

# information

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## **RENOWNED MICHELIN STARRED CHEF CARME RUSCALLEDA AT MANDARIN ORIENTAL, BARCELONA**

Carme Ruscalledda is one of the most awarded female Chef in the World and best ambassador of Catalan gastronomy. Self-taught, she opened her first restaurant Sant Pau in the Catalan seaside town of Sant Pol de Mar together with her husband Toni Balam in 1988 during thirty years until October 2018. The restaurant has held three Michelin stars since 2005. Ruscalledda also runs an outpost of her Sant Pau restaurant in Tokyo which opened in 2004, and which has two Michelin stars.

Carme Ruscalledda, oversees the culinary operations at Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona, which include casual Blanc restaurant, Banker's Bar and the signature restaurant Moments, which provides neo-traditional Catalan cuisine with 2 Michelin stars.

Ruscalledda career has also brought her several other awards, including the National Gastronomy Prize in 2016 and the Sant Jordi Cross, the highest Catalan honor, which she was awarded in 2004. The collaboration between Mandarin Oriental and Carme Ruscalledda brings an exciting development to Barcelona's culinary scene, which is becoming increasingly renowned as one of the most inspired in the world.

The kitchen at Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona's *Moments* is headed by Chef Raül Balam, Carme Ruscalledda's son, who has been working with the prestigious chef for many years. The restaurant feature Ruscalledda's trademark Catalan cuisine, with seasonal produce taking centre stage. Commenting on her style, Ruscalledda says, "*The quality and freshness of the produce that we use is vital. My aim has always been to provide healthy, tasty and well-prepared cuisine.*" *Moments* provides a traditional Catalan dining experience. As Ruscalledda explains, "*At Moments we focus on tradition and authenticity, by returning to our Catalan roots*" The interior of *Moments* has been designed by renowned Spanish designer Patricia Urquiola and seats 50 guests for both lunch and dinner.

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