

# news release

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## BARCELONA AND MADRID, TWO CITIES, ONE CULTURAL TOUR

**Hong Kong, 15 September 2015** – Guests can visit two iconic art landmarks in Madrid and Barcelona in one trip with [Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona](#) and [Hotel Ritz, Madrid](#). The two hotels are jointly offering a four-night *From Goya to Gaudi* package that provides guests with exclusive visits to Barcelona's Casa Batlló and Madrid's Museo del Prado, and luxurious accommodation in both cities.

Guests can experience the effervescence of Barcelona's Ciudad Condal and visit [Casa Batlló](#), the famous Gaudí-designed building located in front of Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona, where they can admire this Modernist masterpiece in a guided tour that concludes with a glass of Cava in one of its private rooms.

In Madrid, guests will have access to [Museo del Prado](#) where they can enjoy temporary art exhibitions and the permanent collection, which includes famous pieces like *The Garden of Earthly Delights* by Bosch, *The Nobleman with his hand on his Chest* by El Greco and *Death of the Virgin* by Mantegna. Other great works on display include *Las Meninas* by Velázquez, *The Three Graces* by Rubens, and *The Family of Carlos IV* by Goya.

To travel smoothly and quickly from one city to the other, guests can book the [AVE](#) first class service, Spain's high-speed train that connects the two cities in less than three hours.

**4-day [From Goya to Gaudi](#) package** available all year-round, **priced from Euro 3,400** for two persons, and **includes:**

- Two-night stay at Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona in a Mandarin Junior Suite
- Daily breakfast served in BistrEau restaurant for one or two persons
- Exclusive experience at Casa Batlló by Gaudí
- Transfers from/to AVE train station to/from the hotel
- Two-night stay at Hotel Ritz, Madrid in a One Bedroom Suite
- Daily breakfast served in the restaurant for one or two persons
- One ticket per person for the Prado Museum

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### **Casa Batlló**

Architect, Antoni Gaudí, undertook a radical refurbishment of a building in Barcelona's Passeig de Gràcia dating from 1875 to create one of his boldest works. Gaudí's imaginative efforts were complemented by the decorative work of the artisans who collaborated with him between 1904 and 1906. A simple glance at the building gives rise to myriad interpretations. The discs of multicoloured glazed-ceramics and broken shards of stained glass placed with precision on the building's facade and interiors depict flowers and water lilies and play with the reflections of the sunlight. The effect is to create a vast Impressionist painting that is often seen as the rolling sea in the heart of Passeig de Gràcia.

### **Prado Museum**

The building housing the Museo Nacional del Prado was designed by architect, Juan de Villanueva, in 1785. Originally named the Royal Museum of Paintings and Sculptures it was conceived by King Ferdinand VII encouraged by his wife, Queen Maria Isabel de Braganza. Quickly renamed the National Museum of Paintings and Sculptures it was subsequently rebranded the Museo Nacional del Prado, and opened to the public for the first time in November 1819.

For further information or reservations call Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona at + (34) 93 151 88 88 or visit [www.mandarinoriental.es/barcelona/](http://www.mandarinoriental.es/barcelona/) or Hotel Ritz, Madrid at + (34) 91 701 67 67 or visit [www.mandarinoriental.com/ritzmadrid/](http://www.mandarinoriental.com/ritzmadrid/)

### **About Hotel Ritz, Madrid**

Built in 1910, this iconic landmark hotel quickly built up a following, establishing Madrid as one of the truly great European cities. With 167 luxuriously appointed rooms and suites, the property is perfectly located in the heart of the city, overlooking the famous National Picture Galleries the Prado and the Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum. The hotel is also close to the Madrid Stock Exchange, while Madrid's museum of modern art, The Reina Sofia, is within walking distance. Its four restaurants and bars are a constant buzz of activity, and provide a lively, central gathering place for Spanish high society and international guests alike.



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### **About Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona**

Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona is an exclusive hotel situated right on Barcelona's Passeig de Gràcia. The property has 120 rooms and suites with an exquisite and elegant interior design by Patricia Urquiola. Its carefully considered gastronomic offering currently consists of two restaurants: [BistrEau](#) restaurant with [La Mesa](#) by Ángel León and the signature restaurant [Moments](#), providing neo-traditional Catalan cuisine under the auspices of the multi-Michelin starred chef Carme Ruscalleda. Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona appeals as a meeting point for guests and local residents alike, and offers enticing spaces such as the [Mimosa](#) garden, the [Terrat](#) with exceptional panoramic views over the city and the [Banker's Bar](#), with its extensive cocktail menu and live music program.

### **About Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group**

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is the award-winning owner and operator of some of the most luxurious hotels, resorts and residences. Having grown from a well-respected Asian hotel company into a global brand, the Group now operates, or has under development, 46 hotels representing 11,000 rooms in 25 countries, with 21 hotels in Asia, nine in The Americas and 16 in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. In addition, the Group operates or has under development, 16 *Residences at Mandarin Oriental* connected to its properties.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download in the [Photo Library](#) of our [Media](#) section, at [www.mandarinoriental.com](http://www.mandarinoriental.com).

Visit [Destination MO](http://www.mandarinoriental.com/destination-mo/) (<http://www.mandarinoriental.com/destination-mo/>), the online version of [Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group](#)'s bespoke publication, *MO*. News about our award-winning hotels, the best dining experiences, spa treatments, travel retreats and interviews with the Group's celebrity fans is now just a click away. Further information is also available on our [Social Media](#) channels.

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