse.wordpress.com](http://vrabacquesthouse.wordpress.com); Carrer de Portaferriça 14; d €95-145, s/d without bathroom from €55/65; aW; mLiceu or Catalunya)

In a central location just off La Rambla, Vrabac is set in a beautifully restored heritage building complete with original decorative ceilings, exposed sandstone walls and large oil paintings. Rooms vary in size and equipment – the best have elegant ceramic tile floors and sizeable balconies with private bathrooms. The cheapest are small and basic and lack a bathroom, and aren't recommended. Cash only.

### HOTEL COLÓN

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 301 14 04; [www.hotelcolon.es](http://www.hotelcolon.es); Avinguda de la Catedral 7; s/d from €130/195; aiW; mJaume I)

The privileged position opposite the cathedral lends this hotel special grace. A range of rooms, from modest singles to light-filled doubles and suites, offers elegant accommodation. Decoration varies considerably (from hardwood floors to carpet) and the top-floor superior rooms with terrace are marvellous (and go for about €300).

### HOTEL CONTINENTAL

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 301 25 70; [www.hotelcontinental.com](http://www.hotelcontinental.com); La Rambla 138; s/d from €92/101; aW; mCatalunya)

You can imagine being here in 1937, when George Orwell returned from the front during the Spanish Civil War, and Barcelona was tense with factional strife. The Continental's rooms are worn and rather spartan, but have romantic touches like ceiling fans, brass bedsteads and frilly bedclothes. An extra €20 yields a room with a small balcony overlooking La Rambla.

## EL JARDI

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 301 59 00; [www.eljardi-barcelona.com](http://www.eljardi-barcelona.com); Plaça de Sant Josep Oriol 1; d €90-120; aW; mLiceu)

'The Garden' has no garden but a handful of boxy doubles with balcony overlooking one of the prettiest squares in Barcelona. If you can snag one of them, it is well worth climbing up the stairs. If you can't get a room with a view, you are better off looking elsewhere.

## HOTEL RACÓ DEL PI

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 342 61 90; [www.hotelh10racodelpi.com](http://www.hotelh10racodelpi.com); Carrer del Pi 7; d €116-148; aiW; mLiceu)

This hotel was stylishly carved out of a historic Barri Gòtic building, and features 37 rooms with dark wood beams, parquet floors, colourful mosaic-tiled bathrooms and full soundproofing. The rooms' aesthetic is modern: light colours blended with navy blue blankets and the occasional art print. The location is terrific.

## BONIC

B&B

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %626 053434; [www.bonic-barcelona.com](http://www.bonic-barcelona.com); Carrer de Josep Anselm Clavé 9; s €55, d €90-95; aiW; mDrassanes)

Bonic is a small, cosy B&B that has eight rooms in varied styles, with wood or decorative tile floors, tall ceilings and attractive furnishings. Several are bright and cheerfully painted, and some lack exterior windows. Owing to the restrictive layout – all guest rooms share three bathrooms – maximum occupancy is six or seven guests a night, although groups of friends can book the whole place to themselves.

## DO

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 481 36 66; [www.hoteldoreial.com](http://www.hoteldoreial.com); Plaça Reial 1; s/d from €230/280; aWs; mLiceu)

Overlooking the magnificent plaza for which it is named, this 18-room property has handsomely designed rooms, set with beamed ceilings, wide plank floors and all-important soundproofing. The service is excellent, and the facilities extensive, with roof terrace (with bar in summer), dipping pool, solarium and spa. Its excellent market-to-table restaurants draw in visiting foodies.

## HOTEL MERCER

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 310 74 80; [www.mercerbarcelona.com](http://www.mercerbarcelona.com); Carrer dels Lledó 7; d from €385; aW; mJaume I)

Set on a narrow medieval lane, Hotel Mercer is one of Barcelona's best new hotels. Famed Spanish architect Rafael Moneo stayed true to the building's original Gothic and even Roman elements while creating lavishly designed rooms, some of which overlook an interior garden. There's a lovely rooftop dip pool, stylish cocktail lounge, tapas bar and restaurant, plus wonderfully peaceful common areas.

## HOTEL NERI

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 304 06 55; [www.hotelneri.com](http://www.hotelneri.com); Carrer de Sant Sever 5; d from €270; aiW; mLiceu)

This tranquil hotel occupies a beautifully adapted, centuries-old building backing onto Plaça de Sant Felip Neri. The sandstone walls and timber furnishings lend a sense of history, while the rooms feature cutting-edge technology, including plasma-screen TVs and infra-red lights in the stone-clad designer bathrooms. Choose from a menu of sheets and pillows, and sun yourself on the roof deck.

