

Barcelona Dades Cultura 2013

English version

Institut de Cultura de Barcelona

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**Ajuntament
de Barcelona**

Barcelona, city of culture

The compilation of data that we offer here has been conceived to make it easier to understand the current situation of the city's cultural sector. The indicators listed here allow the analysis of the cultural supply and consumption for 2013 of a wide variety of spaces, facilities and activities, including museums, exhibition spaces, spaces of architectural interest, auditoriums and live music venues, theatres and performing arts spaces, cinemas, creation spaces, libraries, civic centres, cultural festivals, city festivals and more. There is also a section on the support received by entities of the private sector through the various lines of subsidies granted by the Institut de Cultura (ICUB).

To begin with, the analysis of these data provides a knowledge of the present situation of the sector, which is divided into spheres and appraised by various types of indicators based on facilities (number of spaces; number of visitors, spectators and users; number of shows, occupancy percentages, etc.). Likewise, in most cases the data for 2012 are presented in addition to those for 2013, allowing the two years to be compared.

This compilation of information will also be useful for conducting intersectoral analyses, studies between cities and analyses over time, as well as for observing the behaviour of citizens with respect to their cultural consumption habits, which may allow pertinent conclusions to be drawn.

Accordingly, this compilation is conceived as a precise and useful tool for the performance of complete analyses from two complementary standpoints: that of the supply of the public and private cultural facilities, and that of the cultural consumption of citizens. All told, it can provide a clear picture of the current state of culture in the city from different angles and this is particularly valuable information in times of such a crisis as the present one, which is not only economic in nature.

Indeed, the context of crisis in which we are living today and which is proving difficult to leave behind, highlights the difficulties being experienced by the cultural sector, which is clearly vulnerable and which has been deeply affected by the economic situation in recent years. At the same time, however, this is a sector of enormous vitality and thrust, which has succeeded in reinventing itself by making great efforts and applying large doses of creativity and imagination. It is a sector that has always found alternative ways of emerging and showing itself to the public. A quick look at the data confirms this fact: Barcelona has over 50 performing arts spaces, more than 50 museums, about 20 creation spaces, a network of almost 40 public libraries and over 50 civic centres, as well as the more than 150 cultural

festivals held in the city each year. The cultural consumption indicators are even more striking: in 2013, the museum and exhibition spaces welcomed almost 21 million visitors; the theatres and performing arts spaces received 2.3 million spectators, and over 2.1 million people attended concerts.

In short, these figures are proof of the city's tremendous vitality in the cultural sphere and show how passionate we Barcelonans and the people who visit us are about culture.

Main cultural indicators for the city of Barcelona 2013

Context data

Population of the city of Barcelona (in million inhabitants)	1.6
Population of the metropolitan area of Barcelona (in million inhabitants)	3.2
Surface area of the city (in square kilometres)	101.4
Surface area of the metropolitan area (in square kilometres)	636.0
Number of tourists at the city's hotels (in millions)	7.6
Number of buildings listed as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO	8

Museums and exhibition spaces

Number of museums and big exhibition centres	55
Number of museum and exhibition spaces and venues	66
Visitors to museums, exhibitions and collections (in millions)	20.9
Visitors to the 10 most attended spaces (in millions)	13.2
Number of centres with over 500,000 annual visitors	15
Number of temporary exhibitions with over 100,000 visits	11
Number of contemporary art galleries	26
General public's rating of museums and exhibition spaces (scale from 0 to 10)	7.9

Performing arts spaces

Number of performing arts auditoriums	57
Number of theatre performances	11,338
Spectators at the performing arts auditoriums (in millions)	2.3
% occupancy of the performing arts auditoriums	52.0
Number of shows with over 25,000 spectators	13
General public's rating of theatre shows (scale from 0 to 10)	7.5

Concert spaces

Number of large auditoriums	3
Spectators at the large auditoriums (in millions)	0.9
% occupancy of the large auditoriums	69.6
Number of live music venues	21
Number of concerts with over 5,000 spectators	13
Number of people in attendance at concerts with over 5,000 spectators	238,569
General public's rating of concerts (scale from 0 to 10)	7.7

Cinemas and film shoots in the city

Number of cinemas	32
Number of cinema screens	203
Number of cinema screenings	218,741
Cinema spectators (in millions)	5.1
Number of film shoots in the city	2,494
Number of feature-length motion pictures filmed in Barcelona	50
General public's rating of cinema (scale from 0 to 10)	7.2

Creation spaces

Number of private creation spaces	12
Number of public art factories	9
Floor space in square metres of the art factories network	22,840

Biblioteques de Barcelona (Barcelona Libraries)

Number of libraries of the public library network	39
Number of libraries of the public library network / 100,000 inhabitants	2.4
Visits to the Biblioteques de Barcelona (Barcelona Libraries) network (in millions)	6.3
Library book loans / inhabitant	2.6
% of inhabitants of Barcelona with library card	53.6
General public's rating of libraries (scale from 0 to 10)	8.0

Books

Total books published in Barcelona	25,453
% of published books on digital media	22
% of published books on paper	78
General public's rating of book shops (scale of 0 to 10)	7.5

Civic centres

Number of civic centres	51
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Cultural festivals

Number of cultural festivals in the city	163
Number of cultural festivals with over 100,000 people in attendance	5

City festivals

% of inhabitants of the city who attended the Festival of La Mercè	35.2
General public's rating of the city festivals (scale from 0 to 10)	7.7

Support to entities

Amount of ICUB grants to cultural projects and activities (in million Euros)	3.7
% of submitted applications that received grants	49
Amount of ICUB grants to cultural infrastructures (in million Euros)	2.5

Sources: Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona, Associació d'Empreses de Teatre de Catalunya (ADETCA), Associació de Sales de Concerts de Catalunya (ASACC), Barcelona-Catalunya Film Commission (BCFC), Biblioteques de Barcelona, Departament d'Estadística (Ajuntament de Barcelona), Òmnibus municipal survey (Ajuntament de Barcelona), Institut Català de les Empreses Culturals (ICEC), Institut de Cultura de Barcelona (ICUB), Institut d'Estadística de Catalunya (IDESCAT), Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte, Societat General d'Autors i Editors (SGAE) and Turisme de Barcelona.

