





## PLACES OF INTEREST

**1 Monumento a Colón** (Columbus Monument) is situated at the bottom of Las Ramblas, on the water-front. It is possible to take an elevator to the top for a view of the entire city.

**Las Ramblas**, stretching from the water-front to **Plaça de Catalunya** **2**, this delightful, tree-lined boulevard is the center of activity. A variety of shops, particularly flower stalls, are to be found here making it a pleasant place to stroll along or watch the world go by from one of the many side-walk cafes.

**3 Gothic Quarter** is the older part of the City, mainly a pedestrian area. The buildings here date from the 13th century and create a truly medieval atmosphere.

**Cathedral of Santa Eulalia**, located within the Gothic Quarter, was built between 1298 and 1454, although the main facade and the spire were 19th century additions. The Cathedral was named after the 13 year old martyr, whose sarcophagus can be seen, carved in bas-relief, depicting her torture and execution. The Cathedral is built in classic, Catalan gothic style, with 500 year old stained-glass windows.

**4 Maritime Museum** occupies the Royal Medieval Dockyards, and is a naval museum containing ships, figure-heads and nautical exhibits as well as details of Columbus' Voyages of Discovery.

**5 Picasso Gallery**, located on Carrer de Montcada, several adjoining 15th century palaces house a collection of over 2,000 exhibits of Picasso's earlier works, as well as paintings done later in his lifetime. Picasso came to Barcelona at the age of 14 to study art.

**6 La Sagrada Familia** on Calle de Cerdana, is one of the architect Gaudí's most famous works. The Cathedral, begun in 1882 is still under construction although Gaudí died in 1926. Gaudí is buried in the crypt. It is possible to take an elevator to the top of one of the towers for a panoramic view.

**7 Zoo**, located in the Parc de la Cuitadella is ranked among the top zoos in Spain. The Barcelona Zoo is also one of the oldest and most modern zoos in the world. Founded in 1892, the enclosures at the Barcelona Zoo are of open construction.

**8 Palau Güell**, just off Las Ramblas, is another of Gaudí's works. Built between 1885 and 1890, this mansion is of unique design, its facade features some interesting ironwork. Palau Güell is also the home of the Museum for the Performing Arts, and as such, is open to the public.

**Parc Güell** on the outskirts of the City, represents Gaudí's attempt at a garden city designed to house 60 families. It remains unfinished.

**Montjuïc**, named for a Jewish community that once lived on its slopes, is a rather small mountain, reaching no more than 700 ft. Montjuïc was the site for the main stadium for the 1992 Olympic Games **9**.

**10 Museum of Catalan Art**, located on Montjuïc, the museum contains medieval frescoes dating from the 12th and 13th centuries, romanesque and gothic art.

**11 Pueblo Español** on Montjuïc, is a mock Spanish village representing architectural styles and cultures from all over Spain. There are souvenir shops and cafes for refreshments.

**12 Miro Foundation**, also located on Montjuïc, provides an exhibition of the works of Joan Miro, the famous Catalan artist.

- Admission Charges are generally in local currency.
- In Spain it is frowned upon to wear shorts, sleeveless T-Shirts or blouses, or otherwise revealing clothing when visiting churches.
- When going ashore, passengers are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables.

**SHORE EXCURSIONS** To make the most of your visit to Barcelona and its surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk.

**LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining:** Prices listed in shops are not negotiable. It is only possible to bargain in flea markets or perhaps with an Antique Dealer.

**Tippling:** In most restaurants a 10% gratuity is acceptable.

**Local Cuisine:** Paella is the Spanish national dish, a combination of seafood, chicken and vegetables mixed together in a saffron-flavored rice. Typical Catalan cuisine focuses on fish dishes such as Zarzuela, up to a dozen different types of seafood are used in this dish which is served in a brandy and wine sauce. Pa amb tomàquet is a peasant-style bread, topped with fresh tomato and grilled. For dessert try Crema Catalana, the local version of Caramel Custard.

**Drink Specialties:** Priorato is a popular local red wine. Cava is the world-renown Spanish Champagne produced in the Penedés region just outside Barcelona. Try a Sangría, a blend of red wine, brandy, orange juice, mineral water and fruit.

Bottled water is recommended.

**SHOPPING FACILITIES** Barcelona is a large city with several different areas for shopping. The main area, however, could be described as that between Plaça de Catalunya, Las Ramblas and Porta de l'Angel, approximately 1/2 a mile from the Columbus Monument. The Upper Rambla and Passeig de Gràcia are where the more expensive, designer boutiques are located, about 1 mile from the Statue.

Most stores are open from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, 4:30 pm – 8:00 pm Monday through Saturday. Some of the bigger department stores such as El Corte Inglés do not observe Siesta and remain open all day. All stores close on Sunday except for some of the souvenir stores on Las Ramblas.

Barcelona is an international fashion center, noted for leather, jewelry and Lladro.

Very few stores will accept U.S. Dollars, although most accept major credit cards.

Value Added Tax (VAT), is added to most purchases. Visitors who spend over a certain amount may be entitled to re-claim some or all of the tax paid, however, regulations and conditions governing the refund of VAT are subject to change and RCCL cannot guarantee the cooperation of local authorities.

**LOCAL CURRENCY** The unit of currency in this port of call is the euro. There are 8 euro coins denominated in 2 and 1 euros, along with 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, and 1 cent pieces. Every euro coin carries a common European face. On the obverse, each Member State decorates the coins with their own motifs. No matter which motif is on the coins they can be used anywhere inside the Member States. There are 7 euro notes. In different colors and sizes, they are denominated in 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, and 5 euros. The notes are uniform throughout the euro area; unlike coins, they have no national side. All euro notes are legal tender in all countries of the euro area.

There are plenty of exchange bureaus located throughout the City, not to mention banks. Look for the word "Cambio" (Exchange).

**POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES** The main Post Office is located on Plaça Antonio Lopez at the bottom of Via Laietana, approximately 3/4 of a mile from the Columbus Statue.

The Telephone (Telecom) Center is located La Rambla, 88. It is possible to place international calls from here. You can also place a call with your personal calling card using the following access codes:

AT&T: 900-99-0011 / MCI: 900-99-0014 / Sprint: 900-99-0013

**TOURIST INFORMATION** The Tourist Information Office is located at Plaça Catalunya, 17-5.

**TRANSPORTATION** A limited number of Taxis are usually available at the Pier. Fares are metered, and most taxi drivers will accept U.S. Dollars.

Barcelona has a good Metro system, the central station located at Plaça de Catalunya. There are two main train stations in Barcelona; França Station on Avinguda del Marques del'Argentera s/n and, Sants, the main station, on Placa dels Paisos Catalans s/n. The Airport is located some 8 miles from the City center.