## OHLA HOTEL

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 341 50 50; [www.ohlahotel.com](http://www.ohlahotel.com); Via Laietana 49; d from €257; aWs; mUrquinaona)

This beautifully designed hotel gets almost everything right, from the top-notch service to the lovely rooftop terrace with pool and twinkling views of Montjuïc. The sleek modern rooms have lavish fabrics, long pendular bedside lights, iPod docks and separate shower cubes that face onto the room (take note if you're travelling with someone who needs a touch more privacy).

There's a Michelin-starred restaurant (Saüc) and enticing cocktail bar presided over by an award-winning mixologist.

## HOTEL 1898

LUXURY HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 552 95 52; [www.hotel1898.com](http://www.hotel1898.com); La Rambla 109; d €205-400; aiWs; mLiceu)

The former Compañía de Tabacos Filipinas (Philippines Tobacco Company) has been resurrected as a luxury hotel, complete with an idyllic rooftop bar and pool. Some rooms are smallish, but deluxe rooms and suites have their own terraces. All combine modern comfort and elegance, with hardwood floors and tasteful furniture.

---

## 4El Raval

You're right in the thick of things when staying in this mildly wild side of the old city. Accommodation options are broad, from fleapits on dodgy lanes through to the latest in designer comfort. Hostels and cheap hotels abound.

## CHIC & BASIC TALLERS

HOSTAL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 302 51 83; [www.chicandbasic.com](http://www.chicandbasic.com); Carrer dels Tallers 82; s/d from €71/84; ai; mUniversitat)

The colour scheme here is predominantly white, with exceptions like the screaming orange fridge in the communal kitchen and chill-out area. Rooms are also themed lily white, from the floors to the sheets. Finishing touches include the plasma-screen TVs and the option of plugging your iPod into your room's sound system. The street can get noisy.

## HOTEL PENINSULAR

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 302 31 38; [www.hotelpeninsular.net](http://www.hotelpeninsular.net); Carrer de Sant Pau 34; s/d €57/80; aiW; mLiceu)

An oasis on the edge of the slightly dicey Barri Xinès, this former convent (which was connected by tunnel to the Església de Sant Agustí) has a plant-draped atrium extending its height and most of its length. The 60 rooms are simple, with tiled floors and whitewash, but mostly spacious and well kept. There are some great bargains to be had on quiet dates.

## o BARCELÓ RAVAL

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 320 14 90; [www.barceloraval.com](http://www.barceloraval.com); Rambla del Raval 17-21; r from €128; ai; mLiceu)

Part of the city's plans to pull the El Raval district up by the bootstraps, this oval-shaped designer hotel tower makes a 21st-century

splash. The terrace offers fabulous views and the B-Lounge bar-restaurant is the toast of the town for meals and cocktails. Rooms have slick aesthetics (white with lime green or ruby-red splashes of colour), Nespresso machines and iPod docks.

## CHIC & BASIC RAMBLAS

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 302 71 11; [www.chicandbasicramblashotel.com](http://www.chicandbasicramblashotel.com); Passatge Gutenberg 7; s & d €106-116; aW; mDrassanes)

The latest in the Chic & Basic chain is the most riotous to date, with quirky and colourful interiors that hit you from the second you walk in and see a vintage Seat 600 in the foyer. The rooms themselves are solid blocks of colour, and each loosely pays homage to an aspect of Barcelona life in the 1960s. All have balconies and small kitchens. Note that the name is misleading – the hotel is a couple of blocks into the Raval.

## HOTEL SANT AGUSTÍ

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 318 16 58; [www.hotelsa.com](http://www.hotelsa.com); Plaça de Sant Agustí 3; r from €125; aiW; mLiceu)

This former 18th-century monastery opened as a hotel in 1840, making it the city's oldest. The location is perfect – a quick stroll off La Rambla on a curious square. Rooms sparkle, and are mostly spacious and light filled. Consider an attic double with sloping ceiling and bird's-eye views.

## HOTEL ESPAÑA

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 550 00 00; [www.hotelespanya.com](http://www.hotelespanya.com); Carrer de Sant Pau 9-11; r €164; aiWs; mLiceu)

Best known for its wonderful Modernista interiors in the dining rooms and bar, in which architect Domènech i Montaner, sculptor Eusebi Arnau and painter Ramon Casas had a hand, this hotel offers clean, straightforward rooms in a building that still manages to ooze a little history. In the 1920s it was a favourite with bullfighters.

## RAVAL ROOMS

HOSTAL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 481 66 70; [www.ravalrooms.com](http://www.ravalrooms.com); Carrer de Joaquín Costa 44; s/d €90/95; aiW; mUniversitat)

There's pea-green and lemon-lime decor in this hip 2nd-floor *hostal* located on a bar-lined lane dominated by resident migrants and wandering bands of uni students. The rooms are pleasant and secure, if snug, and enlivened with colourful artworks.

