

Girona Spain

Costa Brava



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Sant Feliu de Guíxols



Introduction

Picturesque fishing villages, rocky cliffs, unspoiled beaches, amazing underwater scenery, transparent waters and a mild climate.

This is the Costa Brava; the northernmost coast of Catalonia extending from the town of Portbou to Blanes. The coast is very rugged and uneven due to a series of mountain ranges which plunge abruptly to the sea.

Girona





Cala Montjoi. Roses

Hence, the name Costa Brava, *brava* meaning rugged, bold and wild.

Artists such as Salvador Dalí, Picasso and Marc Chagall fell under the spell cast by this extraordinary geographical setting. They were captivated by a sea, capable of raging fury caused by the *tramontana* wind, a brilliant sky, fishing ports, the hospitality of the people, and fine food.

Tourism opportunities on the Costa Brava are as extensive as they are interesting, fulfilling the expectations of the most demanding traveller. History, art, architecture, recreational sports, especially those connected with the sea, can be added to an outstanding tourist infrastructure. When none of these aspects has been overlooked, it will be possible to say that you have really come to know the Costa Brava, its customs, its way of life, while having a great time in the process.



Vall de Núria

During your journey through this stretch of the Catalan coast, let yourself be carried away by the sensations nature has to offer, along with the Mediterranean culture. Immerse yourself in the surroundings, mingle with the

people, and you will uncover the reason for their success. In this guide, we will provide you with the first steps to follow. Afterwards, the decision is yours. Explore the hidden corners, the secret treasures, and discover all this land has to offer.

As in the rest of Catalonia, the official language is Catalan, along with Castilian Spanish.

■ How to get to the Costa Brava

By Air. Costa Brava has two airports:

Girona Airport

Viloví de Onyar. GIRONA.
Tel. 972 18 66 00.

Empuriabrava Aerodrome

Equipped for light aircraft.
Located on the Bay of Roses.
Aeroclub Empuriabrava.
EMPURIABRAVA.
Tel. 972 18 66 46.

*Walled quarter.
Tossa de Mar*





Empuriabrava

Barcelona Airport
El Prat de Llobregat.
BARCELONA.
Tel. 93 298 38 38.

By Rail

The railroad between Barcelona and Portbou links the major towns on the Costa Brava. The "Mare Nostrum" train departs daily from Portbou to Murcia and runs along the entire coastline. RENFE Railway Station. Plaça de Espanya. GIRONA.
Tel. 972 20 70 93.

By Road

Autopista A-7: connects the Mediterranean highway with

France and facilitates access to the tourist resorts on the Costa Brava. Autopista A-2: connects the city of Zaragoza to Madrid and Bilbao.

By Bus

Numerous transportation companies provide connections by road between the Costa Brava and Barcelona. Buses depart from Estació del Nord, Ali Bei, 80, Barcelona, Tel. 93 265 65 08 connecting Barcelona with leading Spanish cities: Madrid, Bilbao, Seville, A Coruña, etc.

■ Getting Around

By Bus

Intercity bus lines. Information concerning itineraries and timetables is available at the Girona Bus Station.

Plaça de Espanya.

Tel. 972 21 23 19.

By Train

RENFE (Spanish National Railway) connects the towns of Blanes, Llançà, Colera and Portbou. The majority of towns on the Costa Brava are linked by train to the towns of Caldes de Malavella, Flaça, Girona and Figueres.

Car Rental

Car rental firms have offices in almost all of the towns on the Costa Brava.

By Boat

Some of the towns along the Costa Brava organize cruises connecting a majority of the coastal towns. In addition, there is a ferry service to the Medes Islands.

Parador of Aiguablava



■ Where to Stay

Hotel Capacity

The total capacity of the five, four and three-star hotels is more than 80,000. Provincial Hostelry Federation. Nou, 7, 1r.17001 GIRONA.

Tel. 972 22 43 44,

Fax 972 29 45 49.

Apartments

Association of Tourist Apartments (ATA).

Reservations and brochure of apartments. Eixemenis, 18 entresol. 17001 GIRONA.

Tel. 972 22 09 27,

Fax 972 21 85 00.

Camping

Association of Campgrounds and Vacation Complexes in the Province of Girona.

Information and brochures.

Apartado 100. 17230

PALAMÓS. Tel. 972 31 47 36,

Fax 972 31 85 11.

Rural Tourism

Information and brochures.

Apartado 932. 17080 GIRONA.

Tel. and Fax 972 22 60 15.

Health Spas

Associació Balneària

(Health Spa Association).

Tel. 93 218 36 99.



Arcade.

Torroella de Montgrí

Balneari Vichy Català.

Recommended for relaxation treatments and rheumatic ailments.

Av. del Dr. Furest, 32.

CALDES DE MALAVELLA.

Tel. 972 47 00 00.

Balneari Prats. Recommended for stress, obesity and beauty treatments. Hydrotherapy, therapeutic massage, respiratory disease treatments.

Plaça Sant Esteve, 7.

CALDES DE MALAVELLA,

Tel. 972 47 00 51.

Balneari Termes Orion.

Treatments for stress, cellulite, circulatory and rheumatic diseases. Av. Termes Orion.

SANTA COLOMA DE FARNERS.

Tel. 972 84 00 65.



■ Practical Suggestions

Money Exchange

Money may be exchanged in banks, savings banks, and in other establishments where indicated. Banking hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and until 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays from October to April.

Credit Cards

Most establishments accept major credit cards.

Telephones

Public telephones operate with coins as well as magnetic phone cards available at post offices or tobacconists. For international calls, dial 00 first.

