



SCHOOL for  
THINKTANKERS

## BARCELONA CITY GUIDE



OTT  
A global consultancy  
and platform for change



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## 1. SCHOOL FOR THINKTANKERS VENUE

OTT School for Thinktankers 2026 will take place in the Social Hub of our host organisation the **Jaume Bofill Foundation**, a not-for-profit organisation focused on the field of education whose goal is to promote research, debates, and public policies oriented to combat social inequalities.

### **Jaume Bofill Foundation**

 [Girona Street #34 \(Carrer de Girona, 34, Barcelona\).](#)

## 2. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

In February, Barcelona experiences mild temperatures, marking the end of winter. The average maximum temperature hovers around 15°C (59°F), while the minimum temperature averages around 7°C (45°F). A few items to include when packing for your trip:



- Warm and comfortable clothing: Consider packing layers such as jumpers and a light coat to stay cosy during cooler mornings and evenings. Business casual attire may be preferred for School for Thinktankers sessions and networking events. Long-sleeved tops, trousers, skirts, dresses, and comfortable shoes are suitable for casual outings.
- Travel adaptors: Barcelona primarily uses plug types C and F. Type C plugs are the standard European two-pin plugs, type F plugs are grounded and include an additional pin. It's advisable to check your devices' compatibility and acquire the necessary adaptors before travelling.
- Your own computer/tablet/notebook.
- Business cards.
- If you like, you can bring a small item from your country as a gift to everyone (e.g. sweets, key chains, fridge magnets, etc.). You can also bring flyers about your work, or a poster displaying your work, including a section on opportunities to connect and collaborate.

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## 3. INFORMATION CENTRES AND CONNECTIVITY

### 3.1. BARCELONA TOURIST INFORMATION

We recommend accessing the official **Barcelona Tourisme website** for comprehensive information about the city's attractions, events, and activities.

Additionally, you can visit the **Barcelona Tourist Information Points** located at key points throughout the city, including the airport terminals and Plaça de Catalunya. These centres offer personalised assistance, maps, and brochures to help you make the most of your time in Barcelona.

The **Tourist Information Points** have a Call centre that operates from 8AM to 8PM (Barcelona time).

 +34 932 853 832

 [info@barcelonaturisme.com](mailto:info@barcelonaturisme.com)



## 3.2. TELEPHONE AND WI-FI

For your convenience, you can purchase a **prepaid Spanish SIM card** upon arrival in Barcelona, provided your phone is compatible. These SIM cards are available from various providers and can be found at the airport, as well as in stores throughout the city.

Free WIFI is available at Barcelona's airport, allowing you to download maps and access essential information upon arrival. Instructions for accessing the WIFI can typically be found at designated areas within the airport.

Moreover, WIFI is widely available throughout Barcelona, including our School for Thinktankers venues and study locations. For more information on public WIFI hotspots in the city, refer to the official [Barcelona Tourisme website](#) or inquire at your accommodations during your stay.

You can also hire a personal **Travel WIFI**, a small device that acts as a modem and allows you to have connectivity wherever you go. You can rent it with a standard fee, however, please note that you will be asked to leave a deposit for it.

## 4. GETTING ABOUT

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### 4.1. USEFUL APPS

We **recommend you download** the Barcelona Official Guide app to find information about places to visit, maps and other information about the city.

Available on [Apple Store](#) and [Play Store](#).

Another helpful resource to consider is the **Hola Barcelona guide** app. This app provides a comprehensive guide to navigating the city, offering routes and transportation options, highlighting iconic landmarks, and enabling ticket purchases for city transportation.

📲 Available on [Apple Store](#) and [Play Store](#).

Also, you can download the **Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona (TMB)** app for convenient access to Barcelona's metro and bus networks. This app offers practical information to navigate the city, including itinerary suggestions, real-time waiting times, schedules, routes, and more.

📲 Available on [Apple Store](#) and [Play Store](#)

### 4.2. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

This section provides detailed insights into various travel options, including ticketing alternatives and operational details for both the metro and bus systems.

