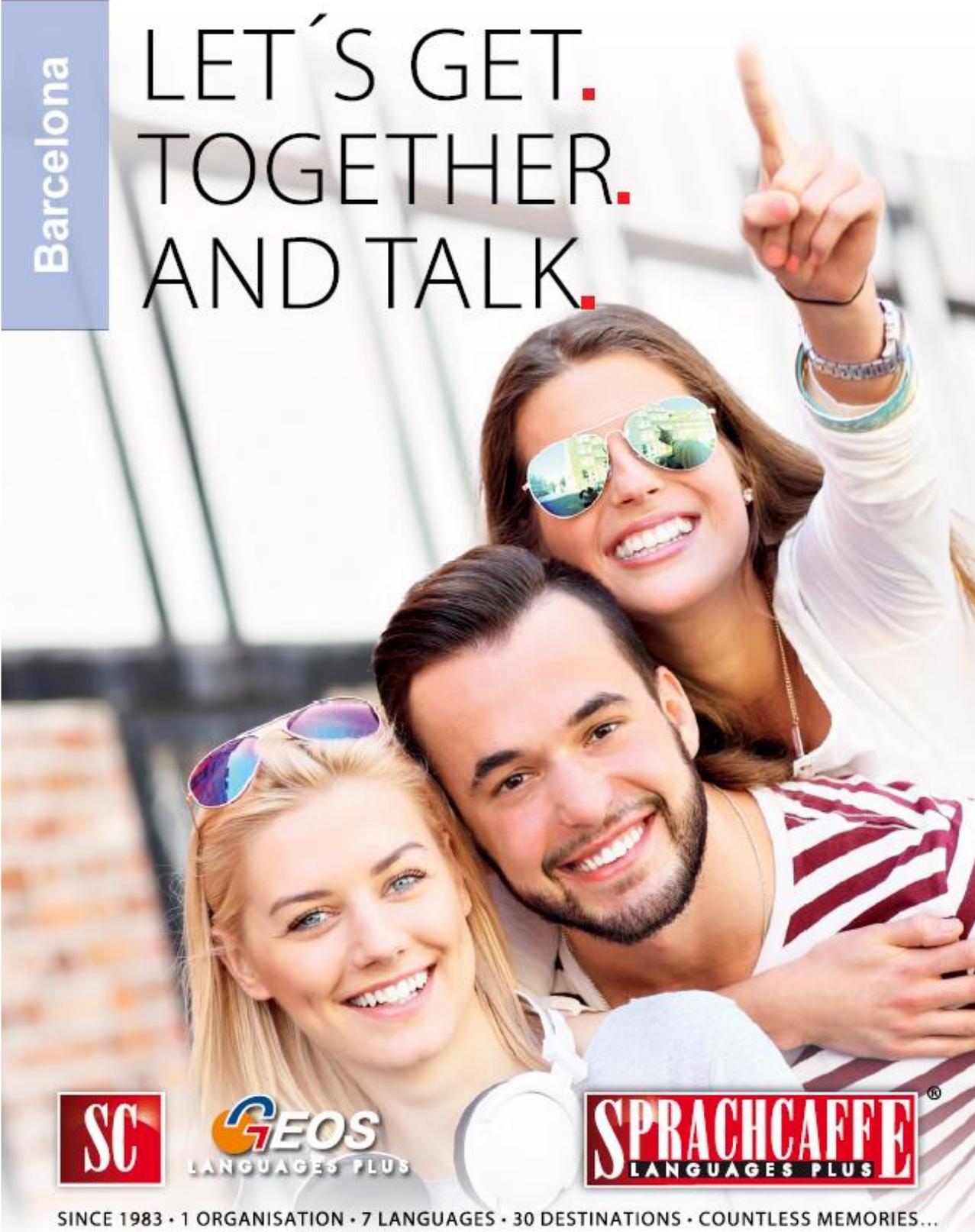


Barcelona

LET'S GET.
TOGETHER.
AND TALK.