Camping site in Castelló d'Empúries





Itineraries along the Coast

I. Albera Mountains and Cap de Creus Peninsula: Portbou, Colera, Llançà, El Port de la Selva, Cadaqués

Our itinerary begins at the northeastern tip of Catalonia along the stretch formed by the Albera mountains, the last trace of the Pyrenees in the Catalanian landscape, and the Nature Park of Cap de Creus which juts some ten kilometers into the sea, a good example of the distinctive features of the Costa Brava.

Portbou is the first town we come to in Spain after crossing

Portbou





Cadaqués



the French border. A panorama of Portbou, including the network of railroad tracks, is visible from the highway. Of interest are the railroad station built in 1929, and the neo-Gothic Church of Santa Maria.

Ten kilometers to the south on highway C-252 bring us to **Colera**, an old traditional fishing village. There are two beaches: Colera and Els Morts, divided in the center by the Punta Canons jetty, and Garvet beach, a little more than one kilometer southeast.

Twelve kilometers from the French border on the Portbou road, we find **Llançà** with its coves, including Cap Ros, La Farella and Gifreu. El Port de Llançà, a lively seaside resort,



Llança

is an excellent example of the ideal conditions available for water sports in the area of Llança. Contrasting with the modern harbor area, we find the town with its main monument, Sant Vicenç, an 18th century parish church.

Leaving Llança by the road going to Cadaqués and only six kilometers to the southeast, we come to the seafaring town of **El Port de la Selva**. It is a splendid example of the communion between the sea and the mountain, typical of the Costa Brava. It boasts a monastery dating from the 10th century, Sant Pere de Rodes, one of the most notable Romanesque structures in Spain. The

lookout points command a panoramic view of the gulf of Roses, as well as several dolmens.

On the southern portion of the peninsula, continuing on El Port de la Selva road, we find one of the most visited and picturesque towns on the Costa Brava, **Cadaqués**. Set at the end of a deep bay and with a natural port, Cadaqués preserves its own personality in the Empordà region. Numerous artists and intellectuals have been linked to Cadaqués, including Picasso, Klein and Chagall, but Salvador Dalí, from his home at Portlligat, only a kilometer away, is the one who gave it international fame and prestige. Interesting

monuments are the Church of Santa Maria, plundered in 1543 and rebuilt with special care, the Municipal Museum of Art, exhibiting works by artists connected with Cadaqués, the Perrot-Moore Museum of European graphic art, and the Hermitage of Sant Sebastià, located by taking a cutoff on the road to Roses.

Monastery of Sant Pere de Rodes

**Salvador Dalí
House-Museum**
PORTLLIGAT-CADAQUÉS

Tel. 972 25 80 63

Open: daily from 10.30 a.m.
to 6 p.m. Closed Monday.

**Municipal Museum of
Contemporary Art**
Monturiol, 15. CADAQUÉS.

Tel. 972 25 88 77.

Open: daily from 10:30 a.m.
to 1 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m.

Perrot-Moore Museum
Vigilant, 1. CADAQUÉS.

Tel. 972 25 82 31.

Open: 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
and 4 to 8 p.m.





II. Gulf of Roses: Roses, Castelló d'Empúries, Empuriabrava, L'Escalá

With Cap de Creus to the north and the Montgrí massif to the south, the Gulf of Roses embraces a 15 kilometer curve and forms a vast sandy beach. The Nature Park Aiguamolls de l'Empordà can be visited to admire the numerous varieties of flora and fauna.

In the northeastern part of the gulf, we find the town of **Roses**. The C-260 coming from Figueres will take us there. The 16th century fortress, the Ciutadella, is worth a visit. Although only ruins are preserved, it is still of architectural interest. We also find the remains of the Greek settlement of Rhode, and the Romanesque church of Santa

Cala Almadraba. Roses



Cala Calis. Roses



Maria. Roses is one of the most visited towns on the Costa Brava. Its fishing port is a leading port on the northern coast of Catalonia, and its marina area is one of the most lively, especially at night. In contrast with other areas where tourism has been more prevalent, there are examples of unspoiled beauty, such as Montjoi bay or Cap Norfeu.

The C-260 road leads us to **Castelló d'Empúries**, along the Muga river, with its town center scarcely transformed by the onset of tourism and modern life. The remains of ancient walls, towers and a medieval bridge can be visited, but above all, our attention is drawn to the 10th century church of Santa Maria, a former cathedral, the

Ajuntament (Town Hall) which was a former commodity exchange, and the Parish Museum with various religious works.

On the coast, on the other bank of the Muga, we find a completely different setting: the affluent housing development of **Empuriabrava**. Laid out around a large network of navigable canals, it has facilities for almost all types of water sports and an aerodrome equipped to handle light aircraft where skydiving instruction is available.

Very nearby is **Sant Pere Pescador**, with ample camping facilities and a school and center for water sports.

*Church of Santa Maria.
Castelló d'Empúries*





Fishing port. L'Escala

At the southern end of the gulf of Roses, we encounter **L'Escala**, which can be reached by taking Autopista A-7 (exit 5) and then a local road. L'Escala is a fishing village and a favorite spot of water sports enthusiasts. It has excellent marinas, such as Cala Riells and La Clota, and two yacht clubs. L'Escala is also the point of entry to the ruins of the Greco-Roman colony of Empúries (Emporium), one of the places chosen to receive the Olympic torch for the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. The settlement is the most visited archeological site in Catalonia.

Empúries Museum

Afores. L'ESCALA.

Tel. 972 77 02 08.

Open: summer

10 a.m. to 8 p.m.;

winter 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Northwest of Pals, taking the turnoff on the road that goes to Torroella de Montgrí, we find **Ullastret**. A visit to the medieval center with its covered Gothic square is recommended. Ullastret is noted especially for its archaeological site of an ancient Iberian city, and a small monographic museum in the chapel of Sant Andreu.