## CASA CAMPER

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 342 62 80; [www.casacamper.com](http://www.casacamper.com); Carrer d'Elisabets 11; s/d from €238/260; aiW; mCatalunya)

The massive foyer looks like a contemporary-art museum, but the rooms are the real surprise. Decorated in red, black and white, each room has a sleeping and bathroom area, where you can put on your Camper slippers, enjoy the Vinçon furniture and contemplate the hanging gardens outside your window. Across the corridor is a separate, private sitting room with balcony, TV and hammock. Get to the rooftop for sweeping cityscapes.

---

## 4La Ribera

Several fine hotels are located on the fringes of the busy El Born area and a growing number of the sometimes bombastic buildings on thundering Via Laietana are top-end hotels.

## PENSIÓN FRANCIA

HOSTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 319 03 76; [www.pensionfrancia-barcelona.com](http://www.pensionfrancia-barcelona.com); Carrer de Rera Palau 4; s/d without bathroom €30/55; W; mBarceloneta)

The homey smell of laundry pervades this quaint little hostel in a great location close to the shore, the Parc de la Ciutadella and the nightlife of El Born. The 11 simple rooms are kept spick and span, with nothing much in the way of frills. Rooms with balconies benefit from plenty of natural light but little noise, as the lane is set away from the busy nearby thoroughfares.

## PENSIÓ 2000

PENSIÓN

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 310 74 66; [www.pensio2000.com](http://www.pensio2000.com); Carrer de Sant Pere més Alt 6; d €70-80; aiW; mUrquinaona)

This 1st-floor, family-run place is opposite the anything-but-simple Palau de la Música Catalana. Seven reasonably spacious doubles have mosaic-tiled floors, and after a recent renovation all have private bathrooms. You can eat your breakfast in the little courtyard.

## CHIC & BASIC

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 295 46 52; [www.chicandbasic.com](http://www.chicandbasic.com); Carrer de la Princesa 50; s €81-87, d €103-150; aiW; mJaume I)

This is a very cool hotel indeed, with its 31 spotlessly white rooms and fairy-light curtains that change colour, adding an entirely new atmosphere to the space. The rooms are small, but the ceilings are high and the beds enormous. Many beautiful old features of the original building have been retained, such as the marble staircase. Chic & Basic also runs a *hostal* in [El Raval](#).

## HOTEL BANYS ORIENTALS

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 268 84 60; [www.hotelbanysorientals.com](http://www.hotelbanysorientals.com); Carrer de l'Argenteria 37; s €96, d €115.50-143; aW; mJaume I)

Book well ahead to get into this magnetically popular designer haunt. Cool blues and aquamarines combine with dark-hued floors to lend this clean-lined, boutique hotel a quiet charm. All rooms, on the small side, look onto the street or back lanes. There are more spacious suites in two other nearby buildings.

## GRAND HOTEL CENTRAL

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 295 79 00; [www.grandhotelcentral.com](http://www.grandhotelcentral.com); Via Laietana 30; d €285; aiWs; mJaume I)

With super-soundproofed rooms no smaller than 21 sq metres, this design hotel, complete with rooftop infinity pool, is one of the standout hotel offerings along Via Laietana. Rooms are decorated in style, with high ceilings, muted colours (beiges, browns and creams), dark wooden floors and subtle lighting.

---

## 4Barceloneta & the Waterfront

The handful of seaside options around Port Vell and La Barceloneta ranges from a rowdy youth hostel to a couple of grand five-

stars. Out in the residential neighbourhood of Poblenou, you'll find a mix of low-key B&Bs, appealing hostels and a few stylish top-end options. The waterfront of Port Olímpic is best known for its luxury high-rise hotels.

## HOTEL MARINA FOLCH

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 310 37 09; Carrer del Mar 16; s/d/tr from €45/65/85; aW; mBarceloneta)

Simple digs above a busy seafood restaurant, this hotel has just one teeny single and nine doubles of varying sizes and quality. The best are those with small balconies facing out towards the marina. The rooms are basic but well maintained, and the location is unbeatable, just a couple of minutes from the beach.

## EQUITY POINT SEA HOSTEL

HOSTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 231 20 45; [www.equity-point.com](http://www.equity-point.com); Plaça del Mar 1-4; dm €19-34; aiW; g17, 39, 57 or 64, mBarceloneta)

Perched near the sea in a rather ugly high-rise is this busy backpackers hostel. Rooms are basic, cramped and noisy (bring earplugs) but you will not find a room closer to the beach.

## AMISTAT BEACH HOSTEL

HOSTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 221 32 81; [www.amistatbeachhostel.com](http://www.amistatbeachhostel.com); Carrer Amistat 21; dm €21-33; W; mPoblenou)

A stylish new addition to Poblenou, Amistat has attractively designed common areas, with a beanbag-filled lounge with DJ set-up, a low-lit TV room and a guest kitchen. The rooms themselves, which sleep from four to 12, are clean, but basic – aside from a splash of colour on the ceilings. Friendly staff organise pub crawls, club nights and other events.

