

European
Historic
Houses
Circle

Owners' Circle Congress 2025

18th-21st September 2025
Barcelona

“Hidden Architectural Secrets of Barcelona”

Programme



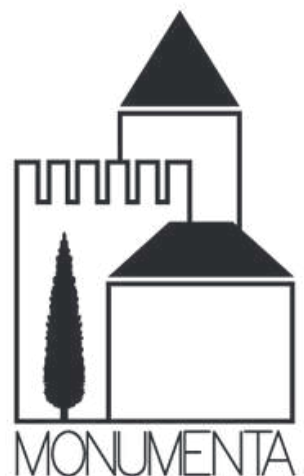
Welcome

We are thrilled to invite you to the third edition of the Owners' Circle Congress, this year brought to you in partnership with our esteemed members from Monumenta. Together, we have curated an engaging and inspiring programme that promises to deliver unforgettable experiences in the vibrant and culturally rich city of Barcelona.

Over the course of three extraordinary days—or four, if you are joining us for the extended weekend—you will have the unique opportunity to explore Barcelona's hidden gems, uncovering its rich history, stunning architecture, and dynamic spirit.

From exclusive insights to meaningful connections, this year's event is designed to celebrate the essence of discovery, collaboration, and inspiration.

Whether you are a returning guest or joining us for the first time, we can't wait to welcome you to this unforgettable journey. Get ready to be inspired, connect with like-minded peers, and fall in love with Barcelona in a whole new way!



Thursday, 18 September

- 15:00 h Visit to Colonia Güell
- 19:0 h Visit to Casa Vicens
- 20:00 h Rooftop visit and dinner at Hotel Plaza



Friday, 19 September

- 10:00 h Reception at Palau Mojà
- 13:00 h Lunch, Conference and Visit to Bellesguard
- 20:00 h Cocktail and Gala dinner at El Liceu



Saturday, 20 September

- 09:00 h Group visit to Sagrada Família
- 13:00 h Free Lunch
- 15:00 h Visit to historic house
- 17:00 h Visit to Casa Batlló
- 20:00h Dinner at Círculo Ecuestre