III. Begur - Torroella de Montgrí: Pals, Ullastret, L'Estartit, Medes Islands

Begur is a select tourist resort crowned by the ruins of a 15th century castle. Only six kilometers from Begur, we find **Pals**, C-255, with a grouping of monuments declared of national historic-artistic interest. Particularly noteworthy in the walled quarter are the towers of Les Hores and Rom, also a lookout point. The church of Sant Pere, a blend of Baroque, Romanesque and Gothic styles, and the house of Pi i Figueres are also monuments worth visiting.

To the north, on the coast and on the same road leading to Torroella de Montgrí, we encounter **L'Estartit**, a fishing village with a port, marina and three kilometers of beaches. From here, a visit to the Medes Islands is a must in a glass-bottom boat to admire the underwater

*Ruins of an Iberian settlement.
Ullastret*



scenery and more than a thousand varieties of marine life. The Medes Islands are an archipelago made up of seven islands. Long ago a refuge for pirates and smugglers, today the Medes Islands are a nature reserve protected for the biologically rich waters.



Medieval monuments. Pals

Our final stop is **Torroella de Montgrí**. Among the main attractions of this town is the 13th century castle which also serves as a lookout, a Paleolithic site in the area called Cau del Duc, a notable Gothic church, the arcaded Plaça Mayor (main square), the Museum of Montgrí i del

Baix Ter devoted to natural history, the hermitage of Santa Catalina, and the Tower of Witches legends say once inhabited this area.

L'Estartit - Medes Islands





IV. Southern Coast of the Baix Empordà: Begur, Palafrugell, Palamós, Platja d'Aro, Sant Feliu de Guíxols

Begur is located 50 kilometers from the city of Girona on the C-255 road and only five kilometers from the coast. Although Begur is not noted

for its monuments, the entire town has been declared a picturesque area. Its main coves are Aiguafreda, Aiguaxellida, Fornells, Sa Tuna, Sa Riera, Cap de Begur and Aiguablava, where we find a Parador de Turismo hotel.

To go from Begur to **Palafrugell**, our next destination, we have two

Begur





Beach. Tamariu

options: take the inland road which connects both towns for 7.5 kilometers, or travel by the coastal road for 20 kilometers while admiring a succession of lovely inlets along the shoreline. When we arrive at Palafrugell, we are surprised by the lack of tourist activity, except on Sundays, market day. However, Palafrugell has three different districts: Llafranc, Tamariu and Calella de Palafrugell; three of the most lively places on the coast. The sights of interest are: the Botanical Garden at Cap Roig Castle, one of the most complete in the country, the Gothic church of Sant Martí, the Josep Pla Foundation with a library of the famous writer, numerous

Modernist buildings and constructions from the 1800's, and a lighthouse overlooking the coast next to the hermitage of Sant Sebastià. Palafrugell also has an archipelago called Formigues Islands, especially recommended for scuba diving.

Further south (C-255) is **Palamós** with its busy harbor. Chiefly devoted to fishing, it is also ideal for other nautical sports, including sailing and is host to important yachting events. Noteworthy are the 16th century Gothic church, the small medieval quarter, and the residential areas of La Fosca, Cala S'Alguer and Cala de Castell.



Marina. Palamós

Busy street. Platja d'Aro



Continuing along the coast (C-255), we arrive at **Platja d'Aro**, one of the most visited tourist resorts and comprehensively developed for tourism with commercial and leisure facilities. There are innumerable hotels, camping sites, apartments, second homes, and housing developments. Between this town and our next destination, Sant Feliu de Guíxols, we spot the exclusive residential community of S'Agaró, a model of select tourism.

The C-250 will take us to **Sant Feliu de Guíxols**. Among its monuments, we find the hermitage of Sant Grau, the Gothic church with the well-known Romanesque iron gate of Porta Ferrada, and numerous natural observation points which look upon spots, such as Cap de Mort. Although not as totally tourist-oriented as Platja d'Aro, Sant Feliu de Guíxols has a modern tourist enclave: Cala Salions and perhaps the most complete sports facilities on the entire coast.

Josep Pla Library Foundation
Nou, 51. PALAFRUGELL.
Tel. 972 30 55 77.
Open: Summer-winter
Monday to Friday 9 a.m.
to 1 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Closed Saturday afternoon
and Sunday.

Typical house. Sant Feliu de Guíxols





V. The Selva Lowlands: Tossa de Mar, Lloret de Mar, Blanes

The Selva lowlands reveal an abrupt, marine landscape with dense vegetation justifying the name. (Selva also means forest or jungle.)

Tossa de Mar, the first coastal town in this area, is reached by taking the coastal road. Of interest are the walled quarters, or Vila Vella, which are almost intact and preserve the remains of an old church, and the 14th century Gothic governor's palace. Nearby, we find remains of a 4th century Roman settlement. The modern sector of Tossa de Mar, known as Vila Nova, stretches along the shore with a large number of apartments and hotels. Deserving special mention are the Municipal Museum (1935), with works by

Lloret de Mar





Tossa de Mar

Chagall and Sunyer, the tourist and coastal centers of Llevador, Pola, Giverola, Salions, Cala Morisca and Platja de Llorell, and the shrine of Sant Grau, a little inland.

Continuing along the coastal road, we arrive at **Lloret de Mar**, the leading tourist resort on the Costa Brava with regards to leisure and entertainment facilities. However, Lloret de Mar combines this facet with interesting historic monuments and heritage. Meriting our attention are the notable lookouts, the Church of Sant Romà built in 1522, the 14th century hermitage of Santa Cristina,

and the monument to the Sailor Woman, behind which we find the beach of Lloret.