## MARINA VIEW

B&B

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %678 854456; [www.marinaviewbcn.com](http://www.marinaviewbcn.com); Passeig de Colom; d without/with view €116/139, tr €136/165; aW; mDrassanes)

In an excellent location near both the old city and the waterfront, this Irish-run B&B has six airy, comfortably furnished rooms, some with small balconies sporting sunlit views over the marina. The welcome is genuinely warm, and Paddy, the owner, has loads of tips on neighbourhood eateries and how to make the most of your visit.

## HOTEL DEL MAR

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 319 30 47; [www.gargallo-hotels.com](http://www.gargallo-hotels.com); Pla del Palau 19; d €96-150; aiW; mBarceloneta)

The nicely modernised Hotel del Mar is strategically placed between Port Vell and El Born. Rooms are bright, clean and comfortable, though not luxurious. The best chambers have balconies with waterfront views. You're in a fairly peaceful spot but no more than 10 minutes' walk from the beaches and seafood of La Barceloneta, and the nightlife of El Born.

## HOTEL 54

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 225 00 54; [www.hotel54barceloneta.es](http://www.hotel54barceloneta.es); Passeig de Joan de Borbó 54; d €153-200; aiW; mBarceloneta)

This place is all about location. Modern rooms, with dark tile floors and designer bathrooms, are sought after for the marina and sunset views. Other rooms look out over the lanes of La Barceloneta. You can also sit on the roof terrace and enjoy the harbour views.

## BED & BEACH

GUESTHOUSE

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %630 528156; [www.bedandbeachbarcelona.com](http://www.bedandbeachbarcelona.com); Passatge General Bassols 26; d €67-110, s/d without bathroom €39/64; aW; mBogatell)

This pleasant eight-room guesthouse is set on a quiet narrow street just a five-minute walk to the beach. Rooms are clean and comfortable, and vary in size and equipment – some lack natural light, others are bright, with simple modern furnishings and in-room kitchens. The rooftop terrace is a fine spot for an afternoon drink, and there's also a shared kitchen for self-caterers.

## URBANY BARCELONA

HOSTEL

( [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 245 84 14; [www.urbanyhostels.com](http://www.urbanyhostels.com); Avinguda Meridiana 97; dm €20-36, d €75-150; aiW; mClot, Encants)

Near Poblenou, this massive (400-bed) hostel is a good place to meet other travellers with its own bar and airy lounge set amid graffiti-esque artwork, plus a large terrace with views of Jean Nouvel's glowing Torre Agbar. On the downside, rooms are small, and service can be lacklustre. Guests also have access to a pool and gym nearby.

## POBLENOU BED & BREAKFAST

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 221 26 01; [www.hostalpoblenou.com](http://www.hostalpoblenou.com); Carrer del Taulat 30; s/d from €50/80; aiW; mLlacuna)

Experience life in this colourful working-class neighbourhood, just back from the beach, a few steps from the restaurant-lined Rambla del Poblenou, and increasingly home to a diverse population of loft-inhabiting gentrifiers. The 1930s house, with its high ceilings and beautiful tile floors, has six appealing rooms, each a little different and all with a fresh feel, light colours, comfortable beds and, occasionally, a little balcony.

## EUROSTARS GRAND MARINA HOTEL

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 603 90 00; [www.grandmarinahotel.com](http://www.grandmarinahotel.com); Moll de Barcelona; r from €200; aiWs; mDrassanes)

Housed in the World Trade Center, the Grand Marina has a maritime flavour that continues into the rooms, with lots of polished timber touches and hydro-massage bathtubs. Some rooms on either side of the building offer splendid views of the city, port and open sea. The rooftop gym and outdoor pool have equally enticing views.

## W BARCELONA

LUXURY HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 295 28 00; [www.w-barcelona.com](http://www.w-barcelona.com); Plaça de la Rosa del Vents 1; r from €326; paiWs; g17, 39, 57 or 64, mBarceloneta)

This spinnaker-shaped beach-adjacent tower of glass contains 473 rooms and suites that aim for contemporary hotel chic. Self-indulgence is a byword and guests can flit between gym, infinity pool (with bar) and spa.

## HOTEL ARTS BARCELONA

LUXURY HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 221 10 00; [www.hotelartsbarcelona.com](http://www.hotelartsbarcelona.com); Carrer de la Marina 19-21; r from €265; paiWs; mCiutadella Vila Olímpica)

Set in a sky-high tower looming above Port Olímpic, this is one of Barcelona's most fashionable hotels. It has more than 480 rooms with unbeatable views, and prices vary greatly according to size, position and time of year. Services range from enticing spa facilities to fine dining in Arola, run by the Michelin-starred Sergi Arola.

