



CAN SERRAT

Handbook 2025

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Can Serrat is a Catalan farmhouse located in El Bruc (Montserrat), 45 km outside of Barcelona. One of the oldest international residency programs in Catalonia, it has welcomed artistic and literary projects since 1989, when, eleven Norwegian artists¹ collectively purchased the house and created the residency.

The organization is focused on supporting and guiding the creative process through individual and collective meetings, and professional networks. The house can welcome up to 35 people from a diverse range of countries and disciplines, which allows for rich exchanges.

The space activates a multidisciplinary coliving program on-site, as well as an online project, Crucero, that offers support, advising, and collective creation workshops called REMOTA.

Can Serrat receives support from the Generalitat de Catalunya, and is a member of Xarxaprod, the network of artistic production centers in Catalonia.

This handbook primarily deals with important details that pertain to the on-site international residency program.

THE CURRENT TEAM

- Sophie Blais, Director
- Georgina Teixidor, Administration and Logistics
- Sarah Goodchild Robb, Program Coordinator
- Elie Daou, Technician
- Anne-Tone Lie, prepares some communal meals and can provide taxi services (to and from airport, to the Monastery, to Martorell, etc.)
- + Laia Teixidor, Cleaning
- An invited live-in volunteer. This person is selected to work as a collaborator on our residency project and may also use the time and space to work on a personal project.
- + 2 cats (Salvador, and Piña)

The staff generally keeps normal working hours between 10 am and 4 pm Monday-Friday and occasionally works from home or on weekends for some special public activities. In general, try to avoid arriving on weekends.

Only the coordinators and the technician live in the house, the staff does not live at the residency.

¹ *Tone Fjereide | Johanna Getz | Thorleif Gjedebo | Siv Johansen | Helle Kaarem | Vibeke Marnburg | Yngvild Nergaard | Terje Nicolaysen | Live Rasmussen | Vilde Von Krogh | Leah Johnstone | Helle Storvik

LANGUAGES

Barcelona is the capital of Catalonia, and Catalán and Spanish are the official languages of the region; those born here are typically bilingual. The most common languages you will hear spoken in the house are Spanish, English, French, and Norwegian among others. Although there is a conscientious effort not to allow anyone to feel excluded, we ask the residents to have an open mind and patience when communicating with one another and to consider attending local events that may not be in a language they fully understand.

At any moment during your stay, we invite you to enjoy the opportunity to learn new phrases, participate in dialogues, or simply listen to the musicality of other languages.

Can Serrat staff speak Norwegian, English, Spanish, Catalan, and French.

ACTIVITIES

The residency program supports writing and artistic production in process offering time, space, and individual support as needed.

Each month, we organize activities to activate and facilitate understanding of the research and process of the residents. The activities we organize reflect an interest in being present to process, research, question, doubt, understand, curiosity, and debate.

A welcome email is sent to you before your arrival that outlines the monthly calendar with more information. You will be notified of other activities and updates during your stay.

We do not organize shows or directly connect residents with gallery spaces.

Below, are some descriptions of the monthly things we organize. Other annual or special events may also be planned during your time here:

- WELCOME COFFEE: We meet in the garden to introduce each other over coffee. Go over the activity calendar/month, answer questions, etc
- RACONS: Small, informal group dialogues where residents can speak about past and current projects and what they plan to do during their residency.
- CLUB DE LECTURA/READING CLUB: Everyone brings an excerpt of a poem, text, novel, etc to read in any language--the idea being that the conversation that follows can turn into a kind of translation workshop. It is especially interesting to share something that is connected to your work, so we can understand your process indirectly through another source. After reading your excerpt, you can briefly describe why you chose it and summarize what it is about. 10 minutes each. Locals invited from the village to also share readings.
- OTHER TONGUE: Experimental translation workshop where participants bring a work they will exchange with a resident, who will then translate the work into another language or medium.
- SOPAR OBERT/OPEN DINNER: The Open Dinner is a monthly activity organized by the residency in which we invite neighbors and friends of Can Serrat to enjoy a meal together with the group in residence.
- One-to-one meetings: We like to organize a one-to-one meeting with residents to speak about their work and process while at the residency. A group studio visit is also an optional way to close the month together.
- FRIDAY COMMUNITY DINNERS: residents enjoy a communal dinner covered by Can Serrat. Anne Tone will be preparing these dinners for everyone.

