

Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd.  
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*Sights of Barcelona (this and other photos free of copyright c/o Wikimedia Commons)*

## “BARCELONA IN DEPTH”

11 days, from Friday, November 18, to Monday, November 28, 2016

*Enjoy the mild Mediterranean climate, cultural treasures, and fine food of Barcelona, the vibrant capital of Spain's independent-minded province of Catalonia, truly one of Europe's most beautiful and exciting cities. We enjoy all the major sights, such as the Sagrada Familia Church, a creation of world-famous local architect Gaudi, and visit fine museums and art galleries, devoted to masters like Picasso, Miro, and Dali. The tour will be escorted by historian Jacques R. Pauwels, PhD, who will lecture on the history and culture of Barcelona and Spain in general.*

Tour price, based on double occupancy: \$2,895 CAD from Toronto (plus approx. \$400 in airport taxes and related fees) - “Land only” (from/to Barcelona Airport): \$2,415 - Single room supplement: \$575)

### PROPOSED ITINERARY:

Day 1 - Friday, November 18: Around 9PM, departure on Air Canada's *non-stop* flight from Toronto to Barcelona. Dinner and a light breakfast will be served on board.

Day 2 - Saturday, November 19: Late morning arrival in Barcelona, and short transfer to the excellent, traditionally Spanish 4-star/first class Hotel Colon ([www.colonhotelbarcelona.com/](http://www.colonhotelbarcelona.com/)), located in the heart of the old town, facing the Cathedral. Please note that the overwhelming majority of guest comments on Trip Advisor

rate the Colon as either “excellent” or “very good,” which are the two highest categories. Free time to settle in and get some rest after your overnight flight. In late afternoon, leisurely introductory walk through the historic Gothic Quarter and via the lively Rambla Boulevard, finishing with a welcome drink (Sangria, perhaps?) in one of the cafés on Catalonia Square. Dinner in the restaurant of our hotel.



< *Hotel Colon's entrance, with the Cathedral in the background. All rooms in the Hotel Colon feature telephone, LCD television, mini-bar, safety deposit box, free Wi-Fi connection, heating, and air-conditioning, plus comfortable bathrobes in the bathroom, which is also equipped with a hair-dryer.*

Day 3 - Sunday, November 20: (B, L) Opportunity to attend mass in the cathedral; visit to one of Catalan architect Gaudi's most famous creations; alternatively, you can accompany your guide on a visit of one of the quixotic houses built by Catalonian architect Gaudi, Guëll Palace. But around noon we should not miss the Sardana, the traditional dance of Catalonia, being performed by hundreds of people in the square in front of the Cathedral – and of our hotel! ([www.barcelona-tourist-guide.com/en/cultural/dancing/catalan-dancing-sardana.html](http://www.barcelona-tourist-guide.com/en/cultural/dancing/catalan-dancing-sardana.html)). After a group lunch in a typical restaurant, we visit the Maritime Museum in the historical shipyards, a remarkable Gothic building dating back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barcelona\\_Royal\\_Shipyard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barcelona_Royal_Shipyard)).

Day 4 - Monday, November 21: (B) After breakfast, walking tour of the historical city centre, the Gothic Quarter. The major sights of the *Barri Gotic* are the Cathedral with its Catalan Gothic interior and fine cloister, an oasis of greenery inhabited by...a flock of geese, Placa Reial with Roman and medieval buildings such as the Chapel of St. Agatha, the 14<sup>th</sup>-century Church of Sta Maria del Pi, and Placa Reial, a vast pedestrian square lined by palm trees. We conclude this morning's sightseeing with a visit to the colourful Boqueria Market. Afternoon at leisure. No group dinner today.