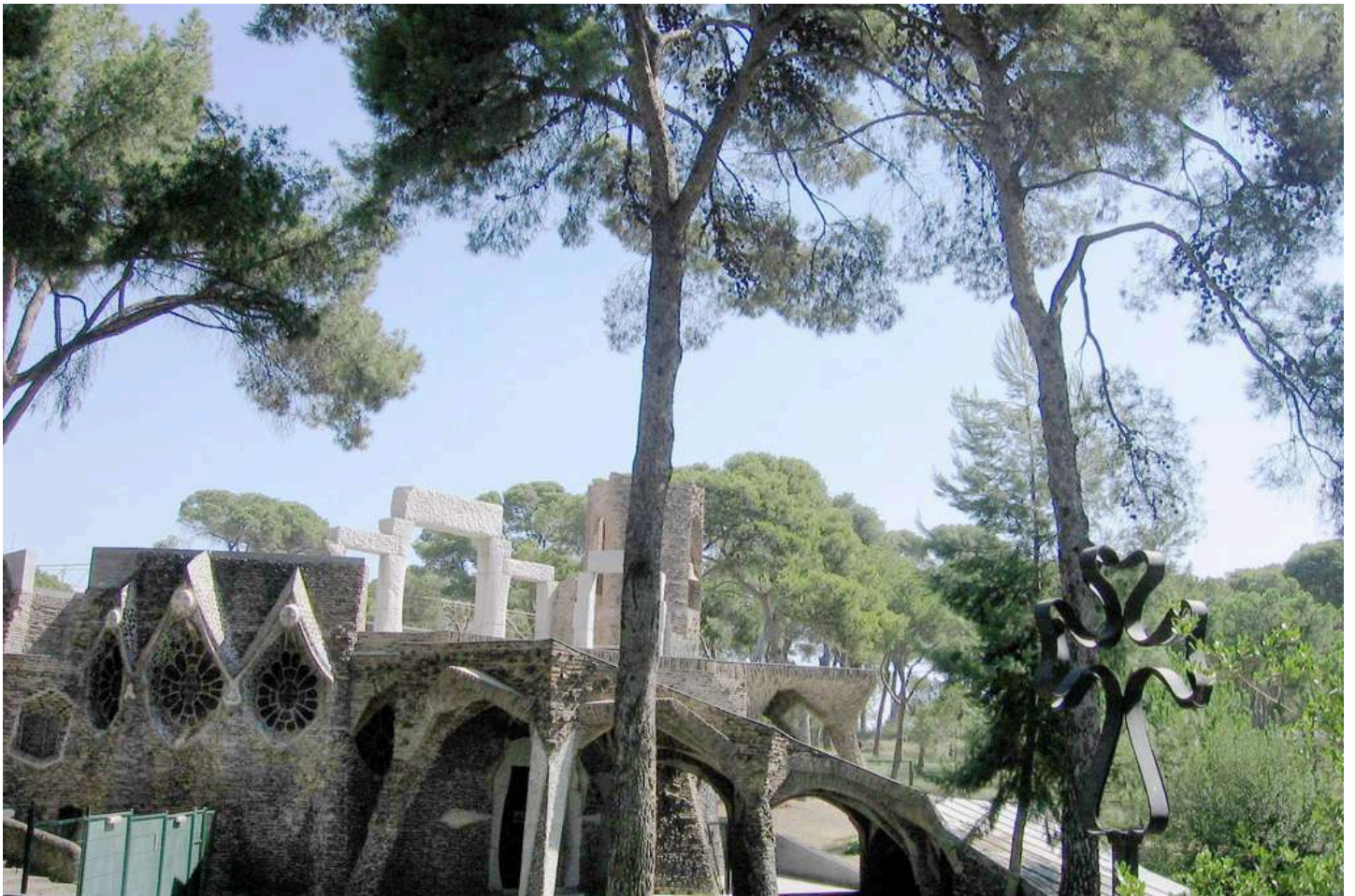


Sunday, 21 September

- 09:00 h Optional mass
- 10:00 h Visit to Palau de la Música Catalana
- 12:00 h Farewell lunch at Palau de la Música

Thursday, 18 September

- 14:00h **Welcome**
Meeting point to follow
- 14:30h **Bus transfer**
- 15:00 h **Visit to Colonia Güell**
Meeting point for bus transfer will follow
- 19:00 h **Visit to Casa Vicens**
Bus transfer from previous stop
- 20:00 h **Rooftop visit and dinner at Hotel Plaza**
Bus transfer from previous stop





Learn about the venues

Colonia Güell

The Colonia Güell, located in Santa Coloma de Cervelló near Barcelona, is a modernist gem and a key site for exploring Antoni Gaudí's architecture. Created in 1890 by Eusebi Güell, it was an industrial colony designed to provide workers with housing, cultural amenities, and improved living conditions. Güell's vision included modernist elements, making the Colonia both functional and innovative.

Its highlight is the unfinished church by Antoni Gaudí, particularly the crypt, which showcases groundbreaking techniques like catenary arches and hyperbolic walls. This masterpiece laid the foundation for Gaudí's Sagrada Família. Other modernist buildings, designed by Gaudí's collaborators, feature distinctive materials like exposed brick, ceramics, and wrought iron. Declared a Cultural Heritage Site in 1991, the Colonia Güell blends architectural significance with historical value, making it an essential destination for modernism enthusiasts.

Casa Vicens

Casa Vicens, located in the Gràcia district of Barcelona, is one of Antoni Gaudí's earliest works and a brilliant example of his distinctive architectural style. Built between 1883 and 1885 as a summer house for the Vicens family, it showcases an eclectic mix of influences, including Moorish, neoclassical, and oriental styles, combined with Gaudí's innovative use of colour and materials.

The building is adorned with intricate ceramic tiles, wrought iron details, and vivid floral motifs inspired by nature. Its design marked a turning point in modernist architecture, setting the stage for Gaudí's later masterpieces. Casa Vicens was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005 and is now open to the public as a museum, offering visitors a glimpse into the origins of Gaudí's creative genius.

Friday, 19 September

- 10:00 h **Reception at Palau Mojà**
Meeting point will follow
- 13:00 h -
18:00h **Lunch, Conference and Visit**
Bellesguard Street 20, 08022 Barcelona
- 20:00 h **Gala dinner at El Liceu Grand Theatre**
La Rambla, 51-59, 08002, Barcelona (Barcelona)





Learn about the venues

Palau Mojà

A historic building in Barcelona reflecting the lifestyle of the city's high bourgeoisie in the 18th and 19th centuries. Originally owned by Josep de Copons and his wife Maria Luisa Descatllar, it was designed by architect Josep Mas and opened in 1784. The building blends Baroque and French Neoclassical styles, with notable features including the Grand Salon, paintings by Francesc Pla, and the façades. In 1870, the Marquis of Comillas purchased the palace and made renovations, including the Staircase of Honour and the blue, pink, and green salons. After a fire in 1971, it was abandoned until it became the headquarters of the Catalan Government's Cultural Heritage Department.

Bellesguard

Bellesguard, also known as Casa Figueras, is a hidden gem of Antoni Gaudí's work, nestled at the foot of the Collserola hills in Barcelona. Built between 1900 and 1909, it masterfully blends modernist and neo-Gothic styles, drawing inspiration from the site's medieval past as the residence of King Martin I of Aragon. Gaudí's design incorporates natural stone, colorful ceramic mosaics, and an imposing central tower crowned with a cross, embodying both his signature aesthetic and deep historical symbolism.

