

# W Hotel Barcelona

## April 2012

This is one of the shortest reports I have written for some time as certain destinations just sell themselves. Barcelona, I believe is one of them and is a must see European city.



Flying from most airports is not a problem and if you book early enough, the low cost airlines will offer tremendous value. I flew on a 0830 Ryanair flight from Stansted and was enjoying a paella lunch overlooking the beach by one o'clock. For Essex clients, this has been made even more accessible with the introduction of flights from Southend airport and, with time being at a premium on a short break, the ease at which you can travel through this regional airport is a great advantage.

Barcelona is famous for Gaudi, the architect who designed La Sagrada Familia, the Park Guell, Casa Batllo and La Pedrera. Pre-middle earth is the only way I can describe the unique and truly fantastic buildings



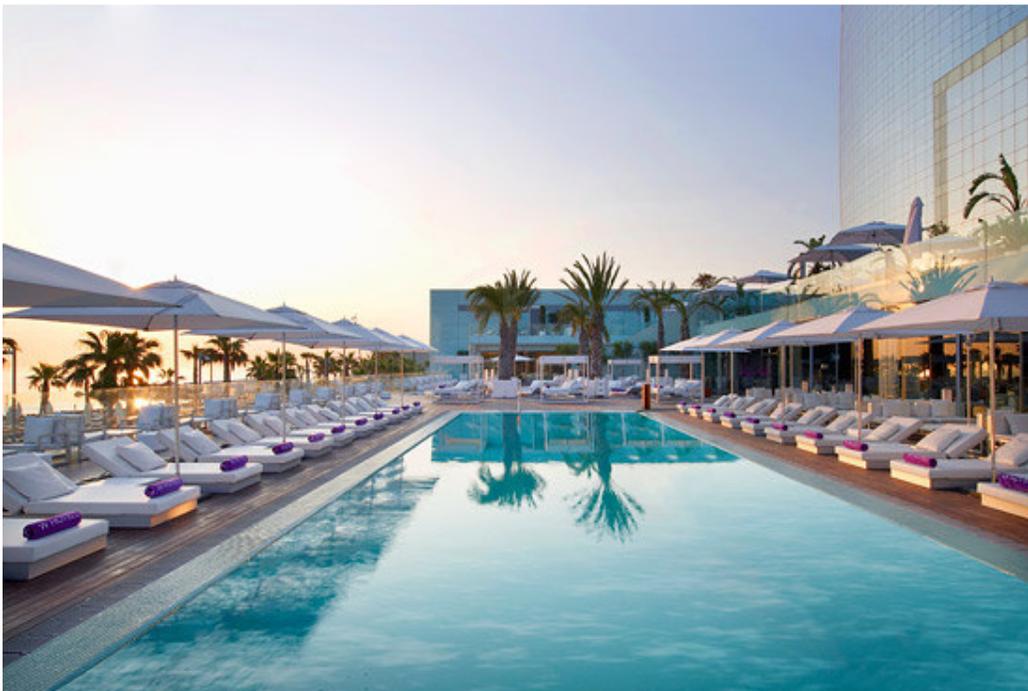
I thought the hop-on-hop-off open top bus tour was the best way of getting around, and on three different routes you can see the 1992 Olympic Village and Stadium, art galleries dedicated to Miro and Picasso, History and Maritime museums, Camp Nou where Barcelona FC play, the Gothic District, the amusement park at Tibidabo boasting magnificent views of the city and of course the shopping around the Placa de Catalunya and all the Gaudi Buildings. Finally, the bus will take you down to the port and the new Barcelona beach area which, as an experienced travel agent, set this city apart from many others in Europe.



This beach area is a great option and your accommodation choice I think, will be driven by how much time you have to spend. Book a traditional 2 night weekend break and you must stay in the heart of Barcelona, but go for longer, then staying at the beach area is a great option. Imagine going for 4/5 days and spending a day by the beach or pool in the sun and then having the fun of the city to enjoy in the evening. Alternatively, take a city tour during the day and then return to relax in the late afternoon sun. Staying on the coast or by the port will give you this option, as I was travelling for 4 days with my family, I chose to stay at the W Hotel located right on the beach.



Intrinsically, the W Hotel is a city hotel with really comfortable rooms, however, its location and pool area set it apart. The W Hotel is directly on the beach with a private beach club and also has a large funky pool deck area serving food and drinks all day. From here you can walk into town but perhaps the best thing to do is to budget for a few taxi rides. .



The W Hotel is also a very modern striking 26 storey hotel and the view from the higher rooms is incredible. We will work hard to get you one of these rooms but if it isn't possible then the Eclipse bar on the 22<sup>nd</sup> floor is a great venue for a pre-dinner cocktail.



I liked the hotel and would recommend it, however, if it is not to everyone's budget, I would recommend Barcelona and I can help with choosing other hotels in different locations.

Barcelona is an exciting and interesting city full of contemporary art and Catalan heritage. You will experience atmospheric narrow alleyways and wide waterfront promenades, modernist extravaganzas, medieval eccentricities, haute cuisine and cool nightlife: so where will you begin?

I hope that Westway Travel and I can be of any further help then call me on (01268) 735301 or email [sales@westwaytravel.co.uk](mailto:sales@westwaytravel.co.uk)

## Hot tip

Off the famous La Rambla street is the Mercat de La Boqueria, a real feast for the senses. Fresh fruit, fish and meat are on display and you will wish you lived closer. However, you can eat at one of the Tapas bars and, I would go for breakfast or lunch and try sausage and beans. Want to know more then give me a call.

