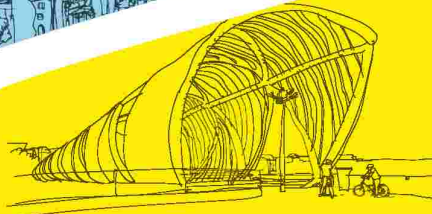


# ma drid guide



# vuelve

*a Madrid*



Leisure & Entertainment

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## SOME MEMORIES LAST A LIFETIME

Start to enjoy them with *Vuelve a Madrid*, the city of Madrid's Loyalty Programme, which offers you special deals, discounts and promotions for Madrid's best tours, shows, museums, shops and restaurants. Register now at [www.vuelveamadrid.com](http://www.vuelveamadrid.com) and receive **200 Puntos Madrid** for free!

Use this code when registering to get an extra **100 Puntos Madrid**\*

**VAM\_TURISM019**

\* These Puntos Madrid expire on 31/12/20

# A practical guide

## Yellow

Find out how to get around the city, what time shops open and when to expect the public holidays.

We've also included an events calendar and **official maps** of the city and the Metro!

## Green

Discover Madrid's neighbourhoods as well as its top attractions and landmarks.

## Red

Choose the Madrid that most suits your style and follow our tips.

## Blue

Go on a day trip to any of the wonderful places surrounding Madrid.

We've added **QR codes** to make things even simpler for you. You can use them to:

- Check which exhibitions and shows are on today.
- Check out prices and buy tickets online from the official websites.
- Get additional information about the city from **esmadrid.com**



esmadrid.com

ENJOY  
your visit!



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# ¡hola!

First and foremost, welcome to Madrid! We welcome you with open arms because we are genuinely happy to have you here. In Madrid we love seeing new faces, and we want you all to feel right at home. In fact, what we'd really like is for you to feel like a true *Madrileño* for a few days, which is why we've put together this guide book filled with tips on how to enjoy the city like a local.

In it you'll find everything you need to make your trip unforgettable. You're about to discover the place that great masters of world art, like Goya and Velázquez, chose as their home after falling in love with the colours of a sky that we know will captivate you too. There's so much to do in Madrid that you'll be spoilt for choice. But don't worry: we've put together some helpful hints, tips and essential stops for you, to make sure you don't miss out on anything.

Before you know it, you'll have a bunch of new friends, people you got talking to at one of the outdoor cafés in Plaza Santa Ana or Plaza de Chueca. You'll soon find out that going for tapas in La Latina or Calle Ponzano is an experience in itself, that hot chocolate and *churros* are just the way to start off the day, that we almost never look at our watches because there's always time to do it all. We invite you to enjoy the city without any limits, geographically speaking, for each neighbourhood has its own personality.

Madrid is an open and diverse city buzzing with life, where the nights are legendary and the mornings are perfect for strolling through El Retiro or any of our parks and gardens, discovering the gazes of Velázquez's subjects in *Las Meninas* or the power of *Guernica* in our museums, shopping in our markets and soaking up our history. The city is ready to greet you with open arms, so set down your luggage and start exploring!



# Madrid welcomes you!

Find out how to get around the city, what time shops open, what Madrid Central is and other interesting info to get your trip off to a good start.



## Currency

Since 2002, the **euro** has been the official currency. If you need to withdraw money, there are a large number of ATMs all over the city, although you can also pay by card in most commercial establishments, Metro stations, taxis and on buses. Tipping is voluntary.

## Timetables

Timetables in Madrid are a little different from the rest of Europe, but they are adapted to our lifestyle.

**Lunch** is around 2pm and **dinner**, from 9pm onwards. You can usually find restaurants with kitchens open 24 hours a day. **Most shops open at 10am.**



## Weather

It is said that Madrid's sky is unique. So much so that it has been painted on numerous occasions by artists such as Velázquez. You can enjoy the intense blue of our skies almost all year round. Additionally, the dry and relatively rain-free climate makes Madrid a perfect destination at any time of the year.

The colours of spring and autumn delight tourists and residents alike, making April, May, September and October the best months to visit parks and gardens.

In summer, when the days are long and warm, you can make the most of your visit and enjoy our open-air bars and festivals in the streets.

And in winter, even though temperatures do drop, the skies are almost always clear, which means you can enjoy the warm and pleasant midday sun. January is the coldest month, but it hardly ever snows.

## Madrid Metro: a hundred-year-old Metro!

The first line was inaugurated on 17 October 1919 and ran between Sol and Cuatro Caminos.

Today, the network is 294 km in length and covers more than 300 stations.



## How to get around the city

Madrid is a wonderful city to explore on foot. But if you want to get around faster, or cover longer distances, there is a fabulous public transportation network adapted to those with reduced mobility and a municipal bike rental service.

### Public transport

**Metro:** twelve Metro lines, three Light Rail lines and a branching line going between Ópera and Príncipe Pío. Open from 6am to 1:30am. More information at [metromadrid.es](http://metromadrid.es)

To use public transport, you'll need the **Tarjeta Multi** or Multi-Card, a pass that can be recharged in two different ways: 1) with **single-trip or ten-trip tickets** and 2) with the **Tourist Transport Pass**, which lets you make unlimited use of all available public transport options within the Region of Madrid within a given period of time.

You can obtain your **Tarjeta Multi** at all Metro stations, government-licensed tobacconists and at the entrance to the T4 Cercanías railway station at the Airport.

**Bus:** a network of 200 urban buses to sit on from 6am to 11:30pm and enjoy the passing landscape.

There is also a “**búho**” (owl) night-time bus service from Plaza de Cibeles, although its frequency is lower than daytime buses (every 35 minutes, from Sunday to Friday; 15 minutes, Saturdays and eve of holidays). More information at [emtmadrid.es](http://emtmadrid.es)

**BiciMAD:** rent an electric bicycle and discover the city while you exercise. Get your **card for 1, 3 or 5 days** at the terminals located in more than 200 parking stations: if the bike has a green light, approach until you hear a beep, and then, off you go! More information at [bicimad.com](http://bicimad.com)

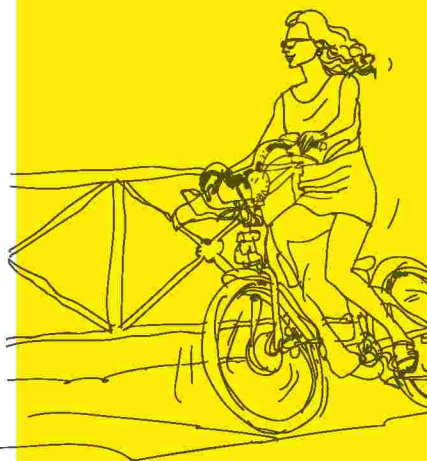
**Taxi:** a trip from the airport to anywhere inside the M30 ring road costs a flat rate of €30. Other routes have a €3 supplement: if you are heading to or coming from the Feria de Madrid, or the stations of Atocha RENFE, Chamartín, Méndez Álvaro and Avenida de América. Taxis can be hailed at the official taxi stops, on the streets or through apps such as **MyTaxi**, **Pidetaxi**, **Join Up Taxi** and **Tele Taxi**.

**Vehicles for hire:** you can also hail a ride through **Cabify** and **Uber**.

### Cercanías Railway

**Network:** 9 railway lines connect the principal towns within the Region of Madrid. All trains pass through the Atocha RENFE station and some also stop at Sol, Recoletos and Chamartín. Trains run from 5am to 12 midnight. More information at [renfe.com](http://renfe.com)

We recommend using public transport, but if you prefer travelling by car you should take into account Madrid Central's restrictions and how to park in the city.



## Madrid Central

In order to eliminate traffic from the city centre, prioritise pedestrians and boost the use of public transport and bicycles, a low emissions zone has been established which includes almost the entirety of the Centro district (the neighbourhoods of Palacio, Embajadores, Cortes, Justicia, Sol and Universidad), which is marked by a red line on the asphalt.

### Who can access Madrid Central by car?

- Residents, people with reduced mobility and security and emergency services.
- Vehicles with the Spanish DGT 0 Emissions environmental label.
- Vehicles with the ECO label (for a maximum of 2 hours).
- Passenger cars and vans with label B or C, only to access public parking or private garages.



Find out more about Madrid Central

For more information, call 010 or (+34) 91 529 82 10 if you are outside Spain.

## Mobility alternatives

A sustainable alternative is car-sharing services. This option of renting by the hour lets you drive an electric moped, electric scooter or electric car within the city. Different companies operate car-sharing services in

Madrid such as **Moving** or **Ecooltra** for electric mopeds, **Emov** (4 seats), **Zity** (5 seats) or **Car2go** (2 to 4 seats) for electric and hybrid cars; and **Jump Uber** or **Lime** if you'd prefer an electric scooter.

## Parking in Madrid

There are numerous **public and private** car parks that charge you based on the amount of time you are parked for.

Additionally, Madrid has 25 **dissuasive carparks** located next to Metro and RENFE train stations, most of them free, in order to encourage people to leave their cars and promote the use of public transport, avoid traffic jams and improve air quality. The ones closest to the centre are:

- Avenida de Portugal: 432 spaces
- Moncloa-Ciudad Universitaria: 1498 spaces
- Avenida de América: 665 spaces
- Puente de Vallecas: 30 spaces



Discover more at [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)

You can also park your car in the street provided you follow the time limits and rules regarding types of parking spaces as established by the **Controlled Parking Service** (or **SER** in Spanish).

## SER hours

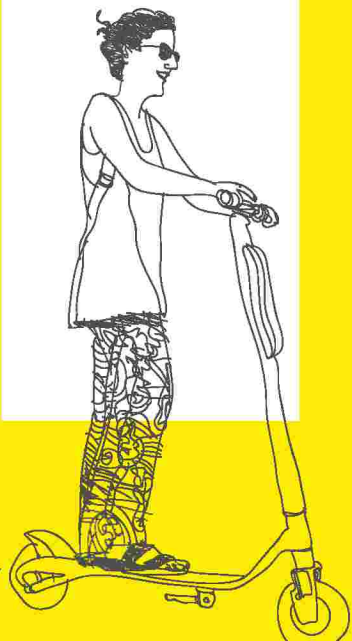
Monday - Friday: 9am-9pm  
Saturday: 9am-3pm  
August Monday - Friday: 9am-3pm  
Sundays and holidays: free

## Parking space types

**Green:** maximum parking time of two hours. After 120 minutes, the car must be moved to another neighbourhood for the duration of at least one hour from when the car left the carpark.

**Blue:** maximum parking time of four hours. After this time, the car can no longer remain in the same neighbourhood until at least one hour later.

For more information on how to get around in Madrid, go to [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)





# madrid embraces you all year round

There's a never a bad time to visit Madrid. Each month, the city hosts myriad unmissable events, from art exhibitions and music festivals to sporting events, architecture festivals and traditional fiestas. Check out our month-by-month guide featuring our top picks to help you decide which is the best time to take a trip to the capital.





Gastrofestival

## January

### \* Cabalgata de Reyes

On the 5th of January, a large procession of floats herald the arrival of the Three Wise Men.

### \* Vueltas de San Antón

17 of January is when a very Madrid tradition is celebrated: the blessing of animals in the church of San Antón located on Calle Hortaleza.

### \* Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Madrid

A week dedicated to Spanish fashion.

### \* Gastrofestival

A culinary and cultural festival that's celebrated all over the city.

### \* Madrid Fusión

An international culinary summit that brings together chefs from all over the world.



Cabalgata de Reyes

## February

### \* Chinese New Year

A big parade and activities to celebrate the New Year, usually centred in the district of Usera.

### \* ARCOmadrid

International Contemporary Art Fair with some of the most innovative and renowned artists within the sector. A must-see.

Other important events during these dates are **Art Madrid** (contemporary art fair in CentroCentro), **Drawing Room Madrid** (drawing fair for collectors), **JustMad** (emerging art fair) and **Urvanity** (International Fair for New Contemporary Art in the College of Architects of Madrid or COAM).



ARCOmadrid



Alameda

## March

### \* Carnival

A big parade, costumes, concerts and many other activities are the highlights of Carnival, which is held in a different district every year.

### \* Theatre Night

The streets of Madrid become one large stage for performances.

### \* Alameda

A fair for antiques, art galleries and collectors.



Burying of the Sardine during Carnival



EDP Rock 'n' Roll Madrid Marathon & 1/2

## April

### \* Easter

Days full of festivities and *torrijas*, the traditional Easter sweet in Spain.

### \* Mulafest

A festival that celebrates urban trends and culture for lovers of music, dance or street art.

### \* EDP Rock 'n' Roll Madrid Marathon & 1/2

Run to the beat of music through the streets of Madrid.

## May

### \* **Mutua Madrid Open**

The fourth Masters 1000 of the year, a must-see for tennis fans.

### \* **San Isidro**

Celebrations of the feast of Madrid's patron saint on 15 May.

### \* **Flamenco Madrid**

Festival of flamenco music and dance shows held at the Teatro Fernán Gómez.



## June

### \* **Madrid Book Fair**

Hundreds of bookstalls, publishers and literary figures fill El Retiro Park for 15 days.

### \* **PHotoESPAÑA**

An extraordinary macrofestival of photography and the visual arts.

### \* **Mira Madrid**

Discover a different Madrid by roaming its streets, a Madrid that doesn't always show up in tourist guidebooks.

### \* **DecorAcción**

Interior design and decorative arts in the Barrio de Las Letras (Literary Quarter).

## July

### \* Gay Pride

Madrid becomes the capital of diversity and tolerance.

### \* Mad Cool Festival

Rock, indie and electronic music in a festival that boasts some of the biggest names in Europe!

### \* Veranos de la Villa

An extensive programme of theatre, cinema and open-air concerts that lasts all summer long.

### \* Naval Battle of Vallecas

Tankers, buckets and water pistols lie in wait for you and your family. Depending on the year, it is held on the second or third Sunday of the month.



Gay Pride Festival



Mad Cool Festival

© Parco Proyetto

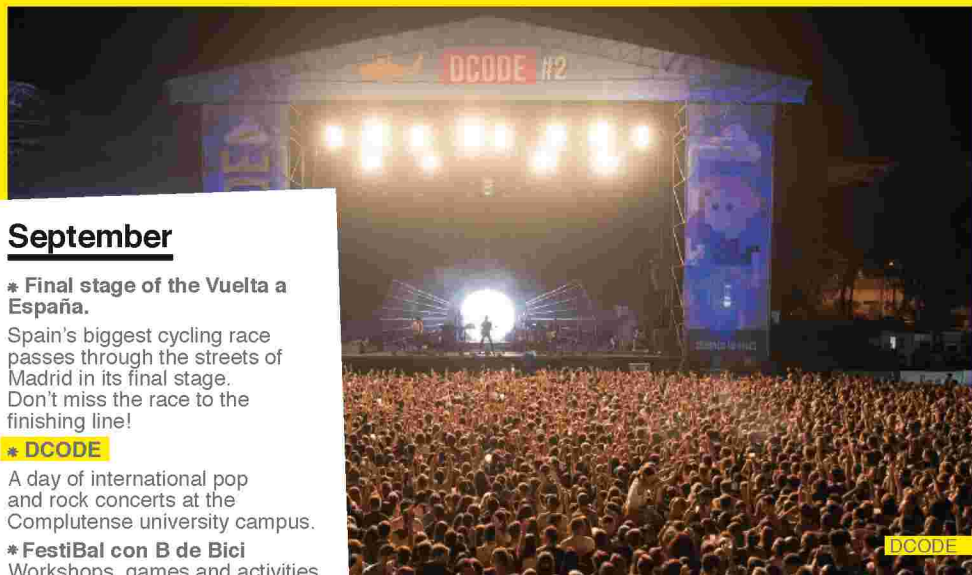


Fiesta of La Paloma

## August

### \* Fiestas of San Cayetano, San Lorenzo and La Paloma

Learn to dance the *chotis* in the traditional fairs held in the Embajadores, Lavapiés and La Latina districts.



## September

### \* Final stage of the Vuelta a España.

Spain's biggest cycling race passes through the streets of Madrid in its final stage. Don't miss the race to the finishing line!

### \* DCODE

A day of international pop and rock concerts at the Complutense university campus.

### \* FestiBal con B de Bici

Workshops, games and activities to be enjoyed on bikes.

DCODE



## October

### \* Tapapiés

Festival of tapas and music in Lavapiés.

### \* Architecture Month

In October, take a closer look at the city's architecture: **Open House Madrid** (more than 100 iconic buildings, institutions and architectural workshops are opened up to the public for free), **Architecture Week** (activities and visits to buildings of great architectural value) and **Madrid Otra Mirada** (an opportunity to discover the city's heritage).

Open House Madrid



Davis Cup  
Madrid Finals

## November

\* **JazzMadrid**

A date with the best international jazz.

\* **Davis Cup Madrid Finals**

Experience all the excitement of tennis at the Caja Mágica tennis courts.



Christmas lights on the Gran Vía

## December

\* **Christmas**

Christmas lights, shopping and traditional sweets!

\* **San Silvestre Vallecana**

A popular race to bid farewell to the old year while staying in shape.

\* **Campanadas**

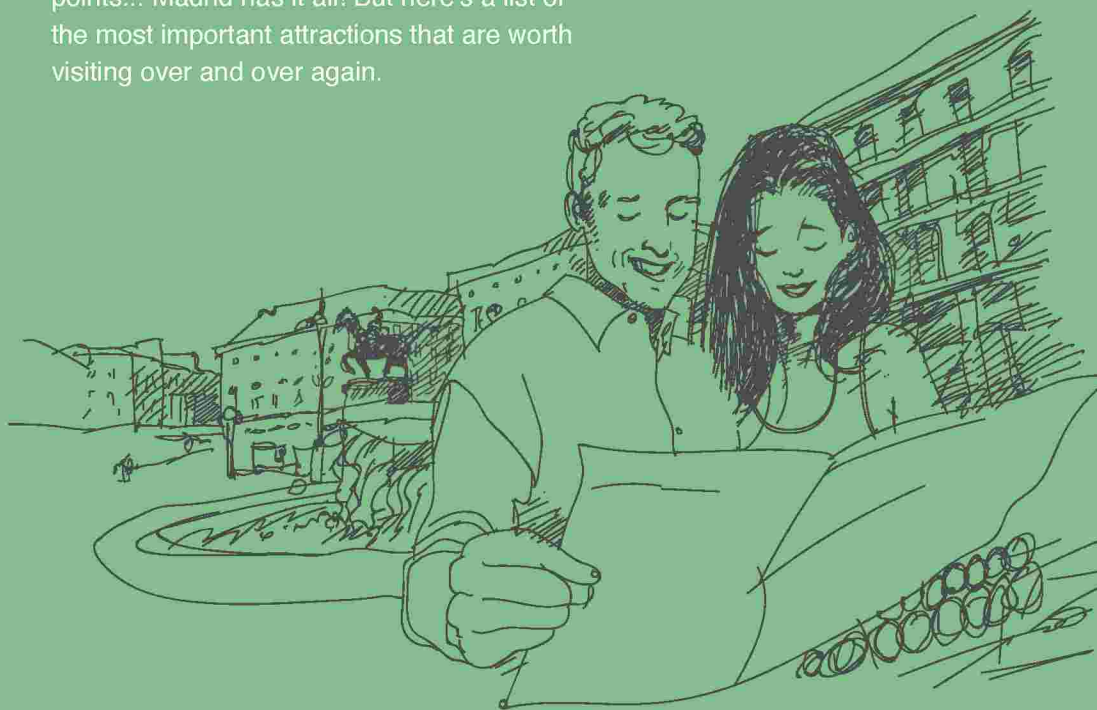
Every 31st of December, thousands of people flock to the Puerta del Sol to welcome the new year and eat twelve grapes for luck, in tandem with the twelve strikes of the Real Casa de Correos' clock bell.



Find all the events of the month at [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)

# must-see's

It's difficult to pick a favourite thing: architecture, museums, parks, lookout points... Madrid has it all! But here's a list of the most important attractions that are worth visiting over and over again.





# Monuments



© Francesco Pinton

Cibeles Palace

Madrid's streets and squares are filled with monuments, churches and buildings that bear witness to our history. Glance up and you'll be in for more than one surprise! Explore Madrid through the ages, from the Renaissance in the Hapsburg quarter – check out the centre of the **Plaza Mayor** – to the Bourbon dynasty – particularly noteworthy is the magnificent **Royal Palace** – and

the Baroque period, which gave us the Barrio de las Letras, Madrid's most literary neighbourhood. Visit an ancient Egyptian temple, head upwards for breath-taking views across the city, discover the fountains where Madrileños gather to celebrate their football teams' victories and don't forget to take a selfie next to the iconic **Puerta de Alcalá** gate.



South face of  
of the Royal Palace

## Royal Palace

C/ Bailén

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Plaza de España (L3, L10)

Oct-Mar: 10am-6pm / Apr-Sep: 10am-8pm

Free entry Mon-Thurs from Oct-Mar: 4-6pm

Apr-Sep: 6-8pm

Last admission one hour before closing

Free for EU citizens and Latin American residents

It stands on the site of an Islamic-era fortress or Alcázar which was destroyed in a fire in 1734. Philip V, the first Bourbon monarch to rule over Spain, decided to entrust the architect Filippo Juvara with the design of the new palace, although it was completed by his student Juan Bautista Sachetii. Inspired by Bernini's sketches for the Louvre in Paris, this building has more than 3000 rooms. Neither Philip V nor his successor Ferdinand VI lived to see its completion, and Charles III was the first monarch to reside in the palace. Of special interest are the **Royal Armoury**, which boasts one of the world's most important collections of munitions and armour, and the art gallery with works by Caravaggio, Velázquez, Goya and Sorolla, among others.

On the first Wednesday of each month - except January, August and September - you can watch the **Solemn Change**, a spectacular re-enactment with period uniforms of the changing of the guard ceremony from the times of Alfonso XII and Alfonso XIII. Lancers, halberdiers, rifle regiments, soldiers and sentries all march on foot or horseback to the sound of fifes and drums. The display lasts for 50 minutes and entry is free.



The **Sabatini Gardens**, with their fragrant box hedges, are located at the north face of the building. At the west face you'll find the **Campo del Moro Park**, which you can access from the Paseo de la Virgen del Puerto. Every Wednesday and Saturday – 11 am to 2 pm in winter and 10 am to 12 noon in summer – you can witness the **Changing of the Guard** at the **Puerta del Príncipe gate**.



Don't forget to visit the **Royal Kitchen**! You'll find enormous copper cauldrons, 19th century iceboxes, pots, moulds, platters and other items belonging to the oldest and best-preserved collection of royal crockery in Europe.



Buy your  
tickets here!

## Arab wall

Cuesta de la Vega

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R)

Even today you can still visit the vestiges of Madrid's oldest construction (9th century). Built on the hill that overlooks the river, the Islamic fortress was the medieval centre of the city. The walls were eight metres high and almost three metres wide, encircling what today is the Royal Palace, the Cuesta de la Vega slope and Calle Mayor, and their purpose was to protect the city centre. You can find the remains of this national monument in Mohammed I Park, which is dedicated to the memory of Madrid's founder.

## Plaza de la Villa

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

This medieval square lies alongside Calle Mayor. It was a key location during the economic and demographic growth of Madrid, as it houses three of the most important buildings of that period: the **Casa y Torre de los Lujanes**, a 15th century palace once owned by the Luján family that bears the distinction of being one of Madrid's oldest civilian buildings; the **Casa de Cisneros**; and the **Casa de la Villa**, the former headquarters of Madrid's City Council.



Plaza de la Villa



Cibeles Fountain

## Cibeles Fountain

Plaza de Cibeles

📍 Banco de España (L2)

Built in 1782 in marble and stone, this is one of the city's most iconic monuments. Depicting Cybele, the goddess of Earth, agriculture and fertility, it is flanked by four magnificent buildings: **Buenavista Palace** (the Spanish Army's General Headquarters), **Linares Palace** (which houses the Casa América Cultural Centre), **Cibeles Palace** (Madrid City Hall) and the **Bank of Spain**. Today it is the spot where Real Madrid fans converge to celebrate their team's triumphs, but until 1862 it played a vital role: that of providing water to houses.

## Royal Basilica of San Francisco El Grande

C/ San Buenaventura, 1

📍 La Latina and Puerta de Toledo (L5)

Opening hours: Tues-Sat: 10:30am-12:30pm / 4-6pm.  
Tues-Sun from Jul-Aug 10:30am-12:30pm / 5-7pm.



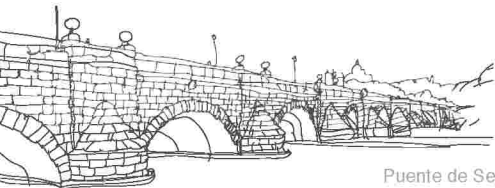
Royal Basilica of San Francisco El Grande

Completed in 1784, it has a dome with the third largest diameter of all Christian architecture (33 metres), and is one of the most impressive basilicas in Madrid. As soon as you enter, your eyes are drawn upwards to the magnificent frescoes depicting the Virgin Mary. Other wonderful artworks include paintings by Goya, Zurbarán and other 17th-, 18th- and 19th-century painters.

## Puente de Segovia

C/ Segovia

📍 Príncipe Pío (L6, L10, R) and Puerta del Ángel (L6)  
The construction of Madrid's oldest bridge was completed in 1584 by Juan de Herrera, who also built the Monastery of El Escorial. It was to be a modern and long-lasting bridge that would link the capital to the west of the city. And so has it been: after several renovations it continues to service the thousands of vehicles and persons who walk over its imposing semicircular arches.



Puente de Segovia

## Temple of Debod

C/ Ferraz, 1

📍 Plaza de España (L3, L10) and Ventura Rodríguez (L3)

Tues-Sun: 10am-8pm

At one end of **Oeste Park** lies this 2000-year-old gem of Ancient Egypt. It was donated to Spain by the Egyptian government in 1968 as a sign of gratitude for the former's help in salvaging the Abu Simbel temples, which were threatened by the construction of the Aswan Dam. Before its inauguration in 1972, it was transported stone by stone and rebuilt in its original orientation, from east to west.



## Royal Observatory of Madrid

C/ Alfonso, XII

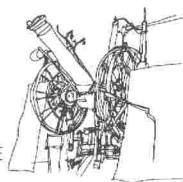
📍 Estación del Arte and Atocha RENFE (L1)

Guided tours

Oct-Jun: Fri: 4:30pm; Sat: 12 noon and 4:30pm; Sunday: 12 noon

Jul-Sep: Fri: 5:30pm; Sat: 12 noon and 5:30pm (only July); Sun: 12 noon

Charles III commissioned its design to renowned architect Juan de Villanueva, and the Observatory became part of the Seat of the Sciences, which comprised the Academy of Sciences, the Botanical Garden and the Cabinet of Natural History (which would later house the Prado Museum). The Observatory is home to a vast library and an important collection of astronomical instruments, including a set of highly precise clocks and a replica of William Herschel's reflecting telescope. A Foucault pendulum in the central hall illustrates the Earth's rotation.



Telescope



Book your guided tour here



Royal Observatory of Madrid

An evening walk through the Gardens of the **Temple of Debod** to the lookout point is highly recommended for a glimpse of one of the most beautiful sunsets in the world!



Temple of Debod



## 400 YEARS OF HISTORY

Since its inauguration in 1619, the square has been damaged by several fires, necessitating several reconstructions. Today it is as lively as it would have been then: go there to try Madrid's famous squid sandwiches, buy a souvenir, take a stroll, visit the Christmas market in December or browse through the numerous stalls selling coins and stamps on Sunday.

## Plaza Mayor

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R), Sol (L1, L2, L3) and Tirso de Molina (L1)

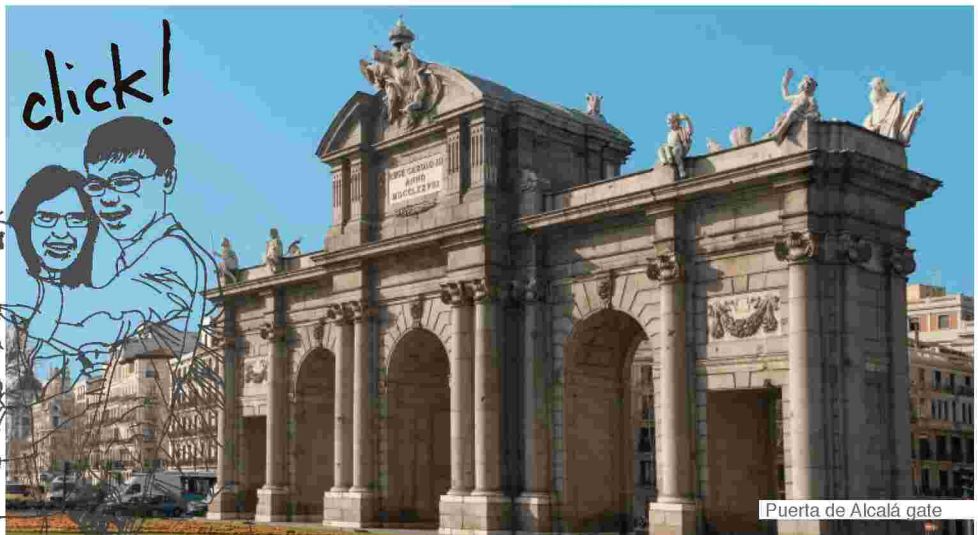
Madrid would not be Madrid without the Plaza Mayor, a large square found in the centre of the city. Built in the early 17th century, it originally served as a marketplace and played host to both royal and religious ceremonies. The first building to be erected here was the **Casa de la Panadería**, the former House of the Baker's Guild, whose façade is decorated with exquisite frescoes. On the ground floor you'll find the city's main tourist office. Other highlights are the erstwhile meat warehouse or **Casa de la Carnicería** and the **Arco de Cuchilleros** archway. Filled with bars and eateries, the bustling square is the perfect place to start your tour of the old town.

## Puerta de Alcalá gate

Plaza de la Independencia

📍 Banco de España and Retiro (L2)

Built during the reign of Charles III, who was nicknamed the "Best Mayor of Madrid", this neoclassical triumphal arch was one of the five royal gates that led to the city. Designed by Sabatini, its two façades have different designs, one dedicated to war and the other to peace. Along the top of the gate you'll find the figures of four children that are an allegory of the cardinal virtues: fortitude, justice, temperance and prudence. The gate stands next to the iconic **El Retiro Park**, and is a stone's throw from some of the most magnificent buildings in the stylish Salamanca and Los Jerónimos neighbourhoods.





National Library



Alfonso X the Wise

## National Library

Paseo de Recoletos, 20-22

📍 Colón and Serrano (L4)

The National Library was founded in 1711 by the Spanish monarch Philip V and it houses a copy of every book that is published in Spain. It boasts a valuable collection of incunabula, manuscripts, drawings, photographs and maps. You can also attend major exhibitions here and discover the work behind literary heritage conservation and the history of the institution by exploring different spaces within its **Museum**:

The Library throughout history, A day in the life of the National Library, Writing and its resources, The Hall of the Muses, Memories of Knowledge, Workshops and the Literary Cafe, and the Quijote Hall which focuses on the most universal figure of Spanish literature.



For museum opening hours and guided tours, go to [bne.es](http://bne.es)

## Atocha Station

Glorieta del Emperador Carlos V

Mon-Sun: 5am-1am

📍 Atocha RENFE (L1)

Madrid's first train station, built in 1851 with its signature roof of iron and glass, was renovated by Rafael Moneo in the late '90s. It has a tropical garden with more than 400 species of flora as well as a shopping area.



Dome designed by Rafael Moneo in Atocha Station



Atocha Station

## Las Ventas Bullring

C/ Alcalá, 237

📍 Ventas (L2, L5)

Museum opening hours, Mon-Sun: 10am-5:30pm

The Las Ventas Bullring was built in the Neo-Mudéjar style with bricks and hand-painted tiles in the year 1931. The **Las Ventas Tour** is available all year around and you can also visit the **Bullfighting Museum**. It houses a collection of prints on bullfighting by Goya, 20th-century bullfighting costumes and other curiosities of the Bullring and its history.



Las Ventas  
Bullring

## Longoria Palace

C/ Fernando VI, 4

📍 Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10), Bilbao (L1, L4), Colón (L4) and Tribunal (L1, L10)

The headquarters of the **Sociedad General de Autores** (SGAE) Spanish copyright association, this is the most outstanding Modernist building in Madrid, designed by José Grases Riera and built in 1904.



Longoria Palace

## Panteón de Hombres Ilustres

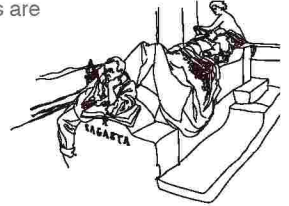
C/ Julián Gayarre, 3

📍 Atocha RENFE (L1)

Tues-Sat: 10am-2pm / 4-6:30pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm

A mausoleum of great historical and artistic importance. It is here, within the cloister of the **Basilica of Our Lady of Atocha**, where thirteen of Spain's most illustrious 19th-century politicians are buried, such as Ríos Rosas, Cánovas and Canalejas. Many of these tombs were engraved by renowned sculptors.



Sagasta's tomb

## La Almudena Cathedral

C/ Bailén, 10

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R)

Mon-Sun: 9am-8:30pm

Open till 9pm in August

Construction of the cathedral – originally designed by the Marquis de Cubas, who was inspired by 13th-century French Gothic architecture – began in 1883, but it would take over 100 years to be completed. During that time the project passed through the hands of six architects, and the result is a mix of neo-Gothic, neo-classical and neo-Romantic styles. Finally inaugurated in 1993 by Pope John Paul II, the cathedral also has a **museum** where you can learn more about Madrid's patron saints: the Virgin Mary of la Almudena and Saint Isidore.



La Almudena  
Cathedral

## San Antonio de la Florida Chapel

Glorieta San Antonio de la Florida, 5

📍 Príncipe Pío (L6, L10, R)

Chapel visit: Tues-Sun: 9:30am-8pm

Guided tours (in Spanish and English. Book ahead):

Sat: 1-1:50pm

Behind its rather sober façade, this neo-classical chapel hides some magnificent frescoes painted by Goya in 1798. Particularly noteworthy is his depiction of Madrileños witnessing one of the miracles of Saint Anthony. Across the road from the chapel, where the artist's remains are buried, stands a near-identical building erected in 1928 to host masses, thus allowing the original chapel to serve exclusively as a museum.



Ceiling of San Antonio de la Florida Chapel

## San Antonio de los Alemanes Church

C/ de la Puebla, 22

📍 Callao (L3, L5), Chueca (L5) and Gran Vía (L1, L5)

Mon-Sat: 10:30am-2pm

Behind its discreet facade designed by Pedro Sánchez, Francisco Seseña and Juan Gómez de Mora, is its one-of-a-kind interior: elliptical in shape, it is completely covered in frescoes by notable painters of the times such as Francisco Ricci, Juan Carreño de Miranda and Luca Giordano. The entrance fee includes a visit to the crypt.

## Church of Santa Bárbara

C/ Bárbara de Braganza, 1

📍 Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10), Chueca (L5) and Colón (L4)

Mon-Fri: 9am-1pm / 5-8pm

Sat and eve of holidays: 10am-1pm / 6-9pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-2pm / 6-9pm

The former Convent of the Salesas Reales was originally founded in the 18th century by Queen Barbara of Portugal as a school for the daughters of aristocrats. Although in 1870 it was converted into the Palace of Justice, the church continued to conduct mass. Its ornate façade has turned it into one of the most iconic buildings in Las Salesas neighbourhood.

Here you can see the tombs of Bárbara of Portugal and Ferdinand VI, the only Spanish monarchs who are not buried in El Escorial. As she had no heirs, Bárbara could not be buried there. They therefore chose this church to be buried in together. A true love story.



## Royal Monastery of the Incarnation

Plaza de la Encarnación, 1

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Santo Domingo (L2)

Tues-Sat: 10am-2pm / 4-6:30pm

Free entry Wed-Thurs: 4-6:30pm for EU and Latin American residents

Last admission one hour before closing time

This monastery was founded in 1611 by Margaret of Austria, Queen of Spain, and converted into a convent for cloistered nuns. It houses an important collection of 17th-century paintings and sculptures, including works by Luca Giordano, Juan Van der Hammen and Vicente Carducho. It also houses an impressive reliquary with more than 700 bronze, coral, ivory and wooden items. Guided tours last an hour.



Royal Monastery of the Incarnation



## Descalzas Reales Monastery

Plaza de las Descalzas

📍 Callao (L3, L5), Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

Tues-Sat: 10am-2pm / 4-6:30pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm

Free entry Wed-Thurs: 4-6:30pm for EU and Latin American residents

Last admission one hour before closing time

The monastery was commissioned by princess Joanna of Austria in 1559 and was built on the site of the palace that had belonged to her parents Charles V and Isabella of Portugal.

The monastery still preserves some original decorative elements from the palace - particularly noteworthy is the ornate Renaissance staircase - and is home to a large collection of paintings, tapestries and reliquaries. Don't miss the impressive altarpiece of La Capilla del Milagro.



## San Ginés Church

C/ Arenal, 13

📍 Callao (L3, L5), Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

Mon-Sat: 8:45am-1pm / 6-9pm

Sun & holidays: 9:45am-2pm / 5:45-9pm

Free entry

Apart from its claim to fame as the church where Lope de Vega was baptised and Quevedo was married, this church built in 1645 has works of great value such as *The Purification of the Temple* by El Greco, which can only be seen during the following hours: Tuesdays and Fridays from 6pm to 7pm and on Saturdays from 10am to 11am and from 11:30am to 12pm (midday). On your way out, be sure to enjoy Madrid's most famous chocolate and churros at the **Chocolatería San Ginés**.

When Charles I retired to Yuste, his youngest daughter Joanna of Austria was installed as regent during her brother Philip II's five-year absence. Towards the end of her life she was admitted to the Jesuit order, making her the only female member of the male-only order.



## Church of San Nicolás de Bari

Plaza de San Nicolás, 6

📍 La Latina (L5), Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Tirso de Molina (L1)

Mondays: 8:30am-1pm / 7-8:30pm

Tues-Sat: 8:30-9:30am / 7-8:30pm

Holidays: 10am-1:45pm / 6:30-8:45pm

A place of worship for the Italian-speaking community and the resting place of Juan de Herrera - the architect who designed the Royal Monastery of El Escorial - this medieval church has architectural elements from different historical periods. Its oldest and most representative piece is the Mudéjar tower built in the 12th century which is similar to the one found in the **Church of San Pedro el Viejo** (C/ del Nuncio, 14), Madrid's only other medieval church.

## Church of San Jerónimo el Real

C/ Moreto, 4

📍 Estación del Arte and Atocha RENFE (L1)

Mon-Sun: 10am-1pm / 5:30-8pm

In summer, it is open until 8:30pm

Called "Los Jerónimos" by the locals, it was one of the most important monasteries in Madrid.

It dates back to 1502, although the church and the cloister are all that remain of the original construction. Since 2007, it has been a part of the Prado Museum's **Cubo de Moneo** annexe designed by Rafael Moneo. It is the only Gothic building in Madrid!



# Cemeteries

## La Almudena Cemetery

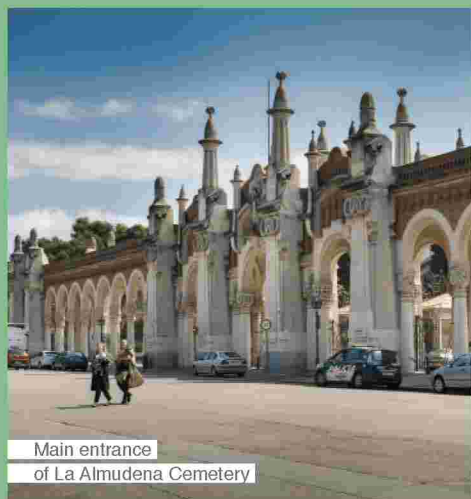
Av/ Daroca, 90

📍 La Almudena and La Elipa (L2)

Opening hours (winter): Mon-Sun: 8am-6:30pm

Opening hours (summer): Mon-Sun: 8am-7:30pm

Nicknamed the “Epidemic Cemetery”, it was hastily built in 1884 to bury victims of the rampant cholera outbreak that spread across Madrid that year. The arches that lead into the graveyard and the chapel, built in 1925, are examples of Modernist-style architecture. Madrid’s former mayor Enrique Tierno Galván, writer Benito Pérez Galdós, renowned Spanish folk singer Lola Flores and her son Antonio Flores, and Spain’s first female bullfighter Juanita Cruz are just some of the historical figures and celebrities buried in this cemetery. It is one of the largest in Europe and in it hundreds of thousands of people have been laid to rest. For a guided or themed tour, call (+34) 91 510 84 64 / 69.



Main entrance  
of La Almudena Cemetery

## British Cemetery

📍 Comandante Fontanes, 7

📍 Urgel (L5)

Tues-Thurs & Sat: 10:30am-1pm

Built in 1854 to house the remains of Protestants who could not be interred in Catholic cemeteries, this modest graveyard is located in Carabanchel. This is the resting place of some members of prominent non-Spanish families who lived in Madrid, such as Loewe, Lhardy and Bauer.



Cemetery of San Justo

## Sacramental Cemetery of San Justo

Paseo de la Ermita del Santo, 70

📍 Marqués de Vadillo (L5)

Mon-Sun: 8am-3pm

Separated from the Cemetery of San Isidro by a wall, the Cemetery of San Justo is located on the Las Ánimas ridge in Madrid. Its graves are laid out in beautiful patios full of history. We highly recommend a visit to the pantheon, the final resting place of writers such as Larra, Espronceda and Gómez de la Serna, as well as artistes such as Sara Montiel.

## Civil Cemetery

Av/ Daroca, 103

📍 La Almudena (L2)

Opening hours (winter): Mon-Sun: 8am-6:30pm

Opening hours (summer): Mon-Sun: 8am-7:30pm

In 1883, a Royal Decree mandated the creation of a non-denominational cemetery for people who could not or did not wish to be buried on sacred Catholic ground. It was inaugurated a year later by king Alfonso XII. It is the burial site of distinguished politicians of the First Spanish Republic, and other later figures, such as the Communist leader Dolores Ibárruri “La Pasionaria” and the writer Pío Baroja.

