

BARCELONA & CANNABIS

**THE CITIES
RELATIONSHIP
WITH CANNABIS
GOES BACK FURTHER
THAN YOU MIGHT THINK**



Let's take the worlds fastest journey through the history of cannabis in Barcelona. From its medicinal beginnings to its current status as a cultural phenomenon. So sit back, relax, and let's explore the fascinating history of cannabis in this beautiful city.

The story of cannabis in Barcelona goes back centuries. Cannabis has been used medicinally for a millennia, and was first officially recognized as a therapeutic plant by the Chinese Emperor Shen Nung in 2737 BCE. Spanish travelers who had visited the New World brought hemp with them to the Iberian Peninsula, where it was grown primarily for its fibers to make rope and textiles.

Fast-forward to the 19th century, when cannabis began to be used recreationally in Spain. In Barcelona, smoking clubs known as "fumarolas" emerged, where members would gather to smoke cannabis and socialize. However, cannabis use was

not yet widely accepted by society and was considered a vice by the authorities.

In the early 20th century, Spain, like many other countries, passed laws restricting the sale and use of cannabis. These laws were reinforced during the Franco dictatorship, and cannabis became more associated with the counterculture movements that opposed Franco's regime.

After the death of Franco and the return of democracy in Spain in 1975, attitudes towards cannabis began to shift. In the 1980s, a group of activists founded the first "smoke Mecca" in Barcelona. These were clubs where members could come together to smoke cannabis in a safe and regulated environment. As the law did not prohibit the consumption of cannabis. These clubs were able to operate without legal repercussions. It wasn't until the early 2000s that the first cannabis clubs officially opened in Barcelona.



These clubs were established to provide a safe and controlled environment for cannabis consumers, where members could obtain high-quality products and engage in social activities. The first cannabis social club to open its doors in Barcelona was the Federation of Cannabis Associations (FAC) in 2002. Today, the city has hundreds of cannabis clubs that offer high-quality strains, as well as events and workshops.

The legal status of cannabis is still somewhat unclear in Barcelona. While the consumption of cannabis is legal, the sale and distribution of the plant are technically illegal. However, the culture of cannabis consumption has become so ingrained in the city's identity that the authorities have generally turned a blind eye. In recent years, the city council has taken steps to regulate the industry more closely, in a bid to ensure safety and quality standards for both consumers and producers.

Today, Barcelona is regarded as one of the premier cannabis destinations in the world. The city's combination of liberal drug laws, its thriving cultural scene, and beautiful surroundings have made it a top destination for cannabis enthusiasts from around the globe. Each year, thousands of people flock to Barcelona for various cannabis events, such as the Spannabis trade show, which attracts hundreds of exhibitors from around the world.

In conclusion, the story of cannabis in Barcelona is a reflection of the changing attitudes towards the plant over the centuries. From its early beginnings as a medicinal herb to its current status as a cultural phenomenon, cannabis has had a significant impact on the city's culture and identity. While it still operates within a legal gray area, the growth of the cannabis industry in Barcelona reflects a growing acceptance of the plant as a legitimate part of modern society.