The last town on the Costa Brava heading south is **Blanes**, with its city center only a few strides from the beach. Our attention is drawn to the remains of Sant Joan (St. John) castle, the ruins of the Gothic Palace of the Counts of Cabrera, the fountain on the Carrer Ample or its Botanical Garden. Like Lloret, it is a well-known seaside resort, and there is no lack of hotels, camping sites and discotheques. Six kilometers from Blanes is the N-II junction, the point where the highway begins to run along the coast.

Banyoles Lake



14th century Gothic Church of Santa Maria dels Turers, and the neo-classical monastery of Sant Esteve de Banyoles. In the Vila Nova, the arcaded square with old buildings can be admired.

Fourteen kilometers to the north of Banyoles and on the same road C-150, we arrive at **Besalú**, an outstanding example of the medieval Catalan world, patent in the majority of its streets, such

as Tallaferro. Worth visiting are the 12th century Romanesque bridge spanning the Fluvià river, the churches of Sant Pere and Santa Maria, built in the 10th century, and the Jewish baths, the last vestiges of the Sephardic quarter that existed in the town in the Middle Ages.

The next stop on our journey is **Figueres**. Twenty-five kilometers northeast of Besalú and a little more than 20 from

Typical street. Besalú





*Dalí Theater-Museum.
Figueres*

the border between France and Spain, it was the birthplace of the famous artist, Salvador Dalí. The Dalí Theater-Museum, where the artist is entombed, is the main attraction. The Theater has a reticulated dome and has been enlarged by the Galatea Tower, where the surrealist painter died. Also of interest is the Museum of l'Empordà, the Toy Museum, the parish church of Sant Pere, and the castle-fortress of Sant Ferran. Figueres is also the birthplace of the *sardana*, the traditional regional dance of Catalonia. It is a city with an excellent network of roads, since from here we can take the Autopista A-7, the N-II highway, and numerous other regional and local roads.

**Gala-Salvador Dalí Foundation
Dalí Theater-Museum**

*Plaça Gala-Salvador Dalí.
FIGUERES. Tel. 972 67 75 09.
Open: October to June 10:30
a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Closed
Monday except holidays;
July to September daily
from 9 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.*

**Castell House-Museum
Gala-Dalí**

*PÚBOL. Tel. 972 48 82 11.
Open: daily from 10.30 a.m.
to 6 p.m. Closed Monday.*

**Salvador Dalí House-Museum
PORTLLIGAT-CADAQUÉS**

*Tel. 972 25 80 63
Open: daily from 10.30 a.m.
to 6 p.m. Closed Monday.*

Museum of l'Empordà

*Archaeological ruins.
Rambla, 2. FIGUERES.
Tel. 972 50 23 05.
Open: Tuesday to Saturday
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to
7 p.m.; Sunday and holidays
11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Closed Monday.*

Toy Museum of Catalonia

*Toys from Catalonia
from the early 1900's.
Sant Pere, 1. FIGUERES.
Tel. 972 50 45 85.
Open: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.*

Museum of Naïf Art

*El Molí de la Torre. El Fard
d'Empordà. Tel. 972 52 57 29
Open: winter from 10 a.m. to
5:30 p.m.; summer from
10 a.m. to 8 p.m.*

**VII. Girona capital:
Cathedral, Jewish
Quarter, Arab Baths,
Provincial Archaeological
Museum, Old City Walls,
Sant Nicolau
and Sant Feliu**

The capital city of Girona enjoys a privileged location within Catalonia. It can be reached by various roads: the N-II or the Autopista A-7 if coming from other provinces, by the border crossings of Le Perthus and Cerbére, 80 kilometers from the city if entering Spain from France, or after landing at the Girona-Costa Brava airport, only 12 kilometers from the capital city of Girona.

Girona is a humid city and has been called the city of four rivers because of its location in the Ter valley at the point where this river joins the Güell, Galligants and Onyar rivers. It is precisely the Onyar river that marks the boundaries of the city: on the right bank stands the old quarter, and on the left, modern Girona extends from La Devesa park for more than 40 hectares. Of interest in this area is the Mercadal quarter,

Onyar River





Jewish Quarter



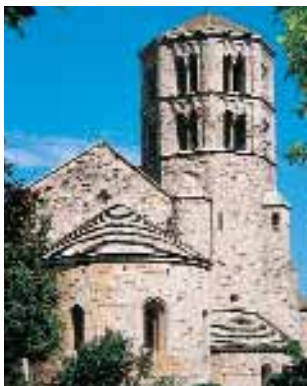
Archeological Museum

the main financial center, where the majority of business establishments are concentrated. Other chief points of interests in the new part of Girona are the 17th century Hospital of Santa Caterina and some Modernist-style buildings, including Farinera Teixidor and the Casa de la Punxa.



From this area and in order to reach the old quarter, we must cross one of the ten bridges that span the river.

In the old quarter, we encounter the **Cathedral (1)**, a blend of different periods and styles. The cloister, as well as the bell tower, is Romanesque in style and consists of four galleries of semicircular arches dating from the 12th century. The facade and the Baroque stairway are from the end of the 17th century, and the Gothic nave is considered the largest in medieval European architecture. The numerous works of art found in the interior must also be mentioned, such as the famous chair of Charlemagne, various sarcophagi and thirty chapels. In addition, the Chapter Museum can also be visited with works from the 10th



Sant Pere de Galligants



Cathedral

to the 12th centuries, including the famous Tapestry of the Creation, a magnificent example of Romanesque textile art. Next to the Chapter Museum, we find the Art Museum and the Gothic building, the Pia Almoïna. Exiting the Cathedral and taking the street of Força, we reach the Call, as the **Jewish Quarter** (2) was named. Today it is a collection of streets

where practically anything can be purchased, but in Medieval times, it was a leading Jewish cultural center. Here we find the Centre Bonastruc ça Porta - Institut d' Nahmanides, site of exhibits, concerts and activities involving the Sephardic legacy. In the heart of the quarter is the **City Museum** (3), specializing in the history of the city of Girona.