SINCE 1983 • 1 ORGANISATION • 7 LANGUAGES • 30 DESTINATIONS • COUNTLESS MEMORIES...

WELCOME TO SPRACHCAFFE

You are obviously committed not just to having a holiday, but to learning a new language or at the same time improving your skills in a language you already know. This is why we would like to send you our warmest congratulations! It is great when people want to make the world a bit smaller for themselves.

"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language that goes to his heart." - Nelson Mandela

It pleases us even more that you have chosen Sprachcaffe for your *language trip*. Lively teaching methods, a relaxed and stress-free atmosphere, learning through interaction and chatting (which helps you bond with others) - we have become experts with 35 years' experience in language teaching and 30 destinations worldwide.

In the enclosed documents you will find everything you need to know for your trip. **Please do not travel without this information sheet.**

We wish you a great holiday and lots of success!

Your Sprachcaffe Team

Content

THE TRIP	3
ACCOMMODATION	4
APARTMENTS	4
RESIDENCES	5
HOMESTAY	5
THE SCHOOL - BARCELONA PLUS	7
LESSONS	7
LANGUAGE TEST	9
GENERAL INFORMATION	10
THINGS TO SEE	11
FEEDBACK	13
SCHOOL LOCATION	14
CHECKLIST BEFORE DEPARTURE	15
CHECKLIST FOR RETURNING HOME	15

The Trip

Barcelona airport, the second largest in Spain in terms of passenger traffic, is the major air hub in the Mediterranean area.. When packing it is important to remember that you are only allowed to take two pieces of luggage weighing a total of 20 kg but this will depend on the Air company. Please be at the airport 90 min before departure time. Sprachcaffe wishes you a pleasant flight!

After arrival in Barcelona you should go to the address written on your voucher. In general this will be your accommodation (apartment, hotel, guest house) or even the school.

How do I get to the school and the city from the airport?

Bus: There is an Aerobus (A1 or A2) service to Plaça de Catalunya, departing in front of all terminals. The bus shuttle runs from 5:30am to 00:30 am, Monday to Sunday. There are departures every 10 minutes. The journey takes approximately 30 minutes. Tickets are sold on the bus. Single ticket 5,90 € // Return ticket 10,20 €

From the Plaça de Catalunya it is just a 15-Minute-walk to the school. Please pass the big department store "El Corte Inglés" until you reach the Via Laietana. Turn right until you arrive at number 15 (right hand side) where the school is located

By train: Direct shuttle to the city every half hour, from 05:40am to 23:30pm (only from Terminal 2). Duration of trip: between 20 and 25 minutes. Outside, between the two terminals, there is an escalator which takes you to a red and white bridge that connects to the train station. The train stops at "Sants Estació" (main train station) and Paseo de Gracia (next to Plaza Cataluña).

From "Sants" you have to take the Metro (L3 – green line) to "Plaça de Catalunya" (if you want to stop at the city centre) or at "Liceu" (if you want to go to the school). The fare for a single ticket is: 2,20 €. 10 trip tickets are 10.20 €.

From the metro station "Liceu" on the Ramblas, please turn into the street "Calle Ferrán" until you reach the Via Laietana. Turn right until number 15, where the school is located.

Taxi: It cost around 35 €, and takes about 30 minutes.

Car hire: Avis, National Atesa, Europcar and Hertz are all represented at the airport, with offices located on the ground floor of Terminals 1 and 2 (between Gate B and C).

Our emergency phone number for arrivals in Barcelona is: 0034 (0) 628 713 715 (weekends and outside business hours only)

Please note: We kindly ask you to understand that we cannot accept students arriving late at night or very early in the morning as host families and apartment owners will not be available to meet their students at that time. Arrival times are between 10:00am and 8:30pm.

In some of our apartments keys should be collected at the address mentioned in the voucher (Sardenya Residence, Sardenya street, 326-328 Entlo. 2, Sagrada Familia metro station).