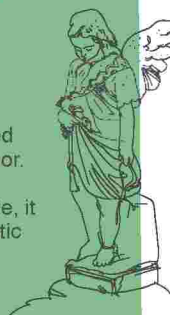
## Sacramental Cemetery of San Isidro

Paseo de la Ermita del Santo, 72

📍 Marqués de Vadillo (L5)

Mon-Sun: 9am-3pm

This is Madrid’s oldest cemetery, located behind the Chapel of San Isidro Labrador. As the preferred graveyard of the 19th century Spanish nobility and bourgeoisie, it holds several burial vaults of great artistic value. For a guided tour, book at [info@cementeriodesanisidro.com](mailto:info@cementeriodesanisidro.com)



# Sol and Gran Vía: a monumental walk



Puerta del Sol

**Puerta del Sol** is one of the city's most famous sites. In this bustling square you'll find the statues of **Charles III** and **La Mariblanca**, the **Kilometre 0** stone slab marking the starting point for all major radial roads in Spain, La Mallorquina bakery, the clock atop the **Casa de Correos** building that all eyes in Spain turn to on New Year's Eve, and the famous **Oso y Madroño**. The official symbol of the city, the statue of a bear nuzzling a strawberry tree is a popular meeting spot for Madrileños.

One of the many heritage walks that you can take in Madrid begins at the **Plaza de Oriente**, where elegant gardens and sculptures paint a pretty picture with the **Royal Palace** outlined against the horizon and the **Teatro Real** opera house behind you.



Plaza de Oriente

Walk through a bustling shopping district to reach **Puerta del Sol**, the official centre point of Spain. From there, you have two options: take Calle Carretas towards the Literary Quarter, where every street is a testimony to Madrid's love of culture with lively squares like the Plaza **Santa Ana**, and walk on the paths once trodden by the likes of Cervantes and Quevedo. Or you can follow the multitudes towards the shopping streets of **Montera** and **Preciados**, until you find yourself on the **Gran Vía**, that imposing Madrid avenue that's a monument in itself.

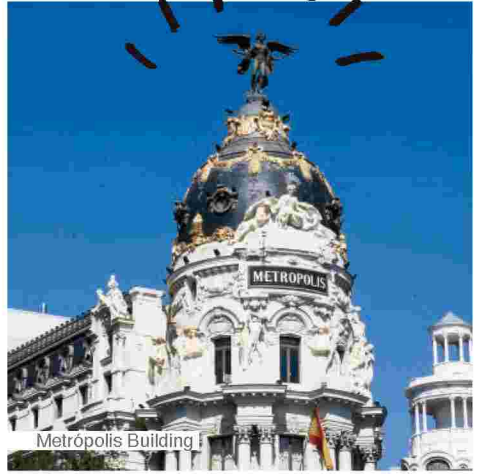
**Lope de Vega House Museum** is one of the attractions of the Literary Quarter (page 34).



Lope de Vega

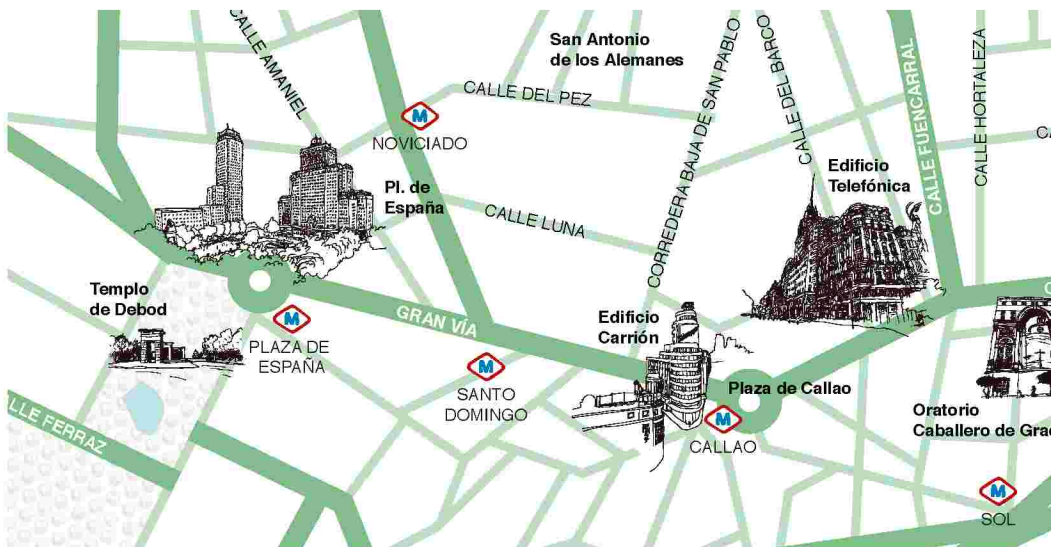


Telefónica Building



Metrópolis Building

The Gran Vía is one of Madrid's biggest urban planning projects, launched by Alfonso XIII in the early 20th century. The idea was to connect the neighbourhoods of Salamanca and Argüelles, to ease traffic congestion in the city centre and to take a step towards modernity by creating an avenue that would be the equal of any in the biggest capital cities of the world. Hundreds of houses and dwellings of old Madrid would fall victim to the wrecking ball and make way for modern constructions such as the **Metrópolis Building**, the **Telefónica Building** (page 47) or the **Carrión Building**. All that remains of the buildings that originally stood there is the **Chapel of Caballero de Gracia** at number 17, although it has been renovated.

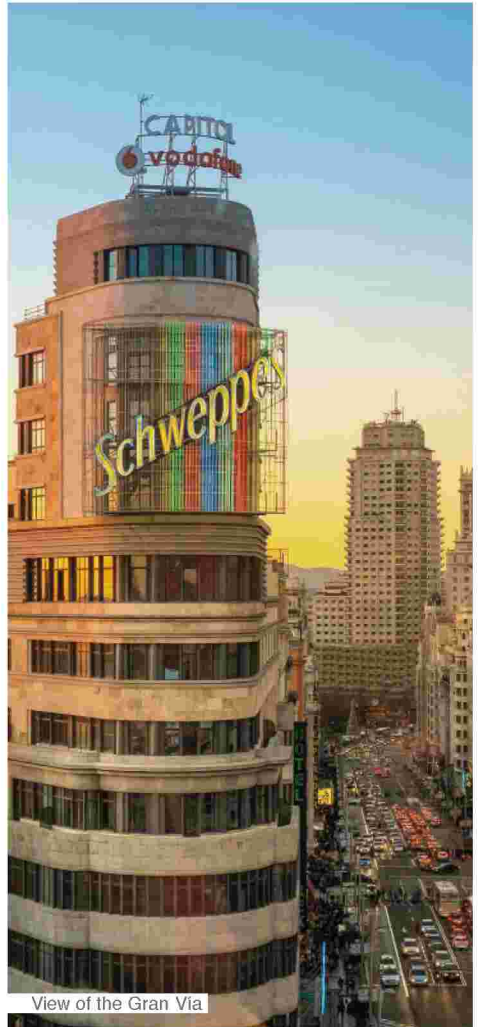




Watching the sunset from Gran Vía

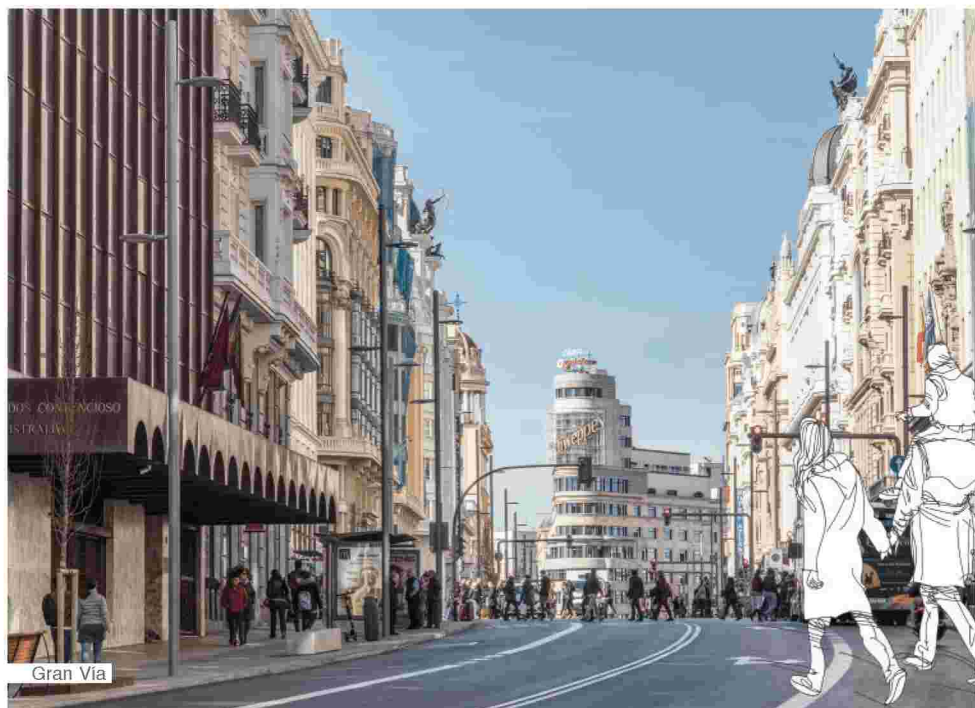


Cines Callao



View of the Gran Vía





Alfonso XIII inaugurated a Metro stop on the avenue and elegant buildings were erected to house cinemas, luxury shops and department stores like Almacenes Madrid-París, the first of its kind to open in the city. There was no denying it: Madrid had achieved modernity.

The Gran Vía was built in three parts over nearly half a century, so the architectural styles differ depending on what section you are in, with historicist buildings at the beginning of the thoroughfare giving way to more Rationalist constructions as you approach Plaza de España.

Madrid's Gran Vía is more alive now than ever before. Having recently undergone a vast remodelation, it now boasts wider pavements which are perfect for window shopping and bar hopping. Head down it towards Plaza de España and you'll notice that the succession of jewellers', high-street staples and eateries suddenly turn into theatres as you find yourself on Madrid's West End. The avenue is also home to a number of legendary watering holes, including **Museo Chicote**, Spain's first cocktail bar. Founded in 1931 by famous barman Perico Chicote, it was a favourite haunt for stars of the silver screen and intellectuals like Ava Gardner and Ernest Hemingway.



### MARVELLOUS MINIATURES

In addition to the model of 1830s Madrid housed in the Museum of History on Calle Fuencarral, Madrid has another miniature model that is worth checking out. Made by Javier Aguilera, you can find it – after hunting around a bit – on the corner of Gran Vía and Alcalá street.



Miniature of the Gran Vía

The Gran Vía we see today was designed with cyclists and pedestrians in mind. It now has 95 new traffic lights, 228 LED lights, 143 stone and wooden benches, 89 additional trees, 6 new pedestrian crossings, a bike lane that goes between Callao and Plaza de España, and wider pavements that are ideal for strolling.



Palacio de la Prensa



Cyclists on the Gran Vía

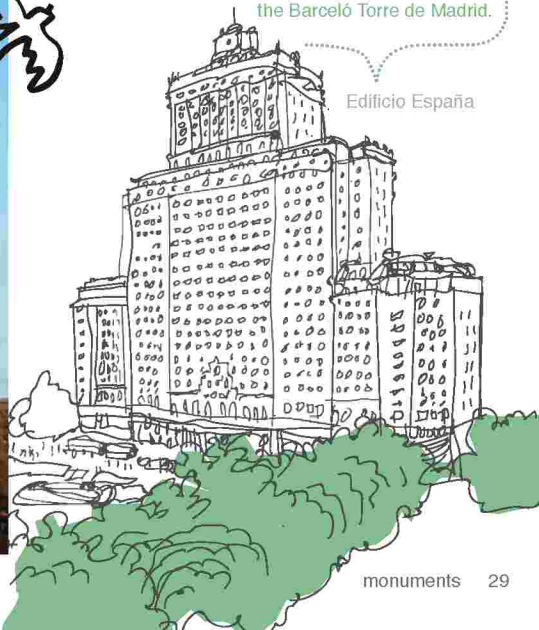


Callao Metro

In Plaza de España you'll find two immense buildings built by the Otamendi brothers: Edificio España which they began erecting in 1948 and is 117 metres high, and Torre de Madrid, which was completed in 1960 and rises 142 metres above ground. They currently hold two important hotels: the Riu Plaza España and the Barceló Torre de Madrid.



Torre de Madrid



Edificio España



# museums

Thyssen-Bornemisza  
Museum

Madrid boasts some of the best museums in the world. Three of them are located in a kilometre-long stretch known as the **Paseo del Arte** or Art Walk: the Prado, the Thyssen-Bornemisza and the Reina Sofía. In addition to these three, the city is home to other wonderful museums and art galleries that are just waiting to be discovered.







The Velázquez Gallery  
in the Prado Museum

Don't miss the chance to check out *The Dauphin's Treasure*, a little known collection of decorative arts.

## Prado Museum

Paseo del Prado

📍 Estación del Arte (L1) and Banco de España (L2)

Mon-Sat: 10am-8pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-7pm

Free entry during last two hours before closing time

Spain's largest museum was founded in 1819 and is regarded as one of the greatest in the world. It houses more than 700 sculptures and the most comprehensive collection of Spanish paintings worldwide, many of them depicting crucial moments in the country's history. From the Renaissance period, the museum holds some of El Greco's most notable works, such as *The Nobleman with his Hand on his Chest* and *The Holy Trinity*. Paintings by some of the Spanish Golden Age's greatest, like Murillo, Zurbarán and Velázquez, include *Las Meninas* and *The Spinners*, or *the Fable of Arachne*. From the 18th and 19th centuries, we have Sorolla's *Boys on the Beach* and a rich collection of works by Francisco de Goya: *The Executions*, *Saturn Devouring One of his Sons*, *The Family of Carlos IV*, *The Naked Maja* and *The Clothed Maja*, among others. The Prado also boasts a number of notable works of Italian art, including *Emperor Charles V at Mühlberg* by Titian and Fra Angelico's *Annunciation*, as well as a wonderful collection of Flemish and Dutch art. Don't miss *The Three Graces* by Rubens or Hieronymus Bosch's enigmatic triptych *The Garden of Earthly Delights*. In 2007, the museum unveiled a new extension dedicated to temporary exhibitions. Designed by modernist architect Rafael Moneo, it was built around the cloisters of the Church of San Jerónimo, just behind the main Villanueva building which houses most of the museum's magnificent collection.



Buy your  
tickets here!



## The Essential Art Walk app

Download the app to discover the 24 masterpieces that you must see, and be sure to purchase the Paseo del Arte pass so you can visit the Prado, Reina Sofia and Thyssen-Bornemisza museums without having to queue.



Prado Museum



Guernica at the Reina  
Sofía Museum

If you like art, head to **Calle del Doctor Fourquet**, right behind the Reina Sofía Museum, where you'll find more than 15 galleries in under 500 metres. Ever since Helga de Alvear opened her art gallery here in 1995, the area has become a must for modern art collectors.

## Reina Sofía Museum

C/ Santa Isabel, 52

📍 Estación del Arte (L1) and Lavapiés (L3)

Mondays: 10am-9pm

Tues & holidays closed

Wed-Sat: 10am-9pm

Sunday: 10am-7pm

Free entry during last two hours before closing time and Sunday from 1:30 to 7pm

Founded in 1990 in the former Madrid General Hospital, the Reina Sofía takes us on a journey through the history of contemporary Spanish art. Picasso's *Guernica* is unquestionably the museum's great jewel, but there are many other wonderful paintings from the early 20th century - most notably Joan Miró's *Snail*, *Woman, Flower*, *Star* and Salvador Dalí's *Figure at the Window* and *The Great Masturbator* - as well as post-World War II works by Spanish artists like Antoni Tàpies and Jorge Oteiza and international painters such as Francis Bacon. The collection also includes artworks from the 70s onwards by artists like Luis Gordillo, Dan Flavin and Sol LeWitt.

## Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum

Paseo del Prado, 8

📍 Banco de España (L2)

Mondays: 12 noon-4pm

Tues-Sun: 10am-7pm

Free for visitors under 18

Also found on the Art Walk, this wonderful museum holds a vast collection of more than 1000 paintings that trace the history of European painting from the Middle Ages to the late 20th century. Movements represented in the museum, which is housed in the Villahermosa Palace, include: the Italian Trecento, Early Netherlandish art (such as Jan Van Eyck's *The Annunciation*), Impressionism (works by Monet and Degas' *Swaying Dancer [Dancer in Green]*), Post-Impressionism (*Mata Mua* by Gauguin and Van Gogh's *Les Vessensots*), and 20th-century avant-garde movements (including *Picture with Three Spots, No. 196* by Kandinsky and Edward Hopper's *Hotel Room*).



Thyssen-Bornemisza  
Museum

## MAN National Archaeological Museum

C/ Serrano, 13

Colón and Serrano (L4)

Tues-Sat: 9:30am-8pm

Sun & holidays: 9:30am-3pm

Free entry on Saturday from 2pm until closing time and on Sunday

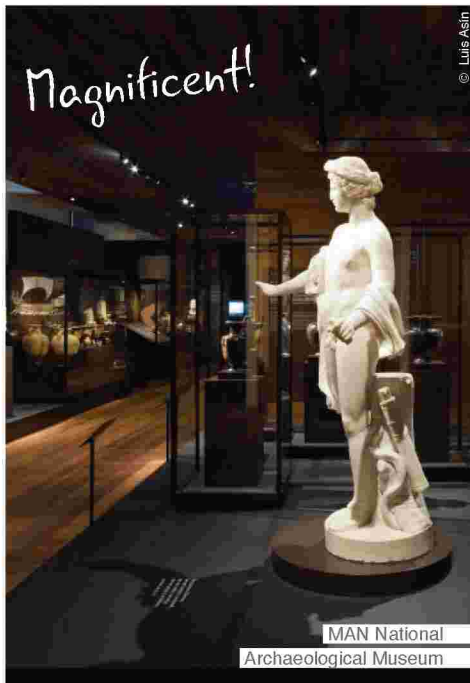
Founded in 1867 by Isabella II, the museum underwent a complete renovation in 2013 that turned it into one of the most visited museums in Madrid. Its magnificent collection of antiques illustrates the evolution of different cultures in the Iberian Peninsula from the Prehistoric Age until the 19th century. *The Lady of Elche*, an Iberian sculpture dating between the 5th and 4th centuries BC, is one of its highlights, but the museum also boasts a superb collection of Roman mosaics, Visigothic votive crowns, Greek pottery and Egyptian funerary art.



Book your tickets here!



The Lady of Elche



MAN National Archaeological Museum



Lázaro Galdiano Museum

## Lázaro Galdiano Museum

C/ Serrano, 122

Avenida de América (L4, L6, L7, L9), Gregorio Marañón (L7, L10), Núñez de Balboa (L5, L9) and Rubén Darío (L5)

Tues-Sat: 10am-4:30pm

Sunday: 10am-3pm

Free entry from 3.30 to 4:30pm and on Sunday from 2 to 3pm

Upon his death, the publisher José Lázaro Galdiano bequeathed his residence, the Palacio de Parque Florido, and his private art collection to the city. The artworks on display include *The Witches' Sabbath*, a painting by Goya that once hung in the mansion in El Capricho Park, Bosch's panel painting of Saint John the Baptist, and *Salvador Adolescente* (The Adolescent Saviour), painted by one of Da Vinci's pupils. Be sure to find time for a stroll in the 5000 m2 French-style garden.

## Museum of the Americas

Av/ de los Reyes Católicos, 6

Islas Filipinas (L7) and Moncloa (L3, L6)

Tues-Sat: 9:30am-3pm, Thursday: 9:30am-7pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm

Free entry on Sunday and Thursday from 2pm

Over 25,000 artefacts comprise a wonderful collection of Pre-Columbian art, archaeological gems, ethnographic objects, jewels and craftwork. The museum is also home to a vast range of colonial-era objects. Particularly noteworthy is the treasure trove of the Colombian Quimbaya civilisation.

## Sorolla Museum

Paseo del General Martínez Campos, 37  
📍 Alonso Cano (L7), Gregorio Marañón (L7, L10), Iglesia (L1) and Rubén Darío (L5)

Tues-Sat: 9:30am-8pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm

Free entry on Saturday from 2pm until closing time and on Sunday

The Sorolla Museum, a mansion tucked away among modern buildings, is the former home of the late Valencian painter, known for his unique ability to capture light. Not only is the house filled with the artist's paintings but most of its rooms are furnished in their original state. On display you will also find perfectly preserved objects that he collected during his lifetime. The beautiful gardens were designed by the painter himself.



## Lope de Vega House Museum

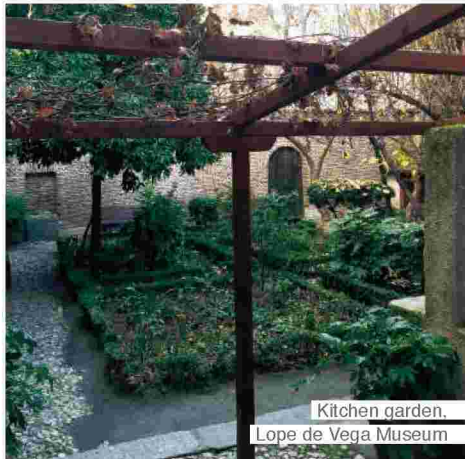
C/ Cervantes, 11

📍 Antón Martín (L1) and Sevilla (L2)

Tues-Sun: 10am-6pm

Free entry

The house Lope de Vega lived in from 1610 until his death in 1635 is one of the best preserved examples of a typical 16th-century Spanish dwelling. Converted into a museum, it houses works of art, furniture, a kitchen garden and even some of the great playwright's personal belongings. Prior booking required: call (+34) 91 429 92 16 or send an email to [casamuseolopedevega@madrid.org](mailto:casamuseolopedevega@madrid.org)



## Museum of Romanticism

C/ San Mateo, 13

📍 Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10) and Tribunal (L1, L10)

Tues-Sat from Nov-Apr: 9:30am-6:30pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm

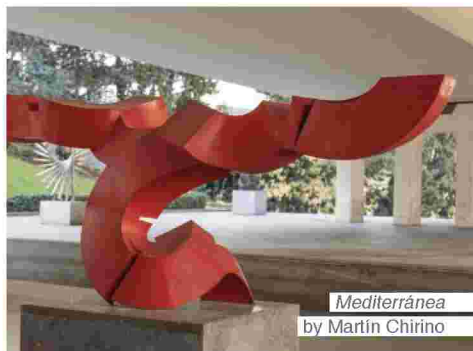
Tues-Sat from May-Oct: 9:30am-8:30pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm

Free entry: Saturday from 2pm and Sunday

Built in 1776, this mansion houses a fascinating collection of paintings, furniture and decorative art which capture the essence of the cultural, political and everyday life of 19th-century Madrid. Its highlights include the pistol used by Larra, the great Spanish journalist, to commit suicide, and the idyllic Magnolia garden and café.





**Mediterránea**  
by Martín Chirino

## Open-Air Sculpture Museum on Paseo de la Castellana

Paseo de la Castellana, 40

📍 Rubén Darío (L5)

Located under the overpass joining Juan Bravo and Eduardo Dato streets, this open-air museum comprises seventeen abstract sculptures by Spanish artists like Joan Miró, Alberto Sánchez and Julio González. Of special note is Eduardo Chillida's *The Stranded Mermaid* which hangs from the bridge.

## National Museum of Anthropology

C/ Alfonso XII, 68

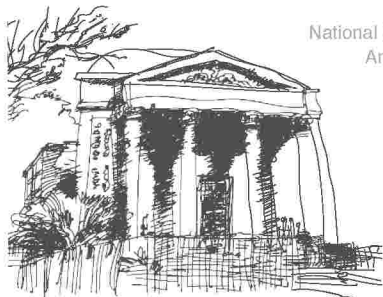
📍 Atocha RENFE (L1)

Tues-Sat: 9:30am-8pm

Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm

Free entry on Saturday from 2pm until closing time and Sunday

A great place to visit with the whole family, each room takes you on a journey to a different continent. The permanent exhibition explores the world's rich cultural diversity and the differences and similarities between its inhabitants, including their clothing and utensils, their anatomy, religious beliefs and traditions.



National Museum of Anthropology

## Andén 0

Plaza de Chamberí

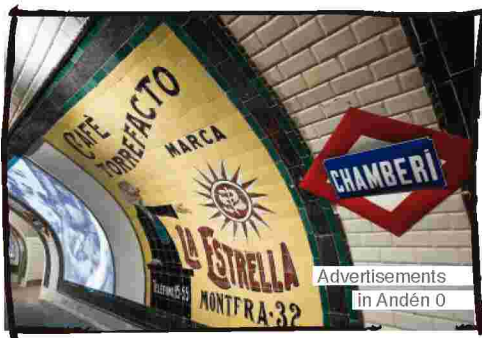
📍 Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10), Bilbao (L1, L4), Iglesia (L1), Quevedo (L2) and Rubén Darío (L5)

Thursday: 10am-1pm

Friday: 11am-7pm

Sat-Sun: 11am-3pm

After being closed to the public for over 40 years, the former Chamberí metro station recently reopened as a museum. Designed by Antonio Palacios and abandoned in 1966, the ghost station is an undisturbed time capsule, featuring the original ticket counters, platforms, signs and tile advertisements preserved from the 1920s.



Advertisements  
in Andén 0

## Museum of San Isidro. The Origins of Madrid

Plaza de San Andrés, 2

📍 La Latina (L5) and Tirso de Molina (L1)

Tues-Sun and holidays: 10am-8pm

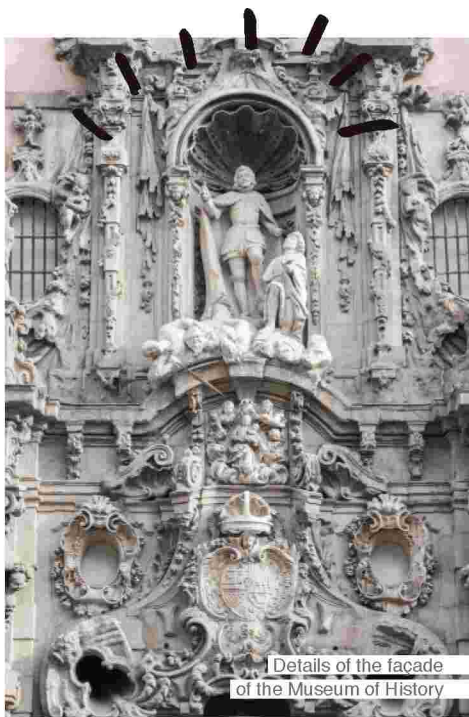
Tues-Sun from 15 June-15 Sep: 10am-7pm

Day of San Isidro (15 May): 9:30am-9:30pm

This museum is dedicated to San Isidro, Madrid's patron saint, who legend has it saved his son from drowning in a well. This same well (known as Pozo del Milagro) is on display here, alongside information on the origins of the city, from prehistoric times to 1561 when Madrid was chosen as the capital of Spain.



Renaissance patio  
in the Museum of San Isidro



## Museum of History

C/ Fuencarral, 78  
 Tribunal (L1, L10)  
 Tues-Sun and holidays: 10am-8pm  
 Tues-Sun (15 June-15 Sep): 10am-7pm  
 Free entry

Cross the extraordinary entrance of the former San Fernando Hospice, designed by Pedro Ribera, to discover the history of the city from the 16th century onwards through paintings, prints, miniature models, precious metals and artworks by Goya and Luca Giordano. The collection's crown jewel is the scale model of Madrid made by León Gil de Palacio in 1830.

## National Museum of Decorative Arts

C/ Montalbán, 12  
 Banco de España and Retiro (L2)  
 Tues-Sat: 9:30am-8pm  
 Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm

Free entry during last two hours before closing time  
 This original museum recreates different rooms, from a medieval hall to a contemporary dining area, to illustrate the history of decorative and industrial arts. One of its highlights is an 18th-century Valencian kitchen.

## San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts

C/ Alcalá, 13  
 Sevilla (L2) and Sol (L1, L2, L3)  
 Tues-Sun: 10am-3pm  
 Closed Mondays, holidays and in August  
 Spain's oldest cultural institution boasts a collection of more than 1,500 paintings - including *Spring*, the only Arcimboldo painting in Madrid - 1,500 sculptures and 15,000 drawings. The building also houses the **National Chalcography Centre** - which displays copper plates used by Goya for his etchings - and in 2019 it opened a new gallery to showcase its vast collection of photographs.



Francisco de Goya

## ONCE Museum for the Blind

C/ La Coruña, 18  
 Estrecho (L1)  
 Tues-Fri: 10am-3pm / 4-7pm  
 Saturday: 10am-2pm  
 Tues-Fri from 1-14 Aug: 10am-3pm  
 Opened in 1992, this museum documents the history of tactile writing systems and showcases scale models of famous buildings that visitors are invited to touch. It also displays paintings, sculptures and textiles created by visually impaired artists.



## Royal Tapestry Factory

Callejón Fuenterrabía, 2  
 Atocha RENFE and Menéndez Pelayo (L1)  
 Guided tours: 10am, 11am, 12 noon and 1pm (Spanish) and 12.30 noon (English).  
 Free for kids under 6  
 Take a guided tour of this wonderful factory to watch highly skilled weavers still working on centuries-old looms and making tapestries and carpets like the ones that adorn palaces across the country.

## Cerralbo Museum

C/ Ventura Rodríguez, 17  
 Plaza de España (L3 and L10)  
 Tues-Sat: 9:30am-3pm  
 Thursday: 5-8pm  
 Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm  
 A visit to this old mansion will give you a true picture of how an aristocratic family lived in the 19th-century. Its interior, decorated in neo-baroque and rococo styles, hosts a fabulous collection of more than 50,000 paintings and objects collected by the Marquis of Cerralbo during his lifetime.



The Chafan Parlour  
 in the Cerralbo Museum

## Garment Museum

Av/ Juan de Herrera, 2  
 Ciudad Universitaria (L6) and Moncloa (L3, L6)  
 Tues-Sat: 9:30am-7pm  
 Sun & holidays: 10am-3pm  
 Thurs in July & Aug: 9:30am-10:30pm  
 The Museo del Traje offers a wonderful overview of the history of fashion. It is home to a vast collection of garments ranging from a 16th-century doublet to dresses tailored by some of the leading 20th century designers, such as Chanel, Givenchy and Balenciaga.



## Casa de la Moneda Museum

C/ Doctor Esquerdo, 36  
 Goya (L2, L4) and O'Donnell (L6)  
 Tues-Fri: 10am-5:30pm  
 Sat-Sun and holidays: 10am-2pm  
 Free entry

One of the best museums of its kind, it takes you on a journey through the history of money. As well as coins and notes, the museum's exhibits include stamps, lottery tickets, coining presses and scale models of some of the city's sculptures, like the lions from the Cibeles Fountain and the tritons from the fountains on Paseo del Prado.



Entrance  
 hall of the  
 Cerralbo Museum

## The 5 Museums: Another Madrid pass

This card allows you to visit five of the city's house-museums over a 10-day period:  
 Decorative Arts, Cerralbo, Romanticism, Sorolla and Lázaro Galdiano.



More information  
 here

## Other must-visits!

### ABC Museum of Drawing and Illustration

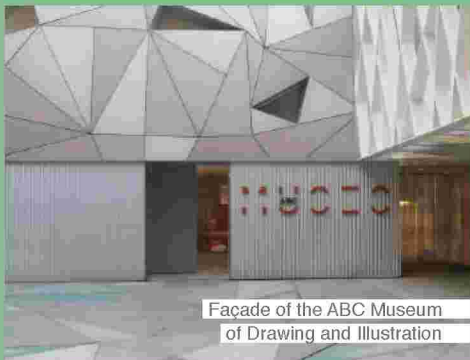
C/ Amaniel, 29-31

San Bernardo (L2, L4), Ventura Rodríguez (L3),  
Noviciado (L2) and Plaza de España (L3, L10)

Tues-Sat: 11am-8pm

Sunday: 10am-2pm

The modern design of the façade plays with lines and geometry, making it one of the most photographed spots in Madrid. The museum was opened to showcase the collection of the Spanish newspaper ABC and comprises over 200,000 drawings and illustrations dating as far back as 1891.



### Naval Museum

Paseo del Prado, 5

Banco de España (L2)

Tues-Sun: 10am-7pm

Aug: Tues-Sun: 10am-3pm

An overview of the history of Spanish sailing, from the era of the discoveries of the 15th century up to the 21st century.

### Railway Museum

Paseo de las Delicias, 61

Delicias (L3)

Mon-Fri from Oct-May: 9:30am-3pm

Sat-Sun and holidays: 10am-8pm

Mon-Sun from June-Sep: 10am-3pm

In the former Delicias train station – a wonderful example of 19th century cast-iron architecture – you'll find a charming collection of old trains and carriages, as well as some great model railway layouts.



### Geomineral Museum

C/ Ríos Rosas, 23

Ríos Rosas (L1)

Mon-Sun and holidays: 9am-2pm

Free entry

An important collections of minerals, rocks and fossils from across Spain and former colonies, as well as from archaeological sites from all corners of the world, are exhibited in this wonderful museum that boasts a stunning glass ceiling in its central hall designed by Francisco Javier de Luque.

### Wax Museum

Paseo de Recoletos, 41

Colón (L4)

Mon-Fri: 10am-2pm / 4:30-8pm

Sat-Sun and holidays: 10am-8pm

Over 450 historical figures, artists, sports personalities and politicians from various eras are joined by fictional and children's characters as well as familiar faces from classic horror films. Prepare for a fascinating journey through time!





Ramón Gómez de la Serna's study  
in the Museum of Contemporary Art

## Museum of Contemporary Art

C/ Conde Duque, 9

📍 Ventura Rodríguez (L3), San Bernardo (L2, L4),  
Noviciado (L2) and Plaza de España (L3, L10)

Tues-Sat: 10am-2pm / 5:30-9pm

Sun & holidays: 10:30am-2pm

15 June-15 Sep Tues-Sat: 10am-1:30pm / 5:30-8pm

Sun & holidays: 10:30am-1:30pm

Free entry

Located in the Conde Duque cultural centre, the museum's permanent collection offers an overview of the history of painting, sculpture, drawings, photography and engravings from the historical avant-garde to the present. It also has on display the **study of writer Ramón Gómez de la Serna**, who was a key exponent of the avant-garde in Madrid.

## National Museum of Natural Sciences

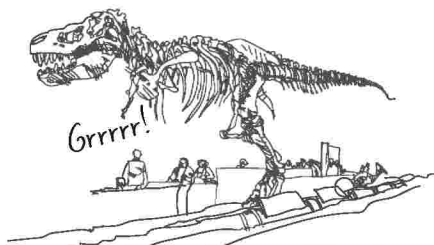
C/ José Gutiérrez Abascal, 2

📍 Gregorio Marañón (L7, L10) and Nuevos Ministerios (L6, L8, L10)

Tues-Fri: 10am-5pm

Sat-Sun and holidays: 10am-8pm

Botanical and entomology collections, nature exhibitions, the skeleton of a diplocodus, a stuffed elephant and a giant squid preserved in alcohol are just some of the wonders you'll find in this museum, which is a must for kids!



National Museum  
of Natural Sciences

Glass Palace  
in the Retiro Park

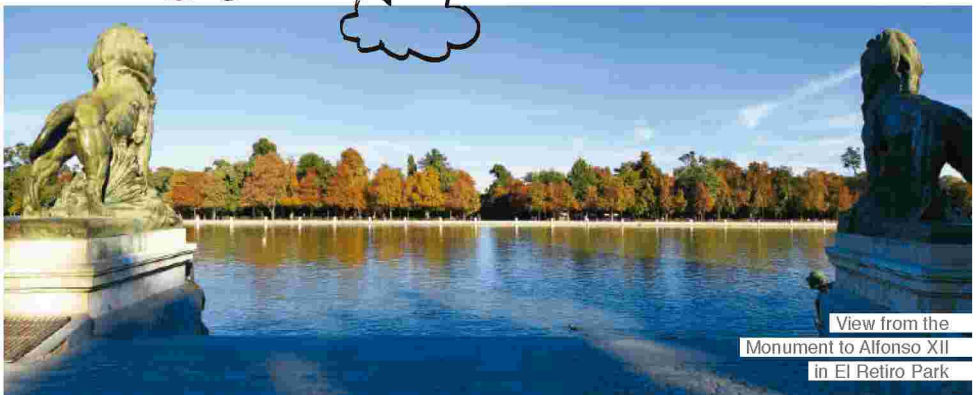
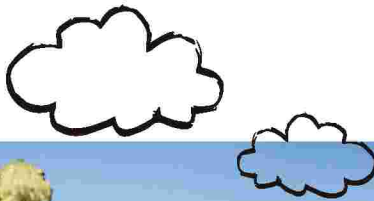


# El Retiro Park and the Paseo del Prado,

## a UNESCO World Heritage Site candidate

Madrid has officially nominated the “Paseo del Prado and Buen Retiro. A landscape of Arts and Sciences” for inclusion in UNESCO’s list of World Heritage Sites. The cultural landscape encompasses the area between Cibeles and the Glorieta de Atocha and includes **El Retiro Park** and **Los Jerónimos neighbourhood**.

This wonderful site, which dates back to the mid-16th century, is regarded as the oldest tree-lined boulevard in a European capital city. It covers 190 hectares and 75% of it is made up of green areas. On Sundays, from 9am to 4pm, the Paseo del Prado avenue is closed between the Plaza de Carlos V and Cibeles to northbound traffic, turning it into a great spot for a stroll.



View from the  
Monument to Alfonso XII  
in El Retiro Park



Neptune Fountain

Fans of the Atlético de Madrid Club celebrate their team's victories at the Neptune Fountain, which depicts the god of the sea, holding his trident, on a chariot shaped like a shell and drawn by two sea horses.

**El Retiro Park**, a former royal retreat, together with the Paseo del Prado comprise a site designed for the people, lined with trees and filled with fountains and major institutions of Madrid and Spain.

It was Philip IV who decided to build the Buen Retiro Palace and gardens here, turning the area into the cultural centre of the Spanish Golden Age as well as a popular place for the locals to go for a stroll. In the late 18th century, Charles III opened the gardens up to the public and, eager to turn Madrid into a leading centre of science, commissioned the construction of the Cabinet of Natural History, the building that now houses the Prado Museum. Other scientific institutions that soon sprung up in the area were the Academy of Sciences and the Chemical Laboratory, the **Royal Botanical Garden** and the **Royal Observatory**. Paseo del Prado was gradually embellished with fountains – such as the ones dedicated to **Cybele** and **Neptune** – and the development of the **Los Jerónimos neighbourhood**, thus named after the **San Jerónimo el Real Church**. On the other side of the boulevard, a number of buildings were erected which today house key cultural and political institutions, such as the **Congreso de los Diputados** (Spain's lower house of parliament), the **Royal Spanish Academy** and the **Bank of Spain**, which opened an exhibition space in November 2019 to showcase part of its collection.



Paseo del Prado



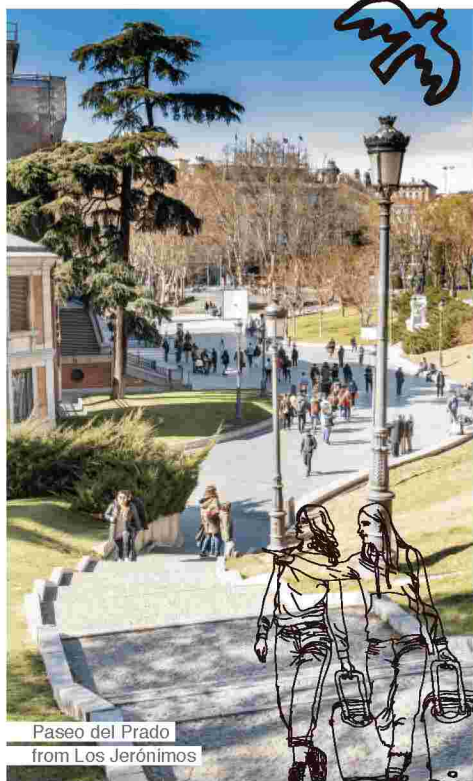
Congreso de los Diputados



## El Salón del Prado

The city has Charles III, nicknamed the “Best Mayor of Madrid”, to thank for the Paseo del Prado as we know it today. Not only did he establish scientific institutions such as the Botanical Garden, the Astronomical Observatory and the Cabinet of Natural History, but he also commissioned the construction of gardens and fountains, like **the Artichoke fountain**, currently found in El Retiro Park, and those dedicated to **Neptune, Cybele and Apollo**. The project, titled **Salón del Prado**, was headed by architect Ventura Rodríguez and resulted in one of the city’s most stunning areas.

The fountains of Neptune and Cybele originally sat facing each other on one side of the boulevard, but in the late 19th century they were moved, respectively, to Plaza de Cánovas del Castillo and Plaza de Cibeles.



Paseo del Prado  
from Los Jerónimos



Church of San Jerónimo  
el Real

The area is home to so many museums and cultural institutions that it is known as the Art Walk. In it you'll find the likes of the **Prado**, the **Thyssen-Bornemisza**, the **Reina Sofía**, the **Naval Museum**, **CaixaForum**, the **National Museum of Decorative Arts**, the **National Museum of Anthropology**, and the **Velázquez** and **Glass** palaces in El Retiro Park.

This wonderful blend of nature and art makes the **Paseo del Prado and Buen Retiro: A Landscape of Arts and Sciences** a truly unique site.

