



5 January

### Three Kings' Day (Epiphany)

The Three Wise Men arrive to the city by boat, after a long journey to fulfil the dreams of young and old people. The kids wait impatiently for the Three Wise Men who arrive at the *Escala Reial* to tour the city accompanied by the pages and floats.



27 January

### SB Hotels Tarragona Marathon

In January, Tarragona becomes the epicentre of the running world.



1-28 February

### Gastronomy sessions "La Part Alta Somriu a la Crisi"

The restaurants in the Part Alta (historic quarter) offer menus for all budgets.



22 February-5 March

### Carnival

During one week the streets are filled with colour and music to celebrate the great festival of the king of debauchery. The highlight of the festival is the float-filled parade on the Saturday, and of particular note are the *Disfressa d'Or*, the concerts, the tasting of *botifarra d'ou* (egg sausage) and the *crema de la bóta*, the burning of the Carnival King figure in an enormous wineskin at the festivities'...



17 March

### **Els tres tombs**

*Els Tres Tombs*, held in many towns throughout Catalonia, gathers a wide number of riders, carts and horses who go round the streets of the city-centre three times and receive the blessing of Sant Antoni (Saint Anthony), patron saint of domestic animals.



14-22 April

### Easter Week

One of the manifestations with the most solemnity in the city of Tarragona is Easter Week, which main event is the Holy Burial Procession on Good Friday. The first documented proof of the celebration of this procession through the streets of the *Part Alta* (Old Town) goes back to the year 1550. Currently more than 4000 people group in 12 associations, brotherhoods and congregations and carry 20 *pasos* (episodes of the Passion of Christ) in this procession. The procession is preceded by the armed soldiers who break the silence with the sound of their kettledrums....



23 April

### Sant Jordi (St. George's Day)

This day recalls the heroic deed of Sant Jordi (Saint George), patron saint of Catalans. It is customary for couples to exchange roses and books. There is also the chance to see a human towers exhibition with the four *colles* (groups) of the city.



25-30 April

### Tarragona International Dixieland Festival

The only festival in Spain dedicated to dixieland, the origin of Jazz, popular music from New Orleans from the end of the 19th century. Every year it holds more than fifty concerts and activities in different areas as theatres, bars, restaurants and also in the open air.



3-19 May

### Tarraco a Taula

A series of culinary events which take place as part of Tarraco Viva, the international festival celebrating Roman history. Numerous restaurants participate in this event which brings back recipes from the Roman era.



5-19 May

### **Tarraco Viva**

Tarragona travels in time up until a period of great splendour for the city: the Roman times. During these international symposiums to raise awareness of ancient Roman history, the visitor lives the Roman Tarraco through historic performances such as gladiator fights, Roman theatre, music and dance and historical re-enactments of life in Roman times. All of this within an incomparable setting: the monumental...



31 May-2 June

### **Minipop Festival**

Over the first weekend of June the city is hosting Minipop, the leading contemporary culture and music festival for the whole family. The event features three packed days of concerts, creative workshops, cinema, theatre and games in one of the most beautiful settings in Catalonia with views over the Mediterranean and the Roman amphitheatre. Put your bracelet on and come and discover the most contemporary side of Tarragona. Your entrance ticket includes visits to historic monuments, activities and special discounts for hotels and restaurants.



31 May-2 June

### **The DO Tarragona Wine Fair**

Some wineries and cooperatives from the four counties that make up Tarragona's Denomination of Origin take part in this event, providing an excellent opportunity to taste and get to know wines.



23 June

### **Corpus Christi**

The *coca de cireres* (flatbread with cherries) and the *ou com balla* (dancing egg) are the most rooted traditions in the celebration of this religious festivity where one can also enjoy some traditional elements of the parade such as the towering giants and the *Magí de les Timbales* (a drummer on horse who announces the festival).





23 and 24 June

### Sant Joan (St. John's Eve)

The flame of Mount Canigó, according to tradition, lightens the bonfires that will illuminate the Summer solstice event. The parties, the *coques dolces* (sweet flatbreads) and the fireworks are welcome on the night of the witches.



24 June-26 October

### Tarragona, city of human towers

Tarragona, city of human towers, offers human tower exhibitions and additional activities related to the human towers world.

A magnificent chance to live out this tradition with over 200 years of history that is still very much present in our area's traditional festivals.

Share the strength, the bravery, the equilibrium, the smartness of the human tower world; a unique experience, a living culture.



29 June

### Sant Pere (Saint Peter)

This is the main festival of the fishermen's quarter, El Serrallo, and one of the most traditional local festivals in the city of Tarragona. The main event is the procession of Sant Pere, in which the image of the saint is paraded through the streets of the neighbourhood...



25-30 June

### Tarragona international theatre festival

The Tarragona international theatre festival aims to bring together all the new plays of contemporary authors and directors of different origins, whether from home or abroad. An open door to new talents performed in different languages. The main distinctive trait is that these new dramas will be performed in places that are not theatres, but rather other of the city's emblematic or historical sites.



July-September

### “Festival d’Estiu de Tarragona” (summer cultural agenda in Tarragona)

Musical proposals, theatre, dance and much more for all types of public and tastes.