## MELIA SKY BARCELONA

LUXURY HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 367 20 50; [www.melia.com](http://www.melia.com); Carrer de Pere IV 272-286; r €152-257; paiWs; mPoblenou)

This daring, slim tower, designed by Dominique Perrault, is made from two filigree slabs of glass. It overlooks Jean Nouvel's Parc del Centre del Poblenou and offers designer digs, with city or sea views. The amenities are extensive, including various bars and terraces, an enticing pool and a 24th-floor Michelin-starred restaurant (Dos Cielos).

## 4La Sagrada Família & L'Eixample

It comes as little surprise that this extensive bourgeois bastion should also be home to the greatest range of hotels in most classes. The grid avenues house some of the city's classic hotels and a long list of decent midrange places.

### FASHION HOUSE

B&B

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %637 904044; [www.bcnfashionhouse.com](http://www.bcnfashionhouse.com); Carrer del Bruc 13; s/d €51/91, without bathroom €41/71; aW; mUrquinaona)

The name is a little silly but this typical, broad 1st-floor L'Eixample flat contains eight rooms of varying size done in tasteful style, with 4.5m-high ceilings, parquet floors and, in some cases, a little balcony onto the street. Bathrooms are located along the broad corridor, one for every two rooms.

### HOSTAL MUNTANER

HOSTAL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 410 94 74; [www.hostalmuntaner.com](http://www.hostalmuntaner.com); Carrer de Muntaner 175; r €60, without bathroom €50; a; mHospital Clínic)

Within a five-block walk of Passeig de Gràcia and Diagonal, this is a busy residential location surrounded by restaurants and bars (especially along nearby Carrer d'Aribau, a block away). Crisp, simple rooms are comfy and light. Be aware of traffic noise at the front of the house – a room deeper inside will guarantee tranquillity.

### HOSTAL OLIVA

HOSTAL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 488 01 62; [www.hostaloliva.com](http://www.hostaloliva.com); Passeig de Gràcia 32; d €51-91, s/d without bathroom €41-71; aW; mPasseig de Gràcia)

A picturesque antique lift wheezes its way up to this 4th-floor *hostal*, a terrific, reliable cheapie in one of the city's most expensive neighbourhoods. Some of the single rooms can barely fit a bed but the doubles are big enough, light and airy (some with tiled floors, others with parquet and dark old wardrobes).

### o FIVE ROOMS

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 342 78 80; [www.thefiverooms.com](http://www.thefiverooms.com); Carrer de Pau Claris 72; s/d from €155/165; aiW; mUrquinaona)

Like they say, there are five rooms (standard rooms and suites) in this 1st-floor flat virtually on the border between L'Eixample and the old centre of town. Each is different and features include broad, firm beds, stretches of exposed brick wall, restored mosaic tiles and minimalist decor. There are also two apartments.

### SUITES AVENUE

APARTMENT

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 487 41 59; [www.suitesavenue.com](http://www.suitesavenue.com); Passeig de Gràcia 83; apt from €169; paiWs; mDiagonal)

Fancy apartment-style living is the name of the game here, and often at an excellent price. Self-contained little apartments with own kitchen and access to a terrace, gym and pool (not to mention the mini-museum of Hindu and Buddhist art) lie behind the daring facade by Japanese architect Toyo Ito.

### HOTEL PRAKTIK

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 343 66 90; [www.hotelpraktikrambla.com](http://www.hotelpraktikrambla.com); Rambla de Catalunya 27; r €119-129; aW; mPasseig de Gràcia)

This Modernista gem hides a gorgeous little boutique number. While the high ceilings and the bulk of the original tile floors have been maintained, the 43 rooms have daring ceramic touches, spot lighting and contemporary art. There is a chilled reading area and deck-style lounge terrace. The handy location on a tree-lined boulevard is an added plus.

### HOTEL CONSTANZA

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 270 19 10; [www.hotelconstanza.com](http://www.hotelconstanza.com); Carrer del Bruc 33; s/d €80/100; aiW; mGirona, Urquinaona)

This boutique beauty has stolen the hearts of many a visitor to Barcelona. Design touches abound, and little details like flowers in the bathroom add charm. Suites and studios are further options. The terrace is a nice spot to relax for a while, looking over the rooftops of L'Eixample.

### CAMI BED & GALLERY

B&B

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 270 17 48; [www.camibedandgallery.com](http://www.camibedandgallery.com); Carrer de Casp 22, prl 1<sup>o</sup>; s/d from €135, s/d without bathroom from €110; aW; mCatalunya)

A new, luxury B&B in a handsome Modernista building that could not be more central, just metres from the Plaça de Catalunya. Seven airy rooms, with high ceilings, are meticulously designed and each is slightly different in character, though only one has a private bathroom. It was conceived by art lovers, and also functions as a gallery, staging exhibitions and cultural events.