If you arrive after the first week, you might miss introductory activities such as the welcome coffee and the racons.



THE HOUSE

Community

Can Serrat is a live/work space and operates with the idea of community in mind. We invite residents to care for the space as their own home. To ensure a good environment, there is a general expectation to be respectful of the house and those living within it, to be mindful of noise, to maintain your space and studio, and to clean up after yourself after you use the kitchen and other communal spaces. As many people pass through the house throughout the year, the space thrives best when everyone cares and pitches in to help from maintaining and cleaning personal and communal spaces, to supporting one another in their projects.

We hope it is an enriching experience for all, but we also try to listen and tweak logistics if necessary.

We trust, that everyone who comes to Can Serat loves and respects the house, the projects, and the cultural differences and/or similarities that exist between each resident. Patience and understanding are valued during your stay in a shared living environment.

BASIC COMMUNITY RULES:

- We do not tolerate disrespectful conduct about discriminatory comments or behaviors against cultures, races, genders, ages, art practices, etc.
- Can Serrat is a non-smoking residency – meaning that it is not allowed to smoke inside the house. Outside only, please.
- Can Serrat is a live/work residency with people from all backgrounds and different daily rhythms. Therefore, kindly observe quiet hours after 11 pm (except the nights when a cultural event might take place at Can Serrat).

Internet: please note slow connection!

We try to have the best internet possible. However, being in the country sometimes means the connection is slow and can be affected by inclement weather. There are cafes and a public library in town in case you need faster internet

Please plan accordingly based on your specific needs, and don't forget to bring a plug adapter if you're bringing your laptop, camera, or other equipment.

Studios

Can Serrat has 350 square meters of communal studio space divided into:

- An old winery: printmaking studio and space for workshops, dance/performance/theater/yoga.
- A multifunctional space with plenty of natural light, usually dedicated to visual artists or painters.
- A writing area equipped with desks, chairs, and internet.
- A multifunctional room with a good internet connection.

Each group or individual is expected to clean their workspace during their stay and return any borrowed materials and tools before leaving.

Communal equipment

- Manual printing press (80 cm wide) with felt blankets. Please plan to bring all your own supplies. Note that the printmaking area is NOT equipped or set up for acid-based techniques.
- 1 projector.
- Some basic hand tools for DIY projects.

While there are some supplies left by previous residents for communal use, artists are responsible for bringing their own materials and should plan accordingly.

Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to store or preserve artworks. All residents are responsible for taking their projects with them at the end of their stay. Any materials or projects left behind may be discarded.

The rooms

The house has 16 rustic and charming bedrooms of various sizes, available for individual, double, or triple occupancy. All rooms are located on the first floor (second floor if you're from the U.S.), so you will need to climb stairs to access them.

If you book a shared room, you will share it with a maximum of two other people. If you are a light sleeper, we recommend bringing earplugs.

Each resident is expected to keep their room clean during their stay and, before departure, to strip their bed and leave the sheets in the laundry.

Check-out is at 11:00 AM, meaning you should remove your belongings from your room by that time in case we need to prepare it for an incoming resident. However, you are welcome to stay in the house as long as you need for the rest of the day.

Sheets and towels are provided upon arrival.

Bathrooms & Laundry

There are 5 toilets, 5 showers, and 5 sinks, all shared and located on the ground floor.

Residents have access to two washing machines with detergent provided, as well as clotheslines for air-drying laundry outdoors.

Kitchen

The kitchen is a communal space, and each resident prepares their meals—although residents often choose to cook together.

Can Serrat does not buy food, but organize prepared dinners twice a week, as well as some snacks during certain activities

Tea, coffee, regular milk, plant-based milk, are available for everyone.

For other items, there is a supermarket in the village where you can purchase food and personal necessities.

The kitchen is equipped with basic cooking utensils, plates, cutlery, a microwave, a kettle, a coffee maker, an oven, and filtered water for communal use.

CLEANING

Keeping the house clean is a collective effort, and it is the responsibility of all Can Serrat residents to maintain common areas clean and organized.

A staff member will come twice a week to do a deep cleaning of some common areas. Additionally, residents will follow a task list to help with daily upkeep (see Appendix I for the list of household tasks).

