

We are effervescent

Sitges is vibrant and thrills all who visit.
Yesterday, today and tomorrow.
Modernista and modern. That is who we are.
And we love it.



CONTENTS

1. Introduction

2. Calendar/Events

3. Sitges Museums

4. Palau de Maricel (Maricel Palace)

5. Art galleries

6. Sitges – Festival Internacional de Cinema Fantàstic de Catalunya (Sitges International Fantastic Film Festival of Catalonia)

7. Centre d'Interpretació de la Malvasia de Sitges (CIM – Malvasia de Sitges Interpretation Centre)

8. Confraria de Pescadors 'Peix de Sitges' (Fishermen's Guild)

9. Music festivals

10. Cultural festivals

11. Festivals and traditions

12. Experiences

Always open

Sitges is Modernisme. And modernity. Legacy, present and future. With museums that remind us how Santiago Rusiñol and Sitges blazed a trail, with unique palaces that bring together sea and sky, and art galleries that point towards new paths and possibilities. And within this blend of tradition and innovation, there is also architecture, music and cinema. A lot of cinema. Fantastic cinema. Today and tomorrow. Sitges.

Yes, because Sitges is an effervescent destination. Things are always happening and the events calendar is vibrant at any time of year. Sitges is always a great choice, as you will always find a festival or tradition, a new or permanent exhibition, a concert (or several), or cultural routes to wander along and stir the senses and emotions. Sitges is always open. And in great shape.

2. CALENDAR/EVENTS

ART & CULTURE

FEBRUARY



CARNAVAL (CARNIVAL)

Declared a Fiesta de Interés Turístico Nacional
(Festival of National Tourist Interest)

MARCH



RALLY INTERNACIONAL DE COTXES D'ÈPOCA BARCELONA-SITGES (BARCELONA-SITGES INTERNATIONAL VINTAGE CAR RALLY)

Declared a Fiesta de Interés Turístico Nacional
(Festival of National Tourist Interest) in 1980



FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE PATCHWORK (INTERNATIONAL PATCHWORK FESTIVAL)

Sitges has hosted the International
Patchwork Festival since 2005



FESTIVAL JAZZ ANTIC SITGES (SITGES ANTIQUE JAZZ FESTIVAL)

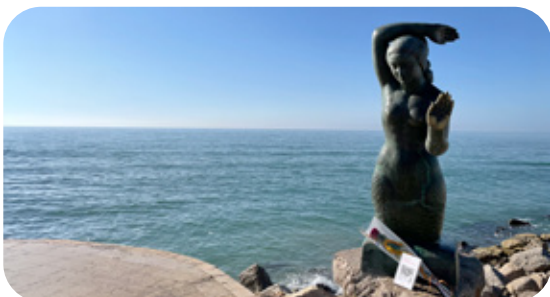
When New Orleans jazz
takes over the streets of Sitges



SETMANA SANTA (HOLY WEEK)

Have you ever visited Sitges
during Setmana Santa (Holy Week)?

APRIL



SANT JORDI: (ST GEORGE'S DAY:) BOOK AND ROSE FESTIVAL

A dragon, a rose and a book

JUNE

ART & CULTURE



FESTA DE CORPUS (CORPUS CHRISTI FESTIVAL)

Declared a Heritage Festival
of National Interest in 2023



SITGES PRIDE

A celebration
beyond pride

JULY



MARE DE DÉU DEL CARME (OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL)

A festival in honour of the patron saint
of fishermen



FESTIVAL JARDINS TERRAMAR (TERRAMAR GARDENS FESTIVAL)

A unique experience of leisure,
culture and gastronomy.

AUGUST



MARE DE DÉU DEL VINYET (OUR LADY OF VINYET)

5th August is the day to
venerate the most
beloved Virgin in Sitges



FESTA MAJOR DE SANT BARTOMEU (SAINT BARTHOLOMEW TOWN FESTIVAL)

Declared a Heritage Festival
of National Interest in 2016

SEPTEMBER

ART & CULTURE



SITGES QUEER FEST

The queer festival par excellence



FESTA MAJOR DE SANTA TECLA (SANTA TECLA TOWN FESTIVAL)

Declared a Heritage Festival
of National Interest in 2016

OCTOBER



FESTA DE LA VEREMA I MOSTRA DE VINS (GRAPE HARVEST FESTIVAL AND WINE SHOW)

A celebration with a taste
of tradition, scenery and fine wine!