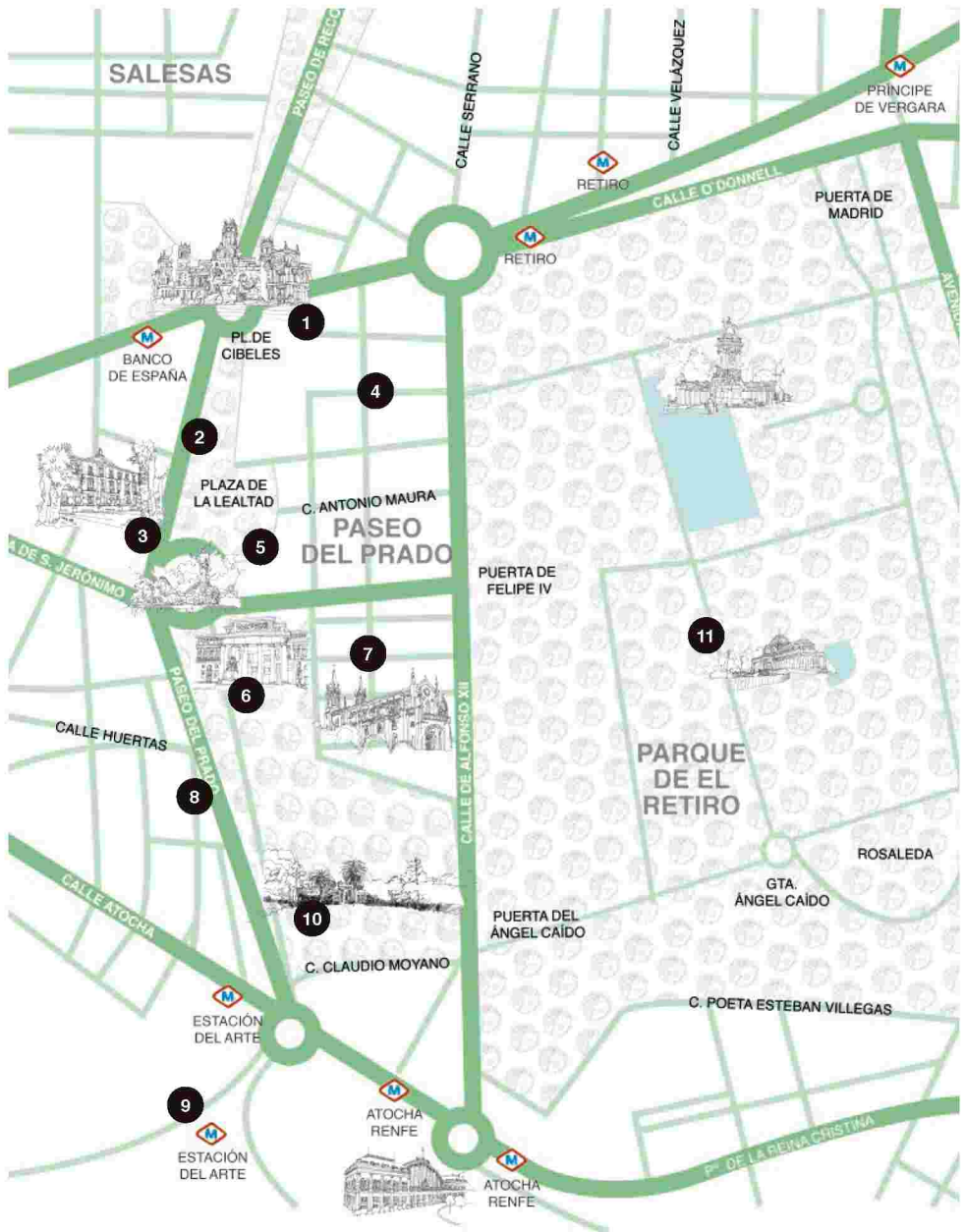


Entrance to the Reina  
Sofía Museum

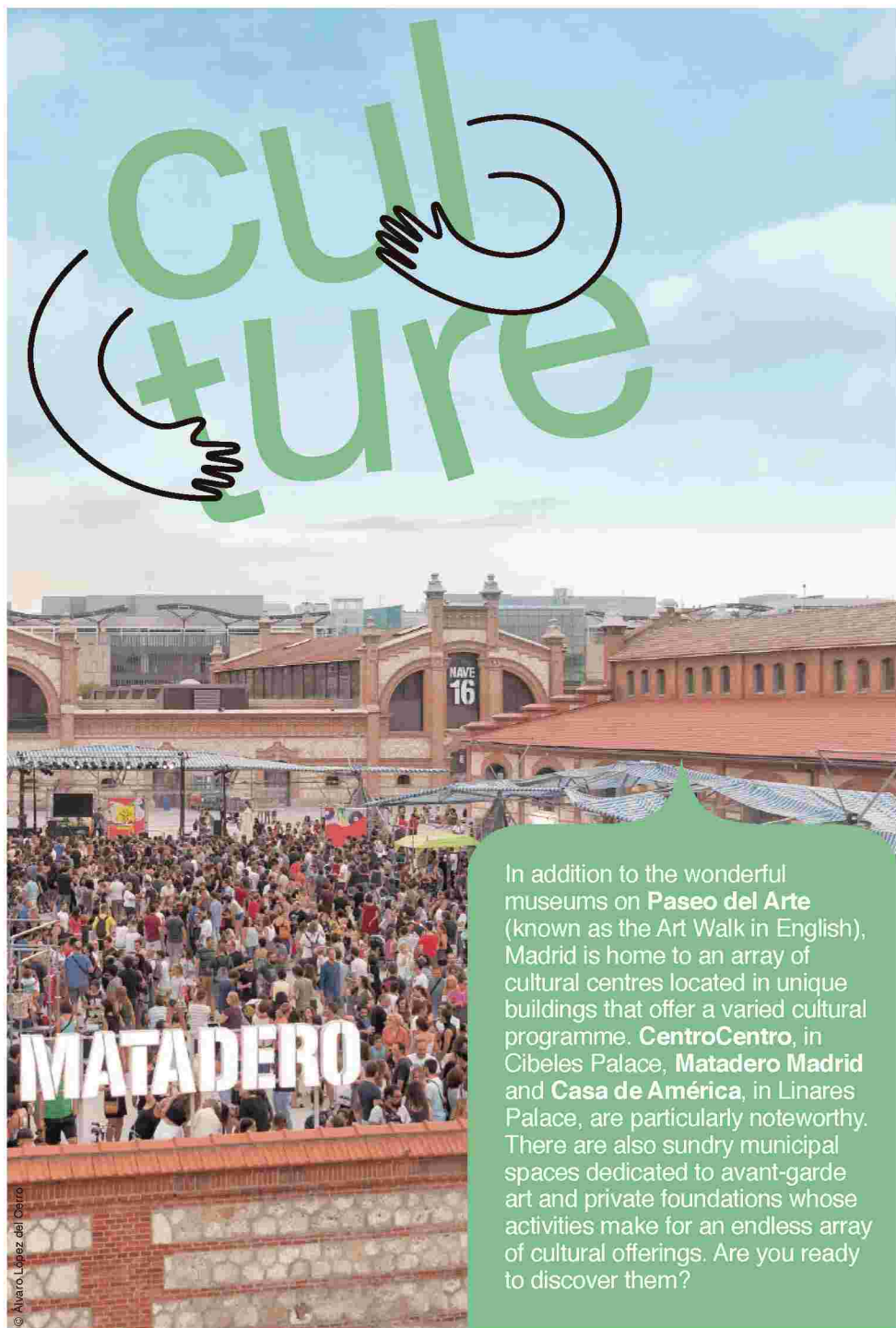
How  
interesting!



An astrolabe in  
the Naval Museum



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cibeles Palace</li> <li>2. Naval Museum</li> <li>3. Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum</li> <li>4. National Museum of Decorative Arts</li> <li>5. Neptune Fountain</li> <li>6. Prado Museum</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. San Jerónimo el Real</li> <li>8. CaixaForum Madrid</li> <li>9. Reina Sofía Museum</li> <li>10. Royal Botanical Garden</li> <li>11. Glass Palace</li> </ol> |
|---|--|



In addition to the wonderful museums on **Paseo del Arte** (known as the Art Walk in English), Madrid is home to an array of cultural centres located in unique buildings that offer a varied cultural programme. **CentroCentro**, in Cibeles Palace, **Matadero Madrid** and **Casa de América**, in Linares Palace, are particularly noteworthy. There are also sundry municipal spaces dedicated to avant-garde art and private foundations whose activities make for an endless array of cultural offerings. Are you ready to discover them?

## CentroCentro

Plaza de Cibeles, 1

📍 Banco de España (L2)

This cultural centre is located in **Cibeles Palace**, Madrid's city hall. Worth a visit for its architectural splendour alone, it plays host to exhibitions, talks and activities that reflect on urban and modern culture. The building, which was designed by renowned architect Antonio Palacios, is home to two restaurants, a lounge, a glass gallery and a wonderful observation deck.

## Palacio de Cibeles: a 100-year-old palace



CentroCentro

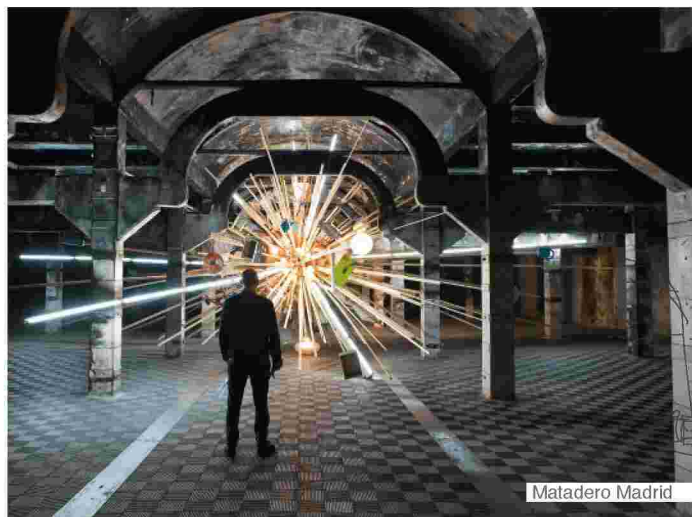
## Matadero Madrid

Paseo de la Chopera, 14

📍 Legazpi (L3, L6)

Built in the 1920s, the city's former slaughterhouse and cattle market is now one of the most vibrant cultural spaces in Europe. It boasts an avant-garde cultural programme that never disappoints: watch a documentary at **Cineteca**, the first and only screening hall in Spain devoted almost entirely to documentary film; experience a piece of experimental theatre

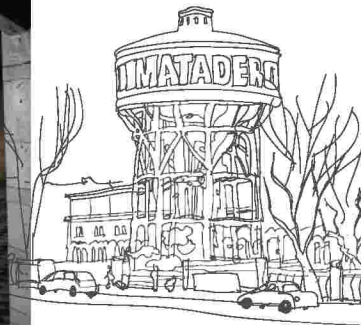
at **Naves de Matadero - International Living Arts Centre**; or visit an exhibition at **Casa del Lector**. The dynamic space also hosts regular fairs and markets such as the monthly **Madrid Productores** and **Mercado de Diseño** (page 109). Thanks to its fantastic location in Madrid Río Park, you'll be spoilt for entertainment.



Matadero Madrid



Check out the programme here



## Círculo de Bellas Artes

C/ Alcalá, 42

📍 Banco de España and Sevilla (L2)

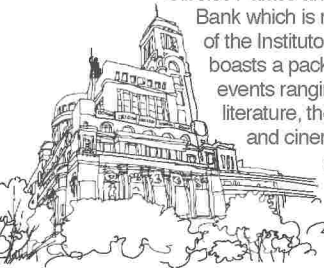
Rooftop opening hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-10:30pm

Sat-Sun and holidays: 11am-10:30pm

Surrounded by majestic buildings, the Círculo de Bellas Artes can be easily spotted thanks to its unique design. At the top of the prestigious cultural centre, you'll find a rooftop restaurant-bar affording wonderful views of Gran Vía and Alcalá streets.

The edifice was erected in 1926 by Antonio Palacios, the architect behind other renowned buildings like

Cibeles Palace and the former Central Bank which is now the headquarters of the Instituto Cervantes. The Círculo boasts a packed programme of events ranging from visual arts to literature, the sciences, philosophy and cinema. Minerva, the goddess of wisdom, stands atop the building watching over the city.



Conde Duque  
Cultural Centre

## Juan March Foundation

C/ Castelló, 77

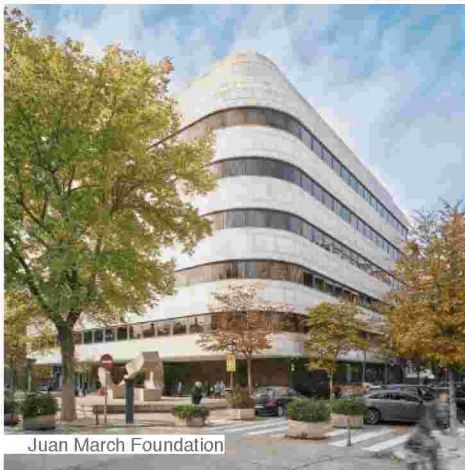
📍 Núñez de Balboa (L5, L9)

Mon-Sat and holidays: 11am-8pm

Sunday: 10am-2pm

All activities are free

Established in 1955 by financier Juan March, the family-run foundation organises exhibitions, concerts and talks. Its current headquarters were opened in 1975 and are home to a library and auditorium. The exhibitions are small but definitely worth a visit.



Juan March Foundation

## Conde Duque

C/ Conde Duque, 9 and 11

📍 San Bernardo (L2, L4), Ventura Rodríguez (L3),

Noviciado (L2) and Plaza de España (L3, L10)

Tues-Sat: 10am-2pm / 5:30-9pm

Sun & holidays: 10:30am-2pm

Designed by Baroque architect Pedro de Ribera, the former barracks of the Royal Guard Corps have been converted into one of the city's most vibrant cultural centres. Drawing crowds from around the city - particularly local residents - it offers a lively programme of music, arts, dance and exhibitions, many of them held in the centre's three courtyards. The building is also home to municipal institutions in charge of preserving and disseminating Madrid's history, including **the City Archive, the Historical Library, the Municipal Library, the Digital Memory Library of Madrid and the Museum of Contemporary Art** (page 39).



Check the programme of the Conde Duque Cultural Centre here

In the Plaza Guardias de Corps, next to the Baroque doorway of the old barracks, a bust of **Clara Campoamor** reminds us of the female politician who achieved women's suffrage in the Spanish Constituent Assembly in 1931.







Espacio Fundación Telefónica

### Espacio Fundación Telefónica

C/ Fuencarral, 3

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5)

Tues-Sun: 10am-8pm

Europe's first skyscraper was erected in 1930 in the recently built Gran Vía avenue. A wonderful example of 20th-century architecture, in recent years it has become a centre for the promotion of new technologies thanks to its permanent exhibitions on the **History of Telecommunications**, social networks and technology. It also offers a rolling programme of temporary exhibitions on a range of themes.

### La Neomudéjar

C/ Antonio Nebrija

📍 Atocha RENFE and Menéndez Pelayo (L1)

Wed-Sun: 11am-3pm / 5-9pm

Located near Atocha train station, "La Neomudéjar" is a centre for avant-garde art and a host of international art residencies. Devoted to innovative creations, the museum organises video-art festivals, exhibitions, seminars and art installations.

### Tabacalera

C/ Embajadores, 51

📍 Embajadores (L3, L5)

Tues-Fri: 12 noon-8pm

Sat-Sun and holidays: 11am-8pm

The former Madrid Tobacco Factory now houses two cultural centres: **Tabacalera**, **Espacio Promoción del Arte**, which is run by the Ministry of Culture and Sport and offers a programme of exhibitions and activities revolving around photography, contemporary art and visual arts; and the self-managed **La Tabacalera Social Centre**, which uses art to promote civic engagement.



An artist at Tabacalera

### Mapfre Foundation

Paseo de Recoletos, 23

📍 Banco de España (L2) and Colón (L4)

Mondays: 2-8pm

Tues-Sat: 10am-8pm

Sun & holidays: 11am-7pm

In addition to a permanent Joan Miró exhibition, the former mansion hosts shows on photography, painting, sculpture and drawing by 19th and 20th-century masters. The foundation also has another hall nearby, on the corner of Recoletos and Bárbara de Braganza, which is devoted solely to photography.

## CaixaForum Madrid

Paseo del Prado, 36

📍 Estación del Arte (L1)

Mon-Sun and holidays: 10am-8pm

From art exhibitions and educational workshops to music and poetry sessions, there's always something going on in this cultural centre, one of Madrid's most eye-catching landmarks. Designed by Herzog and De Meuron, it stands on an old electrical power station. Next to it you'll find Patrick Blanc's living wall.



Check out their programme here



CaixaForum Madrid

## Zapadores City of Art Museum

C/ Antonio de Cabezón, 70

📍 Fuencarral

Wed-Sun: 12 noon-6pm

In Fuencarral neighbourhood, a new offshoot of "La Neomudéjar" displays a permanent collection of non-commercial artists. A big supporter of creativity, it offers a space for people to exchange ideas and discuss the current exhibition industry.

## Norman Foster Foundation

C/ de Monte Esquinza, 48

📍 Rubén Darío (L5)

The foundation promotes interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations of architects, designers and urbanists anticipate the future. If you wish to visit the building, which comprises eight exhibition rooms, send an email to [visit@normanfosterfoundation.org](mailto:visit@normanfosterfoundation.org)

## Medialab Prado

Plaza de Las Letras. C/ Alameda 15

📍 Estación del Arte (L1)

Monday: 4-9pm

Tues-Fri: 10am-9pm

Saturday: 11am-9pm

The former Belgian Sawmill was renovated in 2013 and turned into a space for people to create, research and disseminate cultural projects. An extensive programme of seminars, exhibits, workshops and debates encourage collaborative creativity.

## La Casa Encendida

Ronda de Valencia, 2

📍 Embajadores (L3, L5) and Lavapiés (L3)

Tues-Sun: 10am-10pm

This Neo-Mudéjar cultural centre is an open and dynamic space where the most avant-garde artistic expressions merge with educational activities and debates on culture, solidarity, the environment and education. It has a library, a video library and a café and also hosts activities for children. In summer, the rooftop is transformed into The Magnetic Terrace, featuring an outdoor cinema and live concerts.



La Casa Encendida

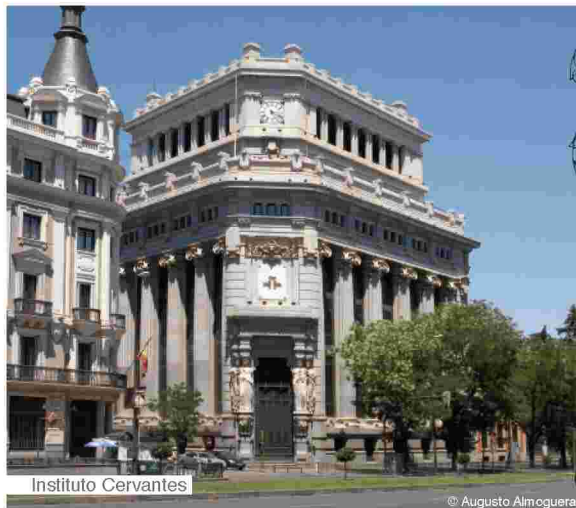
## Instituto Cervantes

C/ Alcalá, 49

📍 Banco de España (L2)

Dedicated to promoting and teaching the Spanish language, this public institution is headquartered in the Cariatídes building.

Today the edifice, which was designed by Antonio Palacios and Joaquín Otamendi, also hosts exhibitions, lectures and other cultural activities.



## Canal de Isabel II Exhibition Hall

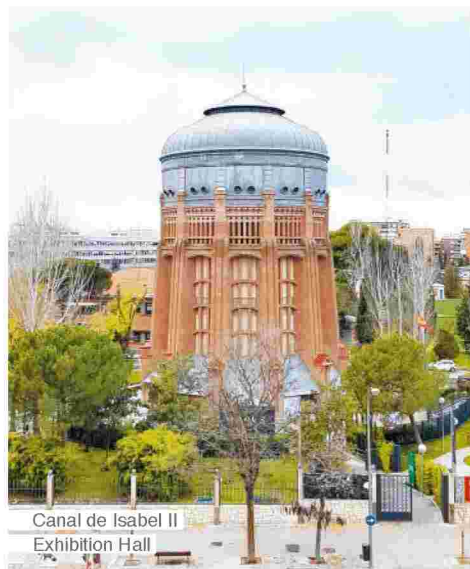
C/ Santa Engracia, 125

📍 Canal (L2, L7), Ríos Rosas (L1) and Alonso Cano (L7)

Tues-Sat: 11am-8:30pm

Sun: 11am-2pm

Located in Madrid's first water tower, built in the early 20th-century, this exhibition hall specialises in photography and contemporary audiovisual art. It showcases works by both master photographers and young artists from the national and international scene.



## Casa de México

C/ Alberto Aguilera, 20

📍 Argüelles (L3, L4, L6) and San Bernardo (L2, L4)

Mon-Tues: 10am-7pm

Wed-Fri: 10am-9pm

Saturday: 10am-2pm

Meant as a bridge between Mexico and Spain in the areas of art, culture and gastronomy, it's the perfect place to celebrate the Day of the Dead!

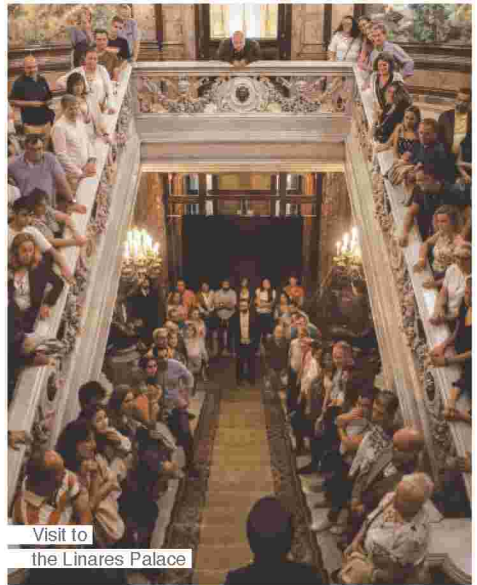
## Casa de América

Plaza de Cibeles

📍 Banco de España (L2)

Casa de América, housed in **Linares Palace**, organises sundry cultural activities, including exhibitions, talks and film and literary festivals in order to strengthen the relationship between Latin American countries and Spain. On the first Saturday of every month, a night-time tour of the palace shows visitors what it would have looked like in the 19th century.

Linares Palace is one of the finest examples of 19th-century architecture in Spain. It holds a treasure trove of furniture, lamps and bronze statues from Paris, glassware from Antwerp, carpets from the Royal Tapestry Factory, and a select collection of paintings.



Visit to  
the Linares Palace

## Casa Árabe

C/ Alcalá, 62

📍 Príncipe de Vergara (L2, L9), Retiro (L2)  
and Velázquez (L4)

Exhibition hall: Mon-Sat: 11am-3pm / 4-7:30pm

Sunday: 11am-3pm

Free entry

Built in 1886, this Neo-Mudéjar building stands next to the north entrance of El Retiro Park.

It plays host to exhibitions, talks and workshops on Arab and Spanish culture.



Casa Árabe

## Carlos de Amberes Foundation

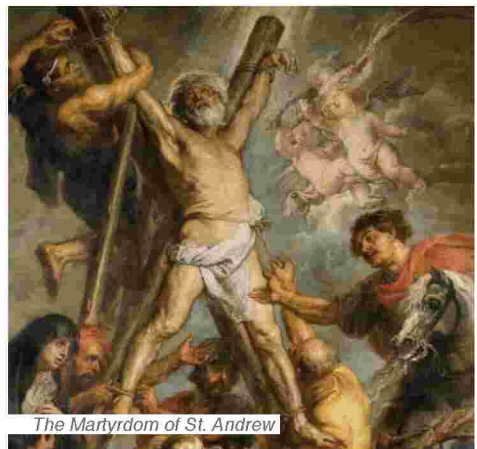
C/ Claudio Coello, 99

📍 Núñez de Balboa (L5, L9) and Rubén Darío (L5)

Mon-Fri: 9am-2pm / 5-8pm

Free entry

In the late 16th century, Carlos de Amberes, a Flemish merchant residing in Madrid, bequeathed his house, turning it into a shelter for poor people and pilgrims from the Spanish Netherlands. *The Martyrdom of St. Andrew*, which Rubens painted a year before his death when he was at the height of his career, hangs on its walls.



*The Martyrdom of St. Andrew*



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SALAMANCA



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CASA DE CAMPO



MADRID DE LOS AUSTRIAS



SOL



PASEO DEL PRADO



RETIRO



BARRIO DE LAS LETRAS



LA LATINA



LAVAPIÉS



MADRID RÍO



ARGANZUELA



CARABANCHEL

USERA

Explore Madrid's neighbourhoods to discover different atmospheres, parks and architectural styles. You'll be surprised by how much the city can change from one street to the next! From the historical Madrid de los Austrias to the multicultural melting pot that is Lavapiés, from the shops on the Gran Vía to those of Las Salesas... Madrid is a diverse city with 21 districts. Each has its own vibe, although they are all equally welcoming.



VALLECA



Plaza de Ramales  
in Habsburg Madrid

## Madrid de los Austrias (Habsburg Madrid)

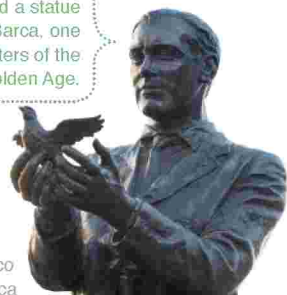
Most of the constructions in this neighbourhood, such as the **Plaza Mayor**, were built during the reign of the Habsburgs. Certain bars and other establishments that sprung up in this area still maintain the air of a bygone era, while others offer new culinary experiences, such as the **San Miguel Market**. Stroll along its quiet streets, its concealed gardens and the **Plaza de Oriente**, where the **Teatro Real** opera house, the **Almudena Cathedral**, the **Royal Palace** and the **Sabatini Gardens** await you. This is the area where the dynasty left their biggest mark.

## Barrio de Las Letras (Literary Quarter)

**Plaza de Santa Ana**, which is full of open-air bars, displays the historical and cultural wealth of this neighbourhood where the likes of Lope de Vega, Cervantes, Calderón and other writers of the Spanish Golden Age once lived. The area is home to designer stores, art galleries and iconic

buildings such as the **Teatro Español** and the **Congress of Deputies**, and it is here where the **Paseo del Prado** begins. On the first Saturday of every month, you can stop by the **Mercado de las Ranas**, an event in which local shops display their goods outdoors, turning the entire neighbourhood into a large open air market.

A statue of Federico Garcia Lorca, poet and playwright of the "Generation of '27" literary movement, looks upon the Teatro Español in the heart of the Literary Quarter. In the same square you can also find a statue of Calderón de la Barca, one of the greatest writers of the Spanish Golden Age.



Statue of Federico  
Garcia Lorca



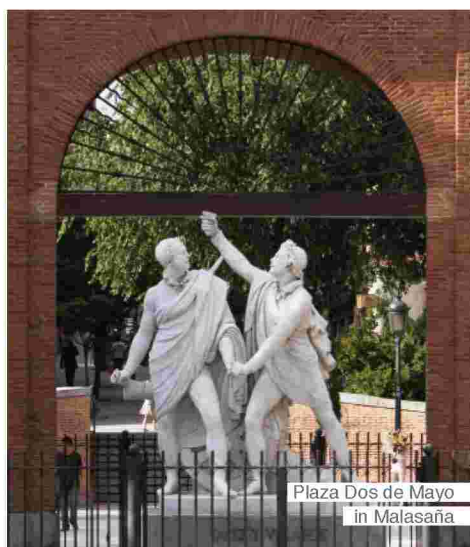
Plaza de Chueca

## Chueca

Madrid's foremost, albeit not its only, LGBTQ+ neighbourhood is a symbol of diversity, tolerance and, of course, fun. Its lively streets have gradually incorporated a wide range of night-time activities and innumerable designer boutiques among more traditional establishments. But the neighbourhood also has artistic and cultural offerings, from the Modernist **Longoria Palace** to the **Museum of History**, the **Museum of Romanticism** and the headquarters of the College of Architects of Madrid or **COAM**. Food markets such as **San Antón** and a wide variety of restaurants provide ample options for dining out.



San Antón  
Market



Plaza Dos de Mayo  
in Malasaña

## Malasaña

The epicentre of *La Movida* movement, this neighbourhood was named after Manuela Malasaña, an iconic figure of the Spanish uprising on 2 May 1808 against French troops. It was and continues to be one of the best areas to go out at night and have drinks in. It boasts a heady mix of tradition and modernity: vintage clothing stores rub shoulders with the latest in fashion trends, barbershops for hipsters, traditional cafés, flea markets... But the most defining characteristic of this neighbourhood is the atmosphere on its streets. Whether you visit it during the day or at night, you'll always find it's buzzing.



# Multicultural neighbourhoods

## Lavapiés

A walk through this central neighbourhood will take you past Bangladeshi greengrocers, Indian restaurants, a centre for LGBTQ+ seniors, traditional Madrid *corralas* courtyards, Moroccan hairdressers, food markets, century-old bars, indie theatres... A wonderful mix of tradition and multiculturalism has transformed this old area into one of the city's most open, vibrant and exciting areas.



Taberna  
Antonio Sanchez



Gloria Fuertes

The **Taberna Antonio Sánchez** is the oldest *taberna* in Madrid and was originally the most popular gathering spot for the Madrid intelligentsia. Pío Baroja and Sorolla were frequent visitors as was the poet Gloria Fuertes, who was born in Lavapiés and would spend hours writing here.



Chinese New Year  
in Usera

## Usera

The Linear Park of the Manzanares River is the main green lung of south Madrid. This neighbourhood houses a large part of the Asian community in Madrid. The Chinese New Year, celebrated with a grand parade and live music, is one of the area's major attractions, along with its stores and authentic Asian restaurants.



You can still find some *corralas* today, mainly in Lavapiés neighbourhood. The most famous one is the one found on Calle Tribulete, 12, which was built in 1872. For the best view, go to Calle Mesón de Paredes.

## La Latina

One of the most traditional neighbourhoods in old Madrid, it has little hidden gems in its squares: on Plaza de Humilladero you'll find the **Museum of San Isidro**, and in Plaza de la Paja the **Príncipe de Anglona Garden** and **Capilla del Obispo** or Bishop's Chapel, featuring a spectacular wooden altarpiece. Tickets for the chapel can be purchased at the **La Almudena Cathedral Museum** or on the website [reservascapilladelobispo@archimadrid.es](mailto:reservascapilladelobispo@archimadrid.es).

On weekends there's always a great atmosphere around the pavements and bars of **Cava Baja** and **Cava Alta**. Must-sees in this area include **Mercado de la Cebada**, one of Madrid's oldest markets, the **Royal Basilica of San Francisco El Grande**, **Las Vistillas Gardens** and the view of the Casa de Campo Park from the **Viaduct**.

In mid-August during the traditional fiestas, you can enjoy slow concerts and even slow dance a *chotis*, "*bien agarrao*" (in a tight hold), as they say in Madrid.



Basilica of San Francisco el Grande in the background

## Arganzuela

The recent project that recovered the Manzanares River has given the neighbourhood a new lease of life. The area has also become a cultural hotbed thanks to venues like **Matadero Madrid**, the **Railway Museum** and the **Invernadero de Arganzuela**. Another popular spot is **Enrique Tierno Galván Park** where the **Planetarium** is situated and where the Tomavistas music festival is held.

Invernaderos de Arganzuela



## Chamberí

Old palaces and modern buildings, obscure museums and aristocratic mansions built during the turn of the century are all found here. Stroll around this neighbourhood full of contrast and discover hidden secrets. The **Teatros del Canal**, **Andén 0**, the **Geomineral Museum**, the **Sorolla Museum** and the **Canal de Isabel II Exhibition Hall** are some of the sights that await you. But if there's something really in vogue in Chamberí, it's *ponzaning*: to go bar hopping all along **Calle Ponzano** on Saturdays. Soak in the atmosphere while having beers and tapas. All of Madrid gathers there!



Celebrating the feast of our patron saint  
at San Isidro Park

## Carabanchel

This is one of the neighbourhoods that has been revitalised thanks to its proximity to Madrid Río Park and the Casa de Campo Park. Over the past few years, it has evolved into a trendsetting neighbourhood, with a varied cultural life. On 15 May, the **San Isidro Park** becomes the heart of the celebrations in honour of Madrid's patron saint. You can also visit the **Vistalegre Palace**, a former bullring, the **Quinta de Vista Alegre Park** and the **Colonia de la Prensa**, a residential area built in the early 20th-century that still preserves its Modernist entrance.

## Barrio de Salamanca

Built by the Marquis of Salamanca, under the patronage of monarch Isabella II of Spain, to expand the city and accommodate wealthy families, this architecturally rich area is one of the most exclusive in the city. Next to big national and international brand stores on the streets of Serrano, José Ortega y Gasset, among others, you can find the **Descubrimiento Garden**, the **Fernán Gómez - Centro Cultural de la Villa**, the **National Archaeological Museum**, the **Lázaro Galdiano Museum**, the **Juan March Foundation**, the **Carlos de Ámberes Foundation** and sites such as the **Wizink Center** for concerts and sports events.

## Vallecas

Madrid's heavy metal neighbourhood, Vallecas has the largest concentration of rock music and heavy metal venues. An urban expansion project is underway here, it has its own football team -Rayo Vallecano- and there are jaw-dropping views from the **Cerro del Tío Pío Park**. In July, inhabitants stage a large **Naval Battle** with water balloons and pistols.



Statue of the "rocker grandma"

## Moncloa

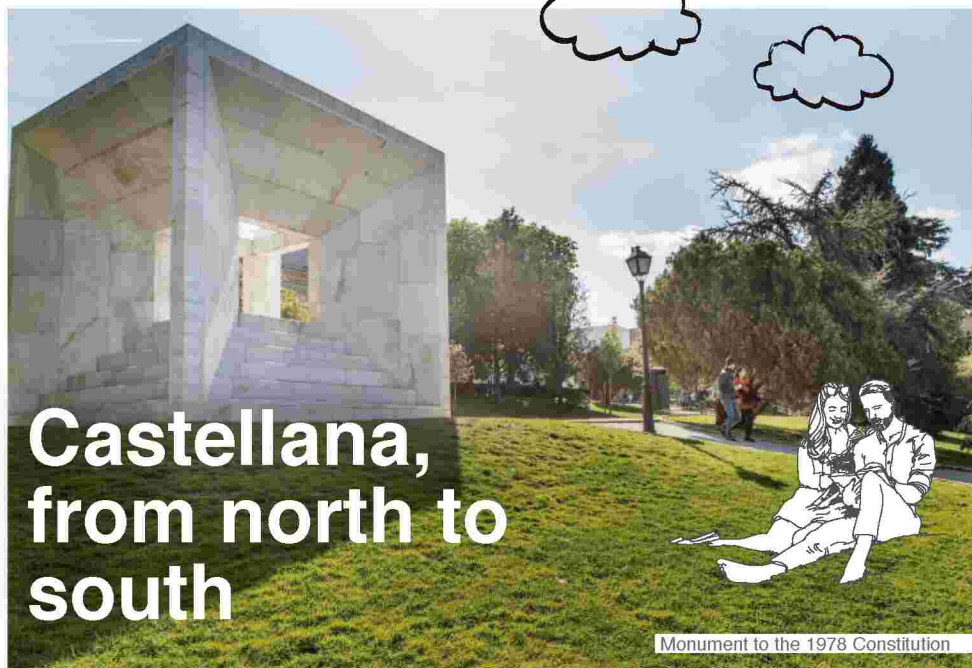
From the **Plaza de España**, the statue of Cervantes contemplates the buildings that have withstood the ravages of time and now coexist with new fashionable hotels. Enjoy a pleasant walk among ancient trees in the **Oeste Park**, located in this university and residential district, visit the **Temple of Debod** and see fortifications dating back to the Spanish Civil War. Don't miss out on the views from the **Faro de Moncloa** observation deck on the way to **Ciudad Universitaria!**

## Conde Duque

Bars, restaurants and small artisanal businesses around the **Conde Duque Cultural Centre** give a lively air to this neighbourhood. The **ABC Museum of Drawing and Illustration** and **Las Comendadoras Royal Monastery**, which was founded in 1650 by Philip IV, are both located here.



Plaza de las Comendadoras  
in Conde Duque

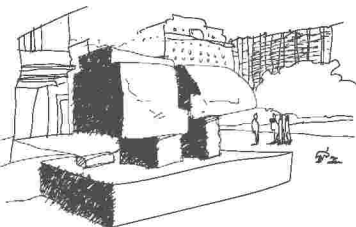


# Castellana, from north to south

Monument to the 1978 Constitution

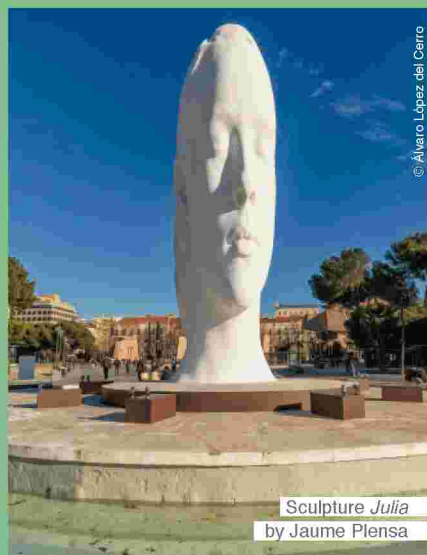
If there's a place where one can truly appreciate the evolution of Madrid, that's the Paseo de la Castellana avenue. It runs through Madrid from north to south, from Plaza de Colón to the Cuatro Torres Business Area. All along its length of more than 6 kilometres are 18th century mansions, repurposed today as embassies, institutes and cultural centres, along with buildings of varying architectural styles. And at the end, we find the most recent and highest skyscrapers, the *Cuatro Torres* or Four Towers, to the north of the city.

At the foot of the **Torres de Colón**, which was designed by the architect Antonio Lamela, you can see the sculptures *Heron* by José Luis Sánchez, and *Woman with Mirror* by Fernando Botero. The **Descubrimiento Garden** is also located in this plaza, and on the corner with Calle Génova the focus is on the new Norman Foster building: a transparent cube of steel and glass called **Axis**.



Sculpture of José Luis Sánchez

This towering sculpture named *Julia*, by Jaime Plensa, is part of an initiative of the Madrid City Council and the María Cristina Masaveu Peterson Foundation. Every year, a new sculpture will be displayed on the pedestal which previously held a statue of Columbus.



Sculpture *Julia*  
by Jaime Plensa

© Álvaro López del Cerro

The **Museum of Natural Science** is situated in the Plaza San Juan de la Cruz, and is a must-see for the entire family, as is the **Residencia de Estudiantes** centre, one of the main hubs for the dissemination of scientific and artistic knowledge during the 20th century. A former halls of residence, it was popular among many Spanish cultural figures including Federico Garcia Lorca, Buñuel, Unamuno, Salvador Dalí and José Ortega y Gasset.



Download the leaflet *Dalí, Lorca and Buñuel's Madrid* here



Bermejillo Palace

**Café Gijón** (Paseo de Recoletos, 21) is regarded as Madrid's last literary café. It opened its doors in 1888, and since then, numerous famous writers and artists of the 20th century have passed through its doorways, such as Benito Pérez Galdós, Valle-Inclán and Federico García Lorca, for whom it was a meeting and literary discussion space.



Café Gijón



ABC Serrano



Edificio Castelar



Torres de Colón

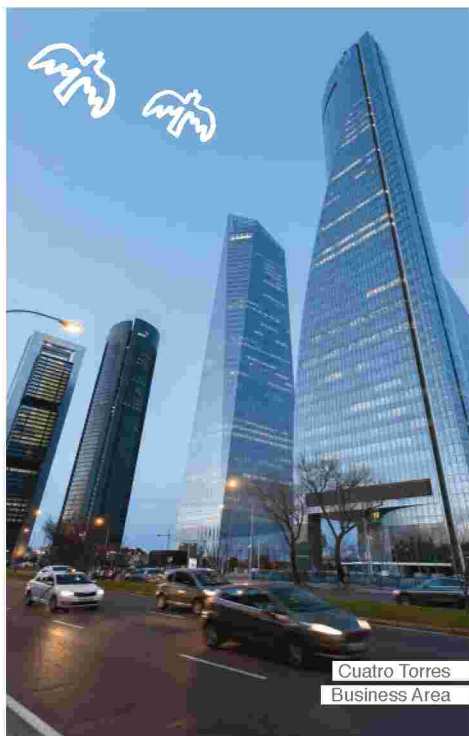


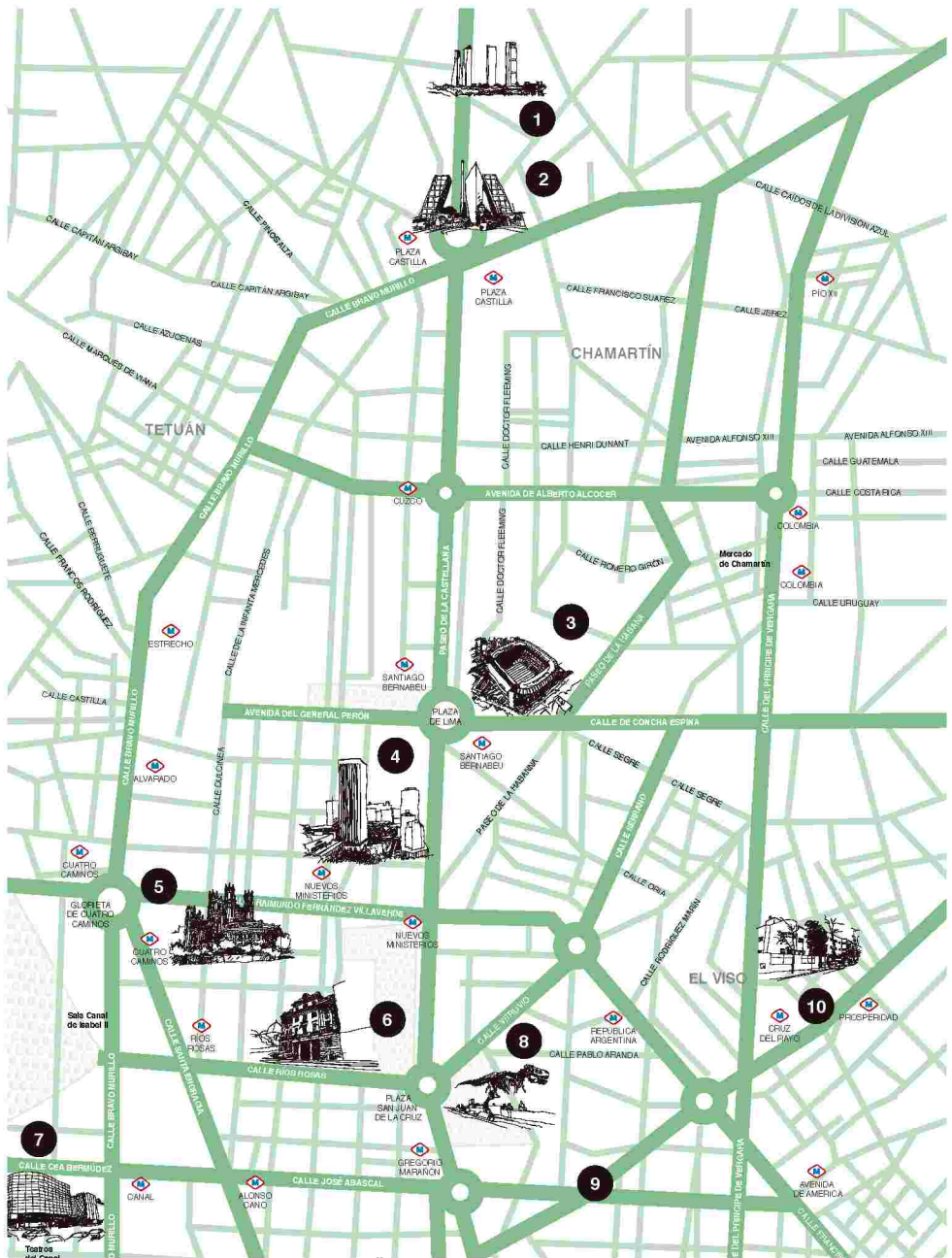
Castellana 81

The **Nuevos Ministerios** complex is located on the site of what was, until 1932, the former Racecourse of La Castellana. Continue walking on the same side of the street and you'll get to **AZCA**, the financial and business district of Madrid. It has the largest collection of skyscrapers in the city, which are connected via a labyrinth of passages. The **Torre Picasso** is the highest skyscraper at 156 metres. The **Torre Europa**, **Castellana 81** and the **Torre Titania** are all taller than 100 metres.