4-7 July

### International Fireworks Competition

The Fireworks Competition has a long tradition (1990) and it has become one of the most important on the Mediterranean. The winning pyrotechnics will be commissioned for the fireworks during the city’s biggest fiesta (Santa Tecla).

ARPA (Association of Old Town Restaurants) offers us a fantastic complement for this show: tasting their tapas.



16 July

### Mare de Déu del Carme (Our Lady of Mount Carmel)

The procession of Mare de Déu del Carme is an excellent example of a very traditional event in Tarragona’s fishermen’s quarter. Fishermen and sailors carry the Virgin of Mount Carmel ceremoniously across the waters of the Mediterranean, disembarking in the El Serrallo neighbourhood.



2-31 August

### Amfiteatrum

Join us on an exciting journey to Tarragona’s Roman past through historical re-enactments.





4-29 August, from Sunday to Thursday

### Night visit to the Amphitheatre and don't miss the magnificent documentary

Enjoy the [Roman Amphitheatre](#) at night and discover ancient Tarraco.



13-19 August

### Sant Magí

This is one of the city's major festivals and is celebrated with fascinating elements of local popular culture, such as *Magí de les Timbales*, the giants, the *Gegantons Negritos*, dwarves, *bastoners* (dancers hitting sticks together in rhythm) and...



16 August

### Sant Roc - Saint Roch

This is the celebration of one of the best known streets in the Parta Alta (historic quarter) and one of the most traditional in the city. A cannon signals the start of the parade, in which giants and other popular figures dance through the streets to bring the neighbourhood to life. You won't want to miss seeing the *Cós del Bou* giants, known as the *Gegants Vells* (the old giants), which are the oldest giants in the city (1825) and were given to the residents of the *Cós del Bou* neighbourhood by the city hall in 1904.



11 September

### Catalan National Day

Tarragona lives the Catalan National day with the Catalan traditions par excellence: Sardana dances and human towers.





15-24 September

### **Santa Tecla**

There is no other time of the year as lively as during the great festival, Santa Tecla. In 2002 was declared "Festival of tourist interest" by the Spanish government and in 2010 was declared "Patrimonial festival of national interest" by the Catalan government. The origins of this celebration held on the streets go back to the year

1321 when the arm relic of the patron saint arrived to the city from Armenia.

For over one week, the people from Tarragona and the visitors go out on the streets to take over the most emblematic areas of the city where the different...



11-13 October

### **Tarragona Mediaeval Market**

The area around the cathedral turns into a medieval market where to purchase handcraft products. Moreover, one can enjoy street performances set in medieval times (minstrels, jugglers...).



18-20 October

### **VIII Tarragona 1800 Events Programme**

In autumn, events take place to commemorate the horrific siege of Tarragona at the hands of Napoleon's troops.



End of October-beginning of November

### **Tarrorífic**

Terror, frights, spirits and legends of Tarragona.



1 November

### All Saints' Day

The streets abound with stands selling fresh-roasted chestnuts. This holiday is best known for the panellets (traditional pine-nuts sweets) that fill the pastry shops and for the flowers for the departed.



November

### Teatre Màgic Internacional magic Festival

The world of illusionism comes together on the stages of Tarragona to offer a selection of the best magic shows today.



24 November

### “City of Tarragona Marbel Negueruela Memorial” Half Marathon +10K

As has been the tradition for over 25 years now, the “City of Tarragona Marbel Negueruela Memorial” Half Marathon +10K will be held on the last Sunday of November. Some 2.500 participants fill the city’s streets, free from circulating traffic, in order to reach their personal goal.

Both for the people of Tarragona and the visiting participants, this is a unique day to enjoy our city from a different point of view. Take note of this day in your agenda, it will be a pleasure to see your satisfied face when you reach the finish line.



End of November-beginning of December

### Olive oil fair

At this fair visitors can taste different olive oils from Siurana Protected Designation of Origin.

Some restaurants in the city collaborate by offering menus based on this product.



Beginning of December

### **REC, Tarragona International Film Festival**

Showing of national and international fiction or documentary feature films. A great opportunity to get to know new directors or rediscover well-known directors through their first works.

Enjoy newly released films, new directors, discoveries, emotions and much more.



December

### **Christmas**

From the beginning of December Tarragona is decked with festive Christmas lights and hosts its annual Christmas fair. Two very rooted traditions are re-enacted: *el Tió* (log that gives presents) and the nativity scenes exhibited in premises of different associations and in the city's parks. The festivities are completed with different Christmas activities: Performance of the theatre show *Els Pastorets* (The Little Sheperds), Christmas carol singing, and the children's park, among others.



31 December

### **L'Home dels Nassos (the man of the many noses)**

In this Catalan tradition, a jumping jack with as many noses as days left in the year (a large nose) walks through the city's streets giving out sweets to the kids.

During this same day, at the Platja del Miracle (Miracle beach) next to the Marina, the bravest and most daring people go into the cold Mediterranean waters to celebrate the last swim of the year, the Bany de Sant Silvestre. After the swim all the bathers are given Cava, neulas and T-shirts.