Museums and exhibition spaces

From art to science, from big institutions of international prestige to little and almost secret spaces, from public centres to private foundations... the list of museums and exhibition spaces in Barcelona is as long as it is diverse.

Among the best known facilities of this type are museums devoted to artists who have a special connection with the city, such as the Museu Picasso, the Fundació Joan Miró or the Fundació Antoni Tàpies; collections of worldwide prestige focused on specific periods of art history like the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, with its unique collection of Romanesque art, or centres that host major exhibitions, many of international scope, such as CaixaForum, which is housed in a beautiful vintage *Modernista* factory building.

Although many of the big exhibition centres revolve around art, there are also spaces especially focused on architecture (the Sagrada Família, La Pedrera or the Mies van der Rohe Pavilion); on science (from the Museu de Ciències Naturals to the Museu Geològic del Seminari), or on history (like the Museu Marítim or the Museu d'Història de Barcelona), which are visited by people from far and wide.

Indeed, one of the big novelties of 2013 was a major cultural complex of historic nature. El Born Centre Cultural has been a major success in terms of attendance since it opened in September of last year, welcoming over 675,000 visitors – twice the figure initially expected – in its first three months of activity. In addition to recovering for community use a building that forms an outstanding example of the avant-garde architecture from the end of the 19th century, El Born Centre Cultural contains an archaeological site presenting a key period in the history of Barcelona and Catalonia at large: the War of the Spanish Succession and the Siege of 1714. El Born Centre Cultural is not just an archaeological site and a museum space with exhibitions on historical subjects, however. It is a centre that is full of life, hosting conferences, family activities, concerts, workshops and all types of activities, and that is firmly determined to combine history with a reflection on today's world and contemporary creation.

In the field of the plastic arts, mention should be made of the outstanding contribution of a number of exceptional collectors, who have played a key role in preserving some unique art collections that may be seen and enjoyed today in both public and private centres, the latter notably including the Fundació Francisco Godia and the Fundació Suñol, just to give two examples.

Art, however, is not exclusive to museums but also blossoms in such spaces as La Capella, which is devoted to emerging contemporary art; La Virreina Centre de la

Imatge, which is specialized in visual creation; the new Centre d'Art Contemporani Fabra i Coats and many other exhibition centres and spaces in the city which display the works of consolidated figures of today's art as well as those of emerging talents in the spheres of local and international creation.

It should be said that while a large part of the centres listed in this section are quite well known, an attentive reading of the data presented here will allow one to discover museums and exhibition spaces devoted to unusual areas of interest that are also well worth visiting.

Museums and exhibition spaces¹

	Visitors		Other data 2013		
	2013	2012	Visitors to exhibitions	Users: activities & services	Total users
PUBLIC CENTRES	9,980,316	8,293,358	11,624,414	790,219	12,414,633
MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS	5,691,096	5,147,477	7,297,589	592,910	7,890,499
Municipal	3,550,150	2,993,470	4,018,692	187,751	4,206,443
Institut de Cultura (ICUB)	2,256,131	1,671,086	2,636,408	123,218	2,759,626
El Born Centre Cultural	675,726	-	857,156	35,663	892,819
Museu de Ceràmica	4,737	46,738	14,264	271	14,535
Museu del Disseny de Barcelona	1,869	68,363	1,952	4,666	6,618
Museu d'Història de Barcelona. MUHBA	556,730	548,783	560,082	53,186	613,268
Museu Frederic Marès	39,432	33,785	48,304	593	48,897
Museu Picasso	915,226	948,869	1,092,239	20,806	1,113,045
Reial Monestir de Santa Maria de Pedralbes	62,411	-	62,411	8,033	70,444
Museu Barbier-Mueller d'Art Precolombi	-	24,548	-	-	-
Other municipal centres	1,294,019	1,322,384	1,382,284	64,533	1,446,817
Col·lecció de Carrosses Fúnebres	4,987	-	5,358	263	5,621
Museu de la Música	33,297	31,887	68,096	20,650	88,746
Museu dels Autòmats del Tibidabo	119,769	125,527	119,769	-	119,769
Museu Olímpic i de l'Esport Joan Antoni Samaranch	65,862	84,783	118,957	-	118,957
Zoo de Barcelona	1,070,104	1,080,187	1,070,104	43,620	1,113,724
Consortia with municipal presence	1,997,483	1,924,839	3,135,434	361,178	3,496,612
Fundació Antoni Tàpies	76,344	92,305	67,443	11,954	79,397
Fundació Joan Miró	497,719	548,817	941,893	45,149	987,042
Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona. MACBA	300,948	351,247	627,041	45,210	672,251
Museu de Ciències Naturals de Barcelona	188,030	166,777	221,410	78,169	299,579
Museu Marítim de Barcelona. MMB	298,525	356,348	315,268	104,078	419,346
Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya. MNAC	635,917	409,345	962,379	76,618	1,038,997
Public non-municipal	143,463	229,168	143,463	43,981	187,444
Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya	32,284	40,181	32,284	10,396	42,680
Museu d'Història de Catalunya	111,179	188,987	111,179	33,585	144,764
ARCHIVES	40,232	34,714	55,656	3,559	59,215
Municipal	40,232	34,714	55,656	3,559	59,215
Arxiu Fotogràfic de Barcelona	15,424	14,421	30,848	1,713	32,561
Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona	24,808	20,293	24,808	1,846	26,654
EXHIBITION CENTRES	1,274,272	1,296,025	1,212,419	192,225	1,404,644
Municipal	184,679	130,211	183,696	7,895	191,591
Fabra i Coats - Centre d'Art Contemporani	10,002	10,236	10,002	201	10,203
La Capella	56,440	57,755	55,457	2,662	58,119
La Virreina Centre de la Imatge	118,237	62,220	118,237	5,032	123,269
Consortia with municipal presence	304,895	313,472	142,325	162,570	304,895
Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona. CCCB	304,895	313,472	142,325	162,570	304,895
Public non-municipal	784,698	852,342	886,398	21,760	908,158
Arts Santa Mònica. Centre de la Creativitat	104,698	117,892	104,698	13,460	118,158
Palau Robert	680,000	734,450	781,700	8,300	790,000
SPACES OF ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST	2,974,716	1,815,142	3,058,750	1,525	3,060,275
Municipal	2,718,284	1,560,533	2,802,318	1,525	2,803,843
Castell de Montjuïc	1,072,000	1,159,042	1,072,000	-	1,072,000
Espais patrimonials del MUHBA	303,605	315,541	303,605	-	303,605
Pavelló Mies van der Rohe	84,034	85,950	168,068	1,525	169,593
Poble Espanyol	1,258,645	-	1,258,645	-	1,258,645
Public non-municipal	256,432	254,609	256,432	-	256,432
Palau Güell	256,432	254,609	256,432	-	256,432