#### **RECOMMENDED READINGS:**

Colman Andrews, *Catalan Cuisine: Vivid Flavors from Spain's Mediterranean Coast*  
Juan Bassegoda Nonell and Melba Levick, *Antonio Gaudi: Master Architect*  
Simon Harris, *Catalonia is Not Spain: A Historical Perspective*  
George Orwell, *Homage to Catalonia*  
William H. Robinson, *Barcelona and Modernity: Picasso, Gaudi, Miro, Dali*  
Rick Steves, *Rick Steves' Barcelona*  
Colm Toibin, *Homage to Barcelona*

Day 5 - Tuesday, November 22: (B) Full-day panoramic sightseeing tour by private coach. Among the highlights will be Gaudi's fabulous Guëll Park and his amazing Sagrada Familia Church; Passeig de Gracia Boulevard with many examples of modernist architecture; Montjuic mountain overlooking the city and the harbour; the Olympic Stadium, venue of the 1992 Olympics; Placa de Espana and the site of the 1929 World Fair; and the Miro Foundation, devoted entirely to the work of this great avant-garde Catalan artist who was born in this city in 1893 (he died in 1983). No group dinner, but an *optional* dinner will be offered in one of the city's highly-rated gourmet restaurants.

Day 6 - Wednesday, November 23: (B, L) After breakfast, excursion by private coach to the Benedictine Monastery of Montserrat, situated high in the rugged Montserrat mountains that rise behind Barcelona ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa\\_Maria\\_de\\_Montserrat\\_Abbey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Maria_de_Montserrat_Abbey)). This is the national sanctuary as well as the major cultural centre of Catalonia and the home of *La Moreneta*, the Black Madonna, the Catalan patron saint. Lunch of traditional Catalan specialties in a country restaurant. Return to Barcelona and free afternoon. Tonight, *optional* Flamenco show, with or without dinner!



*Monastery and mountains of Montserrat (Wikimedia Photo by Jahidalgoalov)*

Day 7 - Thursday, November 24: (B, L) This morning we visit the Picasso Museum, housed in a Gothic palace of the old town. Afterwards we continue to the wonderful Church of Santa Maria del Mar and explore the surrounding Born district, Barcelona's "Soho," teeming with quaint little shops and attractive cafés patronized by designers, artists, and students. We finish around noon in the picturesque Barceloneta district near the old harbour, where you may want to remain to enjoy a seafood lunch in one of the many attractive restaurants. Rest of the day at leisure.

Day 8 - Friday, November 25: (B) Full-day excursion to the town of Figueras, in the Costa Brava area, home of the "Theatre-Museum," an exuberant institution devoted to the work of the great surrealist artist Salvador Dali, who was born here ([www.salvador-dali.org/museus/teatre-museu-dali/en\\_index](http://www.salvador-dali.org/museus/teatre-museu-dali/en_index)). In the afternoon, on the way back to Barcelona, we briefly visit the beautiful old town of Girona (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Girona>).

*The Dali Theatre-Museum in Figueres (photo by Luidger, c/o Wikimedia Commons) >*

Day 9 - Saturday, November 26: (B) This morning we take a walk along prestigious Passeig de Gracia avenue, a showcase of modernist architecture, exemplified most spectacularly by Gaudi's fabulous house, originally known as Casa Mila but now called La Pedrera, "the quarry," which we will visit. The rest of the day is free to shop, explore the city on your own, or visit museum such as the National Museum of Catalan Art with its superb Romanesque and Gothic collections. This weekend it may also be possible to enjoy a classical music concert in a prestigious venue such as the Palau de Musica and/or attend a game of Spain's world-famous soccer league, featuring the local team, FC Barcelona, with superstars such as Lionel Messi, in the legendary Nou Camp Stadium.



Day 10 – Sunday, November 27: (B, D) Your last day in Barcelona is entirely at leisure, except for this evening's *Hasta la Vista dinner* in a typical restaurant.

Day 11 – Monday, November 28: (B) Following breakfast, transfer to the airport and *non-stop* return flight to Toronto with Air Canada, departing around noon and arriving around 4PM.