On match days, all eyes turn to the **Santiago Bernabéu** Stadium, located opposite the skyscrapers. In **Plaza de Castilla**, you'll find the iconic **Puerta de Europa** inclined towers.

Castellana extends up to the **Cuatro Torres Business Area**, a business park that holds the four highest skyscrapers in Spain, which are visible from a great distance. The **Torre Cristal** designed by César Pelli is the highest tower at 249 metres. It is followed by Norman Foster's **Torre Foster** which measures 248 metres. Next comes the **Torre PwC** at 236 metres, designed by Carlos Rubio Carvajal and Enrique Álvarez-Sala Walter. It houses a five star hotel and a two-storey restaurant with panoramic views of Madrid. Finally we have the **Torre Espacio** which is 224 metres tall and was built by Henry N. Cobb.





1. Cuatro Torres Business Area
2. Plaza de Castilla
3. Santiago Bernabéu Stadium
4. Azca. Torre Picasso
5. Antiguo Hospital de Maudes

6. Geomineral Museum
7. Teatros del Canal
8. National Museum of Natural Science
9. Residencia de Estudiantes
10. El Viso

rooftop terraces and

# view points

The title 'view points' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. The word 'view' is on the top line and 'points' is on the bottom line. Two stylized black hands are shown holding the text: one hand is on the left side of 'view' and the other is on the right side of 'points'. The background of the entire page is a high-angle photograph of a city street in Madrid at sunset, showing buildings, trees with autumn foliage, and a fountain in the foreground.

Another way to experience Madrid is from above. Countless rooftops and viewpoints in historical buildings, monuments and parks offer wonderful views of the old town's rooftops, the city's architectural gems and the Sierra de Guadarrama mountain range. So, if you've got a head for heights, check out the best places to enjoy the city from a different angle.

Views from the  
Mirador Madrid





Barrio de Salamanca  
from the Mirador Madrid

### Mirador Madrid

Plaza de Cibeles, 1

 Banco de España (L2)

Tues-Sun: 10:30am-2pm / 4-7:30pm

Visits every 30 minutes, last entry half an hour before closing time. Free entry up to 6 years of age and on the 2nd and 15th of May, and the 9th of November

The Mirador Madrid is located on the tallest tower of Cibeles Palace. The palace in itself is worth a visit, but the views from the summit of the building are undoubtedly among Madrid's best. Buy your ticket at [centrocentro.org](http://centrocentro.org) or on the second floor of the building.

### Monument to Alfonso XII in El Retiro Park

Large lake in El Retiro

 Retiro (L2), Príncipe de Vergara (L2, L9), Ibiza (L9) and Estación del Arte (L1)

After extensive restoration work in 2018, the lookout point of this 1902 monument dedicated to Alfonso XII was reopened to the public. This guided visit, which is free and lasts half an hour, will take you through the history of the monument and El Retiro Park. You can also discover the Barrio de Salamanca and the Barrio de las Letras (Literary Quarter) from a height, and watch the people rowing in the lake. Booking ahead is compulsory for the guided visit at [reservaspatrimonio.es](http://reservaspatrimonio.es)

### Huerta de la Partida

Paseo del Embarcadero, 3

 Príncipe Pío (L6, L10, R)

This 16th-century natural space was once an orchard and vegetable patch belonging to the Vargas, one of Madrid's most influential families. Situated on the bank of the River Manzanares, it is now open to the public and is a great place for a stroll among fruit trees. From its lookout point you can enjoy views over Madrid Río Park, the Royal Palace, La Almudena Cathedral and Plaza de España.

Monument to Alfonso XII



Check out the times for the  
guided tours here!



The sculpture by Juan Luis Vassallo of *Minerva*, Roman goddess of wisdom and art, protects the city.



The Círculo de Bellas Artes  
rooftop terrace

## The Círculo de Bellas Artes rooftop terrace

C/ Alcalá, 42

📍 Banco de España and Sevilla (L2)

Mon-Thurs: 9am-2am

Friday: 9am-2:30am

Saturday: 11am-2:30am

Sunday: 11am-2am

Madrid's most famous rooftop terrace doesn't just boast incredible panoramic views of Gran Vía avenue. It is also a great place to sit back and relax in a lounge, or to enjoy a cocktail or a bite to eat - their kitchen is open all day long. Buy a ticket that gives you rooftop access at reception, or purchase a combined ticket that also allows you to visit to the exhibition galleries.



Views from the rooftop of the Círculo de Bellas Artes



## Faro de Moncloa observation deck

Av/ de la Memoria, 2

📍 Moncloa (L3, L6)

Tues-Sun: 9:30am-8pm (last entry at 7:30pm)

Free entry up to 6 years-of age

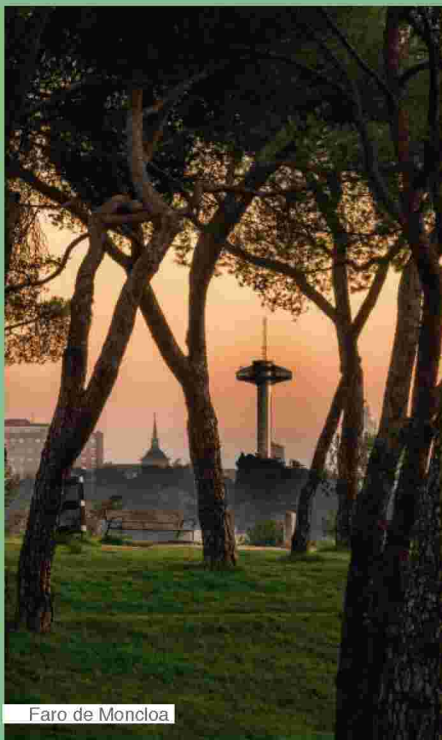
In less than 50 seconds, a panoramic elevator takes you to the highest spot of the Faro de Moncloa, an observation deck 92 metres high, where you can enjoy something absolutely unique: views of the Sierra de Guadarrama mountain range and all of Madrid at your feet. It was built as a lighthouse in 1992 when Madrid was named European Capital of Culture.



Buy your ticket to the Faro here!



Views from the Faro de Moncloa



Faro de Moncloa



Las Vistillas Gardens

## Dome of La Almudena Cathedral

C/ Bailén, 10

🚇 Ópera (L2, L5, R)

Mon-Sun: 9am-8:30pm

(in July and August, until 9pm)

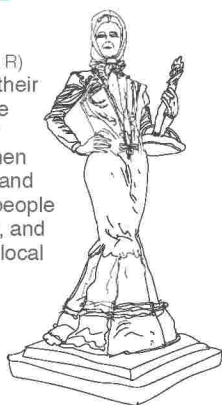
One of the biggest attractions of La Almudena Cathedral is the view from the dome, which is only open to visitors who have already purchased a ticket to the cathedral's museum. At a height of more than 70 metres, it offers staggering views of the neighbouring Royal Palace and across the whole city: you'll be able to see the buildings on Plaza España to the north, the Basilica of San Francisco el Grande to the south, Gran Vía avenue to the east and Casa de Campo Park and the Faro de Moncloa to the west.

## Las Vistillas Gardens

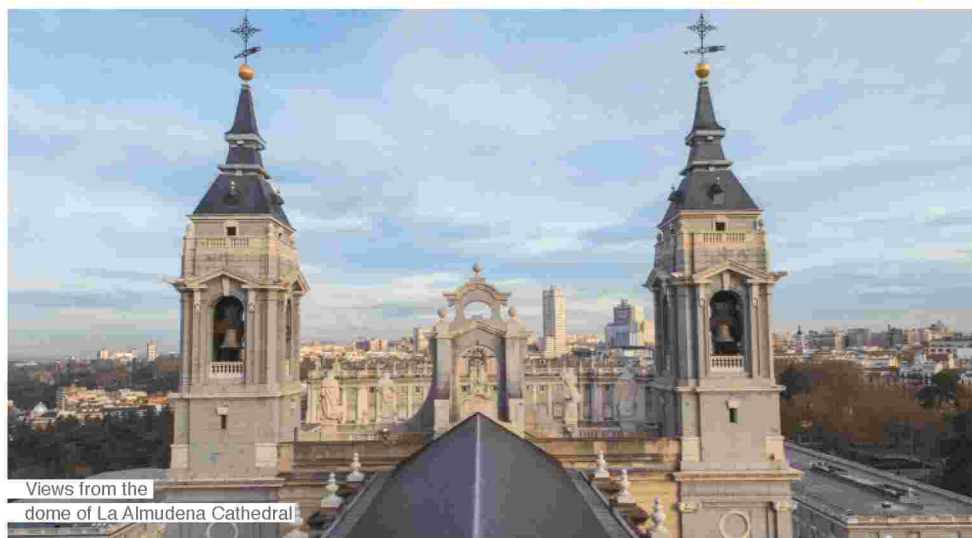
Plaza Gabriel Miró

🚇 La Latina (L5) and Ópera (L2, L5, R)

These gardens were named for their magnificent vistas of the Casa de Campo Park, Manzanares River and La Almudena Cathedral. When the weather is fine, the gardens and nearby outdoor bars fill up with people who meet for a stroll and a drink, and in summer Las Vistillas host the local August festivities.



Statue of La Violetera  
in Las Vistillas Gardens



Views from the  
dome of La Almudena Cathedral

## Cerro del Tío Pío Park

C/ Benjamín Palencia, 2

🚇 Buenos Aires (L1)

Due to the shape outlined by its seven peaks, it is also known as the **Park of the Seven Boobs**. From the green slopes of this park in Puente de Vallecas, there is a magnificent view of the Madrid skyline: Torrespaña (the tower known as the "Piruli"), the Cuatro Torres, the Torres de Colón, Puerta de Europa and the city's rooftops. Want to surprise someone? Bring them here to watch the sunset!

## What a view!

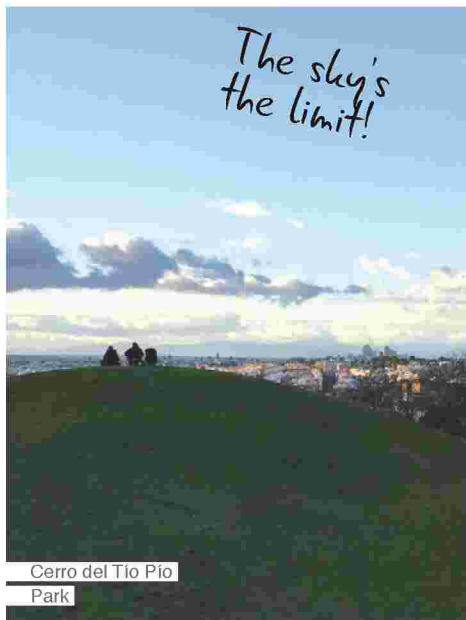


### Lake of Casa de Campo Park

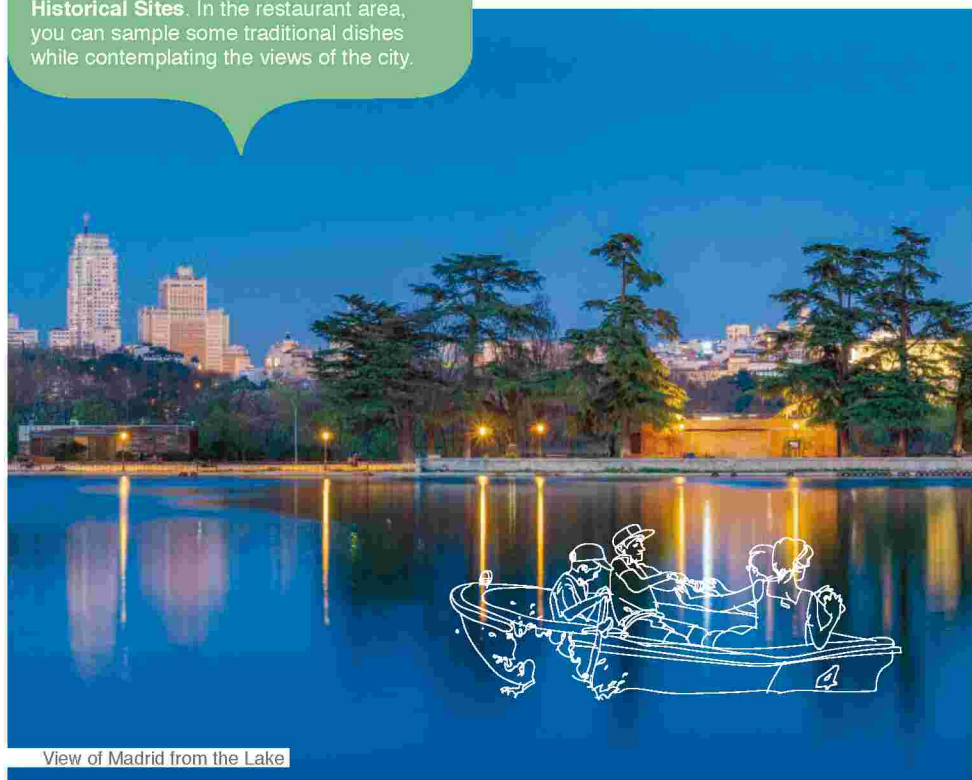
Paseo del Embarcadero, 8

🚇 Lago (L10)

The large artificial lake of Casa de Campo Park, of Renaissance origins and surrounded by trees, has been classified as an **Asset of Cultural Interest (BIC in Spanish)** within the category of **Historical Sites**. In the restaurant area, you can sample some traditional dishes while contemplating the views of the city.



Cerro del Tío Pío  
Park



View of Madrid from the Lake

## The Lady of the Manzanares

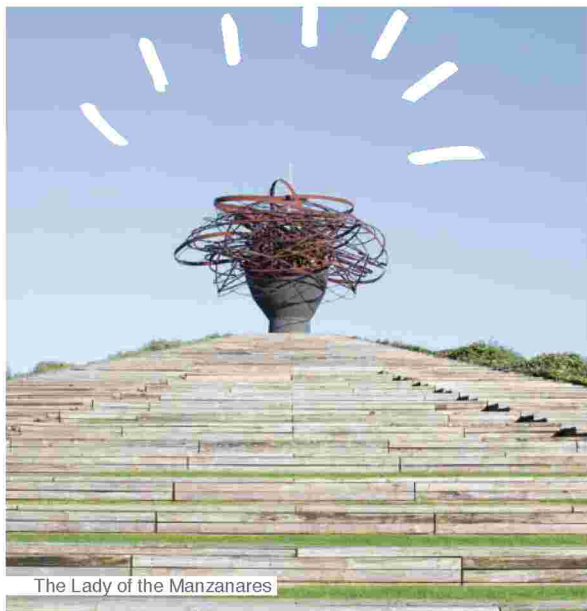
Camino de Perales

Almendrales, Hospital 12 de Octubre and San Fermin (L3)

Spring/Summer: Mon-Sun: 7am-midnight

Autumn/Winter: Mon-Sun: 7am-10pm

This enormous steel and bronze sculpture was erected in 2003 in the Manzanares Linear Park on the La Atalaya lookout point, a 21-metre-high pyramid. Also known as the Cabeza de Ariadna or Ariadne's Head, the sculpture was designed by Manolo Valdés. You have to climb 181 steps to reach the highest point of this modern park, but the views of the city that await you at the top are worth the effort!



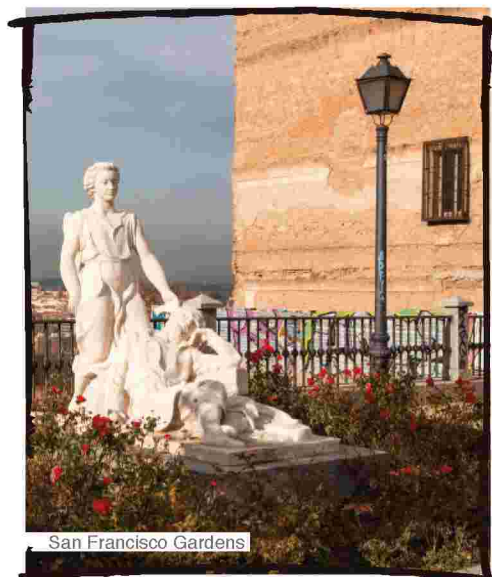
The Lady of the Manzanares

## San Francisco Gardens

Av/ Gran Vía de San Francisco, 29

La Latina and Puerta de Toledo (L5)

A botanical garden with more than 21 varieties of rose bushes, situated next to the Basilica of San Francisco El Grande. The garden is in bloom between May and June, but with or without roses, stop by the lookout point located behind *San Isidro's Dream*, a sculpture by Santiago Costa. It looks over the western part of the city.



San Francisco Gardens

## El Silo de Hortaleza

C/ Mar de las Antillas, 14

Parque de Santa María (L4)

Mon-Sat: 10am-2pm / 5:30-9:30pm

Closed in August

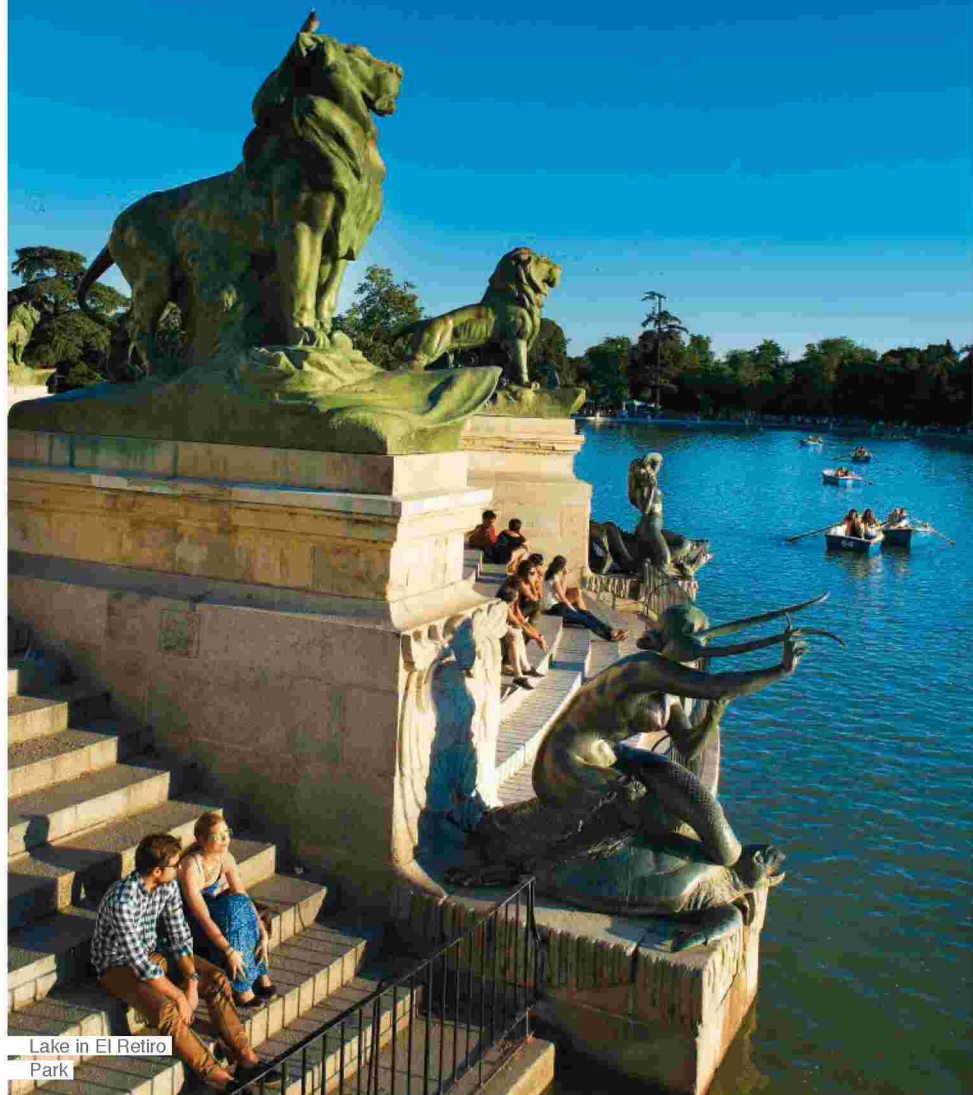
This old silo was part of an early 20th-century agricultural complex, built on a farm that originally belonged to the Duke and Duchess of Frías. Today it has been repurposed as a cultural centre and is one of the icons of the Huerta de la Salud Park. It has a lookout point with views of the Cuatro Torres Business Area, the airport and the Sierra de Guadarrama mountains.

360°  
views



El Silo de Hortaleza

# gardens and parks



Lake in El Retiro  
Park



You may not know this, but Madrid is one of the European cities with the largest number of tree-lined streets, a total of 5000. What's more, it's also home to over 180 parks and gardens. This isn't just good news for our health and wellbeing, it also makes discovering the city an even more delightful experience. El Retiro is everyone's first port of call, but there are plenty of other parks and bucolic gardens where you can get away from the hustle and bustle of the city and enjoy a stroll, a jog or even a boat ride. Discovering Madrid's green spaces is a must, whether you're visiting with children, a group of friends or are on a solo getaway.

## El Retiro Park

Plaza de la Independencia, 7

📍 Retiro (L2)

Open every day

Apr-Sep: 6am-midnight

Oct-Mar: 6am-10pm

Covering 118 hectares and

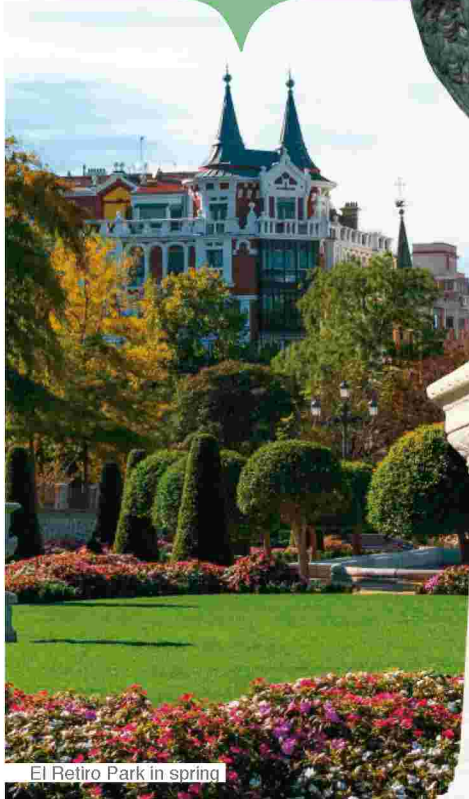
comprising nearly 20,000 trees,

El Retiro was built around 1630 as a pleasure ground for King Philip IV and the members of the court. A green oasis in the heart of the city, it's filled with water features, from the iconic lake with its 33 rowing boats (2 of them adaptive) to a variety of fountains. Particularly noteworthy are the **Galápagos** fountain, built in honour of the then princess Isabella II, the **Fallen Angel**, one of the only monuments in the world dedicated to the devil, the **Artichoke** designed by Ventura Rodríguez, and the **Egyptian** fountain located next to the lake.

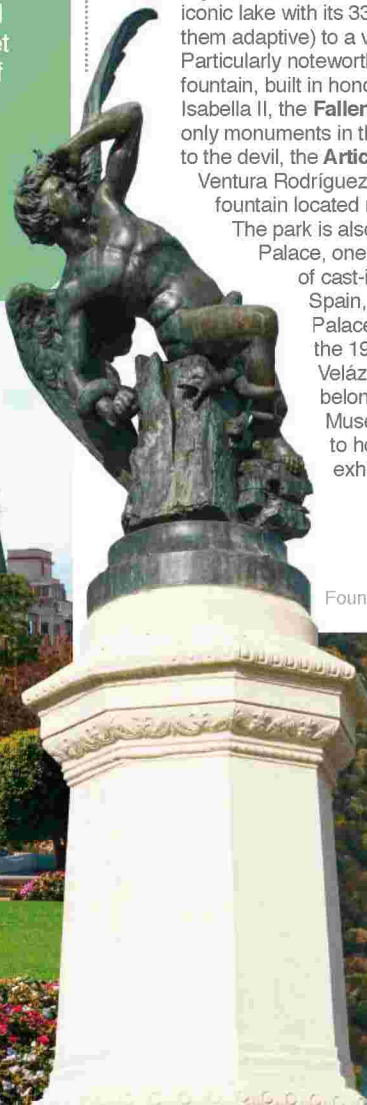
The park is also home to the Glass Palace, one of the finest examples of cast-iron architecture in Spain, and the Velázquez Palace. Built at the end of the 19th century by Ricardo Velázquez Bosco, they both belong to the Reina Sofía Museum and are used to host contemporary art exhibitions.

Fountain of the Fallen Angel

A bird's-eye view!



El Retiro Park in spring

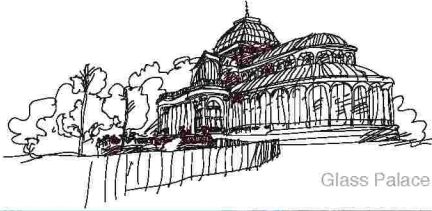




As you stroll through the park you'll also come across the magnificent **Monument to Alfonso XII** which watches over the lake, an equestrian statue of **General Martínez Campos**, the **Retiro Rose Garden**, the **Eugenio Trias Public Library** located in the former **Casa de Fieras**, and Madrid's oldest tree: a 400-year old Ahuehuete or Montezuma cypress.



More information on El Retiro Park at [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)



Glass Palace



Paseo de las Estatuas



Aerial view of El Retiro Park



Royal Botanical Garden

## Royal Botanical Garden

Plaza de Murillo, 2

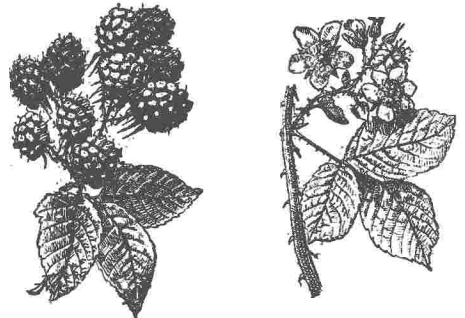
Banco de España (L2), Estación del Arte and Atocha RENFE (L1)

Open every day from 10am

Check closing times

Free entry on Tuesday from 2pm

The garden was originally founded in 1755 by King Ferdinand VI on the banks of the Manzanares River. Nearly 20 years later, however, Charles III moved it to the Paseo del Prado, an area he dreamed of transforming into the epicentre of Spanish science. The perfect place for a relaxing stroll, it is home to over 5000 species of plants and a collection featuring a herbarium with over a million entries, a library and an archive of over 10,000 drawings, among others. Don't miss the greenhouses that are open all year round nor the exhibition hall in the Villanueva Pavilion, the park's most emblematic building which also boasts a café with outdoor seating and a shop.



Plant illustrations

## Campo del Moro Park

Paseo de la Virgen del Puerto

📍 Príncipe Pio (L6, L10, R)

Free entry

Oct-Mar: 10am-6pm

Apr-Sep: 10am-8pm

This 19th-century English-style garden has wide paths, peacocks and two Neoclassicist fountains: the Fuente de los Tritones and Fuente de Las Conchas. Its name can be traced back to 1109, when Ali ibn Yusuf's troops set up camp here as they tried to recapture Madrid. The park, a large and serene green space, does not have direct access to the Royal Palace, but it does offer the best views of the famous landmark.

Stature of a young Queen Isabella II. She ruled Spain for 35 turbulent years (1833-1868), until the Glorious Revolution forced her to flee to Paris where she later died in exile.

Monument to Isabella II



## Sabatini Gardens

C/ Bailén, 2

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Plaza de España (L3, L10)

Oct-Apr: Mon-Sun: 9am-9pm

May-Sep: Mon-Sun: 9am-10pm

Magnificent trees and marble sculptures adorn one of Madrid's most visited gardens. It was built between 1935 and 1950 and was named after the architect who had designed the Royal Palace's stables that used to stand on the site. A fantastic place to enjoy the sun set, stand by the central pond for a wonderful view of the north façade of the palace.



View of the Royal Palace from the Sabatini Gardens



Oeste Park

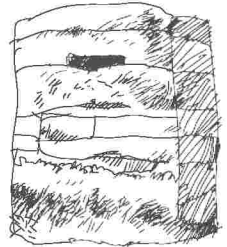
## Oeste Park

Paseo Moret, 2

📍 Moncloa (L3, L6), Plaza de España (L3, L10) and Príncipe Pio (L6, L10 and R)

Rose Garden opening hours: Mon-Sun: 10am-9pm

In the early 20th century, the mayor of Madrid Alberto Aguilera built this monumental 75-hectare park. In it you'll find the Cable Car, which takes you across to the Casa de Campo Park, three Civil War-era bunkers, the **Temple of Debod** and a **Rose Garden** that covers over three hectares and hosts a prestigious international rose competition in May.



Bunker in Oeste Park

## Enrique Tierno Galván Park

C/ Meneses, 4

📍 Arganzuela-Planetario and Méndez Álvaro (L6)  
Near Madrid Río lies another of Madrid's largest parks. Boasting wide open spaces, sports facilities, small lakes, two kids areas and a bike lane, it's the perfect spot in the south of the city to go for a walk or do some exercise. Built during Enrique Tierno Galván's term as first mayor of Madrid in post-Franco Spain, this park is also home to the **Planetarium**. Fancy a trip to the stars?

## Linear Park of the Manzanares River

Camino de Perales

📍 Almendrales, Hospital 12 de Octubre and San Fermín (L3)

Spring-Summer: Mon-Sun: 7am-12 midnight

Autumn-Winter: Mon-Sun: 7am-10pm

In the late 1990s, architect Ricardo Bofill created one of Madrid's biggest and most modern green areas, a park that extends across the south of Madrid from Usera to Villaverde and Rivas-Vaciamadrid. Not just worth a visit for its architectural value, it's a wonderful place for nature lovers since it follows the course of the Manzanares River and is home to orchards and woodlands full of pines, banana trees, cypresses and olive trees. The highlights are the **Caja Mágica**, the **Plaza Verde**, which is built like an open-air auditorium, and the lookout point known as the **Lady of the Manzanares** (page 68).



## Juan Carlos I Park

Av/ de Logroño, 26

📍 Feria de Madrid (L8)

Jun-Sep: Mon-Sun: 7am-1am

Oct-May: Sun-Thurs: 7am-11pm

Fri-Sat: 7am-12 midnight

To mark Madrid's 1992 designation as European Capital of Culture, this almost infinite recreational space was created: 147 hectares of land next to the IFEMA fairgrounds with a large area for skating, a 30,000m<sup>2</sup> lake, an auditorium, an impressive olive grove with more than 2000 specimens and 19 open-air sculptures. It hosts workshops for children at the weekends and offers **free bike rental service** all year round.

## Berlin Park

Av/ Ramón y Cajal, 2

📍 Alfonso XIII (L4) and Concha Espina (L9)

Madrid and Berlin are not only sister cities; they also share a symbol: the bear. The park pays tribute to the German capital and in it you'll find a monument to composer Ludwig van Beethoven, a small open-air auditorium, a sculpture of a bear, kids areas and even a piece of the Berlin Wall.

With a skating area and bike lanes!



Casa de Campo Park

### Casa de Campo Park

Puente de Puerta del Ángel, 1

📍 Casa de Campo (L5, L10), Batán and Lago (L10)

Open every day

Partially accessible

Covering over 1500 hectares, the wooded Casa de Campo Park is Madrid's biggest public park. Originally owned by the wealthy Vargas family, it became the hunting grounds of the Royal Family in the 16th Century and then later, during the Second Spanish Republic, the public property of the City of Madrid. It houses the Parque de Atracciones amusement park and the Zoo Aquarium of Madrid, as well as venues for trade fairs. The area around the lake which is filled with pathways, restaurants and sports facilities is always bustling. Declared an Asset of Cultural Interest in the category of Historical Sites in 2010, the park is also home to a range of animals such as rabbits, starlings, nightingales and, even, a flock of 600 sheep that graze on the fields and help prevent forest fires.

### Dehesa de la Villa Park

Carretera Dehesa de la Villa, 1

📍 Franco Rodríguez and Valdezarza (L7)

This forest in the city boasts 64 hectares of land filled with pine, almond and elm trees and other kind of vegetation. Found off the beaten track, it has become a refuge for more than 70 species of birds, so don't forget your camera! From the spot known as Cerro de los Locos, you can view the whole of western Madrid, and an Information and Environmental Education Centre organises guided walks and activities all the family.

### El Capricho Park

Paseo Alameda de Osuna, 25

📍 El Capricho (L5)

Open Sat-Sun and holidays

Oct-Mar: 9am-6:30pm

Apr-Sept: 9am-9pm



The bandstand of El Capricho Park

Visiting this charming park is akin to travelling back in time. Commissioned in 1784 by the Duchess of Osuna, its 17 hectares are home to a mansion, a bandstand, a labyrinth and a small lake. Boasting a wealth of botanical treasures and wonderful sculptures, it used to be the retreat of choice for the aristocrats and artists of that period, including Leandro Fernández de Moratín and Francisco de Goya. The latter in fact painted *The Witches' Sabbath* - which now hangs in the Lázaro Galdiano Museum (page 33) - for El Capricho palace. Among the gardens filled with lilies, Judas trees, oaks, pines and cypresses, you'll find a Civil War bunker that's unique in Europe because it is perfectly preserved.

## Quinta de Torre Arias Park

C/ Alcalá, 551

🚶 Suanzes and Torre Arias (L5)

Oct-Mar: Tues-Sun: 10am-5:30pm

Apr-Sep: Tues-Sun: 10am-8:30pm

This former aristocratic estate dates back to 1600. It is home to more than 50 species of trees, the oldest one being a 300-year-old oak. Free guided tours are conducted on Sunday from 10am to 12 noon and from 12 noon to 2pm.



More  
information  
here

## Quinta de los Molinos Park

C/ Alcalá, 527

🚶 Suanzes (L5)

Open every day 6:30am-10pm

Every February, the spectacular blossoming of its more than 6000 almond trees herald the arrival of spring. A must if you're in the city at the beginning of the year, it is worth a visit whatever time you happen to be in Madrid. Enjoy a pleasant walk among pine, olive and eucalyptus trees, away from the hustle and bustle of the city, and visit Espacio Abierto (page 113), a cultural centre for children and teenagers.



Quinta de  
los Molinos Park

## Quinta de la Fuente del Berro Park

C/ de los Peñascales

🚶 O'Donnell (L6)

Apr-Sep: 6:30am-12 midnight

Oct-Mar: 6:30am-10pm

All that remains of the former Quinta de Miraflores estate, declared a Royal Site by King Ferdinand IV, is the former mansion which has been turned into a cultural centre. The 7.4-hectare park that now stands here is filled with a large variety of trees, a monument to Bécquer and even peacocks that roam freely. A pond with ducks and small waterfalls add to the idyllic setting, making it hard to believe that in the late 19th century this site was home to an amusement park with a rollercoaster.



Peacocks  
in the Quinta de  
Fuente del Berro Park

## Quinta de Vista Alegre Park

C/ General Ricardos, 179, Carabanchel

🚶 Oporto (L5, L6) and Vista Alegre (L5)

One of Madrid's historical parks has reopened in the Carabanchel neighbourhood. A 19th-century Royal Site, it was the summer residence of María Cristina de Borbón until it was purchased by the Marquis of Salamanca. Covering 45 hectares, it is home, among other things, to the Vistalegre Palace.

## Monte de El Pardo

C/ Manuel Alonso

🚶 601 and 602

One of Europe's best preserved Mediterranean forests, the Monte de El Pardo is located just 6 km away from Madrid. There you can visit the **Royal Palace of El Pardo**, the **Convent of the Capuchin Friars**, the **Prince's House** - an 18th-century small palace - and the **Quinta del Duque del Arco**, the former residence of the Duke of Arco. You can also go for a stroll around King Henry III of Castile's favourite hunting ground, keeping a lookout for boars and deer.



Find out more in  
the Parks and  
Gardens section  
of [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)



## SECRET GARDENS

Sometimes, we are so awestruck by the monuments that surround us that we don't notice other hidden gems. Madrid is filled with green spaces that offer peace and quiet from the hustle and bustle of the city. You just need to know where to find them.

### Príncipe de Anglona Garden

Plaza de la Paja, 6

📍 La Latina (L5)

The only sound you will hear in this 18th century neo-classical garden in old Madrid is the tweeting of the birds.



Príncipe de Anglona Garden

### Huerto de las Monjas Garden

C/ Sacramento, 7

📍 La Latina (L5)

Tucked away behind contemporary buildings, you'll find this charming 17th-century garden which was once a vegetable garden used by Cistercian nuns. It is also known as the O'Reilly Palace Garden.

### Olivar de Castillejo

C/ Menéndez Pidal, 3

📍 Cuzco (L10)

A foundation that works for environmental conservation, Olivar de Castillejo offers cultural activities, particularly in summer, and boasts an olive grove with over 100 century-old olive trees as well as almond trees and rock rose and rosemary plants.

## A dog-friendly city

If you can't bear the thought of going on holiday without your best friend, Madrid is a great destination. You'll find taxis with special licenses that will take animals, as well as regional and national trains that you can travel on with small pets. Dogs are also allowed off peak on buses and in the last carriage of the metro as long as they are on a leash and wearing a muzzle.



Travelling by Metro

From 7pm to 10am in winter and from 8pm to 10am in summer, you can let your dog off the leash in all dog-friendly parks and gardens. Some parks such as El Retiro or Juan Carlos I even have special areas just for them.



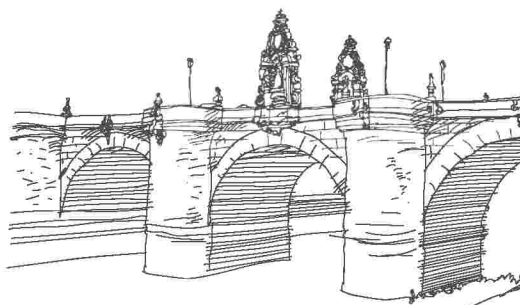
Oeste Park



Puente Monumental  
de Arganzuela

## Recovering the Manzanares River for the city

The recent relocation underground of part of the main ring road has meant that Madrileños can once again enjoy the Manzanares. The humming motorway has been replaced by a large park that runs parallel to the river. Dotted with green spaces and playgrounds for kids, it is home to a number of native plants and animals.



Puente de Toledo



Views from Madrid Río Park

Along the riverbank you'll find 17 playgrounds, 30 kilometres of bike lanes and lots of walkways. Open green spaces, different types of trees, fountains and bridges come together to form this popular park that hosts all kinds of free activities.

As you take a stroll or go for a bike ride, you can visit the **Invernadero de Arganzuela** and the **Matadero Madrid** cultural centre and enjoy the park's architectural gems: the baroque Toledo and Segovia bridges and the modern walkway designed by Daniel Canogar which features a mosaic on the inside of its vaulted ceiling that depicts local men and women.

A total of 33 walkways connect the neighbourhoods on both sides of the river. Particularly noteworthy is the **Puente Monumental de Arganzuela bridge** designed by Dominique Perrault, which has become one of the city's landmarks. The area is also home to the legendary **La Rivera** concert hall and two shopping centres: **Plaza Río 2** and **Príncipe Pío**. Near the **Virgen del Puerto Hermitage**, which has been completely repaired, lies the **Campo del Moro Park** affording wonderful views of the **Royal Palace**.

Birds like night and grey herons, egrets and cormorants as well as animals like the Mediterranean pond turtle once again inhabit the area.



Night heron

Another must visit is the small **San Antonio de la Florida Chapel** where you'll find an unexpected treasure: frescoes painted by Goya and the artist's tomb.

The river restoration, which includes the opening of dams, has meant the Manzanares has been returned to its natural conditions and the area has welcomed back native plants and animals.



Mosaics on the bridge to Matadero

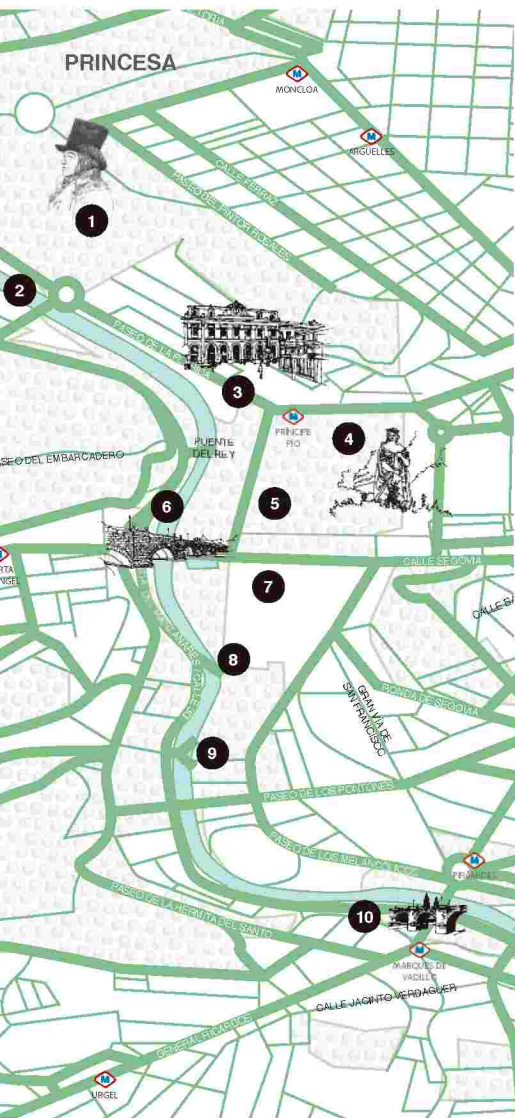


Fountains and the Puente de Arganzuela

## Madrid even has a beach!

Throughout summer the fountains in Madrid Río Beach are turned on from 11am to 9pm to allow locals and tourists to cool off. Found next to Puente de Arganzuela bridge, this is the only spot in the city where you're allowed to jump in the fountains. Over 6,500m<sup>2</sup> of grass and 300 trees make it an ideal place to while away the hours.