Arab Baths



Leaving the quarter and on the left-hand side, we find the **Arab Baths (4)**, dating from the 12th century. Afterwards, we come upon the Provincial **Archeological Museum (5)**, Romanesque in style and installed in the 12th century Benedictine Monastery of Sant Pere de Galligans. The former monastery has been declared a national historic-artistic monument, and its church is a splendid example of Romanesque architecture.

Continuing along the typical narrow streets of the old quarter, we reach the **old city walls (6)**, a reminder of sieges suffered long ago.

Going back towards the Cathedral, we come to the Church of **Sant Nicolau (7)**,

a small funerary temple, dating from the 12th century. Separated from the Cathedral by the Sobreportes gateway, we encounter the church of **Sant Feliu (8)**, a blend of Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque styles, which legends say was built over 4th century catacombs.

Although our itinerary through the capital city of Girona draws to a close, we cannot forget to mention other interesting sights in the old quarter, such as the Plaça del Vi, the Dominican Gothic convent of Sant Domènec, the Casa Cartellà from the 18th century, or two typical streets, Carrer de les Ballesteries and Carrer dels Ciutadans, the latter flanked by stately old homes.

Archeological Museum

Santa Llúcia, 1, GIRONA.

Tel. 972 20 26 32.

Open: Monday to Saturday
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4
to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday and
holidays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Closed Monday.

Cathedral Treasure

Plaça de la Catedral. GIRONA.

Tel. 972 21 44 26.

Open. Tuesday to Sunday
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4
to 7 p.m. March to June;
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. July, August
and September; 10 a.m.
to 2 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.
October to February; Sunday
and holidays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Closed Monday.

Art Museum of Girona

Bishop's Palace.

Pujada de la Catedral,
12, GIRONA. Tel. 972 20 95 36.

Open: summer from Tuesday
to Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.;
Sunday and holidays 10 a.m.
to 2 p.m., closed Monday;
winter from Tuesday
to Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.;
Sunday and holidays 10 a.m.
to 2 p.m. Closed Monday.

Centre Bonastruc ça Porta

San Llorenç

Tel. 972 21 67 61.

Open: 10.00 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sundays and holidays from
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; summer from
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday
and holidays from 10 a.m. to
3 p.m.





Map of Girona

- 1 Cathedral
- 2 Jewish Quarter
- 3 City Museum
- 4 Arab Baths
- 5 Archeological Museum
- 6 Old city walls
- 7 Church of Sant Nicolau
- 8 Church of Sant Feliu



Art Museum

Conventional Signs

-  Tourist Information
-  Post Office
-  Hospital
-  Parking
-  Police Station
-  Railway Station
-  Bus Station

Other Places of Interest



Portal of the Monastery of Santa Maria. Ripoll

The Costa Brava has many other attractive places to visit inland. Meriting our attention are the following:

Olot: Olot is a city of special interest architecturally, as well as for its cultural, commercial and entertainment facilities. It is located within the Nature Park of the Volcanic Area of the Garrotxa. Among the chief monuments, we encounter the parish church of Sant Esteve, the cloister of El Carme and the Casa Solà-Morales, restored by the Modernist architect Domènech i Montaner.

Ripoll: Its singular monuments in the Romanesque style have converted this city into one of the greatest tourist attractions on the Costa Brava. Sights of major interest are the monastery of Santa Maria, the best example of an 11th century church, the parish church of Sant Pere de Ripoll, and the Modernist buildings of Can Codina, Can Dou and Casa Bonada.

Sant Joan de les Abadesses: This town is also included on the Romanesque route. Noteworthy are the monastery of Sant Joan de les Abadesses, the Pont Vell, the widest medieval bridge in Spain, and the Romanesque temple of Santa Magdalena de Parella.





*Bridge.
Sant Joan de les Abadesses*

Diverse Activities

Sports Activities

The diversity of the landscape and the climate on the coast are conducive to all kinds of recreational sports.

Skiing

There are five ski resorts in the Girona Pyrenees:

La Molina Tel. 972 89 20 31

Vall de Núria Tel. 972 73 20 20

Vallter 2000 Tel. 972 13 60 57

Masella Tel. 972 89 01 06

Guils Fontanera Tel. 972 88 00 16

Water Sports

The Costa Brava offers water sports enthusiasts an excellent infrastructure. In addition to the 200 kilometers of coastline, there are also inland

Vall de Núria





*Underwater scenery.
Medes Islands*

lakes and reservoirs, such as the Banyoles lake.

Scuba diving

Scuba diving and snorkeling are very popular on the Costa Brava. A privileged area can be found in the Medes Islands, opposite L'Estartit, with a rich sea bed. In this area, there are numerous scuba diving centers that provide housing, infrastructure, instruction, and equipment for rent.

For more information contact:
Associació de Centres Turístics
Subaquàtics Costa Brava.
Passeig Maritim, 47,
L'ESTARTIT. Tel. 972 77 13 07.