Your understanding and cooperation in this shared responsibility are greatly appreciated.

If a group stays at Can Serrat while you are here, they are expected to clean their own spaces.

FAMILY - PEOPLE WITH LIMITED MOBILITY

Can Serrat is an exciting place for children!

Regarding overall safety: there are machines, heavy equipment, tools, and chemicals both indoors and outdoors. Therefore, young children must be supervised by an adult at all times.

Can Serrat is a 200-year-old rustic farmhouse located in a rural setting. Residents need to walk to the village (5-10 minutes) to buy groceries, access the bus stop, etc., as there is no public transportation available between El Bruc and Can Serrat.

All rooms, as well as most studios, are located on the first floor, and there is no elevator, so residents must be able to climb up and down the stairs.



PREPARING FOR YOUR STAY

Arrival

- The residence is 40 minutes by taxi from the airport and 45 minutes by bus from Barcelona.
- Can Serrat is a 10-minute walk from the village, where you will find shops, bakeries, a pharmacy, a medical center, bars, restaurants, a supermarket, a library, etc.

Please refer to the attached instructions for details on how to arrive by public transport, or bus, or to book a taxi in Appendix III.

Materials & Shipments

All artists and residents are responsible for bringing their own materials and supplies. Please consult the non-exhaustive list of art supplies available in and around Barcelona (Appendix II).

We have a very limited list of basic communal items, and it is recommended to plan ahead.

You are also welcome to send supplies directly to us. Just email us at canserratart@gmail.com to inform us in advance.

The address is:

Your name

A la atención de Georgina Teixidor

Carrer Parroquia s/n

Masia Can Serrat

08294 El Bruc / Barcelona – Spain

Wether

Although we are in Catalonia, not every day is hot and sunny. We recommend checking the local weather before packing for your stay to ensure you bring appropriate clothing.

In autumn and spring, be prepared for cooler, rainier days with a light and/or waterproof jacket. In winter (December to March), a good coat is necessary.

As a general rule, in summer (June, July, August, September), the days can be quite hot with direct sunlight. Make sure to bring sunglasses, sunscreen, hats, and your swimsuit (the village's outdoor pool is open in July and August, and you can obtain a monthly pass for a reasonable fee). Be prepared for mosquitoes from June to October with a good insect repellent.

Can Serrat is within walking distance of hiking trails in the Montserrat mountains, so remember that you'll be in the countryside, and good hiking boots or trail shoes and layers will be good options to have on hand.

Although there is heating in the rooms and throughout the house, some studios may be cooler, so layers are important, along with a good cup of tea to help stay warm in winter.

The Village of El Bruc

In the village, there are several bars and restaurants. There is also a community center with yoga, a bakery, a pharmacy, a massage place, a tobacco shop, some grocery stores, a supermarket, a hair salon, and a public library worth visiting.

The local community is quite active, and you can enjoy some special local festivals, such as the Timbaler Festival in June or the local festival in August.

Check local schedules, as many shops close at midday and are closed on Sundays and holidays.

- Charter Supermarket: Carrer Bruc del Mig, 86.
- Local Doctor: (See contact information on the emergency contact page)
- Pharmacy: Carrer Bruc del Mig, 15.
- Tobacco Shop: where you can find maps for local hikes, stamps, bus tickets and passes, and souvenirs.
- Post Office: located in the same building as the medical center.

There is an ATM next to the public library.

In the neighboring village called Collbató, there is a Sunday market until 2 PM, offering fresh fruits and vegetables, cheeses, bread, clothing, and other treasures. Collbató also has a larger supermarket called Bon Preu.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

For ambulances or emergency services, call 112.

Can Serrat Contact Number and Address:

+34 937 71 03 13

Masía Can Serrat, Sin Número (El Bruc), 08294 El Bruc, Barcelona.

Primary Care Center in El Bruc (CAP):

Tel: 93 771 01 31

Carrer de Bruc del Mig, 23 Baixos, 08294 El Bruc

Hours: CAP Schedule

Pharmacy in El Bruc:

Tel: 937 71 02 01

Carrer de Bruc del Mig, 15

Other Medical Centers and Hospitals Nearby:

Primary Care Center in Esparreguera (CAP):

Tel: +34 93 770 81 00 // +34 902 111 444 (appointments: 24 hours)

Carrer Via del Mil·lenari, 16, 08292

Hospital Igualada Emergency Room:

Tel: +34 93 807 55 77

Avenida Catalunya, 11, 08700 Igualada

APPENDIX I

The following table provides an overview of some of the shared tasks to help maintain the house. This task chart rotates every two weeks.