	Visitors		Other data 2013		
	2013	2012	Visitors to exhibitions	Users: activities & services	Total users
PRIVATE CENTRES	10,957,392	11,295,426	11,945,374	957,385	12,902,759
MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS	5,002,048	5,066,119	5,572,443	459,884	6,032,327
Can Framis. Fundació Vila Casas	13,581	17,430	13,581	-	13,581
CosmoCaixa	716,877	788,176	1,246,005	413,988	1,659,993
Fundació Fran Daurel	210,626	215,735	210,626	2,384	213,010
Fundació Francisco Godia	5,837	11,366	7,295	3,057	10,352
Fundació Suñol	9,467	11,503	15,397	1,501	16,898
Hash Marihuana Càñamo & Hemp Museum	8,733	7,654	12,133	661	12,794
L'Aquàrium	1,718,380	1,647,163	1,718,380	-	1,718,380
Museu de Cera	198,590	197,048	198,590	-	198,590
Museu de la Moto	9,032	8,453	9,032	-	9,032
Museu de la Xocolata	139,370	140,821	139,370	35,908	175,278
Museu de l'Eròtica	60,970	53,484	60,970	30	61,000
Museu del Futbol Club Barcelona	1,506,022	1,540,648	1,506,022	-	1,506,022
Museu del Modernisme Català	17,540	13,487	17,540	2,298	19,838
Museu d'Idees i Invents de Barcelona. MIBA	48,479	49,193	78,958	-	78,958
Museu Egipci de Barcelona	250,036	277,064	250,036	-	250,036
Museu Europeu d'Art Modern. MEAM	84,270	82,216	84,270	-	84,270
Museu Geològic del Seminari de Barcelona	4,238	4,678	4,238	57	4,295
EXHIBITION CENTRES	705,257	992,535	998,364	350,190	1,348,554
CaixaForum	686,151	971,101	979,258	349,470	1,328,728
Espais VolART i VolART2. Fundació Vila Casas	7,606	6,784	7,606	-	7,606
Fundació Foto Colectania	11,500	14,650	11,500	720	12,220
SPACES OF ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST	5,250,087	5,236,772	5,374,567	147,311	5,521,878
Casa Batlló	796,301	780,466	796,301	-	796,301
Casa Museu Gaudí	332,307	361,197	332,307	-	332,307
La Pedrera	944,509	861,583	1,068,989	45,542	1,114,531
Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Família	3,176,970	3,233,526	3,176,970	101,769	3,278,739
TOTAL	20,937,708	19,588,784	23,569,788	1,747,604	25,317,392

I. Facilities with over 5,000 visitors per year.

Notes:

- El Born Centre Cultural opened on 11/9/2013.
- The Museu de Ceràmica closed down in March 2013. Its collections now form part of the Museu del Disseny de Barcelona.
- In 2012, the Museu del Disseny de Barcelona was preparing to move to its new headquarters at Plaça de les Glòries: the facility at Carrer Montcada closed down on 30/5/2012 and the Pedralbes facility on 31/12/2012. Visits to exhibitions in 2013 were at the Casa Bloc facility. Some activities have begun to be held at the museum's future headquarters, at Plaça de les Glòries, which is set to open at the end of 2014.
- In 2013, the Reial Monestir de Santa Maria de Pedralbes began to operate independently of MUHBA.
- The Museu Barbier-Mueller closed down on 15/9/2012.
- The Museu Marítim was partially closed for reforms in 2012 but the event "Titanic. The Exhibition" received over 100,000 visits between April and June 2012.
- The data on the exhibitions held in the vestibule of the Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat began to be gathered in 2012.
- The Centre d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona Fabra i Coats opened on 28/9/2012.
- The Museu Etnològic has been closed since 3/10/2011 for improvement works.
- The data on visitors to the Poble Espanyol as a space of architectural interest were added to these figures in 2013.
- The Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya extended its opening times on workdays in 2013; it began to offer free admission on Saturdays from 3.00 p.m. and added more exhibition spaces.