SITGES - FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE CINEMA FANTÀSTIC DE CATALUNYA (SITGES INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL OF CATALONIA)

In short: the best fantasy film festival

ENDIMARIS SITGES (LGBTIQ+ FILM FEST)

An LGBTIQ+ film festival that aims to give
the community visibility through cinema



Irrepressible art with a name of its own

Sitges holds many surprises. One of them is its museums, extraordinary inside and out, many of them located in buildings in the old town that hide a unique legacy from the Modernisme and Noucentisme periods, with renowned names such as Picasso and El Greco, and a key figure without whom it is impossible to understand the cultural effervescence of Sitges: Santiago Rusiñol. Contemporary art also has its place thanks to the activism of Peter Stämpfli.



CAU FERRAT

Welcome to the temple of Modernisme

[VISIT THE CAU FERRAT MUSEUM WEBSITE](#)

Entering the Cau Ferrat, declared a Museum of National Interest by the Generalitat de Catalunya, is like entering the treasure chamber of Modernisme. What was once Santiago Rusiñol's home and studio is a celebration of art, housing works by **Rusiñol** and **Ramon Casas** (the leading exponents of Catalan and Spanish Modernisme), as well as **El Greco**, **Picasso**, **Zuloaga**, **Utrillo** or **Pichot**, among others.

[Shall we go in? Enjoy a virtual tour](#)

MARICEL MUSEUM

Art from every point of view

[VISIT THE MARICEL MUSEUM WEBSITE](#)

The Maricel Museum, also recognised as a Museum of National Interest by the Generalitat de Catalunya, is impressive both inside and out. Inside, because it brings together ten centuries of art, beginning with the Gothic art and antiques collection of Doctor Jesús Pérez Rosales and culminating in Modernista paintings and sculptures by artists such as Llimona, Sunyer, Jou, Rusiñol and Casas. And outside, because the museum is housed in a Noucentista-style building overlooking the sea, creating a unique experience as the Mediterranean light casts a blue tint across some of the works. The view from the Sala del Mirador, where three Noucentista sculptures by Joan Rebull stand against the backdrop of the Mediterranean, is simply unforgettable.



[Shall we go in? Enjoy a virtual tour](#)



MUSEU ROMÀNTIC CAN LLOPIS (CAN LLOPIS ROMANTIC MUSEUM)

Romanticism inside and out

[VISIT THE CAN LLOPIS ROMANTIC MUSEUM WEBSITE](#)

Temporarily closed

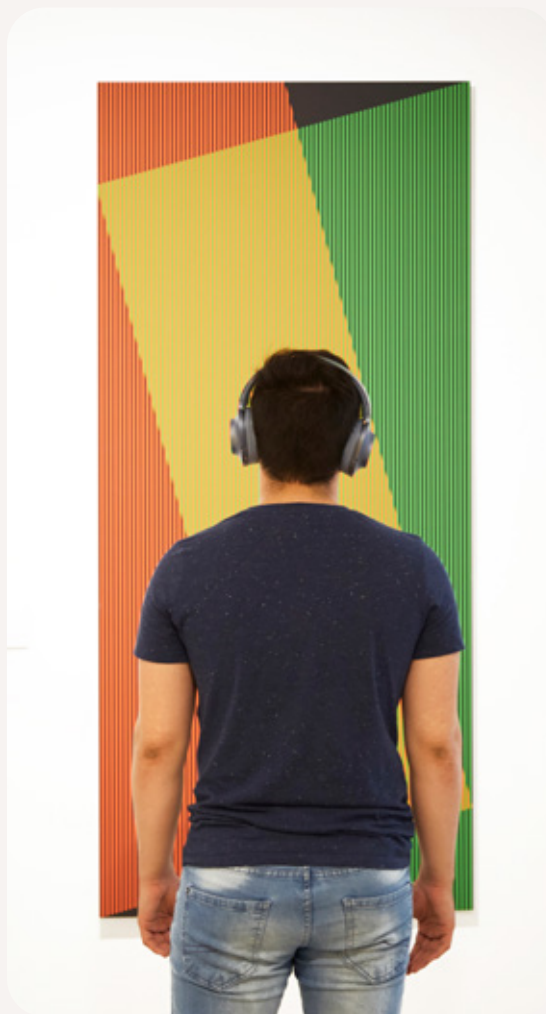
Housed in a building with a neoclassical façade, its interior and romantic garden live up to its name and make it well worth a visit (although it is currently closed for renovation). Converted into a museum in 1949, the first floor displays mural paintings with biblical scenes by the painter Pau Rigalt. The second floor houses one of the most important collections of dolls and toys in Europe, donated by Lola Anglada.