In Barcelona, **TMB** stands for Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona. It is the public transport company responsible for managing the city's metro, bus, and tram networks, providing essential transportation services to residents and visitors alike.

🌐 [Find out more information about Barcelona's TMB.](#)

The TMB operates as an integrated fare system, enabling seamless transfers across various modes of transport within a designated time frame. Upon validating your

ticket, you can freely transfer between metro, buses, tram, and suburban rail for up to one hour and fifteen minutes. You can either use it by acquiring multiple **single tickets** or obtain **cards for multiple trips**.

Here's how each option works:


- **Single ticket:** Allows one-time use, priced at 2.40€ (excludes airport metro access but includes the airport bus).
- **Unlimited trips:** The “Hola Barcelona” (Hey Barcelona) card includes unlimited trips for a selected period. Prices range from 16.40€ (48h), 23.80€ (72h), 31€ (96h), or 38.20€ (120h).
- **Multiple trips (10):** The “T-Casual” card costs 11.35€ and includes 10 trips.

## How to get your tickets or card?

To acquire a **ticket** for using TMB, you have several options:

- **Ticket machines:** Ticket machines are available at metro stations, tram stops, and some bus stops. You can purchase single tickets, multiple journey tickets, or travel cards directly from these machines using cash or card.
- **TMB app:** You can also purchase tickets through the TMB app (listed above). The app allows you to buy and store tickets digitally on your smartphone.
- **TMB website:** Alternatively, you can buy tickets online through the TMB website (listed above). After purchasing, you can either print your tickets or display them digitally on your mobile device.
- **TMB information points:** TMB information points located at major metro stations also offer ticket sales services. You can approach the staff at these points for assistance in purchasing tickets.

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 Ensure to **validate your ticket** upon boarding the metro, bus, or tram to ensure it is valid for travel.


To purchase the **Hola Barcelona and T-Casual cards**, you can follow these steps:

### Hola Barcelona Card:

- **Online:** Visit the official Barcelona Turisme website or download the Hola Barcelona app (listed above), select your preferred language and follow its instructions. You can choose the type of card (for 2, 3, 4, or 5 consecutive days).
- **In person:** You can also purchase the Hola Barcelona card in person at Barcelona Turisme information points located at major transportation hubs such as the airport, Sants train station, and Plaça de Catalunya. Simply approach the staff at these points for assistance in purchasing the card.

### T-Casual Card:

- **Online:** Visit the official TMB website or download the TMB app (listed above). Follow the instructions to purchase the T-Casual card online. You can choose the number of journeys you'd like to load onto the card.
- **Ticket machines:** T-Casual cards can also be purchased from ticket machines at metro stations, tram stops, and some bus stops. Simply select the option to purchase a T-Casual card from the ticket machine menu and follow the on-screen instructions to complete your purchase.

 Once you have purchased your card, ensure to **validate** it before boarding any metro, bus, or tram in Barcelona.



## Metro

The city of Barcelona has a **metro system** that features **12 lines**, operating in the following schedules:

- Monday to Thursday from 5:00 to 24:00
- Fridays and holiday eves from 5:00 to 2:00 (extended service)
- Saturdays and Sundays it offers a 24-hour service



## TMB Metro Map

### Bus system

Barcelona's bus network boasts over 100 routes, connecting all city districts and the metropolitan area, while additional routes link Barcelona with neighboring towns for regional travel.

The bus system has a varied schedule. Generally, buses start their routes between 4:25 and 5:00, with service ending around 23:00. There are also night buses (called "Nitbus") that operate approximately from 22:40 to 6:00, covering a large portion of the city.

### How to know the direction of my bus?

Displayed on the buses you will find a letter and a bus number to codify routes. Letter V is for vertical routes, D for diagonal, and H for horizontal.