The house, with its intricate detailing and harmonious integration into the landscape, reflects a fusion of history and innovation. Today, Bellesguard remains a privately owned cultural landmark, offering guided tours that delve into its royal heritage, architectural ingenuity, and Gaudí's unique vision.

Liceu

The El Liceu Grand Teatre, located on Barcelona's famous La Rambla, is one of Europe's most prestigious opera houses and a cultural icon of the city. Founded in 1847, it has a rich history of hosting world-class opera, ballet, and classical music performances. Despite enduring two devastating fires and a bombing, the Liceu has been beautifully restored. Beyond performances, the Liceu invites visitors to explore its history through guided tours, providing a glimpse into the heart of Barcelona's vibrant cultural heritage.

Conference

Private historic properties, whether lived in or run as businesses, play a vital role in shaping our cultural heritage. This year's conference explores their evolving relationship with tourism and heritage designations such as UNESCO status and will dive into how a strategic property management plan can bridge past and future, aligning restoration with long-term vision.

Session 1

Case Study: Bellesguard Property Management Plan

How, when, who and crucially how much...? This session will break down the essentials of a strong restoration and maintenance plan. Using the Bellesguard case study, we will explore how a strategic approach supports not only the fabric of a historic property, but also its long-term value to owners, communities, and public agencies, especially when it comes to subsidies and planning approvals.

Session 2

UNESCO designations

Being designated as a Unesco World Heritage Site is an extraordinary recognition of the power of a cultural heritage location or asset to impact society and act as a talisman for our culture. During this roundtable, we will explore how such designations influence heritage assets, unpacking both the prestige and the pressure. We will also examine the ripple effects for nearby or less-prominent sites, and how designation reshapes priorities in heritage management.

Session 3

Tourism and economic impact

Historic houses are powerful magnets for tourism, helping shape the identity and economy of cities and regions. But tourism also shapes how these properties are managed, funded, and experienced. This session explores the dynamic relationship between historic homes and the tourism sector, with a focus on building stronger collaboration between private owners and public bodies, and how EU funding can play a pivotal role.

Saturday, 20 September

- 09:00 h **Group visit to Sagrada Familia**
Meeting point will follow
- 13:00 h **Lunch**
Free time, you can choose where to go
- 15:00 h **Visit to historic house**
Address will follow
- 17:00 h **Visit to Casa Batlló**
Pg. de Gràcia, 43, 08007, Barcelona
- 20:00 h **Dinner at Círculo Ecuestre**
Balmaes street, 169 - Bis, 08006, Barcelona





Learn about the venues

Sagrada Família

The Sagrada Família is Barcelona's most iconic landmark and a masterpiece of Antoni Gaudí's architectural genius. Construction began in 1882, and the basilica remains under construction, reflecting Gaudí's ambitious vision. Combining Gothic and modernist styles, its design features intricate façades, towering spires, and stunning interiors illuminated by vibrant stained-glass windows.

Gaudí's innovative use of geometry and natural forms creates a sense of awe, with elements inspired by both faith and nature. The Nativity and Passion façades, each rich in symbolism, depict key moments from the life of Christ, while the Glory Façade, still in progress, will represent eternal salvation. Inside, the soaring columns resemble a forest, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in a spiritual and natural harmony.

Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Sagrada Família is a symbol of Barcelona and one of the world's most visited monuments, drawing millions of visitors each year to experience its unique beauty and profound significance.

Casa Batlló

Casa Batlló, one of Antoni Gaudí's most iconic masterpieces, stands in the heart of Barcelona's Passeig de Gràcia. Redesigned between 1904 and 1906, the building's organic forms, vibrant mosaics, and skeletal balconies reflect Gaudí's imaginative modernist style, inspired by nature and Catalan folklore. Its undulating façade, colorful trencadís (mosaic tiles), and dragon-like roof make it a striking symbol of Barcelona's architectural heritage. Now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Casa Batlló offers immersive tours showcasing Gaudí's creativity and innovation.

Círculo Ecuestre

The Círculo Ecuestre is an exclusive private club in Barcelona, established in 1856, with a long history of fostering social, cultural, and business connections among its distinguished members. Located in a stately building on Avenida Diagonal, the club is renowned for its elegant interiors, including grand halls, refined dining areas, and spaces dedicated to cultural events and networking.

Over the years, the Círculo Ecuestre has become a symbol of tradition and prestige, hosting prominent figures from various fields. It continues to play a significant role in Barcelona's social and cultural life, offering its members a blend of history, exclusivity, and modern amenities.