Source: Each facility or centre.

Archives and heritage libraries

The memories of history lie waiting in the city's documentation centres for researchers to rescue them from oblivion and to recover the life of the past. However, although they share the goal of preserving memory, Barcelona's archives and heritage libraries shelter documents of the most diverse origin.

Some of these centres conserve documents on everything connected with the city. The Arxiu Històric de Protocols de Barcelona, the Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona or the Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó are among the archives that hold the most ancient documentary material. The Arxiu Municipal Contemporani, for its part, keeps the documentation generated by the city's governing bodies from the first third of the 19th century to the present. Likewise, all the city's districts have their own archives, with material documenting and providing detailed information on everyday life in Barcelona, with the documents of associations and private persons that reflect fragments of these districts' history.

Some archives devote special attention to photographic documents. Public centres such as the Arxiu Fotogràfic de Barcelona or entities of long tradition such as the Centre Excursionista de Catalunya keep photographs that help to assure an accurate knowledge of the appearance of the city's streets and squares at different times between the end of the 19th century and the present day, including pictures which are the only remaining visual record on many no longer extant buildings.

Part of the archives and libraries comprised in this section belong to entities and institutions that have been and continue to be of capital importance in the history of Barcelona, such as the Library of the Ateneu Barcelonès, the Library of the Filmoteca de Catalunya (Cinematheque) or the Centre de Documentació i Museu de les Arts Escèniques of the Institut del Teatre with its extremely extensive documentary and bibliographic holdings. Some centres monographically and exhaustively document specific areas of research, such as the workers' movements or masonry, for example. In particular, this is the case of the Biblioteca Pública Arús, a magnificent example of a 19th-century library, the headquarters of which says as much about its historical period as the documents which it conserves. The same is true of the Biblioteca de Catalunya, which is the National Library and one of the great documentation centres of our country, housed in one of Catalonia's most outstanding civil Gothic architectural complexes since 1939.

Although some of these archives may only be consulted online (as in the case of the Zerkowitz archive) and while the great majority have digitized part of their contents, a

physical visit to the headquarters of any institution allows you to consult additional non-digitized holdings and assures you of a richer and more complete experience.

Archives and heritage libraries 2013¹

	On-site users	On-site consultations
Municipal	57,038	229,209
Arxiu Fotogràfic de Barcelona	1,831	108,700
Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona	8,460	26,546
Arxiu Municipal Contemporani de Barcelona	27,861	53,928
Arxius Municipals de Districte de Barcelona	14,841	35,604
Biblioteca Pública Arús	4,045	4,431
Public non-municipal	71,470	127,121
Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó	2,945	6,131
Biblioteca de Catalunya	47,231	88,516
Biblioteca del Cinema	10,575	19,454
Centre de Doc. i Museu de les Arts Escèniques	10,719	13,020
Private	116,496	32,280
Arxiu Fotogràfic Centre Excursionista de Catalunya	889	889
Arxiu Històric de Protocols de Barcelona	2,457	12,717
Biblioteca de l'Ateneu Barcelonès	113,150	18,674

1. Facilities with over 100 on-site consultations during the year.

Source: Each facility or centre.

Performing arts spaces

Since the middle of the 19th century when the exclusive right of the Teatre de la Santa Creu (later renamed Teatre Principal) to present public performances in the city was abolished, Barcelona has had nearly two hundred theatres devoted in an ongoing professional way to performing arts activities. The number of theatres in operation has always been one of the foremost indicators of the health of theatrical activity in our city, which has gone through very bright as well as quite dark periods of theatre life in recent centuries.

At present, however, Barcelona is in a very good phase, not only in terms of its abundance of theatres and their distribution throughout the city, but also with respect to the diversity of theatre spaces and their programmes. Barcelona's theatre map includes big publicly-owned facilities (Teatre Nacional de Catalunya, Teatre Lliure – with its locations in Gràcia and Montjuïc –, and Mercat de les Flors, which is devoted to dance and movement arts), as well as some privately-run theatres of smaller dimensions, such as La Seca Espai Brossa or the Nau Ivanow. The latter two centres, together with the Sala Beckett, which is especially devoted to the promotion of contemporary theatre, have a dual function: in addition to acting as theatres they form part of the city's network of Art Factories.

In any case, the greater part of the offering is formed by privately-owned theatres, some of which belong to large entertainment companies like Focus (the Condal, La Villarroel, and Romea theatres, among others), 3xtr3s (the Poliorama and Victòria theatres) and Balañá (Club Capitol, Coliseum, Borràs, Tívoli...), while others are independent operations.

Many of the theatres which have devoted themselves in recent years to experimental productions and which have a limited seating capacity continue to form an active part of Barcelona's theatre scene. Without sacrificing their essential qualities as centres of education or experimentation in the performing arts, these centres, which are known as alternative theatres, include such spaces as the Sala Muntaner, the Teatre Tantarantana and the Versus Teatre, among many others, and have now become integral components of a circuit committed to more intimate and community-based theatrical formats.

Likewise, in recent years new spaces devoted to the performing arts have appeared that are of small dimensions in most cases and marked by programmes that are basically centred around contemporary topics and highly innovative formats, such as the Sala Flyhard or the creation spaces Antic Teatre and Almazen. These centres present the most avant-garde proposals on the city's billboard.

Mention should also be made of theatre spaces devoted specifically to young or family audiences, such as Jove Teatre Regina or La Puntual, and other theatres which belong to the public sector (Institut del Teatre) or the private sector (Teatre Akadèmia, for example) and combine the staging of performances with performing arts education.