**FUNDACIÓ STÄMPFLI
(STÄMPFLI FOUNDATION)**

A contemporary art gem yet to be discovered

[VISIT THE FUNDACIÓ STÄMPFLI WEBSITE](#)

Yes, Sitges is Modernisme. It is Santiago Rusiñol and the Cau Ferrat Museum. But Sitges is also contemporary art — and the Fundació Stämpfli. Still unknown to many visitors, this museum is a hidden gem that houses works by some of the most important artists of narrative figuration, pop art and kinetic art, such as Eduardo Arroyo, Gérard Fromanger, Jacques Villeglé and Jacques Monory, among others. Among the paintings on display are some by Peter Stämpfli, a Swiss artist who discovered Sitges through his wife, the Catalan Anna Maria. And that discovery changed his life, while also transforming the cultural life of Sitges.



4. PALAU DE MARICEL (MARICEL PALACE)

ART & CULTURE

A palace with a view

[VISIT THE PALAU DE MARICEL WEBSITE](#)

Yes, Sitges has its own palace. And it is like something out of a fairytale: elegant on the outside and spectacular on the inside, with undulating roof terraces and a cloister offering panoramic views of the Mediterranean. And the name couldn't be more beautiful: Palau de Maricel. Located in the Racó de la Calma (Quiet Corner), in the heart of Sitges' old town, it is one of the most beautiful, emotive and photographed spots in the town.



Art spills out in Sitges

[SEE ALL GALLERIES](#)



Andy Warhol once said that art is what you let out into the world. And in Sitges, art finds many different ways (and forms) of expression thanks to a rich and diverse collection of galleries. With contemporary art and photography as some of the most common features, Sitges' art galleries share an energetic cultural scene, easily discovered on a walking route through the town. Along with the dynamism and easy access of Sitges' art galleries, there is another advantage: the opportunity to combine the excitement of art with the food and wine pleasures the town has to offer. Add to that pairing a unique microclimate where the sun always seems to make an appearance, and you have a plan that is both irresistible and wonderfully enjoyable.

6. SITGES – FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE CINEMA FANTÀSTIC DE CATALUNYA (SITGES INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL OF CATALONIA) ART & CULTURE

The best fantasy film festival in the world

[VISIT THE FESTIVAL WEBSITE](#)

📅 October — 📍 Hotel Melià and other locations

Founded in 1968 as the International Fantasy and Horror Film Week, the **Sitges – Festival Internacional de Cinema Fantàstic de Catalunya (Sitges International Fantastic Film Festival of Catalonia)** is the world's first fantasy film festival and one of the most renowned globally. It is an unmissable event for industry professionals and film fans alike, serving as a meeting point, showcase and platform for the latest trends in the genre, while consolidating its position as a global benchmark.

Beyond the screenings, the festival also offers a vibrant cultural programme including **themed exhibitions, book and comic book launches, concerts, children's activities and much more.**



7. CENTRE D'INTERPRETACIÓ DE LA MALVASIA DE SITGES (CIM - MALVASIA DE SITGES INTERPRETATION CENTRE)

ART & CULTURE

A legacy to be shared... and discovered

[VISIT THE CENTRE'S WEBSITE](#)

📍 Plaça de Joan Duran i Ferret



The **Centre d'Interpretació de la Malvasia de Sitges (CIM - Malvasia de Sitges Interpretation Centre)** is a unique heritage space in the heart of the town, highlighting the history and characteristics of this grape variety, one of the oldest documented in Catalonia. If you love wine and gastronomy, the CIM is a must on your visit to Sitges, where you can walk through one of the few urban vineyards in Catalonia. In a visual and interactive way, the CIM introduces you to the uniqueness of Malvasia de Sitges wine and its history, naturally guiding your nose and palate with tastings, alongside a wide range of cultural activities throughout the year. A real treat for the mind and palate.

8. CONFRARIA DE PESCADORS 'PEIX DE SITGES' (FISHERMEN'S GUILD)

ART & CULTURE

Fishing as an art form

[VISIT THE GUILD'S WEBSITE](#)

📍 Torre Capitania S/N Port de Sitges-Aiguadolç — ✉ confraria_sitges@yahoo.es



The Sitges Fishermen's Guild is one of the oldest in Catalonia and one of the few that still practises artisanal, sustainable fishing with high-quality produce. Today, very few fishermen's guilds continue to maintain this type of fishing. It is an ancient profession that is currently going through a structurally difficult period, putting its continuity at risk. Since mid-2019, the Guild has been granted permission by the Generalitat de Catalunya to carry out activities related to fishing tourism at its headquarters in the Port de Sitges-Aiguadolç.

Sitges sounds (very) good

Sitges sounds good. It is rhythmic. And it has flow. This is why music festivals take root here and not only continue, but grow and expand. And we say they expand because music in Sitges doesn't know how to be cloistered, nor does it understand walls. Here, music needs to take to the streets, to be near the sea. Yes, here, music even parades at times in the form of an improvised rua (street parade) where joining in is a temptation...



