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EasyGuide

TO

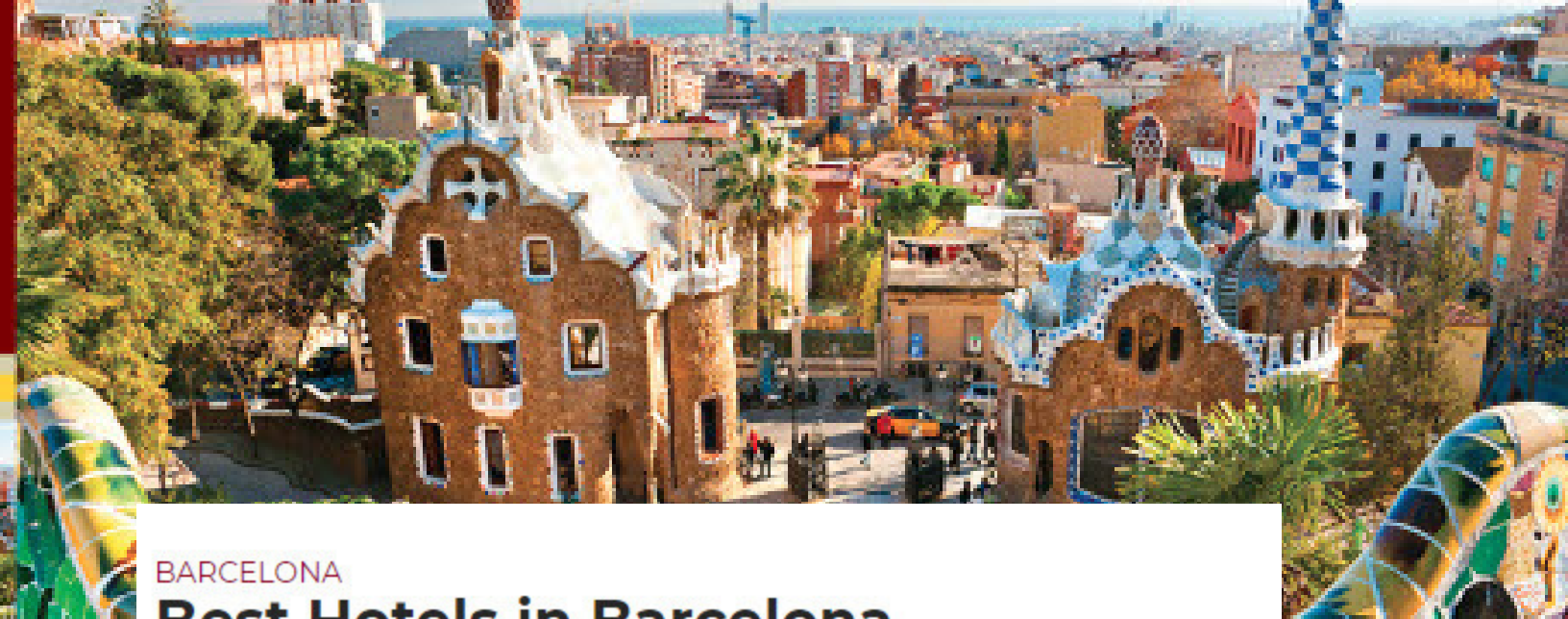
BARCELONA AND MADRID

EasyGuides are ♦ Quick to Read ♦ Light To Carry
♦ For Expert Advice ♦ In All Price Ranges



FRESHLY RESEARCHED AND UP-TO-DATE





BARCELONA

Best Hotels in Barcelona

Barcelona is Europe's favorite city-break destination, and as such is ever-expanding its ever-eclectic range of accommodations. At the top end of the market are first-class and deluxe hotels, which are reasonably priced compared to similar lodgings in Paris or London, giving you a chance to splurge -- especially over weekends -- on bargains. Scour the Internet for deals and find out about special offers. Even visitors on a budget have ample choice.

Attractive changes have taken place in many of the older establishments in Barcelona. Traditionally -- and especially in the heart of the Ciutat Vella quarter -- these old *hostales* are centered around a well or patio and may have seemed dark, gloomy, and almost claustrophobic in the past. Today, however, many have been renovated and transformed into bright, appealing places to sleep. Some have gardens and patios to look out on. One thing that has not changed, however, is the noise (especially from weekend revelers), though mercifully more rooms are soundproofed these days. 1920s' *moderniste* facades and original tiled floors have also been retained in many hotels, and the city's increasing number of boutique establishments are decorated with all the stylistic inventiveness you'd expect in such a famously avant-garde metropolis.

Keeping pace with the times, nearly all Barcelona hotels -- including even the most budget-oriented ones -- offer Wi-Fi.

Frommer's Star Rating

- ★☆☆ 1 star Frommer's Recommended
- ★★☆ 2 stars Frommer's Very Highly Recommended
- ★★★ 3 stars Frommer's Exceptional

About Our System

Frommer's only recommends things we think you will enjoy and that will make your trip both authentic and unforgettable. Our experts personally appraise each choice in terms of their overall enthusiasm for it. Our star system does not denote hotel amenities but it does denote the level of our approval. A place with one star is worth a look--after all, it made the list. A rating of two stars means it's excellent, and three stars is the highest praise we give.

Almanac Barcelona

Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes 619-621

By Jason Cochran

Our Rating	★★★
Neighborhood	L'Eixample
Phone	+34 93 0187261, +34 93 0187000
Prices	Doubles from \$287
Units	91 units
Amenities	Rooftop bar; restaurant; fitness center; free international calls; free breakfast; free Wi-Fi
Web site	Almanac Barcelona

It costs a little more, but that money pays for an outstanding hotel experience. Rooms are bigger by far than the Barcelona norm and because the hotel opened from scratch (created from two gutted buildings) in late 2017, everything is technologically up-to-date, from smartphones that control staff interactions to window curtains that part upon your arrival in the room. The intelligent style blends the finishes and colors of the '70s with contemporary lines and warm woods, plus ideal soundproofing and giant bathrooms concealed by a sliding door. Breakfast (included) is as replete with fresh hams and pastries as you would hope, and you could spend the rest of the day at the rooftop plunge pool, which shares space with a bar and has some of the best views of any Barcelona hotel. That's just one benefit of being within walking distance of many of the city's best attractions. Some other plush perks are also given for this price, including free international phone calls and a sampling from Chocolate Amatller, a Barcelona confectioner since 1797. Free chocolate on top of everything else? It'll be painful when you have to check out.

