

# JOINING INSTRUCTIONS

## The Conference Venue

**Universitat Oberta de Catalunya**  
Avinguda del Tibidabo, 39  
08035 Barcelona

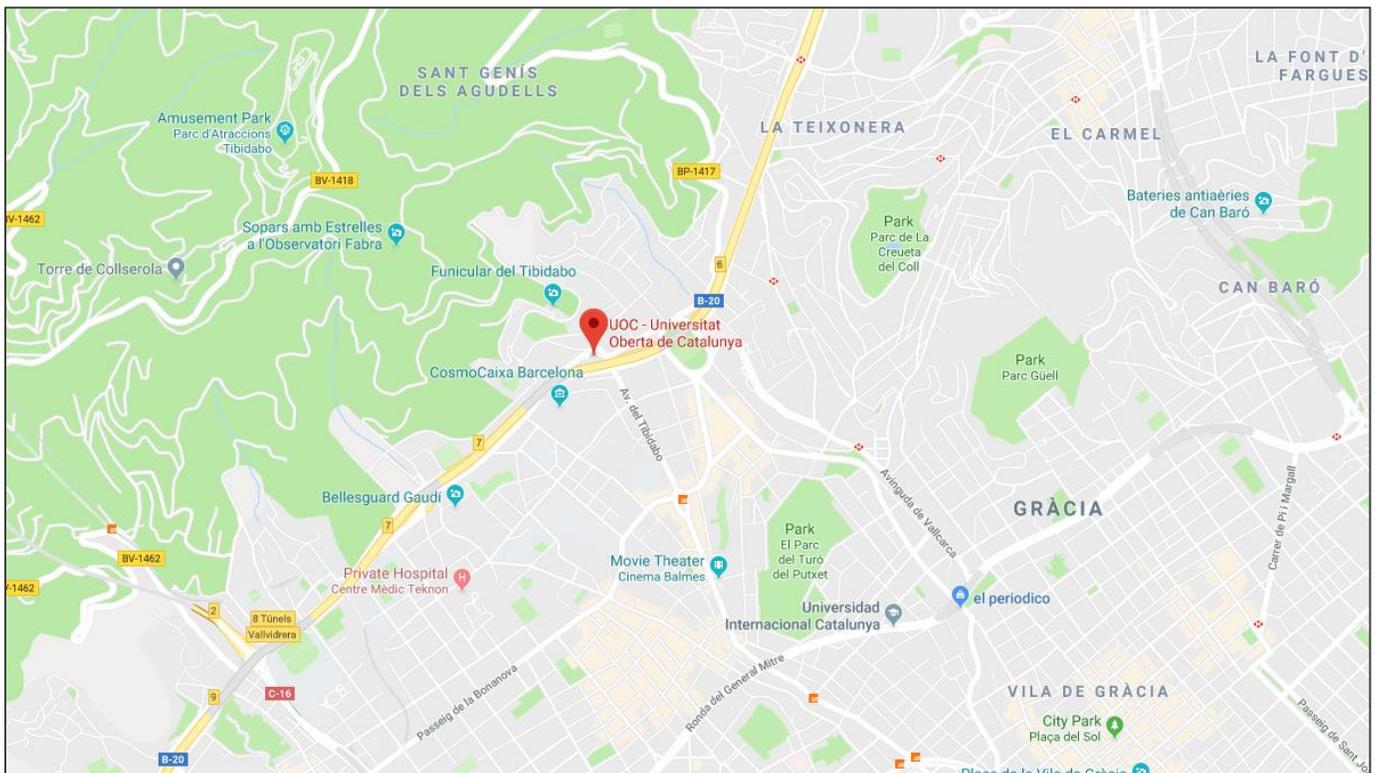


## Location

The PhD Symposium venue is the **Universitat Oberta de Catalunya**. The building is just a few steps walk from the **CosmoCaixa Museum**, where the **10<sup>th</sup> EDEN Research Workshop** will be held.

## How to get there

Take the bus no. 60, or 196. The closest stop is Ronda de Dalt – Cister.  
FGC Trains: to Avenida Tibidabo and then change to Tramvia Blau or bus 196.



# ARRIVING IN BARCELONA

## Barcelona by plane

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Barcelona is served by Barcelona-El Prat Airport, 17 km from the city centre connected by highway, commuter train and scheduled bus service. Some low-cost airlines also use Girona-Costa Brava Airport, about 90 km to the north, Reus Airport, 77 km to the south or Lleida-Alguaire Airport, about 150 km to the west, of the city.

