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Camp Nou

Witness a match at Europe's largest football stadium.



The home playing fields of FC Barcelona, one of the world's elite football clubs.

While in Spain, Franco may have somewhat dampened religious passion, nothing can dampen the faith felt by the Spanish when it comes to football. And this is very much the case in Barcelona, where Catalan patriotism is a powerful driving force and Futbol Club Barcelona is presently quite possibly the greatest football team in the world.

The best place to truly appreciate all this is at Barcelona's Camp Nou Stadium, the biggest stadium in Europe.

Seating 98,787 people, when a big match is played, a powerful orchestra of 100,000 fiery Spanish voices, conducted by the game, is just as much enjoyable to experience as the strategy, suspense and skillsets of the players involved.

And the vastness of it... The sheer gladiatorial grandeur of this thing!



CAMP NOU

GAUDI

LA RAMBLA

TIBIDABO AMUSEMENT PARK

WHERE TO STAY

If a trip to Spain requires an experience of Spanish football, then this is the place to do it.

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Futbol Club Barcelona has a long distinguished history, but the team has won the European Champions League three times in the last six years – a feat that any European will tell you is by no means easily achieved.

Witnessing these guys in action is truly a beautiful thing. Try and catch them playing long-time formidable rivals (and nine time Champions League winners) Real Madrid, and sit back and be amazed.

If you can't catch a game, or catch one and feel like a supplement, check out the Museu del Futbol Club Barcelona, next door. The museum is much loved by football enthusiasts all over, and a great guided tour can take you on a journey through the stadium: from the changing rooms to the pitch and up to the press gallery.

You may not like or understand football, but if there's anywhere that's going to awaken the fan within, it's going to be Camp Nou Stadium.



Ben Connor

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Ben has travelled extensively through the Americas, Europe, Asia and Australia. His features and reviews have appeared in publications and websites in the UK and Australia, including Rough Guides (Penguin Group, London, UK), The List (Edinburgh, Scotland), Tiger Beer's UK website, Australian Traveller, OUTthere and Cruise Passenger.