If you want handed your keys directly at the apartment (10:00 am – 08:30 pm), a person will welcome you, show you the flat and give you a few guidelines about how to move on Barcelona. This service has a rate of 25€ that you should pay cash at your arrival.

Important! Please understand that we cannot guarantee a smooth check-in on the arrival day if we are not informed about arrival dates or delays or do not receive a confirmation!

It is our aim to provide the best service possible; however, if you have any issue during your stay please talk directly to the school staff.

Accommodation

Your accommodation address or meeting point is stated on your voucher.

Apartments

By choosing an apartment you will get to experience a special kind of “shared accommodation” for the duration of your holiday. You share the apartment, kitchen and bathroom with other course participants who normally come from different countries or with the landlord or landlady. You can cook delicious meals in a cosy atmosphere or exchange experiences in the fully equipped kitchen.

Please note that on arrival, sometimes you will be asked to pay a deposit of 150€ for the key, which will be reimbursed on departure.

This “group living” is part of our concept for communicative learning and offers you the possibility of organising excursions such as theatre and cinema visits **and practice your Spanish**. If you have booked a double room as single, we will take care of finding the “right person” for you to share the room with.

Please note that all apartments are only available for course participants and not for friends or relatives.

For extra-stays, which cannot be granted for free, you need to have our confirmation. You should contact the front desk at the school, owners are not allowed to confirm availability. Therefore, we kindly ask you to contact us well in advance. Please note that the apartments are not hotels.

All course participants have to take care of the cleaning themselves. Sprachcaffe only organises the basic cleaning once a week.

We recommend that you and your fellow-lodgers make a plan so that the work can be shared evenly. Rubbish and empty bottles will have to be thrown away daily.

We want all our course participants to feel just like at home and hope that everyone treats the apartments, rooms and facilities accordingly. Your fellow-lodgers would surely appreciate a clean lounge, kitchen and bathroom. We, therefore, believe that the minimum contribution should be to wash up the daily meal dishes. You should respect the privacy of your fellow-lodgers in general and avoid unnecessary noise, especially late in the evening or at night. The apartments will be provided with bed sheets, however, you will have to bring your own towels.

Residences

You will be accommodated in one of our residences: The facilities are as follows:

- Centrally located
- walking distance (15-30 minutes) away from school
- Modern, light and spacious rooms
- Each room has a wardrobe and writing desk
- Common room with TV and pool table
- Wi-Fi in common rooms and areas, "Cyber Corner" with internet and printers, Laptop lending
- shared kitchen
- 3 rooms share a bathroom
- Sheets and towels are changed twice a week
- Self-service laundry with washers and dryers, Iron lending
- Fitness room, study and recreational rooms

Depending on availability we may book other residences of the same standard, but location/ distance and facilities might be different.

Please note that on arrival, you will have to pay a deposit of 100€ for the key, which will be reimbursed on departure.

Address of the residence:

Residencia Universitaria Pere Felip Monlau
Carrer de Sant Oleguer, 20
08001 Barcelona
Spanien

Homestay

Living with a Spanish host family means living their lifestyle! You will be able to practise what you have learned during the course and shed your timidity while communicating with the family. The host family will certainly appreciate a little present, but by this we mean a little present.

Our Spanish host families are very open-minded, helpful and welcoming to their guests. Our host families are not always families in the traditional sense. They can be active single people or elderly couples who will have a lot of time to spend with their guests.

In general, the families will introduce you to individual habits on the day of your arrival, such as, for example, the handing over of the key, times for meals and use of the washing machine. Normally, you share the bathroom with other members of the family. Please make sure that you always leave your room and the bathroom clean and tidy and that you do not damage the furniture. Please take the family into consideration and avoid unnecessary noise, especially late in the evening and at night. Laundry costs are not included in the price and the family might ask you for some extra money if you want to wash your laundry (5€ approx. for each service).

We appreciate your understanding when asking you not to use the family telephone to call your family at home. Please inform your host family beforehand if you will not be at home for a meal, if you plan to go on a trip for a few days or if you are not staying at home overnight. Otherwise, your family will worry unnecessarily!