The few closures registered in recent times (such as the Alexandra Teatre, which shut down at the end of 2013) have been compensated by the opening of new performing arts projects (Minitèa3, Sala Fènix and the renovated Teatre Principal), highlighting the constant flux on the city's always very lively and dynamic stages.

Performing arts

	2013	2012	% variation 2013-2012
Shows	1,099	1,146	-4.1
Performances	11,338	12,638	-10.3
Seating capacity	4,455,123	4,936,476	-9.8
Tickets sold	2,079,596	2,369,997	-12.3
Attendance	2,318,628	2,609,020	-11.1
% occupancy	52	53	-1.7

Source: Associació d'Empreses de Teatre de Catalunya (ADETCA).

Concert spaces

The leading centres of Barcelona's musical life include some large facilities which, because of their dimensions, are operated as consortia in which various public administrations take part. These facilities are L'Auditori, the Gran Teatre del Liceu and the Palau de la Música. A substantial part of the city's opera and classical and contemporary music performances are held in these spaces. Despite the predominance of these musical genres, however, all three venues are also open to operators who hold all types of concerts there, ranging from pop to world music, and they also host music festivals in the most diverse styles.

L'Auditori is the scene of many of the performances of the Orquestra Simfònica de Barcelona i Nacional de Catalunya (OBC) – which was created in 1944 and works to foster the appreciation of classical and contemporary music – and of those of the Banda Municipal de Barcelona (a group founded in 1886 that combines the classical repertoire with popular music and all types of collaborations which have gone to demonstrate its versatility), as well as performances of its resident groups. In conjunction with L'Auditori, the Palau de la Música and the Gran Teatre del Liceu have taken part since 2013 in the holding of the Richard Wagner bicentenary, with its main venues at these three big Barcelona facilities devoted to classical music and opera.

Likewise, a series of concert halls distributed throughout the city forms a live music network that cultivates various genres ranging from pop and independent rock through the most commercial music to electronic music, Catalan singer-songwriters' works and musical styles rooted in jazz. Thanks to their large size, some of these concert halls, including the Sala Apolo and Razzmatazz, host the tour performances of international stars, but the smaller venues also have very interesting programmes featuring international artists. Heliogàbal, for example, which is one of the city's smallest concert halls, was awarded the City of Barcelona Music Award in 2012 for the quality of its programme.

In 2013, this prize went to the Associació de Sales de Concerts de Catalunya (ASACC), or Catalonia Concert Halls Association, whose membership includes a good many of the venues mentioned in this section. The award highlighted the *Curtcircuit* initiative, which is a concert programme championing the important role of the city's concert halls in promoting live music.

Large auditoriums

	2013	2012	% variation 2013-2012
Gran Teatre del Liceu			
Concerts	165	192	-14.1
Attendance	233,996	282,726	-17.2
Seating capacity	286,227	352,180	-18.7
% occupancy	82	80	1.9
L'Auditori			
Concerts	454	469	-3.2
Attendance	330,102	354,226	-6.8
Seating capacity	451,577	478,115	-5.6
% occupancy	73	74	-1.3
Palau de la Música Catalana			
Concerts	555	558	-0.5
Attendance	311,927	350,646	-11.0
Seating capacity	520,237	598,547	-13.1
% occupancy	60	59	2.4

Source: Each facility.

Live music venues 2013

	No. of concerts	Attendance
Apolo	359	315,202
Apolo. La [2]	366	90,191
BARTS. Barcelona Arts on Stage	72	52,413
Be Good	108	9,187
Bikini	52	18,232
Harlem Jazz Club	372	47,000
Heliogàbal	139	9,092
Jamboree	332	33,188
Jazz Sí Club	346	20,760
Koitton Club	134	4,690
L'Ovella Negra	43	2,582
Marula Cafè	192	4,800
Music Hall	107	24,250
Razzmatazz	237	310,648
Rocksound	191	9,550
BeCool	86	13,158
Sala Monasterio	232	20,880
Sidecar	99	12,048
Tarantos	332	71,500
TOTAL	3,799	1,069,371

Source: Associació de Sales de Concerts de Catalunya (ASACC) and some of the venues themselves.

Cinemas

Even though cinema exhibition is not going through one of its best periods just now and the cinema attendance figures have registered low levels in recent years, films continue to be an active field of culture and the city has recently even been the site of initiatives addressed to drawing film audiences in innovative ways.

Most film activity is centred in conventional cinemas, which are operated in their majority by chains devoted to cinema exhibition. This is the case of the cinemas Balañá, Lauren, Cinesa and Yelmo Cineplex which have been following the general trend for a number of years, diversifying their offer through multiplex cinemas in spaces like Arenas de Barcelona (12 screens), Cinesa La Maquinista (13 screens), Cinesa Diagonal Mar (18 screens), Icaria Yelmo (15 screens), and Glòries Multicines and Gran Sarrià Multicinemes (8 screens each), among many others. Despite this, a few cinemas still have a single screen (Club Coliseum, for example), although the last large-dimension screen, at the Urgell cinema, disappeared with the shut-down of that cinema in 2013.

At the cinemas which don't belong to the big exhibition chains, films addressed to specific audience sectors predominate over purely commercial films. This is the case of the Verdi cinemas, which have five screens; the four Boliche cinemas (which mainly run films in their original versions with Catalan subtitles); the Maldà cinema, and the three screens of the Girona cinemas, which focus on quality motion pictures from Europe in general and Catalonia in particular and host various film festivals and cycles. The Méliès cinemas, with their two auditoriums, show auteur films in their original versions with subtitles, with both current movies and classics from all times.