FESTIVAL JARDINS DE TERRAMAR (TERRAMAR GARDENS FESTIVAL)

The best stage for the best concerts

[VISIT THE FESTIVAL WEBSITE](#)

 July-August —  Jardins de Terramar

The Festival Terramar CaixaBank (Terramar CaixaBank Festival) in Sitges is a unique leisure, cultural and gastronomic experience. An unbeatable combination of live music with a unique natural and heritage setting: the century-old Jardins de Terramar, opened in 1919 and featuring a romantic central pond surrounded by benches. This festival provides the soundtrack to Sitges during the months of July and August, with a line-up that mixes national and international artists. Singers such as Tom Jones and groups like The Beach Boys and Kool & The Gang have performed in the Jardins de Terramar, alongside leading figures like Joan Manuel Serrat, Hombres G and the flamenco dancer Sara Baras.

FESTIVAL DE JAZZ ANTIC DE SITGES (SITGES ANTIQUE JAZZ FESTIVAL)

A jazz festival that you can only find in Sitges

[VISIT THE FESTIVAL WEBSITE](#)

 (+34) 938 114 240

 April —  Various venues

Sitges has many rhythms. In April specifically, the cadence is set by jazz considered ‘antique’. It is one of the most important international festivals of this genre. And it is held here. And it is held in the street. And the town’s local associations and social clubs also join the party. The uniqueness of this festival is that it is very much focused on the jazz performed at the beginning of the 20th century: **New Orleans jazz** (1920s) and **jazz manouche** and **swing** (in the late 1930s). And the other distinguishing feature is the so-called Jazz Antic Sitges Parade, a musical rua (street parade) in which different musicians gather and improvise in a procession of trombones, clarinets and other instruments from the Plaça de l’Ajuntament to the Carrer de Jesús.



FESTIVAL DE GUITARRA (MEDITERRANEAN GUITAR FESTIVAL)

Mediterranean magic

[VISIT THE FESTIVAL WEBSITE](#)

 Fridays

 Prado Theatre and the Ermita de Sant Sebastià (Hermitage of Sant Sebastià)

Some combinations are simply destined to work beautifully. For example, bringing some of the world’s finest guitarists to Sitges and having them perform in the Hermitage of Sant Sebastià. The result, of course, is magical. The Mediterranean Guitar Festival takes place from April to October and, as its name suggests, is held across several towns along the Catalan Mediterranean coast, including Coma-ruga, Calafell, Lloret de Mar, Calella, L’Estàrit, Castelló d’Empúries, Llançà, Port de la Selva and Sitges. In the case of Sitges, and from April to October, the main stage is the Ermita de Sant Sebastià (Hermitage of Sant Sebastià), where there are performances every Friday.

CONCERTS DE MITJANIT (MIDNIGHT CONCERTS)

Music by the sea in the Port de Sitges-Aiguadolç

[VISIT THE PORT DE SITGES WEBSITE](#)

 June-July —  Port de Sitges-Aiguadolç



In June and July, the Port de Sitges-Aiguadolç hosts different free concerts every Saturday night. These concerts, which start shortly before midnight, have established themselves as one of the meeting points of summer nights, where people gather after dinner to dance with the sea as their backdrop. Heading over to the Port de Sitges-Aiguadolç is always a good plan. But if you come to Sitges in summer, between June and July, and spend Saturday with us, then heading over to this marina is a fantastic plan.

Culture with designation of origin

Culture is the heir of identity. Something that was already demonstrated in Sitges by another genius, Santiago Rusiñol, who spread the desire to organise cultural events and celebrations through his Festes Modernistes (Modernist Festivals). In Sitges, we have a very strong sense of identity. And we are very expansive, because we like to join together and share. Oh, and no centralism: culture doesn't want (or wants few) doors. That is why most cultural festivals take place in the street. They are ours. And yours.



**FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL
DE PATCHWORK (INTERNATIONAL
PATCHWORK FESTIVAL)**

Sitges, world Patchwork capital

[VISIT THE PATCHWORK WEBSITE](#)

 19-22nd March —  Passeig Marítim

Art and Sitges go very well together, as you know. That is why, when the town hosted the first edition of the International Patchwork Festival in 2005, it was clear that this relationship was here to stay. The fabrics and shapes of this textile art blend perfectly with the sea in the background and Sitges' open and multicoloured character.

As we said: a winning combination that is already a worldwide benchmark The festival, which is **free of charge** —with the exception of the exhibitions—, is held every March on the **Passeig de la Ribera**, with **three tents** housing **more than 100 exhibitors**. And it doesn't matter if you don't know how to sew! **If you like art, a visit to this festival is essential to discover guest artists from countries such as Korea, the United States, the United Kingdom and many others.**

SANT JORDI (SAINT GEORGE'S DAY)

Books and roses facing the Mediterranean

 23rd April Various locations

On 23rd April, the Catalan celebration of culture and love merges with the seaside beauty of Sitges, creating an unforgettable setting in which to find your perfect book and the most beautiful rose. And once found, the sea and spring will accompany you on that carefree walk we recommend along the Passeig Marítim. The festival of Sant Jordi in Sitges is mainly experienced on the Passeig de la Ribera, transformed into a vibrant book and rose market with the church and the beach as a backdrop.