### Important note:

Barcelona has a tourist bus. This is not a part of Barcelona's public transportation system but it is operated by a private tourism company. Two companies provide this service: "Barcelona City Tour" and "Barcelona Bus Turístic". Both companies have the same price, and to take them you would need to book a place directly with the company. This is not covered in the "Hola Barcelona" card or "T-Casual" card.

### 4.3. ARRIVING AT THE AIRPORT

Welcome to Barcelona! Navigating from the airport to the heart of the city is simple and convenient, with several transportation options available. Below, we outline the most efficient ways to reach your destination, ensuring a smooth start to your Barcelona experience.

Getting from the airport to the city centre offers multiple transportation choices:

#### Metro

Take metro line L9 directly from the airport to the city, connecting with lines L5, L3, and L1 for further access to your hotel area. Ensure you have a metro card for access.



#### Taxi

Outside the airport, official yellow and black taxis are waiting to take you to your destination. Their metres start at the beginning of the ride. Fares from the airport range between 30–35€, offering convenient door-to-door service.



#### AEROBUS

A private company, offers single tickets for 6.75€ and round-trip tickets for 11.65€.



#### Bus number 46

A local service, transports you from the airport to Plaza España. You can pay onboard or purchase a transportation card at the nearest metro station.

[!\[\]\(f1c5da15572e3e09d343161be98f508d\_img.jpg\) Take a deeper dive into the public transport options to get to the city from the airport!](#)

## 4.4. TRANSPORTATION TO THE SCHOOL FOR THINKTANKERS VENUE

There are various transit options available to ensure an easy arrival to the SOCIAL HUB. Whether you prefer the metro or bus, we've got you covered with convenient routes nearby:

There are four **metro stations** close to the venue:

- L4 (Girona) – 4 min walk from the station
- L2 (Tetuan) – 4 min walk from the station
- L1 (Arc de Triomf) – 10 min walk from the station
- L4 & L1 (Urquinaona) – 5 min walk from the station

Plus more than ten **bus lines**:

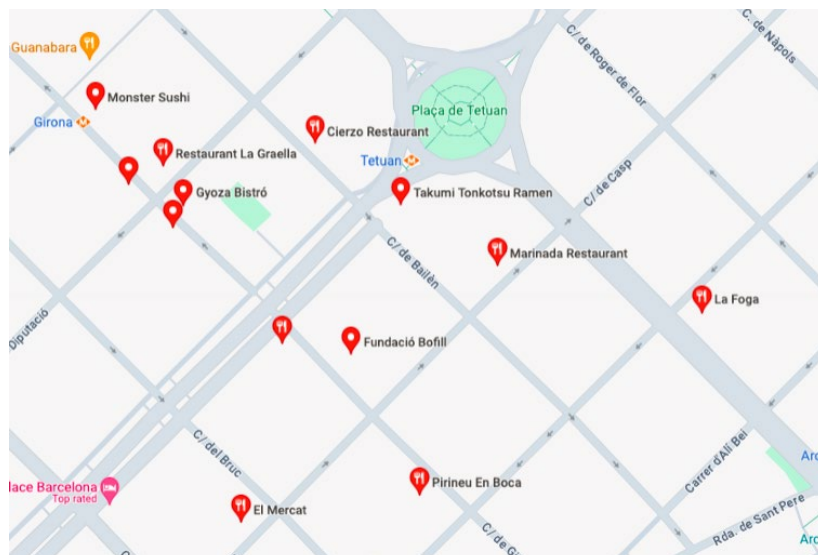
- 7, 54
- H12
- D50
- B25, B20, B24
- N1, N2, N3, N11



## 5. WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

### 5.1. FOOD

Welcome to the culinary delights of Barcelona! Find a list of recommended restaurants just steps away from the SOCIAL HUB of Jaume Bofill Foundation. Join us as we uncover the diverse culinary landscape of Barcelona, just a stone's throw away from the School for Thinktankers venue.