Compensating, if that is possible, for the closure in 2013 of the Alexandra cinemas, the Lauren Gràcia cinema and the Urgell cinema, in the past year two new film exhibition venues opened in the city. One of these is the multiplex Balmes Multicinemes (Balañá Group) which, with their 12 auditoriums, assure the presence of a cultural facility on a plot that was initially to be occupied by the Auditori Manent. The other cinema that opened in 2013 is ZumZeig, an auditorium in the Sants neighbourhood devoted to films of less commercial character, documentaries and video art that is being well received by young and alternative audiences.

Lastly, the Filmoteca de Catalunya (Cinematheque) is a unique facility among the city's cinema auditoriums. In addition to recovering, conserving and researching audiovisual works, it endeavours to spread cinema culture and especially that of Catalonia by showing classic films from all periods and exploring innovative contemporary cinema languages. Its goals include the cultivation of new cinema audiences. Over 143,000 spectators attended the Filmoteca de Catalunya in 2013.

Commercial circuit cinema

	2013	2012	% variation 2013-2012
No. of cinema screens	203	193	5.2
Seats	44,246	43,468	1.8
Films shown	757	748	1.2
Sessions	218,741	249,451	-12.3
Box office receipts	38,365,814	48,825,194	-21.4
Attendance	5,124,035	6,520,512	-21.4

Source: Institut Català de les Empreses Culturals (ICEC).

Creation spaces

Creativity and the exploration of new languages and ways of doing things in the various artistic disciplines have been prominent traits of Barcelona culture.

Their support has also been one of the local administration's priorities. The *Fàbriques de Creació* (Art Factories) programme promoted by Barcelona City Council's Institut de Cultura (ICUB) has allowed old unused industrial spaces to be converted into public facilities addressed to fostering cultural creation and production. In addition to their role as revitalizers of their immediate surroundings, the function of these centres is to provide support for artists and cultural agents and to endow them with the means to generate new discourses and contents, always with excellence and quality as their goals. Consequently, the art factories, which form a network of mainly publicly-owned centres under private management, are marked by their twofold nature as facilities of city-wide scope that also act as community centres. These major facilities are spreading to all the city's districts, where they act as engines of creativity.

Barcelona has eight art factories at the present time: the path that was blazed a few years ago by the *Ateneu Popular de Nou Barris* and *Hangar* has been followed by *La Escocesa* in *Poblenou*, the *Nau Ivanow* in *La Sagrera*, *Fabra i Coats* in *Sant Andreu*, *El Graner* in *La Marina*, the *Central del Circ* at the *Fòrum*, and *La Seca* in *Ciutat Vella*. This network will soon be expanded with a new factory: the *Sala Beckett-Obrador Internacional de Dramatúrgia*, which has continued to operate at its facilities in the *Gràcia* neighbourhood while transferring part of its activities to the old headquarters of the *Cooperativa Pau i Justícia* in *Poblenou*, where it will be permanently located in the near future. Most of these spaces are specialized in specific disciplines (circus, dance and movement arts, theatre, visual arts), although *Fabra i Coats* acts as a big container for all types of initiatives.

The private creation spaces, for their part, share with the network the job of supporting the most emergent artistic manifestations and their task of activating the neighbourhoods in keeping with their aim to be centres open to all types of proposals. These spaces are usually promoted by associations and they are marked by their innovative multidisciplinary character. They are flexible centres that are receptive to all types of artistic expression, from the performing arts and the visual arts to the new technologies, music and video art. For want of a better definition, it may be said that they are "places where things happen" – spaces for the creative work of artists and designers, sometimes with artistic residencies; centres that promote cultural festivals, cycles, gatherings and street activities... centres that often interact among each other and that combine creation with exhibition, becoming new centres of proximity culture in this way. These private artistic creation and experimentation spaces include *L'Antic Teatre*, *Almazén*, *Homesession*, *Nunart*, *La Poderosa*, *Tragant*

Dansa, Conservas, E-Art, Halfhouse, Miscelânea, Mutuo, Niu, RAI and Porta 4. The best thing, however, is that this list is growing through the constant appearance of new centres where emerging culture finds a fundamental point of support and a place for its display.

Barcelona libraries

The map of Biblioteques de Barcelona (Barcelona Libraries) continued to expand in 2013 with the opening of a new centre: Biblioteca El Clot-Josep Benet, located in the Disseny Hub Barcelona building at Plaça de les Glòries. This new library, which has 1,732 sq.m. of space distributed on two floors, opened at the end of the year and features a special archive devoted to Josep Benet, an outstanding figure in the field of political Catalanism. With this facility, the city now has 39 public libraries, which are managed by the Consorci de Biblioteques de Barcelona (Barcelona Libraries Consortium).

Likewise, within the process of updating the existing facilities, five of the multimedia spaces of Biblioteques de Barcelona have been adapted for use by people with functional diversity. This process has been carried out in collaboration with the Fundació Desenvolupament Comunitari and with the support of the Institut Municipal de Persones amb Discapacitat (Municipal Institute for People with Disabilities).

The libraries have not only become reference centres in the city's neighbourhoods as bibliographic and documentation spaces, but they are also the scene of many activities for both children and adults. These activities involve learning, oral narration, reading clubs, book presentations, cinema and even talks with authors in the case of adults, in addition to the staging of small-format pieces, story-telling, workshops and musical activities for children, to name only a few of the programmes and events held at the libraries in 2013.

Biblioteques de Barcelona has worked with schools and with educational resource centres, offering them a school visits programme, and has established lines of work to unify the offering of visits to the libraries of Barcelona while respecting the specific features of the city's various territories. In this respect, a series of recommendations have been proposed to prepare the visits of primary and secondary schools: in the early stages of education, the aim is to foster reading, while in the later stages this aim is expanded to offer students tools with which to search for information.