Pleasure Harbors

Some of the 17 marinas on the Costa Brava are listed below:

Blanes Tel. 972 33 05 52

L'Escala. Tel. 972 77 00 16

Empuriabrava

Tel. 972 45 12 39

L'Estartit Tel. 972 75 14 02

Palamós Tel. 972 31 43 24

Platja d'Aro. Tel 972 82 89 29

Portbou Tel. 972 39 03 50

Sant Feliu de Guíxols

Tel. 972 32 17 00

Santa Margarida

Tel. 972 25 77 00

Golf



Golf

The quality, diversity and organization of the courses are the main features of the golf courses on the Costa Brava. Some are listed below:

Club de Golf Costa Brava

Tel. 972 83 70 55

Club de Golf d'Aro

Tel. 972 82 69 00

Club de Golf de Girona

Tel. 972 17 16 41

Club de Golf de Pals

Tel. 972 63 60 06

Empordà Club de Golf

Tel. 972 76 04 50

L'Àngel de Lloret Club de Golf

Tel. 972 36 85 33

Peralada Club de Golf

Tel. 972 53 82 87

PGA Golf de Catalunya

Tel. 972 36 85 33

Torremirona Golf Club

Tel. 972 55 37 37

Hunting and Fishing

For licenses and permits, contact: Territorial Section for the Natural Resources of Girona, Sant Francesc, 29, 3^a.
Tel. 972 21 24 00.

■ **Waterparks**

Aqua Brava

Carretera de Cadaquès.

ROSES. Tel. 972 25 43 44.

Open: June to mid-September.

Daily 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Aquadiver

Carretera de Circunvalación.

PLATJA D'ARO.

Tel. 972 81 87 32.

Open: June to mid-September.

Daily 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Water World

Carretera de Vidreres, km. 1.2

LLORET DE MAR.

Tel. 972 36 86 13.

Open: May 15th

to September 30th. Hours

vary according to season.

Windsurfing at bay of Roses





■ Nature Parks and Botanical Gardens

Nature Parks

For information regarding rules or recommendations for visiting the parks, contact the information center at each park:

Nature Park Aiguamolls de l'Empordà

El Cortalet, Carretera Sant Pere Pescador. Castelló d'Empúries.
Tel. 972 45 42 22

Nature Park of the Volcanic Area of the Garrotxa:

Avenida Santa Coloma. Olot.
Tel. 972 26 82 00

Nature Park of Montseny:
Arbúcies. Tel. 972 82 69 00

Protected Nature Reserve Sierra de la Albera: Espolla.
Tel. 972 54 50 79

Nature Park Cap de Creus:
Tel. 972 19 31 91

Nature Park Illes Medes:
Torroella de Montgri.
Tel. 972 75 11 03

Botanical Gardens

There are four botanical gardens on the Costa Brava located by the sea, considered among the best in Europe.

Beech tree forest





Mar i Mutra Botanical Garden. Blanes

Mar i Mutra Botanical Garden

Boasts 4,000 species from five continents, some threatened with extinction.

Passeig Carles Faust. BLANES.
Tel. 972 33 08 26. Open all year round. April to October 31st from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; November 1st to March 31st Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed December 25th, January 1st and January 6th.

Pinya de Rossa Botanical Garden

Tropical plants exhibited. More than 7,000 varieties.

BLANES. Tel. 972 33 04 68. Open all year round. From March through October 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; November through February 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cap Roig Botanical Garden
Typical Mediterranean flora. Castell Cap Roig. CALELLA DE PALA FRUGELL.

Tel. 972 61 45 82. Open all year round. Summer 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; winter 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Santa Clotilde Gardens
LLORET DE MAR.

Tel. 972 36 35. Open: summer 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Entertainment and Events

Municipal Theater of Girona.

Plaça del Vi, 1. GIRONA.
Tel. 972 41 90 19

Music Festivals:

International Festival of Music

Castell de Peralada. Season from mid-June to end of August. Casino Castell de Peralada. Carrer Sant Joan. PERALADA Tel. 972 53 81 25

International Festival of Music

Torroella de Montgrí. Codina, 28 1°. TORROELLA DE MONTGRÍ. Tel. 972 76 06 05

Lively Spots

The Costa Brava is characterized by its lively nightlife, especially during the summer months. Though there are discotheques, bars and pubs scattered all along the coast, Lloret de Mar, Platja d'Aro, Roses, Empuriabrava, L'Estartit and Sant Antoni de Calonge are the most popular spots.

Casinos

The Costa Brava is the only area in Spain which has two casinos located less than 100 kilometers apart.

Lloret de Mar Casino

Located in the center of the town, this modern building

Castle-Casino in Peralada





Castellfollit de la Roca

boasts a restaurant, nightclub, and free parking for customers. Autopista Barcelona-La Jonquera, exit 9. Carrer Dels Esports, 1. LLORET DE MAR. Tel. 972 36 65 12. Open: summer from Sunday to

Thursday 5 p.m. to 4:30 a.m.; Friday, Saturday and the evening before holidays 5 p.m. to 5 a.m.; winter from Sunday to Thursday 5 p.m. to 4 a.m.; Friday, Saturday and the evening before holidays 5 p.m. to 4:30 a.m.