In general, families do not mind if you invite new friends from the course to your home. However, you should talk to your host family first if you plan on bringing some friends home. When staying with a host family, bed sheets will be provided by the family, but students should bring their own towels. It usually is not possible to use the kitchen of the host family.

For extra-stays, which cannot be granted for free, you need to have our confirmation, you should contact the front desk at the school, host families are not allowed to confirm availability. Therefore, we kindly ask you to contact us well in advance.

Please note rooms must be vacated by 12:00pm, the latest, on departure day in ALL types of accommodation.

Transfer:

If you booked a transfer service, there will be someone waiting for you in the airport holding a sign with your name written on it.

As soon as you go through the door, there will be two possibilities to leave: right or left. In any case, the driver will be waiting for you behind the first line of people and in front of the Caffè di Fiore, where other shuttle drivers will be waiting for their clients. Remember: Our driver will be holding a "your name-sign".

Emergency number of Sprachcaffe in Barcelona: +34 628 713 715

If there is any important change (flight cancelled, missed flight, flight delay or lost luggage etc.), please let us know as soon as possible.

The school - Barcelona Plus

On the first day **we expect you to be at school at 08:30 am**. The language courses start with an **introduction of the school**. All course participants have to do a placement test to determine their language level. We kindly ask you to do the test online at home before you departure. On the first day of class those students who haven't done the test online yet, have to do it now. Additionally all students have to take an oral test before starting classes. After the oral test you will be informed about your group and lessons will start at 09:30am.

The school address: **Barcelona Plus / Sprachcaffe Barcelona**
Via Laietana, 15, Entlo.
08003 Barcelona
Phone: 0034 (0) 93 268 17 07

Staff

Head of Studies: Carmen Parra Villena
Course & Students coordinator: Monica Basterra

Opening hours: 09:00 - 17:30 from Monday to Thursday, 09:00 - 15:00 Friday, except public holidays and the Christmas break.

Languages spoken by the staff at the school: Spanish, English, French, Italian and Catalan

Student card: Students can get a letter from school with which they can get the ISIC (International Student Identity Card). This card entitles students to discounts at various shops, cinemas, etc.

Internet room: Internet room with computers and free internet access for students.

Study Room: A study room where students can do their homework and study is available. Once a week, the Head of Studies will be available in the afternoons to help students with any questions they might have.

Library service: We have a list of books, including novels and grammar books for all levels. The students can borrow these books from the reception desk, each book demands a deposit of 5€ which will be returned when the student gives the book back.

Our school is distributed as follows:

- 7 classrooms
- reception
- video and DVD room
- student lounge with internet access (free)
- teachers' room
- small library
- 3 rest rooms including 1 for disabled people
- administration offices and record office

All the classrooms are spacious and well illuminated.

Lessons

Our teachers have all been trained without exception and have an academic diploma. All our teachers are native speakers, which means they teach in their mother tongue. The teachers are your advisers: competent and committed. Lesson topics are varied. Our teachers use material such as newspaper articles including socio-political topics, theatre or literature reviews as part of the teaching. We find communication, such as through dialogues to be a valuable teaching method. It is, however, also necessary to teach grammar and vocabulary!

Learning Materials

There are textbooks and learning materials on loan at school (15€ deposit). You can also purchase them with special price (15€), cheaper than in bookshops.

We offer four different types of courses:

Part-time course	2 lessons of 45 min.
Standard Course	4 lessons of 45 min.
Intensive Course	6 lessons of 45 min.
One to One Course	2, 4 or 6 lessons per day.

We form our course groups according to the students' language level, which means that the semi-intensive or intensive course participants may be in one group. A student may change into a lower or higher level after consulting the course teacher or following his recommendation.

Lessons are not held on the following public holidays in 2019: 01.01; 19.04; 22.04; 01.05; 10.06; 24.06; 15.08; 11.09; 24.09; 01.11. 06.12., 23.12.-27.12.2019; 01.01.2020 January 2020: 01.01., 06.01. Please note that lessons lost due to public holidays, late arrival or early departure, will not be made up

The maximum number of students in one group is 10.