[View the restaurant locations in Google Maps.](#)



**Cerveceria Catalana:** Classic tapas  
📍 Mallorca 236, 08008 Barcelona

**Ciudad Condal:** Classic tapas  
📍 Rambla de catalunya 18, 08007

**Bar Remedios:** Classic tapas and drinks  
📍 Munatner 212, 08036

**Gyoza Bistró:** Fusion of Asian and Mediterranean food.  
📍 Diputació, 312  
🌐 [gyozabistro.com/en](http://gyozabistro.com/en)

**La Foga:** Elegant and ecological restaurant with shaded terrace serving a variety of international cuisine.  
📍 Pg. de St. Joan, 32  
🌐 [lafogabcn.com](http://lafogabcn.com)

**Malpaso Taqueria:** Colorful and quiet restaurant with classic Mexican dishes and vegetarian options.  
📍 Girona, 59  
🌐 [taqueriamalpaso.com](http://taqueriamalpaso.com)

**Mayura:** Indomediterranean cuisine in a sophisticated place with large windows, wooden furniture, and silk cushions.  
📍 Girona, 57  
🌐 [mayuralounge.es](http://mayuralounge.es)

**Monster Sushi:** Japanese cuisine.  
📍 Girona, 68  
🌐 [monstersushi.es](http://monstersushi.es)

**Pirineu en Boca:** Industrial-style restaurant with stone walls, serving tapas and grilled meat from the Pyrenees.  
📍 Girona, 17  
🌐 [pirineuenboca.es](http://pirineuenboca.es)

**Restaurant Cierzo:** Restaurant where you can enjoy good Spanish food.  
📍 Bailén, 56  
🌐 [cierzorestaurante.com](http://cierzorestaurante.com)

**Restaurant La Graella:** Mediterranean cuisine.  
📍 Diputació, 333

**Restaurant Marinada:** Restaurant that bets for a kitchen of proximity, with fresh products and rice of the Terres de l'Ebre as well as a great variety of wines of the Terra Alta. They make a Mediterranean cuisine with modern touches.  
📍 Casp, 61  
🌐 [restaurantlamarinada.com/es](http://restaurantlamarinada.com/es)

**Takumi Tonkotsu Ramen:** Quiet restaurant with a colorful decoration offering ramen, curry, and fried chicken.  
📍 Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 704  
🌐 [catalanes.takumibarcelona.es](http://catalanes.takumibarcelona.es)

**Teruel:** A simple Spanish cuisine restaurant with terrace, offering a wide variety of tapas and dishes.  
📍 Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 686  
🌐 [restauranteteruel.com](http://restauranteteruel.com)

## 5.2. DRINK

Discover the nearby cafes surrounding the SOCIAL HUB, ideal for a quick drink or casual conversation.

**Santa Gloria**  
📍 Pça. de Tetuan, 19  
🌐 [santagloria.com](http://santagloria.com)

**365**  
📍 Pça. de Tetuan, 3  
🌐 [365obrador.com](http://365obrador.com)

**Molika Café**  
📍 C/ de Casp, 57

**Tostao**  
📍 Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 700

Continuing from the cosy ambiance of the coffee shops we've introduced, Barcelona offers a diverse range of establishments for a night drink. A typical night plan is to have some tapas and drinks in the variety of bars available around Barcelona.

**Dry Martini:** A classic cocktail bar known for its elegant atmosphere and expertly crafted cocktails. It's a favourite among cocktail enthusiasts and provides a sophisticated setting for networking and socialising.

📍 Carrer d'Aribau, 162-166, 08036

🌐 [drymartiniorg.com](http://drymartiniorg.com)

**The Box Social:** This stylish cocktail bar offers a curated selection of creative cocktails in a modern and welcoming environment. It's perfect for those looking to try innovative drink creations while engaging in meaningful conversations.

📍 Carrer del Rec Comtal, 15, 08003

**Bobby Gin:** A cozy gin bar with a wide variety of gin-based cocktails and a knowledgeable staff. The intimate setting and attention to detail make it an excellent choice for a relaxed evening of networking.