1	DOWNSTAIRS KITCHEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the sink clean • Clean bread crumbs near the toaster • Clean the burners (remove grease or remains after cooking) • Keep the oil area clean • Sweep the floor and mop • Keep the eating table clean • Clean & tidy up the areas of dishes, cutlery, pots, kettle, etc. • Take care of the garbage
2	UPSTAIRS KITCHEN	SAME THAN DOWNSTAIRS KITCHEN
3	EXTERIOR + ENTRANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the outside table and benches clean • Keep the entrance and bar <u>clean / tidy</u> • Clean the exterior corridor (remove leaves or fruits that fall, or cigarette butts, paper, collect glasses, bottles, etc.) • Take care of the garbage
4	LAUNDRY + CAT'S POP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Laundry (towels, sheets, etc) • Clean the cat litter box
5	PANTRY + COMMON FRIDGE S/<u>FOODSPACES</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Organize</u> the fruits and vegetables • Inform when something is <u>missing o need to be buy</u> • Keep cleaning supplies shelves organized • Clean the space • Organice the common frigde and spaces (remove food that is out of date, etc). • Sweep the floor, mop
6	<u>DINNING</u> ROOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean dining: piano, sofa cover and wash it, clean dining room <u>furnitures</u> and dining table
7	<u>STAIRWAIS</u> + CORREDOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweep regularly to avoid accumulation of dust. • Mop with disinfectant (little) and / or water every week.
8	TERRAZA 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the outside table and benches clean • Clean the exterior (remove leaves that fall, cigarette butts, collect glasses, bottles, etc.)

9	SALON 2 (UPSTAIRS NEXT TO KITCHEN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the garbage from the bin • Clean tables & keep the space tidy • Sweep the floor and mop
10	WRITERS STUDIO + GREEN ROOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the garbage from the bin • Clean tables & keep the space tidy • Sweep the floor and mop
11	STUDIO 2 (END OF THE CORREDOR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the garbage from the bin • Clean tables & keep the space tidy • Sweep the floor and mop
12	BODEGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the garbage from the bin • Clean tables & keep the space tidy • Sweep the floor and mop
13	GARDEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take care of the garden (plants, trees, etc)
	GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GARBAGE IS EVERYONE JOB - We separate the garbage in: 1.PAPERS 2.PLASTIC 3.ORGANIC 4.RESTA 5.GLASS / Don't let the ORGANIC and the GLASS stay full. • BATHROOMS: After shower: clean, remove your hair, and put the courtin up. Don't forget to tkae your towel with you. The toilet paper goes in the toilets. The bins are just for feminine pads and things like that) • KITCHEN: Don't leave glasses or cups in private/common spaces without taking it back. Clean your own stuff • CIGARRETTES: Please clean the ashtrays. • COMUNNAL DINNERS MEANS COMMUNAL EFFORT. • Don't take things from others without asking. All things that are in common spaces can be use. • Please keep an eye on your spaces and do a properly cleanning once a week (or as the space needs) • If you have doubts about something (is this art o garbage?) please ask • If you find something broken or you can make the place better, feel free to collaborate with the house • Try to be respectful and kind • Whatever happens, please feel free to talk with the team <3

APPENDIX II

Local Art Supply Stores

Artists are responsible for bringing their materials. Below is some information on local stores. It is also possible to send materials to Can Serrat if planned in advance.

Before sending any materials, ensure the following:

- Customs fees are included in the price you are paying.
- The total value of the goods is declared and does not exceed 100 EUR.
- It is sent from a personal address (i.e., not a business). Otherwise, you will be required to pay additional fees when receiving your package and provide customs with an invoice for the contents.

Shipping address for materials:

c/o Georgina Teixidor

"Your name"

Masía Can Serrat s/n

08294 El Bruc – Barcelona – SPAIN

Tel: +34 937 71 03 13

Please note that shipping your artwork back home can be expensive, especially if the package is not of a conventional size.