In general, your timetable will look as follows (we will inform you if it changes):

From Monday to Friday:

<u>Part time course</u>	<u>Standard Course</u>	<u>Intensive Course</u>
13:00pm – 14:30pm (lessons)	09:30am – 11:00am (lessons) 11:00am – 11:15am (break) 11:15am – 12:45pm (lessons)	09:30am – 11:00am (lessons) 11:00am – 11:15am (break) 11:15am – 12:45pm (lessons) 12:45pm – 13:00pm (break) 13:00pm – 14:30pm (lessons)

Please note!

For organisational reasons lessons might be held in the afternoon.

Exam courses

The school offers examination preparation courses for the Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera (D.E.L.E.).

For the duration of your whole stay we will offer you the highest quality of teaching. Our employees and teachers have a lot experience with long-term students and especially with examination preparation courses. However, please also take into consideration that the teachers, despite their years of experience, cannot be held responsible for examination results. Only if you participate actively in class, you will be best prepared for the examination.

We wish you a successful language course!

It is our aim to provide the best service possible; however, if you have any issue during you stay please talk directly to the school staff.

Please note!

In the unlikely event the school doesn't have enough students at the same time/level to offer a group course, smaller group courses or single lessons for a reduced amount will be provided instead: 20 lessons = 12 lessons, 30 lessons = 18 lessons. Under the rare circumstances of being forced to cancel, all fees will be refunded. The minimum number of participants for examination preparation courses is 3 students."

Language Test

Sprachcaffe has introduced a new online placement test. We kindly ask you to do it before you arrive at school. Doing the online exam in advance will allow you to start your lessons straight away.

To access the online test, please go to <http://shop.sprachcaffe.com/onlinetests/>. You can log in using your surname (or email address) and booking number (see our documents for the correct spelling).

The test can be done at any time up to 12:00pm (CET) the Friday before the program begins. Thereafter the test will be switched off and you will no longer be able to access it.

Please do not use a dictionary or any other aids when doing this exam as its purpose is to assess your language ability and place you in an appropriate class. It is better not to answer questions that you do not know, as guessing will affect your score and could result in your being placed in a class that is too difficult for you.

You have 45 minutes to do the exam from the moment you enter the site. Thereafter, the test will automatically shut down. If you finish before time runs out, you can click 'submit' at the bottom of the test. The test result will automatically be forwarded to Sprachcaffe. You will find out your teacher's name and classroom number on your first day at school.

Please note that you can only access the online test once!

General information

Barcelona is the capital city of Catalonia. The city has 1.6 million inhabitants and is the second biggest city in Spain. Barcelona is situated in the North-East of the Iberian Peninsula. The highest mountain Tibidabo measures 512 meters. From its top you can enjoy a beautiful view over the city.

Climate

Barcelona has a typical Mediterranean climate. The winters are damp but mild and the summers are dry. The rainy seasons are once in autumn and once in spring. The distinguishing marks of this climate are the 3 to 5 months of the dry summer. There are very few days of extreme temperature, heat or cold, and that's why the average of the minimum and the maximum temperatures in Barcelona is temperate; typical for the Mediterranean mild climate. The average temperature in summer is 27 degrees Celsius and during winter 15 degrees Celsius.

Insurance

We strongly recommend you take out health insurance because medical services in Barcelona can be very expensive if you don't have the appropriate insurance. The loss or damage of luggage and valuables is always a great disappointment, but this risk can be reduced to a minimum by getting yourself luggage insurance.

Documents

We advise you to copy all your important travel documents (such as flight tickets, insurance policies, passport, driving licence, rental car documents) before you start your language trip to Barcelona. If you lose one of these documents, authorities can help you more efficiently if you have copies.