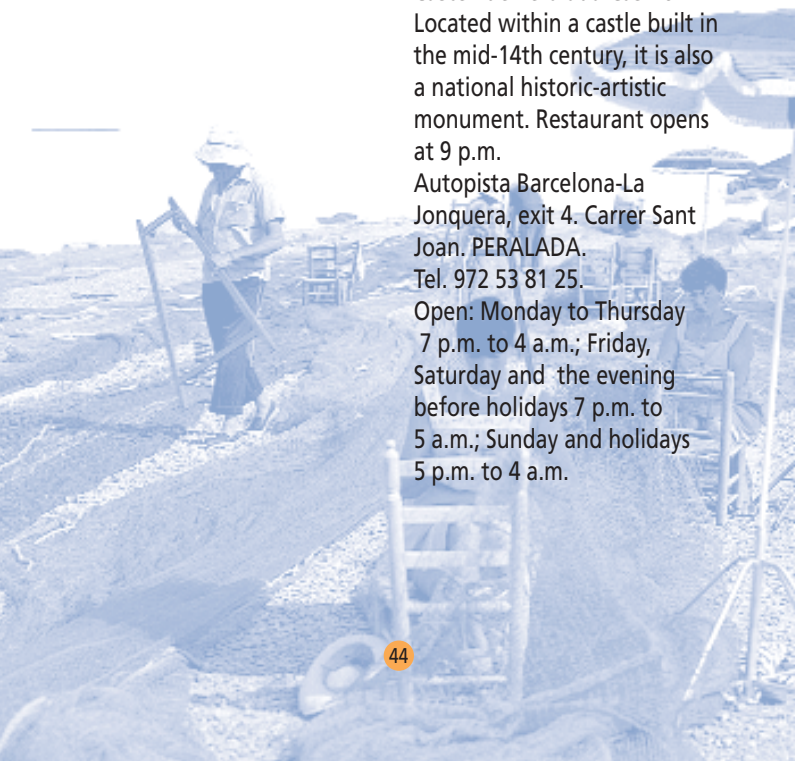
Castell de Peralada Casino

Located within a castle built in the mid-14th century, it is also a national historic-artistic monument. Restaurant opens at 9 p.m.

Autopista Barcelona-La Jonquera, exit 4. Carrer Sant Joan. PERALADA.

Tel. 972 53 81 25.

Open: Monday to Thursday 7 p.m. to 4 a.m.; Friday, Saturday and the evening before holidays 7 p.m. to 5 a.m.; Sunday and holidays 5 p.m. to 4 a.m.



■ Festivals and Celebrations

Carnival: February, date varies. Although this celebration takes place throughout the entire area, the most famous ones are held in Platja d'Aro, Palamós and Sant Feliu de Guíxols.

Holy Week: March/April, date varies. Commemorated with popular processions in almost every town. The Dança de la Mort (Dance of Death) in Verges and the staging of de "Via Crucis" in Sant Hilari Sacalm are noteworthy.

Festival Sant Jordi: April 23rd. Typical celebration in Catalonia where gifts of books and roses are exchanged.

Festival of the Lana y Casament a Pagès: Ripoll. First half of May. Traditional country wedding celebration and shearing of sheep.

Festival of Sant Joan: eve of June 23rd to the 24th.

Summer solstice is celebrated all over Catalonia with bonfires and fireworks.

Enramades: Arbúcies, the Sunday after Corpus Christi. Carpets of flowers with massive popular participation.

Havaneres: Calella de Palafrugell in July. Festival linked to Indian Creole music.

Fireworks Contest: Blanes. Second half of June. Enjoys international prestige and considered one of the most important in the world.

La Diada: September 11th. National Festival of Catalonia with popular and official acts.

Caravan of Antique Cars: Girona-Costa Brava in September. For four days, numerous antique cars parade through the streets of Girona in a procession of color and history.

Catalonia-Costa Brava Rally: Girona-Costa Brava in April. Counts towards the world championships.

Cavallets dance. Olot



■ Shopping and Handicrafts

All along the coast, visitors can find both large super-stores and small shops where local handicrafts and all types of souvenirs can be purchased.

Salvador Dalí's birthplace of Figueras offers art lovers reproductions of his chief works and all types of objects related to the artist.

Throughout the coast as well as inland, and depending on the day of the week, outdoor markets are held where all kinds of products can be bought at good prices.

Three towns are particularly well-known as commercial centers devoted to the sale of



Busy street. La Bisbal

handcrafted products: La Bisbal d'Empordà, Quart and Breda.

From among the gastronomic specialties, we suggest purchasing the wonderful cold cuts at the market in Olot or the tasty anchovies in L'Escala. With regards to wines from l'Empordà-Costa Brava, the red, rosé, white and sweet wines can please even the most refined palates.



■ Cuisine

The Costa Brava, due to its location and climate, has a wide variety of fine produce that grows from the high mountains to the plains and from the farmlands to the sea. In all of Catalonia, the art of good eating plays an important role. Along with the typical dishes, we must also add the seasonal ones with ingredients only available during a specific time of year.

Among the chief dishes of this Mediterranean cuisine, we have Catalan-style broad beans and peas, *esqueixada* (salted cod salad), *escalivada*

(salad of cold baked eggplant, onions and green peppers), *escudella* (Catalan-style soup), “*mar y montaña*” (literally, sea and mountain; chicken or rabbit with seafood) a variety of rice dishes, cold cuts and *pà amb tomàquet* (toasted bread rubbed with garlic, tomato and olive oil), and a long list of exceptional meats, fish and seafood (sea bass, gilt-head bream, red mullet, shrimp) prepared to the chef's taste.

For dessert, we recommend the excellent fresh fruit in season: strawberries, peaches, melons, watermelons, oranges, etc. and in summer, the delicious ice-cream and sherbet.

Bread with fresh tomato and ham



USEFUL INFORMATION

International
telephone code: 34

TOURIST INFORMATION **TURESPAÑA 901 300 600**

Direcció General de Turisme
(Tourist Office Headquarters)
Paseo de Gracia, 105. 08008
Barcelona. ☎ 93 484 95 00,
fax 93 484 95 99.

Patronat de Turisme.
(Tourism Board).
Pujada de San Martin, 5.
☎ 972 20 84 01,
fax 972 22 15 70.