📍 Carrer de Francisco Giner, 47, 08012

🌐 [bobbygin.com](http://bobbygin.com)

**Barcelona Pipa Club:** A historic establishment with a warm and inviting atmosphere, perfect for enjoying a cigar and a glass of whiskey or rum. It's a unique venue that exudes old-world charm and provides an excellent backdrop for conversations and connections.

📍 Plaça Reial, 3, 08002

🌐 [barcelonapipaclub.com](http://barcelonapipaclub.com)

**Boadas Cocktails:** One of the oldest cocktail bars in Barcelona, Boadas Cocktails is steeped in history and offers a timeless setting for enjoying classic cocktails served with style. It's an iconic destination that's sure to impress School for Thinktankers attendees.

📍 Carrer dels Tallers, 1, 08001

**Gin&Twitts:** A trendy gin bar with a vibrant atmosphere and a diverse selection of gin from around the world. The lively ambiance and social media-inspired decor make it a fun and engaging spot for networking and mingling.

📍 Carrer del Rec, 24, 08003

**Paradiso:** Hidden behind a nondescript refrigerator door in a pastrami bar, Paradiso is a speakeasy-style cocktail bar that offers an element of surprise and intrigue. It's a memorable destination for those looking to experience something out of the ordinary while enjoying expertly crafted drinks.

📍 Carrer de Rera Palau, 4, 08003

🌐 [paradiso.cat](http://paradiso.cat)

**Pulitzer Hotel Rooftop Bar:** For a more relaxed setting with stunning views of Barcelona, the rooftop bar at the Pulitzer Hotel is an excellent choice. With a wide selection of cocktails and a chic atmosphere, it's the perfect place to unwind after a day of School for Thinktankers activities.

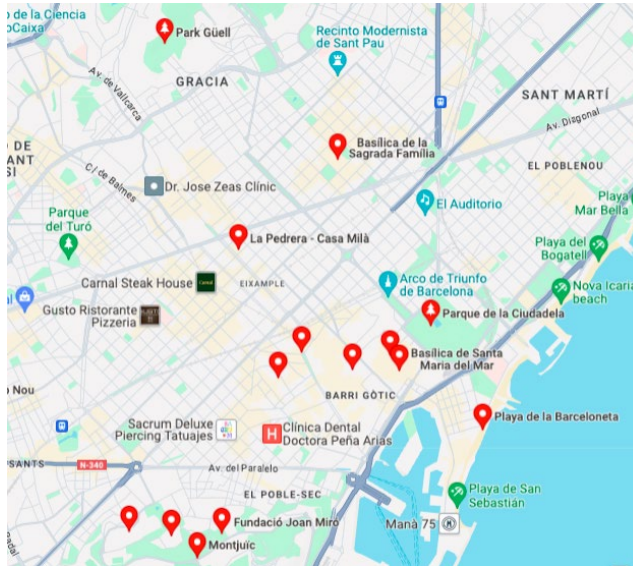
📍 Carrer de Bergara, 8, 08002

Barcelona, Spain

🌐 [hotelpulitzer.es](http://hotelpulitzer.es)

## 6. THINGS TO SEE OR DO


Barcelona is a beautiful city with numerous attractions. If you plan to stay a few more days after the School for Thinktankers, we recommend some of the best plans for the city and its surroundings. However, take into account that some attractions like the Sagrada Familia or Parc Güell require anticipated bookings. Here's a list of the main attractions and links of interest.




 [View the locations in Google Maps.](#)

### 6.1. MUSEUMS

**Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC):** Located in the beautiful Palau Nacional, MNAC houses an extensive collection of Catalan art spanning from the Romanesque period to the early 20th century. Explore its diverse exhibits and admire its grand architecture.

 [Location](#)

**Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA):** Dedicated to contemporary art, MACBA features an impressive collection of works by both local and international artists. Explore its thought-provoking exhibitions and innovative installations.

 [Location](#)

**Museu Picasso:** This museum, housed in several medieval palaces, showcases the works of Pablo Picasso, highlighting his formative years and his deep connection to the city of Barcelona. Explore its extensive collection of paintings, drawings, and sculptures.