Making calls:

The international country code for Spain is +34, the local city code for Barcelona is 93. After this you need to dial the number you want to call. We suggest you to get a Spanish number during your stay; you can purchase a phone card in Orange, Vodaphone, Telefonica, etc-

Health

Tap water in Barcelona is drinkable although we recommend you to buy mineral water (generally still water) in bottles up to 5 litres. It is quite cheap. As it can get very hot in Barcelona during the summer please do not forget to take sun protection with you. It can also get cooler at night and therefore we recommend taking a sweater with long sleeves as well.

Please take with you your Insurance Health Card or the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) EU members; just in case you need medical assistance, it is necessary in Spanish Public Health Service.

Tips: In restaurants a tip of 5-10% is common.

Money: In Barcelona you can withdraw money with your credit or Euro Card (EC) from almost any bank machine.

Festivals

Barcelona is famous for its festivals. On the 5th and 6th of January there is the parade for the three Wise Men. In February you can see huge self-made dragons with fireworks at the parades and ceremonies "Colles de Dracs" during carnival season. On the 3rd of March Barcelona celebrates Sant Medir in the quarter of Gràcia.

One month later, on 23rd of April there is the International day of books and saint's day of Sant Jordi – a mixture of a books exhibition and Valentine's Day on the streets. In June you can enjoy seeing huge figures called "Gigantes y Cabezudos" at the Feast of Corpus Christi. The day before Sant Joan (23rd of June) at the summer solstice there are always huge fires on the main streets and squares.

Things to see

Our school Sprachcaffe Barcelona Plus is located in the Gothic District, within the historic heart of the city; just 5 min walk from the Cathedral, the Harbor and the Born (an area full of charm with its alleys and endless number of art galleries, fashion shops, top modern pubs... as well as part of the nightlife that you just cannot miss). It is also very close to the famous "Ramblas", "Plaza de Catalunya" and "Paseo de Gracia". At the end of Rambla Street you will find the Columbus column which offers a marvelous view of the city.

City of constant renewal

Barcelona, located at the Mediterranean Sea at the very north of the Spanish coast, is certainly the most cosmopolitan and economically most active city in Spain. It has always proved its will to be modern, to follow the latest international tendencies or be ahead of them. To the tourist this is especially evident in its architecture, which so well reflects the general approach to life in this ever pulsating city.

Of course, Barcelona has an old history, and there are monuments from the Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance periods and even before, but most characteristic is what has been built during the last, say, 100 years. Barcelona has been a centre of Modernist architecture and is distinguished by the works of genial Antoni Gaudí, who, together with his great contemporaries, gave new and exciting looks to the city.

In this section you will find information on different places in the city and some links to plan your visit and routes through Barcelona.

- **Barcelona Cathedral:**

Building work began in 1298, when Bernat Pelegrí was Bishop and Jaume II, known as "The Just", was on the throne. The Santa Llúcia Chapel, built in a late Romanesque style, already existed. Construction was very slow: the Crypt of Saint Eulalia and the choir-stall are from the end of the 14th century; the cloister from the 15th century and the retro choir and the organ from the 16th century. The façade was finally finished in the early 20th century, by the architects Josep Oriol Mestres and August Font i Carreras, based on an early 15th century design by the French architect Mestre Carlí. Rather than Catalan Gothic, the style is Nordic Gothic. The façade is 70 metres high and crowned with an image of Saint Helena, by the sculptor Eduard Alentorn.

In the cloisters, for Corpus Christi, there is a typically Barcelonan custom, l'ou com balla: an egg (ou) is put into the jet of water in the cloister garden fountain to make it "dance". There is also a pond with thirteen white geese. Always thirteen, because that is how old Saint Eulalia was when, according to legend, she was martyred.

- **Sagrada Família**

You will not find a church like it in the world! The Expiatory Temple of the Holy Family (Sagrada Família), Antoni Gaudí's best known work, is still unfinished but work continues with donations from private individuals as well as public bodies.

Visitors to the Sagrada Família Museum can see the whole project, with Gaudí's plans and models, and it is interesting to see how it will look when finished. In recent years, building work has advanced at a good pace, so Gaudí's dream should soon finally be realised. He was unable to continue working on it because he died, on 10 June 1926, from injuries he received when he was knocked down by a tram at the junction between Gran Via and Carrer de Bailèn. During his lifetime, the Passion façade was completed and he left sketches for the rest of the cathedral.

