**Barcelona**

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| The city of Barcelona  |

In a privileged position on the northeastern coast of the Iberian peninsula and the shores of the Mediterranean, Barcelona is the second largest city in Spain in both size and population. It is also the capital of Catalonia, 1 of the 17 Autonomous Communities that make up Spain.

There are two official languages spoken in Barcelona: Catalan, generally spoken in all of Catalonia, and Castillian Spanish. The city of Barcelona has a population of 1.510.000, but this number spirals to more than 4.000.000 if the outlying areas are also included.

The capital of Catalonia is unequivocally a Mediterranean city, not only because of its geographic location but also and above all because of its history, tradition and cultural influences. The documented history of the city dates back to the founding of a Roman colony on its soil in the second century B.C. Modern Barcelona experienced spectacular growth and economic revival at the onset of industrialization during the second half of the 19th century. The 1888 World's Fair became a symbol of the capacity for hard work and the international outlook projected by the city. Culture and the arts flourished in Barcelona and in all of Catalonia; the splendor achieved by Catalonian modernism is one of the most patent displays.

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| The entrance to Güell Parc  | The Ramblas  |

Barcelona, more than just a single city, is really a collection of multi-faceted and diverse cities. The visitor unfamiliar with its history might be surprised that such a modern and enterprising city preserves its historic Gothic center almost intact, or by the curious contrast between the maze of narrow streets and the grid-like layout of the Eixample, the urban planning "Enlargement" project of the end of the 19th century.

**SUMMARY**

This article is about Barcelona. Barcelona is the second largest city in Spain in both size and population. It is also the capital of Catalonia. The city of Barcelona has a population of 1.510.000. Barcelona is a Mediterranean city not only because of its geographic location but also and above all because of its history, tradition and cultural influences. Barcelona, more than just a single city, is really a collection of multi-faceted and diverse cities. Barcelona is a modern and enterprising city, but it also has a remarkable history.

**MY OPINION**

This article is very interesting. I think that Barcelona is a wonderful place. You can do a lot of things in Barcelona. You can go sightseeing or you can just relax in the sun. I was in Barcelona once and I must say that it is a beautiful city. It has a very large population. Barcelona is also the capital of Catalonia. I think it is interesting that they have two languages in Barcelona: Catalan and Castillian Spanish. When I was in Barcelona I had grate fun and I would definitely go there again.

**EXPLENATION OF UNKNOWN WORDS**

|  |  |  |
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| Privilege (n) | an advantage that only one person or group of people has, usually because of their position or because they are rich | privilegije |
| Capital (n) | a city which is the centre of government of a country or smaller political area. |  |
| Official (adj) | relating to a position of responsibility |  |
| Spiral (n) | a shape made up of curves, each one above or wider than the one before. |  |
| Unequivocal (adj) | total, or expressed in a clear and certain way. |  |
| Location (n) | a place or position |  |
| Influence (n) | the power to have an effect on people or things, or a person or thing that is able to do this. |  |
| Colony (n) | a group of people who live in a colony | kolonija |
| Modern (adj) | designed and made using the most recent ideas and methods. |  |
| Spectacular (adj) | very exciting to look at. |  |
| Growth (n) | The growth of a person, animal or plant is its process of increasing in size. |  |
| Fair (n) | a large public event where goods are bought and sold. |  |
| Capacity (n) | a particular position or job. |  |
| Flourish (v) | to grow or develop successfully. |  |
| Display (n) | a collection of objects or pictures arranged for people to look at, or a performance or show for people to watch. |  |

**WORD FORMATION**

Official (adj) – officially (adv) – officiate (v)

Influence (n) – influential (adj)

Colony (n) – colonial (adj) – colonize (v)

Modern (adj) – modernity (n) – modernize (v)

Growth (n) – grown (adj) – grow (v)