### CONDES DE BARCELONA

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 445 00 00; [www.condesdebarcelona.com](http://www.condesdebarcelona.com); Passeig de Gràcia 73-75; s/d €164; paiWs; mPasseig de Gràcia)

The most attractive half of the Condes de Barcelona occupies the 1890s Modernista Casa Enric Batlló. Across the road stands a more modern extension. Clean, designer lines dominate inside each, with luxurious rooms, hardwood floors and architectural touches reminiscent of the Modernista exterior. The rooftop pool is a great place to relax after a hard day's sightseeing.

### HOTEL SIXTYTWO

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 272 41 80; [www.sixtytwohotel.com/en](http://www.sixtytwohotel.com/en); Passeig de Gràcia 62; s/d from €149/164; paiW; mPasseig de Gràcia)

This 21st-century designer setting, housed in a well-preserved 1930s edifice, boasts Bang & Olufsen TVs and expansive, softly backlit beds. Inside the block is a pretty Japanese garden; you can also opt for a massage in your room. All rooms enjoy designer features (and Etro bath products) but the more tempting (and dearer) ones have balconies or little private terraces.

### HCC ST MORITZ

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 412 15 00; [www.hcchotels.com](http://www.hcchotels.com); Carrer de la Diputació 264; s/d €137; paiW; mPasseig de Gràcia)

This upmarket hotel, set in a late-19th-century building, has 91 fully equipped rooms and boasts an elegant restaurant, terrace bar and small gym. Some of the bigger rooms, with marble bathrooms, even have their own exercise bikes. You can dine in the modest terrace garden.

## HOTEL ASTORIA

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 209 83 11; [www.hotelastoria-barcelona.com](http://www.hotelastoria-barcelona.com); Carrer de Paris 203; s & d from €103; paiWs; mDiagonal)

Nicely situated a short walk from Passeig de Gràcia, this three-star hotel is equally well placed for long nights out in the restaurants, bars and clubs of adjacent Carrer d'Aribau. Room decor and types vary wildly. The hotel has its own mini gym and a display of art by Catalan painter Ricard Opisso.

## BARCELONA CENTER INN

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 265 25 60; [www.hostalcenterinn.com](http://www.hostalcenterinn.com); Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes 688; s/d €75/89; aiW; mTetuan)

A charming simplicity pervades the rooms here. Wrought-iron bedsteads are overshadowed by flowing drapes. Room decor varies, with a vaguely Andalucian flavour in the bathrooms. Some rooms have little terraces. Get a back room if you can, as Gran Via is noisy.

## HOSTAL GOYA

HOSTAL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 302 25 65; [www.hostalgoya.com](http://www.hostalgoya.com); Carrer de Pau Claris 74; s/d from €74/92; aW; mPasseig de Gràcia, Urquinaona)

The Goya is a modestly priced gem on the chichi side of L'Eixample. Rooms have a light colour scheme that varies from room to room. In the bathrooms, the original mosaic floors have largely been retained, combined with contemporary design features. The more expensive doubles have a balcony.

## SOMNIO HOSTEL

HOSTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 272 53 08; [www.somniohostels.com](http://www.somniohostels.com); Carrer de la Diputació 251; dm €25, d €87, s/d without bathroom €44/78; aiW; mPasseig de Gràcia)

A crisp, tranquil hostel with 10 rooms (two of them six-bed dorms and all with a simple white and light-blue paint job), Somnio is nicely located in the thick of things in L'Eixample and a short walk from the old city. Rain showers and thick flex mattresses are nice features in these 2nd-floor digs.

## HOTEL OMM

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 445 40 00; [www.hotelomm.es](http://www.hotelomm.es); Carrer de Rosselló 265; s/d from €204/300; paiWs; mDiagonal)

Design meets plain zany here, where the balconies look like strips of skin peeled back from the shiny hotel surface. The idea would no doubt have appealed to Dalí. In the foyer, a sprawling, minimalist and popular bar opens before you. Light, clear tones dominate in the ultramodern rooms, of which there are several categories.

## HOTEL HISPANOS SIETE SUIZA

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 208 20 51; [www.hispanos7suiza.com](http://www.hispanos7suiza.com); Carrer de Sicília 255; r for 2 people from €200; paW; mSagrada Família)

Within spitting distance of the towering madness that is La Sagrada Família is this original lodging option. Wander in past seven vintage Hispano-Suiza cars to one of several apartments, which generally have two double rooms with separate bathrooms (note the super showers!), a lounge, kitchen, washer-drier and terrace.