In recent years, sculptures by Josep Maria Subirachs have been added to the Passion façade and work has progressed on the naves and transept, including the columns, choir stalls and upper windows, which provide the light.

- **Montjuïc Mountain**

It isn't just a great place from where you can enjoy spectacular views across the city; it is also a place of great historical significance, a place where the city witnessed many events that changed the course of its history. A stroll around the mountain is a journey through the city's culture and history as well as the ideas being developed for its future.

In that area you can find many interesting places: Montjuïc Castle, the Olympic zone, Joan Miró Foundation, National Art Museum of Catalonia or MNAC.

- **The Magic Fountain:**

This is the result of an inspired idea from the engineer Carles Buigas (son of Gaietà Buigas, the architect of the Columbus monument), who thought of creating a new type of jet fountain, where

- **Plaça Reial**

Plaça Reial is one of the most distinguished squares in Barcelona. To get there, walk down the Rambla from Plaça de Catalunya and turn into Carrer de Ferran. There, opening up before you on your right, is the square, very traditional and interesting for its style and design and for the life which goes on there.

It has always been a very popular square, right from its beginnings in the mid-19th century. Here locals and foreigners mix and meet, to enjoy the sun or have something to drink in one of the bars under the porches which are so characteristic of the square. At night, the clubs and bars there are also very lively.

The rectangular Plaça Reial, which has been through many renovations, is on the plot of the old Capuchin monastery, and was designed in 1848 by the architect and urban planner Francesc Daniel Molina. Round the perimeter of the plaza there are royal palms, in the centre there is a fountain called the Font de les Tres Gràcies, and there are two lampposts which are the work of the young Antoni Gaudí.

In 1977, it was twinned with Plaça Garibaldi in Mexico City, and here they also hold festivals of mariachi music.

If you want to know more about Barcelona and prepare some routes, here you are some useful links:

[Tourist information](#)

[Reference points](#)

[Routes](#)

We wish you a wonderful stay in Barcelona!

Feedback

Before the everyday routine back at home sets in completely we would be very pleased if you could give us your feedback. As a participant you can tell us about your experiences. Just fill out the online form at <http://www.sprachcaffe.com/english/feedback.htm> We always welcome ideas, tips and constructive criticism!

Address: **Sprachcaffe Languages PLUS,**
Headquartes Gartenstrasse 6
D – 60594 Frankfurt/Main
Phone: +49 (0) 69 6109 120
Fax: +49 (0) 69 603 1395
Email: info@sprachcaffe.com
www.sprachcaffe.com

We wish you a wonderful stay and a successful language course!

Your Sprachcaffe Team

School location



Via Laietana, 15, Entlo., 08003 Barcelona
Tel: 0034 (0) 93 268 17 07

Checklist before departure

Things you might want to think of when packing your luggage

Important travel items

- Travel guide
- Reading material
- Dictionary
- Cash, credit card
- Phone number of your credit card company, in case you have to block the card
- Vaccination card
- Inform Sprachcaffe about arrival time
- Alarm clock
- Sunglasses

First-aid kit

- Sunscreen
- Any medicine required
- Insect spray
- Medicine for stomach trouble
- Plasters
- After-sun lotion
- Tweezers

Travel documents

- Identity card
- Flight or train ticket
- Student ID
- Sprachcaffe travel documents

Sport/Hobby

- Camera
- Extra film, extra memory card
- Music / radio
- Batteries
- Sports equipment

Insurances

- Travel health insurance
- Luggage insurance
- Insurance card from your car insurance
- Phone number of your car insurance

Checklist for returning home

- Buy souvenirs for friends and relatives at home
- Exchange addresses with people in the course, teachers and host family
- Pick up course participation certificate
- Tidy and clean up the room
- Pack and check the rooms for anything left behind