**SITGESTIU
(SITGES SUMMER FESTIVAL)**

A cultural festival where everything is in motion

[VISIT THE SITGESTIU WEBSITE](#) July and August —  Various locations

The Museus de Sitges (Sitges Museums), such as the Museu del Cau Ferrat or the Palau de Maricel, to name just a few examples, open their doors even wider in summer. And they do so to host all kinds of cultural experiences that differ from those offered during the rest of the year. It is summer, and in Sitges everything comes alive. Culture does too, as demonstrated every year by the Sitgestiu Cultural (Sitges Cultural Summer) programme, which brings music, cinema and art to all kinds of spaces.

The future started yesterday: let's celebrate it!

In Sitges, we are optimists. We look to the future and we like it. But we like it because that outlook respects, defends and promotes the legacy built by everyone. Because the past explains the future and underpins it. That's why in Sitges we enjoy different festivals and traditions every year that remind us that the journey continues and that the path is made by walking. Celebrations that we love to share with those who come to visit us. It's more fun. It's more Sitges.



CORPUS CHRISTI

When the streets are turned into flower carpets

[VISIT THE SITGES CORPUS WEBSITE](#)

 June —  Various locations

Flowers and tradition. That is the essence of the Corpus de Sitges (Sitges Corpus Christi), which also marks the start of summer in the town and does so like almost everything else here: with joy shared between residents and visitors. If you are in Sitges, let yourself go.

The first documentary reference to the celebration of the Corpus de Sitges (Sitges Corpus Christi) is dated 1358. And as far back as the 19th century, residents were invited to decorate their balconies with flowers and adorn their façades with greenery. Then the streets were carpeted. And, truly, it is a unique spectacle in Catalonia and the Mediterranean. If you have the chance to come to Sitges in June and it coincides with Corpus Christi, you will see that this festival is special.

RALLY INTERNACIONAL DE COTXES D'ÈPOCA BARCELONA- SITGES (BARCELONA-SITGES INTERNATIONAL VINTAGE CAR RALLY)

A rally for the ages

[VISIT THE RALLY WEBSITE](#)  February-March

 (+34) 938 949 357

 foment@fomentdellitges.cat



The Rally Internacional de Cotxes d'Època Barcelona-Sitges (Barcelona-Sitges International Vintage Car Rally) **is the oldest vintage car rally in Southern Europe**, both for the number of years it has been held (since 1959) and for the vehicles that take part (registered between 1928 and 1938). It is a historic and festive event held annually since 1959 and was declared a Fiesta de Interés Turístico Nacional (Festival of National Tourist Interest) in 1980. The event brings together classic cars and motorcycles, most of them belonging to private collections.



FESTA MAJOR DE SANT BARTOMEU (SAINT BARTHOLOMEW TOWN FESTIVAL)

The festival of festivals...

[VISIT THE FESTA MAJOR WEBSITE](#)

 23rd and 24th August

 Various venues

If in the title we already mentioned that the Festa Major de Sitges (Sitges Town Festival), held at the end of August in honour of the town's patron saint, Sant Bartomeu, is the festival of festivals in Sitges... It's because the Festa Major de Sant Bartomeu (Saint Bartholomew Town Festival) is the big festival of Sitges. And when we say big, we mean biiiiiig! The Festa Major de Sitges (Sitges Town Festival) is also an event with medieval roots and a contemporary dynamic, enriched with traditions etched into the collective memory. It combines religious and folk events, music, dances, fireworks displays, pyrotechnics... with a strong sense of community.

FESTA MAJOR DE SANTA TECLA (SANTA TECLA TOWN FESTIVAL)

The ‘little’ town festival?

[VISIT THE FESTA MAJOR WEBSITE](#)

 22nd and 23rd September

 Various venues



The Festa Major Petita de Sitges (Sitges Little Town Festival) is anything but little, as children are the main stars of this festival in honour of Santa Tecla, which was declared a Festa Patrimonial d’Interès Nacional (Heritage Festival of National Interest) in 2016 by the Generalitat de Catalunya (Government of Catalonia). This distinction recognises its high cultural, traditional and symbolic value, particularly highlighting the prominent role of children in passing on the local festive heritage. The Festa Major de Santa Tecla (Santa Tecla Town Festival) has an unmissable event: the Matinal Infantil (Children’s Morning Procession), a festival dedicated to the youngest ones but where very big things happen and are paraded: the children go out with their own gegants (giants), capgrossos (big-heads) and bèsties de foc (fire beasts), which they make themselves with their families.

