

AT THE CONFLUENCE OF JEWELRY & ARCHITECTURE BARCELONA, SPAIN

OCTOBER 19TH-25TH

Much like modern architecture, contemporary jewelry is here to push boundaries. As the lines of a building can recall a memory or an idea, the curves of a necklace can emote in an unsuspecting way.

Art jewelry is made to challenge the viewer; this isn't necessarily easy viewing because it causes us to think, to dive into the mind of the artist and often overturn our preconceived notions of what we believe bodily adornment should be.

Jewelry as an art form involves three people: the artist, the wearer and the observer. Navigating these intersections is part of what

makes these wearable works of art so thrilling.

Where better to explore these concepts than in the inimitable city of Barcelona? This exceptional weeklong discovery program will bring together contemporary jewelry and architecture, drawing parallels between the two in the dynamic city that ebbs and flows like the lines of Gaudí's famed creations.

While the day-to-day details will be revealed as we near departure, here are the highlights of the trip.

Accommodation, transportation and related travel services offered by TWIL travel.



HOTEL & DINING

Check-in at the **Alma Hotel** in the tony Eixample district. A stone's throw from the famed Passeig de Gràcia boulevard, this neighborhood boasts elegant boutiques in addition to Gaudí's Casa Batlló and Casa Milà. A fitting setting for the architectural explorations to ensue, this five-star boutique hotel occupies a 20th-century building which has been given a contemporary facelift. Balancing the old and the new, the historic elements have been heightened by modern design and amenities.



Tranquil rooms are dressed in neutral palettes and bathed in natural light, as is common in the neighbourhood. Mattresses have been made exclusively for the hotel, promising uninterrupted sleep. The on-site restaurant offers elevated seasonal Catalan fare in a serene garden oasis — a unique green space which was included in the original building plan. Additionally there is an on-site gym and spa for guests seeking out some R&R.



Over the course of our Barcelona stay, we will be sure to explore the city's vibrant and world-renowned culinary scene. Expect croquettes, jamón ibérico, idiazabal cheese and plenty of fresh seafood — all with the backdrop of revelry that arrives come sundown.

DOR MUSEUM

For our first adventure we will set off to the nearby town of Girona, home to a 19th century fortress that has been transformed into the spectacular **DOR Museum**. Found on a hilltop, the building has been made-over in concrete, glass and steel, with its green roofs mirroring the panoramic views of the landscape below.

The museum itself is devoted to jewelry and explores the level of craftsmanship and passion that yields a wearable work of art. We will be taken on an exclusive tour of the space, guided by both the museum director and the director of Joya Barcelona.

Our day will end at the on-site restaurant, **Atempo**. Helmed by three Michelin-starred chef Jordi Cruz of ABaC, the gourmet tasting menu will walk diners through a meal blending tradition with imagination, while showcasing the bounty of the region.

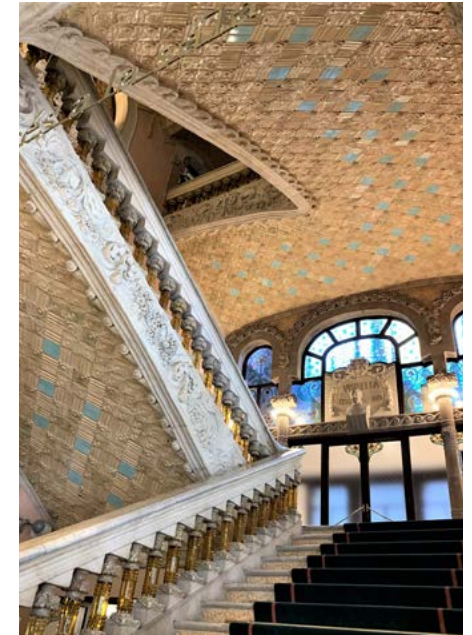


ARCHITECTURE

Back in the Catalonian capital, we will dive into all things architecture, exploring the city's Gothic, modern and minimalist buildings. With the help of an architect guide, the distinct layers of the cityscape will be peeled back, revealing the ways in which Barcelona has merged the old with the new.

We will explore the famed **Gothic quarter**, characterized by its snaking streets that mapped out the original city. The historic Barcelona Cathedral looms over the district, an emblem of gothic style. The undulating lines of Antoni Gaudí's buildings are familiar to most; inspired by the natural, the famed Catalan Modernist played with color and shape like no other before.

Additional highlights will include the **Barcelona Pavilion**, Ludwig Mies van de Rohe's stark structure that sparked the Modernist movement back in 1929. Gaudí's influence is seen in Jean Nouvel's shimmering **Agbar Tower** and **Frank Gehry's whimsical fish** — both remarkable structures that stand out against the city's skyline.



INSIDER ACCESS TO GALLERIES, STUDIOS, & MUSEUMS

Barcelona is a bustling, vibrant, welcoming and noisy city. As always, I will take you away from the expected, to the more private, confidential venues where artists live, collectors meet, ladies-in-the-know shop, and conversations happen.