Sunday, 21 September

- 09:00 h **Optional mass**
Some churches or cathedrals might have an English mass.
More information will follow soon for those interested
- 10:00 h **Visit to Palau de la Música Catalana**
Carrer Palau de la Musica, 4-6, 08003, Barcelona
- 12:00h **Farewell Lunch at Palau de la Música Catalana**





Learn about the venues

Palau de la Música Catalana

The Palau de la Música Catalana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is one of Barcelona's most stunning architectural treasures. Designed by Lluís Domènech i Montaner and completed in 1908, this modernist concert hall is renowned for its vibrant mosaics, intricate stained glass, and sculptural details that celebrate Catalan culture. Its most striking feature is the skylight—a massive inverted stained-glass dome that bathes the auditorium in natural light, creating a unique atmosphere for performances. The Palau has hosted world-class concerts for over a century, ranging from classical music to contemporary genres. Beyond its role as a premier music venue, the building itself is a masterpiece of craftsmanship and artistic expression. Visitors can explore its rich history and breathtaking interiors through guided tours, making it a must-see cultural landmark in Barcelona.

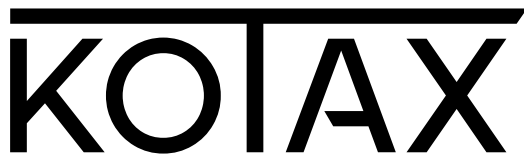


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Kotax

<https://www.kotax.com/en/>

Kotax is committed to balancing premium and insured value, ensuring clients are optimally covered while respecting the emotional worth of their assets. Their approach goes beyond financial security, aiming to offer reassurance and a personal touch in every solution.

The logo for KOTAX features the word "KOTAX" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A thick horizontal bar is positioned above the letters, extending across the width of the text.

Versicherungs
Systeme

Dorotheum

<https://www.dorotheum.com/en/>

Dorotheum is one of the world's largest and oldest auction houses, offering expertise in art, antiques, jewellery, and classic cars. With a tradition dating back to 1707, it provides a trusted platform for buying and selling valuable items through auctions and private sales.

The logo for DOROTHEUM features the word "DOROTHEUM" in a bold, red, serif font. Below it, the text "SEIT 1707" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

Damm Fundació

<https://www.fundaciodamm.cat/es>

The Damm Foundation promotes and supports Damm's philanthropic and sponsorship activities across sport, society, and culture in Spain, with a focus on fostering young athletes, strengthening civil society, and enriching cultural life. Through different initiatives, the Foundation aims to contribute to building a better, more vibrant society.

The logo for Damm Fundació features the word "Damm" in a large, red, serif font, with "Fundació" written below it in a smaller, red, sans-serif font.

Tickets, Hotel and Travel

Tickets

4-day ticket (Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
EUR 850

3-day ticket (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
EUR 680

Registration Link

<https://europeanhistorichouses3.wildapricot.org/event-6031198>

Included in the ticket price

This includes bus transfers during the programme when indicated, lunch on Friday and Sunday, and dinner on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Accommodation and travel to and from the programme is the responsibility of the participant.

Hotel Recommendations

Please make the booking of the hotel in Barcelona by yourself. These recommendations by Monumenta include exclusive discount codes:

- [H1898](#) (code applied on the link)
- [Granvia](#) (code applied on the link)
- [Casa Sagnier](#) - code: CSMONUMENTA25
- [Catalonia](#) - code: CIRCLE
- Hotel Cotton House - 20% off if you send them an email to reservations@hotelcottonhouse.com mentioning the congress before 30/06/25

Or you can find different accommodations on Airbnb and Booking

Travel to Barcelona

by plane: Josep Tarradellas Barcelona-El Prat (30 minutes away from city centre)

General Information

Remarks:

Please be on time!

The bus doesn't wait if you are late. So please contact us and let us know if you will be catching up by car or taxi

Dresscode:

Whole weekend: smart casual

Friday gala dinner: black tie

Contacts on location (for emergency)

William Cartwright-Hignett, +44 7967 630579

Ewelina Oksiuta, +32 488 22 16 07



Terms and Conditions

To confirm your registration, payment must be received within ten days of getting your invoice. If you have not paid within this time, your registration may be cancelled by EHH, and your place given to someone on the waiting list.

Refunds are generally not offered except where the event is cancelled by us. But in exceptional circumstances, EHH, in its sole discretion, may consider full or partial refunds for elements where costs have not yet been incurred prior to cancellation by you.

Insurance

As organisers, EHH provides a liability insurance for the attendees during the events. The travel and health optional insurances are left to the participants' discretion.

Photographer

We will have a professional photographer for the whole Friday. The photos are used by EHH for communication purposes. If you do not agree to your person being photographed, please contact us in advance by e-mail at info@ehh.eu.

