

EUROPE
FALL
SPAIN
LA MERCE FESTIVAL



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• *Dates of Organizations:*



✚ *At the end of September every year in Barcelona (Spain), locals and tourists from all over the world eagerly participate in La Merce festival - the biggest street festival of the year in this city.*

● *Festival Details:*



✚ *La Merce, also known as the TOWERING Festival, has a tradition dating back to the 18th century in the town of Valls, Tarragona, where groups of “fortress builders” competed to build the best human towers. The festival was first organized to honor the city's guardian saint - who had great merit in protecting people during the pandemic in Europe in the 17th century.*




✚ As usual, everyone gathered in Sant Jaume square, surrounded by towering groups of thousands of spectators. Works are "built" by actors both professional and amateur, to compete for the championship; See which tower is the tallest and most beautiful. There is a tower up to a dozen floors high, requiring "human material" to have health, courage, ingenuity, teamwork, reasonable assignment, under the command of the "general engineer" .



✚ Careful and accurate calculations must be made to ensure safety. Usually, the stronger and fat members will stand on the lower floor and the more agile members will rank on the higher floor. The lightest person will get to the top of the tower.



 *In order to build a solid human tower, skillful techniques are required. First, the foundation of the tower was formed according to strict regulations, requiring every member of the team to be in the right place. Next, the layers of strongholds begin to rise, the strongest members of the party will be placed on the lower floors, and the fastest and lightest people will climb on the shoulders of the members below.*



+ In addition to the unique tradition of stacking human towers, at La Merce festival we also get to see Barcelona people dressed up as demons and parade around the city. Throughout the festival, there will be a contest to build a human tower, beautiful and unique fireworks displays, impromptu street dances of indigenous people or enjoying the culinary quintessence of Spain.



+ This festival is considered by the local government as one of the potential cultural events, attracting the participation of tourists from all over the world.