In 2013, Biblioteques de Barcelona continued to organize activities of interest for young people and held the 5th Public Libraries and Social Cohesion Conference, on this occasion on "Els joves ni... ni..." (Neets). At this conference, in a social context in which young people's serious difficulties in finding jobs are combined with a school dropout rate of large proportions, some 230 professionals examined the role that the libraries can play to improve this situation and discussed cases of good practices of the libraries of both Catalonia and other countries.

Libraries

	2013	2012	% variation 2013-2012
No. of facilities	39	38	2.6
Total square metres of space	60,756	59,024	2.9
No. of visits	6,343,803	6,439,112	-1.5
New library cards	52,063	61,971	-16.0
Total card-holders	905,060	880,434	2.8
Loans	4,229,213	4,639,242	-8.8

Source: Biblioteques de Barcelona.

Civic centres

Theatre, dance, music, plastic arts... the city's civic centres have become the closest access point to culture for many Barcelonans. The fifty-one civic centres that are distributed among the city's neighbourhoods have regular programmes that allow people of all ages and circumstances to enjoy concerts, shows and exhibitions free of charge or at accessible prices.

Some of these facilities are located in newly-built structures but in many cases they are housed in buildings which have a special significance in their respective areas (Cotxeres de Sants, La Farinera del Clot, La Sedeta, Casa Orlandai...) and which are now focal points in community life.

The civic centres hold diverse activities, including training programmes (both traditional and very innovative ones depending on new demands and social and cultural trends); musical performances of emerging or established artists in a wide range of styles; theatrical performances and dance productions; as well as audiovisual screenings and even small-scale film and documentary festivals. Most of the civic centres also hold conferences and talks on various topics of current interest, effectively popularizing scientific and philosophical knowledge. Likewise, many centres regularly hold activities conceived for everyone, especially at weekends.

Some civic centres have come to focus on specific cultural spheres. This is the case of Can Basté, Pati Llimona and Golferichs, which are specialized in photography; Centre Cívic Besòs, with its flamenco-related activities; Centre Cívic Cotxeres Borrell, which features the Tísner Space for the performing arts; Can Felipa and Sant Andreu, which have a visual arts programme for the support of emerging artists, and La Barceloneta, which is specialized in the movement arts and dance, just to name a few.

Projects generated in the civic centres have often gone on to become city classics, such as the documentary film festival Miradocs at the Centre Cívic Casa Elizalde or the Sound Art Festival at the Centre Cívic Convent de Sant Agustí, for example.

Cultural festivals

Barcelona's cultural festivals encompass nearly all the fields of creation, from theatre and dance to art and, naturally enough, music, cinema and literature. The Grec - Festival de Barcelona, which is devoted to the performing arts but also features an outstanding musical programme, is one of the foremost cultural festivals of the city but by no means its only one. In fact, Barcelona holds more than 150 cultural festivals of the most diverse types, although not all have the same level of prominence. There are internationally renowned cultural festivals and others which are addressed to more specific spheres of interest. Even the smallest of these events, however, are a good example of Barcelona's vitality in the various spheres of culture and of its status as a laboratory of creation. Despite the fact that these cultural festivals are of small dimensions and emerging character, many of them present highly innovative proposals in their respective fields.

It should be said that some of these festivals act as magnets, drawing a substantial number of visitors to the city at certain times of the year. Some are publicly-organized events, while others are private initiatives which, in view of their financial impact and their positive effect on the city's cultural standing, receive the support of the public institutions.

These festivals, large or small, supplement the cultural offering that is generated in Barcelona by public institutions and private agents, and they are often prestige brands for the city. For these reasons and more, the city's cultural festivals are considered a strategic sector. To form an idea of these festivals' importance within the city's cultural fabric, it suffices to consider such figures as the total 24 million Euros of the budgets of the cultural festivals that applied for ICUB grants in 2013.

Music is one of the largest fields of Barcelona's cultural festivals (Primavera Sound, Sònar, Festival Internacional de Jazz de Barcelona...), but there are also events devoted to the performing arts (like Escena Poblenou, for example) and to cinema (including such popular festivals as Mecal, In-Edit for musical documentary films and Sala Montjuïc), in addition to a considerable number of festivals focused on the plastic arts, photography or video art, ranging from the Screen Festival to the Swab Barcelona contemporary art fair and the 48H Open House architecture festival (which opens the doors of unique buildings of Barcelona to the public for two days each year).

Literature is the main topic of some events that are now classics on the city's cultural festival calendar, such as Barcelona Poesia and BCNegra, two festivals with prominent international guests that turn the city into the capital of poetry and of crime

fiction, respectively, when they are held. Young readers, for their part, have Mòn Llibre (Book World), a festival devoted to children's literature, while fans of historical literature have a new festival since 2013 called Barcelona Novel·la Històrica, at which the Barcino Prize is awarded.

In addition to being a mark of prestige for the city, all these cultural festivals offer Barcelona creators the chance to acquaint themselves with other realities and to discover sources of inspiration in their quest for new creative languages and innovative forms of expression.

Cultural festivals

	2013	2012	% variation 2013-2012
Performing arts	193,323	253,357	-23.7
Visual arts	290,350	328,328	-11.6
Audiovisuals	184,191	157,780	16.7
Literature	45,576	37,577	21.3
Music	745,452	768,339	-3.0
Multidisciplinary events & others	96,356	141,827	-32.1
TOTAL	1,555,248	1,687,208	-7.8

Source: Each festival.