Puente de los Franceses bridge

1. San Antonio de la Florida Chapel
2. Puente de los Franceses
3. Príncipe Pío Station
4. Campo del Moro Park
5. Virgen del Puerto Hermitage
6. Puente de Segovia
7. La Riviera
8. Puente Oblicuo
9. Puente del Principado de Andorra
10. Puente de Toledo
11. Puente Monumental de Arganzuela
12. Invernadero de Arganzuela
13. Matadero Madrid



Fountains near the Puente de Segovia

madrid on

# stage

Madrid truly knows how to put on a good show. From dramatic plays performed in iconic theatres, Spanish versions of crowd-pleasing musicals, indie shows and performance art pieces to traditional zarzuelas, flamenco shows and the latest film releases, the city's theatres and cinemas are bursting with entertainment. So, sit back and let the show begin!





*Billy Elliot at the  
Nuevo Teatro Alcalá*

# The capital of musicals in Spanish

With more than three million tickets sold every year, Madrid is the world's number one destination for musicals in Spanish, and the fourth when it comes to the genre as a whole, after New York, London and Hamburg.

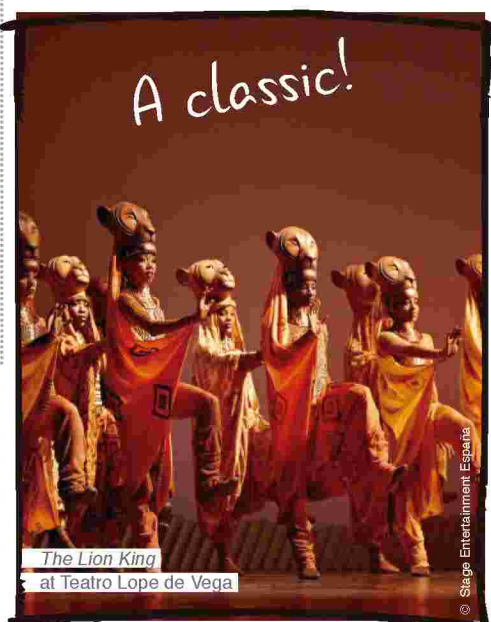
In less than a decade, Gran Vía has become the centre for this type of show. The stretch of road between Callao and Plaza España is lined with theatre lights and canopies announcing their shows. But musicals have been so successful that they've also spread to other neighbourhoods, with more than twenty works being staged all over the city.

Their critical acclaim and their increasing popularity among spectators have turned these top quality musicals (including many that have arrived straight from Broadway) into a big attraction and yet another great reason for visiting the Spanish capital.



*The Physician  
at the Teatro Nuevo Apolo*

© Nacho Añas



*The Lion King  
at Teatro Lope de Vega*

© Stage Entertainment España



*The Lion King* is one of the many musicals the city has to offer. It has been enjoyed by more than 4 million people and even after 8 seasons, it continues to be the most popular musical in Madrid.



Check out what's on in theatres across the city on [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)

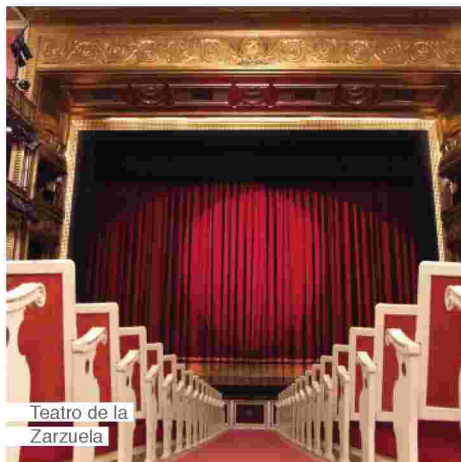
Madrid has a dazzling array of places to catch a show, from historical theatres like **Teatro Español** and **Teatro de la Comedia** to avant-garde venues such as **Naves Matadero-International Living Arts Centre**, and charming fringe theatres.

When it comes to **classical music, opera and dance**, in Madrid you're also spoiled for choice. The top venues to head to for first-class concerts and shows are the **National Music Auditorium** and the **Teatro Real opera house**.

**Teatros del Canal** offer an interesting mix of avant-garde, opera, flamenco and dance shows.



Teatros del Canal



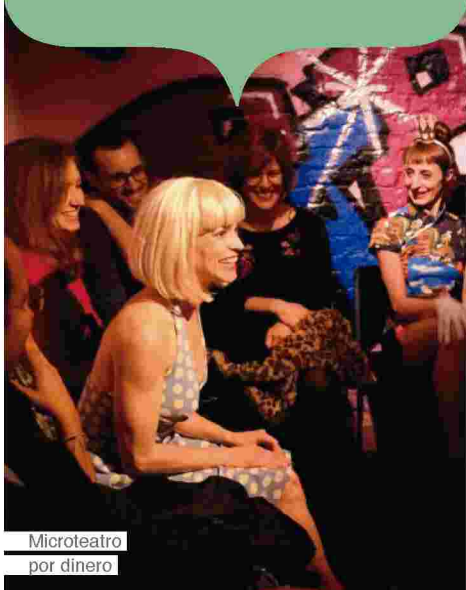
Teatro de la Zarzuela

The **zarzuela** is a traditional lyrical genre whose origins trace back to 18th and 19th century Madrid. You can enjoy it at the **Teatro de la Zarzuela**.



## Off theatre

The neighbourhoods of Lavapiés, Malasaña and La Latina have the greatest concentration of off theatre shows in Madrid. Following in the footsteps of the Off-Broadway theatre tradition of the 20th century, these unconventional spaces and independent micro-theatres were born as a new alternative to theatre. Today, there are more than 150 theatres of this type in Madrid.



Microteatro por dinero

## For the entire family!

**Teatro Circo Price** has an excellent programme which includes musical shows, circus acts, dance and magic shows.



Teatro Circo Price

© César Lucas Abreu

# Teatro Real

Plaza de Isabel II

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

Boasting a spectacular 1430m<sup>2</sup> stage and backstage area, seating capacity for 1800 and 28 boxes, the Teatro Real is one of Europe's finest opera houses. Originally inaugurated in 1850, it was closed in 1925 due to subsidence. It remained shut for 41 years till it reopened in 1966 as a concert hall for the Royal Conservatory of Music and the School for Dramatic Arts. Eventually in 1997, after seven years of extensive renovation works, it once again became Madrid's grandest theatre. Both the exterior and the interior of this neoclassical building, which was declared a National Monument in 1977, are true architectural gems. If you can't make it to a show, be sure to go on their excellent 1-hour guided tour.



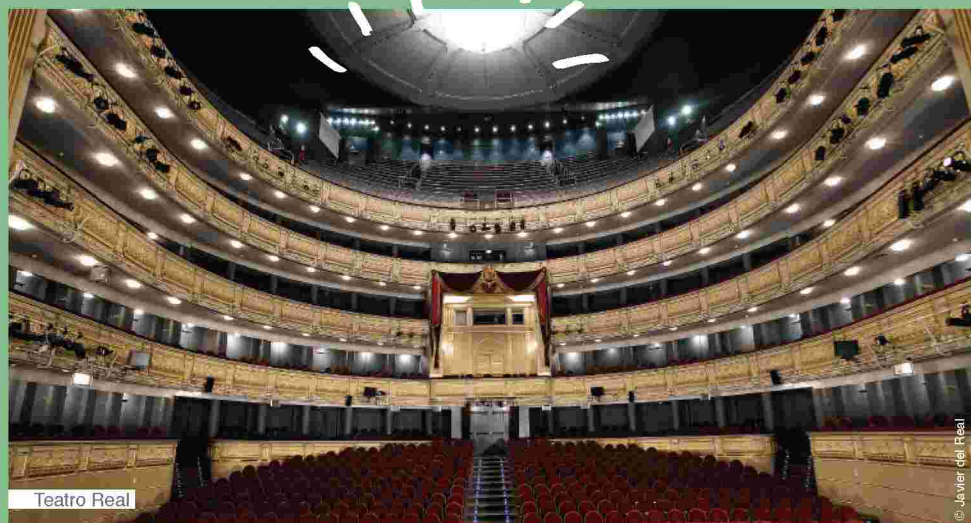
Discover more information on the guided tours here



Teatro Real



Concert screening at Plaza de Oriente



Teatro Real

## Madrid, a city straight out of a movie scene!

Musicals, theatre, opera... and cinema. The **Cineteca** film archive in Matadero Madrid and the **National Film Library** with its splendid Modernist façade are great places to watch documentaries and non-fiction films. Don't miss the **Documenta Madrid** Festival, which is held in May and screens films mainly in Cineteca.

Madrid has been used as a filming location on more than one occasion. In the 1950s Bronston Studios came to the Spanish capital to shoot scenes from *The Fall of the Roman Empire* and *55 Days at Peking*; Kubrick filmed the battle scenes from *Spartacus* in Casa de Campo Park; and David Lean turned Canillas neighbourhood into revolutionary Russia for *Doctor Zhivago*.

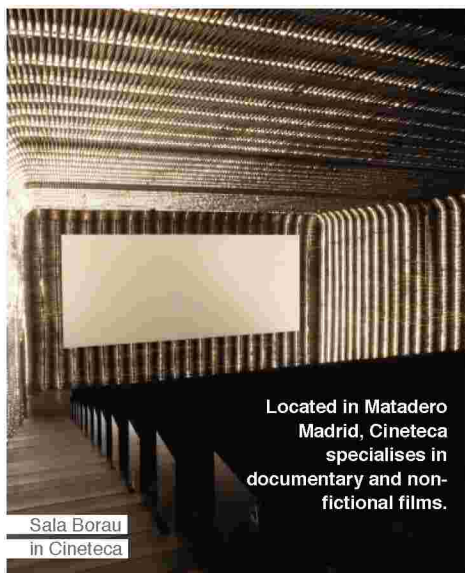
The streets of Madrid can often be spotted in the work of Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar, including Donostiarra avenue in *What Have I Done to Deserve This?* and the streets of Los Jerónimos neighbourhood in *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*. The city has only ever once seen the bustling Gran Vía completely deserted: when director Alejandro Amenábar cleared it for a scene in *Open Your Eyes*. An incredibly photogenic city, Madrid has always proved a draw for film makers.



**City of Madrid Film Office** is a municipal entity whose aim it is to promote the Spanish capital as a filming location. Learn more at [cityofmadridfilmoffice.com](http://cityofmadridfilmoffice.com)



Want to know more about Almodóvar's Madrid? Find more information at [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)



Located in Matadero Madrid, Cineteca specialises in documentary and non-fictional films.



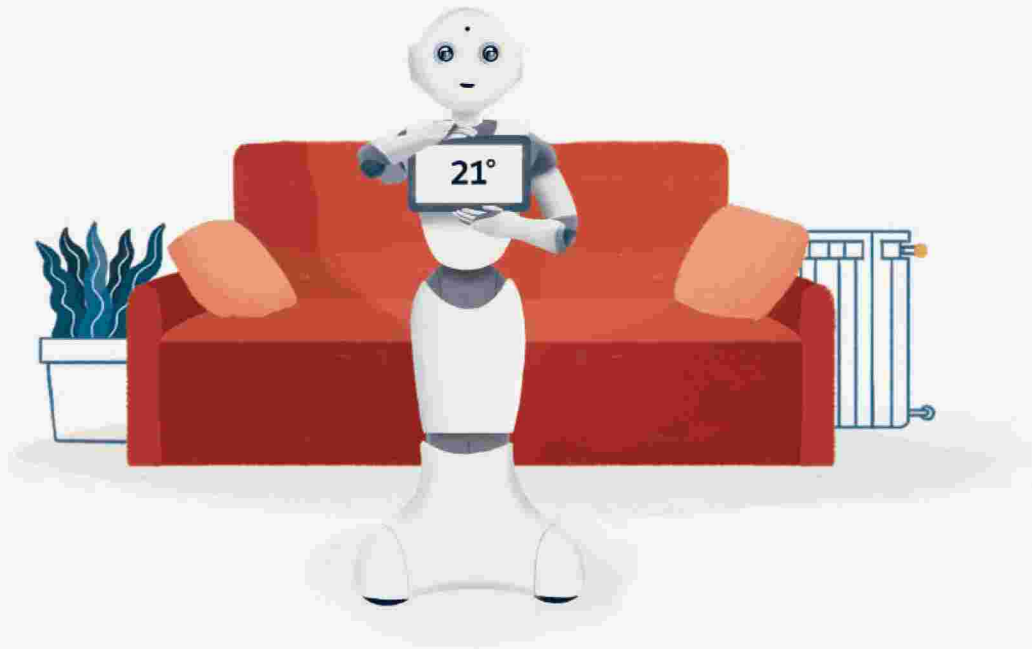
The spectacular Modernist façade of the **Cine Doré**, currently the Filmoteca Española (National Film Library), dates back to 1923. You can watch classic cinema there, attend book presentations, seminars and conferences. During its early years, a popular practice was to munch on roasted pumpkin and sunflower seeds at shows. For this reason, it was also called "El Palacio de las Pipas" or the Palace of Seeds.

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# a city in shape

Throughout the year Madrid plays host to major sporting events, including the **Mutua Madrid Open** and the **Davis Cup Madrid Finals** at Caja Mágica, the final stage of the **La Vuelta a España** cycling race and nail-biting football and basketball matches.

Moreover, the city recently set up low-emissions zone known as **Madrid Central** to curb air pollution. Covering nearly 500 hectares of the most central part of the city, it prioritises cyclists and pedestrians and creates a cleaner environment for its inhabitants.





## A city for biking

More and more of Madrid's inhabitants are turning to the bicycle as a means of transport. There are currently 290 kilometres of bike lanes, 64 kilometres of **Anillo Verde** or Green Ring, and a municipal bike rental service **BiciMAD** available 24 hours a day all year round. Let's not forget important events such as **FestiBal con B de bici**, which is held in September at the **Matadero Madrid**, or the **Fiesta de la Bici** in October, when bicycles take over La Castellana and the Paseo del Prado. A sustainable and fun way to explore Madrid.



Download the  
BiciMAD app  
here



Bike lane on  
the Paseo del Prado



BiciMAD



Madrid  
for cyclists



FestiBal  
con B de Bici

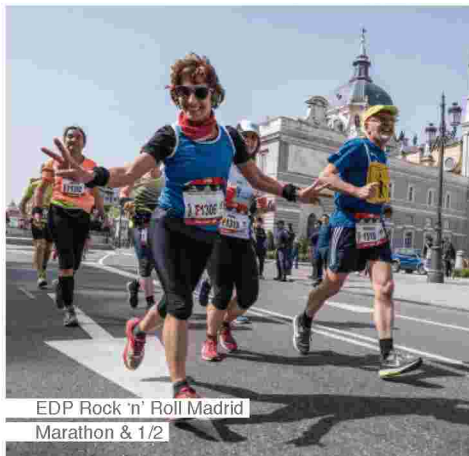
## Fun runs and marathons

Throughout the year Madrid plays host to numerous running events, but one of the most popular ones is undoubtedly the 10K **San Silvestre Vallecana**. Held on 31 December, just hours before the country gets ready to usher in the new year, the atmosphere is always buzzing. The race is run by both professionals and amateurs, many of whom prefer to swap their running clothes for fancy dress costumes.

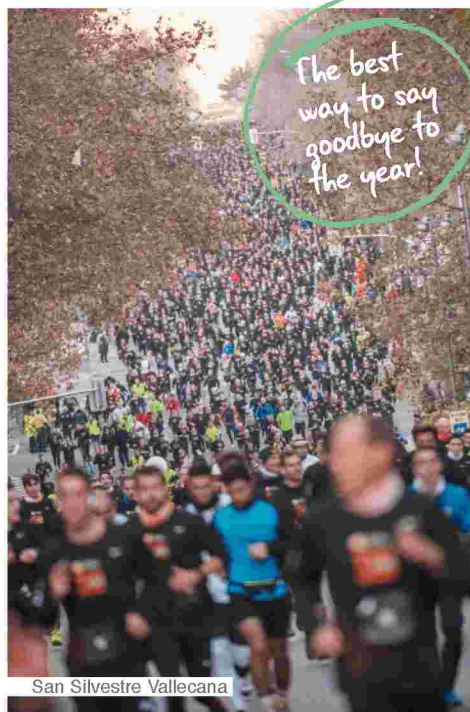
**The EDP Rock 'n' Roll Madrid Marathon & 1/2** is held every year in April and people from all over the world come to participate in this race. It consists of a marathon and a half marathon with live music.

In May, a sea of pink T-shirts flood the streets of Madrid as the **Carrera de la Mujer** (Women's Run) is held to raise money for the fight against breast cancer.

If you fancy a jog, just head to one of the city's many parks and if you feel like racing with your dog you can run the **San Perrestre** a day before the San Silvestre Vallecana race, or the **Perrotón** charity race in October.



EDP Rock 'n' Roll Madrid  
Marathon & 1/2



San Silvestre Vallecana



Carrera de  
la Mujer



## Iconic sports venues

Football is ingrained in the Madrid way of life, and that's hardly surprising considering the city boasts two of the best football teams in the world: Real Madrid and Atlético Madrid. In addition to watching them play, you can also visit their home grounds, the **Santiago Bernabéu Stadium** and the **Wanda Metropolitano Stadium**, respectively. Other venues worth checking out are the Rayo Vallecano's **Vallecas Stadium** and the **WiZink Center**, which in addition to concerts also hosts basketball matches played by Real Madrid and Estudiantes, and indoor football and karate championships.

### Bernabéu Tour

Visit the club's most iconic spots, including the Presidential Box, the pitch, the bench area and the dressing rooms, and explore its history in the Trophies Room, which houses the club's remarkable trophy collection (they have won more European Cups than any other team in the world). You can purchase your ticket at the stadium or on the official website, and if you are a Member or a Season Ticket Holder you will get a discount.



Check opening times and buy tickets here

### Wanda Metropolitano Tour

Atlético Madrid has been playing in the **Wanda Metropolitano Stadium** since 2017. During the tour you get to visit different areas, such as the red and white locker rooms, the pressroom or the mixed zone, and you can enter the field through the tunnel, just like the players do. Official members get a discount. Get your ticket at the stadium gift shop or on the official Atlético Madrid website.



Check timings and buy tickets here



WiZink Center



Santiago Bernabéu Stadium



Wanda Metropolitano Stadium

© Atlético Madrid.com

## A place for every sport

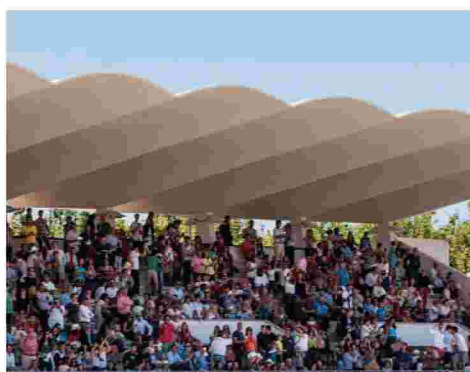
All of Madrid's neighbourhoods have public pools. In winter, one of the most popular ones is the **Piscina de las Escuelas Pías** in Chueca. It's located on the terrace of the College of Architects (COAM) and boasts a spectacular view of the city. Good options for the summer are the **Complutense University** or the pool in the **Parque Deportivo Puerta de Hierro**, which, at 130 metres, is one of the longest in Europe. You can also row in **El Retiro Park** and on the lake in **Casa de Campo Park**, or splash around in the reservoirs of **Pinilla**, **El Atazar** or **San Juan**, an hour away by car.



Piscina de las  
Escuelas Pías



Rowing in  
El Retiro Park



## La Zarzuela Racecourse

Avenida Padre Huidobro

Every Sunday, from March to November, the entire family can enjoy an exciting day (or evening, in summer) watching the races. During racing season, there's a free bus from the Paseo Moret, near the Moncloa intermodal transportation hub. The racecourse itself is also worth visiting for its wonderful grandstand, a Rationalist creation by engineer Eduardo Torroja.



La Zarzuela  
Racecourse



## Madrid Snowzone

C.C. Madrid Xanadú  
Carretera A5, km 22 and 25, Arroyomolinos  
Mon-Thurs: 10am-10pm  
Friday: 10am-11pm  
Saturday: 9am-11pm  
Sunday: 9am-10pm  
18,000 m<sup>2</sup> of indoor ski slopes are open all year round in the Madrid Xanadú shopping centre so you can even go skiing or snowboarding in summer! It features two main slopes: a 250m one with a gradient of more than 25% for experts and a 100m beginner's slope where anyone can learn how to ski.



Madrid Snowzone



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*a Madrid*



Leisure & Entertainment

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\* These Puntos Madrid expire on 31/12/28

# choose

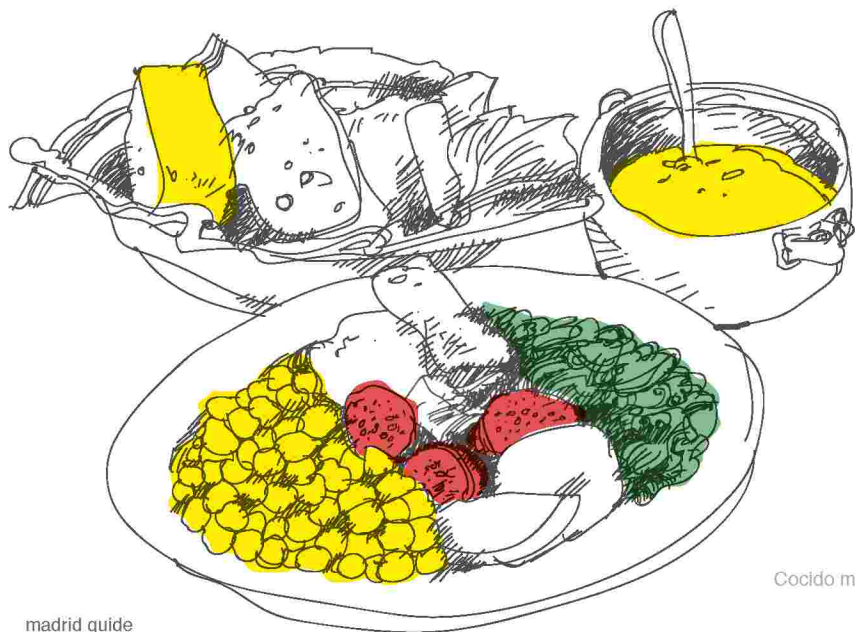
your  
madrid



# madrid for foodies

It's said that we are the country with the most bars in the world. Well, that's why in Madrid you'll find thousands of options that represent the best of Madrid cuisine such as *callos* or tripe, and *cocido*, a traditional stew, as well as gastronomic traditions from all over the world. Our gastronomic variety reflects the coexistence of different cultures: Lavapiés is well-known for

its Indian restaurants; the districts of Usera and the area surrounding Plaza de España have numerous Asian options. And thanks to a widespread Latin American community, you're never far from a good *ceviche* or some *anticucho* meat skewers. Madrid embraces people of all cultures. And also their food.



Cocido madrileño



The Casa Botin restaurant mentioned by Hemingway in *The Sun Also Rises* holds the Guinness World Record for the oldest functioning restaurant in the world.

Over the years, new options have been added to the list of venerable restaurants and bars frequented by our grandparents: more than 20 Michelin-star restaurants, a large variety of gastronomic markets making their presence felt within the culinary scene, new coffee bars and a sizeable number of neo-taverns and gastrobars that keep the tapas tradition alive and kicking.

Madrid is a city to be devoured. If you'd like to treat yourself, here's a handy guide to enjoying our gastronomy to the full.



## Basic glossary for bar hopping

### CAÑA

The most popular serving of beer (200 ml). Locals claim that the ones poured in Madrid are the best: well chilled and full of froth.

### CHATO

Wine served in a short and wide glass. Its volume is approximately half that of a traditional wine glass.

### VERMOUTH

Aromatic wine infused with herbs, usually drunk as an aperitif. Go for the ones on tap.

### PINCHO

A small portion of any food.

The *tortilla de patata* or Spanish potato omelette is an all-time classic.

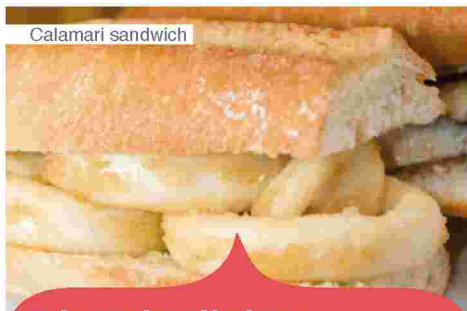
### PULGA

A small sandwich. Usually had as a snack or a light lunch.

### MENÚ DEL DÍA

Many restaurants will offer a daily set meal that's quite affordable, between €10 and €15 for a starter and main course from a selection of options, plus a drink and dessert.

Calamari sandwich



## 5 iconic dishes of Madrid cuisine

### COCIDO MADRILEÑO

A chickpea stew traditionally eaten in three stages: first the soup, then the chickpeas and vegetables and lastly, the meat. Enjoy this filling winter meal at a whole host of restaurants that are more than a hundred years old, such as **La Bola** (C/ La Bola, 5), or the **Cervecería Cruz Blanca de Vallecas** (C/ Carlos Martín Álvarez, 58), where they make one of the best *cocidos* in Madrid. They've got the National Gastronomy Award to prove it.

### BOCATA DE CALAMARES

The secret of Madrid's iconic calamari sandwich is in its simplicity: battered fried squid rings placed in bread. The most popular options are those in the **Plaza Mayor** and in **El Brillante**, next to the Reina Sofía Museum.

### PATATAS BRAVAS

Boiled and fried potatoes served with a spicy sauce. Perfect for sharing! **Docamar**, near the Metro stop of Quintana, sells a staggering 2000 kilos of *patatas bravas* every week. Warning: They're addictive!

### CALLOS

This traditional Spanish tripe recipe has many variations. In Madrid, it's boiled with *chorizo* sausage and paprika. Truly delectable!

### HUEVOS ROTOS

A simple dish that's utterly delicious: fried eggs accompanied by fried potatoes and cured Spanish ham. **Casa Lucio** on Calle Cava Baja has been serving it since 1974. Called "huevos estrellados" or smashed eggs, they are the most famous variant in Madrid.

Artisanal candies shaped like violets have become a symbol of Madrid.

**La Violeta** (Plaza de Canalejas, 6) has been selling the original candies since 1915.



## Sweets all year round!

### CHOCOLATE CON CHURROS

*Churros* or fried pastry dough sticks with hot chocolate occupy a privileged place among breakfast and evening snack options in Madrid. They're very popular on the 1st of January, to start the new year on a sweet note.

### ROSCÓN DE REYES

A round spongy cake scented with orange blossoms and covered with sugar, sliced almonds and candied fruit. Hidden inside is a bean, and whoever gets it has to pay for the *roscón*. Usually eaten on 6 January, the Day of the Magi, with hot chocolate.

### TORRIJAS

Typically eaten during Easter, *torrijas* are bread soaked in milk or wine, dipped in egg, and fried in oil. They are made in every house in Madrid and thankfully, in pastry shops and cafeterias as well. You can never eat just one.

### ROSQUILLAS

They come "listas" (clever), dipped in sugar icing, or "tontas" (silly), plain and without the coating. You choose! They're eaten above all on 15 May, the day of the Feast of San Isidro.

### BUÑUELOS

A round sweet typical of All Saints' Day, although they can be eaten all year round. There are even salty versions. Simply irresistible!

### BARTOLILLOS

Fried pastries filled with crème pâtissière.

A typical sight in El Retiro Park, the Plaza Mayor and at fairs: *barquilleros* with their signature red roulette tins and cylindrical wafers or *barquillos*.



Barquillero

## Let's go out for tapas!

In Madrid, like in other Spanish cities, a tapa is a bite-sized appetiser usually served for free in bars with drinks. It can range from the classic olives to *patatas bravas*, and every bar has its own selection. Almost everything can be served as a *tapa*: *paella*, *croquetas* or croquettes, *migas* (day-old bread crumbled and fried), cold cuts... The key is to share! That's why you can also order a *ración*, a portion size that's bigger than a tapa, to be shared among many people.



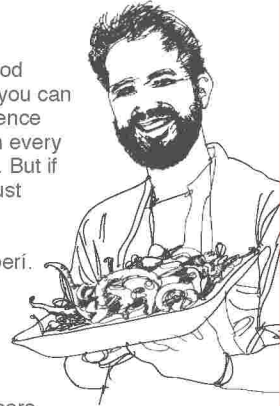
Try La Ardosia's famous tortilla de patatas



Bodega de La Ardosia,  
at C/ Colón, 13

## Ponzano, the trendy street

*Tapas* are a part of our food culture. So much so that you can enjoy this culinary experience at every bar and tavern in every neighbourhood in Madrid. But if there's a zone that's a must for tapas in Madrid, that's Ponzano in the neighbourhood of Chamberí.



This street is full of bars. There are classics, like **El Doble** (C/ José Abascal, 16), that has been serving cañas for years, and newer establishments with a modern touch. Any time is a good time for a drink here, from an afterwork drink to a Sunday aperitif. Discover the "Ponzano phenomenon"!

Legend has it that the name for *tapas* (*tapa* also means 'cover' or 'lid') came from the habit of placing a piece of food over your glass to protect your drink from flies. Today, this brilliant idea has been integrated into one of our favourite verbs: *tapear* - to go from bar to bar.





**Alicia Hernández**  
@aliciapascual  
Twitter Instagram

Travel and food writer. Contributor to Cadena Ser radio programmes, Bloggin' Madrid and online magazines such as hola.com y conmuchagula.com, where she discovers and recommends yummy locations, from the most traditional bars to the latest gastro trends.

“Where to eat well in Madrid? I'll answer with another question: What are you looking for? Traditional taverns, Michelin-starred restaurants, health foods, *cocido madrileño*, avant-garde tapas, fusion cooking...? You'll be hard-pressed to choose”.



## Alicia Hernández's top picks

### Traditional and authentic

#### La Bomba Bistrot

C/ Pedro Muguruza, 5  
(+34) 91 350 30 47

📍 Cuzco (L10) and Plaza Castilla (L1, L9, L10)

Head here for one of the best rice dishes in Madrid, either dry or soupy, Valencia- or Alicante-style.

#### Casa Botín

C/ Cuchilleros, 17  
(+34) 91 366 42 17

📍 Tirso de Molina (L1)  
The Guinness record holder for the oldest functioning restaurant in the world, their suckling pig is exquisite! The wood fire in their ovens hasn't gone out since 1725.

#### Los Galayos

C/ de Botoneras, 5  
(+34) 91 366 30 28

📍 Sol (L1, L2, L3) and Tirso de Molina (L1)

Try their bocata de calamares or other samples of authentic Castilian cooking in the historical dining area that looks out across the Plaza Mayor.



La Tasquería

### Neotabernas

#### Arzábal

Av/ Menéndez Pelayo, 13  
(+34) 91 409 56 61

📍 Ibiza (L9) and Príncipe de Vergara (L2, L9)

The modern and fun version of traditional Madrid taverns, with premium quality products. Their croquetas de jamón are a must-try.

#### Taberna y media

C/ Lope de Rueda, 30  
(+34) 91 867 58 42

📍 Ibiza (L9) and Príncipe de Vergara (L2, L9)

A small and inviting bar where you can sit and try their torreznos (pork crackling) and patatas bravas Alejandro. The interior dining area serves up a tasty cocido from Tuesday to Friday.

### Ponzano

C/ Ponzano, 12  
(+34) 91 448 68 80

📍 Alonso Cano (L7)  
Paco García ensures that clients never wait for anything in his eatery on Madrid's gastronomic high street. Great tapas, an unbeatable daily set menu and premium quality, fresh, à la carte offerings.

### La Tasquería

C/ Duque de Sesto, 48  
(+34) 91 451 10 00

📍 O'Donnell (L6) and Goya (L2, L4)  
Javi Estévez has converted offal into haute cuisine. The delicate and original dishes created at this Michelin-starred restaurant have garnered a loyal following.



Let's go for tapas!



Gourmet Experience  
at El Corte Inglés in Callao

## Markets and culinary spaces

Meeting up at a market is the new craze. In Madrid there are municipal markets that combine traditional grocery shopping and gastronomy. Walk through the numerous fruit and veg stalls or have a drink at one of the bars located within. Because there's one in every neighbourhood.

**The Markets of Chamberí and Vallehermoso**, in the neighbourhood of Chamberí, the **La Paz Market** in the neighbourhood of Salamanca, the **Antón Martín** and **San Fernando Markets** in Lavapiés, **San Antón** and **Barceló** in Chueca, or the **Tirso de Molina Market**, a short distance away from the Madrid Rio Park, are some of the most well-known ones. These are spaces that have evolved into culinary landmarks for aficionados of the *gourmet*.

**San Miguel Market**, located a few metres away from Plaza Mayor, pioneered this initiative. The cast iron structure, built in 1916, has been one of Madrid's claims to gastronomic fame over the last few years. It has fruit and veg, meat and pastry stalls that specialise in gourmet products, along with wide bars where you can try out a

wide selection of wines and *tapas*. Its success has been replicated in **San Ildefonso Market** on Calle Fuencarral, as well as in a large number of other locations such as **Platea** in the neighbourhood of Goya; **Yatai Market** near Plaza de Tirso de Molina, which is solely dedicated to Asian food; or **Gourmet Experience** in the El Corte Inglés department stores in Callao, Serrano, Goya and Castellana. These are all places where you can enjoy our rich and diverse culinary traditions.



Façade of San Miguel  
Market



Alejandro and Maria Jesús  
in Vallehermoso Market



Indoor of San Miguel  
Market



## Restaurants with Michelin stars

### DiverXO

C/ Padre Damián, 23  
(+34) 91 570 07 66

📍 Cuzco (L10)  
Dabiz Muñoz's sophisticated and unconventional cuisine turns a trip to this restaurant into an unconventional experience. Check out the flying pigs menu and other surprising dishes.

### Santceloni

Paseo de la Castellana, 57

(+34) 91 210 88 40  
📍 Gregorio Marañón (L7, L10)

Simplicity and elegance are the hallmarks of this restaurant, with chef Oscar Velasco and his brilliant team at the helm. Try the spectacular cheese board.

### Coque

C/ Marqués de Riscal, 11  
(+34) 91 604 02 02

📍 Rubén Darío (L5)  
Mario Sandoval is a Renaissance culinary artist, a savant of culinary techniques who reveals his vast store of knowledge to clients on an exciting route that takes them from the cellar to the kitchen.

### DSTAgE

C/ Regueros, 8  
(+34) 91 702 15 86

📍 Chueca (L5), Colón (L4) and Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10)

An industrial, modern and welcoming space where Diego Guerrero devises his creative traveller menus under the customer's gaze.

## World cuisine

### Tiradito & Pisco bar

C/ Conde Duque, 13  
(+34) 91 541 78 76

📍 San Bernardo (L2, L4)  
A menu that unites prairies, coasts and mountains with ceviches and tiraditos, the traditional Peruvian potato dish causa limeña, anticuchos, or a lomo saltado (beef stir fry)... and finally topping it all off with an ample variety of piscos (brandies) at the bar.

### Taquería Mawey

C/ Olib, 6  
(+34) 91 011 71 03

📍 Quevedo (L2) and Bilbao (L1, L4)  
C/ San Bernardo, 5  
📍 Santo Domingo (L2)  
Signature tacos (al pastor or shawarma-style grilled meat, bacon glazed with chipotle sauce, tuna or bonito with tomato), dishes with enticing names (barquitas de costillas borrachas or drunken ribs) and Mexican cocktails, all served in a modern taquería.



### Lamian

Plaza de los Mostenses, 4  
(+34) 685 16 00 65

📍 Noviciado (L2) and Plaza de España (L3, L10)  
The signature ramen of Madrid's most famous Chinese chef, Julio, is the star attraction of this Asian

taberna. We also highly recommend the dim sum and the chilli crab.

### Apartaco

C/ Luchana, 7  
(+34) 686 97 49 16

📍 San Bernardo (L2, L4), Quevedo (L2) and Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10)

Apart from the popular arepas, tequeños (cheese sticks), patacones (fried plantains) or pabellón criollo, a combination of rice, beans and shredded meat, the restaurant also unearths lesser known variants of Venezuelan cuisine such as chalupa, layers of sweet corn tortillas, chicken and cheese. Recommended drinks: beer and fruit juices.

### Ramen Kagura

C/ Fuentes, 1  
(+34) 91 548 36 06

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

Madrid's most authentic (and cheapest) ramen are found between Calle Arenal and Calle Mayor. Four different types of ramen are found (one vegetarian option) with a pork and vegetable-based broth that simmers for days and is complemented by handmade noodles.

### Kappo

C/ Bretón de los Herreros, 54  
(+34) 91 042 00 66

📍 Gregorio Marañón (L7, L10)

Japanese kaiseki meals prepared in a small and modern bar by the masterful and hypnotic hands of Mario Payán.



Honest Greens

## Kabuki Wellington

C/ Velázquez, 6  
 (+34) 91 577 78 77  
 ☑ Gregorio Marañón (L7, L10)

The best Japanese restaurant in Madrid (with a Michelin star), where Ricardo Sanz creates a perfect Ibero-Nippon fusion with dishes such as a squid usuzukuri sandwich or bread with tomato.

## Healthy options

### Honest greens

Go to [www.honestgreens.com](http://www.honestgreens.com) to check out all locations. Healthy, tasty and organic fast food. A successful formula that has resulted in the opening of various branches in the city, each one with its own distinctive spirit.

### Huerta de Carabaña

C/ Lagasca, 32  
 (+34) 91 083 00 07  
 ☑ Serrano and Velázquez (L4)

GREEN  
 haute cuisine



The kitchen, where vegetables are the undisputed stars, serves both a restaurant space and a bistro. The Madrid kitchen-garden makes its presence felt in the form of sophisticated, light and healthy dishes.

### El Invernadero

C/ Ponzano, 85  
 (+34) 628 93 93 67  
 ☑ Ríos Rosas (L1) and Cuatro Caminos (L1, L2, L6)

Experience chef Rodrigo de la Calle's Michelin-starred green revolution.

### Celicioso

Go to [www.celicioso.com](http://www.celicioso.com) to check out all locations. A go-to bakery for people with a gluten allergy. It also has vegan and lactose- and sugar-free options.

## Ibiza: a neighbourhood with flavour

The neighbourhood of Ibiza next to El Retiro Park is another of Madrid's unrivalled culinary zones. Various *tabernas* and restaurants are located in its streets, Ibiza, Menorca, Doctor Castelo, Narváez and Lope de Rueda, where classic Madrid cuisine rules the roost, albeit with an informal touch and with an increasing number of more avant-garde culinary establishments.



Arzábal



Celicioso

## An homage to coffee



19th and 20th century Madrid culture is inextricably linked to cafeterías, the site of literary discussions and fierce debates among politicians, intellectuals and artists of that period, including Valle-Inclán, Ortega y Gasset and Ramón Gómez de la Serna. Some of these historic cafeterías still survive, such as the **Café Gijón** (page 59), the **Café Varela**, or **El Espejo**, with its unmistakable *art-nouveau* decor, or Madrid's oldest **Café Comercial**, which has recently been refurbished.

There's also a growing interest in speciality coffees in Madrid. You can find authentic temples to coffee, whose service is characterised by their dedication to both product and technique. A wave of new and modern spaces helmed by young baristas that exist in harmony with more traditional cafeterías.



Café Gijón

### Breakfast and afternoon snacks

#### Café Comercial

Glorieta de Bilbao, 7  
(+34) 91 088 25 25  
Bilbao (L1, L4)  
This classic cafeteria has reinvented itself and now, apart from a traditional breakfast of hot chocolate and churros, toasted rustic bread or afternoon tea with homemade cakes, you can also opt for *Sunday brunch* or an aperitif at their charming bar.

#### Hola Coffee

C/ Doctor Fourquet, 33  
(+34) 91 056 82 63  
Lavapiés (L3)  
True believers and specialists in coffee, from the selection to the roast (the owners are roasters, baristas and trainers). You should also check out their second establishment, **Misión Café** (C/ de Los Reyes, 5), where you will succumb to the temptations of the pastries and savoury delights of their own making.

#### Solo, cortado or con leche?

Don't be surprised if you're served coffee in a glass in the more traditional cafeterías. If what you want is an espresso, ask for a *solo*, and if you'd like it with a splash of milk, ask for a *cortado*.



Hola Coffee

#### Cristina Oria

C/ Conde de Aranda, 6  
Retiro (L2)  
C/ José Ortega y Gasset, 29  
Núñez de Balboa (L5, L9)  
Gourmet shop and restaurant merge in a space that's as photogenic as it is tasteful. They serve delicious homemade breakfasts and afternoon snacks.

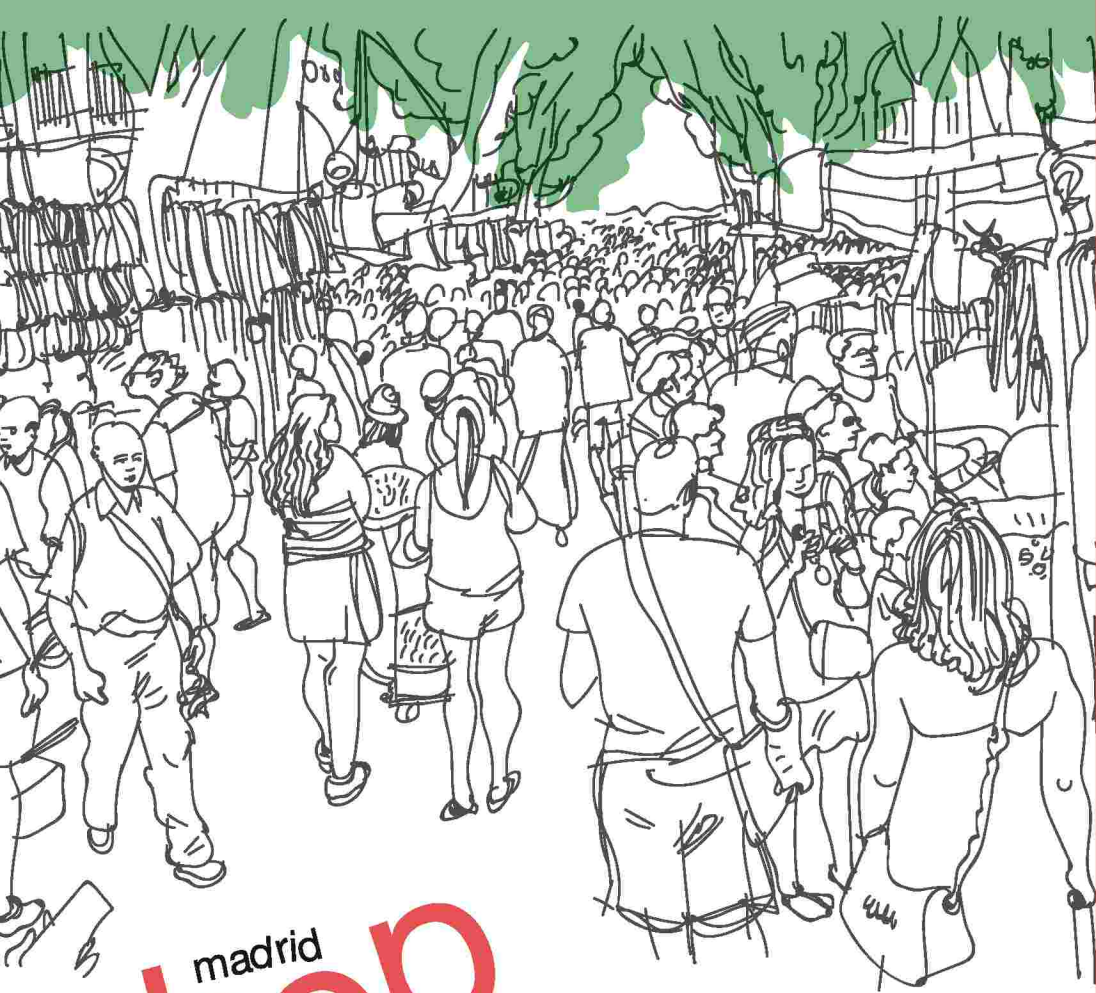
#### Chocolatería San Ginés

Pasadizo de San Ginés, 5  
(+34) 91 365 65 46  
Sol (L1, L2, L3) and Ópera (L2, L5)  
Digging into chocolate con churros at the historic Chocolatería San Ginés, near the Puerta del Sol, is a must-do on every Madrid visitor's list. Open 24 hours.



