

Montjuïc, Poble Sec & Sant Antoni

MONTJUÏC | EL POBLE SEC | SANT ANTONI | SANTS

Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Dedicating a day to the world's most important collection of early-medieval art in the Romanesque art section of the **Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya** (p179), and exploring the stunning Gothic art, plus two fascinating private collections.
- 2 Admiring the beauty of Josep Lluís Sert's **Fundació Joan Miró** (p184) that houses the work of Barcelona's best-known 20th-century artist.
- 3 Taking in the **Caixa-Forum** (p185), one of the city's best art spaces, which showcases the bank's extensive global collection.
- 4 Watching the colours and water come alive in the evening display of **Font Màgica** (p186).
- 5 Getting inside a **cable car** (p189) and watching Montjuïc from the air.



For more detail of this area see Map p302 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

The Arqueoticket is a special pass, available at tourist offices and participating museums for €13, that allows entry into the Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya (MAC) (p187), the Museu Egipci (p134), the Museu Marítim (p111) and the Museu d'Història de Barcelona (p65).



Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Tickets (p192)
- ➔ Quimet i Quimet (p191)
- ➔ Xemei (p191)
- ➔ Federal (p192)
- ➔ Barramón (p191)

For reviews, see p191 ➔



Best Places to Drink

- ➔ La Caseta del Migdia (p193)
- ➔ La Terrazza (p192)
- ➔ Tinta Roja (p193)
- ➔ Bar Calders (p193)

For reviews, see p192 ➔



Best for Art

- ➔ Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (p179)
- ➔ Fundació Joan Miró (p184)
- ➔ CaixaForum (p185)

For reviews, see p179 ➔

Explore: Montjuïc, Poble Sec & Sant Antoni

Montjuïc is home to two of the city's finest art collections in the MNAC and the Fundació Joan Miró, and several lesser museums, various parks and gardens, curious sights like the Poble Espanyol, the sinister Castell de Montjuïc and the beautiful remake of Mies van der Rohe's 1929 German pavilion. The bulk of the 1992 Olympic installations are also here. Come at night and witness the spectacle of the Font Màgica and a handful of busy theatres and night-clubs. You can approach the hill from Plaça d'Espanya on foot and via a series of escalators to the MNAC; alternatively, and spectacularly, you can get a cable-car from Barceloneta and take in the views. Another opportunity for a cable-car ride is from Estació Parc Montjuïc to the castle. Otherwise, explore on foot, along the numerous paths that zigzag through gardens and skirt the various sights.

The swirling traffic roundabout of Plaça d'Espanya marks the boundary between Montjuïc and the barri (neighbourhood) of Sants, an area worth seeing if you are keen on witnessing the everyday life of residential, tourist-free Barcelona.

Sloping down the north face of Montjuïc is the tight warren of working-class Poble Sec. Though short on sights, it hides various interesting bars and restaurants. Avinguda del Paral·lel was, until the 1960s, the centre of Barcelona nightlife, crammed with theatres and cabarets, and a handful of theatres and cinemas survive, one of which, the Sala Apolo, managed to convert itself into a club.

Local Life

- ➔ **Hang-outs** For tapas, head for Carrer de Blai, a street lined with tables belonging to the numerous little tapas bars that stretch along this pedestrian artery of Poble Sec.
- ➔ **Nightlife** Catch a burlesque show at the Sala Apolo (p193) or a concert at new venue, BARTS (p193).
- ➔ **Greenery** Join the locals on a stroll through the gardens of Montjuïc and catch all that art on the way.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Metro** Metro Línia 3 runs down Avinguda Paral·lel, which divides Poble Sec from Sant Antoni. The closest stops to Montjuïc are Espanya, Poble Sec and Paral·lel.
- ➔ **Bus** Bus 55 runs across town via Plaça de Catalunya to terminate at the Estació Parc Montjuïc funicular station. The bus 150 (Parc de Montjuïc) line does a circle trip from Plaça d'Espanya to Castell de Montjuïc.
- ➔ **Funicular** Take the metro (Línia 2 or 3) to the Paral·lel stop and pick up the funicular railway, part of the metro fare system, to Estació Parc Montjuïc.