We will visit a series of thought-provoking galleries and studios acting as bait for culturally-minded travelers and locals alike. **Eixample's Hannah Gallery** is one such destination. This gallery-cum-boutique plays home base to a glut of leading international artists, selected based on both their technical prowess and ability to weave concepts into their works. **Amaranto Joies**, found in the spirited Gracia neighborhood, is a studio highlighting contemporary jewelry with childlike qualities, bright colors and seemingly simple shapes. We will also be sure

to tour some of the city's most acclaimed private collections and museums, providing a special glimpse behind the curtains of these storied institutions.

Venues such as these will be explored in an highly intimate manner with the help of local guides and curators. Guests will gain unique insider access while connecting with some of Barcelona's most interesting people from the arts and culture worlds.

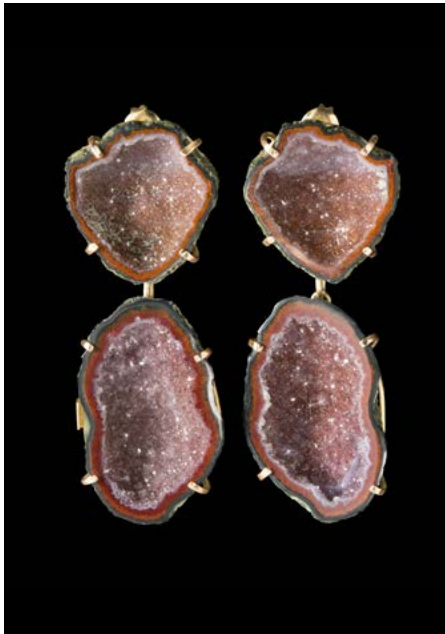


NICOLAS ESTRADA & PERSONALIZED JEWELRY

Nicolas Estrada was on the path to a marketing career when he veered off it, falling into the world of art jewelry. Possessing uses a diverse skill-set — from gemology knowledge to filigree techniques from Colombia, his homeland — Nicolas's pieces often have a political bent. He uses materials as varied as wood, pearl and agate to bring his ideas to life.

Prior to the start of the trip, Rue Pigalle's guests are invited to book a video consultation with Nicolas to have a customized piece of jewelry created for them. This one-of-a-kind work of art will be a marriage between the wearer's personal aesthetic and the craftsmanship and ideology that Nicolas will bring to the table.

In addition, there will be a book signing at the gallery; Nicolas has penned multiple books on contemporary jewelry and this is an opportunity to speak with him on the subject.



ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PAUL MCCLURE



Paul McClure will be joining us as artist- and curator-in-residence for the entirety of the trip. The award-winning jeweler has a veritable library of accomplishments; his work has been displayed at the National Gallery of Canada and he currently leads the esteemed jewelry department at George Brown College – North America’s largest. He gained some of his earliest jewelry education in Barcelona, so is as well versed in the city’s medieval streets as he is the arts scene.

Paul’s jewelry has a biological lean – he grabs inspiration from medical imaging and the molecular functions of the human body. The part of the body that is unseen – mutating genes, viruses, veins – are where he digs for ideas, transforming what is often conceived as ugly into something beautiful. Lapel pins are Paul’s bread and butter, though joyful necklaces and rings studded with 3D-printed flowers are some of his most recent works. His pieces are wonderful conversation starters and will surely inspire discussion throughout the week.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The price is **CAD \$11,800 (+13% HST)** per person based on double occupancy Grand Deluxe room.

For single occupancy, the rate is **CAD \$13,000 (+13% HST)** for Grand Deluxe room.

This includes:

- 6-night accommodation (including VAT) Grand Deluxe room at Hotel Alma.
- Daily set breakfast at the hotel. One complimentary massage at the hotel spa. Complimentary access to the hotel gym facilities.
- Private tour of the DOR Museum, including transportation to and from hotel, lunch at DOR Museum restaurant Atempo.
- Six (6) group dinners at selected authentic local restaurants.
- All activities, entrance fees, lecturers, guides as per the itinerary. Lecturers are qualified historians, artists, lecturers experts in their fields.

- A photo album of our trip with all our favourite memories.
- Travelling with a group of 7 to 10 guests.
- Artist-in-residence Paul McClure

This does not include:

- Flights to and from Barcelona.
- Meals other than those listed.
- Alcoholic beverages.
- Hotel local taxes, gratuities and extras.
- Airport transfers. Available by private limousine. Please inquire.
- Purchases or shipping of purchases.

Pace of trip:

There is a gentle pace to this trip. After a mid-morning coffee, we set off for our main visit of the day which usually concludes by mid-afternoon. You then have the option to either join me for an extra local activity or enjoy some

personal exploring time at your own pace. I will share with you my list of “most loved” boutiques, designers, places to visit and other local favourites. My goal is to make your trip as unique, enjoyable and enriching as possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE EMAIL ISABELLE FISH AT
BOUTIQUE@RUEPIGALLE.CA

All bookings by TWIL Travel.

A non refundable 50% deposit is due upon booking. The balance of the payment is due August 1st 2019 and is non refundable. For that reason it is recommended that you purchase travel insurance.

TWIL Travel reserves the right to cancel bookings if a minimum of 7 guests is not reached by August 29th 2019. In such event, guests will receive a full refund of their deposit and no further compensation will be due for such cancellation.

While we make every effort to stay within the itinerary, occasionally we may substitute according to local conditions and desire of the group.

A more detailed itinerary will be emailed to you one week before the trip.