Cristina Oria





El Rastro

# madrid shopping

Madrid is a city that is truly diverse, and this diversity can be seen and felt in its neighbourhoods, its people and even its retail options. High-street staples coexist with alternative boutiques, international fashion houses and Spanish brands have side-by-side displays, and traditional shops rub shoulders with modern outlets. The city boasts over 46,000 shops, most of them open all year round. With options to satisfy all tastes, it is unsurprising that it was named the second-best city in Europe for shopping by the Globe Shopper Index.

## The best shopping areas

### CENTRE: SOL, ARENAL AND PRECIADOS

If you're looking for a quaint souvenir to take back with you, you'll want to head to the area in and around Plaza Mayor and Puerta del Sol. You'll find time-honoured establishments and original shops alongside stores selling the latest technology and trendy fashion apparel on streets like Preciados and Carmen. Check out the traditional shops in the Puerta del Sol offering an assortment of fans.



### GRAN VÍA

One of the city's top shopping destination, the renowned avenue is home to a host of famous fashion chains, jewellers', shoe shops and bookstores. In the early 20th century, Spain's first department store Almacenes Madrid-Paris opened at number 32. Today, a century later, the building houses a number of international high-street staples.

### MALASAÑA, FUENCARRAL AND CHUECA

If you're looking for the latest trends, then this is the area for you. Really up-to-the-minute clothes and accessories preside over the shop windows that line the streets. These neighbourhoods also boast a thriving vintage scene and a great selection of designer LGBTQ+ stores.

### AZCA

Madrid's business district is known for its tall skyscrapers and for its commercial activity. Calle Orense and Paseo de la Castellana are home to some of the most popular brand retailers, one of El Corte Inglés' largest stores and, fun fact, the biggest Zara in the world!

### BARRIO DE SALAMANCA

Leading Spanish and international fashion firms showcase their creations in the chic Barrio de Salamanca neighbourhood. Its streets are lined with top-class restaurants, luxury shoe brands and the finest jewellers. Exclusive Calle Serrano boasts wide pavements that are great for window shopping, and smaller streets like José Ortega y Gasset, Claudio Coello and Jorge Juan are a luxury shopper's paradise. Nearby Calle Goya is lined with high-street staples

Madrid has **flexible opening hours**, which is why you will find shops and large department stores open on Sundays and public holidays. More information on page 4.





## Shopping centres and outlets

Spain's largest department store **El Corte Inglés**, which has outlets across the city, is where everyone heads to if they are looking for anything from clothing and cosmetics to decorative accessories and state-of-the-art technology. The city's most well-known shopping malls are: **La Vaguada**; **Plaza Río 2**, near Madrid Río Park; **ABC Serrano**, which has a Neo-Mudéjar façade; Dreams **Palacio de Hielo**; **Centro Comercial Príncipe Pío**; and **Moda Shopping**, opposite Santiago Bernabéu Stadium. There are also several large outlets just outside the city, like **Sambil** in Leganés, which is the biggest outlet in Spain, and **The Style Outlets** in Getafe and San Sebastián de los Reyes. The best-known one is **Las Rozas Village**, some 20km from Madrid and a luxury shopper's paradise. A **Shopping Express** bus will take you there from Plaza de España.



Príncipe Pío  
Shopping Centre

### PRINCESA AND ARGÜELLES

This lively shopping area has something for everyone: from the most well-known fashion and accessory retailers to large department stores.

### BRAVO MURILLO

Madrid's third longest street runs along the Chamberí and Tetuán neighbourhoods and has a frenetic commercial activity. Markets and small specialist shops rub shoulders with famous fashion chains.

### BARRIO DE LAS LETRAS

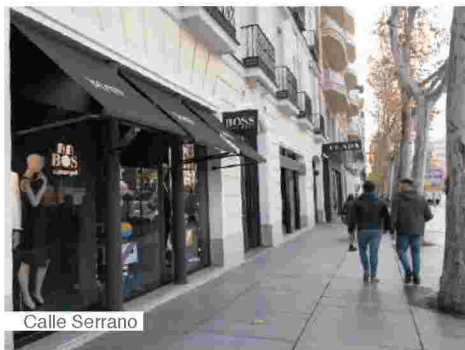
Lovers of culture and traditional shops can browse through multiple stores selling furniture, vintage books and hand crafted items that are preserved in all their historical glory. The Mercado de las Ranas (page 53), or Frog Market in English, is held in these streets, as is the DecorAcción design fair (page 10).

### LAS SALESAS

Some of the most influential Spanish designers have their workshops here, an area full of charming little stores and multi-brand shops. The bohemian alternative to the Barrio de Salamanca, it boasts an array of spaces dedicated to beauty, fashion, decoration and art.

### CONDE DUQUE

The shopping options available in this neighbourhood are a reflection of its personality. Many artists have opened small establishments on the main streets of Calle Amaniell, Calle Noviciado, Calle Conde Duque and Calle Palma. It is defined by its eclectic range of offerings: from fashion and accessories to books and music.



Calle Serrano



Bookshop  
in Malasaña

“Madrid’s shops are very much like its bars and streets, they are welcoming and friendly. Most stores in the city are found just a few feet away from a bar, eatery or other type of business, so a stroll through shopping districts can last for hours.”



**Teresa Castanedo**  
@teresacastanedo

Journalist. She rose to fame as a newsreader for the state-owned broadcaster Televisión Española and a correspondent for cultural and current affairs with Telemadrid. Her latest passion is giving items a new lease of life: she’s the founder of Mercado de Motores.

## \* Teresa Castanedo’s top picks

### Spanish fashion

#### Sophie and Lucie

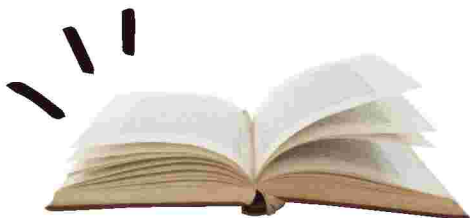
C/ Claudio Coello, 25  
 Serrano (L4) and Retiro (L2)  
 Charming dresses and other items of clothing designed and sold by two sisters.



#### Andrés Gallardo

C/ Moratin, 17  
 Antón Martín (L1)  
 Hand-crafted jewellery, handbags and porcelain pieces. It is located on the site of a former printing press, one of the oldest in Madrid.

*There’s so much to choose from!*



Cortana

#### Cortana

C/ Jorge Juan, 12  
 Serrano (L4) and Retiro (L2)  
 Bridalwear and haute couture in organza and tulle. One of the Spanish brands that have expanded into the international market.

#### Malababa

For locations and opening hours, go to [malababa.com/es](http://malababa.com/es)  
 Footwear and accessories in a Minimalist style, all made in Spain. They have several shops in Madrid.



### Bookshops

#### Tipos Infames

C/ San Joaquín, 3  
 Tribunal (L1, L10)  
 Specialising in independent publishers, this bookshop also comes with a wine bar.

#### Ivorypress

C/ del Aviador Zorita, 46-48  
 Santiago Bernabéu (L10) and Nuevos Ministerios (L6, L8, L10)  
 Originally a publishing house specialising in artists’ books, this wonderful bookstore offers a packed cultural programme that includes contemporary art exhibitions and talks.

#### Cervantes y Compañía

C/ Pez, 27  
 Noviciado (L2)  
 A wonderful sanctuary in the heart of Malasaña, this popular bookshop offers up cultural experiences.

# Cuesta de Moyano

C/ Claudio Moyano

Estación del Arte and Atocha RENFE (L1)  
The Cuesta de Moyano, a pedestrian street located next to the Royal Botanical Gardens and El Retiro Park, can trace its origins back to 1925. Open every day of the year this now permanent book fair has more than 30 stalls selling second-hand and antique books, making it one of the only streets in the world dedicated solely to books.



For more information, visit the official website of La Cuesta de Moyano



"If you ask them for a recommendation, they take it quite seriously and base their suggestions on books they have read themselves over the past few weeks."



Tipos Infames



Ivory Press

## Desnivel

Plaza Matute, 6

Antón Martín (L1)  
Bookshop specialised in mountaineering with a very original decor. Here you can find all sorts of tourist guides, travelogues and a real sense of wanderlust.

## Ocho y Medio - Libros de cine

C/ Martín de los Heros, 11

Plaza de España (L3, L10)

For lovers of cinema and good food: a perfect place to gather before or after a viewing. It specialises in publications on cinema.

## La Central de Callao

C/ Postigo de San Martín, 8

Callao (L3, L5)  
Located in an old 19th-century mansion, it consists of three floors surrounding an incredible central patio. It offers more than 80,000 books, coffee and a whole host of courses and activities.

La Central also has another store within the Reina Sofía Museum (Ronda de Atocha, 2), located in the Nouvel extension. More than 65,000 titles on arts and humanities.

## Unique stores

### Vintology

C/ Atocha, 10

📍 Tirso de Molina (L1)

and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

C/ Barceló, 13

📍 Tribunal (L1, L10)

Europe's biggest second-hand clothing and accessories store is paradise for vintage fashion lovers. It's located in a historical building that has marble walls and large mirrors!



### Juguetrónica

C/ Alberto Aguilera, 1

📍 San Bernardo (L2, L4)

More than 1100 m<sup>2</sup> filled with electronic and radio-controlled toys, drones and robots. It also houses the fascinating Robot Museum.

"I love stepping into this shop and having helicopters flying over my head"



Juguetrónica

### Lanas Sixto

C/ Atocha, 9

📍 Tirso de Molina (L1)

and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

In this shop, which has been specialising in wool since 1927, you'll find hundreds of balls of yarns in all shades of colours!

### Real Fábrica Española

C/ de Cervantes, 9

📍 Antón Martín (L1)

Traditional items and products made in Spain: preserves, sweets, drinks, accessories, footwear and decorative items.

### La Cervecista

C/ Mejía Lequerica, 3

📍 Tribunal (L1, L10) and

Alonso Martínez

(L4, L5, L10)

Go on a trip around the world of beers.



## Open-air markets

Over the past few years, charming seasonal and specialist markets have mushroomed in the Spanish capital, although the most famous one continues to be the Rastro flea market, a Sunday staple for locals and visitors alike.

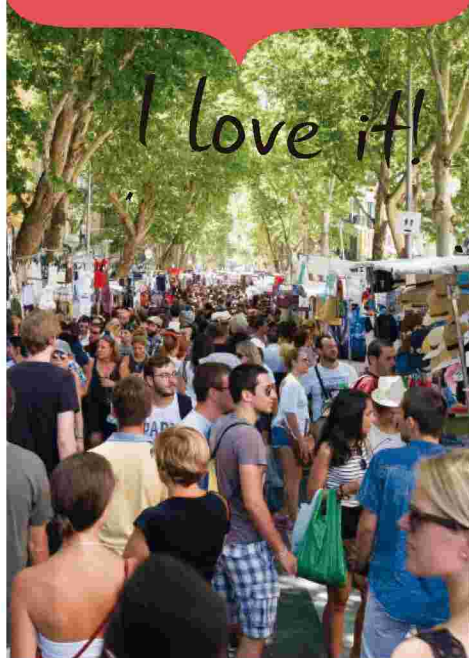
### El Rastro

Plaza de Cascorro and surrounding area

📍 La Latina and Puerta de Toledo (L5)

Weekends and holidays 9am-3pm

When it comes to shopping in Madrid, El Rastro is the place to go to if you are a fan of flea markets. It dates back to the 15th century and it got its name from the bloody trail (*rastro*) left by animal carcasses as they were transported from the slaughterhouse to the tanneries. On Calle Ribera de Curtidores, between La Latina and Lavapiés neighbourhoods, more than 1000 stalls sell clothing and accessories, handicrafts, antiques, furniture, music and second-hand books. In nearby streets you'll find antiques dealers and a fantastic range of bars and eateries where you can round off your visit with an aperitif and some tapas. We recommend getting there early to avoid the crowds!





Mercado de Motores

© Joseetu y Miguel

## Mercado de Motores

Railway Museum

📍 Delicias (L3)

Second weekend of each month

In this unique monthly flea market stalls selling vintage clothes and furniture, leather shoes and second-hand goods are found among old trains.

## Lost&Found Market

Conde Duque Cultural Centre

📍 Noviciado (L2) and Ventura Rodríguez (L3)

For upcoming editions, check

[lostfoundmarket.com](http://lostfoundmarket.com)

Anyone can set up a stall in this second-hand and vintage market to sell their formerly prized possessions. There's also an area with tables to have a bite to eat.

## Madrid Productores

Matadero Madrid

📍 Legazpi (L3, L6)

Last weekend of each month

This large monthly event allows you to taste locally produced and eco foods from the Region of Madrid.

## Music and Dealers

Casa del Reloj (Matadero Madrid)

📍 Legazpi (L3, L6)

For upcoming editions, check

[musicanddealers.com](http://musicanddealers.com)

Browse through vinyl records and electronic equipment, participate in workshops and enjoy DJ sessions, food and other activities at this popular music market.

## Mercado de Diseño

Matadero Madrid

📍 Legazpi (L3, L6)

First weekend of each month

A major opportunity for emerging designers to showcase their creations, with a suitably varied culinary offering, concerts, exhibitions, and many, many designs!

On the third Sunday of every month, the **Mercado de Productores Planetario** is also held next to the Enrique Tierno Galván Park in Arganzuela, with 36 stalls displaying local products.



Music and Dealers



Lost&Found Market

© Guillermo de la Torre y Yeff García

## Centuries-old establishments

Just as if they were time machines, some establishments in Madrid can transport us back to another era. Chemists, shops and bookstores that are part and parcel of the city's living history like **La Farmacia de la Reina Madre** chemist, so called because it supplied medicines to the Queen Regent María Christina of Austria; **La Favorita**, the city's oldest store specialising in headdresses; **El Botijo**, a 1754 drugstore mentioned in a novel by Benito Pérez Galdós; and **Capas Seseña**, whose capes were worn by the likes of Picasso, Buñuel and Hemingway. You will easily be able to spot these time-honoured stores thanks to the commemorative plaque designed by artist Antonio Mingote that lies on the pavement in front of them.



Download the app!



Almacén de Pontejes

## Made in Madrid

### Encuire

C/ El Escorial, 11  
Tribunal (L1, L10),  
Noviciado (L2) and  
Chueca (L5)  
Leather bags handmade in Madrid. The store also organises workshops in which you get to make your own bag!

### Papiroga

C/ Almendro, 10  
La Latina (L5)  
Necklaces, bracelets and large earrings, with modern designs inspired by nature.

## Bonjour

Go to [somosbonjour.es](http://somosbonjour.es) to discover points of sale Handmade ceramics in neutral and pastel shades. Their simple style is a blend of the rustic and delicate. Each item is unique.

### Guille García-Hoz's workshop

C/ Pelayo, 43  
Chueca (L5)  
Buy original pendants and ceramic sculptures shaped like animals that the interior designer Guille García-Hoz creates in his workshop. The perfect gift!



Encuire



Guille García-Hoz's workshop



madrid for

# families



**MADRID**  
City Tour

## Fun for all ages!



Madrid is a great place to visit with kids. From a trip in the Teleférico cable car to a show at the Puppet Theatre in El Retiro Park, you'll never be out of ideas for a family day out. The city has all sorts of things to do: activities for kids at museums like the Natural Science Museum, family shows in theatres across the city, parks and open-air spaces to play in, specialised shops and bookstores catering to the little ones, and amusement and theme parks such as the Parque de Atracciones or Parque Warner where it's impossible to get bored.



Atlantis Aquarium Madrid for families

## Fauna!

### Zoo Aquarium

Parque Casa de Campo

Casa de Campo (L5, L10)

Marvel at the smallest insects and the largest mammals. Discover amazing animals from all seven continents without leaving Madrid.

### Faunia

Av/ de las Comunidades, 28

Valdebernardo (L9)

Catch a glimpse of over 3000 animals from different ecosystems and habitats, including the jungle, the poles and the African forest.

### Atlantis Aquarium Madrid

Centro Comercial Madrid

Xanadú

C/ Puerto de Navacerrada, km 23

Buses 528, 534 and 539 from Príncipe Pio station

Over 10,000 aquatic animals inhabit Europe's largest aquarium in a shopping centre. The aquarium also offers virtual tours which allow you to walk among seals and penguins and swim with sharks!

## Perfect for thrillseekers

### Parque de Atracciones de Madrid

Parque Casa de Campo

Batán (L10)

Enjoy an adrenaline-packed day in Madrid's oldest amusement park, home to 48 rides for all ages.

### Parque Warner

M-301 road, Km. 15.5

(C-3) + 413

A theme park filled with Warner Bros characters, shows and rides. In summer, you can enjoy the new Parque Warner Beach with 6 fabulous rides.

## Teleférico

Paseo Pintor

Rosales

Argüelles

(L3, L4, L6),

Batán and

Lago (L10)

Travelling 40

metres up in the air,

Madrid's cable car takes you on an 11-minute ride from Oeste Park to Casa de Campo Park, giving you a bird's eye view of the city.



Superman roller coaster at Parque Warner

## Learning is fun

### Planetarium

Avenida del Planetario, 16

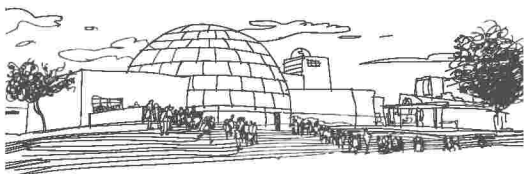
Arganzuela-Planetario and Méndez Álvaro (L6)  
Discover the wonders of the universe and get amazing stargazing tips in the immersive, full-dome planetarium.

### Espacio Abierto Quinta de los Molinos

C/ Alcalá, 527

Suanzes (L5)

A cultural centre for children and teenagers with playrooms, workshops, theatre offerings, screenings and concerts that foster creativity from an early age.



Museum of Natural Sciences



## The best museums for family visits

**The Wax Museum**, where you will find 450 models of famous people (page 38).

**The Railway Museum**, home to a charming collection of old and modern trains and carriages (page 38).

The fascinating **Museum of Natural Sciences** (page 39).

**The Naval Museum**, which hosts workshops and family-friendly activities (page 38).

## A must for the little ones

### Ratón Pérez House Museum

C/ Arenal, 8 1st Floor

Callao (L3, L5), Ópera (L2, L5, R) and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

Mondays: 5-8pm

Tues-Fri: 11am-2pm / 5-8pm

Saturdays: 11am-3pm / 4-8pm

Ratoncito Pérez – the Spanish equivalent of the Tooth Fair – was created by writer Luis Coloma (Father Coloma) in a story he wrote for King Alfonso XIII when he was a child. Visit the museum, found in the house where the mouse once lived, to learn more about this adorable character whose job it is to collect milk teeth left for him under pillows and leave a gift in their place.



## Discover Madrid with SpongeBob Squarepants!

Thanks to the children's guide book *SpongeBob. Adventures in Madrid* you can now discover the city and all its treasures together as a family. It includes fun activities and pages to colour in!



Download it here



Madrid embraces families with its parks and gardens, its cultural spaces full of activities, its cultural and leisure offerings, its neighbourhood festivals and social projects."



**Beatriz Millán**

@beatrizmillan



They say there are three things we should all do in our lifetime: plant a tree, write a book, have a child. Beatriz only has one left: she's a mum to two little girls and a blogger and author of *Una madre en la ciudad*, published by Lunwerg Editores. She's also an expert at finding family-friendly places in Madrid.

## Beatriz Millán's top picks



### Concept Stores

#### Tiny Cottons

C/ Lagasca, 36  
 ☞ Serrano and Velázquez (L4), Retiro (L2) and Príncipe de Vergara (L2, L9)  
 Clothing for children from 0 to 8 years old. Made from natural materials.

#### Sueños Polares

C/ Regueros, 10  
 ☞ Colón (L4), Chueca (L5) and Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10)  
 A multi-brand store selling high quality organic clothing and accessories for children aged 0 to 16.

"The most wonderful clothes for children in all Madrid."

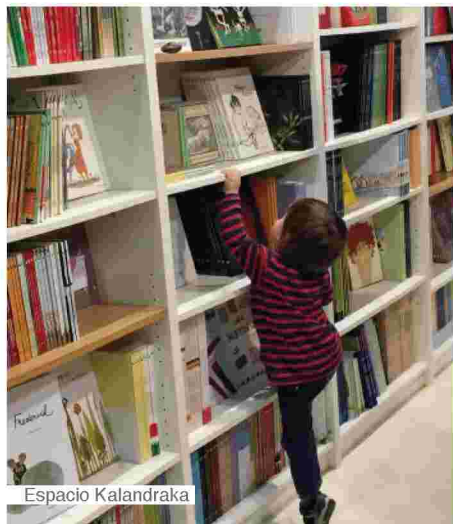
#### Circo KIDS

C/ Argensola, 2  
 ☞ Colón (L4), Chueca (L5) and Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10)  
 Offering gifts and accessories for children under 12, it specialises in traditional toys.

### Theatre

#### Luchana

C/ Luchana, 38  
 ☞ Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10), Bilbao (L1, L4), Iglesia (L1) and Quevedo (L2)  
 A former cinema hall converted into a theatre, it stages magic shows and other theatrical productions for kids.



Espacio Kalandraka

### Off de La Latina

C/ Mancebos, 4  
 ☞ La Latina (L5)  
 A cultural space where families can enjoy plays, dance and music.

### Teatro San Pol

Calle de San Pol de Mar, 1  
 ☞ Príncipe Pío (L6, L10, R)  
 This long-established theatre has been staging shows for families and school groups for over 30 years.

### Puppet Theatre in El Retiro Park

El Retiro Park (near the entrance at Puerta de la Independencia)  
 ☞ Banco de España and Retiro (L2)  
 This small open-air stage surrounded by trees offers children's shows on Saturdays and Sundays. Theatre groups from all over the country perform here.



### Children's bookstores

#### Espacio Kalandraka

C/ Santa María, 16  
 ☞ Antón Martín (L1)  
 More than just a bookstore, this is a cultural meeting place that organises workshops and activities to encourage a love of reading.

#### El Dragón Lector

C/ Santa Feliciano, 17  
 ☞ Iglesia (L1)  
 C/ Fernández de la Hoz, 72  
 ☞ Gregorio Marañón (L7, L10) and Alonso Cano (L7)  
 This cosy space, which hosts an array of activities, invites young children to step inside the wonderful world of children's books.

#### La Mar de Letras

C/ Santiago, 18  
 ☞ Ópera (L2, L5, R)  
 In this unassuming bookstore for kids, you'll find storytellers, puppet shows and live concerts. They also have a book section for teenagers and adults.



Kamchatka  
Magic Toys

## Toystores

"Specialising in non-violent and non-sexist toys and games."

### Kamchatka Magic Toys

C/ San Agustín, 18

📍 Antón Martín (L1)

An alternative toy store selling wooden educational toys that are handmade and eco-friendly.

### Mon Petit Retro

C/ San Andrés, 2

📍 Tribunal (L1, L10) and Bilbao (L1, L4)

For families who love all things vintage: clothes, accessories, toys, decorative items, books, stationery and much more from the 1950s to the 80s.



### Lobo Feliz

C/ San Mateo, 28

📍 Tribunal (L1, L10) and Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10)

An educational toy store specialising in items that stimulate children's imagination, from rockers, puppets and puzzles to wooden toys.

"A magical place in Malasaña that you won't leave empty-handed."



Batavia



Abolea

## Restaurants

### Pizzería NAP

C/ Ave María, 19

📍 Antón Martín (L1) and Lavapiés (L3)

C/ Cardenal Cisneros, 38

📍 Quevedo (L2), Iglesia (L1) and Bilbao (L1, L4)

Their authentic Neapolitan pizzas are popular with both adults and children.

### Abolea

C/ Sandoval, 10-12

📍 Quevedo (L2).

Bilbao (L1, L4) and San Bernardo (L2, L4)

Meals in a bowl bursting with colour and packed with vitamins to prove to the little ones that healthy does not mean boring.

### Batavia

C/ Sagasta, 18

📍 Bilbao (L1, L4) and Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10)

A great selection of sandwiches, salads and other healthy fare.

## Crepes & Waffles

C/ Fuencarral, 105

📍 Bilbao (L1, L4)

Boasting a rustic French décor, this crêperie serves delicious lunches, dinners and afternoon snacks.

## Educational spaces

### Casa de Fieras

C/ Castelló, 70B

📍 Núñez de Balboa (L5, L9) and Lista (L4)

We're all *fieras* (or talented) at something, and here children and parents are invited to use art, music and yoga to boost their creativity.

### Grey Elephant

C/ de los Mancebos, 17

📍 La Latina (L5)

Their goal is to stimulate creativity through art, music and bilingual workshops in English.

# where to sleep

There's so much to see and do in Madrid that by the end of the day you'll be longing for a comfy bed in which to get a good night's sleep. Covering all categories from blowout luxury to budget basic, the city has a wide choice of accommodation options, including great business hotels, hotels with pools or gyms, LGBTQ+ friendly hotels, charming *hostales* (budget hotels), youth hostels and guesthouses.

Gran Meliá  
Palacio de los Duques



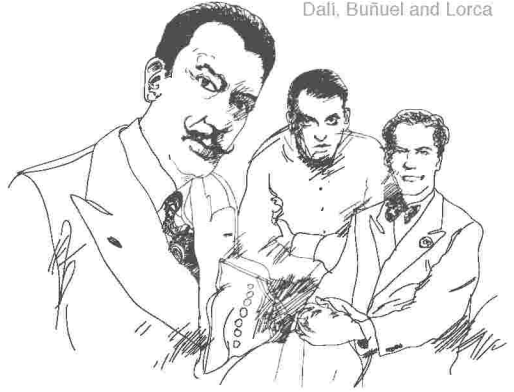
## Let Madrid pamper you

Madrid is home to almost 800 hotels but there's always room for more, which is why new ones pop up across the city every year. Internationally renowned chains such as **Four Seasons** and **Pestana** - the largest Portuguese hotel chain in the world - have opened hotels in the Spanish capital. Other recent newcomers include the first **Bless Collection Hotel**, **Hard Rock Hotel Madrid**, **Aloft Gran Vía** and the **RIU Plaza España**.

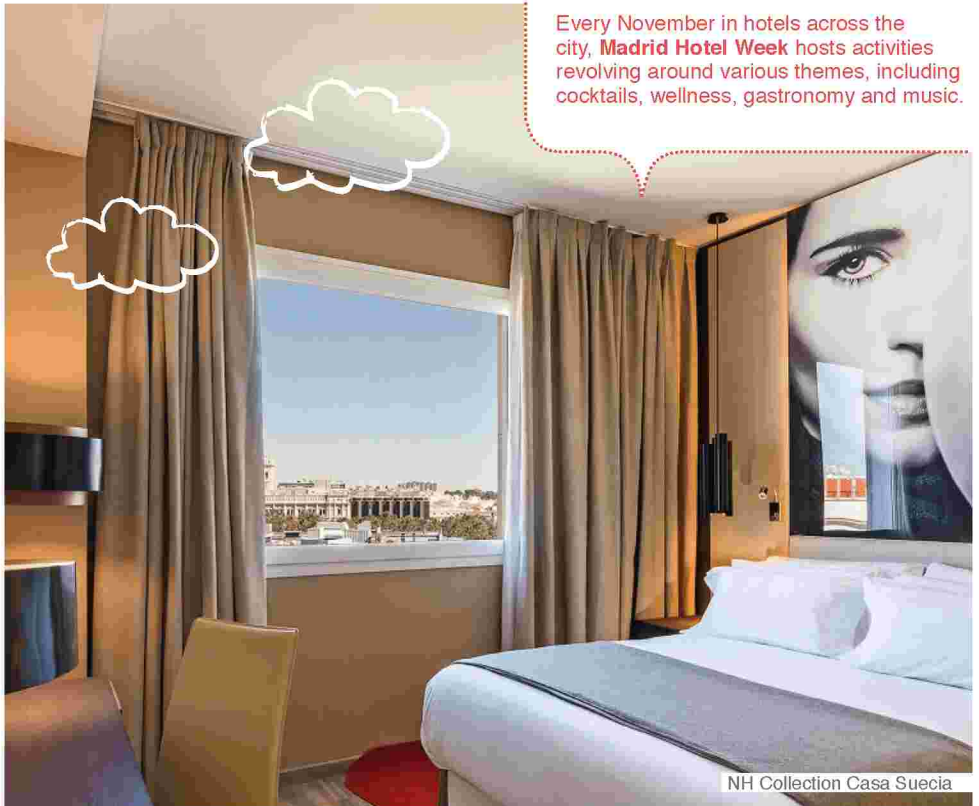
Many of Madrid's hotels offer more than just a place to turn in after a busy day sightseeing, from top-notch restaurants and live concerts in their lobbies to fabulous vistas from their rooftop terraces. Many have recently become a trendy alternative to conventional bars and restaurants, so we recommend you book in advance to avoid disappointment.

Did you know that you can stay at the legendary **Residencia de Estudiantes**? Located next to the National Museum of Natural Science, it's the same halls of residence where **Lorca**, **Dalí** and **Buñuel** lived back in the day.

Dalí, Buñuel and Lorca



Every November in hotels across the city, **Madrid Hotel Week** hosts activities revolving around various themes, including cocktails, wellness, gastronomy and music.



NH Collection Casa Suecia

## Artiem Madrid, “Hotel Feliz” Award Winner

C/ Juan Pérez Zúñiga, 20

📍 Barrio de la Concepción (L7)

The Madrid City Council has decided to honor this 4-star hotel for its sustainable business model which encourages its employees' personal and professional growth. Its environmental commitment also includes energy efficiency measures, reduced water usage and waste management.



Hotel Artiem Madrid



In the **Accessible Tourism Guide** available online at [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com), you can find out which hotels offer rooms adapted for guests with reduced mobility.



**Lorenzo Caprile**

@lorenzocaprile



## \* Lorenzo Caprile's top picks

One of Spain's most prestigious fashion designers, over the years Caprile has dressed celebrities and other important figures. What many people don't know about him, though, is that he's an expert in hotels. Finding it a lot more convenient than having his own house, he's been living in a hotel for the past ten years!

“When I recommend a hotel I take two things into account: whether it's conveniently located, and whether it offers something special like amazing views, a nice place to walk, quiet surroundings...”

### Hostels

#### The Hat

C/ Imperial, 9

📍 Tirso de Molina (L1)  
A renovated 19th-century mansion. If you like its modern, functional and ecological design, wait until you get to the rooftop!

#### Safestay Madrid

C/ Sagasta, 22

📍 Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10), Tribunal (L1, L10) and Bilbao (L1, L4)

This hotel-cum-hostel adapts to the size of your party: their rooms, which are mainly exterior with balconies, can accommodate between 2 and 12 guests.

#### Hostal Oriente

C/ Arenal, 23

📍 Ópera (L2, L5, R)

Its two strong points are: its proximity to numerous tourist spots and its spectacular views of the Teatro Real opera house.

#### Velázquez 45 by Pillow

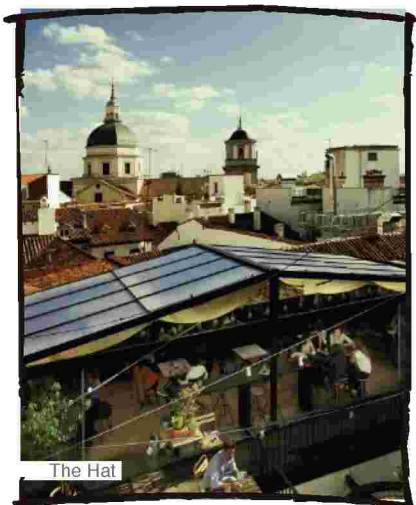
C/ Velázquez, 45

📍 Serrano

and Velázquez (L4)

A stone's throw from Paseo del Prado, the Puerta de Alcalá gate and Plaza de Colón, this quiet hostel is conveniently located near a public carpark.





The Hat



Petit Palace

Posada del Peine

"This refurbished traditional hotel is wonderful. Friends of mine who are figurine makers have stayed here because it's right next to Pontejos and that's where we like to shop."

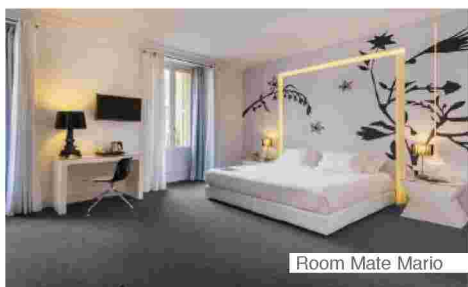
## Mid-range hotels

### Room Mate Mario

C/ Campomanes, 4  
 ☑ Ópera (L2, L5, R)  
 Affordable prices and personalised treatment: you'll feel right at home in this old 19th-century building! Only 50 metres away from Plaza de Oriente.

### Petit Palace Posada del Peine

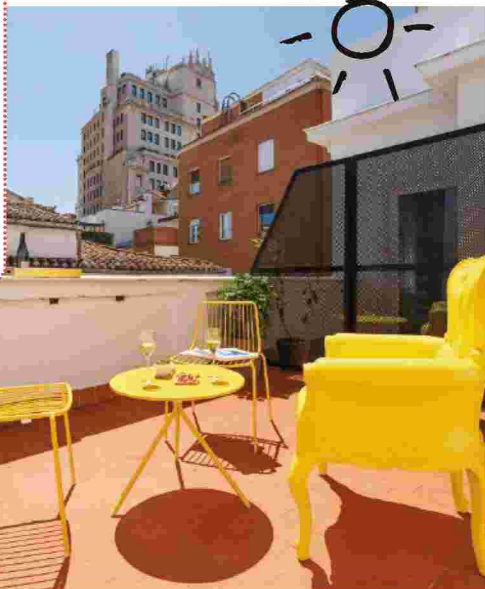
C/ Postas, 17  
 ☑ Sol (L1, L2, L3)  
 This is Spain's oldest hotel. Its unbeatable location next to Plaza Mayor coupled with its modern interior make it a great place to stay.



Room Mate Mario

### The Walt Madrid

C/ Barco, 3  
 ☑ Gran Vía (L1, L5) and Callao (L3, L5)  
 The clients of this B&B enjoy discounts in a nearby gym and car park. Located just 150 metres away from Gran Vía!



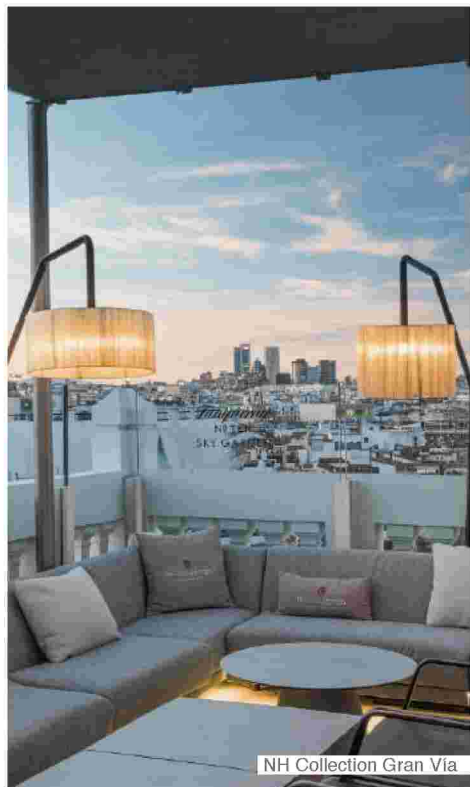
The Walt Madrid

### Mediodía

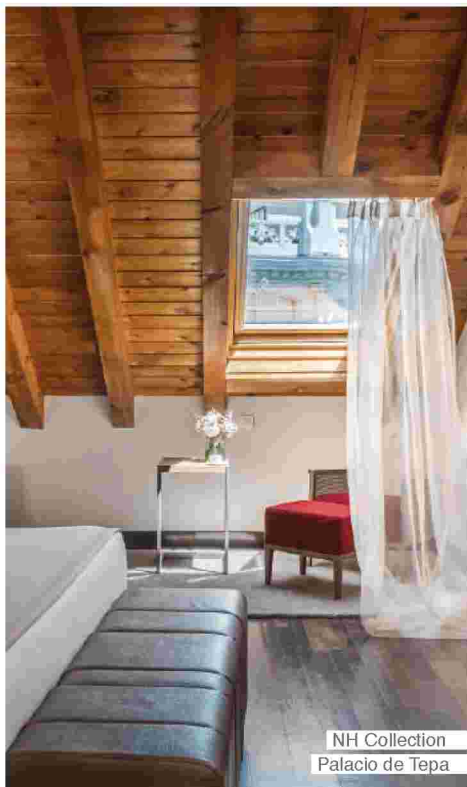
Plaza del Emperador Carlos V, 8  
 ☑ Estación del Arte (L1)  
 Most of its rooms have a balcony with views. Its majestic Neo-Classical façade is eye-catching.

### Ibis Madrid Centro

C/ Manuela Malasaña, 6  
 ☑ Bilbao (L1, L4) and San Bernardo (L2, L4)  
 Located in the heart of Malasaña. It has free Wi-Fi, a breakfast buffet and a wide range of leisure, shopping and cultural options in the surrounding area.



NH Collection Gran Vía



NH Collection  
Palacio de Tepa

## High-end hotels

### Hotel Mayorazgo

C/ de la Flor Baja, 3

📍 Plaza de España (L3, L10) and Santo Domingo (L2)

A Classical-style hotel and the perfect option if you're here on business as it has several event halls.

### NH Collection Gran Vía

C/ Gran Vía, 21

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5)

Rooms with all types of amenities on Gran Vía. Enjoy one of the best views of the centre of Madrid from its rooftop restaurant, Picalagartos Sky-Bar.

### NH Collection Madrid Suecia

C/ Marqués de Casa Riera, 4

📍 Banco de España and Sevilla (L2)

100% smoke-free. The panoramic views from its rooftop and the Cocktail Bar Hemingway which you enter through a secret door are particular highlights.



Hotel Mayorazgo



NH Collection  
Madrid Suecia

"The rooftop and the hidden bar of the NH Collection Madrid Suecia are great."



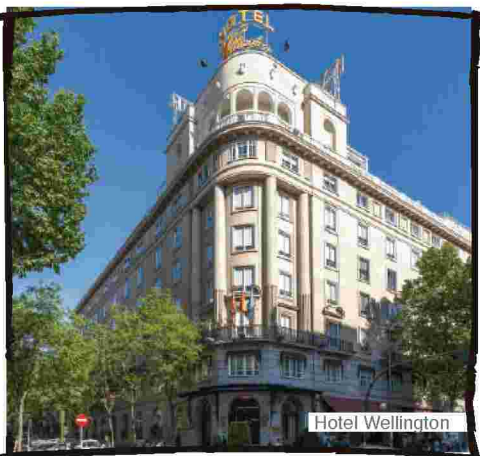
Hotel Serrano



Only YOU  
Hotel Atocha

### Only YOU Hotel Atocha

Paseo de la Infanta Isabel, 13  
 Estación del Arte (L1) and Atocha (L1)  
 Situated opposite Atocha Station and just a few metres away from the Paseo del Prado, it has a gym, private parking, conference rooms and a spectacular lobby with a barber's.



Hotel Wellington

### NH Collection Palacio de Tropa

C/ San Sebastián, 2  
 Antón Martín and Tirso de Molina (L1)  
 Located in the heart of the Barrio de las Letras, this luxury hotel was once a mansion. It still retains some architectural elements from the 18th century.

### Hotel Wellington

C/ Velázquez, 8  
 Retiro (L2), Príncipe de Vergara (L2, L9) and Velázquez (L4)  
 A wonderful option for fans of old-school glamour, this five-star hotel has a luxurious spa and even houses a Michelin-star restaurant: Kabuki Wellington.

### Barceló Torre de Madrid

Plaza de España, 18  
 Plaza de España (L3, L10) and Ventura Rodríguez (L3)  
 Located in Torre de Madrid, one of the historic skyscrapers of the city, it has a sophisticated bar in the lobby and a restaurant with views of the Gran Vía. Interiors designed by Jaime Hayón.



### Hotel Serrano

C/ Marqués de Villamejor, 8  
 Rubén Darío (L5) and Núñez de Balboa (L5, L9)  
 Located in the heart of the Barrio de Salamanca, Serrano is a great choice if you're looking for a quiet hotel and an even better option if you're planning on hitting the shops.



A room at the  
Relais & Châteaux Orfila

## Relais & Châteaux Orfila

C/ Orfila, 6

📍 Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10) and Colón (L4)  
Its furnishings will take you back in time to the 19th century. With all the amenities of a modern hotel, this is the sole Madrid establishment of the prestigious Relais & Châteaux chain.