Tourist Information Offices:
Banyoles: Passeig Industria, 25.
☎ 972 57 55 73.
La Bisbal d'Empordà: Aigüeta, 17.
☎ 972 64 25 93.
Blanes: Plaça de Catalunya.
☎ 972 33 03 48.
Cadaqués: Cotxe 2-A.
☎ 972 25 83 15.
Castelló d'Empúries: Puigmal, 1
(Empuriabrava). ☎ 972 45 08 02.
L'Escala: Plaça de les Escoles, 1.
☎ 972 77 06 03.
L'Estartit: Passeig Marítim.
☎ 972 75 19 10.
Girona: Rambla Llibertat, 1.
☎ 972 22 65 75 .
Figueres: Plaça del Sol.
☎ 972 50 31 55.
Llafranc: Roger de Llúria.
☎ 972 30 50 08.
Llançà: Avenida Europa, 37.
☎ 972 38 08 55.
Lloret de Mar: Plaça de la Vila, 1.
☎ 972 36 47 35.
Palafrugell: Plaça de L'Església.
☎ 972 61 18 45.
Palamós: Passeig del Mar.

☎ 972 60 05 50.
Pals: Aniceta Figueres, 6.
☎ 972 66 78 57.
Platja d'Aro: Cinto Verdaguer, 4.
☎ 972 81 71 79.
El Port de la Selva: Mar, 1.
☎ 972 38 70 25.
Portbou: Passeig Lluís Companys.
☎ 972 12 51 61.
Roses: Avenida de Rhode, 101.
☎ 972 25 73 31.
Sant Feliu de Guíxols: Plaça
Monestir, 54. ☎ 972 82 00 51.
Torroella de Montgrí: Avenida Lluís
Companys, 51.
☎ 972 75 83 00.
Tossa de Mar: Avenida Pelegrí, 25
Edificio Terminal.
☎ 972 34 01 08.

TRANSPORTATION

Girona Airport:
☎ 972 18 66 00.
IBERIA: Plaça Marqués de Camps, 8.
☎ 972 20 58 00
RENFE: Plaça de l'Estació.
☎ 972 20 70 93
Buses: Plaça de Espanya.
☎ 972 21 23 19
Traffic Information:
Highway Information
☎ 900 123 505
Traffic Civil Guard
☎ 972 20 13 81

POSTAL SERVICES

Post Office and Telegrams:
Avenida Ramón Folch, 1.
☎ 972 22 21 11.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Red Cross: ☎ 972 22 22 22
Medical Emergencies: ☎ 061
National Police: ☎ 091
Municipal Police: ☎ 092
Highway Information:
☎ 900 123 505
Citizen Information: ☎ 010

PARADORS

Central Reservation Office:

Calle Requena, 3. Madrid 28013

☎ 91 516 66 66

fax 91 516 66 57

Parador de Aiguablava

Platja d'Aiguablava. Begur

☎ 972 62 21 62

Fax 972 62 21 66

EMBASSIES IN MADRID

Canada. Nuñez de Balboa, 35

☎ 91 431 43 00

Fax 91 431 23 67

Great Britain. Fernando El

Santo, 16. ☎ 91 319 02 00

Fax 91 308 10 33

Japan. Calle Serrano, 109

☎ 91 590 76 00

Fax 91 590 13 21

Russia. Velazquez, 155

☎ 91 562 22 64

Fax 91 562 97 12

United States. Serrano, 75

☎ 91 587 22 00

Fax 91 587 23 03

SPANISH TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICES ABROAD

Canada. Toronto

Tourist Office of Spain

2 Bloor Street West,

Suite 3402. TORONTO,

Ontario M4W3E2

☎ 1416 961 31 31

Fax 1416 961 19 92

E-mail: toronto@tourspain.es

Great Britain. London

Spanish Tourist Office

22-23 Manchester Square

LONDON W1M5AP

☎ 44207 486 80 77

Fax 44207 486 80 34

E-mail: londres@tourspain.es

Japan. Tokyo

Tourist Office of Spain

Daini Toranomom Denki Bldg. 4F

3-1-10 Toranomom

Minato-Ku. TOKYO - 105

☎ 813 343 26141-42

Fax 813 343 26144

E-mail: tokiyo@tourspain.es

Russia Moscow

Spanish Tourist Office

Tverskaya-16/2 Business Center

"Galeria Aktor" 6° floor

MOSCOW 103009

☎ 7095 9358399

Fax 7095 9358396

E-mail: moscu@tourspain.es

Singapore Singapore

Spanish Tourist Office

541 Orchard Road. Liat Tower 09-04

238881 SINGAPORE

☎ 657 373008

Fax 657 373173

E-mail: singapore@tourspain.es

United States of America

Los Angeles

Tourist Office of Spain

8383 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 960

BEVERLY HILLS, California 90211

☎ 1213 658 7188 & 6587192

Fax 1213 658 1061

E-mail: losangeles@tourspain.es

Chicago. Tourist Office of Spain

Water Tower Place, Suite 915 East

845 North Michigan Avenue

CHICAGO, Illinois 60611

☎ 1312 642 1992

Fax 1312 642 9817

E-mail: chicago@tourspain.es

Miami. Tourist Office of Spain

1221 Brickell Avenue

MIAMI, Florida 33131

☎ 1305 358 1992

Fax 1305 358 8223

E-mail: miami@tourspain.es

New York. Tourist Office of Spain

666 Fifth Avenue, 35th

New York, New York 10103

☎ 1212 265 8822

Fax 1212 265 8864

E-mail: nyork@tourspain.es

Text:

Sebastiá Barrufet Rialp

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J. West

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