City festivals

La Mercè, the Three Kings Cavalcade, Santa Eulàlia, Sant Jordi day, Festa Major de Gràcia and Festa Major de Sants... Barcelona's calendar of city festivals includes a large number of annual events that are held in public spaces. In addition to their cultural and social value, the city festivals have an important cohesive effect because they bring together participants of all ages and circumstances. Behind each of these festivals lies the work of the popular culture entities and of an important civic and associative fabric that assures the continued existence and success of these events. Indeed, these entities and the city festival movement of Barcelona play an essential role in assuring our social and territorial cohesion so they receive special attention in the local administration's cultural policies.

La Mercè, Barcelona's most important city festival, is also the one that best expresses and agglutinates the traditions of Barcelona and Catalonia at large, and it gives one a good idea of our creative and innovative character. Indeed, La Mercè is the great showcase of the popular and traditional culture that is fostered throughout the year by the cultural entities in general and particularly by the *colles* and *esbarts* (the groups that build *castells* or human towers, that give life to the festival giants and to the dancing "devils" who set off fireworks in the exciting *correfocs*, that do the *sardana* circle dance, that play the tabors and much more).

Although tradition unquestionably continues to be the main ingredient of the city festivals, creativity and experimentation have also come to form part of these community celebrations, giving rise to events like the Mercè Arts de Carrer (street arts festival), which is the foremost display of the street artists' talent, work and expressiveness, set within the framework of La Mercè; or like Llum BCN (Light BCN), which forms part of the festival of Santa Eulàlia. Following the trend of other cities of Europe, Llum BCN makes light the central element of a great urban festival that reveals a new city, transforms buildings and gives little corners of the Old Town a special magic charged with meaning and poetry.

Other celebrations of a cultural nature, like La Nit dels Museus (Night of Museums), which is held in May and fills the museums of Barcelona and its metropolitan area with activities for one night, and the Festa de la Ciència i Tecnologia (Science and Technology Festival), which is held in June at Ciutadella Park, have joined Barcelona's calendar of city festivals, presenting cultural activities in a fresh and exciting way for everyone.

The big city festivals are also a factor that helps to shape the city's image abroad since they have an undeniable tourist appeal and offer an attractively festive view of Barcelona.

City festivals

	Start date	End date	Attendance
Three Kings Cavalcade	5/1/2013	5/1/2013	600.000
Tres Tombs (Festival of the Three Rounds)	19/1/2013	19/1/2013	IU ¹
Carnival Parade	9/2/2013	9/2/2013	IU
Festival of Santa Eulàlia	12/2/2013	17/2/2013	IU
Festival of Sant Medir	3/3/2013	3/3/2013	IU
Sant Jordi Day	23/4/2013	23/4/2013	IU
Nit dels Museus (Night of Museums)	18/5/2013	18/5/2013	133.272
L'ou com balla (The Dancing Egg)	30/5/2013	2/6/2013	IU
Festa de la Ciència (Science Festival)	14/6/2013	16/6/2013	7.875
St John's Eve Festival	23/6/2013	23/6/2013	IU
Festa Major de Gràcia	15/8/2013	21/8/2013	IU
Festa Major de Sants	24/8/2013	1/9/2013	IU
11th September (National Day)	11/9/2013	11/9/2013	IU
Festival of La Mercè	20/9/2013	24/9/2013	1.539.530

1. IU: Information unavailable.

Source: Organizers.

Support to cultural entities

The maintenance and promotion of the cultural sector is the main priority of Barcelona City Council's Institut de Cultura (ICUB). In the exercise of its competences, ICUB offers support to the city's cultural agents in different ways. One of the tools for promoting and supporting them is the grant programme. Each year grants are requested by over 600 cultural projects ranging from those which are of entirely traditional nature to others connected with the new technologies, in the fields of theatre, dance, circus, music, literature, cinema and audiovisuals, as well as in the spheres of popular culture, design, apps and new technologies, architecture, visual arts, science and other areas.

Many of the cultural projects that are started up by Barcelona's civil society benefit from these grants. These projects include those of almost all the theatres in the city (totalling about thirty), over one hundred cultural festivals, nearly all the manifestations of popular culture, a large part of the professional associations and many creation spaces. What's more, this figure is constantly growing because, in addition to the consolidated activities, new projects are always arising, a fact that highlights the vitality of Barcelona's cultural map.

These grants are included in the annual general grant programme of Barcelona City Council but ICUB also operates its own lines of grants. ICUB grants are for investments in works and facilities at different types of places including athenaeums, creation spaces, live music auditoriums, bookshops, art galleries and cultural innovation spaces. These centres are activators of their immediate surroundings. They are instruments helping to structure basic cultural activity, creativity and cultural consumption, together with innovation and cultural commerce, all of which are fundamental elements for the good health of a cultural ecosystem. ICUB's own grant lines help these spaces to carry out improvement works that bring their facilities into compliance with the applicable rules, modernizing them and improving the conditions under which their activities are carried out.

In all cases the ultimate goal is to offer cultural entities the conditions they require to assure that Barcelona will continue to be a vibrantly creative city where everyone can find a cultural offering of interest.

Subsidies from ICUB

Subsidies to cultural entities	Amount
Visual arts	329,500 €
Performing arts	426,500 €
Dance	237,963 €
Theatre venues	822,034 €
Music	1,069,000 €
Live music venues	86,950 €
Audiovisuals	399,000 €
Popular culture	143,700 €
Literature	106,000 €
Science	27,750 €
Others	92,500 €
Overall total	3,740,897 €

Other subsidy lines	Amount
Athenaeums	1,716,473 €
Music spaces and auditoriums	400,000 €
Book stores	86,245 €
ICTs	300,000 €
Overall total	2,502,718 €

Source: Institut de Cultura de Barcelona (ICUB).