The **RENFE train service** runs approximately every 30 minutes to and from Barcelona airport to the city centre. Travel time approximately 25 minutes ([timetable and prices](#)). The railway station is located adjacent to the airport's terminal 2B. Terminal 1 is about 5 kilometres away and passengers need to use a free shuttle bus between the terminal and the railway station. You can get off at **Barcelona Sants**, **Passeig de Gràcia** or **Clot stations**, which are serviced by metro stops. A single ticket to Sants Station costs €4.20.

The [Metro](#) connects both terminals of the Airport with Barcelona underground network since February 2016. The line is called L9 Sud (South). There are stops at T1 (inside the building) and T2 (outside the building, next to the train station), in both cases follow the signs. The L9 Sud runs directly from Barcelona Airport to the Fira Gran Via. In order to reach the city center, you must make a change of line to L1 at Torrassa station, L5 at Collblanc station or L3 at Zona Universitaria station. Tickets for one way (zone 1) to reach Barcelona airport from any metro station cost €4.50.

The [Aerobus service](#) is an express bus service that links Barcelona airport to the city center. This service normally runs between 6 and 15 minutes within its fixed hours of operation ([timetable](#)). Tickets cost €5.90 for a single and €10.20 for a return.

The journey to the city centre by **taxi** takes between 20 to 30 minutes. Expect to pay around €25.00-30.00. Barcelona Airport Taxis: Tel: +34 932 20 06 84 Taxi Services Barcelona: 602 10 42 19

### Airport Information Service:

Phone: +34 902 404 704  
+34 913 211 000

Web-site: <http://www.aena.es/en/barcelona-airport/index.html>

## Barcelona by train

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Barcelona is a major hub for RENFE, the Spanish state railway network. The city's main Inter-city rail station is Barcelona-Sants station, whilst Estació de França terminus serves a secondary role handling suburban, regional and medium distance services.

## Public transport in Barcelona

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Barcelona is served by a comprehensive local public transport network that includes a metro, a bus network, two separate modern tram networks, a separate historic tram line, several funiculars and aerial cable cars. Most of these networks and lines form a coordinated [transport system](#).

[T10 ticket](#) (10 journeys only): Valid until end of January of following year. Can be shared with other members of your group.

[Barcelona Card](#): Free transport, no limits on amounts of journeys, valid for the number of days you purchase the card for, includes discounts to attractions and many venues, cannot be shared with other members of your group.

[Barcelona Transport Card](#): Transport only card, no limits on the number of journeys, valid for 2 to 5 days, cannot be shared with other members.

[Barcelona metro timetable and ticket information](#)

[Barcelona's Main Transport Stations](#)

## Taxis

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All official Barcelona taxis are black and yellow. A 15 minutes journey will only cost about €10.00. Licensed taxis have to charge you the amount displayed on the meter. Tipping is welcomed but not required. If you wish to give a tip, give 5-10% of the fare.

- [Fono Taxi](#): +34-933-110-011
- [Ràdio Taxi 033](#): +34-933-033-033
- [Servi Taxi](#): +34-933-300-300

## Back to the airport

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It is advised to check in **at least** 1 hour before the departure

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION - CONFERENCE

## Lunch / Coffee Breaks

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Lunches and coffees are included in the registration fee for all registered participants.

## Insurance / Liability

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Neither the organizer nor the conference secretariat can be held liable for loss, injury or damage to any person or property or for any additional expenditure incurred due to changes, whatever the causes. Participants are advised to make their own arrangements for health and travel insurance.

## Name Badges

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All participants receive name badges at the registration desk and are kindly asked to wear their badge for admission to the conference programmes.

## Video recording and photos

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Please note that some of the sessions may be recorded and photos may be taken. If you have concerns, please raise them with the presenters or at the registration desk.

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION - BARCELONA

## Climate

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Barcelona has a Mediterranean climate with mild, humid winters and warm, dry summers. Its average temperature is 19°C (66 °F) in October. Here you can find the [weather forecast](#).

## Time Zone

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Local time in October is GMT +2; Central European Summer Time (CEST).

## Opening Hours

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Most of the shops and shopping centers are open from 10.00 to 20.30 or 21.30 hours. Traditional shops open from 10.00 to 14.00 hours and from 16.30 to 20.30 hours. Most regular high street shops and shopping centres and malls are closed on Sundays in Barcelona. The only shops open on Sundays are souvenir shops, restaurants, cafes, bars and cinemas. The only shopping mall that is open on Sundays is Maremagnum shopping mall, which has a special license due to its location in the harbour.

Note that some establishments might not accept your credit card unless you have a computer chip imbedded in it.

## Banking Services

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There are many banks (bancos) to choose from as Spain has one of the highest bank branches per capita on the continent. Banks in Spain are open from Monday to Friday from 8.30 to 14.00; Saturdays from 9.00 to 13.00; and often times Thursday afternoons from 17.00 to 19.00.