## HOTEL MAJÈSTIC

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 488 17 17; [www.hotelmajestic.es](http://www.hotelmajestic.es); Passeig de Gràcia 68; d €251-278; paiWs; mPasseig de Gràcia)

This sprawling, central option has the charm of one of the great European hotels. The rooftop pool is great for views and relaxing, or you can pamper yourself in the spa after a workout in the gym. The standard rooms (no singles) are smallish but comfortable and with marble bathrooms.

## MANDARIN ORIENTAL

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 151 88 88; [www.mandarinoriental.com/barcelona](http://www.mandarinoriental.com/barcelona); Passeig de Gràcia 38; d from €425; paiWs; mPasseig de Gràcia)

At this imposing former bank, 98 rooms combine contemporary designer style with subtle Eastern touches. Straight lines, lots of white and muted colours dominate the look. Many of the standard rooms (no smaller than 32 sq metres) have luxurious tubs and all overlook either Passeig de Gràcia or an interior sculpted garden.

---

## 4Gràcia & Park Güell

Staying up in Gràcia takes you out of the mainstream tourist areas and gives you a more authentic feel for the town. All the touristy bits are never far away by metro and the restaurant and bar life in Gràcia is great on its own.

### o CASA GRÀCIA

HOSTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 187 44 97; [www.casagraciabcn.com](http://www.casagraciabcn.com); Passeig de Gràcia 116; dm from €27, d from €50; aiW; mDiagonal)

A hostel with a difference (several differences), the tasteful Casa Gràcia has raised the bar for budget accommodation. There are dorm rooms and a couple of private rooms, and all are decorated in crisp white with bursts of colour. There's a huge terrace where communal dinners are held, along with film screenings and various other events, and art exhibitions adorn its walls. There's also a kitchen and TV room for colder months.

## HOTEL CASA FUSTER

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ); %93 255 30 00; [www.hotelcasafuster.com](http://www.hotelcasafuster.com); Passeig de Gràcia 132; r from €247; paiWs; mDiagonal)

This sumptuous Modernista mansion, built in 1908–11, is one of Barcelona's most luxurious hotels. Standard rooms are plush, if small. Period features have been restored at considerable cost and complemented with hydro-massage tubs, plasma TVs and king-size beds. The rooftop terrace (with pool) offers spectacular views. The Café Vienés, once a meeting place for Barcelona intellectuals, hosts excellent jazz nights.



## 4La Zona Alta

Except for a certain business clientele, this mainly residential area is a little too far from the action for most people. Several exceptional places are well worth considering if being in the centre of things is not a priority.

### INOUT HOSTEL

HOSTEL

( [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 280 09 85; [www.inouthostel.com](http://www.inouthostel.com); Major del Rectorat 2; dm €18; aiWs; dFGC Baixador de Vallvidrera)S

One of Spain's most extraordinary hostels, Inout is a beautifully located property with a strong social ethos. Over 90% of staff here have disabilities. It's a friendly and welcoming place with extensive facilities, including an enticing pool, sports courts, and a low-key restaurant with panoramic views. It's a 12-minute uphill walk from the Baixador de Vallvidrera FGC station.

### HOTEL TURÓ DE VILANA

DESIGN HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 434 03 63; [www.turodevilana.com](http://www.turodevilana.com); Carrer de Vilana 7; s/d €105/120; aiW; g64, dFGC Les Tres Torres)

This bright, friendly hotel is set near the charming residential 'hood of Sarrià. Its 22 rooms feature hardwood floors, a warm colour scheme, marble bathrooms and plenty of natural light. There's not a lot to do in the immediate vicinity, but it's an attractive option for those who like the idea of dipping in and out of central Barcelona.

### HOTEL ANGLÍ

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 206 99 44; [www.eurostarshotels.com](http://www.eurostarshotels.com); Carrer d'Anglí 60; d from €95; aiWs; dSarrià)

Part of the Eurostars chain, Hotel Anglí is a comfortable business option. Glass dominates the three-storey design and the semitransparent tower is lit up in various hues at night. Huge firm beds are set in rooms where floor-to-ceiling windows and expanses of mirrors add to the sense of light. The buffet breakfast is good and from the rooftop pool you can contemplate the Collserola Hills.

### ABAC BARCELONA

LUXURY HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 319 66 00; [www.abacbarcelona.com](http://www.abacbarcelona.com); Av del Tibidabo 1; d from €287; aiWs; dFGC Av Tibidabo)

This uber-stylish new addition to Barcelona receives high marks for its beautifully designed rooms, kitted out with Bang & Olufsen TVs, rainfall showerheads, Jacuzzi tubs with aromatherapy and luxury bed linens. A lovely spa and one of the city's best restaurants (with two Michelin stars) add to the appeal.

### GAY BARCELONA

Barcelona has a few excellent gay-friendly options, one in the heart of the old city and fairly simple, another a full design explosion in the heart of the 'Gaixample'. There are a number of gay apartment-rental websites, with a fairly high turnover (since these often enter a slightly grey area, legally).

**Hotel Axel** ( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 323 93 93; [www.axelhotels.com](http://www.axelhotels.com); Carrer d'Aribau 33; r from €129; aiWs; mUniversitat) Favoured by a mixed fashion and gay set, Axel occupies a sleek corner block and offers modern touches in its 105 designer rooms. A subtle, light colour scheme, plasma TVs and (in the double rooms) king-sized beds are just some of the pluses. The hotel was completely overhauled in 2010. Take a break in the rooftop pool, the Finnish sauna or the spa bath. The rooftop Skybar is open for cocktails from May to September.

**Room Mate Pau** ( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 343 63 00; [pau.room-matehotels.com](http://pau.room-matehotels.com); Carrer de Fontanella 7; d €125-170; aW; mUrquinaona, Catalunya) Just a short stroll from Plaça de Catalunya, Room Mate Pau sits somewhere between upscale hostel and boutique hotel. The rooms are small and minimalist, but cleverly designed (with good mattresses and USB-connected flatscreen TVs). The enticing interior terrace with bar draws a young and hip crowd.

**Casa de Billy Barcelona** ( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 426 30 48; [www.casabillybarcelona.com](http://www.casabillybarcelona.com); Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes 420; s & d from €40, without bathroom from €35; i; mRocafort) Set in a rambling apartment, a stone's throw from the Gaixample bars, this is an intriguing, gay-friendly stop. The rooms are largely decorated in flamboyant art deco style and guests may use the kitchen. There is a two-night-minimum policy.

## 4Montjuïc, Poble Sec Sant Antoni

A good area for the cash-strapped, there are several options strung out along and near the El Poble Sec side of Avinguda del Paral·lel, as well as near the train station in Sants.

### o HOTEL MARKET

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 325 12 05; [www.forkandpillow.com](http://www.forkandpillow.com); Passatge de Sant Antoni Abad 10; s/d from €72/76; aiW; mSant Antoni)

Attractively located in a renovated building along a narrow lane just north of the grand old Sant Antoni market (now shut for renovation), this place has an air of simple chic. Room decor is a pleasing combination of white, dark nut browns, light wood and reds.

### MELON DISTRICT

HOSTAL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 329 96 67; [www.melondistrict.com](http://www.melondistrict.com); Avinguda del Paral·lel 101; r from €62; aiW; mParal·lel)

Whiter than white seems to be the policy in this student residence, where the only coloured objects are the green plastic chairs. Erasmus folks and international students are attracted to this hostel-style spot, where you can stay the night or book in for a year. There are meeting lounges, kitchen facilities, a cafe and a laundrette on the premises.

### SANT JORDI MAMBO TANGO

HOSTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 442 51 64; [www.hostelmambotango.com](http://www.hostelmambotango.com); Carrer del Poeta Cabanyes 23; dm from €27; iW; mParal·lel)

A fun, international hostel to hang out in, the Mambo Tango has basic dorms (sleeping from six to nine people) and a welcoming, somewhat chaotic atmosphere. This playful vibe is reflected in the kooky colour scheme in the bathrooms. Advice on what to do and where to go out is always on hand.

### URBAN SUITES

HOTEL, APARTMENT

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 201 51 64; [www.theurbansuites.com](http://www.theurbansuites.com); Carrer de Sant Nicolau 3; ste from €130; paiW; mSants Estació)

Directed largely at the trade-fair crowd, this contemporary spot with 16 suites and four apartments makes for a convenient and comfortable home away from home. You get a bedroom, living room and kitchen, DVD player and free wi-fi, and the configuration is good for families. Prices fluctuate enormously according to demand. Note that there is a two-night minimum stay.

## HOSTAL CENTRIC

HOSTAL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 426 75 73; [www.hostalcentric.com](http://www.hostalcentric.com); Carrer de Casanova 13; s/d from €75/94; aiW; mUrgell)

The *hostal*, in a good central location just beyond the old city, has rooms starting from basics with shared bathroom and ranging to renovated rooms with private bathroom facilities and air-con. Midrange ones are similar, but a little older and without air-con.

## HOTEL MIRAMAR

HOTEL

( [MAP](#) [GOOGLE MAP](#) ; %93 281 16 00; [www.hotelmiramarbarcelona.com](http://www.hotelmiramarbarcelona.com); Plaça de Carlos Ibáñez 3; r €215; aWs; g50 or PM)

Welcome to the only hotel on the hill, a designer five-star job. Local architect Oscar Tusquets took the shell of a building built for the 1929 World Fair and later the Barcelona HQ of Spanish national TV (1959–83), and created this olive-green block where all rooms have broad balconies and views over the port, city or park. The modern rooms feature neutral decor, with deep browns, creams and beiges dominating the colour scheme.