## Gran Meliá Palacio de los Duques

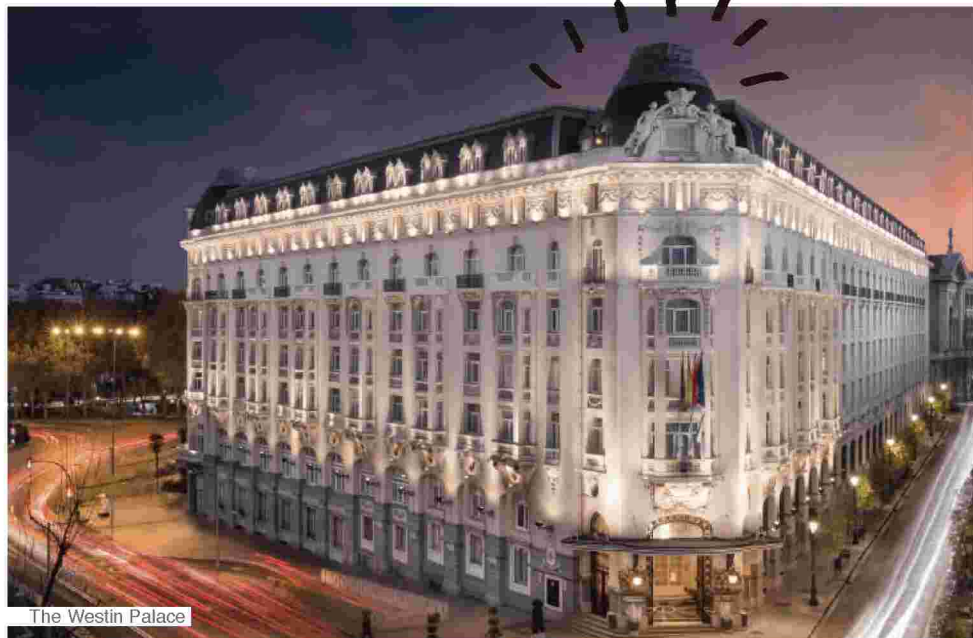
Cuesta de Santo

Domingo 5-7

📍 Plaza de España (L3, L10) and Ventura Rodríguez (L3)  
Located near the Royal Palace, everything is carefully arranged right down to the last detail: the garden, the decoration, the incredible breakfasts and a rooftop with great views of the city.



Gran Meliá  
Palacio de los Duques




The Westin Palace



## The Westin Palace

Plaza de las Cortes, 7

 Banco de España and Sevilla (L2)

One of Madrid's iconic hotels, and a frequent haunt of artists and politicians. Don't miss the spectacular stained glass dome of its restaurant, La Rotonda.

## Gran Hotel Inglés

C/ Echegaray, 8

 Sevilla (L2)

This 5-star establishment in Barrio de las Letras is located a stone's throw from Paseo del Arte. Boasting a lavish art-deco design and fantastic service, it also has a wonderful restaurant, Lobo, run by chef Willy Moya.



Gran Hotel Inglés

madrid

# lgbtq+

Culture, food, architecture, the sun... There are a million reasons to visit Madrid! A top destination for LGBTQ+ travellers, it's a fun, welcoming and respectful city where diversity is a defining feature of everyday life. Since Spain legalised gay marriage in 2005, its capital has become a beacon of hope and diversity and an example to follow for other cities, because whoever you love, Madrid loves you!



Puerta de Alcalá gate  
with LGBTQ+ colours



## Chueca

In the 1980s members of the LGBTQ+ community started settling down in Chueca, and since then the neighbourhood has been held up as an example by LGBTQ+ people the world over. One of the most vibrant areas in Madrid, it is filled with art galleries, designer boutiques, eateries and outdoor bars and cafés. Particularly popular spots are Plaza de Chueca and Plaza de Pedro Zerolo, named after one of the country's greatest LGBT activists.

## Lavapiés and La Latina

But Chueca is not the only neighbourhood that is drawing members of the LGBTQ+ community. Lavapiés and La Latina have always been great areas to head to for drinks and tapas but over the past few years they have become true examples of integration and tolerance. Many LGBT-friendly establishments have recently sprung up, turning these two multicultural districts into popular destinations for the community.

WHOEVER  
YOU LOVE,  
MADRID  
LOVES  
you 



Gay Pride in  
Plaza de Cibeles



## 40 years of Gay Pride

Madrid Pride, held at the end of June and beginning of July, is attended by more than a million people every year and is considered one of the best in the world. It consists of ten days of concerts, cultural festivities, social activities and a large march in support of everyone's right to sexual self-determination.

Our city hosted the World Pride in 2017, but the first Madrid Pride march, which brought together some 7,000 people, took place on 25 June 1978, more than 40 years ago. Since then, Madrid has continued to embrace the growing movement for respect and inclusion.



© cara-A-cara

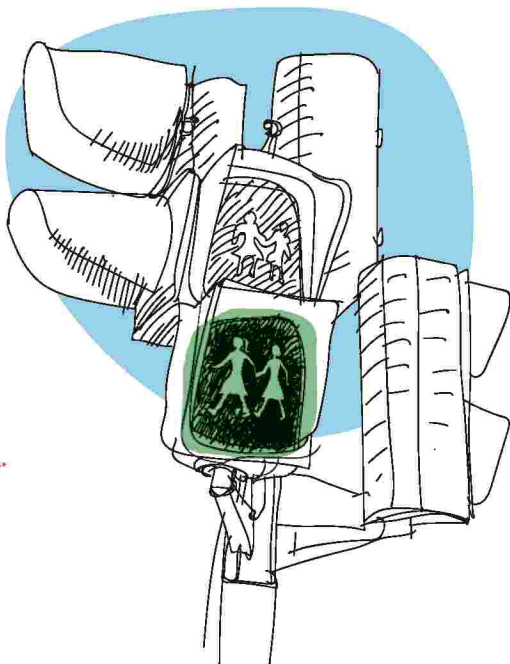
"Let's not forget other, lesser-known Gay Pride Festivals such as those of Vallecas, Fuenlabrada and Getafe, which are more intimate and with more of a neighbourhood vibe, but are just as inclusive." La Prohibida



© cara-A-cara



Cibeles Palace



The LGBTQ+ friendly traffic lights have become one of Madrid's new symbols. They were installed on the occasion of the World Pride celebrations, to depict an inclusive and diverse city.





### La Prohibida

@laprohibida



Madrid Pride is its people, the men and women of Madrid. That's what makes it so special."

## \* La Prohibida's top picks

### Events

#### Drag Attack

Check location and dates at [dragattackmadrid.com](http://dragattackmadrid.com). Wigs, heels, glitter and DJs dressed as drag queens. An attack of fun!

#### Gay Day

September  
Celebrate diversity with your family at the Parque de Atracciones amusement park in Madrid!

#### MadBear

December  
A week of partying and a lot of fun. Especially for bears!

### LesGaiCineMad

November

The most important LGBTQ+ themed film festival for Spanish-speaking countries.



### Parties

#### We party

Sala Riviera  
Paseo Bajo de la Virgen del Puerto

📍 Puerta del Ángel (L6)  
A landmark location for LGBTQ+ parties! With shows, international DJs, house and electro music, and above all, hunks. The Pride and New Year's Eve sessions are the most famous ones.

### Tanga Party

Sala But

📍 Barceló, 11

📍 Tribunal (L1, L10)

The pop alternative on Sundays. Popular tracks of today and all time, for you to dance your heart out to at least one Sunday every month.

### Churros con Chocolate

Sala Tirso

Plaza de Tirso de Molina, 1

📍 Tirso de Molina (L1)

On Sunday evenings, it's time for *churros con chocolate*: a fun party with music, shows... and evening tea.



Churros con Chocolate

I'm going to say **Churros con Chocolate** because it's a marvellous event and has everything a party should have."

"Madrid has a unique welcoming nature."

## Ultrapop

Sala Boite

C/ Tetuán, 27

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5) and Sol (L1, L2, L3)

A festival dominated by pop, although there's also some house and reggaeton. There are live acts and drag shows every Friday.

## Kluster

Sala Changó

C/ Covarrubias, 42

📍 Bilbao (L1, L4), Iglesia (L1) and Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10)

One of the most hardcore and daring gay parties: dance and techno sessions with international DJs to make you dance shirtless on Saturdays! Mixed attendance.

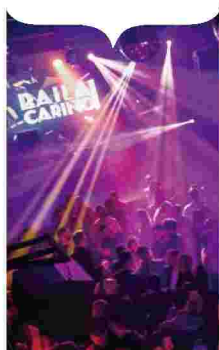
## Baila, cariño!

Sala Cool

C/ Isabel la Católica, 6

📍 Santo Domingo (L2)

Great atmosphere, a lot of pop.... It's no wonder it fills up every Saturday. Its name says it all: Dance, darling!



## Cuenca club

Pirandello

C/ Ventura Rodríguez, 7

📍 Ventura Rodríguez (L3) and Plaza de España (L3, L10)

Three rooms, three atmospheres. A classic club and a favourite among youngsters on Fridays and Saturdays. If you're from the Spanish town of Cuenca, entry is free!

## Bearbie

Plaza de Pedro Zerolo, 2

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5) and Chueca (L5)

The first and only pop disco for bears! Saturdays from 3am onwards with two floors of great music: kitschy *petardeo* upstairs, techno pop downstairs.

## Clubs

### Black & White by La Plexy

C/ Libertad, 34

📍 Chueca (L5)

A legendary Chueca club with two different areas: one that's quieter and another for dancing all night long!

### Escape

C/ Gravina, 13

📍 Chueca (L5)

A club for girls offering different music and live shows.

## LL Bar

C/ Pelayo, 11

📍 Chueca (L5)

24 years of offering what they're great at: fun! With daily drag and stripper shows.



## Enfrente

C/ de las Infantas, 12

C/ Libertad, 34

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5)

and Chueca (L5)

Lavapiés' most modern bar for bears, with different musical styles: pop, rock, indie, house... Average age: 35 years.

## Fulanita de Tal

C/ Regueros, 9

C/ Libertad, 28

📍 Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10) and Chueca (L5)

Approaching its 10th anniversary, this popular club for lesbians also stages concerts.



## Accommodation

### Hostal Pizarro

C/ Pizarro, 13 and 14

📍 Noviciado and Santo Domingo (L2)

LGBTQ+ friendly hostel located right where the action is. It's a great place to meet new people.

### Hostal La Zona

C/ Valverde, 7

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5)

Well-lit rooms and attentive staff in an unbeatable location.

### Pensión Chueca

C/ Gravina, 4

📍 Chueca (L5)

This 2-star guest house with eight bedrooms will make you feel right at home. Only 50 metres away from the Plaza de Chueca!

### Axel Hotel Madrid

C/ Atocha, 49

📍 Antón Martín (L1)

Axel, the first LGBTQ+ chain of hotels, defines itself as hetero-friendly. Its '80s decor and the spectacular rooftop are the highlights of this hotel located in the Literary Quarter. Only for adults!



Restaurant  
Vivares



Fulanita de Tal

## Only YOU Boutique Hotel

C/ Barquillo, 21

📍 Chueca (L5)

This former mansion boasts an exuberant and eclectic design. Highlights include its bar-bookstore, the lounge and its garden restaurant, Younique. Even if you are not staying here, it's worth stopping by for a drink.

## Room Mate Oscar

Plaza de Pedro Zerolo, 12

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5)

and Chueca (L5)

Boutique designer hotel in the heart of Chueca with an avant-garde design; every room is inspired by something different. Must-see: the sunset from its rooftop.

## Relaxation

### Piscina Lago

Centro Deportivo Municipal

Casa de Campo

Paseo Puerta del Ángel, 7

📍 Lago (L10)

A prejudice-free environment is guaranteed in this public pool which is popular among the LGBTQ+ community.

### Swimming pool of the Complutense University of Madrid

C/ Obispo Trejo, 8

📍 Ciudad

Universitaria (L6)

and Moncloa (L3, L6)

A wonderful natural environment in Ciudad Universitaria. To access the pool, you must either have a university ID or be accompanied by someone who does.



Rooftop of  
Room Mate Oscar

## Eating out

### Vivares

C/ Hortaleza, 52

📍 Chueca (L5)

Traditional food with Mediterranean and Extremadura influences in a bright and eclectic eatery. Check out the ceiling!

### El Rincón Guay

C/ Embajadores, 62

📍 Lavapiés and

Embajadores (L3)

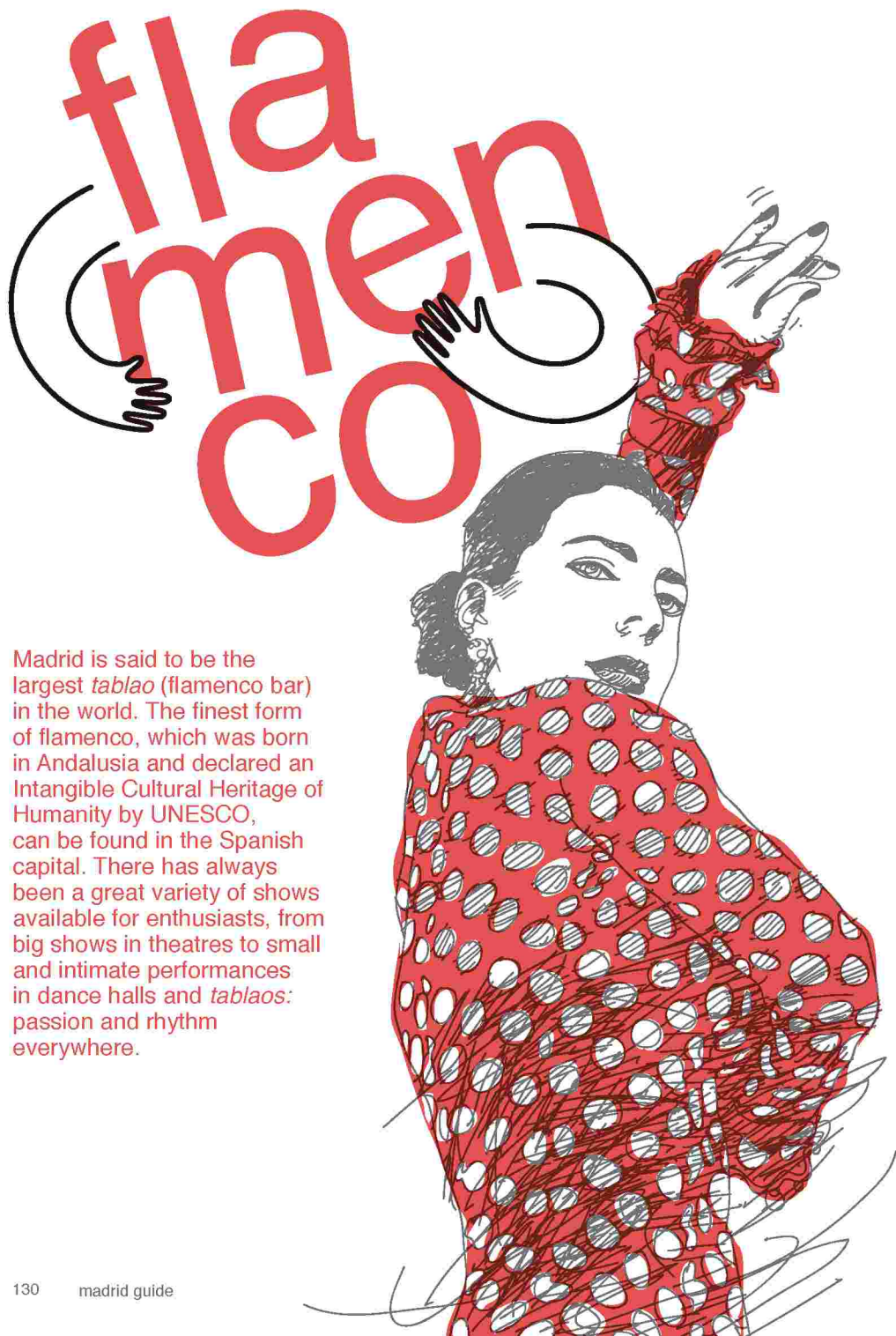
Situated in the heart of Lavapiés, their kitchen is open 24 hours.



El Rincón Guay



Axel Hotel  
Madrid



Madrid is said to be the largest *tablaos* (flamenco bar) in the world. The finest form of flamenco, which was born in Andalusia and declared an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO, can be found in the Spanish capital. There has always been a great variety of shows available for enthusiasts, from big shows in theatres to small and intimate performances in dance halls and *tablaos*: passion and rhythm everywhere.

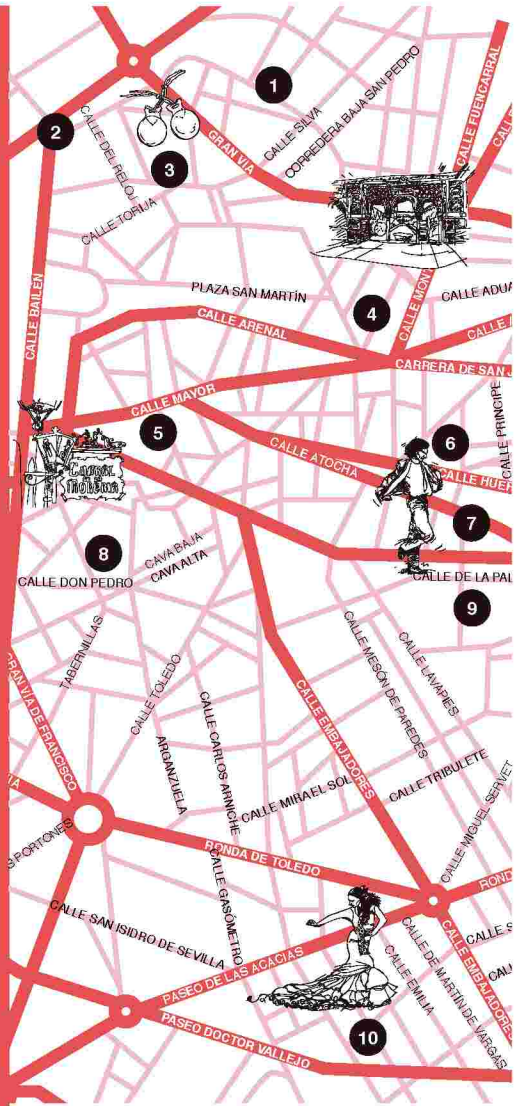


Madrid is full of important *tablaos* that have a long tradition and history, such as the **Corral de la Morería**, which holds the Cante de las Minas International Festival and is widely considered to be the best in the world. Its walls are imbued with magic and history, and who wouldn't want to visit the spot where Ava Gardner used to flirt with Luis Miguel Dominguín in front of Frank Sinatra?

To really understand flamenco, you have to see it up close. Because in a *tablao*, the song and dance, the closeness to the artists, the voices, the hand claps and the tap of the heels transmit the mystery of flamenco in a unique manner. When you arrive in Madrid, check the listings and choose a show, or perhaps you'd like to make an impromptu visit to **Casa Patas** for a drink with no booking required. Or you could visit the legendary **Candela** where the dancing continues into the early hours. Another option is to look for a *peña* (a flamenco club) or a cultural association where you can attend flamenco recitals in the company of those who are true connoisseurs: an authentic experience is guaranteed in all these places.



Candela



1. Teatro Flamenco
2. Las Tablas
3. Café de Chinitas
4. Torres Bermejas
5. Las Carboneras
6. Villa Rosa
7. Casa Patas
8. Corral de la Morería
9. Candela
10. Café Ziryab



More information in the section on Flamenco at [esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)



## A little bit of history

Back in 1700 there were already gypsies and *tonadilleros* (singers of *tonadillas*) performing in the streets of Madrid. But this folk music started undergoing commercialisation in the mid-19th century, with the rise of *café cantantes* (cafés with live singing) and flamenco parties. Migration from Andalusia brought a thriving flamenco scene to the capital and gypsy artists, singers and dancers went on to create a flamenco school of dance. In the 1920s, flamenco was regularly performed in Madrid theatres like Romea and Maravillas by such greats as La Niña de los Peines, Pastora Imperio and Manolo Caracol. By the 1950s flamenco artists were reaching even greater heights of fame thanks to the rise of film and music records. Making it in Madrid was a ticket to fame and fortune.



A flamenco troupe  
Madrid, 1921

## Flamenco venues

### Casa Patas

C/ Cañizares, 10

Antón Martín and  
Tirso de Molina (L1)

A *taberna*-restaurant with flamenco shows, this is an iconic venue for flamenco in Madrid.

### Candela

C/ del Olmo, 2

Antón Martín and  
Tirso de Molina (L1)

A name synonymous with authentic flamenco: frequented by *payos* (non-gypsies) and *gitanos* (gypsies) into the wee small hours of the morning.

### Centro Cultural Flamenco de Madrid

C/ Conde de Xiquena, 6

Chueca (L5) and Colón (L4)

A new space for flamenco in Madrid which organises exhibitions, shows and various activities related to flamenco culture.

### Las Tablas

Plaza de España, 9

Plaza de España (L3, L10)

Every night of the year there are two sessions of song, dance and pure flamenco.



Café de Chinitas

© Nacho Casares

### Café de Chinitas

C/ Torija, 7

Santo Domingo (L2)

The greatest names in the genre have all passed through this iconic venue, including José Mercé who gave his first performance here.

### Corral de la Morería

C/ Morería, 17

La Latina (L5)

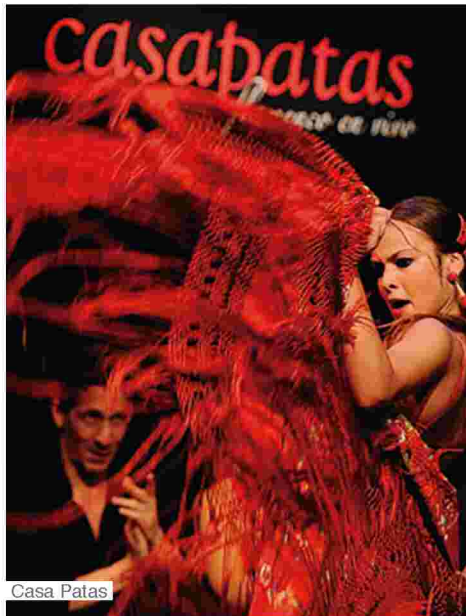
Founded in 1956, this *tablaó* offers daily shows and boasts a Michelin-star restaurant.

### Las Carboneras

Plaza del Conde de Miranda, 1

La Latina (L5) and Ópera (L2, L5, R)

A restaurant which combines an *avant-garde* space with the best of modern-day flamenco.



Casa Patas

## Torres Bermejas

C/ Mesonero Romanos, 11

📍 Callao (L3, L5)

Also called the cathedral of flamenco, due to its unique decorations and exhilarating programme.

## Villa Rosa

Plaza de Santa Ana, 15

📍 Sol (L1, L2 and L3) and

Sevilla (L2)

Founded in 1911, Madrid's oldest tablao holds shows every day. It is still decorated with the original tiles.



© Daniel Carbonell

## Café Ziryab

Paseo de la Esperanza, 17

📍 Acacias (L3, L5)

Great flamenco, good tapas and a programme which showcases new talents as well as renowned artistes.

## Teatro Flamenco

C/ Pez, 10

📍 Callao (L3, L5)

and Noviciado (L2)

Madrid's only theatre dedicated solely to flamenco. Art in its purest form.



Torres Bermejas

The only theatre dedicated to flamenco, an imitation of the legendary 19th-century *cafés cantantes*.

OLÉ!



Teatro Flamenco



© Daniel Carbonell

Café Ziryab



## Basic flamenco terms

### AFICIONADO

A person who loves and understands flamenco.

### A PALO SECO

Singing without guitar accompaniment.

### ARRANCARSE (POR)

To begin singing or dancing.

### BULERÍA

A cheerful and lively variety of flamenco.

### CANTE JONDO

It comes from the word *hondo*, meaning deep, with the h sound drawn out like a j. It refers to songs delivered with profound emotion.

### “OLÉ !”

If you want to applaud a great performance delivered with emotion, you say *¡olé!*

### PALMAS

Claps that accompany the song and dance to maintain the rhythm. They can be soft and dull (with the hands cupped) or sharp and dry (with the palms flat).

### PALOS

Different varieties of flamenco songs.

### ZAPATEADO

Two-step dance with rhythmic percussion made by stamping the feet.

## Festivals

Madrid lives and breathes flamenco. That is the essence of the promotional video made for Flamenco Madrid, a superb festival which is held every year in the Fernán Gómez - Centro Cultural de la Villa theatre. Featuring a flamenco version of Agustín Lara's classic chotis *Madrid* and spectacular visuals, the video – which has received 17 international awards - wonderfully illustrates how flamenco runs through the city's veins.



Watch the video  
*Flamenco Madrid* here



A still from the video  
*Flamenco Madrid*

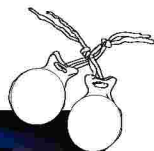
### Flamenco Madrid

May-June  
Fernán Gómez  
Centro Cultural  
de la Villa  
Plaza de Colón, 4  
Colón and Serrano  
(L4)

More than 40 shows, workshops, exhibitions and films. Madrid's big yearly date with flamenco takes place at the Fernán Gómez!

### Suma Flamenca

June  
Teatros del Canal  
C/ Cea Bermúdez, 1  
Canal (L2, L7) and  
Ríos Rosas (L1)  
A landmark festival that showcases all the elements of this genre. It is held principally at the Teatros del Canal.



Las Tablas



“What I like most about Madrid is that it embraces all who come here. No one’s an outsider, it doesn’t matter where you’re from, the prevailing feeling is one of hospitality and the desire to create a city with a good atmosphere that’s pleasant to live in”



**Antonio Lizana**  
@antoniolizanamusic  
f i t

Young flamenco singer and saxophone player from Cádiz who has already made his mark on the world stage. As a soloist and jointly with his band, he has taken flamenco and Latin tastes to people around the world. Here he tells us about his favourite flamenco hangouts in Madrid.

## \* Antonio Lizana’s top picks

### Centro de arte flamenco y danza española Amor de Dios

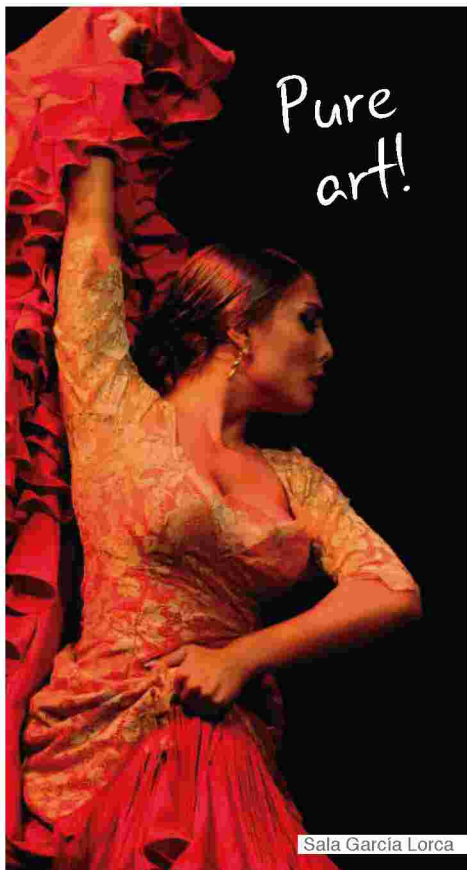
C/ Santa Isabel, 5  
 📍 Antón Martín (L1)  
 A centre for flamenco and Spanish dance classes, it is also a meeting place for professionals and fans alike.

### Círculo Flamenco de Madrid (Off Latina)

C/ Mancebos, 4  
 📍 La Latina (L5)  
 A private non-profit organisation which works for the promotion of flamenco culture, it stages high-quality concerts every Thursday.

### Sala García Lorca

C/ Cañizares, 10  
 📍 Antón Martín and Tirso de Molina (L1)  
 Unique concerts presented by the Casa Patas Foundation which is committed to promoting the art of flamenco in all its forms.



Pure art!

Sala García Lorca

## Buying a Spanish guitar

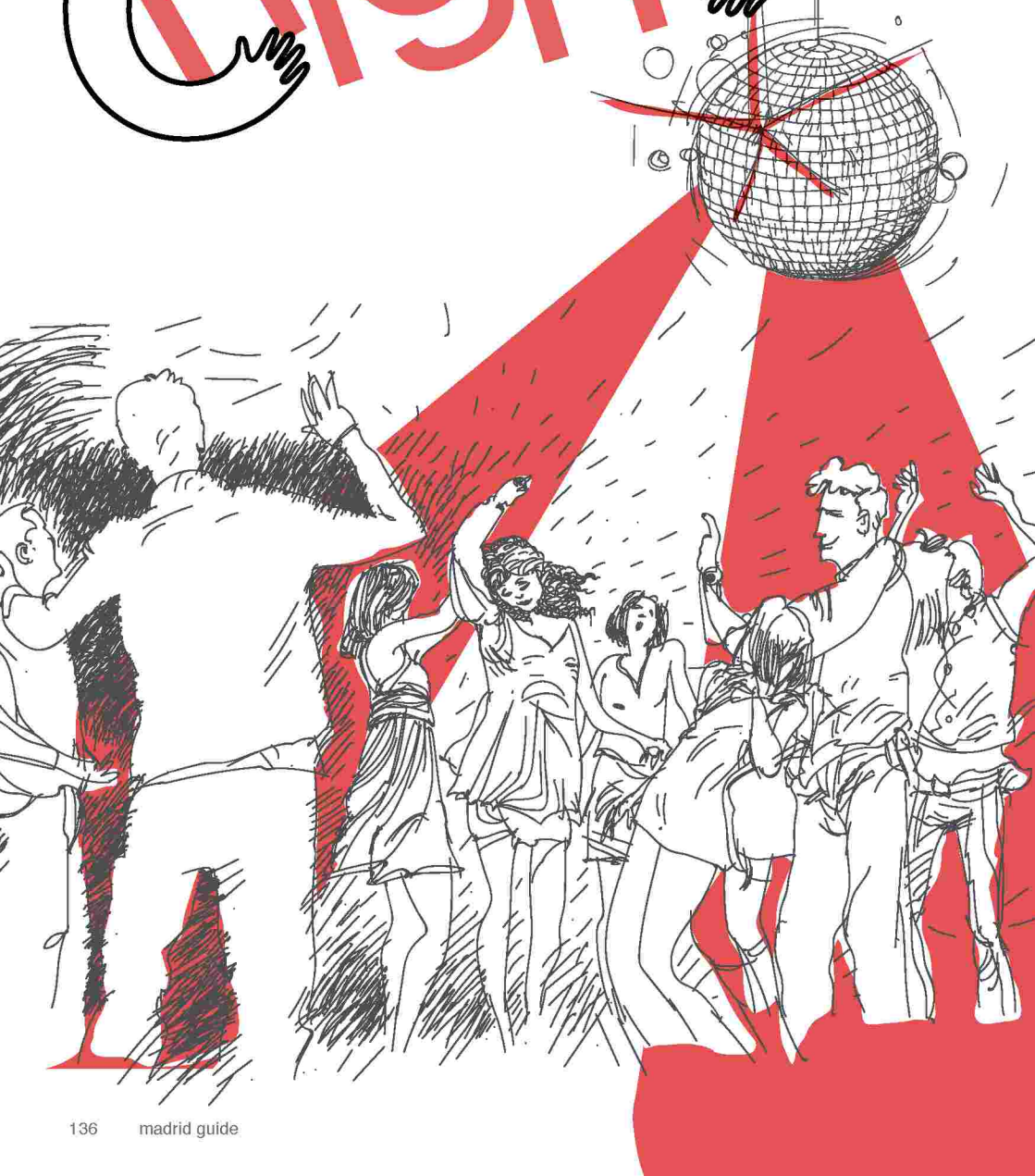
Shopping for a Spanish guitar in the stores and *luthiers* of Madrid de los Austrias (Hapsburg Madrid) can be quite the experience. The craftsmen who have made guitars for the stars have their workshops in the shadows of these old streets. A stroll through them will take you on a trip to the universe of music.

### Guitarrería Mariano Conde

C/ Amnistía, 1  
 📍 Ópera (L2, L5 and R)  
 Run by fourth-generation guitar makers.



madrid  
**nights**





## Clubbing areas

When the sun goes down, the fun continues on the streets of Madrid. Madrid nightlife is so full of possibilities that you could easily begin with an evening drink at an open-air bar and end up greeting the dawn with chocolate and *churros*.

Begin a night that has no end in the bars of Malasaña and Chueca. The Barrio de las Letras is full of live music. After dinner, have a cocktail to end the night... or to begin it. Your choice! There are hundreds of speciality bars in Madrid that have brought mixology back into fashion. Continue to the pubs and clubs in the city centre or in the Barrio de Salamanca, if you prefer something a little more sophisticated. The Princesa zone has a more youthful vibe and in Lavapiés and La Latina, there are numerous places where you can dance until your feet fall off. Electro, pop, indie, jazz... Madrid has nights suited to all tastes. Make it your own!

### MALASAÑA

Malasaña has it all: rock and indie rule the roost, but there are plenty of options for those who are looking for electro and pop. Legendary pubs such as **La Vía Láctea** and **Penta** coexist with more recent additions. This is the perfect area to head to for evening drinks and end up dancing until the early hours.

### CHUECA

One of the most popular neighbourhoods for nights out in Madrid! It's also Madrid's signature LGBTQ+ quarter. Chueca is open to anyone looking for a fun night out in a respectful and tolerant environment.

### LAVAPIÉS

Lavapiés is synonymous with fusion. Here you can find a mix of different styles: Latin beats, flamenco, reggae, hip-hop... With offerings just as fun and multicultural as the inhabitants of this neighbourhood. You'll find yourself coming back for more.

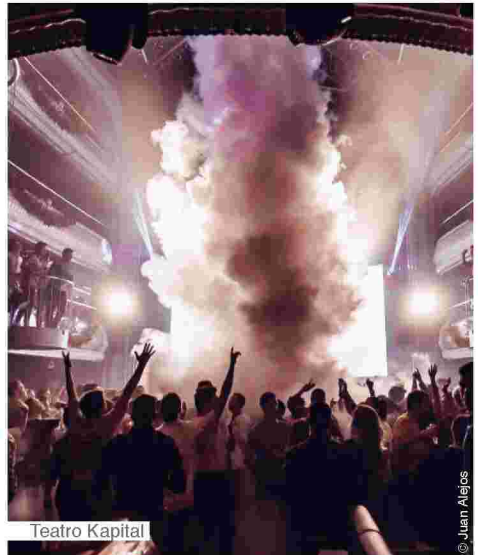
### CENTRE: SOL AND GRAN VÍA

Former theatres such as the **Joy Eslava** that have been repurposed as clubs, karaoke to sing along in, LGBTQ+ bars, the famous **Chicote** cocktail bar, renowned flamenco *tablaos* such as the **Café de Chinitas** and **Torres Bermejas**, and many other options for anyone looking to stay up all night. A varied selection in the heart of Madrid.



Sala Cíamores

© Jaime Masfieu



Teatro Kapital

© Juan Aléxis

## BARRIO DE SALAMANCA

Among its picturesque mansions and designer stores, Salamanca also houses many clubbing options. Begin the night with a cocktail and end it at one of the many fashionable clubs. Get to know people of all ages in an elegant and sophisticated environment.

## LA LATINA

A neighbourhood that receives visitors throughout the day; for tapas in the afternoon, and for a lively bar hopping experience at night. Its large number of bars and clubs means that it's easy to stay out longer than planned... or as long as your body can last. There are nightclubs catering to every taste, LGBTQ+ friendly spots and many flamenco *tablaos*.

## BARRIO DE LAS LETRAS

These streets are buzzing all throughout the week, beginning with the open-air bars and restaurants at the Plaza de Santa Ana through to the establishments on Calle Huertas and Calle Príncipe which are frequented by people of different ages. Jazz is the most popular genre here: **Café Central**, next to the Plaza de Santa Ana, and **Populart** have been catering to this musical style for the past three decades.

## ARGÜELLES

This area has a relaxed and youthful feel given its proximity to the university and schools. There are clubs for commercial music, rock, electronic and also live music. Check out places like **Copérnico** or **Galileo Galilei** for all this and more.



Galileo Galilei

## VALLECAS

By night, heavy metal rules the roost in Vallecas. It's a haven for fans of rock. Its streets play host to a large number of nightclubs that play metal. Rock on forever!

## The Golden Age of mixology

Mixology is in fashion again. This is evident in the opening of many new cocktail bars as well as in the thriving continuation of established classics. Legendary places such as **Museo Chicote**, **Bar Cock** or **Del Diego** and a wave of new arrivals are responsible for keeping the spirit of Pedro Chicote, Madrid's pioneer of mixology, alive. Here, young bartenders have converted mixology into an art form with their innovation and made it an indispensable component of Madrid night out.



The original cocktails of Salmon Guru

## La Noche en Vivo

Jazz, rock, flamenco... There are concerts in Madrid every day. If you like close contact with artists, there are scores of live music spaces. You can listen to anything in these locations: from new talents to bands of long-standing fame in the musical world. Small and medium stages that provide a platform for young artists are an integral component of the capital's selection of entertainment.



Check out the programme of La Noche en Vivo

No matter how far one travels, there are very few cities in the world that are as vibrant as Madrid. It doesn't matter where you come from, it has its arms outstretched just the same.



**Sergio del Amo**  
@delamista

Cultural correspondent. Frequent collaborator with publications such as Time Out Madrid, Mondo Sonoro, Jenesaispop and Esquire, among others. He shuttles back and forth between Barcelona and Madrid, but always finds the time to eat a calamari sandwich and meet up with old friends here.

## Sergio del Amo's top picks

### Cocktails and bars

#### Museo Chicote

C/ Gran Vía, 12  
Gran Vía (L1, L5)  
It was Ava Gardner's favourite haunt during her years in Madrid. She undoubtedly had very, very good taste.



#### Del Diego Cocktail Bar

C/ Reina, 12  
Gran Vía (L1, L5) and Banco de España (L2)  
Whenever I go there, I'm struck dumb by the magic created by the bartenders behind the bar.

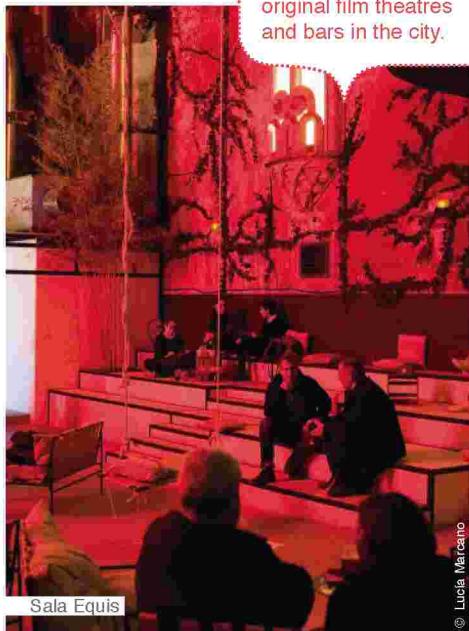
#### La Villana

C/ Padre Damián, 37  
Cuzco (L10)  
Creativity in the serving of drinks. A wonderful space for an after work drink with colleagues.

#### Sala Equis

C/ Duque de Alba, 4  
Tirso de Molina (L1) and La Latina (L5)  
Without doubt, one of the most fashionable places to begin the night. It's also just a stone's throw away from La Latina.

A former porn film theatre, it is currently one of the most original film theatres and bars in the city.



Sala Equis

© Lucía Marzano

#### Bar Cock

C/ Reina, 16  
Gran Vía (L1, L5) and Banco de España (L2)  
A long-standing classic where you can always get a good cocktail.



#### 1862 Dry Bar

C/ Pez, 27  
Noviciado (L2)

A sure bet. A good example of cocktail bars that reinvent themselves to fit in with contemporary times (without losing their essence).

#### Salmon Guru

C/ Echegaray, 21  
Sol (L1, L2, L3) and Antón Martín (L1)  
Neon lights and original cocktails, and always full to the brim. The best of the best!



# Jazz is the star

In Madrid you can find jazz concerts with reasonable entry prices every day of the week. Watch emerging stars and world-class artists like Jorge Pardo, Chano Domínguez, Pedro Iturralde, Perico Sambeat and Javier Colina - regulars of the Madrid jazz scene - perform at legendary intimate venues like Café Central.

## Café Berlín

Costanilla de los  
Ángeles, 20

◆ Santo Domingo  
(L2)

An extraordinary venue where you can experience the best live music from major jazz musicians. Flamenco jam sessions every Wednesday.

## Café Jazz Populart

C/ Huertas, 22

◆ Sol (L 1, L2, L3)  
and Antón Martín (L1)

With more than four decades of history under its belt, it is one of Madrid's classic jazz spaces. Its jam sessions are the stuff of legend.

## Sala Clamores

C/Albuquerque, 14

◆ Bilbao (L1, L4)  
and Quevedo (L2)

If you're looking for a good jazz, R&B or soul concert, look no further.

## Café Central

Plaza del Ángel, 10

◆ Sol (L1, L2, L3)

A classic for live music: jazz, Latin jazz and flamenco are all on offer here right next to the Plaza de Santa Ana.



Café Central



Sala Clamores



Café Berlín

## Karaoke

### Master Plató

Plaza de los Mostenses  
📍 Plaza de España (L3, L10), Santo Domingo and Noviciado (L2)  
A club that makes you think of *Saturday Night Fever* and where fun is guaranteed.

## Nightclubs

### La Riviera

Paseo Bajo de la Virgen del Puerto  
📍 Príncipe Pío (L6, L10, R) and Puerta del Ángel (L6)  
One of the biggest venues in the capital, with performances by both established and rising stars. A must.

### Berlín Cabaret

Costanilla de San Pedro, 11  
📍 La Latina (L5)  
La Latina retains its street cred thanks to places like this.

### Malaba Club

C/ Cardenal Cisneros, 32  
📍 Quevedo (L2) and Bilbao (L1, L4)  
Mandatory if you're looking to surprise somebody on the first date.



### Medias Puri

Plaza de Tirso de Molina, 1  
📍 Tirso de Molina (L1)  
Fashionable club with live shows, cocktails, dancing and much more.

### Ochoymedio

C/ Barceló, 11  
📍 Tribunal (L1, L10)  
Indie is not dead, nor will it ever die. Exemplified by this club with an impeccable programme full of DJ sessions and concerts.



Ochoymedio

© Luis Hiraldo



Puri, of Medias Puri



Teatro Kapital

© Julio Aparisi



Picalagartos Sky Bar

© Álvaro López de Cárro

Dance till dawn!



## Clubs

### Teatro Kapital

C/ Atocha, 125

📍 Estación del Arte (L1)

The gigantic size of its seven floors never fails to impress. If anybody tells you otherwise, they're lying.