Tienda de Arte (BCN)/Art Supply Store	Sitio Web/Website	Notas/Notes
Barna Art Barcelona	https://www.barna-art.com/	paints, brushes, pens canvases, printmaking supplies, etc. NO DRAWING PAPER or notebooks!
Barna Paper	https://www.barna-art.com/papeles	papers, notebooks, bookmaking supplies. <u>Same company</u> as above, different location, a few blocks away.
Casanova Foto	http://www.casanovafoto.com/	photography supplies
Art Hilgard	arthilgard@gmail.com	paints, inks, drawing supplies, canvases
Casa Piera	http://www.casapiera.com/	paints, inks, drawing supplies, canvases

APPENDIX III

How to get to Can Serrat

BY TAXI

If you plan to arrive by taxi from the airport, the cost is 60 euros per trip to be paid in cash directly to our driver, Anne Tone. She is also available to provide rides for a small fee, for example, to the monastery or to purchase art supplies. You can also share the cost by organizing and sharing the ride with other residents.

To book a ride, please contact Georgina via email at canserratart@gmail.com and provide your:

1. Terminal
2. Airline and flight number
3. Arrival time
4. Phone number

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

There is no direct bus from the airport to Can Serrat. First, you need to go to Maria Cristina in Barcelona and take the bus from there by following these steps:

1. From El Prat Airport to Zona Universitaria/Maria Cristina in Barcelona.

Take the L9 metro line from the airport to Zona Universitaria. You can view the map [here](#).

You can purchase your ticket at the ticket machine at the metro station using cash or a card. The approximate cost is 4.50 euros.

From Zona Universitaria, transfer from the L9 line (orange) to the L3 line (green) in the direction of Trinitat Nova. It's 2 stops to Maria Cristina (the transfer is free).

Approximate travel time from the airport to Maria Cristina: 45 minutes.

2. From Maria Cristina, Barcelona to Can Serrat, El Bruc

After exiting the Maria Cristina metro station, you need to head to the Hispano Igualadina bus stop, which is the second bus stop after the newsstand called “Vanguardia.” The bus stop will have the Hispano Igualadina sign in small letters.

Here is the PDF of the bus schedule going to and from Barcelona and El Bruc:
Horarios Barcelona – El Bruc

(The schedule is in Catalan. You can use a translator or ChatGPT if you need help with the vocabulary.)
Approximate travel time from Barcelona Maria Cristina to El Bruc by bus: 50 minutes.

Bus Ticket Options:

- Option I: You can pay in cash. The bus driver can give you change, but make sure not to pay with a bill higher than 10€. The approximate cost for a single ticket is 7.50 euros.
- Option II: You can purchase a T-Casual zone 5 pass for 49.55 euros at the ticket vending machines in the metro station. This is the most economical option if you plan on making several round trips between El Bruc and Barcelona during your residency.

*Notes about Hispano Igualadina to Keep in Mind:

There is an express line that does not stop at El Bruc, so we recommend checking with the driver to make sure the bus will stop at El Bruc.

3. Getting to Can Serrat:

You can ask the bus drivers if they are willing to drop you off at Can Serrat.

3) a. If the driver drops you off at Can Serrat:

There is a steep cement path that descends to the right. Go down this path for about 50 meters, and the house will be at the bottom on your right.

3) b. If the bus driver drops you off at the bus stop in El Bruc:

Some drivers may not consider Can Serrat to be an appropriate stop and will leave you in the village of El Bruc, past Can Serrat.

If this is the case, turn around and walk back about 500 meters until you reach the entrance of the driveway and the Can Serrat sign, which will now be on your left. Be cautious of traffic while walking along the road!

Arrivals are requested between 9:30 AM – 6 PM. Advance notice of your arrival time is appreciated so we can coordinate someone to be here to welcome you and show you around the house.

BY PRIVATE CAR

You can check all car rental companies at the airport using this link: [Car Rental Companies](#)

From Barcelona, take the A2 Highway toward Lleida, exit 572 – El Bruc. After exiting the highway, continue straight for about 550 meters and follow the sign for "Can Serrat," turning down a slightly right paved road until you reach the house.

You can also enter “Residencia Internacional de Artistas Can Serrat” in your GPS.

