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Mercer Hotel, Barcelona - review

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Although this hotel is set in the heart of Barcelona, the serene ambience, sophisticated décor and blissful rooftop will make you forget you're in the [city](#) - until you step outside to explore.

Where is it?

In the [heart](#) of the Gothic Quarter: a stone's throw from the Cathedral, a 10 minute walk from the beach, and in stumbling distance of some of the best bars and eateries of El Born. Mercer Hotel couldn't be in a more prime position for exploring, but tucked down a sleepy side-street (you'll need Google Maps to find it!) you're safely off the tourist track.

Style

Oldy worldy architecture meets on-the-money appeal. The hotel is built on top of some of the city's first walls. Remnants of the ancient roman city are visible throughout the lobby and restaurant, as are medieval arches and original XII century paintings. Plush furnishings bring it right up to date though, and once inside your [room](#), there's nothing old about it. This is a slick and modern city hideaway.

Facilities



The ultimate sun trap - the wood-clad roof terrace (Mercer Barcelona)

The serene wood-clad rooftop is a blissful sun trap and the ultimate city oasis – up here with a glass of cava and a hefty dose of Vitamin D and you'd quickly forget you're in a city, if it wasn't for the views. The sun beds and loungers provide the perfect base for an afternoon of escapism and the pool, though really only big enough to dip your toes in, certainly adds to the environment...

Extra-curricular

You're right in the heart of Barcelona here, so getting out and exploring is a no-brainer. Plus, you've got the bonus of being close enough to the action to come back for naps and shoe changes! Stroll down to the beach and around the marina; squeeze into El Xampanyet, for a couple of glasses of €2 cava with the locals; watch the skaters master tricks at MACBA, and explore the boutiques of El Raval and El Born. For Gaudi's finest work, don't miss Casa Batlló – his whimsical, wonderful building in the Eixample district.



Food and drink

If you're into fancy dining, dinner at the hotel's restaurant, Mercer Restaurant, is a must-do and quite the experience for the tastebuds! Its 13-course tasting menu will set you back €63 (without drinks), which isn't too bad at all. Expect everything from fried oysters to sea urchins, mushroom and cod macaroons and more. Come morning, breakfast is extensive. Pick from the fresh pastries and cakes and the pastries on the buffet, and order a Spanish omelette a la carte.



Which room?

28 bedrooms are split across five categories, ranging from Superior to Suite. Though the most basic of the bunch, the Superior rooms are perfectly plush; they're elegant and cosy with views overlooking the vertical garden or Lledó Street, oak floors and mammoth king size beds. For a little more indulgence, the Deluxe rooms are slightly more spacious, with the open plan bathrooms and giant bath tubs perfect for sharing.



Best for

Couples; don't let the sweetie jars in the lobby fool you, Mercer Hotel is definitely set up for adults with its serene ambience, sophisticated decor, and hear-a-pin-drop restaurant. It's for those who want to slick, stylist deco, want to be well located, and want to pay that bit more for luxury service.



When should you go

The best thing about Barcelona is it's brilliant for a weekend break all year round. From spring through to autumn, you're pretty much guaranteed sunshine and temperatures that hover around 20 degrees.