## Currency Exchange

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Spain's official currency is the Euro (EUR). Money can be exchanged at banks and major hotels. Do not accept any change offer in the streets.

As elsewhere, the most common cards in Spain are Eurocard/Mastercard and Visa, however credit cards are not accepted everywhere. ATMs are widespread

and are generally the cheapest and most convenient method of obtaining money.

## Electricity

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Electrical current is 230 volts, 50Hz. European style two-pin plugs are standard.

## Telephones

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The international call prefix and country code for Spain is +34. Spanish phone numbers always have nine digits and do not have a dialing code. A leading 0 no longer exists. What used to be the dialing code for Barcelona (93) is now part of every phone number and always has to be dialed.

## Tipping

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The Spanish do not generally leave tips for drinks and they do not feel compelled to always leave a tip for food. If they do, it is not as much as in other countries. If you come from a country where tipping is normal and you feel you ought to tip, 5% would be appreciated. But do not feel like it is a necessity, especially if the service was bad. Note that restaurants in Barcelona do not charge for service.

## Emergency situations

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Police, ambulance, fire brigade: 112

English-speaking police officers: +34 932 903 000 (police headquarters), Via Laietana 43

## Safety

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Although the number of thefts and the economic crisis associated unemployment has been growing, there are many districts in Barcelona where you would not have dared to go to in the past are, thanks to police presence, are fairly safe today. But just as anywhere else, dark alleys and parks during the night, etc. should generally be avoided and common sense should be followed.

## Smoking policy

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Smoking is prohibited in public buildings and public transport (including taxis), at workplaces, railway stations, discotheques, bars and restaurants. Tobacco consumption is also not allowed outside the grounds of hospitals, health centers, schools and kindergartens. Smoking is permitted on terraces (e.g. restaurants), in one's own home and balcony, in sports stadiums, in hotel rooms – if not prohibited by the owner – and in the fresh air with the exceptions explained above.

## Language

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The region of Catalonia has two official languages: Spanish and Catalan, of which are both spoken. In offices and schools, Catalan is the dominant language. Similarly, many lectures at the University are held in Catalan. Road signs and labels e.g. in museums are usually bilingual.

## CULTURE HINTS

### The City of Barcelona

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Barcelona, “the city of Marvels” and the passionate capital of Catalonia in Spain, situated between the sea and the mountains, offers a unique balance between the traditional and the avant-garde. Its history is one of the oldest in Europe, its present is full of life: the city has character and charm and one of the liveliest and most beautiful beaches in La Costa Brava. Barcelona harbours an abundant variety of artistic treasures, including Romanesque churches and the works of some of the greatest painters and architects: Dali, Gaudi, Miro and Picasso.

### Sightseeing hints in Barcelona

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Barcelona’s public transport system is not necessarily the best way to get around, because the city centre is not as big as you may think. If you choose to walk, you will be surprised to discover that many sights in the city are a lot closer than you think.

The Barri Gòtic (Catalan for “Gothic Quarter”) is the centre of the old city. Many of the buildings date from medieval times, some from as far back as the Roman settlement of Barcelona. Catalan modernist architecture (related to the movement known as Art Nouveau in the rest of Europe), developed between 1885 and 1950 and left an important legacy in Barcelona. Several of these buildings are World Heritage Sites. Especially remarkable is the work of architect Antoni Gaudí, which can be seen throughout the city.

More information: [top 36 attractions in Barcelona](#) and [walking tours](#).

### Gastronomy

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The gastronomy of Barcelona can be described as a dynamic combination of tradition with a variety of influences from other cultures. It clearly sparks the Mediterranean flavour into the palate with the use of olive oil, fresh vegetables, produce, fish and meat. There is a lot of originality in the dishes due to Barcelona’s closeness to both the sea and the mountains. A well-known and popular dish in Barcelona is *la escudella*, a kind of stew that is typical of the region. It is normally comprised of vegetables, noodles, rice and potatoes. One specialty dish made of seafood is *Zarzuela*. It is made with cuttlefish, prawn, mussels and sometimes also has lobster. Some traditional desserts in the Barcelona area are *Crema Catalana*, which is a made of a custard base topped with caramelized sugar. Another common dessert is *Menjar Blanc*, which is a pudding made from almond milk.

### Useful links:

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<http://www.uoc.edu/portal/en/index.html>  
<https://cosmocaixa.es/es/cosmocaixa-barcelona>  
(Spanish and Catalan only)

<https://www.barcelonapass.com/>  
<https://www.barcelonaturisme.com/wv3/en/>  
<https://www.barcelona-tourist-guide.com/>

<https://www.publictransport.barcelona/>  
<https://www.tmb.cat/en>

**We wish you a pleasant journey and look forward to seeing you in Barcelona and sharing the pleasure of a successful and memorable event.**