### Fabrik

Av/ de la Industria, 82,

Humanes

Bus from Plaza de España for €3.

The best techno music, especially since the most popular DJs always make an appearance at this club.

### Sala El Sol

C/ de los Jardines, 3

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5)

As you descend its spiral staircase, you know that something special awaits. This beloved venue is just as popular as when it opened in 1979.

### Joy Eslava

C/ Arenal, 11

📍 Sol (L1, L2, L3) and Ópera (L2, L5)

Running since 1981 in the centre of Madrid, it is one of the city's most elegant clubs.

## Rooftop bars

### El Viajero

Plaza de la Cebada, 11

📍 La Latina (L5)

A laidback and Bohemian bar on the third floor of this classic establishment in La Latina. The spectacular view of the Basilica of San Francisco El Grande makes it absolutely worth visiting.

### Gymage Lounge Resort

C/ Luna, 2

📍 Callao (L3, L5)

A year-round oasis with deckchairs, a cocktail-bar, beds, coloured lights and a spectacular terrace that looks out over Malasaña.

### Picalagartos Sky Bar

C/ Gran Vía, 21

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5)

It's 360° terrace boasts the best view of the Gran Vía! See for yourself while you enjoy some tapas or a cocktail.

### Radio Rooftop Bar

Hotel ME Madrid Reina Victoria

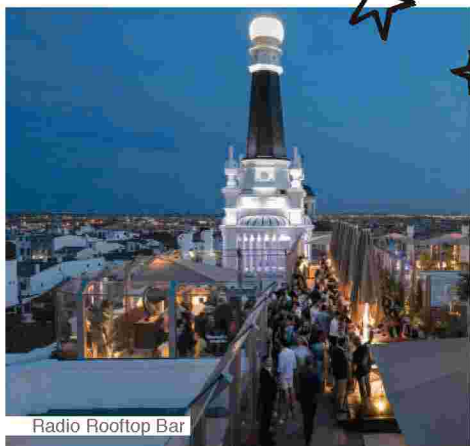
📍 Sol (L1, L2, L3) and Antón Martín (L1)

Comfy chairs, signature cocktails and a great ambience on the rooftop of this hotel in the Plaza de Santa Ana.



Fabrik

© Raúl Sánchez



Radio Rooftop Bar





Galileo Gaiilei

© Paco Merzano



Costello

## Live music

### Wurlitzer Ballroom

C/ Tres Cruces, 12

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5)

Beyond its incredibly central location, it is also one of the most popular venues in the current indie music scene.

### Honky Tonk

C/ Covarrubias, 24

📍 Bilbao (L1, L4) and Alonso Martínez (L4, L5, L10)

Legendary concert hall, and a favourite of the city's thirtysomethings. Never-ending rock.

### Costello

C/ Caballero de Gracia, 10

📍 Gran Vía (L1, L5) and Banco de España (L2)

The hours fly by here. Have a quiet drink or find yourself amidst a full throttle concert.

### Siroco

C/ San Dimas, 3

📍 San Bernardo (L2, L4) and Noviciado (L2)

All kinds of concerts and music sessions, where what's important is the quality of the music. Every night's an experience.

### Sala Galileo Galilei

C/ Galileo, 100

📍 Canal (L7)

An historical multi-purpose venue. Enjoy a varied programme of comedy, magic and music from tables on the main floor.



Siroco

© Lorena Lucenilla



Honky Tonk

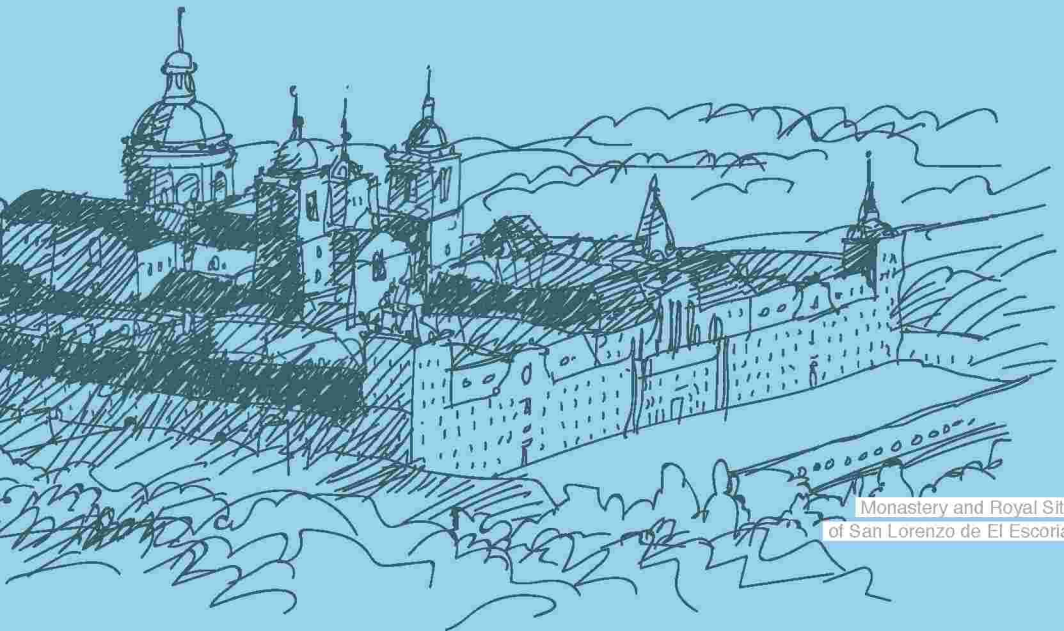
© Cecilia Martínez Losa

day trips from

# ma drid

Madrid is the geographical centre of the country and the hub of its rail network. From here, in less than three hours, high-speed trains take you to Barcelona, León, Sevilla or Málaga, and also to nearby cities such as Toledo, which you

can reach in just half an hour. Madrid is surrounded by cities which are World Heritage Sites, and can be easily accessed by special tourist trains or trains that are part of the Cercanías rail network. Here are a few suggestions!



Monastery and Royal Site  
of San Lorenzo de El Escorial

# Cercanías rail network and tourist trains

## El Escorial

📍 Madrid-Escorial (C-3) from the stations of Chamartín or Atocha RENFE

San Lorenzo de El Escorial is one of the most attractive places for tourists on the outskirts of Madrid. Its main attraction is the **Monasterio y Real Sitio de San Lorenzo de El Escorial**.

Philip II ordered its construction in 1563 and it has been declared a World Heritage Site. On your visit, you'll discover the secrets of the **Palacio de los Austrias** and its gardens, the **Panteón de los Reyes** tomb where the descendants of the Hapsburgs and the Bourbons are buried, the **Basílica** and the **Biblioteca Real** library. If you like hiking, you might consider a trip to the **Royal Seat of Philip II**, located in the Sierra de Guadarrama mountain range. This was where he would sit and observe the progress of the Monastery's construction. Art, nature and history, all a short distance away from Madrid.



Patio de los Reyes

in the Monastery of El Escorial

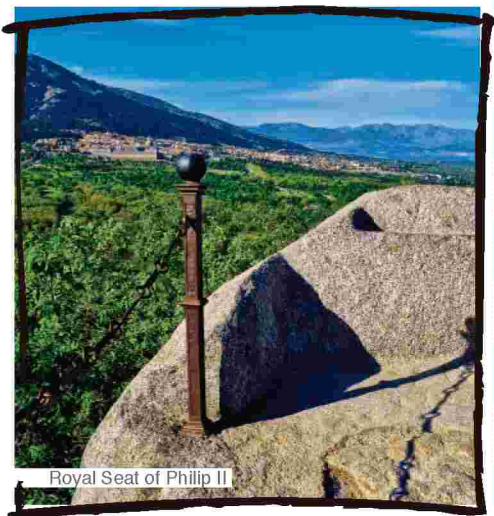
## Aranjuez

📍 Madrid-Aranjuez (C-3) from the stations of Chamartín, Sol or Atocha RENFE

This **Royal Palace**, located on the banks of the Tagus, was the royal retreat for Spanish monarchs when they wanted a break from the din of the city. It is surrounded by the spectacular **Jardín del Parterre**, the **Jardín de la Isla**, and the **Jardín del Príncipe**, which together make up a cultural landscape which has been declared a World Heritage Site. In spring and summer, take a ride on the **Strawberry Train**, a historical train that recreates Madrid's first railway line and where, of course, you can eat strawberries grown in Aranjuez!



Royal Palace of Aranjuez



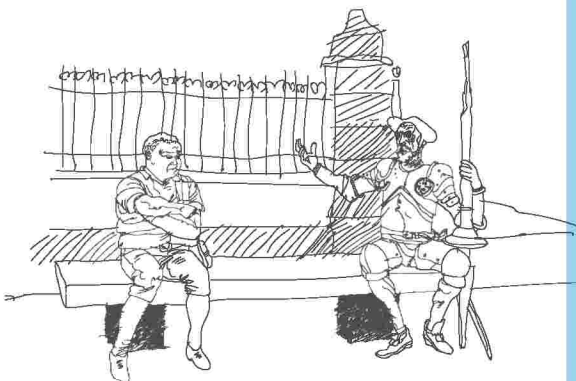
Royal Seat of Philip II

## Alcalá de Henares

📍 Madrid-Alcalá de Henares (C-7) from the stations of Príncipe Pío, Chamartín and Atocha RENFE  
This city is the birthplace of Miguel de Cervantes, one of the greatest writers of all time, and a World Heritage Site since 1998. Alcalá de Henares is the site of one of Spain's first universities. You absolutely have to take a stroll through its streets, especially **Calle Mayor**, visit the **Cathedral** and the **Cervantes House Museum**, and go for tapas. Almost all the bars in Alcalá offer free tapas with drinks! If you'd like to discover the city in a different way, try the **Cervantes Train** in spring and summer, where you'll be accompanied by Don Quijote himself, and other literary characters of the Spanish Golden Age.



Discover more  
tourist trains at  
[esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)



Monument to Don Quijote  
and Sancho Panza in Alcalá de Henares

## Sierra de Guadarrama National Park

📍 Madrid-Cotos (C-9) from the stations of Chamartín, Sol or Atocha RENFE  
The Sierra de Guadarrama is part of a 500 km-long mountain range that runs from the east to the west of the Community of Madrid and Segovia. As a recognition of the great value of its natural resources and the diversity of its landscapes, it was declared a National Park in 2013. It has a wealth of flora and fauna; more than 100 species of plants and trees, of which the pine is the most ubiquitous. If you like hiking, the nature trails of **Peñalara**, **La Pedriza** or **Los Siete Picos** are absolutely unmissable.

## Skiing in Madrid

Madrid also boasts several ski stations located just an hour away from the city. If you love snow sports, be sure to pay them a visit!

### Puerto de Navacerrada

📍 Madrid-Cercedilla (C-8b) from the station of Chamartín, and then Cercedilla - Cotos (C-9) until Puerto de Navacerrada

Mon-Sun: 9am-5pm

This is the closest skiing station to Madrid. It has 10 slopes of varying lengths and levels of difficulty. Navacerrada also has several splendid hiking trails such as the one leading to **La Bola del Mundo**, or the hike up to the summit of **La Maliciosa**. At 2,227 metres high, it's not for the faint-hearted.



The antennae of Navacerrada,  
known as La Bola del Mundo

### Valdesquí

📍 Madrid-Cotos (C-9) from the stations of Chamartín, Sol or Atocha RENFE

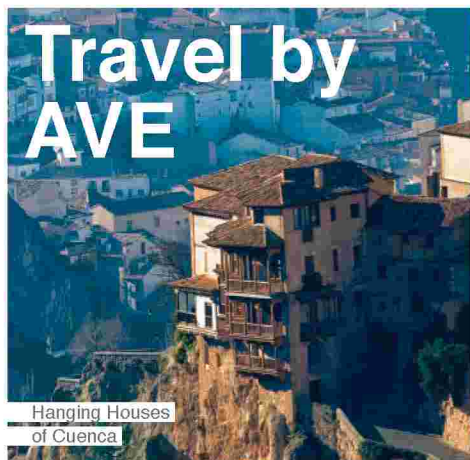
Mon-Sun: 9am-4:15pm

Located in the town of Rascafría, it has 27 ski slopes measuring 22 kilometres in total; one of them is named after Paquito Fernández Ochoa, the only Olympic gold skier from Spain.

### La Pinilla

Mon-Sun: 9am-5pm

La Pinilla lies in the Somosierra mountain range in the province of Segovia, outside the Community of Madrid. It has 23 slopes suitable for all skill levels.



Hanging Houses  
of Cuenca

## Cuenca

One of its most unique historical constructions, **the Hanging Houses** (Casas Colgadas), is also the location of the **Museum of Spanish Abstract Art**. Alfred Barr, the first director of the New York MOMA, called it the “most beautiful little museum in the world”. You can also visit the first Gothic cathedral of Castilla and the **Torre de Mangana**, both iconic structures of the city.

## Segovia

The stones of this city’s monuments are a map to its history; the Roman period looms large in its iconic **Aqueduct**, the best preserved example in all of Europe; traces of the Middle Ages are evident in its Romanesque churches and in the **Jewish Quarter**; and the **Cathedral** and the **Alcázar** are examples of late Gothic architecture. Did you know that the Alcázar was also the inspiration behind some of the castles in Walt Disney’s films?



Aqueduct of Segovia

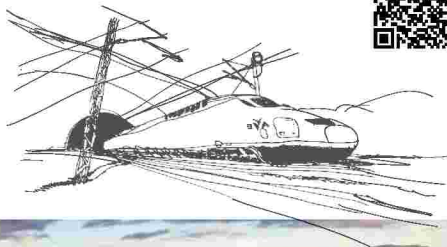
## Toledo

Situated on the banks of the Tagus river, this city of three cultures (Christian, Jewish and Islamic) served as Spain’s capital until the 16th century. Don’t miss the Alcázar and the Church of Santo Tomé, where you can gaze upon **The Burial of the Count of Orgaz** by El Greco, who lived in this city for most of his life and later died here. He painted himself into the composition: can you guess which one he is?



View of Toledo

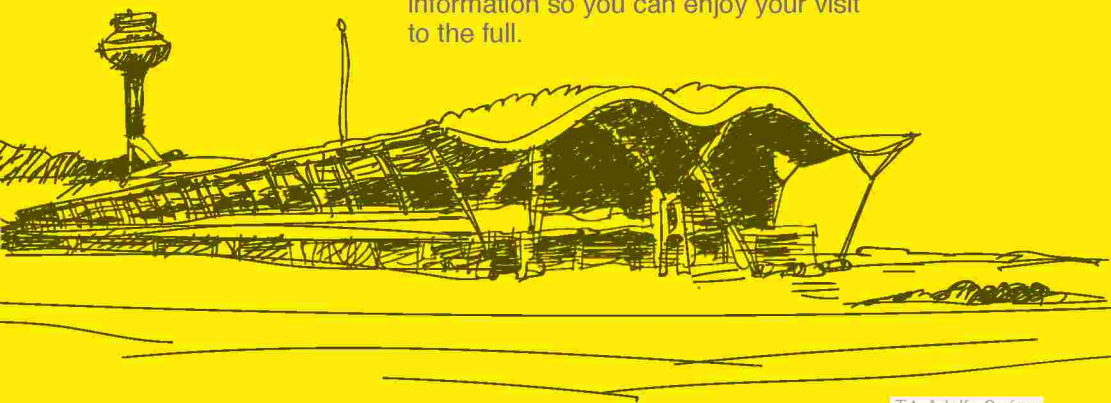
All daytrips from Madrid at  
[esmadrid.com](http://esmadrid.com)



Don't forget to try Segovia's top dish: roasted suckling pig carved with the edge of a plate, typically served in most traditional restaurants.

# other useful info

What number should I call in case of an emergency? How do I get to the airport? Here we answer all your questions and provide you with useful information so you can enjoy your visit to the full.



## Airport

Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas International Airport is situated in the northeast of Madrid, just 12km from the city centre. Getting there couldn't be simpler:

**Metro:** Line 8 (Nuevos Ministerios-Aeropuerto T4). The ticket price includes an airport supplement.

**Cercanías (suburban train):** Line C-1. If you have an AVE ticket, the trip to the airport is free of cost. Otherwise, you must pay a supplement.

**Taxi:** Available at officially designated taxi ranks. Trips between the airport and the inner M30 area are subject to a fixed rate of €30.

**Bus:** For just €5, you can take the Airport Express Shuttle, which is available round the clock and stops at Plaza de Cibeles and Atocha. Other alternatives are bus **101** to Canillejas or bus **200** to Avenida de América, both of which cost the same as a single bus fare.

**Car:** The airport is connected to all main highways, ring roads and bypasses of Madrid, such as the A2 and the M40.

To use public transport in Madrid, you must purchase a Tarjeta Multi contactless smartcard and top it up with pay-per-ride tickets.

## Train stations and bus stations

Travelling to other parts of Spain is easy from Madrid. Turn to page 144 for ideas for one-day trips.

### Atocha

Glorieta Emperador Carlos V

🚉 Atocha RENFE (L1)

### Chamartín

C/ Agustín de Foxa,

🚉 Chamartín (L1, L10)

### Méndez Álvaro (or Estación Sur)

C/ Méndez Álvaro, 83

🚉 Méndez Álvaro (L6)

### Avenida de América

Av/ de América, 9

🚉 Avenida de América (L4, L6, L7, L9)

## Telephone numbers

In case of an **emergency**, call **112**. It is available free of charge, 24 hours a day and in 80 languages.

## Accessibility

Many of Madrid's museums and historic buildings have carried out alterations to make their buildings more accessible to disabled people. The **Accessible Tourism Programme** offers four specially designed tourist routes (in Spanish): **Historical Madrid**, **Monumental Madrid**, **Cervantes' Madrid** and **Women Who've Left Their Mark on The History of Madrid**. The 2-hour-long tours are conducted from Thursday to Sunday, free of charge, by professional guides. To sign up, email [turismo@esmadrid.com](mailto:turismo@esmadrid.com) or visit the Plaza Mayor Tourist Centre.



Check out our Accessible Guide

## Official holidays

Every year there are 14 public holidays in Madrid

**New Year** - 1 January

**Reyes** - 6 January

**Maudy Thursday** - March/April

**Good Friday** - March/April

**Labour Day** - 1 May

**Madrid Day** - 2 May

**Feast of San Isidro** - 15 May

**Feast of the Virgin of La Paloma** - 15 August

**National Day** - 12 October

**All Saints' Day** - 1 November

**Feast of the Virgin of La Almudena** - 9 November

**Constitution Day** - 6 December

**Immaculate Conception** - 8 December

**Christmas Day** - 25 December



Prado Museum

## Tourist information points

Do you need a Madrid map or have a question? Just drop in to your nearest tourist information office:

### Plaza Mayor Tourist Centre

Plaza Mayor, 27  
Mon-Sun: 9:30am-8:30pm

### Paseo del Prado

Plaza de Neptuno  
Mon-Sun: 9:30am-8:30pm

### Atocha

C/ Santa Isabel, 52  
Mon-Sun: 9:30am-8:30pm

### Callao

Plaza de Callao  
Mon-Sun: 9:30am-8:30pm

### Royal Palace

C/ Requena (corner of C/ Bailén)  
Mon-Sun: 9:30am-8:30pm

### Santiago Bernabéu

Paseo de la Castellana, 138  
Mon-Sun: 9:30am-8:30pm

### CentroCentro

Plaza de Cibeles, 1  
Tues-Sun: 10am-8pm

### Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport (T2 and T4)

Mon-Sun: 9:30am-8:30pm

### The Foreign Tourist Assistance

**Service (SATE)** is there to help you if you are involved in an incident that requires police intervention:

National Police Station  
C/ Leganitos, 19  
Mon-Sun: 9am-12 midnight

## Tourist products and services

### Students, over-65s and over-18s

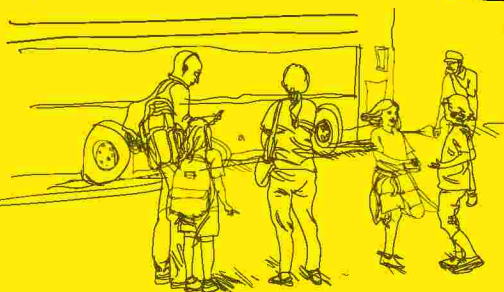
can get discounts in many of the city's attractions (proof of age or student status required). The city also offers a range of discount cards that allow you to save time and money, such as the **Tourist Travel Pass** (p. 5) and various museum passes: the **Paseo del Arte** (p. 31), the **Five Museums. Another Madrid** (p. 37) and the **Eight Museums**. The last of these is valid for fifteen days and allows you to visit the following museums as many times as you like: The Museum of Romanticism, the National Museum of Anthropology, the National Museum of Decorative Arts, the Garment Museum, the Cerralbo Museum, the Museum of the Americas, the National Archaeological Museum and the Sorolla Museum.

### Vuelve a Madrid loyalty programme

Madrid is the first city to offer a loyalty programme packed with exclusive offers for restaurants, shops, museums, shows, and much more. Sign up for free at [vuelveamadrid.com](http://vuelveamadrid.com) and receive 200 points as a welcome gift. We'd really like to see you again!

### Madrid City Tour

Madrid's sightseeing bus is one of the best ways to discover the city at your own pace. Buy a one- or two-day ticket and hop on and off as many times as you like. You can choose between two routes: **Modern Madrid** (along large avenues like Castellana, Paseo del Prado and Recoletos) and **Historical Madrid** (visiting the city centre, Art Walk, Gran Vía and Plaza de España). The Historical Madrid itinerary also offers a **night route** from 16 June to 15 September. All buses are equipped with audioguides that are available in 14 languages.



To find out more and buy tickets, visit the Madrid City Tour website





# Maps

## Metro and Light Rail Network

### Metro and Light Rail Network

www.metromadrid.es

Signos en Follow us on



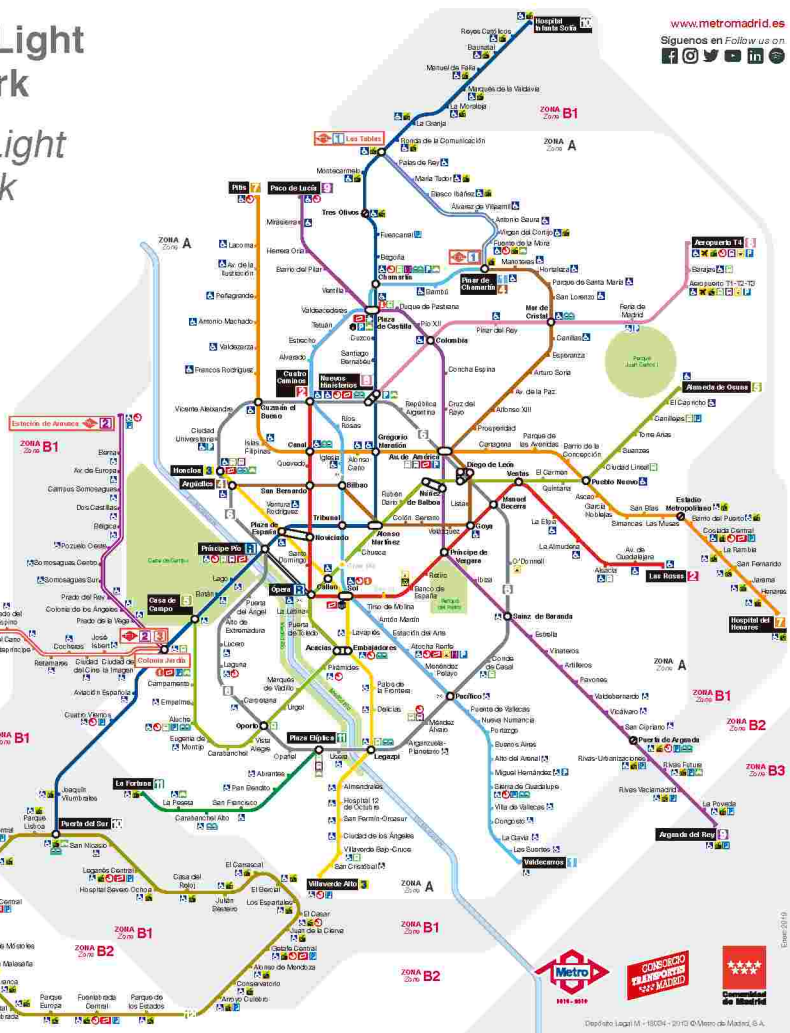
#### HORARIO Opening times

Todos los días de 06:30 a 01:30 h.  
Every day from 6:30 a.m. to 1:30 a.m.

- Puerta de Boadilla
- Infante Don Luis
- Siglo Veintiuno
- Basilea
- Ciudad de Boadilla
- Ciudad de Madrid
- Pinar de Chamartín
- Villaverde
- Cuatro Caminos
- Villaverde de Alto Madrid
- Argüelles
- Pinar de Chamartín
- Alameda de Osuna
- Casa de Campo
- Circular
- Hospital del Henar
- Pasa
- Nuevos Ministerios
- Aeropuerto
- Pasa de Arganda del Rey
- Hospital Infanta Sofía
- Puerta del Sur
- Pasa Elipse
- La Fortuna
- MetroSur
- Ópera
- Príncipe Pío
- Pinar de Chamartín
- Las Tablas
- Colonia Jardín
- Estación de Aviación
- Colonia Jardín
- Puerta de Boadilla

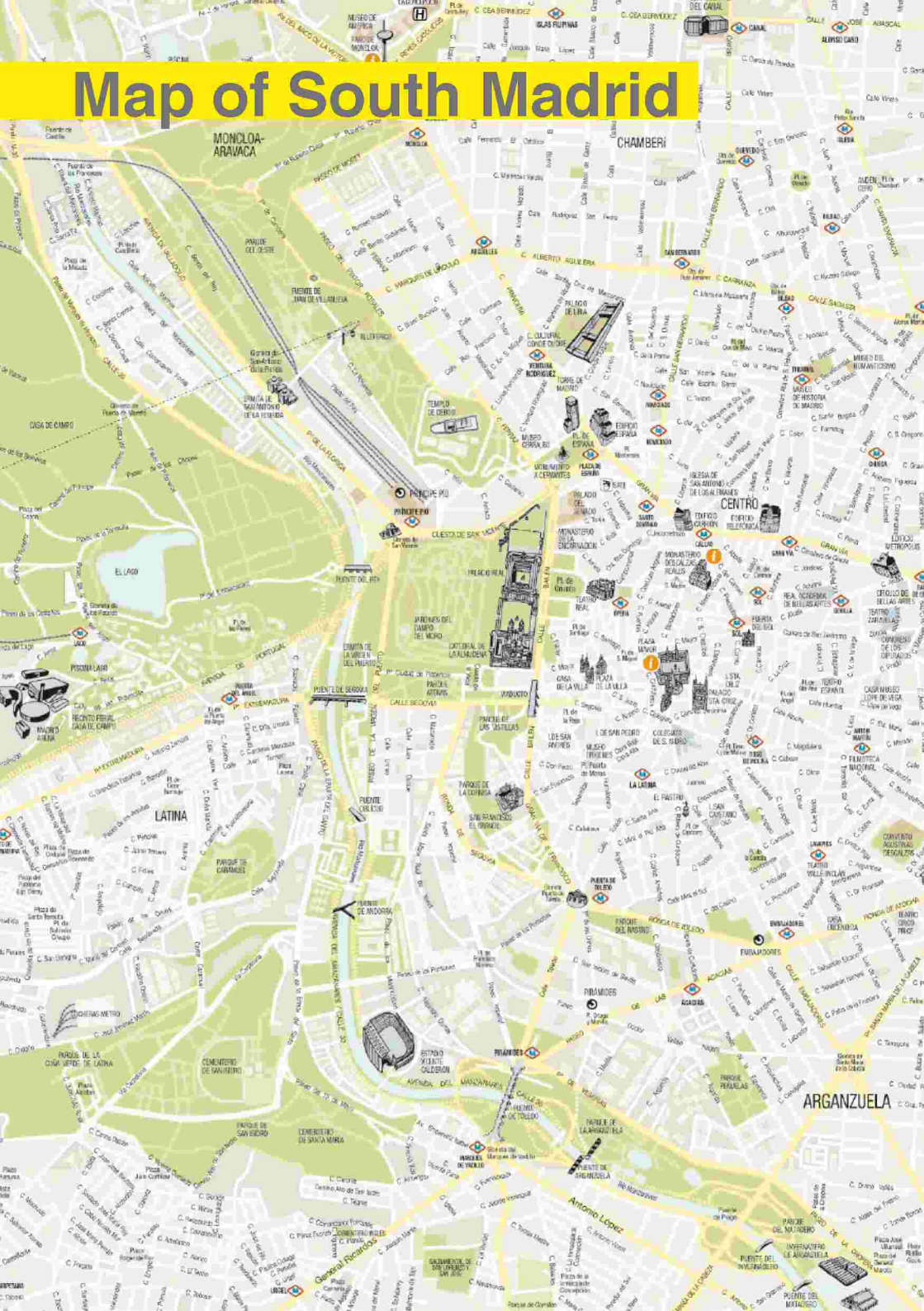
#### SIMBOLOGÍA Key

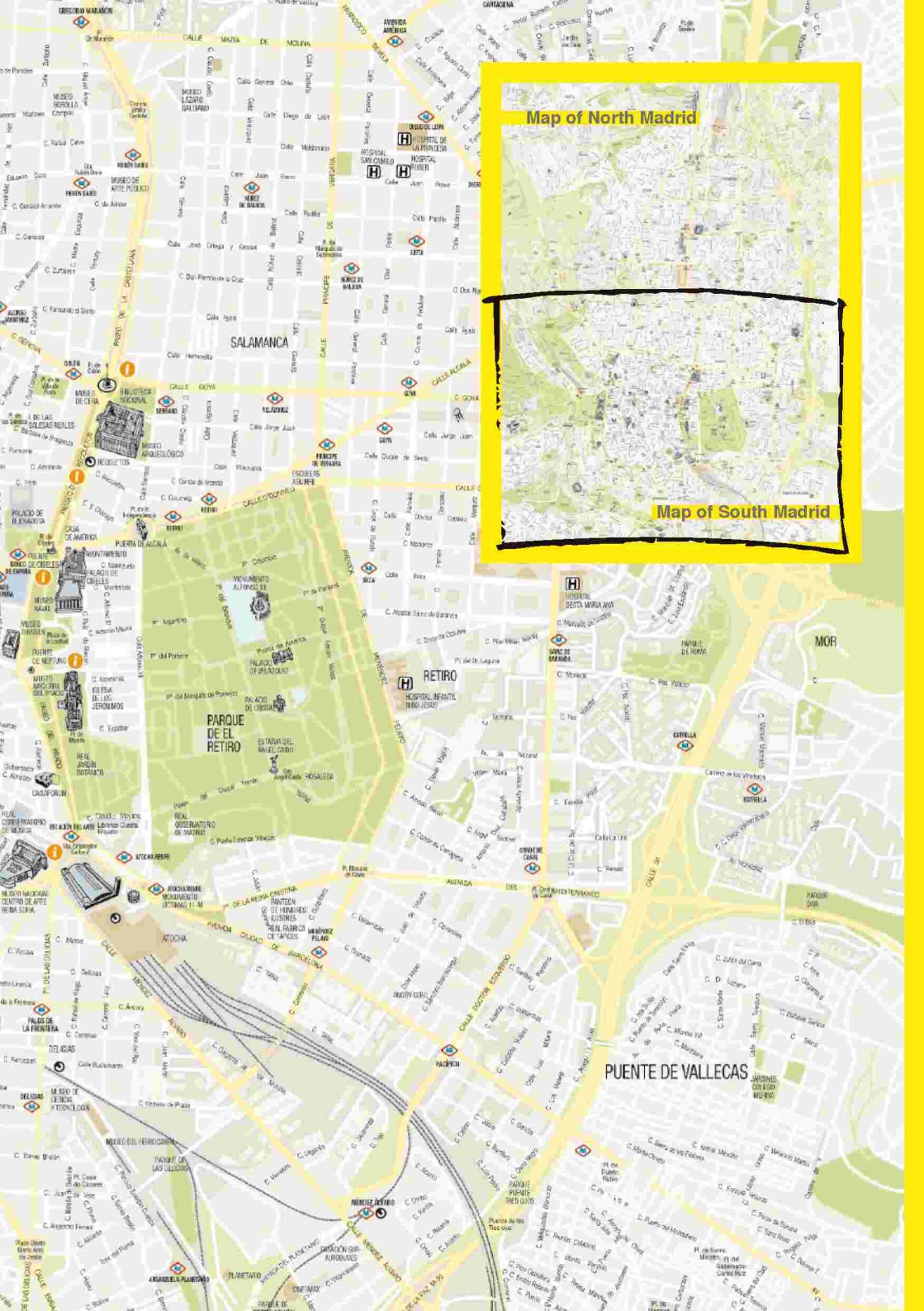
- |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Estación accesible / asensor<br>Step-free access / lift             | Cercanías<br>Suburban railway                           | Estación de tren<br>Railway station  | Oficina de gestión<br>Tarjeta Transporte Público<br>Public Transport Card Office | Aparcamiento disuasivo gratuito<br>Free park and ride  |
| Transbordador corto<br>Metro interchange                            | Autobuses interurbanos<br>Suburban buses                | Aeropuerto / Airport<br>Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas                         | Objetos perdidos<br>Lost and found   | Aparcamiento disuasivo de pago<br>Paid park and ride   |
| Transbordador largo<br>Metro interchange with long walking distance | Autobuses largo recorrido<br>Interregional bus station  | Zonas tarifarias<br>Fare zones   | Bibliometro<br>Metro Library   | Estacionamiento de bicicletas<br>Bicycle parking       |
| Cambio de tren<br>Change of trains                                  | Terminal autobuses nocturnos<br>Night bus line terminal | ATENCIÓN A LA TARIFA<br>Validación a la SALIDA<br>TICKET CHECKED at the EXIT | Productos oficiales Metro<br>Official Metro merchandising                        | Estación cerrada por obras<br>Station closed for works |
| Metro Ligero<br>Light Rail  | Autobús expreso aeropuerto<br>Airport express bus       | Atención al cliente<br>Customer Service                                      | Espacios históricos de Metro<br>Metro Historic spaces                            |  |



Depósito Legal M-18/04 - 2010 © Metro de Madrid, S.A.

# Map of South Madrid





Map of North Madrid

Map of South Madrid

SALAMANCA

PARQUE DE EL RETIRO

PUENTE DE VALLECAS

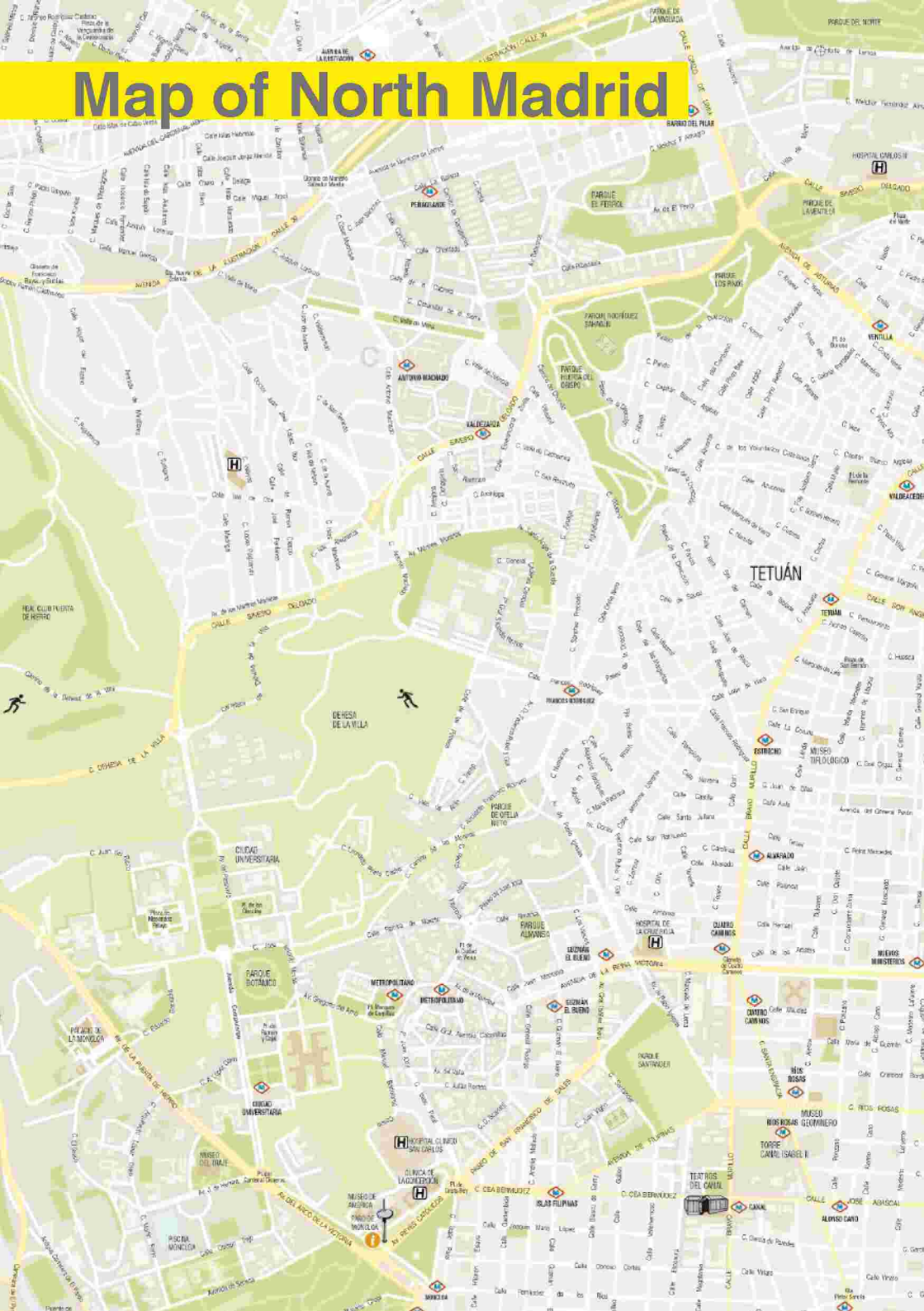
MOR

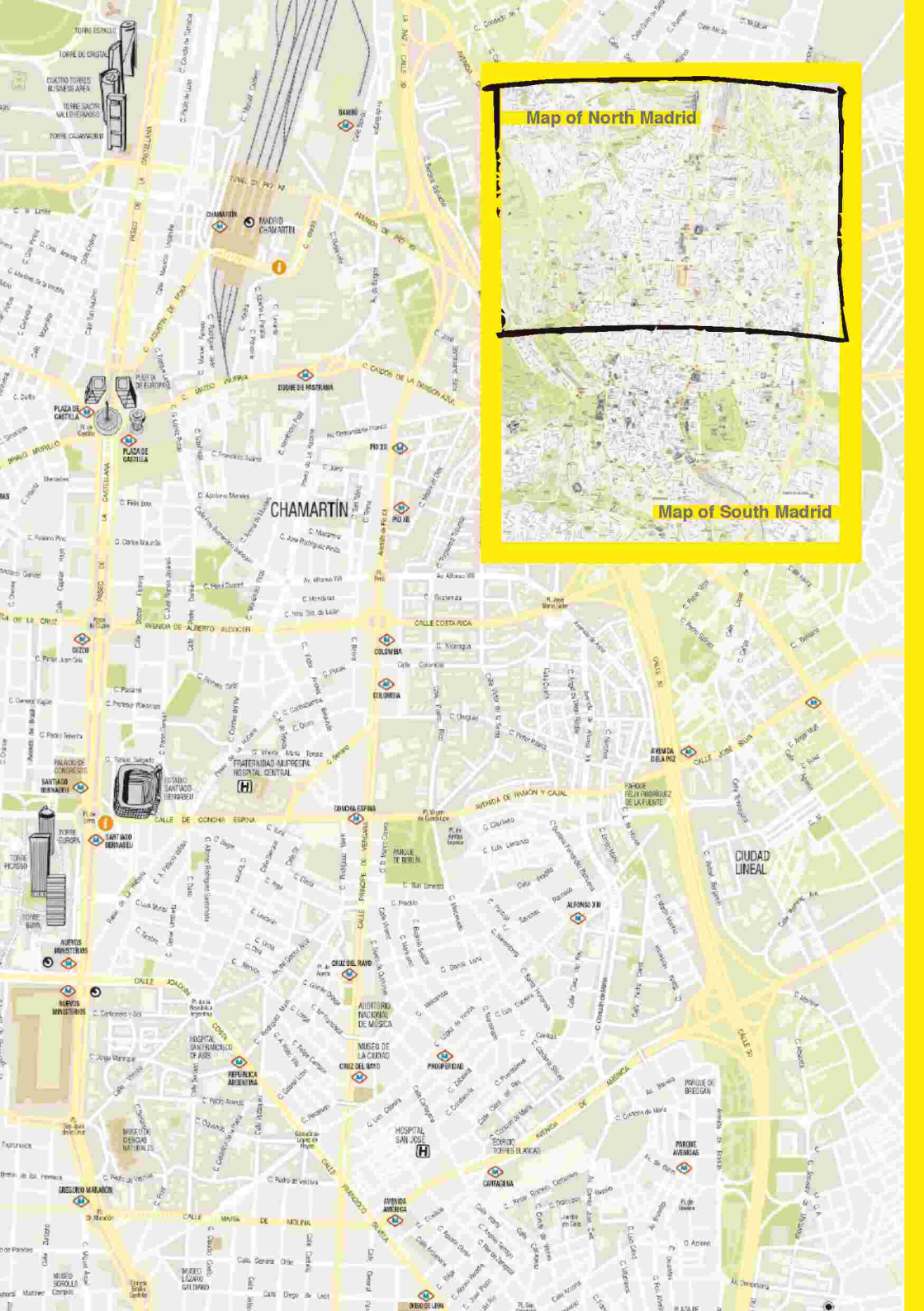
RETIRO

MENDEZ VILLAY

Map showing various streets, landmarks, and districts in Madrid, including Calle, Plaza, and various institutions like Museo and Hospital.

# Map of North Madrid





Map of North Madrid

Map of South Madrid

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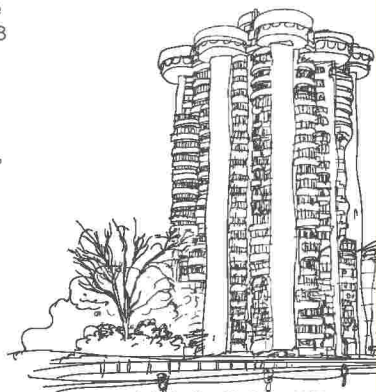
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