Our Carnival cannot be explained...

[VISIT THE SITGES CARNAVAL WEBSITE](#)

📅 February — 📍 Various locations

We can try, but it's very difficult, because the Carnaval de Sitges (Sitges Carnival) is so... we can't find the right adjective ;) We can tell you that the Carnaval de Sitges is one of the oldest carnivals in Europe and is classified and distinguished as a Fiesta de Interés Turístico Nacional (Festival of National Tourist Interest). And we can also share some illustrative figures: nearly 50 floats, 2,500 people in costume and over 300,000 spectators. Are you getting the picture?



Don't miss the rúas (parades) on Tuesday and Sunday.

If there are two events that define the Carnaval de Sitges (Sitges Carnival), they are, logically, the two rúas (yes, of course, in Sitges we parade twice, in addition to the children having their own parade). The names also provide clues: Rúa de la Disbauxa (Debauchery Parade) on Carnival Sunday, and Rúa de l'Extermini (Extermination Parade) on Tuesday.



The Carnaval Infantil de Sitges (Sitges Children's Carnival), another unmissable event.

The two adult parades, held on Sunday afternoon and Tuesday night, have their children's counterpart beforehand, at midday. The children who take part form part of the next generation that ensures the continuity of this tangible and intangible heritage of joy that is the Carnaval de Sitges (Sitges Carnival).

FESTA DE LA VEREMA I MOSTRA DE VINS (GRAPE HARVEST FESTIVAL AND WINE SHOW)

Autumn, wine and Sitges: an unbeatable pairing

[VISIT THE FOMENT WEBSITE](#)

 October —  Various venues

Every autumn, Sitges dresses up to celebrate one of its most emblematic and long-awaited events: the Festa de la Verema i Mostra de Vins (Grape Harvest Festival and Wine Show), a perfect combination of culture and gastronomy with winemaking roots. With over 60 years of history, the Festa de la Verema (Grape Harvest Festival) pays tribute to Sitges' winemaking past, particularly linked to Malvasia wine, a local variety and a symbol of Sitges' identity. Look out for events that are as traditional and immersive for Sitgetans as the grape-treading competition or the weighing of the Hereu and the Pubilla (traditionally elected representatives of local youth) in wine bottles.



SETMANA SANTA (HOLY WEEK)

Marking the step

 Late March/early April

 Various venues

Have you ever visited Sitges during Setmana Santa (Holy Week)?

In Sitges, a passion for culture, art and devotion go hand in hand in a celebration full of feeling and authenticity. The Benedicció dels Rams (Blessing of the Palms) is the starting signal. And the main event, the most solemn, is the traditional Processó del Divendres Sant (Good Friday Procession), which winds through the cobbled streets of the old town with the sea as a backdrop and whitewashed façades lit by candlelight, creating a unique atmosphere that will transport you back in time.

FESTA DE LA MARE DE DÉU DEL VINYET (FESTIVAL OF OUR LADY OF VINYET)

Sitges' emotional heritage

[VISIT THE VINYET SANCTUARY WEBSITE](#)

 5th August

 Santuari de la Verge del Vinyet (Sanctuary of Our Lady of Vinyet)



The 5th August marks the Festa de la Mare de Déu del Vinyet (Festival of Our Lady of Vinyet), whose sanctuary, declared Architectural Heritage, becomes a meeting point to venerate Sitges's most beloved Virgin. Masses in her honour, a small market and fireworks are part of the schedule for this day. You shouldn't miss it if you are in Sitges, as it is an emotional heritage shared by locals.



FESTA DE LA MARE DE DÉU DEL CARME (FESTIVAL OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL)

The sea as a religion

[VISIT THE WEBSITE](#)

 16th July —  confraria_sitges@yahoo.es

 Port de Sitges - Aiguadolç, Sitges

Every 16th July in Sitges, the boats go out in procession with the image of the Verge del Carme (Our Lady of Mount Carmel), the patron saint of sailors. It is one of the most popular traditions in Sitges. It is a procession that is both seen... and heard, because when the boats pass in the afternoon in front of the **Parish of Sant Bartomeu and Santa Tecla** and the **Sant Sebastià hermitage**, flowers are thrown into the water and shots with a historic aroma are fired into the air, the so-called '**morters**' (small mortars).

