

# Literature trip

#### Accommodation

## • 3 nights in Barcelona



#### **Detailed program**

Day 1

Arrival transfer, Barcelona airport.

Overnight in Barcelona.

Day 2

Breakfast.

The works of Zafón.



Carlos Ruiz Zafón is one of the best-read and most famous authors in the world. He began his literary career in 1993 with The Prince of Mist (Edebé Prize), which was followed by The Midnight Palace, September Lights (available in one volume as The Mist Trilogy) and Marina. In 2001 he published his first novel for adults, The Shadow of the Wind, which soon became an international literary phenomenon. With The Angel's Game (2008) he returned to the universe of The Cemetery of Lost Books which grew further with The Prisoner of Heaven (2011). His works have been translated into over fifty languages and have won numerous prizes and millions of readers across five continents.

City walk of "La sombra del viento":



"I will never forget the morning when my father took me to visit The Cemetery of Lost Books for the first time..."



One morning in 1945, a boy is driven by his father to a mysterious place hidden away in the heart of the old city: The Cemetery of Lost Books. There, Daniel Sempere finds a cursed book which will change the course of his life and plunge him into a labyrinth of intrigue and secrets concealed in the dark soul of the city. The Shadow of the Wind is a literary thriller set in Barcelona in the first half of the 20th century, from the fading splendour of Modernism to the shadowy post-war world. The Shadow of the Wind has elements of mystery, historical, and comedy of manner genres but it is most of all a tragic love story which echoes through time. With great narrative power, the author reveals plots and intrigues as though opening up a Russian doll in an unforgettable tale about the secrets of the heart and the magic of books, maintaining the mystery until the last page.

## City walk with focus on "El juego del Angel":

"The next time you want to save a book, don't risk your life... I'll take you to a secret place where books never die."



In the turbulent Barcelona of the 20s a young writer obsessed with an impossible love receives an offer from a mysterious publisher to write a book the like of which has never been seen before in exchange for a fortune and, perhaps, much more. With a brilliant style and impeccable narrative precision, the author of The Shadow of the Wind takes us back to the Barcelona of the Cemetery of Lost Books to deliver a great adventure of intrigue, romance and tragedy featuring a labyrinth of secrets in which the spell cast by books, passion and friendship come together in a masterful story.

Walk along his new book "The prisoner of Heaven":





Barcelona, 1957. Daniel Sempere and his friend Fermín, the heroes of **The Shadow of the Wind**, return for a new adventure in which they will face the biggest challenge of their lives. Just when life seems to be smiling upon them, an unsettling character visits the Semperes' bookshop and threatens to reveal a terrible secret that lay buried for two decades in the city's dark memory. When he finds out the truth, Daniel will understand why his fate inexorably leads him to confront the biggest shadow of all: the one growing inside him. Bursting with intrigue and excitement, **The Prisoner of Heaven** is a masterful novel in which the plots of **The Shadow of the Wind** and **The Angel's Game** converge in the magic of literature, taking us to the heart of the enigma of The Cemetery of Lost Books.

Overnight in Barcelona.

Day 3

Breakfast.

The works of Falcones.

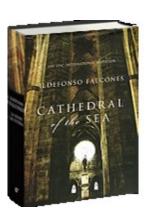


Ildefonso Falcones was born in Sierra (Spain). At present he lives in Barcelona with his wife and four children and works as a lawyer and writer. His first novel Cathedral of the Sea (published by Grijalbo in 2006) was an unparalleled international bestseller and has been published in over forty countries. It gained the recognition of both, the readers and the critics. The novel Cathedral of the Sea has won many literary awards including the Euskadi de Plata award 2006 for best novel in Spanish and the Qué Leer award 2006 for best Spanish book. It was also awarded with the Fundación José Manuel Lara literary prize for most sold novel of the year 2006 and the prestigious Italian Giovanni Boccaccio award 2007 for best foreign author. Once more Ildefonso Falcones delights his readers with his second novel



called **The Hand of Fatima** (published by Grijalbo in 2009), in which he tells another exciting and rigorously documented story. More than five million copies of both of his novels have been sold, and at present his books are the most sold historical novels in Spain.

City walk of "La Catedral del Mar":



The novel is set in the 14th century, when Barcelona's prosperity was at its peak. At that time, the humble fisher neighborhood called La Ribera became a part of the rapidly growing city. As La Ribera thrived, the people of the neighborhood decided to build the biggest church of all times by means of contributions and hard work. They named it Santa María del Mar. In the story, the construction of the church is parallel to the hero's hazardous life. The miserable serf Arnau escapes his feudal master's injustices and seeks shelter in Barcelona, where he not only becomes a citizen but also a free man. First he works his way up as a groom and a longshoreman, later he becomes a soldier and a moneychanger. The wearisome life in misery that the poor fugitive has to endure, even though the cathedral always protected him, will lead him to nobility and wealth. As he finally achieves a privileged position in society, his enemies can no longer contain their envy. They plot a sordid conspiracy against him, putting his life in the hands of the Inquisition. The novel Cathedral of the Sea is not only about loyalty and vengeance, treason and love, the war and the plague, it is also about a world that is deeply marked by religious intolerance, material ambitions and social segregation. The combination of these elements turn this novel into an absorbent work of art and delight the readers with a fascinating and ambitious recreation of the lights and shadows of the feudal time.

Overnight in Barcelona.

Day 4

Breakfast.

Transfer to the airport.

End of our services.

### Package inclusions

- 3 nights of accommodation with breakfast
- arrival transfer: bus and guide
- literature city walks: guide
- departure transfer: bus
- local taxes

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