**Tour price, based on double occupancy: \$2,895 CAD from Toronto (plus approx. \$400 in airport taxes and related fees) - "Land only" (from/to Barcelona Airport): \$2,415 - Single room supplement: \$575)**

*Included in the tour price are:*

- Return flight Toronto-Barcelona with Air Canada;
- Accommodation based on double occupancy in the 4-star/first-class Hotel Colon; the single room supplement is \$575;
- Breakfast daily and a total of four dinners or lunches;
- Overland transportation by private coach;
- All sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary, including admission to museums and monuments mentioned.

*Not included are:*

**\*\*\*The usual combination of airport taxes, security fees and fuel surcharges, presently (June 2016) approximately \$400, but subject to change.**

- All items of a personal nature.
- Beverages with dinners, and meals other than those outlined above.
- Travel Insurance, available upon request.



**YOUR TOUR HOST:**

Historian Jacques Pauwels will be your tour host. Jacques has published books in no less than seven languages, including *Beneath the Dust of Time: A History of the Names of Peoples and Places* (Battlebridge Publications, London, 2009) and *The Great Class War 1914-1918* (James Lorimer, Toronto, 2016)

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**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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**RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:**

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 is required at the time of registration. **Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and application form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.**

**REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:**

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:**

Refund of deposit is made in full if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non-refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 days to 46 days before departure: 25% of tour cost

45 to 31 days before departure: 50% of tour cost

Within 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. reserves the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary as outlined. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable. Any savings realized by these changes will be passed on to the passengers, any resultant expenses shall be borne by the passenger. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. acts only as an agent in securing hotel, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotel, transportation and other travel services are provided to tour members subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally. The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. also reserves the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, in which case equitable refund will be made at the discretion of the tour operators.

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:**

Transatlantic economy flight by scheduled IATA carrier(s), based on an economy class group fare. All fares are subject to specific rules and regulations, to changes and to government approval. Deviations from the group flights are possible but subject to higher rates. Pauwels Travel will research any request for date or routing changes at the time they are requested. Should any individual rate be less than the group fare plus airline and administrative fees, the lower rate will be offered to the tour participant. Individual airfares are subject to immediate ticketing and the fare plus taxes must be paid at the time the ticket is issued by the participant requesting the change. Should the group airfare be the lowest available rate, an administrative fee of \$50.00 plus any airline charges will apply.

## APPLICATION FORM

Please book \_\_\_ seat(s) on the "Barcelona in Depth," November 18-28, 2016.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$750 per person, *plus* insurance premium if taken.)

Please indicate with an X if you intend to travel on group flights \_\_\_\_\_ or Land Only \_\_\_\_\_.

**Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for an interim payment of \$1000 and the balance approximately 45 days prior to departure.**

**WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR DATE TO BE SENT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM.**

**Name as on Passport.** Indicate the appropriate title before each name (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth") \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (Residence) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_ (Fax/Email) \_\_\_\_\_

If traveling alone, please indicate your willingness to share accommodations: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED: \_\_\_\_\_

(We will try to find a roommate for those willing to share, but cannot guarantee success in doing so. For single travelers we are not able to match, the single supplement will apply.)

**SPECIAL REQUESTS:** (Dietary, wheelchair assistance, frequent flyer number, twin beds, etc.) Please list here so we can do our best to assist you. Please be advised that due to airline policies, individual seat selection cannot be guaranteed.

I/we agree to the "terms and conditions" attached to the program. \_\_\_\_\_

**Insurance** - Please call the office for premiums and record on your application form and add premium to your deposit.

All-inclusive Package \_\_\_\_\_ Non-medical Package \_\_\_\_\_ Decline Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (s) if declined \_\_\_\_\_

If purchasing travel insurance, we require your date of birth:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT:

Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel     Visa     Mastercard     American Express

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please forward this completed form, copy of passport and payment to:**

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