12. EXPERIENCES

ART & CULTURE

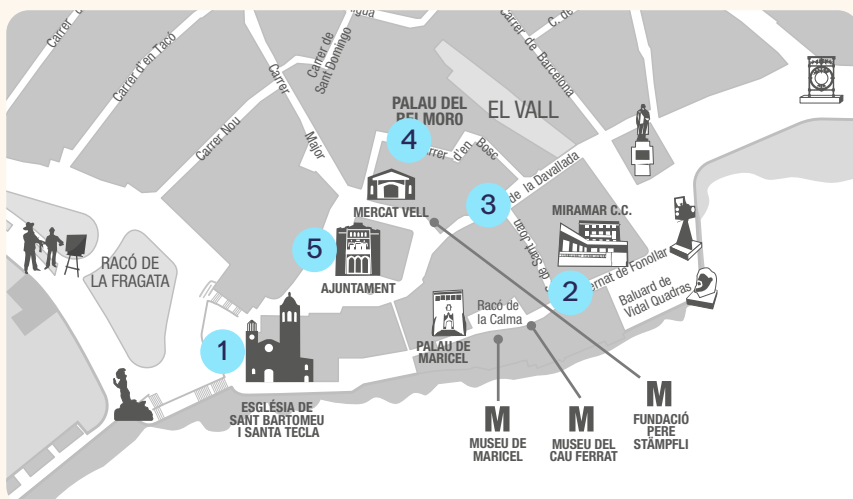
With your permission, we would like to share some experiences that have art and culture as their starting point and that we believe are, if not essential, then highly recommended. Personal and personalised experiences, experiences that awaken the senses and emotions, which are unique and can only be understood if you are in Sitges. Some depend on you and others you can come across or participate in depending on the time of year you visit. Let's see what you think ;)

ROUTE THROUGH THE OLD TOWN

Let yourself be guided by your senses

 Any day —  Various locations

Taking a stroll and losing yourself in Sitges' old town stimulates your emotions. A visit that shows that Sitges is a unique destination. Accompanied by the murmur of the sea, we suggest a tour of the town's history and its small cobbled streets framed on both sides by palaces and historical buildings from the Modernisme and Noucentisme periods. Go with the flow...



- 1 Plaça del Baluard
- 2 Carrer de Fonollar
- 3 Carrer de la Davallada
- 4 Carrer d'en Bosc
- 5 Plaça de l'Ajuntament (Town Hall Square)

CURSA DE LLITS DISFRESSATS (FANCY DRESS BED RACE)

Beds that come to life

[VISIT THE CASINO PRADO WEBSITE](#)

 Carnaval de Sitges

 Casino Prado Suburensense

One of the most fun and colourful experiences (which is saying something) of the Carnaval de Sitges is the Cursa de Llits Disfressats (Fancy Dress Bed Race). The name doesn't lie... it involves beds that sprout wheels, leave their rooms and join the carnival alongside their owners, family or friends on a route that starts at the emblematic Casino Prado and reaches the seafront promenade. A race where the prize... is seeing it! Up to 35 dressed-up beds participate in this peculiar carnival race.



BAIXADA DE LES ESCALES DE LES DANSES POPULARS (DESCENT OF THE STAIRS BY FOLK DANCERS)

An unmissable moment

[VISIT THE FESTA MAJOR WEBSITE](#)

 23rd August, Vigília

 La Fragata beach, Sitges

The Festa Major de Sitges, dedicated to the town's patron saint, Sant Bartomeu, is a unique experience shared by locals and visitors alike every year, following the spectacular Sitges firework display. If you thought the firework display was the highlight, wait until you see this procession of fire, music and dance...

MATINAL INFANTIL DE SANTA TECLA (SANTA TECLA CHILDREN'S MORNING PROCESSION)

A magical morning

[VISIT THE FESTA MAJOR WEBSITE](#)

 23rd September / 6.30 am to 9 am

 Various locations

The Diada de Santa Tecla (Saint Tecla's Day) is a date marked in red on the Sitges calendar. It is our patron saint's day, we are in the height of the Festa Major (Town Festival) and we start the day with high emotions: children take the leading role from early morning, grouped in 'colles' (groups), to parade with Sitges' own 'bestiari' (processional figures including 'gegants' or giants, fire beasts – the dragon and the eagle – and 'capgrossos' or big-heads) to the rhythm of folk dance choreographies such as 'Gitanes', 'Cintes' or 'Bastons'.

The Matinal de Santa Tecla (Santa Tecla Morning Procession) ends its route at La Fragata beach, a spectacular moment where the final dances are performed and a communal lunch is shared.



L'OU COM BALLA (THE DANCING EGG)

An impossible dance?

[VISIT THE CORPUS WEBSITE](#)

 For Corpus Christi (June)

 Palau de Maricel

An egg on a jet of water that does not fall to the ground. Instead, it dances, propelled by the water, in a setting as magical as the fountain at the entrance to the Palau de Maricel. Warning: it's hypnotic... we say that because you might find the morning has flown by before you even realise it...