 [Location](#)

**Fundació Miró:** Dedicated to the renowned Catalan artist Joan Miró, this museum offers a comprehensive overview of his works, including paintings, sculptures, and ceramics. Explore his creative vision and artistic legacy in a serene setting atop Montjuïc hill.

 [Location](#)

**Caixa Forum:** CaixaForum wants to bring culture closer to all audiences, to experience it through a wide variety of initiatives and proposals: exhibitions, workshops, School for Thinktankers, cinema, debates and family activities.

 [Location](#)

## 6.2. ARCHITECTURE

**Sagrada Família:** A masterpiece of Antoni Gaudí, the Sagrada Família is an iconic basilica known for its intricate architecture and stunning stained glass windows.

[!\[\]\(2bdfe261b986065ee0ac76460d6528c9\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

**Parc Güell:** Another gem designed by Gaudí, Parc Güell offers whimsical architecture, colorful mosaics, and panoramic views of the city. Stroll through its enchanting gardens and marvel at its unique structures.

[!\[\]\(e78f798d4ea5c530c9db49e7d26e6b95\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

**Casa Milà:** Also known as La Pedrera, this modernist building is one of Gaudí's most famous works. Explore its unconventional architecture, including its undulating facade and rooftop terrace with surreal chimneys.

[!\[\]\(c694a3ff3b077d76910920a6a1593ab4\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

**Casa Batlló:** Casa Batlló is a building in the center of Barcelona, Spain. It was designed by Antoni Gaudí, and is considered one of his masterpieces. A remodel of a previously built house, it was redesigned in 1904 by Gaudí and has been refurbished several times after that.

[!\[\]\(05be7c7a8995decd503647c99211f7c2\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

**Santa Maria del Mar:** This stunning Gothic church, often called the “Cathedral of the Sea,” showcases impressive architecture and a rich history. Take a moment to admire its soaring ceilings and intricate details.

[!\[\]\(dd161862f9164df98f62b726e9846241\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

**Barcelona Cathedral:** A stunning example of Catalan Gothic architecture, the Barcelona Cathedral is known for its impressive facade, intricate stained glass windows, and serene cloisters.

[!\[\]\(fe3aebe81acea8d45108cd2768939da7\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

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## 6.3. OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

**Park de la Ciutadella:** Barcelona's most central park, Park de la Ciutadella offers lush greenery, picturesque lakes, and notable landmarks such as the Cascada fountain and the Parliament of Catalonia building. [!\[\]\(248b91fcdac4810ffd15cf33fb6aec6f\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

**Montjuïc Hill:** This iconic hill offers panoramic views of the city and the Mediterranean Sea. It's home to several attractions including the Montjuïc Castle, the Magic Fountain of Montjuïc, and the Joan Miró Foundation. [!\[\]\(899d8b7697d64725bf017d3296cfcf1b\_img.jpg\) Location](#).

**La Rambla:** Barcelona's most famous boulevard, La Rambla is lined with shops, restaurants, and street performers. Take a leisurely stroll along this vibrant promenade and soak in the lively atmosphere. [!\[\]\(c1168d6a8b365d11e842ece304635fa7\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

**Barceloneta Beach:** Relax and unwind at Barceloneta Beach, Barcelona's most popular beach. Enjoy sunbathing, swimming, or savoring delicious seafood at one of the beachfront restaurants. [!\[\]\(cbd8541a32dfc32f356f5c6c994b0a21\_img.jpg\) Location](#)

## 7. SCHOOL FOR THINKTANKERS CONTACTS

If you have questions about the School for Thinktanks's programme and sessions please contact:

**Enrique Mendizabal**

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**Camila Ulloa**

[!\[\]\(8b0a097b4b9c9c3eeaea0f4289ea77e5\_img.jpg\) culloa@onthinktanks.org](mailto:culloa@onthinktanks.org)