CONCURS DE TREPITJADORS DE RAÏM (GRAPE TREADING CONTEST)

Footsteps that leave... wine!

[VISIT THE FOMENT WEBSITE](#)

 October —  Plaça de la Fragata

The Festa de la Verema de Sitges (Sitges Grape Harvest Festival), held in collaboration with Bodegas Torres, is another unmissable date on our calendar. And if we had to choose a specific experience within this festival, we would choose the Concurs de Trepitjadors de Raïm (Grape Treading Contest), which takes place at the foot of the steps leading to the Parish Church of Sant Bartomeu. Since the first edition was held in 1979, it has become a benchmark event, in which different teams compete in speed, style and skill to press the grapes placed in open barrels with their feet.



CARAMELLES (TRADITIONAL EASTER SONGS)

A legacy that continues out loud

[VISIT THE CASINO PRADO WEBSITE](#)

[VISIT THE CARAMELLES SITGETANES WEBSITE](#)

[VISIT THE EL RETIRO WEBSITE](#)

 Holy Saturday and Easter Monday

 Various locations

The 'caramelles' are traditional popular songs in Catalonia that are usually performed during Setmana Santa (Holy Week). In Sitges, this tradition is especially alive and well, with three different groups of 'caramellaires' (singers) bringing rhythm and melody to the streets of Sitges on Holy Saturday and Easter Monday. If you are here during those days, your ears will guide you... you might come across them in any bar or in front of a house.

ROUTE THROUGH THE HOUSES OF 'THE AMERICANOS'

The modern legacy of the 'Americanos'

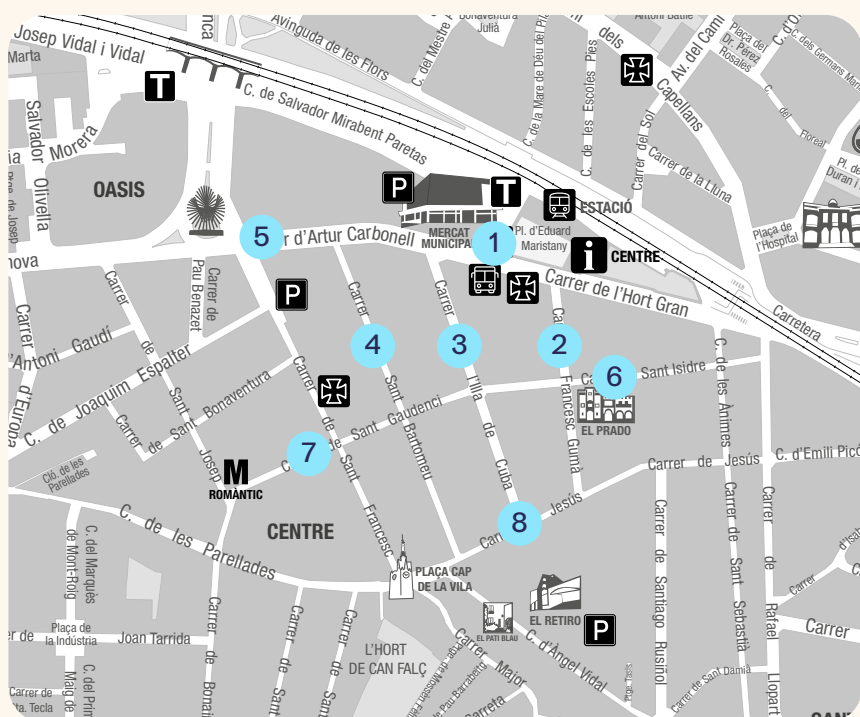
[VISIT THE AGISITGES WEBSITE](#)

 Any day

 Various locations



The cultural and social brand that is Sitges today owes much to a significant group of local entrepreneurs who went to seek their fortune in the Americas at the end of the 18th century to boost businesses in the former Spanish colonies. These so-called 'Americanos' (or 'Indianos', as we also call them here) made their fortune and returned home to drive a radical modernisation of Sitges and build imposing mansions that today form a unique legacy of stone... and history. Many of these mansions are now charming hotels, with encaustic cement tile floors and gardens where you can disconnect... or connect. In any case, even visiting these houses from the outside is a delight of shapes and colours.



- 1 Plaça d'Eduard Maristany
- 2 Carrer de Francesc Gumà
- 3 Carrer de l'Illa de Cuba
- 4 Carrer de Sant Bartomeu
- 5 Carrer d'Artur Carbonell
- 6 Carrer de Sant Isidre
- 7 Carrer de Gaudenci
- 8 Carrer de Jesús

Funded by:



Financiado por
la Unión Europea
NextGenerationEU



With the support of:



Awards:

