

# TimeOut

## MADRID

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2018/2019  
EDITION

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# MADRID

## STUDENT GUIDE!

The insider's guide to experiencing the city

PLUS!

Secret city / Young designers / Best of the barrios / Top 10 artwork / Beautiful getaways / 20 great things to do in the city / Where to taste 'tortilla de patata'...

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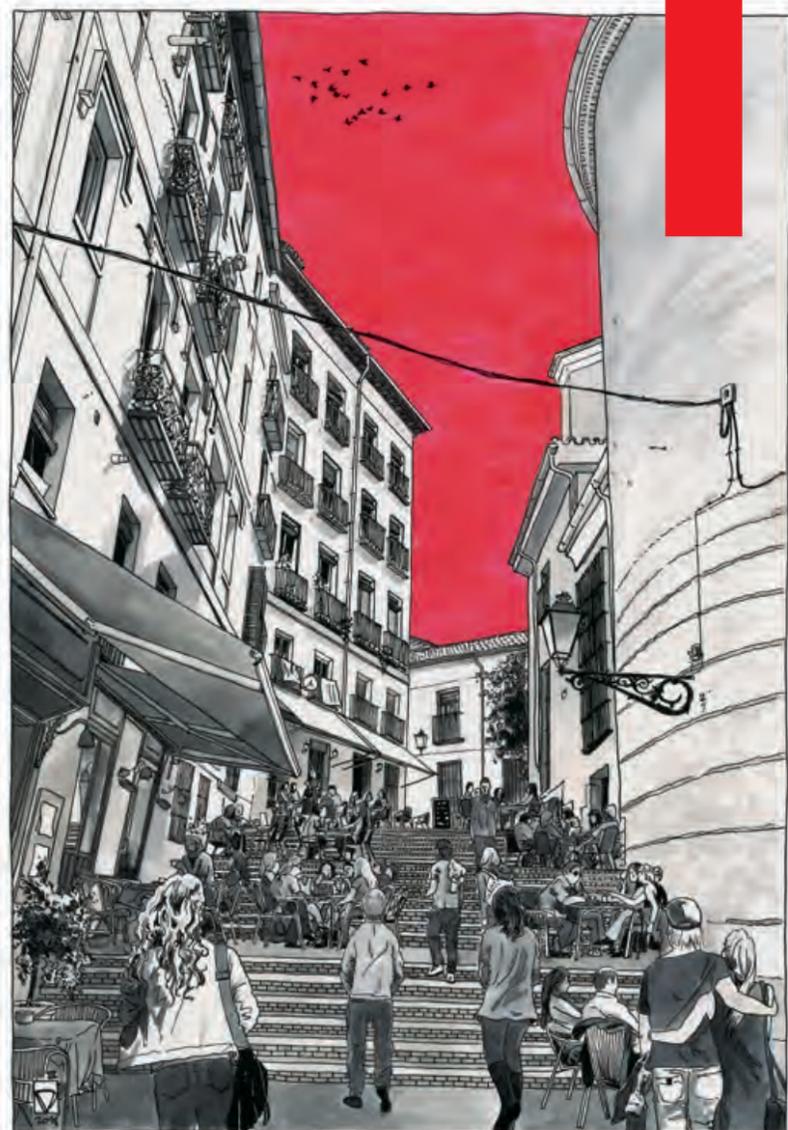
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## Welcome to Madrid

**WELCOME TO THE CITY** where, in one way or another, everyone's from somewhere else. Welcome to a city that greets all arrivals with open arms, where making friends is just a matter of having a night out, or heading down to buy bread each day from the local market. Welcome to the city of fresh air, city parks with ponds and statues you'll find nowhere else, with cycle lanes that criss-cross the neighbourhoods, and outdoor terraces where you can enjoy a drink with friends in any season. Welcome to the good-weather city, where the sun shines almost 365 days a year and umbrellas live at the back of the wardrobe. Welcome to a city packed with art and culture from all over the country, with impressive museums and charming galleries, open-air music festivals and markets. Welcome to the city of delicious food such as squid baguettes and cocido stew. Welcome to Madrid, the city that embraces you. ■ *Marta Bac*



## THREE TOP TIPS

Excellent ideas for expert city living

### Eat!



The grill and fryer don't stop for a moment at Melo's, turning out huge sandwiches of lacón and melted cheese, vast plates of small green Padrón peppers and XL croquettes.  
 Ave María, 44. M: Lavapiés.

### Dance!



From the creators of **Medias Puri**, this new clandestine club has just landed in the city and it's going to cause a stir. Uñas Chung Lee promises to revolutionise Madrid's nightlife.  
 Hilarión Eslava, 38. M: Moncloa.

### Watch!



Madrid's last porn cinema has been cleaned up to become **trendy new culture hotspot** Sala Equis. Enjoy film screenings and beers in a neon-lit space with swings.  
 Duque de Alba, 4. M: Tirso de Molina.

**The Irish Rover**  
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# MAD Calendar

2018/2019

The events you shouldn't miss  
(\*Date to be confirmed)

## October

- 06** **Madrid Student Welcome Day** / Social  
Welcome party for students
- 18** **Tapapiés \*** / Food  
Tapas route around the Lavapiés neighbourhood
- 19** **Madrid Otra Mirada** / Art  
Events to help discover the city's heritage

## December

- 25** **Christmas** / Festivals  
It's time for holidays, lights and presents
- 31** **San Silvestre Vallecana** / Sport  
The popular road race sees out the year

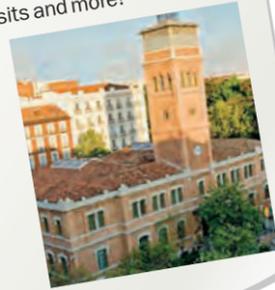


## February

- 01** **Madrid Design** / Art  
Design festival
- 20** **ARCO Madrid** / Art  
Contemporary art fair
- 25** **JustMAD** / Art  
Emerging art fair

## September

- 08** **Dcode** / Music  
One of Madrid's biggest festivals
- 28** **Architecture Week** / Art  
Workshops, talks, guided visits and more!
- 29** **Open House Madrid** / Art  
Unique buildings open their doors to the public



## November

- 01** **JAZZMADRID\*** / Music  
International jazz festival with concerts in dozens of venues
- 20** **Madrid en Danza** / Dance  
Top national and international companies

## January

- 05** **Cabalgata** / Parade  
The Three Kings parade through Madrid
- 23** **Fitur** / Tourism  
Huge international tourism fair
- 26** **Gastrofestival** / Food  
Huge foodie fest with loads of activities



## March

- 01** **Carnival** / Festivals  
Dress up and take to the city's streets
- Elas Crean** / Festivals  
Exhibition supporting the talents of creative women

## April

- 18** **Easter** / Festivals  
Processions and national holidays
- 19** **The Night of Books \*** / Books  
Evening events and bookshop discounts
- 28** **Rock 'n' Roll Madrid Marathon** / Sport  
Madrid's best-known marathon and half marathon



## June

- 01** **Mira Madrid** / Art  
Explore the city
- Champions League final** / Sport  
An important day for football lovers
- 05** **PhotoEspaña\*** / Art  
The city's most important photography festival
- 21** **Mulafest\*** / Music  
Annual festival of trends, tattoos and urban art
- 29** **Veranos de la Villa\*** / Culture  
Open-air music, dance, art and film events all summer long



## July

- 03** **LGTBI Pride** / Social  
Parade and cultural events to celebrate diversity
- 11** **Mad Cool Festival** / Music  
Madrid's biggest music festival



## May

- 03** **Mutua Madrid Open** / Sport  
Spain's only tennis Masters 1000 event
- 09** **Surge Madrid \*** / Theatre  
The big fringe theatre festival
- DocumentaMadrid \*** / Cinema  
Documentary film festival
- 15** **San Isidro** / Festivals  
Feast day of Madrid's patron saint



## May

- 16** **Flamenco Madrid \*** / Dance  
Flamenco festival held at Fernán Gómez Theatre
- 24** **Feria del Libro** / Literature  
Madrid's book fair invades the Retiro park
- Tomavistas** / Music  
Eclectic festival in a pretty park

## August

- 01** **Local festivals** / Festivals  
The San Cayetano, San Lorenzo and Verbena de la Paloma festivals fill the streets with joy and local traditions





## Bike lanes or sharing the road?

We debate the best ways for cyclists to move round the city

### Bikes should go on the road, like any another vehicle

Bicycles have been experiencing a surge in popularity over the last few years with more and more Madrileños using them to get round the city. Whether it's for going to work or enjoying a weekend ride, bike lovers are using this sustainable and healthy mode of transport every day. And even though it's possible that more locals have been encouraged to take up pedalling by the expansion of the city's network of dedicated cycle paths, there are roads where a lack of space or the street layout makes it impossible to add bike lanes. That's why the place for bicycles, like any other vehicle, is on the road. Cycling on the street – in lanes with special speed restrictions in place for traffic – allows you to get anywhere in the city. It also saves the authorities money, because rather than having to create special bike lanes, they just have to paint the 30km/h speed limit on the tarmac. In that way, it raises awareness that cyclists are road users just like any other, too.



### Dedicated lanes provide better protection and safety

Now boasting more than 300km of cycle lanes, Madrid is becoming a city more and more open to getting around by bike every year. The restoration of the bicycle as a means of transport forms part of the plans to improve the quality of life and even the very idea of the city promoted by Madrid's institutions. A large part of its success is down to the dozens of kilometres of dedicated cycle lanes that have been, and continue to be, created across the whole city, which allow cyclists to feel safe and protected on their journeys. What's more, the city's many hills are no longer an excuse not to adopt this environmentally friendly and healthy way of getting about, given that the BiciMAD public rental service's bikes have small electric motors that help you get up the steeper slopes. There are also other rental services that allow you to leave their bikes parked on any street.

It's not easy to get a good idea of what it's like to live in a city and enjoy its culture when you've only just arrived. So why not try examining it from a mathematical perspective? If there's one thing Madrid's not short of, it's statistics and figures. Such as, for example, **232**, the number of cinemas in the city. Or **249**, the number of metres high the tallest building in Spain, La Torre de Cristal, stands in Paseo de la Castellana. Even **0** is significant, as kilometre 0 in Puerta del Sol is the point from which all of Spain's roads are measured. On top of that, you have **6** theme parks in and around Madrid and **67** theatres distributed throughout its neighbourhoods, which you can reach from its **301** metro stations. Best of all, though, are the city's **2,710** hours of sunshine each year, which you can use to wring every last drop out of living here. ■ *Marta Bac*



## SUMMED UP

### Curious city stats



I CAME,  
I SAW,  
I STAYED

Jessica Escobar, 21. Guatemala. International relations graduate

### 'In Madrid you can discover what makes you happy'

#### How did you end up living here?

In 2014 I went to a university in Boston and they chose me along with 30 other high-performing students to study abroad for a year. That six months marked my life, not just because it was the first time I had been in Europe, but also because those months in Madrid helped foster my passion for a career in international relations and diplomacy. Finally, the semester turned into two years as I decided to extend my stay, and I ended up remaining.

#### Would you recommend Madrid to your friends?

To my friends and to the seven billion inhabitants of the planet! Madrid has everything. I would tell those who think New York is the city that never sleeps that they haven't experienced everything Madrid has to offer those who visit it. It's a city that can help you find yourself and discover what makes you happy in life.

**'It has the best public transport in Europe'**

#### What are the best and worst things about the city?

The Iberian ham is the best. Strolling around the Retiro park in autumn, walking along Gran Vía when it's lit up at night, getting lost in Malasaña's colourful streets, picnicking at Templo de Debod... Not to forget the EMT bus service – which for me is the best public transport system in Europe. The worst thing about Madrid? I don't think there's anything bad to say. Well, the heat in July and August.

#### What do you do at the weekend?

I love exercising along Madrid Río and going out for tapas. Also going early to the Rastro and even doing a language exchange. ■

## PASSION FOR MADRID

Celebrities who fell for the charms of our city

### James Rhodes

The famous pianist moved to Madrid in 2017 and since then hasn't missed a chance to say how much he loves living here

### Amy Jo Doherty

The sister of Pete Doherty, lead singer of The Libertines and ex-boyfriend of Kate Moss, lives here to escape her brother's fame

### Oona Chaplin

Charlie Chaplin's granddaughter – you'll know her from 'Game of Thrones' – is a big fan of the city of her birth

### Viggo Mortensen

The actor came to Madrid for love – his partner is Spanish actress Ariadna Gil, and they live together in a luxury apartment near Gran Vía

# FREE MAD

Enjoy the city without spending a euro

## CULTURE

### Matadero Madrid

A mini city of culture that's perfect for exploring. You can access it from Madrid Río and then visit its exhibitions, enjoy its communal spaces such as the Design Centre, or watch an avant-garde play in Naves Matadero.

→ Paseo de la Chopera, 14. M: Legazpi.

## CULTURAL PASS JOBBO

If you're between 16 and 26 and want to get the maximum out of the city's culture, you need to get your hands on the JOBBO card, the Madrid City Council cultural pass that from Monday to Friday gives you free access to everything that's on at the Naves de Matadero-Centro de Artes Vivas, Teatro Español, Fernán Gómez-Centro Cultural de la Villa, Conde Duque, Teatro Circo Price and the Cineteca.

→ [www.madridcultura.es/jobbo](http://www.madridcultura.es/jobbo)

## ART

**Prado Museum**  
Spain's largest art centre offers free

entry to its permanent exhibitions from 6pm to 8pm Monday to Saturday and from 5pm to 7pm on Sundays. The temporary shows are also half price during those times.

→ Paseo del Prado, s/n.  
M: Atocha.

**UNDERGROUND Tabacalera**  
Join one of the social

workshops, see an exhibition, check out the graffiti works and get to know the alternative underground vibe at this former tobacco factory.

→ Embajadores, 53.  
M: Embajadores.

## WORKSHOPS La Casa Encendida

As well as avant-garde exhibitions, this multidisciplinary

centre offers free courses and workshops.

→ Valencia, 2. M: Lavapiés.

## A BIT OF EVERYTHING Conde Duque

This former army barracks is now a cultural centre that hosts exhibitions, conferences and other free activities.

→ Conde Duque, 11.  
M: Noviciado.

DON'T MISS



TimeOut  
MADRID

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YOUR FIRST  
HOME RENOVATION.



AT 17,  
YOU GO TO YOUR  
FIRST GIG.

MAKE THE MOST  
OF YOUR GENERATION.

IF YOU'RE AGED BETWEEN 16 AND 26,  
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AND GET FREE TICKETS TO CONCERTS,  
PLAYS, DANCE SHOWS, AND MUCH MORE...

JOBBO  
#GENERACIÓNJOBBO

# Madrid secrets

There are many books that tell you how to best explore the city in a day or a weekend. But a place as full of life as the Spanish capital hides many corners that you won't find in any guide. We reveal some of them here – because sometimes what's most essential is often invisible

## The beach in Malasaña

→ San Andrés, 1.

Right in the middle of the Malasaña neighbourhood there's a beach – with sand, a bar and everything – where you can hide out from the cold in winter and chill out in summer. Opened in 2004 and remodelled in 2014, the Ojalá restaurant's basement is a makeshift Ibiza-style space where you can enjoy a few beers with friends and relax at the low tables with comfortable cushions and dimmed lighting. Both homely and exotic at the same time, it even features a hanging garden and fluorescent tables. And the food is delicious, especially the weekend brunch.

## The secret garden

→ Sacramento, 7.

No. 7 Calle Sacramento hides one of the most closely guarded treasures in the centre of Madrid – perhaps because it remained a secret until 1972. That was when the high walls around the Bernardas convent that had protected the Huerto de las Monjas were demolished to construct some housing blocks. By luck, the garden, which was originally devoted to growing vegetables by the nuns, remained intact and since then has been open to anyone who wants to visit it to enjoy a few minutes of peace and quiet amid the hustle and bustle of Madrid.

In the middle of Malasaña is a beach, with sand, a bar and everything

## The Montera oasis

→ Montera, 37.

Among the swarm of tourists and gold-buyers on this central Madrid street, you'll find a small oasis where you can escape the hubbub of the city. Climb up to the top floor of the Salvador Bachiller store and you'll step straight into a fairy-tale tearoom where you can enjoy coffee or breakfast, munch on a lunch-time snack, or sip a mojito after a hard day's studying. Open in winter and summer, it's the perfect place to sample a great selection of cheeses, Iberian hams, gyozas, tacos, salads and other delicious fare. Its brunch is also in high demand.

## A door to the sixteenth century

→ Cervantes, 11.

"Que mi jardín, más breve que cometa / Tiene solo dos árboles, diez flores / Dos parras, un naranjo, una mosqueta". ("That my garden, more fleeting than a comet / Has only two trees, ten flowers / Two vines, an orange tree and rose hips".) Four hundred years later, the birdsong and the scent of blossom and roses in poet and playwright Lope de Vega's garden in the Casa Museo Lope de Vega in the Barrio de las Letras remain almost as they were. The garden is now the stage for recitals, summer film screenings and concerts at sundown – all of them free, all of them intimate.

The only sound you'll hear is birdsong in this peaceful oasis

Sold in little boxes, they're ideal gifts



## Flowerly treats

→ Plaza Canalejas, 6.

Madrid's most traditional dish might be its hearty cocido stew, but these violet candies are the sweeter side of its culinary identity. They're made with violet essence and served with petals and there's only one place in the capital where you can buy the real thing: La Violeta, a modest wooden-fronted shop that has been selling them since 1915. They're so good, so the story goes, that King Alfonso XIII gave them as presents to both his wife and his mistresses.

## The underground bunker

Paseo Alameda de Osuna, 25.

This was one of Madrid's best-kept secrets until it opened to the public in May 2016. Given the code name 'Posición Jaca', this subterranean bunker in the Parque de El Capricho housed the military HQ of the Central Republican Army during the Spanish Civil War. For 80 years it remained a silent witness to the conflict, but now visitors can head 15m below ground and discover what was once one of the city's most important Republican command posts. Measuring 2,000m<sup>2</sup> and able to withstand bombs of up to 100kg, the well-preserved development is a unique slice of history and tickets to see it sell out fast.

## The empty pedestal

Parque del Retiro.

Along the Paseo de la Argentina, popularly known as the 'paseo de las estatuas' (statues' walk), in the Retiro park stands a series of sculptures dedicated to the kings and queens of Spain of various eras. There were originally due to be placed on the cornice of the Royal Palace but they ultimately ended up here. There are a total of 14 pedestals, but just 13 statues – one of the pedestals remains empty. The missing monarch could be Alfonso VII, whose figure may have become so deteriorated from being moved around that it couldn't be put on show. One other secret few know about is that of the 13 remaining statues, two are of the same king: Sancho IV, nicknamed the 'Brave'.

## El cementerio de los ingleses

Comandante Fontanes, 7.

This graveyard may not be well known in Madrid, but there's a lot of history among its tombs. The English cemetery was built in Carabanchel to bury non-Catholics and its first occupant was Arthur Thorold, a young British man whose tombstone is shaped like the legendary sword Excalibur. Other names found here include Emilio Huguenin Lhardy, founder of the eponymous Madrid restaurant; three members of the Loewe family, who started the luxury fashion label; Rita Garrido, the first actress of the Teatro La Latina, as well as several members of the Bauer clan, one of the most powerful families in nineteenth-century Madrid.

The statue is Antonio Santín's tribute to Madrid's first female student



## The first female student

→ Pez, 42, corner San Bernardo.

Madrid is so full of statues that if you're not careful you can mistake them for people sweeping the street in Jacinto Benavente or taking a walk in Plaza San Ildefonso. But the one with the best story is that of Julia, a young student leaning against the stone wall by the Palacio Bauer. The bronze statue of a barefoot girl in a skirt and blouse and carrying her notes is artist Antonio Santín's tribute to the first woman to attend the University of Madrid, in 1848, who eluded the ban on female students at the time by disguising herself as a man.

## Drinks at the art gallery

→ Corredera Baja de San Pablo, 17.

You'll find plenty of art shops and galleries in the city centre, but none quite like Kikekeller, a space where everyday objects and art merge. But the premises doesn't reveal its real secret until the store lights go off for the night and one of the city's trendiest little bars comes to life in its backroom, where Madrid's in-crowd meets up to sip expensive tipples in an exclusive atmosphere.



Enjoy a drink in the relaxed, trendy ambience



### Madrid's Sistine Chapel

→ Puebla, 22.

Entirely covered in frescos, the interior of the Church of San Antonio de los Alemanes is well worth a visit. Painted by Juan Carreño de Miranda and Luca Giordano, among others, the scenes tell the stories of the life and miracles of St Anthony of Padua. The temple is part of the hospital that Philip III created in the seventeenth century to attend the sick and Portuguese pilgrims, which is why it was previously known as San Antonio de los Portugueses before it became the hospital for Madrid's German community.

## A secret among the almond trees

→ Alcalá, 502.

Almost at the end of Calle Alcalá, you can find a park that few Madrileños or tourists ever visit. La Quinta de los Molinos would just be another green space in the city if it weren't for its more than 6,000 almond trees, which are a delight for all five senses when in bloom throughout February and March. The pink-and-white blossom takes over the gardens and their heady scent wafts over the walls into the surrounding area.

### The oldest florist shop

→ Huertas, 2.

Located on the site of the old San Sebastián church cemetery is one of the best-kept secrets of the Barrio de las Letras: El Jardín del Ángel, a garden centre and florist founded in 1889 that claims never to have closed, even when a bomb almost destroyed the place of worship next door. To enter you pass under a sign bearing the slogan 'No dejes de soñar' ('Never stop dreaming'), and you soon realise there's something special about this place, even if you're not a plant lover. As well as selling beautiful flowers, it's a magical spot where you can relax admiring one of the century-and-a-half-old olive trees.

### Byzantine strongholds

→ Gran Vía de Hortaleza, 48.

The streets of Madrid are full of surprises that can make even locals feel as though they're thousands of kilometres from home. One such example is the commanding golden cupolas atop the Church of Santa María Magdalena, a slice of Russia in the middle of the Hortaleza neighbourhood. Built in the Byzantine style, the temple opened in 2013, becoming only the second orthodox church in Madrid after the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Santos Andrés and Demetrio (whose interior is also well worth a look). The same style of architecture can be seen in other buildings such as the German Friedenskirche (church of peace), a 'clandestine' church that combines Romanesque and Byzantine styles.

### The prince's hideout

→ Plaza de la Paja, 6.

In a corner of Plaza de la Paja in La Latina, a brick wall guards a hidden garden, the best-kept secret of the Palacio del Príncipe de Anglona. The prince lived in the building in the nineteenth century, and loved walking round among the plants. Several stone paths lead to a small stone fountain at its centre, and there's an iron shelter and a pergola that's covered in roses in the spring. The whole place is shaded by large trees, while one of its corners provides good views of the neighbourhood.

WHOEVER  
YOU LOVE,  
MADRID  
LOVES  
you



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[blogginmadrid.com](http://blogginmadrid.com) Visita\_Madrid visitamadridoficial @visita\_madrid

# 20 great things to do

Here's our guide to the city's essentials – a score of must-do activities including partying, exploring, eating and more!

## 01.

### Try the traditional Madrid cocido

A hearty stew of pasta, chickpeas, assorted cuts of meat and broth, cocido is Madrid's most popular traditional dish. Served in many of the city's restaurants, this is a speciality everybody should try and will probably love.



## 02.

### Take in a show

It's no surprise that Gran Vía is known as the 'Spanish Broadway'. Most of the musicals that come to the city play on its grand stages, from 'The Lion King' to 'Dirty Dancing'. So let the magic of theatre carry you away...



## 03.

### Scoff chocolate con churros in San Ginés

This *chocolatería* first opened over a hundred years ago in a narrow street between Puerta del Sol and Plaza de Ópera. Today it's Madrid's most famous café for hot chocolate and churros – delicious deep-fried strands of dough perfect for dunking – and a meeting point for all sorts of partygoers trying to summon the strength to get to bed at the end of a long night out.

## 04.

### Go shopping

It doesn't matter what your budget is, Madrid has a shopping experience for everyone. From the cheap high-street stores on Gran Vía to the alternative shops in Malasaña and the exclusive boutiques on the Golden Mile, this city is perfect for retail therapy.

## 05.

### Explore Gran Vía

Running from the famous *Metrópolis* building to Plaza de España, this wide street is the main tourist route through the city. Lined with shops, bars and even a casino, the just over 1km-long thoroughfare is due for renovation between 2018 and 2019. Don't forget to look up and take in its imposing buildings and rooftop statues.



## 06.

### See the skyscrapers

Madrid is no skyscraper city like New York, but for the last several years it has been home to four impressive, vertigo-inducing towers. The old Torre Picasso and Torre de Madrid are dwarfed by this quartet of newcomers: the Espacio, PwC, Cepsa and the Torre de Cristal, which at 249m is Spain's tallest building.



## 07.

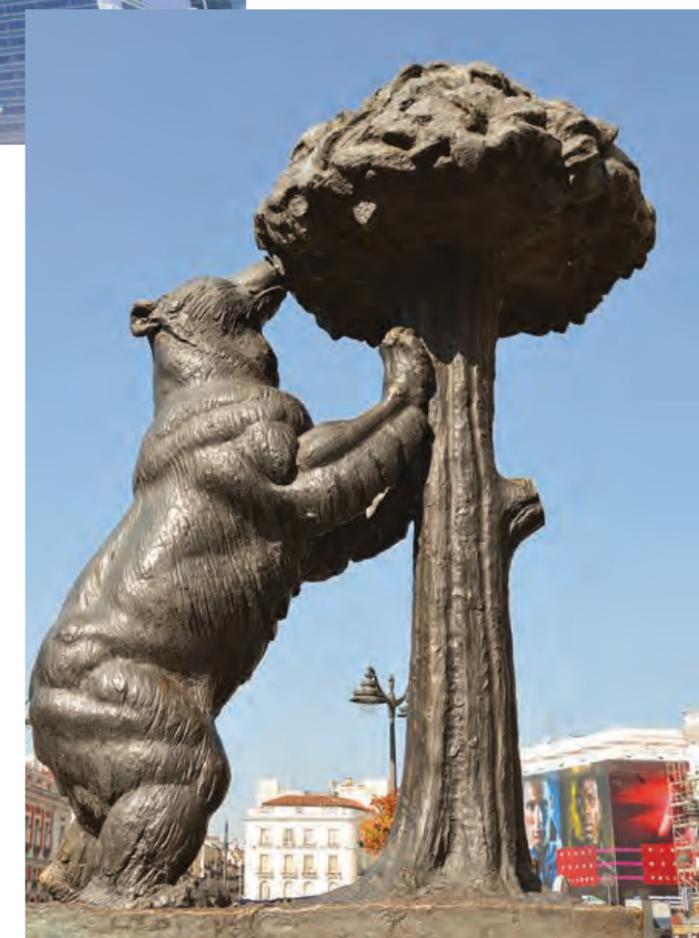
### Go to a concert (or two)

The city's music scene is a perfect fusion of concerts by big-name international groups playing to audiences of 15,000 at the WZink Center and gigs performed by alternative, underground and jazz musicians at intimate venues to just a handful of faithful fans. There's live music every day of the year so nobody has to miss out, whatever their tastes.

## 08.

### Sample a squid baguette

This seafood sandwich is another traditional dish, though nobody quite knows why, given that the city is 300km away from the nearest coastline. But typical it is, and no self-respecting Madrileño (or visitor) goes long without eating *un bocata de calamares* somewhere around Plaza Mayor.



## 09.

### Revel in the green zones

From city-centre parks such as the Retiro and the Casa de Campo to the surrounding woods and mountains such as the Sierra de Guadarrama, Madrid is full of natural treasures. What's more, it caters for every type of activity, from hiking in La Pedriza, skiing in Navacerrada or touring El Pardo, to name but a few.

## 10.

### Take a selfie by El Oso y el Madroño

This statue of a tree-climbing bear is a well-known symbol of Madrid, and a meeting point for lost tourists and friends. Designed by Antonio Navarro Santafé, the sculpture is 4m tall, weighs 20 tonnes and sits in the Puerta del Sol.



## 11.

### Enjoy a bird's-eye view

The Madrid skyline is one of the most beautiful in Spain, and the perfect place to appreciate it is the roof of the Círculo de Bellas Artes in Calle Alcalá. From there, you can survey the whole city, its great avenues, famous monuments and lush parks.

## 12.

### Celebrate the local fiestas

Every summer, the celebrations dovetail into each other as the city's neighbourhoods mark the feast days of their local saints. From San Cayetano to the Verbena de la Paloma, concerts, dancing and fun are what it's all about. And don't forget the main fiesta for Madrid's own patron saint, San Isidro, on May 15.



## 13.

### See the city's most famous buildings

From rationalism to neoclassicism, Madrid's architecture is a living story of the city's evolution over the centuries. Some unmissable examples are the beautiful Palacio de Longoria, the cupola of the Basílica de San Francisco el Grande and the impressive Palacio de Cibeles.

## 14.

### Discover the Chueca neighbourhood

Madrid is a very gay-friendly city, but if there's an area that most embraces diversity, it's Chueca, where there are many shops, bars, restaurants and clubs aimed specifically at the LGBTI community. Madrid's annual Gay Pride festival is also centred on this area.

## 15.

### Have a beer!

If Madrileños have a favourite way to spend an evening, it's enjoying a drink and a bite to eat with friends, which is perhaps why the range of food in the city's bars and restaurant is so wide. The weather is good enough for terraces to be open practically all year round and, from La Latina to Chamberí, there are always plenty of groups enjoying lively conversations over coffees, beers or something stronger.



## 16.

### Admire the art

A wander along the famous Paseo del Arte is a compulsory part of any visit to Madrid. The Prado, Reina Sofía and Thyssen-Bornemisza galleries are the three epicentres of art and three of the most important museums in Spain. But don't miss out on the plethora of small galleries in the Barrio de las Letras and Salamanca districts, either.

## 17.

### Cycle along Madrid Río

The relocation underground of part of Madrid's main ring road has given way to a large 10km-long park along the Manzanares river. It's a pleasure to ride or walk along its banks, where you can see children playing in its playgrounds and, if you fancy, stop for a break at one of the cafés on the way.

## 18.

### Step on to kilometre 0

A small, easy-to-miss plaque just opposite the Real Casa de Correos in Puerta del Sol marks the spot where all Spain's roads begin, known locally as kilometre 0. Many locals have a photo of this small square of pavement with feet walking across it in an album somewhere, so make sure you get yours, too.



## 19.

### Shop in the Rastro

Madrid's oldest and most famous flea market is a must-see for visitors. Every Sunday in and around Calle Ribera de Curtidores in Embajadores, dozens of stalls set up to sell second-hand clothes, vinyl, jewellery and just about anything you can imagine. Once done, head to a nearby bar to peruse your buys.

## 20.

### Escape the centre

Stroll around the gardens at Monte del Pardo, visit the immense El Escorial monastery, or explore the Palacio Real de Aranjuez and its famous World Heritage gardens... There are numerous places worth seeing outside the city centre but still within the Madrid region.

## Quinta de la Fuente del Berro

A magical idyll where the water bubbles over the falls, and the smell of freshly cut grass hangs everywhere. Two moss-covered stone staircases are obscured by the creepers on each side of the stream, and looking out over the lake, you feel as if a court of nymphs with flower crowns round their hair were singing in your ear. It's just a few steps from the M-30 and right next to the Torrespaña, but you'd never know it. → M: Manuel Becerra.



# Garden city

## Waterfalls, olive groves, Tyrolean houses and peacocks – Madrid is full of incredible green spaces to explore

**IN THE HEART** of Madrid, among buildings, avenues and squares, sit hidden parks, gardens, groves and other green spaces that would look more in place in an adventure movie or tropical landscape than a European capital.

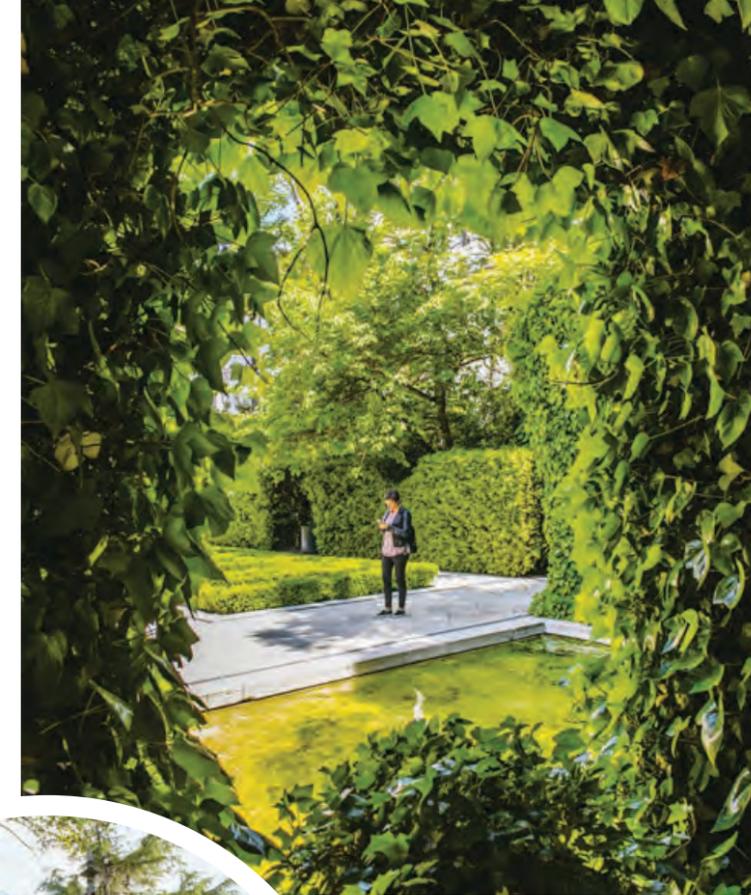
One good example is the Jardines del Campo del Moro (Metro Príncipe Pío), a unique site right next to the Royal Palace where peacocks roam peacefully among the trees and paths. Seven centuries before Habsburg Queen María Christina ordered built the park's Tyrolean-style house (see central image) as a reminder of her

Austrian childhood, Emir Ali ibn Yusuf had set up camp here in an ill-fated attempt to reconquer the city. Now you have to escape the rectilinear order of the fountains and flowerbeds and get deep into the undergrowth to evoke the memory of that event to which the site owes its name.

But this is just one indication of the hidden splendour the capital has to offer. From concealed parks to secret gardens and bucolic corners bursting with green, these are some of the Edenic spaces you can enjoy without setting foot outside Madrid.



Campo del Moro



## ← Jardín del Marqués de Casa Riera

Legend has it that at the end of the nineteenth century a man and a woman were found dead on the site where the house of the Marquis of the Casa Riera was built. A luxurious mansion that was barely ever inhabited, it includes a small landscaped garden with a pond and boxed hedges. It's situated just in front of the Círculo de Bellas Artes.

→ M: Banco de España.

## ↓ Museo Sorolla

Since he started painting gardens in 1906, Spanish artist Joaquín Sorolla always wanted to create one of his own. And when he got the chance, he designed this splendid example divided into three spaces inspired by the Garden of Troy in Seville's Alcázar, the Alhambra's Generalife and a final one centred on a pond.

→ M: Gregorio Marañón.



The pond in the Museo Sorolla garden is dominated by the Fountain of Secrets

## ← Olivar de Castillejo

A wild garden where sandy paths disappear among the blue-grey tops of the olive trees and the breeze tastes of eucalyptus. Napoleon camped here when this plot of cultivated land was on the outskirts of the city and it later became a favourite of intellectuals such as the poet Dámaso Alonso. These days it's only open to the public in summer, when there are concerts and open-air film screenings. → M: Cuzco.

## DID YOU KNOW...

# Unesco here we go

The Paseo del Prado and the Retiro could soon join the organisation's prestigious list of World Heritage Sites

**EVEN THOUGH THE** Madrid region is already home to several places recognised as World Heritage Sites by Unesco (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), including El Escorial and Aranjuez, until now the city centre has yet to get a look-in.

But in April Spain's National Heritage Board, which comprises the heritage chiefs of Spain's 17 autonomous regions and two autonomous cities (Ceuta and Melilla), decided to put forward the Paseo del Prado between Cibeles and Plaza de Atocha, the whole of the Retiro Park and the Barrio de los Jerónimos for inclusion on the organisation's prestigious international list. The hope is that they will be added as World Heritage Sites in the Cultural Landscape category.

One of the key elements of the bid is the fact that it is citizens who have been responsible for allowing the spirit of the sites to live on over time, turning them into stages of huge showings of public participation – from the declaration of the Second Republic and the protests against the February 23 1981 coup, to the Feria del Libro book fair, numerous victory parades by Real Madrid and Atlético Madrid football clubs and the Rock 'n' Roll Madrid Marathon.

The authorities also feel the areas represent the "exceptional universal value" that Unesco requires in the way they unite culture and nature. Situated in the heart of the city, the sites cover 190 hectares, 75 percent of which are green spaces. The Paseo del Prado was one of the first tree-lined urban walk in Europe, though Madrileños have been using it as a



Prado Museum



The Retiro park boating lake

place of leisure since the fifteenth century. It was Carlos III who eventually commissioned it to be decorated with trees and fountains. On top of this, the area is also home to many major institutions, including the Palacio de Cibeles, the current home of Madrid City Hall; the Bank of Spain; the Casa de América; the headquarters of the Spanish army (Palacio de Buenavista); the Thyssen-Bornemisza, Prado and Reina Sofía

Museums; Spain's Congress of Deputies; the Palace and Ritz hotels and the Royal Botanical Gardens, among many others, as well as the Ministries of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Health, Consumption and Social Welfare.

To that list you can also add several well-known monuments, including the Puerta de Alcalá; the Cibeles, Apollo and Neptuno fountains; and, in the Retiro, the Alcachofa fountain, the Obelisco a los Caídos and the Alfonso XII monument. In total, there are more than 21 objects of cultural interest here.

Once the central government submits the application to Unesco, Madrileños will have to wait until 2020 for the institution's final decision. Among the objects of cultural interest in Spain already included in the Unesco list are the Alhambra in Granada, the city of Ávila, the Altamira caves, the Doñana National Park and Lugo's city wall.

**The Paseo del Prado was one of the first tree-lined urban walks in Europe**

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Enjoy Madrid once again!

# The best of the barrios

Here's a brief guide to our favourite parts of Madrid's neighbourhoods, with everything from fiestas to history and monuments, plus how to get to each one



## Lavapiés

This neighbourhood is a melting pot and symbolic of the fusion of ethnic identities and cultures that has happened in Madrid in the last few years. It's always been an unassuming place, inhabited, until the 1980s, by older people who lived in *corralas* – the corridor-style housing so typical of old Madrid. Nowadays, thanks to rents that are slightly more accessible than in other areas of the city and its multicultural character, it attracts a lot of young people who share it with neighbours of up to 88 different nationalities. Indian restaurants stand next to Arab barber shops and classic Madrid taverns. This neighbourhood is also famous for the San Lorenzo fiesta, which takes place every August, and for events like Tapapiés, a tapas route that is held in October, mainly in the bars and on the terraces of Calle Argumosa, one of the area's liveliest streets. Lavapiés also has cultural hotspots like Tabacalera, a place for collective cultural expressions, and Teatro Valle-Inclán, which is managed by the Spanish National Drama Centre.

→ M: Tirso de Molina, Lavapiés, Embajadores.

## Sol-Gran Vía

Although it isn't a neighbourhood in the official sense, Sol is the true centre of Madrid, and Puerta del Sol is the starting point for the whole Spanish road network. It's a meeting place for locals and tourists alike, due to its location and the fact that it's a transport hub. The oldest building in the area is the former Post Office, known as Casa de Correos, which is now the headquarters of the Presidency of the Autonomous Community of Madrid. On December 31 hundreds of people



gather in front of its clock tower to see in the new year. This square hosts a famous statue of a bear and a strawberry tree that appears on the city's coat of arms. It is also here that many of Madrid's most important streets begin, including Calles Mayor and Arenal and Carrera de San Jerónimo. Nearby lies one of the city's major shopping areas, Calle Preciados, which converges with Gran Vía, an icon of the city since its construction in 1910. It's home to cinemas, theatres, department stores and some of the city's most exclusive shops, as well as a number of striking buildings such as the Metrópolis and the Carrión, and Madrid's first skyscrapers, the Telefónica building and Torre de Madrid.

→ M: Sol, Gran Vía.

## Chamberí

From hunting grounds to aristocratic residences, Chamberí has always been a neighbourhood in constant evolution. A traditionally stately suburb, with its wide streets and expensive apartments set away from the tourist crush of the city centre, in recent years Chamberí has become one of the city's most popular areas for eating out. And that's not only thanks to the revitalisation of Calle Ponzano – a must for all gourmet fans – but also due to the survival of the neighbourhood's traditional restaurants and taverns. Its architecture is also worth mentioning, embodied in squares like Plaza Olavide and Plaza Chamberí, as well as in cultural venues like the Teatros del Canal, the Museo Sorolla, the Geominero and Andén Cero, and its attractive shopping streets like Calle Zurbarán.

→ M: Quevedo, Ríos Rosas, Canal, Iglesia, Islas Filipinas.



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**Chamberí is a fashionable neighbourhood for dining out, thanks to the buzzing Calle Ponzano and its traditional taverns**

## La Latina

Fun and tradition are the defining characteristics of this city centre neighbourhood. La Latina is part of old Madrid, blessed with winding medieval streets that are broken up by small squares like Plaza de la Paja, Plaza de San Andrés and Plaza del Humilladero. You'll find the remains of the city's ancient walls along with churches both large and small dotted haphazardly along its streets, as well as the Segovia viaduct and Puerta de Toledo, which mark the boundaries of the neighbourhood. Mercado de la Cebada, one of Madrid's largest markets, is the perfect combination of tradition and modernity. La Latina is a favourite place for a few beers at the weekend, or heading down streets like Cava Alta and Cava Baja for a vermouth and some *huevos estrellados*, a delicious combination of lightly fried eggs and crispy chips, at Casa Lucio. In addition to iconic spots like the Basilica of San Francisco el Grande, the Teatro de la Latina, Jardines de las Vistillas and Campo de Cebada, La Latina is famous for the Verbena de la Paloma, a traditional fiesta that's celebrated in August with music, chotis dances and much more.

→ M: La Latina, Puerta de Toledo.

## Las Letras

Once home to some of the great writers of the Golden Age of Spanish literature such as Cervantes and Quevedo, the Barrio de las Letras also hosts interesting galleries and antiques shops, and part of the famous Art Walk that takes in the Thyssen-Bornemisza, the Reina Sofía and Prado museums as well as the CaixaForum cultural centre with its spectacular vertical garden. The neighbourhood's main thoroughfare is Calle Huertas, and on its pavements you can read quotations from great works of Spanish literature. It's home to tapas bars and party venues where young people gather at weekends for drinks with friends. Plaza de Santa Ana, with its large terraces next to the Teatro Español, and Spain's Congress building are other iconic spots. One of the major events to be held here is DecorAcción (in June), an enormous interior design fair in which the neighbourhood's shops set up street stalls selling decorative objects and antiques.

→ M: Antón Martín, Atocha, Sevilla.

## Chueca

It's Madrid's LGBTI neighbourhood and is known throughout the world for its tolerant and diverse atmosphere. What only 20 years ago was a decidedly marginal area has now been completely transformed, home to all types of bars, famous squares (Plaza de Chueca and Plaza de Pedro Zerolo), terraces, art galleries, cultural venues

(the Museum of Romanticism), impressive buildings (the Palacio de Longoria and the headquarters of the COAM architects' association), trendy and gay-oriented stores (Berkana bookshop), and gourmet markets where you can eat tapas (Mercado de San Antón). During the day it's perfect for a stroll and popping into the shops on Calle Barquillo and Calle Hortaleza. At night, you can dine in one of the area's numerous restaurants, which cater for all tastes and budgets. Afterwards, sample the Chueca nightlife, which is among the liveliest in Madrid, with plenty of gay bars that are also hetero-friendly, including Delirio, Fraggel Pop, Why Not, the rooftop at the Óscar Room Mate hotel, and the famous Studio 54.

→ M: Chueca/Gran Vía.

## Malasaña

Next to Chueca, Malasaña owes its name to Manuela Malasaña, the heroine of the May 2, 1808 uprising against the French forces then occupying Madrid. Led by Luís Daoiz and Pedro Velarde, the event is important in the neighbourhood because its focal point was the old Parque de Artillería de Monteleón, located where the Plaza del Dos de Mayo now stands. In the square, you can see an arch from the old military barracks, as well as a monument paying tribute to the two captains. What was once the neighbourhood of La Movida, the cultural and social revolution that emerged in Madrid in the 1980s, is now the city's trendy hipster area par excellence. It's a paradise for foodies and fans of organic produce, and full of modern businesses such as cool barbers, cupcake stores, and vintage cafés that sit alongside traditional bars and markets such as the Mercado de Barceló, which now boasts a new modern building and an attractive terrace. Strolling around Malasaña, and especially along its famous shopping street, Calle Fuencarral, is to experience a young, cosmopolitan neighbourhood full of life and a party atmosphere. It's also a good place for a night out, home to legendary venues such as Penta and Tupperware.

→ M: Tribunal, Noviciado, Bilbao.

## Tetuán

Tetuán is made up of six different areas: Bellas Vistas, Cuatro



**Malasaña is one of the city's trendiest areas, a paradise for foodies and hipsters**

Caminos, Castillejos, Almenara, Valdeacederas and Berruguete, and is divided into two very distinct parts by Calle Bravo Murillo, one of Madrid's most important shopping streets. The area bordering Paseo de la Castellana includes the Azca business complex, one of Madrid's major financial centres and home to several skyscrapers, including the Torre Picasso. Here you'll also find expensive apartments, the Moda Shopping Centre and the Calle Orense shopping street, alongside the Nuevos Ministerios metro and train station, and the world's biggest Zara clothes store. The other part of the district, which lies on the opposite side of Calle Bravo Murillo, is known as the Little Caribbean because of the large number of Dominican

**Emerging artists have chosen Carabanchel as the place to set up their workshops and organise cultural activities**

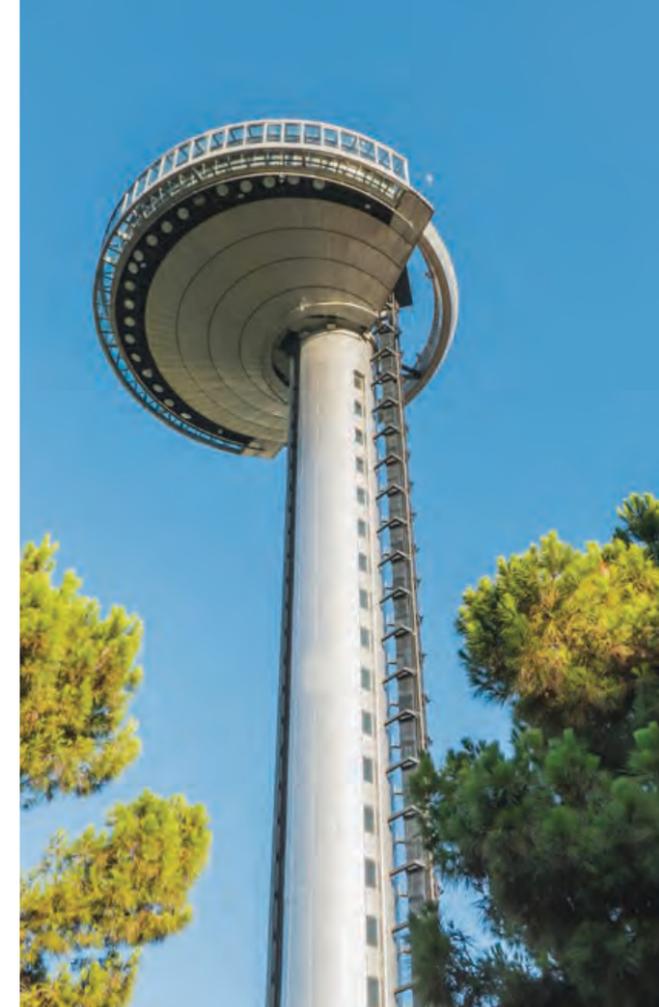
immigrants who've made their home there, opening cybercafés, hairdressers, supermarkets and restaurants, all buzzing to the sounds of reggaeton, bachata and trap. This is a decidedly ungentrified area with more affordable housing and smaller, cheaper shops and businesses.

→ M: Cuatro Caminos, Alvarado, Estrecho, Tetuán, Valdeacederas.

## Carabanchel

This area began as one of the city's most traditional working-class districts, although it's recently evolved into a trendy neighbourhood where alternative and emerging artists have set up their workshops near Calle Urgel and Calle Oporto and organise cultural activities such as Artbanchel each May. It's an area that offers some real treats for visitors, including the Palacio de Vistalegre (a former bullring that's now a concert venue) and La Finca de Vistalegre, an old recreation ground that in its period of greatest splendour boasted two palaces, a navigable river, fountains and peacocks. It's also a favourite haunt of heavy metal and hard rock fans, who head to clubs such as Grotto 77 and Sala Live, and there's a wide variety of eating options, too, from fried chicken to Peruvian and Colombian specialties served up in the restaurants opened by members of the neighbourhood's immigrant communities. It's another of the city's emerging areas, as it's located near the centre, bordered by Madrid Río and Casa de Campo, but still offers affordable housing. Finally, don't forget that it's also home to both the Pradera and the Ermita de San Isidro, the epicentre of the festivities honouring Madrid's patron saint each May 15.

→ M: Marqués de Vadillo, Urgel, Oporto, Carabanchel, Vistalegre.



## Moncloa

Moncloa is a stately neighbourhood where family houses sit alongside halls of residence for Complutense University students. It's a nice area to walk around, especially along Paseo de Pintor Rosales, the Templo de Debod and the Parque del Oeste, which is linked to Casa de Campo via the Teleférico cable car. It begins at Plaza de España, where you can see the Edificio España and the Torre de Madrid skyscrapers, and finishes at the famous Faro de Moncloa, one of the city's best-known viewpoints. The neighbourhood is a perfect blend of residential and student life, with shops, hotels, parks, monuments and an active university social scene, especially in the Argüelles area. The Museo del Traje, the Museo de América and the Museo Cerralbo are also to be found in this appealing area.

→ M: Plaza de España, Moncloa, Argüelles.

## Salamanca

This is Madrid's most exclusive neighbourhood. It was built in the nineteenth century by



the Marquis of Salamanca as a residential area for the city's aristocratic and bourgeois classes. Nowadays, it's also the focus of business and commercial activity. This is where you'll find Madrid's so-called Golden Mile, where streets like Calle Serrano, Calle Goya, Calle Ortega y Gasset, Calle Claudio Coello and Callejón de Jorge Juan are home to luxury fashion, accessory and jewellery brands. Among its biggest attractions are the National Archaeological Museum, the Juan March Foundation, the Carlos de Amberes Foundation, and the Lázaro Galdiano Museum, as well as leading art galleries and, of course the WiZink Center, the city's biggest venue for concerts and shows. It's also home to some of the best restaurants in Madrid, including Zalacaín, Ramón Freixa and Kabuki Wellington.

→ M: Serrano, Velázquez, Goya, Lista.

## Usera

This neighbourhood in the south of Madrid was, until barely a decade ago, just one of the city's many working-class districts. But in recent years there has been an influx of Chinese immigrants who have transformed it into Madrid's own Chinatown. Shops of all kinds with signs in Chinese have replaced the traditional haberdasheries and markets, and even the area's older bars now employ Chinese waiters. That makes it the best place in the city to try authentic oriental food at the plentiful restaurants with menus in Chinese offering specialties from little-known regions; happily, the high quality of the dishes is not reflected in the prices. It's a must-visit, especially during the colourful Chinese New Year celebrations.

→ M: Usera.

**The Usera neighbourhood is a must-visit, especially during the colourful Chinese New Year celebrations**



## Austrias

In its monuments, churches and palaces Madrid's most historic neighbourhood hides the secrets of the former monarchs who once inhabited them. Its name dates from the days when the Habsburg dynasty ruled Spain and Charles I ordered the construction of squares and monumental buildings in the city. Later on, under Philip II, work began to remodel the old Plaza Arrabal, which became the present-day Plaza Mayor. From the Almudena Cathedral to the Plaza de la Villa and the Teatro Real, the architectural beauty of this area attracts a large number of tourists who gaze in wonder at the work of the ancestors of today's city residents. The area's restaurants serve traditional cocido madrileño, though there are also more modern places, such as the remodelled Mercado de San Miguel, while the Jardines de Sabatini provide a haven for tired sightseers who can rest on the shaded benches beside its fountains.

→M: Sol, La Latina, Puerta de Toledo.



## Vallecas

Vallecas is another working-class neighbourhood that is emerging as an alternative area to visit, thanks to its rich mix of different cultures. It's located a short journey from Atocha by public transport and its main thoroughfare stretches from Puente de Vallecas to the Avenida de la Albufera, a street lined with small, cheap shops that ends at the Cerro del Tío Pío (or 'seven tits park', to give it its rather vulgar local nickname), which affords some spectacular views of the city. At night, Vallecas is Madrid's heavy metal capital with a large number of bars and clubs playing hard rock. In terms of food, you'll find a bit of everything

here, from traditional taverns to Ecuadorian and Chinese cuisine. The neighbourhood has grown so much that, as well as Puente de Vallecas, the Villa de Vallecas old town also now has its own new housing development. One of the area's most popular celebrations consists of the simulation of a naval battle, which sees people take to the streets with water pistols and balloons. It's also a big footballing area, home to Rayo Vallecano's ground.

→M: Villa de Vallecas, Congosto.

## Arganzuela

This district is made up of the Acacias, Paseo Imperial, Legazpi, Palos de Moguer, Delicias and Atocha neighbourhoods. Its historic buildings are almost all in the rationalist, neo-Mudéjar and industrial styles, including



the old Matadero de Madrid slaughterhouse in Legazpi, which is now one of the city's leading cultural centres, and the Museo del Ferrocarril, which holds the monthly Mercado de Motores flea market. Other recommended spots include Madrid Río, with its green spaces, iconic bridges and kids' playgrounds, and the Parque de Enrique Tierno Galván, which is home to the Madrid Planetarium and some of the city's best music festivals such as Tomavistas and Brunch-in The Park.

→M: Delicias, Legazpi, Arganzuela-Planetario.

## Conde Duque

This central residential neighbourhood has been lent a new lease of life thanks to the activity generated by its main attraction: the Conde Duque Cultural Centre. This former barracks has been transformed into a base for the area's most important cultural activities: it's a summer cinema, an exhibition space, a theatre, a show hall and more. Like other neighbourhoods in downtown Madrid, its older establishments now compete with newly opened businesses. But they all share similar characteristics: friendly service, artisanal products a long way from those you find in the big high-street chains (there's no Zara here) and thoughtful decoration. You'll find bars, restaurants and shops you'll be hankering to go back to, even before you leave them, as well as everything from vinyl and menswear to gourmet food stores and art galleries. The best thing to do is surrender to its streets and discover everything the area has to offer.

→M: Noviciado, San Bernardo, Plaza España.

**The Conde Duque Cultural Centre has revitalised this neighbourhood close to Malasaña**



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# ABC MAD!

A practical glossary of typical words and expressions from Madrid

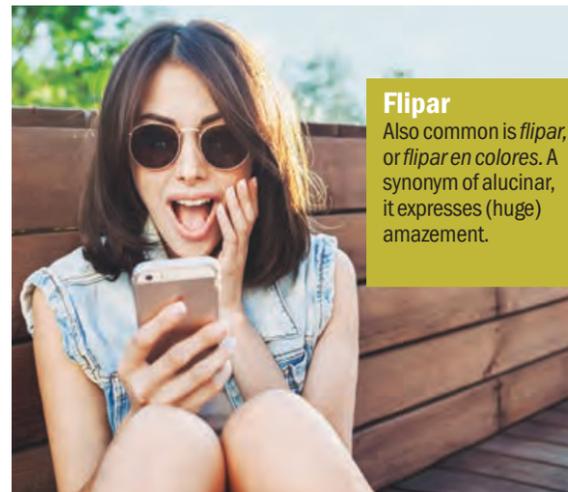
Daily life in Madrid means learning its language and forms of expression. The city is famous for its colloquialisms and very peculiar slang that set it apart from other Spanish towns, and knowing some of these words will help you feel part of the city, and give the locals a happy surprise



**Bocata**  
The typical Madrid sandwich is made with a small baguette; ask for one by saying *Un bocata, por favor*. A key expression for ordering tapas in the city



**Tío/tía**  
No, in this case it's not your aunt or uncle. Among young people, the words *tío* and *tía* can be used at random at the end of almost every sentence, in the same way you might say 'mate', 'man', or 'love'. *Tío* is directed at men and *tía* at women, and phrases like *¿Qué pasa tío?* and *¡Joé, tía!* are common parts of the everyday informal conversations you hear on the street.



**Flipar**  
Also common is *flipar*, or *flipar en colores*. A synonym of *alucinar*, it expresses (huge) amazement.

## Molar

*Molar* is something that's said a lot, especially by young people. It means that something pleases you greatly, and is more informal than the normal Spanish verb *gustar*. For example, if you see something nice, that surprises you or makes you smile, the thing to say is *¡cómo mola!*, *¡me mola!*, or *¡mola mucho!*, instead of *¡cómo me gusta!*, which sounds less natural. It can be used for almost anything, and a simple *mola* is all you need to express that something is cool.

## Mazo

If *mola* is 'I like it', *mazo* is 'a lot'. So to say you 'like something a lot', it's *mola mazo* – one of the most common local colloquial expressions. The word *mazo* has several meanings, though, so you need to be careful. It's also a mallet, and can mean a disappointment or a negative action. *Dar un mazazo* is to disappoint or upset somebody, or cause them a problem. But the most common slang use of *mazo* is to mean 'much' or 'a lot'.

**Guay**  
This means 'cool', and it's used when Madrileños like or are impressed by something. It's a word that's been used by several generations of locals but continues to be popular and very common.

## A pachas

In Madrid *a pachas* is used when you share something with someone else or several other people. For instance, when you're eating out with a group of people and the time comes to pay the bill, you might hear someone say *'pagamos a pachas'*, which means 'let's split it (equally) between us'. You can also make a bet *a pachas*, which means sharing any winnings. Or when you go for drinks, you can use *a pachas* to mean you're splitting the price of the rounds among everyone.

## Pasar

You don't always use the verb *pasar* when you're talking about throwing a ball to someone or entering a room. If you hear a Madrileño say *yo paso* in a conversation, it probably means they don't fancy doing whatever's being talked about – they're passing on it. It's the most informal way to decline an invitation or say you don't want to join in with something. It's also used in card games: to pass on the betting for the round if your hand isn't good.

## No te rayes

*No te rayes* is a phrase that has nothing to do with lines (*rayes*), but is instead used to tell someone not to get annoyed, upset or stressed by something. If a friend has a problem, you can use the expression to try to make them feel better or to play down the situation. If someone's worried about an exam, for example, you could say, *tío, no te rayes*, to calm them down and cheer them up. But *no te rayes* if you take a while to get the hang of it!

**Currar**  
*Ir a currar* is a less formal way of saying *ir a trabajar* – 'to go to work'. *El curro* means *el trabajo* in Spain, but watch out, because 'Curro' is also a shortened form of the name Francisco.

## Chulapo

You might not hear this word every day, but you should know it. The term *chulapo* comes from the Spanish *zarzuela* light operas of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, particularly the well-known 'La Verbena de la Paloma'. It's the name of the typical suit worn at some of Madrid's most popular festivals, but it's also used to describe an archetypal Madrileño – a bit arrogant and brazen, but amusing and polite. You will see *chulapos* and *chulapas* at the celebrations for Madrid's patron saint, San Isidro.

## Terraceo

*Terraceo* is one of Madrileños' favourite activities in spring and summer, when bars and restaurants set out their tables and chairs in the street and people meet up for beers in the open air. *Terraceo* means *ir de terrazas* – that is, to visit different bars and areas to enjoy a few alfresco drinks.



## Tapas

The term *tapas* covers a wide variety of appetisers and snacks in Spanish cuisine, which are served in most bars or restaurants with a drink. The practice of sampling them on the move (bar, eat and drink, new bar) is called a *tapeo* or *ir de tapas*. You're always sure to find a group of friends ready to find that bar that serves up the *tapas* for free.



## Castizo

According to the dictionary, *castizo* describes people or things that accurately represent the characteristics of their race, country, city and so on. Anything *castizo* is the most typical, the most rooted of a city's customs or culture. Madrid is the source of this expression, as its traditions have lasted over the years. *Chotis* (traditional Madrid dance), *cocido madrileño* (stew), *callos* (tripe), *la verbena de San Isidro* and *la virgen de La Paloma* (local festivities), *churros con chocolate* (fritters with chocolate) are all truly *castizo* traditions.

## Movida

This word became famous thanks to the *Movida madrileña*, the city's '80s countercultural movement. *Movida* refers to a mess, confusion or ruckus, and *¡Qué movida!* means the same as *Vaya lío* ('what a mess!').

## Liarla parda

Whenever there's a fight, heated argument, serious swindle or something outrageous happens, you'll hear the phrase *liarla parda* ('to mess up') to refer to something that someone has done that has caused serious harm to a third party. For example, if you leave the tap running in your flat and cause a flood that collapses the whole block, then you have *liado parda* ('messed up badly') because of your absent-mindedness. It's much better if you never have to use this expression, but you should know it. Just in case.



## How to ask for beer:

### Caña

This is the most common way of serving beer: in a glass of around 200ml, well poured from the tap and frothy.

### Doble

A *doble* in Madrid is a *caña* in a bigger glass, also on draught and very cold.

### Botellín

This is the smallest of the bottled beers, formerly known as a *botijo* or *quinto*.

### Tercio

A *tercio* is a 330ml bottle of beer.

### Clara

A *clara* is the Spanish version of a shandy, a *caña* of beer mixed with lemonade. It's a very typical drink on the terraces of Madrid in summer.

### Mini

A *mini* is a big (plastic) cup of draught beer that holds almost a litre of drink. It's normally shared and served at local festivals.

### Jarra

Draught beer in a half-litre chilled glass. It must be served very cold.

# LOOKING FOR CONCERT, CINEMA OR THEATRE TICKETS?

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# Who's who?

Madrid is a cosmopolitan city that welcomes people from all over the world. It's the perfect melting pot where those from different backgrounds live together and consider themselves de facto Madrileños whether they were born here or not. These are a few of the city's most renowned residents



**Dabiz Muñoz**  
→Chef

In 2007 he opened DiverXO, a restaurant that has broken both culinary and aesthetic barriers. His ability to maintain his Michelin stars – he's had three since 2013 – is recognition of an iconoclast who has raised the profile of the Madrid restaurant scene in record time. David Muñoz, known as Dabiz Muñoz, is, in short, a chef with his feet on the ground who makes you touch the sky. You can also try his food in the more casual setting of StreetXO.



**Pedro Almodóvar**  
→Film director

The idol of the Movida madrileña movement of the 1980s, Almodóvar achieved the success he now enjoys at his 60-plus years with films such as 'High Heels' and 'Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown'. He's won two Oscars – for best original screenplay for 'Talk to Her' and best foreign-language film for 'All About My Mother' – and despite his success in Hollywood, his filmography remains intimately linked with Madrid, turning the city into another one of his movie characters.

**Pedro Almodóvar has won two Oscars, but his films remain intimately linked with Madrid**



**Blanca Portillo**  
→Actress

The 55-year-old Madrileña is one of Spain's most respected actresses. She's worked with Pedro Almodóvar on two occasions, in 'Volver' (which earned her a prize at Cannes) and in 'Broken Embraces', and has won prestigious awards such as the National Theatre Prize and the Silver Shell at the San Sebastián Film Festival. She's also one of the biggest names in today's theatre, as both an actress and as a director, and has even headed up the Mérida Classic Theatre Festival.



## Penélope Cruz

→Actress

One Oscar, three Goyas, a Bafta and a David di Donatello. The number of awards won by Spain's best-known actress is incredible. Bigas Luna put her on the map with 'Jamón, jamón' and from then on it's been success all the way. The partner of another great Spanish actor, Javier Bardem, Cruz has worked with top directors from both Spain and the US, from Almodóvar to Woody Allen, and has even played Donatella Versace in a series.





ALFREDO ARIAS

↑ **Boa Mistura** → Urban art collective

These urban artists have a gift: they can listen to the city's heartbeats and paint them on every wall. Their first murals are in Calle San Dimas, which they painted in 2010 after moving from Alameda de Osuna. But their biggest work is in Mercado de la Cebada. They're also behind the decoration of the zebra crossings in the city with verses of poetry written by locals for the initiative 'Versos al paso'.



**Alejandro Amenábar**  
→ Film director

Amenábar was born in Santiago de Chile, but his family moved to Madrid in 1973, when he was barely one year old. He's a leading figure in raising the visibility of the LGBTI community, having leapt to national fame with the film 'Tesis', which won seven Goya awards. International success came later with 'The Sea Inside', which earned him a best foreign-language film Oscar, and 'The Others', starring Nicole Kidman.



**Luz Casal**  
→ Singer

Having sold more than five million records, Luz Casal is one of Spain's most revered singers, both inside and outside of its borders, and especially in France, where she was awarded the city of Paris's top medal in 2010. With songs such as 'Piensa en mí' and 'No me importa nada', she has conquered a whole generation extending into the present day and has featured on the soundtracks of films by Almodóvar and Amenábar, among other moviemakers.



**Carmen Machi**  
→ Actress

Sitcom 'Aída' transformed her into one of the best-loved actresses on Spanish television, but this Madrid actress has shown she is capable of not only making us laugh – in films, too, such as 'Ocho apellidos vascos' – but also of conquering the stage in dramas such as 'Antígona' and 'Cronología de las bestias'. Three Max prizes and one Valle Inclán theatre award pay testament to her constant presence on the capital's stages and her receipt of the city of Madrid's Gold Medal.

**WE TALK WITH...**

**C Tangana**

**ANTÓN ÁLVAREZ**, alias C Tangana, is leading the race to turn urban music into the new mainstream in Spain, as it already is in much of the world.

**How did you end up becoming C Tangana?**

I was born into a poor family, I'd say. My father set up a business very young, spending his whole life working on it and making it grow bit by bit. He came to Madrid to earn a living and growing up with that culture of effort has got me where I am. In my family it was very important to study if you had the opportunity. I went to school in Carabanchel and then went to university.

**You've said that urban music will be the new pop music. The success of your tracks such as 'Guerrera' and 'El Rey Soy Yo / I Feel Like Kanye' is proving you right.**

It was needing a push here. Until recently it was rock and guitar bands that everyone liked, whether they were rich, poor or intellectual. Now the new popular culture is urban culture.

**Has getting closer to Latin music allowed you to reach a wide audience?**

It's something that's happening around the whole world, and the most honourable thing as far as I was concerned was to work my way in through what I had closest to me.



ALFREDO ARIAS

↑ **Irene Escolar**

→ Actress

A furious performer on stage but sweetness personified in real life, Irene Escolar is one of Spain's most promising young actresses. She won the Goya film award for best new actress in 2016 for her role in 'Un otoño sin Berlín' and has been nominated at the Max theatre awards for her performance in Federico García Lorca's 'El Público'. After that came 'Blackbird', the play that's taken her to new heights.



**Javier Marías**  
→ Writer

Aged 66, Javier Marías is one of the most prolific Madrid writers of his generation. A member of the Spanish Royal Academy, Marías sets many of his novels in his native city, including his most recent work, 'Berta Isla'. Every year his name appears in the running as a potential Nobel Literature Prize candidate. He's also the author of numerous essays, as well as columns for newspaper El País.



**Los Javis**

→ Directors, writers and actors

Javier Calvo (left), 27, and Javier Ambrossi, 34, are the duo of the moment – mentors, almost, to a generation of youngsters. They started out as actors but soon tried their hand at directing with stage musical hit 'La Llamada'. The work had started out on the fringe but went on to become a benchmark of Madrid theatre, even being turned into a film. The pair's most recent creation, the series 'Paquita Salas', is very funny, while their performance classes in 'Operación Triunfo' were the best thing about the return of the TV talent show in 2017.

# I've pulled!

The best Madrid places to enjoy a memorable meet-up with someone special



## DALIEDA DE SAN FRANCISCO

In La Latina, right next to the Basílica de San Francisco el Grande, lies this park and viewpoint dedicated to growing and showing dahlias. It's located on the site of the former San Francisco convent, which fell into ruins and was demolished in the mid-twentieth century. The land remained unused until 2007, but has now been transformed into a pretty and still relatively unknown spot, where you can share a romantic moment sat on a bench among the flowers.  
→ Gran Vía de San Francisco, 29.  
M: Puerta de Toledo.

## RADIO ME

A laid-back atmosphere (there are lively themed nights with different DJs) and international cuisine are the main draws at this restaurant in the centrally located Hotel ME. The bar, which features views over Plaza Santa, is open into the small hours every

day of the week so you can always enjoy a romantic date lasting long into the night. Who can resist dinner and cocktails under the stars accompanied by a panorama of the city? If you're more of a daytime person, don't leave without trying the full brunch on Sundays – it's ideal for sharing.  
→ ME Madrid Reina Victoria.  
Plaza de Santa Ana, 14. M: Antón Martín.

## PARQUE DE EL CAPRICHIO

A gem of Romanticism in the Barajas district, the extraordinarily well-preserved eighteenth-century Parque de El Capricho de la Alameda de Osuna is a 14-hectare space hosting an artificial river, lakes,

**The extraordinarily well-preserved Parque de El Capricho is a voyage back to the eighteenth century**

woods, gardens, buildings made to look like temples, and hidden corners. The park's construction began in 1780 for the Duke and Duchess of Osuna, the most cultured Spanish aristocratic couple of the day, who promoted Enlightenment ideas and sponsored numerous artists.  
→ Paseo de la Alameda de Osuna, s/n.  
M: El Capricho.

## VINOTECA MORATÍN

The wine list at this cosy bar is extensive and well selected, so you may need some time to choose. Food-wise, the small but appealing and carefully crafted menu will provide fewer doubts. If you're looking for a quiet end to a date, there's a tasteful and

intimate area (all plants and wooden fittings) that's perfect for whispering sweet nothings.  
→ Moratín, 11. M: Atocha.

## HAMMAM AL ÁNDALUS

This oasis of calm is located just a few minutes from busy Puerta del Sol. With thermal baths at different temperatures, the relaxing atmosphere and peace envelope you as soon as you walk through the door. The ceilings, walls and murals are inspired by Moorish design, and you can complete the experience with a massage for two.  
→ Atocha, 14. M: Sol.

## REAL JARDÍN BOTÁNICO

Right next to the bustle of Paseo

del Prado, this green and leafy space with more than 30,000 plants from all over the world makes it easy to imagine that life in the city has been put on hold and love is floating in the air. The gardens were created in 1781 for King Carlos III by Juan de Villanueva and botanist Gómez Ortega.  
→ Plaza de Murillo, 2. M: Atocha.

## TEMPLO DE DEBOD

As well as one of the most recognisable postcard images of Madrid, the Debod Temple is a favourite spot for lovebirds. If you've never seen it, close your eyes and imagine three portals surrounded by water under an orange sky. The temple was

## PALACIO DE CRISTAL

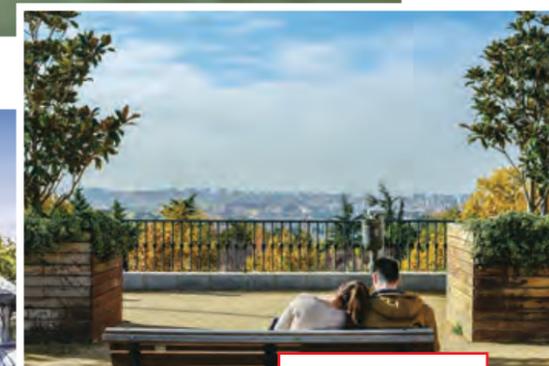
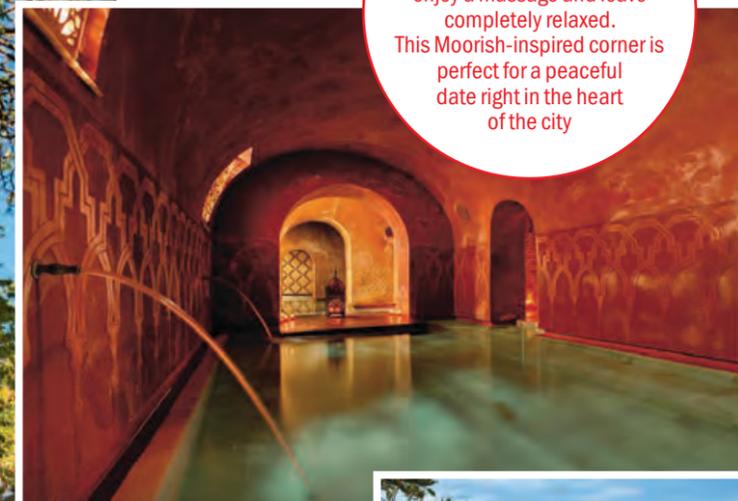
Built in 1887, this sublime glass and iron building stands in the Retiro park

## WHY TO VISIT?

For its beautiful lake with swans, and because it's a branch of the Reina Sofía Museum that hosts fascinating exhibitions.  
→ Palacio de Cristal.  
Parque del Retiro.  
M: Retiro.

## ARAB BATHS BESIDE SOL

Soak in the thermal waters, enjoy a massage and leave completely relaxed. This Moorish-inspired corner is perfect for a peaceful date right in the heart of the city



## A DATE AMONG THE DAHLIAS

At the viewpoint by Basílica de San Francisco el Grande

sent, stone by stone, in 1968 by the Egyptian government in gratitude for Spain's help in saving the heritage threatened by the construction of the Aswan High Dam.  
→ Ferraz, 1. M: Plaza de España.

## GARRA BAR

This light-filled space is centred on an impressive bar adorned with mirrors, velvet and lots and lots of gold. The menu features champagne, cocktails, mocktails and all the usual spirits, as well as delicious tapas, while the posh hotel ambience is sure to have just the right effect on your date.  
→ Hotel Barceló Torre de Madrid.  
Plaza de España, 18. M: Plaza de España.

# Shopping

[www.timeout.com/madrid/shopping](http://www.timeout.com/madrid/shopping)

## High fashion, low cost

The best Madrid stores for picking up unique designer clothes and homeware without breaking the bank

### La Intrusa

If you're into retro style and designs inspired by bygone eras, be sure to pay a visit to La Intrusa's two stores in Malasaña and Barrio de las Letras. Its dresses have a certain romantic air, as do its accessories, with many designed by young Madrid creators and entrepreneurs.

→ [Corredera Alta de San Pablo, 33. M: Tribunal.](#)

### Dooc

Dooc is one of those shops that won't leave you indifferent. Typical items include its origami animal heads, ready for hanging on the wall like ecological hunting trophies; ceramic pieces resembling pigs; zebra urns and Italian firm Seletti's famous monkey and mouse lamps. This menagerie of designs sits alongside illustrations by Galician artist Lara Lars and the in-house-created neon lights.

→ [Atocha, 73. M: Antón Martín.](#)

### Luciolé

Though it looks like a sweet shop, this store has nothing to do with confectionery. It sells DIY cotton fibre lamps: choose the size and colour you want – there are more than 50 different types – as well as the kind of cable and support, and even the bulb. The result? Informal and colourful lamps with a minimalist air.

→ [Hortaleza, 106. M: Alonso Martínez.](#)

### La Oficial

It's hard to resist the items in this La Latina store – colourful china plates, bowls and dishes all hand-painted in Portugal and regularly brought in by its two owners. From there, they've also imported the tradition of selling their wares by weight, just like in the old days.

→ [Ruda, 9. La Latina](#)

### Peseta

The fabrics determine the creations that come out of this small workshop full of prints, patchwork items and buttons in the Conde Duque neighbourhood. Everything here has passed through the hands of its creator, a lover of handicrafts capable of designing clothes, accessories and all kinds of home decorations using fabrics from around the globe. There's another shop in Barrio de las Letras.

→ [San Vicente Ferrer, 8. M: Tribunal.](#)

### Dear Tee

If there's one item of clothing that will never go out of fashion and that (almost) everybody loves, it's t-shirts. This international firm, which set up shop in Madrid in 2017, knows that well, which is why it's specialised in this wardrobe basic with the aim of creating a hit. It's main thing is brilliant prints with edgy messages and you'll find it hard not to find at least one here to suit your taste, whatever your interest.

→ [Colón, 11. M: Chueca.](#)

### El Moderno

This Malasaña concept store provides a perfect, affordable initiation into the world of decoration and design accessories. Because if there's one thing it can brag about, it's having a great selection of functional furniture, unique homeware and all manner of jewellery. You can't buy objects like these everywhere, and certainly not without spending a fortune.

→ [Corredera Baja de San Pablo, 19. M: Gran Vía.](#)

### Walk With Me

These guys' illustrated maps of different Madrid and Barcelona neighbourhoods might ring a bell, but we're recommending them here because they've now opened a store in the Barrio de las Letras with a collection of accessories – backpacks, wallets and functionally designed bags – all handmade from recycled leather.

→ [León, 30. M: Antón Martín.](#)



## TOP 3

The best vintage clothing and accessory stores



### ↑ Vintalogy

This is the biggest vintage and secondhand clothing store in Europe. Here you can find everything from the lures skirts so much loved in the 1970s, to designer denim, discontinued footwear and military coats...

→ [www.vintalogy.es](http://www.vintalogy.es)



### ↑ Williamsburg

Sarah Jessica Parker was blown away when she visited this teeny-weeny Malasaña store. Its 1920s dresses are staples – thought not all are for sale – and many of the items come from the United States.

→ [www.facebook.com/williamsburgvintageclothes](http://www.facebook.com/williamsburgvintageclothes)



### ↑ Aramayo Vintage

This shop is a treasure trove of memories. All of its items have a story to tell, from the Sukajan jackets – from the Second World War – to the Japanese kimonos and 1920s Polish fishing hats.

→ [www.aramayo.es](http://www.aramayo.es)

**DON'T MISS**

# Weekend markets

Madrid has markets of all types, selling everything from antiques to contemporary design and organic produce. Take a stroll round some of the best

The Rastro



M. Diseño



**The Rastro**

It's the city's oldest market and always full of Madrileños and tourists. Held in the morning on Sundays and holidays, its stalls sell everything from handicrafts and clothes to kitchenware, vinyl and secondhand magazines. Round off your visit with a drink in one of the local bars.

→ Ribera de Curtidores. M: La Latina.

**Mercado de Motores**

Madrid's most famous vintage market is held on the second weekend of the month on the platforms of the Railway Museum. On its stalls you'll find everything from clothes and decorative objects to ecological products for children.

→ Museo del Ferrocarril. M: Delicias.

**Mercado de Diseño**

Almost a hundred emerging designers come together at this pop-up market held over one weekend every few months. Jewellery, illustrations, fashion, decoration... there's a place for everything here, normally accompanied by an open-air food-truck zone and free concerts throughout the day.

→ Matadero Madrid. M: Legazpi.

**Nómada Market**

Created with the aim of supporting local production, a

do-it-yourself philosophy and designers with their own style, Nómada Market is held at the start of each season and also features activities for children.

→ Mercado de la Cebada. M: La Latina.

**Mercado de Productores**

The largest exhibition, sale and sampling space for organic and home-grown produce in Madrid. It's held on the third Sunday of every month along Avenida del Planetario and on the last weekend of each month at the Matadero.

→ Various venues.

**Santa Ana Street Market**

On the first Saturday of the month this La Latina street transforms into an open-air market in which the owners of the neighbourhood's most charming stores cross their thresholds to set up stall on the pavement.

→ Santa Ana. M: La Latina.

**Mercadillo del Gato**

More than 60 exhibitors showcasing

Productores



Nómada



M. Motores



fashion, jewellery, decoration, accessories, handicrafts and more come together at this temporary market held in both the Westin Palace hotel and Los Ejércitos Cultural Centre.

→ Various venues.

**Las Salesas Village**

The La Salesas neighbourhood's most representative stores, brands and businesses bring

their products out on to the street on the first Saturday of each month. You'll find fashion, gifts, cosmetics, food, music, art and more!

→ Barrio de las Salesas. M: Alonso Martínez.

**Calle Santa Ana transforms into a street market**

# Tailor-made experiences

From daybreak to nightfall, La Vaguada offers you endless possibilities to enjoy leisure, gastronomy, fashion, sport and so much more!



**You can play e-Sports and participate in tournaments**



**SOME PLACES SURPRISE** us because of their architecture, their decor, their activities... And others precisely because they bring all this together in one place. This is the case of La Vaguada shopping centre, right in the center of the city. With natural lighting from above, which filters through the windows in the roof, in this shopping centre you will find the most surprising ideas to make an ordinary day into something special.

**The best way to start the day**

When La Vaguada opened its doors in 1983, it transformed the concept of "going shopping" into a complete experience. And since then this idea has continued to evolve. A local would tell you that you can enjoy it from daybreak

to nightfall. You can have breakfast in the best coffee shops and tearooms, buy groceries in its traditional market or have brunch to start the day in the best way possible and turn it into a unique experience.

**Perfect moments**

Whenever you come, once inside, the day is yours. Whether you are looking for the latest fashion and the best accessories, to kit yourself out for your favourite

sports or want to pamper your look, the boutiques and health and beauty centres won't disappoint. You have an enormous area to find practically anything you can think of. And if you like e-Sports, you're in luck, because at La Vaguada you'll find La Arena, an enormous area full of computers and video consoles, where you can also participate in tournaments such as Fortnite, LOL and Clash Royale. There is also a cinema showing a wide variety of films and many different restaurants to have dinner before returning home. Can you think of a better place to enjoy a complete day?

→ La Vaguada. Av. de Monforte de Lemos. M: Barrio del Pilar. enlavaguada.com

# My style

1

## MADE FROM CHINA Julieta Álvarez

If you love unique items of jewellery and feel like treating yourself, make a note of this workshop in Chueca. Its delicate ceramic earrings, shaped and glazed by hand and baked at low temperatures, sell out fast. →180 €. Julieta Álvarez (Pelayo, 78).



3

## DREAM WEAVER Toino Abel

It's just what it looks like: a rustic-style bag that's perfect for the city. Each one is 100 percent handcrafted in Portugal by a firm that's dedicated to turning the traditional into the hottest new trends.

→79 €. González y González (Pelayo, 68).



4

## POSITIVETHINKING Árbol Studio

Contemporary design doesn't have to be at odds with the need to express and shout positive messages – much less if it's combined with a healthy touch of irreverence.

→29 €. Árbol Life Store (Barquillo, 7).



2

## GOOD AS GOLD Pakita Clamores

The beach, old-school tattoos and a nautical aesthetic provide the inspiration for this designer. The result? T-shirts and sweatshirts made with 'amor del bueno' (love of the good kind) in gold letters.

→39 €. Rughara (Corredera Alta de San Pablo, 1).



5

## PERFECT COMBO Tumi

Brands like this exist to convince us that travelling doesn't have to be uncomfortable. The key? Its light suitcases and handbags that you can combine with each other.

→165-465 €. Tumi (Claudio Coello, 54).



## SHOPPING STREETS



### Fuencarral

→ M: Gran Vía, Tribunal. This pedestrianised street has been a fashion hotspot in Madrid since the 1990s. Many top-name brands have set up here, from clothing and decoration to cosmetics firms, making it a genuine shoppers' paradise.

### Ruda

→ M: La Latina. Head out of the Rastro flea market area and you'll reach this street. There's a shop selling ceramics by the kilo and the Molar bookstore. It also hosts a street market on the first Saturday of each month.



### León

→ M: Antón Martín. The Barrio de las Letras has a unique ecosystem, with everything from interior design stores to spaces selling traditional products from towns across Spain. Calle León is one of its busiest streets.

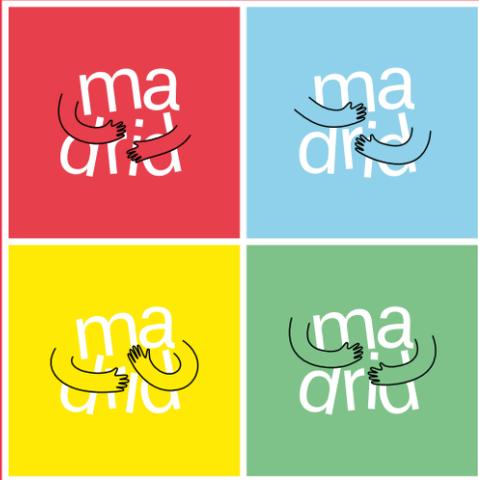
### Conde Duque

→ M: Noviciado. This neighbourhood next to Malasaña has become an essential shopping stop. Charming stores owned by young designers rub shoulders with bakeries and gourmet food shops.

A cluster of overlapping circles in various colors including yellow, orange, green, purple, and pink, arranged in a roughly circular pattern on the right side of the page.

# GET THE MAX OUT OF MADRID

**All the information you need about  
accommodation, transport, facilities  
and the Madrid Student Welcome Day**



## Madrid embraces you

If there's one thing that defines Madrid, it's its unique ability to open itself up to those from outside. It doesn't matter who you are or where you're from, the city makes you feel you're a part of it from the first moment, as if you're just like any another Madrileño. This hospitality is the city's top selling point – an intangible value, but a very real one. Now, this special way of welcoming people has been given graphical form in the shape of the city's new 'embrace' logo, which is set to become the symbol by which anyone around the world will be able to recognise us.

To arrive at their design, the team at Erretres: The Strategic Design Company, the agency commissioned to create the logo, had to ask themselves one unavoidable question: if London has Big Ben and Paris has the Eiffel Tower, what monument best represents Madrid? The surprise came when they realised that it didn't have to be a physical object. 'Madrid is a city that welcomes,' they say. 'The embrace represents a feeling of inclusion and belonging. Madrid is an open and diverse city with important landmarks as well as great food, entertainment and culture. Trying to find just one element to represent us was a major challenge.'

The new logo doesn't just aim to be an institutional brand, but an open symbol that Madrileños can co-opt for themselves – that's why it features the word Madrid inside a pair of arms with a clear message: 'Madrid embraces you'.

And how does it do that? 'Through its culture, food, places, people and traditions,' say the Erretres team. 'That's why the iconography doesn't end with the representation of Madrid in that embrace logo, but continues in infinite offshoots in which everything that makes us unique as a city ends up included in that embrace.'

With their inclusive nature, Madrileños allow all visitors to feel part of this cosmopolitan and cheerful city as soon as they arrive. So, if you're from somewhere else and have come here to spend some time with us, we'd like to welcome you once again. Please feel right at home.

# 10 reasons to study in Madrid

## 01.

### The climate

Forget your umbrella, bring your sleeveless T-shirts for summer, and a good coat and scarf for winter. That's how we'd sum up the weather in Madrid, which is located 655m above sea level. In general, it's a dry climate, with little rain throughout the year, very warm summers and cold winters. Spring and autumn pass almost unnoticed.



## 02.

### The culture

Madrid is one of the richest cities in Europe for art and culture. As well as home to Spain's most important art gallery (the Prado) and one of the world's most-visited modern art museums (the Reina Sofía), it also has an endless line-up of quality theatre, concerts of all genres every night of the year, and outstanding film seasons devoted to both mainstream and arthouse cinema.

## 03.

### The Madrid character

In reality the city is home to few authentic 'gatos' – Madrileños with three generations of parents and grandparents all born the city. Instead almost everyone here has a family home town where they can escape to in summer. That's why Madrileños have an open and welcoming character. Always ready to help you out, they help make you feel right at home.

## 04.

### The language

Why not learn to speak a language used by over 500 million people? Spanish is a Romance language that comes from spoken Latin and isn't difficult to learn, even more so if you're going to be using it in your day-to-day life. Although you shouldn't have too many problems communicating in English in Madrid, we recommend daring to express yourself in Spanish. You're bound to get the hang of it right away!



## 08.

### Safety

Madrid is 'an extraordinarily safe city', according to the authorities. The crime rate in the capital has dropped in recent years and more and more police officers from the local, national and Civil Guard forces are watching over our safety. Common sense is really all that's needed to enjoy the city without running into trouble.

## 09.

### Prices

Life in Madrid is not excessively expensive compared with other European capitals. Transport and accommodation are well-priced in relation to places such as London, Berlin or Paris. What's more, prices are lower in the outlying neighbourhoods than in the city centre. In tourist areas, though, they tend to be much higher.



## 10.

### Food

It's no secret that Spanish cuisine is one of the best in the world. And Madrid is the perfect place to sample it. Here you'll find everything from establishments with three Michelin stars (DiverXO) to the oldest restaurant in the world (Casa Botín), as well as a wide variety of places to try typical Madrid dishes such as cocido (a chickpea and meat stew), discover fusion cuisine and enjoy tapas.

## 05.

### Shopping

From international fashion labels to artisan workshops, the city has a wide range of shops where you can buy anything you need. What's more, in contrast to many European cities, in Madrid you can shop in the supermarkets or other stores until 9pm or even later. The department stores open from 10am to 10pm, including on Sundays.

## 06.

### Leisure

If you wanted, you could find a different activity to suit your interests and budget every day of the week in Madrid. From going out for drinks to learning how to dance salsa or taking a guided bike tour through the city, the choice is vast. And that's to say nothing of the popular festivals, fairs and markets held every weekend in the city, especially during the warmer months.

## 07.

### Transport

Madrid has a wide public transport network, which is the best way of getting around the city. The metro, bus and local Cercanías train service are the means that locals use the most to get from A to B. Those who opt to go by car will have to learn how to negotiate the main M-30 ring road around the city centre. Cycling is also becoming an increasingly popular way of moving around.

## What will I find there?

Every year, between 26,000 and 30,000 foreign students and around 45,000 Spanish students from outside Madrid arrive in the city. That's why a meet-up event like this is so necessary. In one single place on one single day, you'll be able to easily access all the information you need, as well as take part in all sorts of diverse activities. Don't miss it!

# Madrid Student Welcome Day!

## What is it?

The Madrid Student Welcome Day (MSWD) is the city's official welcome event for all students who have chosen the city as the best place for their education. The aim is to inform students in one single event about all the advantages Madrid has to offer them so that they can get the most out of their stay here.

**¡PRIZES!**  
All kinds of prizes will be raffled off during the event, including football tickets and trips

**¡FREE!**  
All the activities held during the MSWD are completely free

## Where and when?

The Galería de Cristal at the Palacio de Cibeles, the home of Madrid City Council, has been chosen as the location for the fourth edition of this meet-up for newly arrived students in the capital. The 2018 event takes place on October 6 from 11am to 10pm. Even though entry is free you need to sign up beforehand on the event website: [studentwelcomeday.com](http://studentwelcomeday.com). The nearest metro station is Banco de España.

It's the ideal occasion to meet new people



# Accommodation

Finding the perfect place to live while you're studying in Madrid is one of the most important things you'll have to do. We offer a few words of advice and a selection of available flats, halls of residence and more!



## Five tips

Before deciding on where to live, there are some important factors to bear in mind

**FIRST, YOU NEED** to be sure about where in the city you want to live. Every neighbourhood is different and that's why you should do your research. You need to be sure about the type of accommodation you want to live in during your stay in the city. Do you want to share a flat or live in a hall of residence? You also need to be clear about how much you're prepared to pay according to the facilities you want. Fourth, you need to know where to start looking – there's a wide range of websites and accommodation agencies. And, finally, it's important to look over your rental contract thoroughly before you sign it.

**You need to be sure about the type of place you want to live in and who you're sharing with**

## INTERVIEW

### 'There are lots of accommodation options'



**Adrian Lawlor**, 22, moved from Ireland to study at the ICADE faculty of the Universidad Pontificia de Comillas, a centre he chose 'for its reputation'. Adrian had been studying Spanish back home and continued improving his language skills during his stay in Madrid.

#### How did you find accommodation in the city?

The truth is that it was easier than I thought because the Citylife Madrid office in Gran Vía helped me a lot.

#### Where did you live during your stay? A shared flat, a hall of residence...?

I lived in a flat share with other students and it was really great, I had no problem at all.

#### How would you rate the accommodation available in Madrid?

In Madrid there are many options, the range is quite wide... so in that respect I'd rate it highly. What's more, I'm from Dublin and, compared to the prices there, rents are much lower here.

#### What advice would you give to a student coming to live here?

I would tell them that it is best to live with other students, either from Spain or abroad, to learn about different cultures, other languages and different customs. ■

### UNIVERSITY HALLS OF RESIDENCE

#### Antonio de Nebrija

This is one of the halls of residence directly managed by the Universidad Complutense.  
→ Av. Séneca, 8. M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 550 43 00.

#### Fernando de los Ríos

Located in Getafe, it's part of the Universidad Carlos III.  
→ Av. de las Ciudades, 1  
M: Los Espartales.  
Tfno.: 91 771 27 00.

#### Diego de Covarrubias

Also managed by the Universidad Complutense, and located very close to the faculties.  
→ Av. Séneca, 10.  
M: Moncloa. Tfno.: 91 394 11 57.

#### Santa María de Europa

This is another of the halls of residence directly managed by the Universidad Complutense. Has good sports facilities.  
→ Cea Bermúdez, 17.  
M: Canal. Tfno.: 91 533 62 00.

#### Fernando Abril Martorell

Affiliated to the Universidad Carlos III in Leganés, it has good transport links.  
→ Palmera, 12. M: San Nicasio. Tfno.: 91 771 10 00.

#### Juan Luis Vives

Close to Paseo de la Castellana, it's part of the Universidad Autónoma.  
→ Francisco Suárez, 7.  
M: Plaza de Castilla.  
Tfno.: 91 497 99 00.

#### Gregorio Peces-Barba

Houses students and teachers from the Universidad Carlos III.  
→ Av. Federica de Montseny, 1.  
M: Los Espartales.  
Tfno.: 91 771 27 00.

#### Santillana

Located in a quiet area, away from the centre,

and managed by the Universidad Autónoma.  
→ Marbella, 60. M: Paco de Lucía. Tfno.: 91 735 50 31.

#### Teresa de Jesús

Mixed hall of residence that's part of the Universidad Complutense.  
→ Av. Séneca, 10. M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 394 10 07.

#### Ximénez de Cisneros

Attached to the Complutense.  
→ Av. Séneca, 8. M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 394 10 04.

#### Somosierra

Affiliated to the Universidad Autónoma.  
→ Pablo Vidal, 6. M: Arturo Soria. Tfno.: 91 413 60 11.

### OTHER HALLS OF RESIDENCE

#### Alcalá

It has 174 individual rooms with bathrooms.  
→ Don Ramón Menéndez Pidal, 2.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 553 30 04.

#### Alcor

Affiliated to the Universidad Complutense.  
→ Gral. Ampudia, 7.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 533 92 08.

#### Aquinas

Located in the Ciudad Universitaria, it belongs to the Dominican Order.  
→ Leonardo Prieto Castro, 6.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 543 88 00.

#### Argentino Nuestra Señora de Luján

Argentinian hall of residence with unique architecture.  
→ Martín Fierro, 3.  
M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 181 20 50.

#### Barberán

Houses almost 200 students from outside Madrid.  
→ Av. Séneca, 16. M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 602 03 00.

#### Casa do Brasil

Attached to the Universidad Complutense, it aims to promote the cultures of other countries.  
→ Av. de la Memoria, 3.  
M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 455 15 60.

#### Chaminade

Opened in 1966, it belongs to the Fundación Universitaria Guillermo José Chaminade.  
→ Paseo de Juan XXIII, 9.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 554 54 00.

#### Elías Ahúja

Male hall of residence affiliated to the Universidad Complutense.  
→ Rector Royo-Villanova, 4.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 533 77 00.

## Accommodation agencies

When looking for a flat you can always turn to estate agencies that specialise in renting. The advantage is you will get a reliable service and you can always contact them if you have a problem during your stay. Among the most recommended are Aluni, HelpMadrid, Mi Casa Inn, Oh my room!, Living Atmosphere and PyR Solutions. You can also try websites such as Idealista, Fotocasa and Easypiso.

**Jaime del Amo**

Affiliated to the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Owned by the Claretian Missionaries.  
→ Av. de Gregorio del Amo, 5.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 554 08 04.

**Jorge Juan**

Created for the children of navy members.  
→ Av. Séneca, 14.  
M: Ciudad Universitaria.  
Tfno.: 91 550 71 00.

**Juan XXIII Roncalli**

Female hall of residence with 165 places and over 56 nationalities attached to the Complutense.  
→ Ramiro de Maeztu, 3.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 533 94 09.

**Loyola**

Hall of residence of the Society of Jesus attached to the Complutense.  
→ Paseo de Juan XXIII, 17.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 534 04 04.

**Marqués de la Ensenada**

Mixed hall of residence fully refurbished in 2009.  
→ Av. Séneca, 18. M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 549 71 00.

**Mendel**

Male hall of residence attached to the Universidad Complutense and managed by the Order of St Augustine.  
→ Rector Royo-Villanova, 6.  
M: Guzmán el Bueno.  
Tfno.: 91 534 07 00.

**Moncloa**

Founded in 1943, managed by Opus Dei and attached to the Complutense.  
→ Av. Moncloa, 3.



## Other services

The Madrid regional government's Vivienda Virtual service helps you find shared rooms, accommodation with families and flats to rent.

M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 533 85 00.

**Nuestra Señora de África**

Male and female hall of residence with 160 single rooms.  
→ Ramiro de Maeztu, 8.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 554 01 04.

**Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe**

With four floors, it's linked to the Escuela de Organización Industrial.  
→ Av. Séneca, 4. M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 543 52 00.

**Padre Poveda**

Female hall of residence attached

to the Universidad Complutense.  
→ Isaac Peral, 60.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 456 25 89.

**Pío XII**

Male hall of residence with good sports facilities.  
→ Paseo de Juan XXIII, 3.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 514 17 00.

**Santa María del Pino**

Female hall of residence that hosts a variety of cultural activities.  
→ Paseo de S. Fco. de Sales, 13.  
M: Islas Filipinas.  
Tfno.: 91 549 51 50.

**Berrospe**

Female hall of residence attached to the Universidad Pontificia.  
→ Av. Moncloa, 9.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 533 59 00.

**San Agustín**

Attached to the Universidad Complutense and run by the Augustinians.  
→ Travesía Antonio Nebrija, 4.  
M: Moncloa.  
Tfno.: 91 550 50 00.

**San Pablo**

Founded by the Asociación Católica de Propagandistas and attached to the Universidad CEU San Pablo.  
→ Isaac Peral, 58. M: Islas Filipinas. Tfno.: 91 598 96 00.

**Vedruna**

Named after a woman, Joaquina Vedruna, this female hall of residence attached to the Complutense aims for the full education of all students living there.  
→ Glorieta Pdte. García Moreno, 2. M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 534 45 00.

**Zurbarán**

→ his female hall of residence is a corporate project by the Prelature of Opus Dei and attached to the Complutense.  
→ Víctor de la Serna, 13.  
M: Colombia.  
Tfno.: 91 519 74 25.

## UNIVERSITY RESIDENCES

**Erasmus**

The only residence on the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid campus. Comprises studios equipped with kitchen, also has a dining room/cafeteria. Houses over 700 students.  
→ Erasmo de Rotterdam, 5-7.  
T: Cantoblanco-Universidad.  
Tfno.: 91 131 21 00.

**Gómez Pardo**

Over 40 years old, this central university residence in Chamberí has good transport links and a great atmosphere.  
→ Cristóbal Bordiú, 30 bis.  
M: Ríos Rosas.  
Tfno.: 91 441 79 21.

**Santa María del Estudiante**

Designer accommodation, with swimming pool and sports court, located in a central area. All the rooms look out to the street, are furnished and have free WiFi.  
→ Paseo Juan XXIII, 13.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 213 42 00.

**José Pérez de Vargas**

→ modern building, opened in the academic year 2012/2013, located on the Campus

Universitario Vicálvaro and belonging to the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos.  
→ Av. de Daroca, 321.  
M: Vicálvaro.  
Tfno.: 91 775 30 42.

**Vallehermoso**

Having been refurbished, this residence is one of the most comfortable in the city. Located in Chamberí, it has an outdoor pool, dining room and gym.  
→ Melquiades Álvarez, 21.  
M: Guzmán el Bueno.  
Tfno.: 91 788 22 00.

**San Ildefonso**

Located in the Colegio de San Ildefonso, in the historic centre of Alcalá de Henares.  
→ Plaza San Diego s/n.  
T: Alcalá de Henares.  
Tfno.: 91 878 81 46.

**Cardenal Cisneros**

Mixed residence on the Campus Universitario Cardenal Cisneros, with large green and sports areas and close to the Universidad de Alcalá de Henares.  
→ Av. de los Jesuitas, 34.  
T: Alcalá de Henares.  
Tfno.: 91 882 98 26.

**Giner de los Ríos**

Studios equipped with kitchen, bathroom, air-con and free WiFi on the Campus Externo of the Universidad de Alcalá.  
→ Carretera Madrid-Barcelona, Km 33,600.  
Tfno.: 91 181 81 00.

**Residencia de Estudiantes**

For researchers, post-grads, artists and creatives from different fields.  
→ Pinar, 21-23.  
M: Nuevos Ministerios.  
Tfno.: 91 563 64 11.

# Education

The city offers a wide range of educational services, from public and private universities that compare favourably with those elsewhere in Europe, to language centres



## Quality line-up

Madrid has a large and varied range of educational facilities adapted to all students, whether they're from Spain or elsewhere

A CITY AS cosmopolitan and open as Madrid could not be anything less in terms of its educational services. With six public universities, the city offers quality higher education comparable to that in other European cities. Throughout the year, these centres provide foreign students with special courses to help them learn Spanish, which are complemented by interesting cultural activities – though these aren't the only option for studying the language. On top of that, Madrid also has eight private universities, where fees are higher than in the public centres, which offer students all manner of degrees and diplomas.

Madrid has six public and eight private universities offering students all manner of degrees

## INTERVIEW

### 'Prices are quite affordable'



'What I liked most about living in Madrid for a time was the safety and tranquillity I felt.' Twenty-nine-year-old Losvelys Phipps has no doubt about what she would highlight about the city. She came to Madrid from the Dominican Republic to study a master's degree at the prestigious Next International Business School.

#### Why did you decide on private education?

What most pushed me to make the final decision was that I got a full grant for my studies here in Madrid.

#### How do you think education in Madrid compares with that of other cities?

I haven't studied in other European cities apart from here, so it's hard to compare, but in general I think Spanish education, and specifically education in Madrid, is good. In terms of the prices of degrees, courses and other qualifications, I think they're quite affordable.

#### What advice would you give to someone coming to study in Madrid next year?

I would tell them to try to find a university or study centre highly specialised in the area that interests them. That way, the education will always be more suited to what they are looking for and they will get more out of it.

**PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES**

**COMPLUTENSE Moncloa Campus**

This campus of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid is in Ciudad Universitaria and is home to the faculties of pharmacy, veterinary medicine, and medicine, among others.  
→ Avda. de Séneca, 2.  
M: Ciudad Universitaria.  
Tfno.: 91 452 04 00.

**COMPLUTENSE Somosaguas Campus**

This campus of the Universidad Complutense houses the faculties of psychology, economics, political science, sociology and social work.  
→ Campus de Somosaguas, s/n. Autobuses: 561A, 563.  
Tfno.: 91 394 29 99.

**AUTÓNOMA Cantoblanco**

The Universidad Autónoma de Madrid is in Cantoblanco and is one of the best centres for studying biology, nursing, medicine and physics.  
→ Ciudad Universitaria de Cantoblanco.  
T: Cantoblanco-Universidad.  
Tfno.: 91 497 50 00.

**POLITÉCNICA Ciudad Universitaria Campus**

Although it has several centres, the main campus of the Universidad Politécnica is in the Ciudad Universitaria. It specialises in

engineering disciplines such as aeronautics, industrial design and architecture.  
→ Ramiro de Maeztu, 7.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 336 60 00.

**REY JUAN CARLOS Madrid Campus**

This campus of the

Universidad Rey Juan Carlos houses the faculties of legal sciences and communication, and the schools of experimental sciences and computer engineering.  
→ Paseo de los Artilleros, s/n.  
M: Vicálvaro.  
Tfno.: 91 488 78 00.

**REY JUAN CARLOS Alcorcón Campus**  
This campus is home to the health sciences and legal sciences faculties.  
→ Av. Atenas, s/n. M: Alcorcón Central.  
Tfno.: 91 488 93 93.

**REY JUAN CARLOS Fuenlabrada Campus**

This public campus

is dedicated to information sciences, telecommunications engineering and legal sciences.  
→ Camino del Molino, s/n.  
M: Hospital de Fuenlabrada.  
Tfno.: 91 488 84 01.

**REY JUAN CARLOS Aranjuez Campus**

Here you'll find the

faculties of health sciences and legal sciences, with centres on all campuses.  
→ Infantas, 55. Aranjuez.  
T: Aranjuez.  
Tfno.: 91 488 44 21.

**REY JUAN CARLOS Móstoles Campus**

This campus stands out for its teaching in computer engineering, experimental sciences and technology, and legal sciences.  
→ Tulipán, s/n. M: Móstoles Central.  
Tfno.: 91 665 50 60.

**ALCALÁ Alcalá de Henares Campus**

The Universidad de Alcalá is one of the oldest in Europe and offers 38 different degrees.  
→ Plaza de San Diego, s/n.  
T: Alcalá de Henares.  
Tfno.: 91 885 40 00.

**CARLOS III Getafe Campus**

This campus houses the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid's faculties of social sciences and humanities, communication and documentation.  
→ Madrid, 126. M: Juan de la Cierva.  
Tfno.: 91 624 95 00.

**CARLOS III Leganés Campus**

This campus is home to the Higher Polytechnic School of the Universidad Carlos III and features laboratories for experimental classes in bioengineering, mechanics, robotics, computing, aerospace and more.  
→ Av. Universidad, 30.  
M: Leganés Central.  
Tfno.: 91 624 95 00.

**PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES**

**ALFONSO X EL SABIO Villanueva de la Cañada Campus**

It offers 45 degrees and double degrees, as well as 35 postgraduate degrees and diplomas. It also has its own health centres.  
→ Av. Universidad, 1.  
Autobuses: 581, 627.  
Tfno.: 91 810 92 00.

**NEBRIJA Madrid-Princesa Campus**

This historic building houses the faculties of information sciences and arts and humanities, among others.  
→ Santa Cruz de Marcenado, 27.  
M: Argüelles.  
Tfno.: 91 452 11 03.

**NEBRIJA La Berzosa Campus**

La Berzosa Campus is located in an exceptional setting next to Torreldones.  
→ Hoyo de Manzanares.  
Autobús: 611.  
Tfno.: 91 452 11 01.

**NEBRIJA La Dehesa de la Villa Campus**

Houses the Higher Polytechnic School and the school of architecture.  
→ Pirineos, 55.  
M: Francos Rodríguez.  
Tfno.: 91 452 11 00.

**CAMILO JOSÉ CELA Madrid-Villafranca Campus**

This campus houses all five faculties: communication,

education, health, law-management and architecture-technology.  
→ Castillo de Alarcón, 49. Villanueva de la Cañada.  
Tfno.: 91 815 31 31.

**CEU SAN PABLO Moncloa Campus**

This centre is home to the faculties of humanities and information sciences, law, and economic sciences.  
→ Julián Romea, 18.  
M: Metropolitano.  
Tfno.: 91 514 04 04.

**CEU SAN PABLO Montpríncipe Campus**

Located in Alcorcón, this houses pharmacy, medicine and the Polytechnic School.  
→ Urb. Montpríncipe.  
Autobuses: 571, 573, 574.  
Tfno.: 91 372 47 00.

**EUROPEA DE MADRID Villaviciosa Campus**

Covering 14,000 m<sup>2</sup>, this is one of the best private universities.  
→ Tajo, s/n. Autobús: 518.  
Tfno.: 902 23 23 50.

**EUROPEA DE MADRID Alcobendas Campus**

As well as two campuses, the Universidad Europea has a dental clinic and a university polyclinic.  
→ Av. Fernando Alonso, 8.  
Autobuses: 159, 827.  
Tfno.: 902 23 23 50.

**FRANCISCO DE VITORIA Pozuelo Campus**

With a single campus that includes a hall of residence, this university is run by the Legion of Christ.



**Instituto Cervantes**

Created to promote and teach Spanish, the institute awards diplomas in Spanish as a foreign language. Each of its accredited centres bears its characteristic red logo.

→ [www.cervantes.es](http://www.cervantes.es)

→ Carretera de Pozuelo a Majadahonda, Km. 1.800.  
Tfno.: 91 351 03 03.

**PONTIFICIA COMILLAS Madrid Campus**

Catholic university for the study of law and economic sciences (ICADE).  
→ Alberto Aguilera, 23. M: San Bernardo.  
Tfno.: 91 542 28 00.

**Universidad a Distancia**

Spain's distance-learning university offers courses in social sciences, economics and more.  
→ [www.udima.es](http://www.udima.es)

**SPANISH LANGUAGE CENTRES**

**AIL Madrid**

This is the Academia Internacional de Lenguas de Madrid.  
→ O'Donnell 27.  
M: Príncipe de Vergara.  
Tfno.: 91 435 48 01.

**Paraninfo**

This was the first centre to be accredited by the Instituto Cervantes.  
→ Princesa, 70, 1º izq. M: Argüelles.  
Tfno.: 91 543 31 39.

**Enforex**

Language courses and summer camps.  
→ Baltasar Gracián 4. M: San Bernardo.  
Tfno.: 91 547 48 52.

**International House Madrid**

Its teaching systems have always been at the forefront of education.  
→ Zurbano, 8. M: Alonso Martínez.  
Tfno.: 91 319 72 24.

**Don Quijote Madrid**

This school has 38 classrooms spread across the three floors of its historic building.  
→ Duque de Liria, 6. M: Plaza de España.  
Tfno.: 91 360 41 33.

**Tándem Madrid**

International training school that also offers classes for teachers.  
→ Marqués de Cubas 8. M: Sevilla.  
Tfno.: 91 319 72 24.

**Estudio Sampere**

Quality courses with an average of six students per class.  
→ Don Ramón de la Cruz, 83.  
M: Lista.  
Tfno.: 91 431 43 66.

**Inhispania**

Courses for all levels throughout the year.  
→ Marqués del Valdeiglesias, 3. M: Banco de España.  
Tfno.: 91 521 22 31.

**Academia Madrid Plus**

As well as classes, it offers extracurricular activities.  
→ Arenal, 21, 6º dcha. M: Ópera.  
Tfno.: 91 548 11 16.

**Eureka School of Spanish**

Instituto Cervantes-accredited centre in the heart of Madrid.  
→ Arenal, 26. M: Ópera.  
Tfno.: 91 548 86 40.

**Academia Contacto**

Small groups, dynamic classes and qualified native teachers.  
→ Raimundo Lulio, 7.  
M: Iglesia.  
Tfno.: 91 364 24 54.

**SPANISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTIONS**

**FEDELE**

The Federación Española de Asociaciones de Escuelas de Español para Extranjeros promotes quality in Spanish language teaching.  
→ [www.fedele.org](http://www.fedele.org).

**UNIVERSIDAD.ES**

It promotes the educational work of Spanish universities abroad.  
→ [www.internacionalizacion.sepie.es](http://www.internacionalizacion.sepie.es)

**Turespaña**

This is the public body responsible for marketing Spain as a tourist destination around the world.  
→ [www.tourspain.es](http://www.tourspain.es).

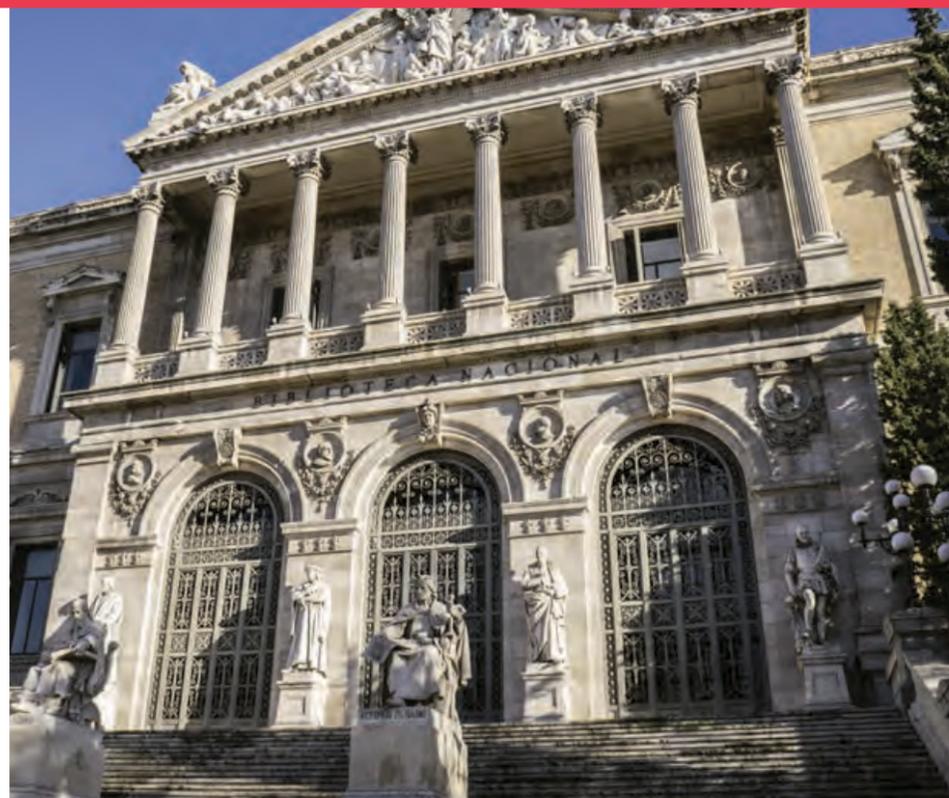
**Grants**

If you're coming to study in Madrid, you can apply for grants awarded by various Spanish institutions, including the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, the Fundación Carolina and banks such as Santander. Check out the Universia website so as not to miss out on any opportunities.

→ [www.becas.universia.net](http://www.becas.universia.net).

# Facilities

With numerous libraries, sports centres and swimming pools, Madrid has facilities to match those of any big metropolis – and they're open to locals and visitors alike



## For everyone

The city's libraries, sports centres and other facilities are open to all, regardless of how much they have or where they live

**IN MADRID WE** can't complain about facilities. For starters, there's Madrid City Council's Municipal Public Libraries Network, which is made up of 32 neighbourhood libraries. Then there are also specialised libraries with valuable collections, the Bibliometro train-station libraries and other institutions such as the Spanish National Library (pictured). On top of that, the municipal sports centres offer top-class facilities, from sports courts to gyms, classes and more. You can get good-value monthly passes and they're open until past 8pm. And if all that weren't enough, the city is also home to a number of big swimming pools.

**The Municipal Public Libraries Network is made up of 32 centres**

## INTERVIEW

### 'The library was open 24 hours at exam time'



**Javier Escudero Sahuquillo** moved from La Roda, Albacete province (Castilla-La Mancha), to study the degree he wanted. This 30-year-old radio presenter chose the Getafe campus of the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid for his university course.

#### Did you use any libraries during your time in Madrid?

Yes. As I was studying in Getafe, I almost always used the university library, but sometimes I went to the Biblioteca Pedro Salinas in Puerta de Toledo, because it was open 24 hours during exam times.

#### What do you think of the range of public libraries?

There are a lot to choose from and almost all have a metro station nearby. And although there are periods when they fill up, you can usually find both the book you're looking for and a good spot.

#### Did you use the city sports facilities?

I joined the university gym for a few months. And I also sometimes went with my friends to the swimming pool in Puerta de Hierro, which quite impressed me because I had never seen such a big pool.

#### What did you think about the prices?

As I was part of the university network, I got good discounts, but generally things weren't very expensive.

## MUNICIPAL SPORTS CENTRES

### Francisco Fernández Ochoa

Located in Carabanchel, it has a seven-a-side football pitch, basketball, tennis and handball courts, and a spa area, among other facilities.

→ Catorce Olivas, 1.  
M: La Peseta.  
Tfno.: 91 125 00 51.

### Arganzuela

In this sports centre you can play badminton, basketball, indoor football, tennis, padel tennis and volleyball.

→ Alicante, 14. M: Legazpi.  
Tfno.: 91 528 88 79.

### Fernando Martín

Close to La Dehesa de la Villa, this centre has a badminton court, indoor football pitch, tennis court and weights room.

→ Av. Santo Ángel de la Guarda, 6.  
M: Francos Rodríguez.  
Tfno.: 91 450 73 44.

### Antiguo Canódromo

If you like football, you can play on this centre's artificial grass pitch and prepare for your next match in its weights and physiotherapy rooms.

→ Via Carpetana, 57.  
Autobuses: 17, 25, 119.  
Tfno.: 685 534 621.

### Ciudad de los Poetas

In this small sports centre you can play basketball and indoor football and

do aerobics, fitness and pilates classes. It also offers children's rhythmic gymnastics.  
→ Antonio Machado, 12.  
M: Antonio Machado.  
Tfno.: 91 373 27 39.

### Antonio Díaz Miguel

With a sports hall, swimming pool,

basketball and handball courts, indoor football pitch and more, this sports centre has almost everything, including classes for all tastes.  
→ Joaquín Dicenta, 1.  
M: Ventilla. Tfno.: 91 314 54 37.

### Escuelas de San Antón

This is the most central

indoor swimming pool in Madrid, and also the busiest. Located at the top of a building, it offers great views across the city.  
→ Farmacia, 13. M: Chueca.  
Tfno.: 91 828 90 06.

### Daoiz y Velarde I

Along with its indoor football pitch,

basketball court and swimming pool, this place is also worth visiting for its beautiful architecture.  
→ Plaza Daoiz y Velarde, 5.  
M: Pacífico.  
Tfno.: 91 433 87 70.

### Concepción

You can do everything from athletics to figure

skating at these well-equipped facilities. Don't hesitate to sign up for one of its pilates, yoga, aerobics or other classes.

→ José del Hierro, 5.  
M: Concepción.  
Tfno.: 91 403 90 20.

### Chamartín

This place features a sports hall, indoor swimming pool, weights room, spa area and a wide range of classes.

→ Pío XII, 2. M: Pío XII.  
Tfno.: 91 359 33 39.

## MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES

### María Lejárraga

Recently opened in the Sanchinarro neighbourhood, this library is home to 30,000 volumes and an impressive collection of audiobooks.

→ Princesa de Éboli, 29.  
M: Blasco Ibáñez.  
Tfno.: 91 513 33 83.

### Histórica Municipal

Created in 1876, this municipal library received its 'historic' designation in 1990. It aims to protect and promote the written word.

→ Conde Duque, 9.  
M: San Bernardo.  
Tfno.: 91 588 57 37.

### Aluche

Aluche's library is located on the first floor of the Centro Cultural Fernando de los Ríos.

→ Camarena, 10. M: Laguna.  
Tfno.: 91 719 89 96.



## Running

If you like running, there are many areas available to you in Madrid, including Madrid Río, the Retiro park – which fills with runners every afternoon – and the Parque de Santander, which has a basic athletics track. If you're after something more challenging, try the slopes of Dehesa de la Villa or the Parque del Oeste – only if you're feeling brave, though!

### Ana María Matute

Named after the famous Spanish writer, this centre replaced the old Biblioteca Pública Municipal de Carabanchel and was opened by Matute herself.

→ Comuneros de Castilla, 30. M: Marqués de Vadillo. Tfno.: 91 588 08 30.

### Buenavista

Located in the arts centre of the same name, it occupies one of the pavilions that housed the swimming pool and changing rooms of a Second Spanish Republic-era bathhouse.

→ Av. Toreros, 5. M: Diego de León. Tfno.: 91 724 08 04.

### Canillejas

Located in the heart of Canillejas' main shopping district, it shares a building with the Centro Cultural Buero Vallejo.

→ Boltaña, 23. M: Canillejas. Tfno.: 91 741 11 34.

### Ciudad Lineal

Located inside the Centro Cultural Príncipe de Asturias, this was built to serve the area and to replace the previous library, which had been situated in a unit of a housing block.

→ Av. Institución Libre de Enseñanza, 14. M: Ciudad Lineal. Tfno.: 91 588 75 66.

### Eugenio Trías. Casa de Fieras de El Retiro

Opened in 2013, the building that houses this library was originally part of the Casa de Fieras' installations in the Retiro park, built during the reign of Fernando VII.



## Escuelas Pías de San Fernando

An oasis of peace in the middle of a restored ruined church, this library attached to the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia is well worth a visit.

→ Sombrefrete, 15. M: Lavapiés.

→ Paseo Fernán Núñez, 24. M: Ibiza. Tfno.: 91 480 48 38.

### Francisco Ibáñez

Located in the Centro Cultural Mantuano, this emerged out of the old Biblioteca de Chamartín, opened in 1983. It changed its name after it was refurbished in 2015.

→ Mantuano, 54. M: Concha Espina. Tfno.: 91 510 37 56.

### Iván de Vargas

Located in the heart of old Madrid, this library occupies a big old house that once

belonged to one of the city's most ancient families, the Vargas.

→ San Justo, 5. M: Sol, Latina. Tfno.: 91 758 62 11.

### Gloria Fuertes

From the big windows of this first- and second-floor library, you can see the remains of the reconstructed Castillo de los Zapata, the only castle still standing within the city limits, plus a large olive grove at the edge of the Parque

Juan Carlos I.

→ Av. Logroño, 179.

M: Alameda de Osuna. Tfno.: 91 312 02 58.

### José Saramago

Opened in November 1990 under the name Biblioteca de La Vaguada, it was later upgraded to address the lack of space and improve its location by placing it next to the La Vaguada shopping centre. Its name was changed to the current one in 2011.

→ Av. Monforte de Lemos, 38.

M: Barrio del Pilar.

Tfno.: 91 588 68 91.

### Manuel Vázquez Montalbán

Opened to the public in 2006, the building, designed by architect Isabel Huete Chugunowa, houses both the library and a music school.

→ Francos Rodríguez, 67.

M: Francos Rodríguez.

Tfno.: 91 398 07 23.

### Gabriel García Márquez

Heir to the former Biblioteca de la

Meseta de Orcasur, which opened in 1983, it opened in its current location in 1987 and was remodelled in 2014, when the name was changed to Gabriel García Márquez.

→ Plaza Pueblo, 2.

M: San Fermín-Orcasur.

Tfno.: 91 318 86 91.

### María Zambrano

Opened inside the Centro Cultural Eduardo Úrculo in October 2010, this was created out of the need to enlarge the Biblioteca de Tetuán, which was housed in the old municipal council building.

→ Plaza Donozo, 5.

M: Ventilla.

Tfno.: 91 733 90 43.

### Miguel Delibes

This library was originally situated inside the Parque Darwin, but the development of the area led to the construction of a new 2,012m<sup>2</sup> space set over four floors. It was given the name of the writer in 2010.

→ Arroyo Belincoso, 11.

M: Vinateros.

Tfno.: 91 328 73 00.

### Ángel González

Although this place is right next to the main A5 road, the silence inside is absolute thanks to the work of architect Carlos de Riaño. Concrete and glass dominate and there are also big outdoor areas.

→ Granja de Torrehermosa, 1.

M: Campamento.

Tfno.: 91 512 35 42.

### PISCINAS EXTERIORES

#### Casa de Campo

Also known as the Lago pool because of its proximity to the metro station, this has indoor and outdoor Olympic-size pools. Popular among the LGBTI community.

→ Paseo Puerta del Ángel, 7.

M: Lago. Tfno.: 91 463 00 50.

#### Francos Rodríguez

As well as swimming in the open air, you can also play beach volleyball here.

→ Numancia, 11. M: Francos Rodríguez.

Tfno.: 91 459 98 71.

#### Vicente del Bosque

With the Cuatro Torres skyscrapers in the background, these facilities have two 50m swimming pools, plus a children's pool.

→ Av. Monforte de Lemos, 13.

M: Barrio del Pilar, Begoña.

Tfno.: 91 314 79 43.

#### La Elipa

This large 50m open-air pool is one of Madrid's busiest in summer.

→ Alcalde Garrido Juaristi, 17.

M: Estrella.

Tfno.: 91 430 35 11.

#### Vallecas

With a swimming pool for adults of just over 30 metres and a children's pool, these sports facilities help keep the residents of Vallecas cool each summer.

→ Arroyo del Olivar, 5.

M: Portazgo.

Tfno.: 91 303 06 08.

# Transport

Getting around Madrid is easy. The city has a large public transport network that includes the metro, buses, regional trains and e-bikes, along with a great taxi service



**ONCE YOU KNOW** how to get to the centre from the airport, moving round the city is easy. The best connections with Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport are: metro line 8 (Nuevos Ministerios-Aeropuerto T4); the C-1 Cercanías regional train, which takes you to Atocha or Príncipe Pío; and buses such as Bus Exprés, which runs 24 hours. But, beyond that, how else can you get around?

#### BY METRO

The Metro de Madrid is the quickest way to get around the city. Madrid has 12 metro lines and 238 stations, along with three light metro routes that operate like trams. Trains run from 6am to 2am (although the last one departs the first station of each line at 1.30am) and

their frequency varies according to the time of day – anything between every three and every 15 minutes. A single ticket costs between €1.50 and €2 depending on the number of stations you pass through, while a ten-trip pass costs €12.20 and the airport supplement is €3. There are also monthly season tickets available by zone, as well as tourist passes. Download the network's mobile app to stay up to date about times, delays, routes and so on.

#### BY BUS

Madrid has a fleet of over 2,000 buses that serve more than 10,000 stops on 200 different routes, including the regular, university and night services, and an express line to the airport. The first bus on each route normally leaves at around 6.30am (7am at weekend) and the last one sets



### Night buses are known as búhos ('owls')

off around 11.45pm. A single ticket costs €1.50. To visit towns near the capital, you can catch one of the intercity buses. Night buses are known as búhos ('owls') and follow different routes from the regular buses, leaving from Plaza de Cibeles. Frequency varies depending on whether it's a weekday or holiday. The EMT app is useful for checking times. There's also the Madrid City Tour Bus, a double-decker tourist bus

# TICKETS

We explain three of the city's most popular travel passes



## ↑ Tarjeta Multi

You can buy this card from metro ticket machines and some tobacconists (estancos). It can be topped up to cover whatever journey you need, from a single trip to a ten-ticket pass. Not linked to any particular user, it's valid for ten years, is contactless and replaces the old 'metrobús' card and single tickets. You can also add up to three types of ticket on to it.



## ↑ Tarjeta Transporte Público Personal

This multi-journey ticket is linked to your name and is valid for 30 days from the day of purchase (not necessarily a particular calendar month). The Joven pass gives you free access to the Prado, Thyssen and Reina Sofía



## ↑ Abono turístico

This tourist card gives you unlimited travel on all Madrid regional public transport during the period of validity (one, two, three, five or seven days) and for two zones (A and T). You can buy it at the airport and at metro stations.



that covers the city's main points of interest and major streets. You can buy tickets for one or two days, and you can hop on and off it as much as you like along the route.

### BY TRAIN

Cercanías de Renfe regional trains link the centre of Madrid with the outlying towns and are also a good alternative way of getting around the capital. Nuevos Ministerios, Atocha, Chamartín, Sol, Méndez Álvaro and Príncipe Pío are the main hubs. Trains on the network's ten lines run from 5am to midnight, though this varies according to the station. The same goes for their frequency, which is between every five and every 30 minutes. Fares depend on the number of zones you cross: a ticket for zones 1 and 2 costs €1.65, while one from zone 1 to 7 is €5.40. Tickets must be used within two hours of purchase.

### BY TAXI

One of the most comfortable way to get around the city. You can get a taxi 24 hours a day either at one of the taxi ranks around

the city or by hailing one on the street. Minimum fares have been simplified and now there are just two: from Monday to Friday during the day (6am to 9pm) the minimum is €2.40 and at night, weekends and on holidays it's €2.90. There's also a flat rate of €30 for any journey between the airport and the city centre within the M-30 ring road. The price per kilometre depends on the zone and the time, but it usually ranges between €1.05 and €1.25.

### BY BIKE

The BiciMAD e-bike rental service is becoming an increasingly popular way of getting around. A sustainable and fun mode of transport, it comprises over 2,028 bikes at more than 165 stations throughout Madrid. Buy an annual pass or a one-, three- or five-day card and you can take a bike from any station and leave it at another station within two hours for 0.50€ to 1€ for 30 minutes.

You can also rent your bike from various agencies around Madrid, including Mobeo in Matadero and the bike rental point in Parque



Juan Carlos I. A good cycling route to follow is the 'Anillo Verde', a 64km lane around Madrid city centre.

### BY UBER AND CABIFY

Online services Uber and Cabify are transforming the way we get around, allowing their users to book private cars driven by licensed owners. You can visit the respective websites and download the apps on to your smartphone to get started booking journeys and checking prices.



### BY CAR-SHARING

In recent months services such as Car To Go, Emov and Zity that rent e-cars by the minute have appeared in Madrid. As well as being environmentally friendly, their vehicles have the advantage that they can be left on the street without having to pay parking fees. There are also e-motorbike services available such as eCooltra and Muving. You'll find all the information you need on their respective apps.



## Safety advice

### Watch your belongings

Although Madrid is a very safe city, it's sensible to keep an eye on your belongings when you're on public transport or out in the street, especially at night. Look after your personal possessions and don't let them out of your sight in the metro, in bars and on terraces. That said, there's no need to panic: there are more than 8,400 cameras watching over your safety across the metro network, plus security guards in every station.

### Don't carry too much cash

These days you can pay by card in almost any Madrid bar, restaurant or shop. So only carry the cash you need for small transactions.

### Make copies of your personal documents

It's always worth being prepared, so make sure you have photocopies of your most important personal documents, such as your passport or ID card, and carry them around with you instead of the originals. That way, if you're unlucky enough to get robbed or lose them, everything will be much easier to sort out.

### Plan your route

If you're not sure where you're going, it's best to ask. There's always bound to be someone willing to provide directions so you don't have to spend half an hour studying the metro map in a station or peering at Google Maps on your phone.

### Always charge your mobile

Before leaving home, make sure your mobile has enough battery power so you can use it in case of emergency. You can also take your charger with you and connect it to the charge points you'll find in some metro carriages (mainly on line 6) and EMT buses.

### Foreign Tourist Assistance Service

If you need police assistance, head to the station located near Plaza de España at Calle Leganitos, 19, which has a specialised service for helping foreigners.

### If you have a problem, call Emergencias Madrid

In case of emergency, call 112, the number to help you with any situation involving danger, risk or threat to your person.

# Getting around by metro

It's one of the fastest, most comfortable and economical ways of getting around the city. That's why it's essential to have a good, up-to-date metro map like this to hand to stop yourself getting lost

## RED DE METRO Y METRO LIGERO Metro and Light Rail Network

**SIMBOLOGÍA Key**

Estación accesible / ascensor Step-free access / lift	Aeropuerto / Airport Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas	Aparcamiento disuasorio gratuito Free park and ride
Transbordo corto Metro interchange	Suplemento aeropuerto Airport extra charge	Aparcamiento disuasorio de pago Paid park and ride
Transbordo largo Metro interchange with long walking distance	Zonas tarifarias Fare zones	Estacionamiento de bicicletas Bicycle parking
Cambio de tren Change of trains	Atención al cliente Customer Service	
Horario restringido Restricted opening times	Oficina de gestión tarjeta transporte público Public Transport Card Office	
Metro Ligero Light Rail	Bibliometro Metro Library	
Cercanías Suburban railway	Productos oficiales Metro Official Metro merchandising	
Autobuses interurbanos Suburban buses	Espacio histórico de Metro Metro historic space	
Autobuses largo recorrido Interegional bus station		
Terminal autobuses nocturnos Night bus line terminal		
Autobús exprés aeropuerto Airport express bus		
Estación de tren Railway station		

**HORARIO Opening times**  
Todos los días de 06:00 a 01:30 h.  
Every day from 6:00 a.m. to 1:30 a.m.

**www.metromadrid.es**  
Siguenos en Follow us on

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# Good practice

Madrid's going to be your home for a while and we're very happy to welcome you. But if you want to enjoy the city as much as us, we recommend you follow a few basic guidelines



IN MADRID EVERYONE always gets a warm welcome and our aim is that you feel just like any other Madrileño, forming part of the daily life of our neighbourhoods. Strolling round Madrid doesn't just allow you to discover buildings and monuments and parks and gardens, but also to get a deep feel for our customs. For that reason, we hope you'll be happy to respect a few basic rules of coexistence, tolerance and respect during your stay. Looking after what's immediately around us is the best way of making sure our city continues to be an example of friendly togetherness. Enjoy it!

- 1 Keep it clean**  
Use the litter bins distributed around the city to be able to enjoy clean and attractive streets.
- 2 Don't smoke**  
But if you do, don't throw your cigarette butts on the floor! All the bins in the city are fitted with ashtrays. For the health of all, you're not allowed to smoke inside any public space.
- 3 Respect and recycle**  
Benches, street lamps, litter bins, bus shelters... it's everybody's responsibility to help keep the city's street furniture in good condition. At the same time, Madrid has containers for every type of waste, so make sure you recycle!

**In summer you can always cool off in the fountains of the Madrid Río beach**

- 4 Use public toilets**  
Spacious, accessible and clean, the city's public conveniences have recently been refurbished to meet your needs.
- 5 Don't jump into the fountains**  
In summer you can always cool off in the water jets on the Madrid Río beach. There are also many public and private swimming pools for taking a dip.
- 6 Don't drink on the street**  
The streets are not the place to consume alcohol. The city has plenty of amazing terraces where you can enjoy a few drinks in the open air.

**7 Keep the noise down**

Although you might have a lot to celebrate, noise annoys your neighbours. Be respectful! Follow the rules of civility where you live.

**8 Use public transport**

Tourist passes are available that make getting around easier, so use public transport. Almost all the buses run by the city's EMT service are low emissions.

**9 Take a bike**

You'll find stations for the city's BiciMAD bike rental service across Madrid.

**10 Watch your belongings**

Madrid is a safe city, but be careful with your personal possessions – above all in the most crowded areas. If you do run into any trouble, the local police are there to help you.

**11 Use the public health system**

We hope you'll enjoy your stay without suffering any problems, but in case you do, Madrid has an excellent public health system.

**12 Stay in legal accommodation**

This is vital for preserving the properties in which Madrileños live and ensuring the city doesn't lose its essence.

**13 Don't waste water**

Madrid has some of the best tap water in the world, but don't waste it. It's a scarce resource and looking after it will help improve the environment.

**14 Buy local**

Madrid's gastronomy and produce are top-quality. Contribute to balanced and sustainable development by consuming local products.

**Get to know all of Madrid's barrios – don't just stay in the centre!**

**15 Discover the city's creators**

Madrid is a creative and innovative city. It's a place where great artists, artisans, musicians and writers have lived and continue to live. Discover them and you will find new sensibilities and perspectives that will enrich your life.

**16 Get to know the neighbourhoods**

Madrid is a big city that has taken shape over several centuries. Don't just stay in the centre! We invite you to get to know it, from the most

central and traditional places to other neighbourhoods that hide genuine artistic treasures, local festivities and incredible activities. Tetuán, Carabanchel, Usera, Hortaleza... grab a map and use it to get to know them all.

**17 Be tolerant**

We Madrileños like to live in a diverse and tolerant society. People of different races, sexual orientations, lifestyles and religious beliefs all live together in the city. Respect them. And remember: being tolerant of others is the best form of good manners.

**STUDENT CARDS****International Student Identity Card (ISIC)**

The best-known international student card. With discounts on accommodation, leisure and transport, it's recognised by Unesco and has no age limit.

→ [www.isic.org](http://www.isic.org)

**European Youth Card**

Major discounts on culture, leisure and shopping. For under-30s.

→ [www.injuve.es](http://www.injuve.es)

**International Youth Travel Card**

Gives access to discounts on travel, shops, restaurants and cultural activities. For under-25s.

→ [www.injuve.es](http://www.injuve.es)

**CITY COUNCIL SERVICES****esMADRID**

The official tourism website of Madrid City Council, it offers all kinds of information, from an agenda of cultural events to maps, guides and practical details.

→ [www.esmadrid.com](http://www.esmadrid.com)

**esMADRID magazine**

As well as its website, the city council also publishes a monthly magazine featuring lots of information about leisure and

culture in the city. It's free and you can download it from the website or pick up a copy at one of the tourist information points around Madrid.

→ [www.esmadrid.com](http://www.esmadrid.com)

**JOBBO**

If you're between 16 and 26, this card operated by the city council lets you gorge yourself on Madrid culture. Sign up and from Monday to Friday you get free access to shows and performances at the Naves de Matadero-Centro de Artes Vivas, Teatro Español, Fernán Gómez-Centro Cultural de la Villa, Conde Duque, Teatro Circo Price and Cineteca.

→ [Regístrate en madridcultura.es/jobbo](http://Regístrate en madridcultura.es/jobbo)

**Teléfono 010**

If you have any question about the city – whether you need to find out some practical information or how to complete an administrative procedure – dial 010,

the city council's citizen assistance number. It's 24 hours and also operates in English and French from 8am to 10pm Monday to Saturday and from 10am to 9pm on Sundays.

**Emisora Escuela M21Radio**

Tune into 88.6FM to discover this municipal radio station, which has excellent information about culture, leisure and public services in the city.

→ [www.m21radio.es](http://www.m21radio.es)

**TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICES****Information**

→ T: 91 454 44 10.  
[turismo@esmadrid.com](mailto:turismo@esmadrid.com).  
[www.esmadrid.com](http://www.esmadrid.com).

**Plaza Mayor Tourism Centre**

→ Plaza Mayor, 27. M: Sol, Ópera. Daily 9.30am-9.30pm.

**Callao**

→ Plaza de Callao. M: Callao. Daily 9.30am-8.30pm.

**Paseo del Prado**

→ Plaza de Neptuno, opposite the Prado Museum. M: Banco de España, Atocha. Daily 9.30am-8.30pm

**Atocha**

→ Ronda de Atocha, s/n. Next to the Reina Sofía Museum. M: Atocha, Atocha Renfe. Daily 9.30am-8.30pm.

**Santiago Bernabéu**

→ Paseo de la Castellana, 138. Next to the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium. M: Santiago Bernabéu. Daily 9.30am-8.30pm.

**Recoletos-Colón**

→ Paseo de Recoletos, 23. M: Banco de España, Colón. Daily 9.30am-8.30pm.

**CentroCentro**

→ Palacio de Cibeles. Plaza de Cibeles, 1. M: Banco de España, Colón. Daily 9.30am-8.30pm.

**Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport**

→ T4, hall 10, arrivals. T2, halls 5 and 6, arrivals. M: Aeropuerto T1 T2 T3 T4. Daily 9am-8pm.

**MORE AT**  
**ESMADRID.COM**

# SHOPS

A selection for all styles

## SHOPPING CENTRES

### Plaza Río 2

As well as enjoying a day's shopping and a good lunch in its food court, you also get incredible views across Madrid Río from this new centre's viewpoint.  
→ Av del Manzanares, 210. M: Legazpi.

### La Vaguada

Madrid's first ever shopping complex, designed by César Manrique, is an architectural landmark.

→ Av. de Monforte de Lemos, 36. M: Barrio del Pilar.

### La Gavia

This shopping complex in Ensanche de Vallecas also has a hypermarket and an Ikea.  
→ Adolfo Bioy Casares, 2. M: Las Suertes.

### Príncipe Pío

The nearest shopping centre to the Ciudad Universitaria.  
→ Paseo de la Florida, 2. M: Príncipe Pío.

## CLOTHES

### Primark

The low-cost fashion

chain's enormous landmark store has revolutionised Gran Vía, selling all kinds of clothes and accessories at very good prices.  
→ Gran Vía, 32. M: Gran Vía.

### Zara

Undoubtedly Spain's most important clothing brand. The Nuevos Ministerios-area store is its biggest in the world.  
→ Paseo de la Castellana, 79. M: Nuevos Ministerios.

### Decathlon

If you're looking for sportswear, this is the place. It occupies the space that once housed the Fuencarral Market.  
→ Fuencarral, 45. M: Tribunal.

## ACCESSORIES

### Gafa Vintage

If you love glasses, head to this store. Brand-new models sit alongside those from every past era you can imagine.  
→ Santiago, 9. M: Ópera.

### Muroxex

You'll find practical trainers by Madrid designers in this Malasaña store.  
→ Fuencarral, 67. M: Tribunal.

### Malababa

Investing in a decent handbag is always a good move – even



## AMEN Concept Store

The nearest there is to the Parisian Colette in Madrid. Japanese sweets, fashion, jewellery, bags, art... a million exquisite gift ideas in this Malasaña shop.

→ www.amenmadrid.com

more so if they're made in Madrid.  
→ Lagasca, 68. M: Serrano.

## CULTURE

### La Metralleta

One of the few record shops left in Madrid, it buys and sells vintage vinyl and even CDs.  
→ Postigo de San Martín, 1. M: Ópera.

### Pantha Rei

This specialised bookshop sells volumes on photography, urban art, graphic design, fashion and more.  
→ Hernán Cortés, 7. Tribunal.

### Swinton & Grant

A bookshop, café and art gallery specialising in urban and avant-garde art.  
→ Miguel Servet, 21. M: Embajadores.

### Casa del Libro

This chain sells every kind of volume you might need, including university textbooks.  
→ Orense, 11. M: Nuevos Ministerios.

## COSMETICS

### Miin

Miin selects the best Korean cosmetics – excellent quality and

cute designs.

→ www.miin-cosmetics.com

### Mac

Professional-quality cosmetics and a vast range of colours and tones. You can also get an on-the-spot makeover.  
→ www.maccosmetics.es

### Lush

Soaps, shampoos and creams free of chemical products and not tested on animals.  
→ www.es.lush.com

## CONCEPT STORES

### Lamarca

This trendy space features a multi-brand shop, restaurant, ecological market and two training centres.  
→ Fernando VI, 10. M: Chueca.

### El Paracaidista

Occupying over 3,000m<sup>2</sup>, this concept store houses a small cinema and roof terrace.  
→ Palma, 10. M: Tribunal.



# Football in Madrid

www.timeout.com/madrid



The city is home to two of the biggest football clubs in Europe

## From Cibeles to Neptuno

The city is home to both Real Madrid and Atlético de Madrid, two of the biggest football clubs in Europe

**WITH THE HEIGHTS** it's reached, no one can doubt Madrid's footballing prowess. The city is home to two of Europe's biggest football clubs, Real Madrid and Atlético de Madrid – eternal rivals that compete against each other both inside Spain in La Liga and outside Spain in the Champions League. Their recent clashes in the final of Europe's top club competition, in Lisbon in 2014 and in Milan in 2016, were unforgettable. Here we take a look

back over both clubs' histories, where they celebrate their victories, and how to best visit their stadiums.

### Real Madrid

The club with the most Uefa Champions League wins in history (13, plus 33 Spanish league titles, two Club World Cups and 19 domestic cups, among other trophies) needs little introduction. Real's fans number in their hundreds of



Santiago Bernabéu

## Things to Do

thousands around the world, they celebrate their victories at the Cibeles fountain in the middle of Paseo del Prado, and they have the city's most centrally situated ground.

A world footballing landmark, the Santiago Bernabéu stadium (Av. de Concha Espina, 1. M: Santiago Bernabéu) is about to be remodelled to include a retractable roof, a hotel and a restaurant overseen by eight-Michelin-starred chef Martín Berasategui. Opened in 1947, it seats 81,044 fans and the best way to get to know it is to book the Bernabéu Tour, which gives you the chance to see the trophies and dressing rooms up close and even sit in the dugout – no surprise it's the third most-visited museum in Madrid.

Since the club was founded in 1902, some of the most brilliant players in the history of the game have passed through its doors, from Alfredo Di Stéfano, David Beckham, Zinedine Zidane and Cristiano Ronaldo to home-grown heroes such as Iker Casillas and Sergio Ramos.

### Atlético de Madrid

Better than any club, Atlético represent the capacity to improve. They're now experiencing the most successful period in their



Wanda Metropolitano

### The Atlético de Madrid stadium hosts the Champions League final on June 1

history 'one game at a time' – the motto that's defined them since the arrival of manager Diego 'Cholo' Simeone.

Since the 2017-2018 season, their home has been the Wanda Metropolitano stadium (Av. de Luis Aragones, 4. M: Estadio Metropolitano), which can seat 67,703 fans and was the first in the world to be lit entirely by



LED technology, among other technical advances.

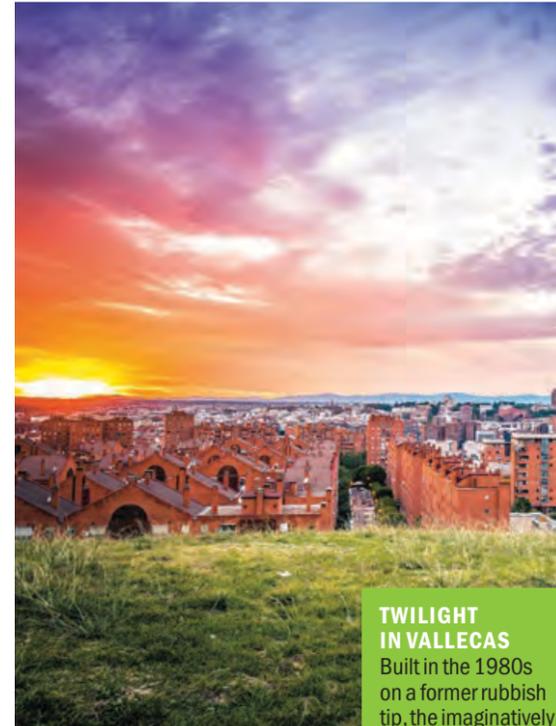
Just as at the Bernabéu, the best way to discover the secrets of this smart new ground is on a guided stadium tour, which takes in the mixed zone, the trophy, press and dressing rooms, and more.

Atleti may not have quite as many trophies as Real but they've still achieved some major triumphs since their founding in 1903: ten league titles, ten Spanish cups, three Europa League wins and three Europe Supercups.

Their most distinguished players range from Paulo Futre and Luis Aragonés to Fernando Torres and Antoine Griezmann.

## EVENING VIEWS

### The best sunsets in Madrid



**TWILIGHT IN VALLECAS**  
Built in the 1980s on a former rubbish tip, the imaginatively nicknamed 'Seven Tits Park' offers impressive views across the city from its seven hills.

**DEHESA DE LA VILLA.** This park and viewpoint is home to up to 70 species of birds.

→ Dehesa de la Villa, 1.

**CÍRCULO DE BELLAS ARTES.** The roof terrace of this arts centre is the best known in Madrid and features a bar and restaurant.

→ Alcalá, 42.

**GOURMET EXPERIENCE CALLAO.** A perfect foodie haven from which to watch the sun set over Gran Vía.

→ El Corte Inglés. Plaza de Callao, 2.

**TEMPLO DE DEBOD.** This Egyptian temple just next to Plaza de España also offers one of the best vistas.

→ Ferraz, 1.

**LAS VISTILLAS** Enjoy one of the best sunset views from these gardens next to the Segovia viaduct.

→ Jardín de Las Vistillas.

## THE CITY'S BEST PARKS AND GARDENS

### 7 Parque de Berlín

This park is home to a little piece of Germany in the Spanish capital: three blocks from the Berlin Wall that form the centrepiece of the fountain.

→ Avda. Ramón y Cajal, 2.

### 6 Parque del Oeste

Next to the university campus, this pretty park covers 100 hectares and is home to an impressive rose garden.

→ Paseo Moret, 2.

### 5 Jardines de Sabatini

The Neoclassical gardens designed by Francesco Sabatini are a popular spot with visitors owing to their location next to the Royal Palace, their history and their views.

→ Bailén, 2.

### 4 La Quinta de los Molinos

This historic 21.5-hectare park features a wide variety of plant species, but the real stars are the almond trees when they're in bloom each February.

→ Alcalá, 502.

### 3 Parque Juan Carlos I

Madrid's second-biggest park is a perfect spot for a bike ride or a row on its artificial waterways and lakes. It also has a cold greenhouse with exotic species.

→ Glorieta Juan de Borbón, 5.

### 2 Casa de Campo

Covering over 1,722 hectares, this is Spain's largest green space and features a lake, zoo, theme park and lots of cycle paths.

→ Paseo Puerta del Ángel, 1.

## MADRID'S OTHER CLUBS



Estadio de Vallecas

### 1 Rayo Vallecano

Puente de Vallecas is the home of this football club, which enjoys a strong following in its neighbourhood. Founded in 1924, recently they've moved between the First and Second divisions. Last season they were crowned Segunda champions for the first time, earning promotion to the top flight.

→ Payaso Fofó, s/n. M: Buenos Aires.



Estadio de Jetafe

### 2 Getafe CF

The outlying town of Getafe has had a team in the top flight of Spanish football since 2004. Their ground is named in honour of Alfonso Pérez, who despite never playing for the club remains the most famous player born in the area.

→ Av. Teresa de Calcuta, s/n. M: Los Espartaes.



Estadio de Leganés

### 3 Club Deportivo Leganés

Leganés are the most recent Madrid arrivals in the First Division. Having won promotion in 2016, they've successfully remain there every season since. The club was founded in 1928 and its fans are known as 'pepineros' owing to the fact that the ground was situated next to an area of cucumber (pepino) fields.

→ Arquitectura, s/n. M: Julián Besteiro.

TAKE NOTE

# Student volunteering in Madrid

**VOLUNFAIR**

Organised by a group of students, this event is completely devoted to introducing university-goers to over 50 charities, with the aim of making young people more aware of social problems, facilitating their access to social assistance organisations, and encouraging them to take part in voluntary activities both in Spain and abroad. In short, the fair's goal is to get university students interested in the world of charity work and give them the chance to help those less fortunate than themselves through a wide range of non-profit associations.

**CÁRITAS UNIVERSITARIA**

If you have some spare time



**WHAT IT'S ABOUT**

Taking a bit of time to help those in need. Just a little can go a long way.

**WHY YOU SHOULD DO IT**

Charity works helps all of us give back to society.

**MORE INFO**

- [www.volunfair.com](http://www.volunfair.com)
- [www.ciong.org](http://www.ciong.org)
- [dpumadrid.com/caritas-universitaria-madrid](http://dpumadrid.com/caritas-universitaria-madrid)

and would like to use it to help others, organisations such as Cáritas Universitaria can point you in the right direction and give you ideas about how to go about it. It organises meet-ups, debates and chats about volunteering and other activities in which you can lend a hand. A great way to meet people and make new friends.

**COOPERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL**

Another option for those interested in making a contribution is Cooperación Internacional, which manages over 120 projects in 30 countries. Every year the organisation gets more than 4,500 young people involved in its volunteer projects, which aim to help improve society.

TOP 3

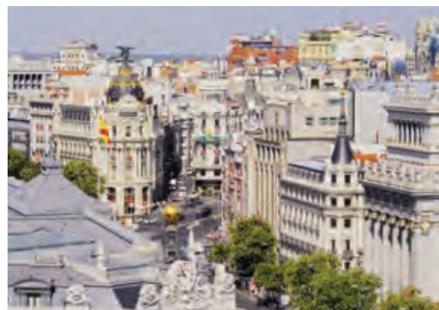
## Viewpoints



**Faro de Moncloa**

This 110m lighthouse is one of the city's best-known viewpoints, offering great vistas of the Sierra de Guadarrama and Madrid's most famous buildings.

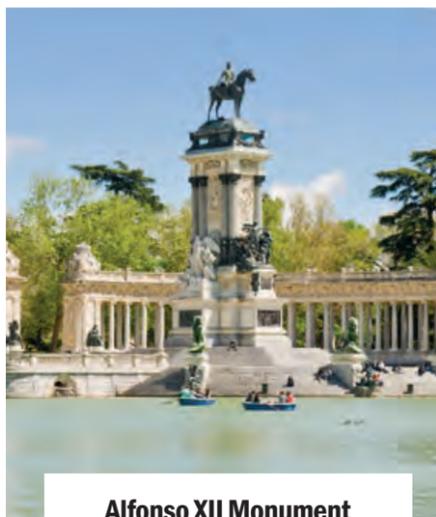
→ Avenida de la Memoria, 2.  
M: Moncloa. 3€



**Mirador Madrid**

If you climb to the top of the Palacio de Cibeles, situated in the plaza of the same name, you'll discover one of the most incredible 360° views of the city centre. Entry is free on the first Wednesday of every month.

→ Plaza de Cibeles, 1. M: Banco de España. 2 €.



**Alfonso XII Monument**

The most famous group of monuments in the Retiro park has recently opened a hidden viewpoint 20m up inside the equestrian statue of King Alfonso XII next to the boating lake. Booking is essential.

→ El Retiro. Plaza de la Independencia, s/n.  
M: Retiro. Free



Inside it boasts an endless array of shops

**DON'T MISS IT**

**With great taste**

If while shopping you fancy a bite, a spot of brunch or sitting down to savour a fine lunch, you'll find a selection of cafés, tearooms and restaurants, such as Café & Tapas, which serves exquisite local and international dishes. You can enjoy them in a charming dining room or on a terrace in the sun with views of the mountains.



# Shopping excursion

Just 30 minutes from the centre of Madrid, Las Rozas Village is a real paradise for lovers of shopping and designer labels



**GETTING AWAY TO** a charming village is always appealing and, if the place in question is a fashion paradise, the trip is coloured by glamour and dressed in good taste. Surrounded by fields and with a mountain landscape in the background, Las Rozas Village is designed in the style of local villages, with broad streets flanked by trees, terracotta walls in pale tones and highly elegant houses. And inside it has an endless array of boutiques, which open every day from 10 am to 9 pm, except in summer when they stay open until 10 pm. It boasts Spanish and international designers, such as Bimba and Lola or El Ganso, and brands as enticing as Calvin Klein Jeans, Claudie Pierlot, Havaianas, Levi's, Maje, Sandro, Vans... And there is no lack of high quality

accessories, such as handbags by Coach and Michael Kors, shoes by Steve Madden, Spanish flat shoes by Pretty Ballerinas and costume jewellery by Swarovski, among others. And the most attractive and surprising is that they offer discounts all year round of up to 60% on the recommended retail price. A real luxury available to everyone!

And don't worry about getting here, as the Shopping Express<sup>TM</sup> coach links the city of Madrid with Las Rozas Village several times a day. And once you are here, you'll love the hospitality and the exclusive services: there's free Wi-Fi, tourist information points, multilingual hosts and even Personal Shoppers who will help make your shopping day an unbeatable experience. ■

→ [lasrozavillage.com](http://lasrozavillage.com)

# YOUR PERFECT WEEKEND

## Friday



### Copérnico

Close to Moncloa and the main Madrid halls of residence, this club is a favourite with students. It's perfect for dancing, having a laugh and enjoying a few drinks on a Friday night.

→ Fernández de los Ríos, 67.

#### TAPAS

##### El Respiro

This bar in Chueca is just what you need to fuel up before a big night out. Always packed, it serves good beer and generous portions of free tapas.

→ Infantas, 34.

#### CAMBIO DE LOOK

##### Corta Cabeza

If you fancy sprucing yourself up before the weekend starts, this modern hair salon in Malasaña will help you find the perfect new hairstyle or make-up look.

→ Pez, 11.

## Saturday



#### BURGERS

##### Don Oso

Big, tasty and cheap burgers. If your hangover from the night before permits, Saturday is the perfect day to enjoy lunch at this legendary Moncloa burger joint.

→ Donoso Cortés, 90.

#### CLUBBING

##### Ochoymedio

Saturday night is party night, and Ochoymedio in Malasaña is the indie club par excellence. DJ sessions, gigs and a great atmosphere lure partygoers from all over the city.

→ Barceló, 11.

### Madrid Río

There's no better place to make the most of Saturday than along the banks of the River Manzanares.

With plenty of places to explore on foot or by bike, this is one of Madrileños' favourite places to relax at the weekend.

→ Puente de Segovia, s/n.

## Sunday



### The Rastro

The most traditional way to spend a Sunday morning in Madrid is to visit this street market. Wander round the stalls before enjoying some tapas in La Latina.

→ Plaza de Cascorro and the area around it.

#### BRUNCH

##### Mür Café

This welcoming café near Plaza de España has a serious brunch menu, including a full English breakfast and veggie options.

→ Plaza Cristino Martos, 22.

#### PLAY

##### Fox in a Box

You'll need lots of adrenalin and teamwork to solve the clues and puzzles of this escape room experience within your allotted hour. Good luck!

→ Santo Domingo, 24.

# WHAT TO DO

Great activities around the city

#### FOOD

##### Tapapiés

This 'Multicultural Tapas and Music Route' is held every October in Lavapiés and offers more than a hundred different tapas to taste, plus music, theatre, dancing and circus acts in the neighbourhood's streets and squares.

→ www.tapapiés.com

##### Mahou Urban Food Festival

DJs, workshops and culinary delights

await in this essential festival for lovers of urban food. Set for September 28 to 30, the festival invites you to spend a weekend in the Museo del Ferrocarril. With cold beers and free entry as two other big draws, you won't want to miss it.

##### Madrid Exquisito

Over almost ten days, some of Madrid's top restaurants offer a special menu for just €25 in order to give customers a taste of their best dishes made with seasonal produce. Another affordable way to enjoy

top-notch food. → www.madridexquisito.com

#### FESTIVALS

##### Año Nuevo Chino

Madrid's Chinese community is centred in Usera, where it holds an annual giant party to see in the New Year.

##### San Cayetano

The San Cayetano festivities are one of the city's most traditional celebrations. Held mainly around the Plaza de Cascorro and the Embajadores neighbourhood, they take place in the first week of August and bring the area to life with lanterns, concerts, activities and a tortilla contest!

##### San Isidro

From May 12 to 15, Madrid celebrates its patron saint, San Isidro, with music, shows and a plethora of activities for everybody. The city's most traditional festivities. → www.sanisidromadrid.com

##### La Paloma

For one special day around the August 15 holiday, Madrid celebrates one of its biggest street festivals, La Verbena de La Paloma. The La Latina



### Gastrofestival

This annual celebration brings the best in national and international gastronomy to the city from January 26 to February 10. As well as good food, it runs film, fashion, street activities, workshops and loads of other events in restaurants, cultural centres and more.

→ www.gastrofestivalmadrid.com

neighbourhood is decorated to host a celebration that's open to the whole city, with plenty of food and music. → www.fiestas-de-madrid

##### Meet & Dance

Salsa, bachata, merengue... you're certain to become a Latin dance expert at this meet-up for young people of all nationalities. From 10pm every Monday you can get to know people from all around the world, make new friends and learn the best

dance moves. → www.citylifemadrid.com

##### Picnic Sessions

Every Thursday from June until the middle of July, the terrace of the 2 de Mayo Arts Centre in Móstoles becomes a hub for a programme of activities mixing food and music with education, participation and fun. → www.ca2m.org/es/picnic-sessions

##### Fuckin' Monday

Every Monday at Sala Cool you can

party hard while getting to know new people and practising your English at this session featuring the best international music. Bargain prices, a student atmosphere and lots of fun. Don't miss it! → www.citylifemadrid.com

#### ART & FASHION

##### Open House

An architecture festival held on September 29 and 30 that allows you to visit over 100 unique buildings and places in the city for free.

→ www.openhousemadrid.org

##### Madrid Otra Mirada

A weekend (October 19-21) of guided tours, conferences and exhibitions that aim to help you discover the city's heritage from a different perspective → www.madridotramirada.es

##### Vogue Fashion Night Out

Vogue magazine organises this septembeber event for the city's fashionistas in some of Madrid's most exclusive stores, especially those along the Golden Mile. Chanel, Dior, Gucci and others open their doors for the evening with DJs, food, gifts,

## Things to do



surprises and more. Madrid's trendiest night of the year. → [www.vogue.es/fashionsnightout](http://www.vogue.es/fashionsnightout)

### Semana de la Arquitectura

The epicentre of this October week are the activities held at the COAM centre, which organises a large number of architecture and urban design events, including exhibitions, conferences and round tables. → [www.coam.org](http://www.coam.org)

### DecorAcción

This annual date (June) with design, art and interiors is Spain's biggest city-centre decoration event. It's held in the streets of the Letras neighbourhood, which are transformed into a chic open-air market with all the local antique shops displaying their top treasures. There are workshops, too, and the area's balconies look more stylish than ever. → [www.decoracion.nuevo-estilo.es/](http://www.decoracion.nuevo-estilo.es/)

### Casa Decor

For just a few weeks between February and March each year this landmark building becomes a space dedicated to interior design. Each participating

brand and designer decorates a different space to demonstrate their personal style. → [www.casadecor.es](http://www.casadecor.es)

### Madrid Gallery Weekend opening

Every September the galleries that make up the Arte\_Madrid association kick off the new season with a joint opening of their exhibitions and a varied programme of free activities. → [www.artemadrid.com](http://www.artemadrid.com)

### Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week

Twice a year, in January and July, the city is transformed into a giant catwalk to showcase the coveted creations of the world's most cutting-edge and visionary designers. → [www.mbfashionweek.com](http://www.mbfashionweek.com)

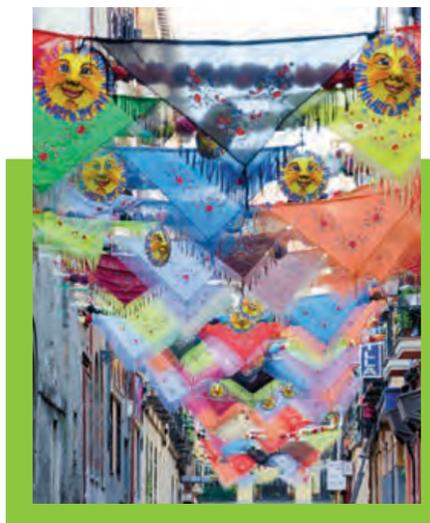
### The Festival

One of Madrid's most up-and-coming neighbourhoods holds this occasional street market, where the area's pretty shops show off their best creations, alongside food and activities for kids. → [www.salesavillage.com](http://www.salesavillage.com)

## NIGHTLIFE

### La Noche de los Museos

What better way to discover Madrid's many museums than on a nighttime visit? For one day during May every year the city's main art galleries open their doors until the early hours to offer dozens of free activities.



### Bowling Night

If you enjoy bowling and meeting new people, don't miss this fun evening where you can do just that. And best of all, it's free. Just sign up online and show up at Bowling Chamartín ready to roll. → [www.citylifemadrid.com](http://www.citylifemadrid.com)

### La Noche de los Teatros

For one March night every year, drama comes to the streets of Madrid, with dance, theatre, improvisation and dramatised readings taking place on corners and in plazas throughout the city. The aim is to promote the dramatic arts across the region. → [www.madrid.org/lanochedelosteatros/](http://www.madrid.org/lanochedelosteatros/)

### Nochevieja en la Puerta del Sol

It's New Year's Eve tradition in Madrid to eat the last 12 grapes of the year as the 12 chimes of midnight ring out from the huge clock in Puerta del Sol. The square is always packed and you'll need to show up several hours in advance to get a good spot, but it's a fun experience that sees groups of friends

in costume partying in the New Year. If you prefer to spend the last moments of the year away from the crowds, you can always head to the 'pre-grapes' (pre-uvras) celebrations at midnight the night before on December 30. → [www.nocheviejamadrid.com](http://www.nocheviejamadrid.com)

## SPORT

### Mutua Madrid Open

The elite of the tennis world will come together from May 3 to 12 to dispute this Masters 1000



tournament at the Caja Mágica. The event features major games between the 64 top players on the ATP circuit and the 25 best WTA players, with the likes of Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic and Venus Williams usually present. → [www.madrid-open.com](http://www.madrid-open.com)

## SPORT

### Carrera de la Mujer

Held in various Spanish cities in May, this road race is the biggest all-women's sporting event in Europe. Known as the 'pink tide', the Madrid edition attracts over 30,000 runners, with a course that covers the main streets of the city to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. → [www.carreradelamujer.com](http://www.carreradelamujer.com)

### San Silvestre Vallecana

Every December 31 since 1964 Madrid

has hosted its best-known athletics event, the San Silvestre Vallecana, where sport and fun come together in a 10km-run that sees participants dress up and run through artificial snow. The race has two parts, one for professionals and one for the general public; the route, which runs between Real Madrid and Rayo Vallecano's football stadiums, is fairly easy, given that almost 8km of it are downhill. → [www.sansilvestrevallecana.com](http://www.sansilvestrevallecana.com)



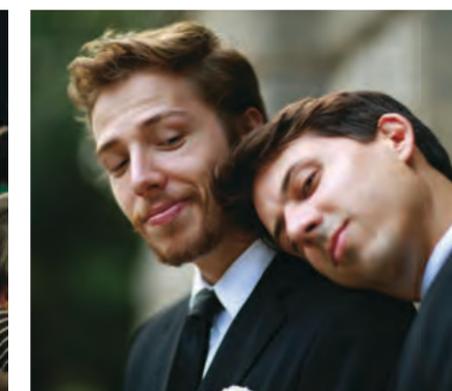
### EDP Rock 'n' Roll Madrid Maratón & 1/2

This event is part of the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon Series, the biggest running tour in the world, and features live music on over 20 stages along the race route. It's a festival of music and running that includes parallel half marathon and 10km races, turning the city into a sports party for serious and fun runners alike. The 2019 edition takes place on April 28. → [www.mapoma.es](http://www.mapoma.es)



# Film

[www.timeout.com/madrid/cinema](http://www.timeout.com/madrid/cinema)



# Film festivals

Madrid hosts several of Spain's most cutting-edge and interesting film festivals

### Filmadrid

The Madrid International Film Festival showcases the most contemporary and innovative cinema, featuring a programme of more than 100 arthouse works by directors from around the world, from leading names to new talents. With venues in different alternative cinemas around the city, it also runs parallel experimental video sections and seminars. → [www.filmadrid.com](http://www.filmadrid.com)

### DocumentaMadrid

This festival aims to support and encourage documentary cinema, especially works by Spanish filmmakers. It's also become an ideal place for directors to present and discuss their work and where the public can discover the creators behind the best new contemporary nonfiction cinema. → [www.documentamadrid.com](http://www.documentamadrid.com)

### LesGaiCineMad

This is the biggest LGBTI film festival in the Spanish-speaking world, both in terms of audience figures and the number of films involved. There are feature-length and short films, fiction and documentary works, and video art, all inspired by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersexual or queer themes. → [www.lesgaicinemad.com](http://www.lesgaicinemad.com)

### Festival de Cine de Madrid

The oldest film competition in the city was set up in 1991 as a showcase to bring together and promote emerging productions. It features a top selection of the many diverse Spanish films that are unable to secure a domestic release. → [www.festivalcinepnr.com](http://www.festivalcinepnr.com)

### Nocturna

Nocturna has consolidated itself as an unmissable event for the city's fantasy film fans, with a festival programme dedicated to revisiting classics and premiering the genre's latest releases. There are also round tables and other activities. → [www.nocturnamadrid.com](http://www.nocturnamadrid.com)

Nocturna has become an unmissable event for the city's fantasy film fans

### Madrid Surf Film

You'll find more than 20 documentaries and films related to the art of conquering the waves at this festival entirely devoted to surfing and its various artistic representations, which include concerts, DJ sets and more. → [www.madridsurfilmfestival.com](http://www.madridsurfilmfestival.com)

MADRID'S BEST CINEMAS FOR ORIGINAL VERSION AND INDEPENDENT FILMS

VOSE

Sala Equis

Opened in a mansion building that was previously home to Madrid's last porn cinema, Sala Equis is the place to be. As well as catching an original-version movie here, you can enjoy a beer in the bar, which features deckchairs, neon lights and even swings.  
→ Duque de Alba, 4.  
M: Tirso de Molina.

Renoir

With locations in Plaza de España, Princesa and Retiro, the Renoir cinemas are the classic place to catch both blockbuster and independent films in their original version in Madrid. Join the group's Club Renoir to get discounts and special offers.  
→ Martín de los Heros, 12.  
M: Plaza de España.

Verdi

Verdi is one of the most recent cinemas to start showing original-version films in the capital, but it has already earned place of honour with its vibrant mix of children's, foreign-language, Spanish, independent and mainstream movies.  
→ Bravo Murillo, 28. M: Canal.

Golem

Arguably Madrid's best original-version cinema, it's always been at the forefront of independent film, premiering those



Autocine Madrid

'Grease' has nothing on us. Madrid's very own drive-in is the biggest in Europe, covering 25,000m2 and with room for 350 cars.

→ Isla de Java, 2.

Cercanías: Fuente de la Mora. M: Bambú.

movies from outside the mainstream most likely to find an audience. Its efforts have fostered and educated a whole generation of film fans who look beyond the blockbusters.

→ Martín de los Heros, 14.  
M: Plaza de España.

Ideal

Another legendary Madrid cinema in

the heart of the city, the Ideal was refurbished in 2017 and shows a quality line-up of original-version mainstream movies. It also runs late-night showings, while its membership card gives access to discounted tickets.  
→ Dr Cortezo, 6. M: Sol.

Artistic Metropol

Madrid's first multi-purpose cinema,

with new releases, independent films, documentaries, auteur cinema, re-releases, classics, short films, themed seasons, presentations, cultural events and small stage shows. It specialises in limited distribution cinema, film cultural management and audiovisual services for professionals.  
→ Cigarreras, 6. M: Acacias.

Cineteca

Located in the Matadero, this is the first and only cinema in Spain



dedicated exclusively to documentary film. Here you can see nonfiction cinema from all corners of the world, with a focus on independent and alternative film screenings and seasons.  
→ Plaza de Legazpi, 8.  
M: Legazpi.

Pequeño Cine Estudio

The 'Small Film Studio' opened in 1977 as an 'art and rehearsal' space as well as the city's first 'mini cinema', screening films in their original version. It's been a cult hub for film fans ever since.  
→ Magallanes, 1. M: Quevedo.

Sala Berlanga

especializados, Named after Spanish director and

screenwriter Luis García Berlanga, this cinema is part of the SGAE Foundation, which supports and promotes artists and authors. It organises film seasons and specialist festivals, screens short films and documentaries, and is also a venue for exhibitions, concerts and theatre.

→ Andrés Mellado, 53.  
M: Moncloa.

Filmoteca

Located in the beautiful Doré cinema, this is a place of pilgrimage for all Madrid film lovers, screening classics and organising seasons devoted to key Spanish directors such as Pedro Almodóvar.

→ Magdalena, 10.  
M: Antón Martín.

Cine Estudio Bellas Artes

Opened in 1999 and part of the Círculo de Bellas Artes, this cinema offer a high-quality programme of original-version films.

→ Marqués de Casa Riera, 4.  
M: Banco de España.



MORE AT

TIMEOUT.COM/MADRID

Theatre & Dance

www.timeout.com/madrid/arts-theatre

WE TALK TO...

Mateo Feijóo

The artistic director of Naves Matadero has succeeded in renewing and rejuvenating the theatre's audience.  
By Álvaro Vicente

MATEO FEIJÓO'S WORK at the helm of the Naves Matadero has demonstrated how much Madrid was in need of an established performing arts space – a theatre where contemporary creation was understood in a broad sense, free of narrow concepts.

After a year and a half in charge, do you feel like you're achieving your goals?

The audience is now very different and some productions have worked really well, but there's still a lot to do. The big problem is we lack a cultural mediation team, something I think is essential. Creating a relationship with the public is a long job and requires close collaboration between the centre, the creators, schools,

'The JOBO cultural pass has been very useful for us.'

parents, teachers, associations... We have done the odd one-off thing, but we need more continuity.

Do public institutions do a good job of connecting young people to culture?

There's a lot of confusion between what is entertainment – mass culture – and what is art. The word 'culture' has become a signifier with a signified that encompasses many things, but in my view there's something very important about culture that is strictly to do with education – with the idea of generating critical thought.

Our culture runs away from this and imposes an 'anything goes' attitude. It seems that states have to occupy people's spare time and decide for them. That's where the big problem is.

How do you feel at Naves Matadero about the introduction of JOBO, the cultural pass for young people?

It's been very useful for us. I'd like to monitor it further and have some more data and more targets about all the young people who've used JOBO in the months since it has been introduced. ■  
→ Naves Matadero. Matadero Madrid. Paseo de la Chopera, 14. M: Legazpi.



1



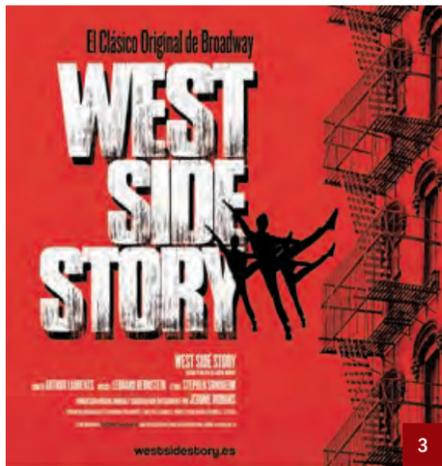
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**1 The Lion King**  
“The Lion King” is one of the most universal shows around and more than 80 million people have already seen it worldwide. Its surprising staging, moving figures and evocative and well-known music have made it one of Madrid’s best productions, transporting audiences to the African savannah. A host of world-renowned names in music (Elton John, Tim Rice, Lebo M, Hans Zimmer) and acting (Julie Taymor) have come together to create a spectacle that fuses sophisticated disciplines from African, Asian and Western dramatic arts. A must for all musical lovers.  
→ Teatro Lope de Vega, Gran Vía, 57. M: Callao.

**2 Billy Elliot**  
Following 11 years of success in London’s West End and six on Broadway, ‘Billy Elliot’ is now taking Madrid by storm. Seen by over 10 million people to date, the story tells the struggle of an 11-year-old boy to become a professional dancer. The soundtrack was composed by Elton John and the original choreography is by Peter Darling.  
→ Nuevo Teatro Alcalá, Jorge Juan, 62. M: Príncipe de Vergara.

# TOP 5 The best musicals

Gran Vía is Madrid’s Broadway. Here we recommend the best shows to sing and dance along to in its stalls



3

**3 West Side Story**  
The musical to beat all musicals, this version of Shakespeare’s ‘Romeo and Juliet’, adapted by Arthur Laurents, is set in New York where two young lovers are trapped by the confrontation between two rival street gangs. The latest production premiered in Madrid to coincide with the centenary of score composer Leonard Bernstein’s birth and features Jerome Robbins’ original choreography. Its story of fighting against prejudice is guaranteed to tug your heartstrings.  
→ Teatro Calderón, Atocha, 18. M: Tirso de Molina.



4



5

**4 Anastasia**  
Anastasia was the youngest daughter of the Romanovs who, according to Russian legend, escaped the Bolshevik revolution and travelled from St Petersburg to Paris to find her true identity, after years of not knowing who she really was. Arriving on October 4, this passionate adventure looks poised to become the musical of the year. Madrid is the first European city to premiere this mega production, which triumphed on Broadway, where it received great reviews and hung up ‘sold out’ signs every night. Tony Award-winner Darko Tresnjak’s direction and a book by four-time Tony winner Terrence McNally means its success is more than guaranteed.  
→ Teatro Coliseum, Gran Vía, 78. M: Plaza de España.

**5 El médico**  
This Spanish stage adaptation of Noah Gordon’s bestseller ‘The Physician’ takes place in eleventh-century London. It’s the story of a carpenter’s son who, after being left orphaned, discovers that he has the ability to sense when someone is near death, beginning an adventure that takes him around the world. It’s at the Teatro Nuevo Apolo from October 17.  
→ Teatro Nuevo Apolo, Tirso de Molina 1. M: Tirso de Molina.

**Teatro Español**  
Right in Plaza de Santa Ana, this is the oldest still-operating theatre in Europe and hosts some of the city’s best productions.  
→ Príncipe, 25. M: Sevilla.

**Teatro de la Comedia**  
Opened in 1875, this theatre (pictured) has hosted the most important premieres of productions from the Golden Age of Spanish theatre. It’s the home of the National Classic Theatre Company.  
→ Príncipe, 14. M: Sol.



**Teatro Real**  
Madrid’s opera house is considered one of the most important in Europe. It sits in the Plaza de Oriente, opposite the Royal Palace.  
→ Plaza de Isabel II, s/n. M: Ópera.

**Teatro La Latina**  
Late Spanish comic actress Lina Morgan’s famous theatre continues at full throttle with a programme of quality mainstream productions.  
→ Plaza de la Cebada, 2. M: La Latina.

**Teatro Circo Price**  
One of Europe’s only permanent circuses, it also hosts concerts and magic shows.  
→ Ronda de Atocha, 35. M: Lavapiés.



**Teatro Calderón**  
Opened in 1918 and completely refurbished, it’s one of the city’s biggest theatres with over 1,000 seats.  
→ Atocha, 18. M: Tirso de Molina.

**Teatro Nuevo Apolo**  
The former Teatro Progreso is one of Madrid’s most charming places to catch a musical or concert.  
→ Plaza Tirso de Molina, 1. M: Tirso de Molina.

**Teatro Rialto**  
Inspired by the New York music halls of the 1930s, it hosts plays, musicals and concerts.  
→ Gran Vía, 54. M: Callao.

**Teatro de la Abadía**  
A centre for theatre

studies and creation, the Abadía is housed inside a former church.  
→ Fernández de los Ríos, 42. M: Quevedo.

**El Pavón Teatro Kamikaze**  
High-quality theatre for all in Madrid’s famous Pavón building.  
→ Embajadores, 9. M: La Latina.

**Teatro Coliseum**  
A classic three-tier hall that specialises in musicals.  
→ Gran Vía, 78. M: Plaza de España.

**Naves Matadero. Centro Internacional de Artes Vivas**  
A space that brings together dramatic arts, music and cinema in an *avant-garde* programme.

## MUST-VISIT THEATRES IN MADRID

→ Paseo de la Chopera, 14. M: Legazpi.

**Teatros del Canal**  
Modern theatre and contemporary dance are the foundations of its eclectic programme.  
→ Cea Bermúdez, 1. M: Canal.



**Teatro Lara**  
A multidisciplinary venue in Malasaña with plays every day of the week.  
→ Corredora Baja de San Pablo, 15. M: Callao.

**Nuevo Teatro Alcalá**  
the Alcalá Palace and, after being

refurbished, is now the Nuevo Alcalá, hosting musicals and concerts.  
→ Jorge Juan, 62. M: Príncipe de Vergara.

**Fernán Gómez. Centro Cultural de la Villa**  
A cultural centre and theatre with over 40 years of history and a varied programme.  
→ Plaza de Colón, 4. M: Colón.

**Teatro Valle-Inclán**  
The former Sala Olimpia in Lavapiés is now a home for avant-garde and contemporary theatre.  
→ Valencia, 1. M: Lavapiés.

**Teatro de la Luz Philips Gran Vía**  
Formerly known as the Compac Gran Vía, it’s once again hosting major productions,

managed by the large Smedia group.  
→ Gran Vía, 66. M: Plaza de España.

## FRINGE

**Microteatro por Dinero**  
Fifteen-minute plays for 15 people in rooms smaller than 15m<sup>2</sup>.  
→ Loreto Prado y Enrique Chicote, 9. M: Gran Vía.

**Cuarta Pared**  
This centre is dedicated to theatre production, training and research.  
→ Ercilla, 17. M: Embajadores.

**Teatro Pradillo**  
A small centre devoted to contemporary performing arts.  
→ Pradillo, 12. M: Alfonso XIII.

**Nave 73**  
This multidisciplinary cultural space also offers theatre for young people and children.  
→ Palos de la Frontera, 5. M: Palos de la Frontera.

**Teatro del Barrio**  
A cultural cooperative that makes its political voice heard through theatre.  
→ Zurita, 20. M: Lavapiés.

**Sala Mirador**  
This venue focuses on social theatre, set right on the street and grounded in reality.  
→ Dr. Fourquet, 31. M: Lavapiés.

**MORE AT**  
[TIMEOUT.COM/MADRID](http://TIMEOUT.COM/MADRID)

# Music

[www.timeout.com/madrid/music-nightlife](http://www.timeout.com/madrid/music-nightlife)

## Music festivals for all

Madrid is one of the Spanish cities with the most music events, home to fests covering a wide range of different genres and prices. Mad Cool, Mulafest, Brunch -In the Park and Dcode are among those you won't want to miss



Mad Cool



Tomavistas



Dcode



Mulafest



Brunch -In the Park

**Mad Cool is Madrid's macro-festival with over 80,000 revellers a day**

**DCODE**  
Dcode is still going strong as one of the city's biggest festivals organised by and for students. It started in 2011 and since then each September many top names in indie, rock, dance and other genres have graced its stage – located in a leafy area of the Complutense University's Faculty of Information Sciences – including The Killers, Suede, Foals, Crystal Fighters and Jake Bugg.  
→ [www.dcodefest.com](http://www.dcodefest.com)

**MULAFEST**  
Over the last three days of

June, concerts, tattoos, urban sports, street food and much more invade Madrid's Ifema convention centre for Mulafest. An unmissable date in the city's festival calendar if you're into any form of urban culture, it even has its own island, complete with sandy beach.  
→ [www.mulafest.com](http://www.mulafest.com)

**MAD COOL**  
This was the macro-festival that Madrid needed and it's held mid-July in the Mad Cool-Valdebebas space. Previous editions have drawn 80,000 people a day to watch the likes

**The city's main open-air festivals are held from May to October**

of Pearl Jam, Depeche Mode, Jack White, Tame Impala and Kasabian perform.  
→ [www.madcoolfestival.es](http://www.madcoolfestival.es)

**TOMAVISTAS**  
This festival showcases the newest and most creative music scenes, styles and innovations from Spain and around the world. Held in May, it's not one for mainstream audiences, but fans of bands such as Goldfrapp, The Horrors or Temples will love it.  
→ [www.tomavistasfestival.com](http://www.tomavistasfestival.com)

**BRUNCH -IN THE PARK**  
Every year Brunch -In the Park

features a special combination of music, food trucks and children's activities that provides a crossover between fun and culture that's aimed not just at adults, but at kids, too. The perfect place to dance away a Sunday in September or October to the rhythm of the best electronic music around, it features DJs from across Spain and beyond, all in the Enrique Tierno Galván park.  
→ [madrid.brunch-in.com](http://madrid.brunch-in.com)

**DOWNLOAD**  
It only began a couple of years ago but it's already an

**OTHER FESTIVALS**  
As well as these big dates, Madrid hosts many other major musical events, including the Black is Back Weekend, Madrid es Negro, Sound Isidro, and Getafe's Cultura Inquieta.  
→ [www.timeout.com/madrid/music-nightlife](http://www.timeout.com/madrid/music-nightlife)

unmissable date for rock and heavy metal fans. Legends of the genre such as Guns n' Roses, Marilyn Manson, Linkin Park and System of a Down, among others, have all graced its Caja Mágica stage. Held at the start of July, it attracts more than 100,000 revellers.  
→ [www.downloadfestival.es](http://www.downloadfestival.es)

**NOCHES DEL BOTÁNICO**  
Madrid's botanical gardens beneath a summer's night sky – it's hard to imagine a better backdrop for a music festival. This spectacular programme

of concerts takes place from the end of June until the end of July and past editions have featured everyone from Patti Smith to Wilco and Seal.  
→ [www.nochesdelbotanico.com](http://www.nochesdelbotanico.com)

**FESTIMAD**  
Over the years, Festimad has been the first Spanish festival stage for acts such as Radiohead, Rage Against the Machine and The Smashing Pumpkins. It's held in various venues around the city over several weeks in April and May.  
→ [www.festimad.es](http://www.festimad.es)

LOCAL BANDS

# From Madrid to musical success

**HINDS**

Made up of four young Madrileñas aged between 21 and 26, this all-female indie rock band (with a bit of garage pop, surf and lo-fi thrown in) released their first album in 2016. They've since played festivals on four continents, appeared in magazines such as Rolling Stone and NME, and become the first Spanish group to perform on a late-night US talk show. Enjoying success on a grand scale, they're well worth keeping an eye on.

**LOS PUNSETES**

Influenced by Spanish '80s acts such as Kaka de Luxe and '90s indie-pop bands such as Los

**WHO?**

Ade Martín, Amber Grimbergen, Ana Perrote and Carlota Cosials are the four members of Hinds, who were originally known as Deers.

**WHY DO WE LIKE THEM?**

Their fresh indie pop sound, Spanglish accents and self-confidence have won us over. Their 'Leave Me Alone' album is great.

→ [www.hindsband.com](http://www.hindsband.com)



Planetas, but with a modern look and some very bizarre lyrics, Los Punsetes are one of Madrid's best alternative bands and no new music lover worth their salt would disagree. Their most recent album, ¡Viva!, came out in March 2017. Interesting fact: Punsetes lead singer Ariadna makes a new dress for every gig the band plays.

**VETUSTA MORLA**

The masters of Madrid indie music, they hail from Tres Cantos to the north of the city. The group have released several successful albums, and now sell out wherever they play. They're named after the giant tortoise in 'The Neverending Story'. ■

EL TOP 3

## Concerts



**Slayer**

The trash metal group bids farewell on their Final World Tour, which is set to pass through Madrid with special guests including Lamb of God, Anthrax and Obituary.

→ Palacio Vistalegre. Nov 17 2018.

Tickets from 68.10€.



**Elton John**

Tickets are selling fast and not for nothing. Elton John will be touching down in 2019 to play his last ever Madrid gig as part of his Farewell Yellow Brick Road tour.

→ WiZink Center. Jun 26 2019. Tickets from 57.50€.



**Snow Patrol**

The Northern Irish band arrive in Madrid to celebrate Valentine's Day with a concert presenting 'Wildness', their first album in seven years. If you loved their massive hit, 'Chasing Cars', you won't want to miss this.

→ La Riviera. Feb 14 2019. Tickets from 45€.

# LIVE

## The coolest concert venues



### WiZink Center

With capacity for up to 15,000 people, this is Madrid's largest concert venue, offering the biggest programme. Its name changes with the sponsor but Madrileños will always know it as the Palacio de Deportes.

→ Av. Felipe II, s/n. M: Goya.

while enjoying a beer. There are performances every night and the tickets are reasonably priced.

→ Galileo, 100.

M: Islas Filipinas.

**Gruta 77**

A temple to punk, rock, garage and other extreme styles in Carabanchel. Fanzines, magazines and independent labels have helped make it a unique venue.

→ Cuclillo, 6. M: Oporto.

**Siroco**

A legendary club for pop and rock concerts and indie, techno and electro DJ sessions.

It also organises film seasons and exhibitions related to music.

→ San Dimas, 3. M: Tribunal.

**Café Central**

The city's official temple to jazz offers a carefully curated programme of concerts taking place every night of the week.

→ Ángel, 10. M: Antón Martín.



**Palacio de Vistalegre**

The remodelling of the old Vistalegre bullring turned this space into an ideal venue for large concerts and events in Madrid. Many big international artists have played here over the years.

→ Utebo, 1. M: Vista Alegre.

**El Sol**

One of Madrid's legendary concert halls, El Sol was the stage for some of the best performances by the city's Movida era

bands in the 1980s. These days you can catch concerts by alternative pop and rock groups during the week, before it turns into a club at weekends.

→ Jardines, 3. M: Sol.

**La Riviera**

With capacity for over 2,000 people, La Riviera is one of the most important and influential venues in the city, famous for both its concerts and club nights. Open for over 50 years, it's located on the banks of the

Manzanares river.

→ Paseo Bajo de la Virgen del Puerto, s/n. M: Pta. del Ángel.

**Sala But**

This leading venue is well known for club nights such as Ochoymedio, but it also hosts concerts by emerging national and international bands.

→ Barceló, 11. M: Tribunal.

**Moby Dick**

Next to Paseo de la Castellana, this venue's programme revolves around indie rock, but there's room for metal, pop, folk, soul and jazz, too.

→ Av. de Brasil, 5. M: Cuzco.

**Clamores**

Specialising in jazz and soul, this venue features eclectic concerts and sessions, transforming into an intimate and smart club with marble tables and mirrored walls.

→ Albuquerque, 14. M: Bilbao.

**Sala Caracol**

This garage-like venue in Embajadores specialises in gigs by independent and alternative musicians, with new generation punk, indie pop, rap, hip hop, heavy rock,

heavy metal and trap all on the bill.

→ Bernardino Obregón, 18. M: Embajadores.

**Wurlitzer Ballroom**

This central venue offers gigs by small alternative Spanish groups, making it a perfect place to discover new music as well as what's happening on the underground scene.

→ Tres Cruces, 12. M: Gran Vía.

**Costello**

A legendary nightclub, the



## Music

### HOUSE Kapital

A huge club covering several floors with different styles of music, from Latin to house to techno. Its VIP areas famously host some of the best parties in Madrid.

→ Atocha, 125.

M: Atocha.

### MAINSTREAM Mitty

A student-friendly club hosting a mix of mainstream music and concerts that's perfect for dancing the night away. There are decent-priced drinks, too.

→ Julián Romea, 4.

M: Guzmán el Bueno.

### INDIE POP Ochoymedio

An indie pop favourite among young Madrileños. As well as pop concerts by both home-grown and international artists, it's also famous for its DJ sessions and Jägermeister shot parties.

→ Sala But. Barceló, 11.

M: Tribunal.

### TECHNO Cassette

Cassette is Madrid's Sunday techno club, perfect for people who don't work Mondays or for party animals who head here to cap off their weekends.

→ Sala Boite. Tetuán, 27.

M: Sol, Gran Vía.

### TRAP Cha Chá The Club

You'll feel like you're at a trendy private club at this weekly night where they play trap, rap, electronica and reggaeton, and

stars such as Young Beef and Miss Nina perform and DJ. Its Instagram rocks, too.

→ Cedaceros, 7.

M: Sevilla.

### MINIMAL TECHNO Ballesta Club

Opened recently in the heart of Malasaña, this modern club has quickly become a

temple to minimal techno in the hands of ex-Zombie Kid Cumhr Jay. There's also a revolving line-up of resident DJs.

→ Ballesta, 12. M: Gran Vía.

### ELECTRONICA Radio Dada

Hear the best electronica on a hotel rooftop, complete with

outrageous outfits, projections on its tower, cocktails, food and great views of the city.

→ ME Madrid Reina Victoria. Plaza Santa Ana, 14. M: Sol.

### HOUSE Mondo Disko

The Madrid techno night par excellence since 1999. Some of the biggest name

in the genre have played here.

→ Sala Coco. Alcalá, 20.

M: Sevilla.

### VINTAGETECHNO Fabrik

Feel the rush of techno and its pounding beats at this venue, which features old-school sessions and even acid house and

rave. A classic club situated just outside the city centre.

→ Avenida de la Industria, 82.

M: Humanes de Madrid.

### INDIE ROCK Independance

One of the Madrid club nights most popular with students, its chief attractions are the best mainstream indie rock and low entry prices. The venue also hosts concerts.

→ Sala O. Plaza del Callao, 4.

M: Callao.

### UNDERGROUND Ya'sta Club

An alternative and underground club that plays rock, dark electronica, techno and gothic at sessions such as Kream and Elecktra.

→ Valverde, 10. M: Gran Vía.

### ELECTRO Stardust

An electro and techno night for fans of electropop from the 2000s and the latest techno. Hardcore electronic sounds for millennial urban tribes.

→ Sala Cool. Isabel

La Católica, 6.

M: Santo Domingo.

### FUNK Shoko

The best-known club in La Latina, where the dance floor shakes to everything from the most commercial sounds to funk and reggaeton. It also hosts occasional concerts and fun themed parties.

→ Toledo, 86.

M: La Latina.

# THE BEST SESSIONS Clubs



## Joy Eslava

You might spot an international celebrity or two partying at one of this legendary club's sessions, while its Epic student night takes place on Thursdays. Madrid nightlife wouldn't be the same without venues like this, which are synonymous with the city's club culture.

→ Arenal, 11. M: Sol.

# LGBTBI

[www.timeout.com/madrid](http://www.timeout.com/madrid)

## Beyond Chueca

Madrid's LGBTBI scene has moved out from its traditional Chueca home, with La Latina, Malasaña and Lavapiés now also featuring great venues for the community

### 1 La 80

Walk through the doors of this spot in Lavapiés and you're transported back to the '80s, not just because of the mix of home-grown and international pop played by its DJs, but also because of its décor, which features mirror balls and brightly painted walls in pink and blue. This disco-bar is a really fun place and particularly popular with young thirtysomething lesbians. Open from Wednesday to Sunday until after 3am, it's nearly always busy.

→ Sombrerería, 8. M: Chueca.

### 2 El Rincón Guay

The terrace of this major LGBTBI-friendly Lavapiés venue is packed every evening with people enjoying a drink and its soundtrack of queer-pop classics. A hot spot for alternative new generation who've swapped Chueca for the authenticity and multiculturalism of Lavapiés, it has a great atmosphere, good vibe, beautiful and likeable people, and lots of flirting.

→ Embajadores, 62. M: Lavapiés.



### 3 Thick Bar

A fun, fresh, alternative bar that pushes all the usual LGBTBI labels to one side. Open to everyone, it's a place where having a good time, rather than posing, is the most important thing, hosting fun nights of the kind that took place years ago in legendary Chueca venues such as Refugio and Pasapoga. The music is commercial and uninhibited and even makes the staff dance, and there are occasional wild parties on Thursday and Sunday evenings that feature some of Madrid's best DJs. The bar to be in Chueca, which remains the city's LGBTBI

neighbourhood par excellence.

→ San Marcos, 16. M: Chueca.

### 4 El Atril

On Sunday evenings La Latina turns into a 'mini Chueca', with its own circuit of LGBTBI bars and pubs. One of the key places in the area (along with the likes of La Sixta and El Perla) is this fun bar, which embraces the party spirit of the traditional La Paloma festivities, with an emphasis on fun, freedom, letting go and having a good time.

→ La Paloma, 9. M: La Latina.

THE BEST PARTIES FOR A GREAT TIME

**DRLO Live**

Stage venue DLRO Live is the place to see shows, live performances, cabaret, stand-up comedy and photography and art exhibitions in a queer atmosphere. Madrid's best drag queens are regulars and the venue is a popular haunt for twinks (young, boyish gays). Lots of fun.  
→ Pelayo, 59. M: Chueca.

**Churros con chocolate**

Held one Sunday a month, this is one of the best themed parties on the Madrid gay scene,



with gifts, snacks, churros, pop music, shows and two rooms bursting with fun. Each edition has a different theme, and guests are invited to join in any way they like. Free entry until 11pm.  
→ Sala Cool. Isabel La Católica, 6. M: Santo Domingo.

**Ultrapop**

With its gold and fluorescent décor, Ultrapop takes it aesthetic cues from the likes of Keith



We Party

We Party guarantees a good time, taking Madrid's gay nightlife by storm with its mix of stage shows, international house DJs and good-looking guys.

→ La Riviera. [www.wepartyontour.com/es/](http://www.wepartyontour.com/es/)

Haring, Jeff Koons and Michael Alig. It's the creation of fantastic transvestite artist La Prohibida, one of the biggest electropop singers on the Spanish scene.  
→ Sala Boite. Tetuán, 27. M: Sol.

**Kluster**

One of Saturday night's essential club

sessions, Kluster features the biggest international DJs on the gay circuit and a dance floor packed with muscly shirtless men.  
→ Sala Changó. Covarrubias, 42. M: Alonso Martínez.

**Fulanita de Tal**

Running for almost a decade, this Chueca venue is now a Madrid nightlife landmark. With

a mostly lesbian clientele, it organises fun club nights, as well as concerts and even sporting contests.  
→ Regueros, 9. M: Chueca.

**Odarko**

This fetish night has a strict dress code of leather, rubber, straps and lycra, and a very masculine vibe. On the decks, DJ Carranco plays progressive techno-house that's straight out of Berlin's hardcore clubs.  
→ Sala Strong. Trujillos, 7. M: Callao.



**Club 33**

The old Medea nightclub may have changed its name but its style has stayed the same. A meeting spot for party-hard lesbians each weekend, it has a relaxed and flirty atmosphere.  
→ Cabeza, 33. M: Lavapiés.

**My Pleasure**

This night defines itself as a monthly gay 'electro erotica' party celebrating all things fetish. The DJs play mostly deep house and electro and there are often special sessions, too.  
→ Sala Pirandello. Martín de los Heros, 14. M: Plaza de España.

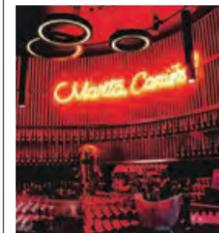
**TANGA! Party**

Set up in Barcelona in 2015, this party has taken no time to establish itself in Madrid. The idea

is to offer 'a pop and fun alternative where the entire LGBTI public has a place,' says co-creator David Marcos. Enjoy top pop tracks from the past and present one Sunday every month.  
→ Teatro Barceló. M: Tribunal.

**Factoría Cariño**

When the shutters came down on club Marta, Cariño!, the action moved to Sala Cool, where lovers of Spanish and international pop now have their



weekly date in the form of Baila, Cariño!. The good times and great dancing that go on there have helped make it one of the most popular sessions in the city.  
→ Marta, Cariño! Santa Engracia, 17. M: Alonso Martínez.  
→ Baila, Cariño! Sala Cool. Isabel La Católica, 6. M: Santo Domingo.

MORE AT

[TIMEOUT.COM/MADRID/](http://TIMEOUT.COM/MADRID/)

Art

[www.timeout.com/madrid/arts-theatre](http://www.timeout.com/madrid/arts-theatre)

The top 10

Cultural overload threatens at every turn in Madrid, but these are the museum artworks you shouldn't leave without taking in



A CITY FULL OF ART

As well as the key works of art listed here, Madrid's museums and galleries are home to major collections that are undergoing constant renewal and attract thousands of tourists every year.

→ [www.timeout.com/madrid/arts-theatre](http://www.timeout.com/madrid/arts-theatre)

**1 Las Meninas**

A work of art if ever there was one, Velázquez's canvas heralds the birth of modern painting with a composition that was way ahead of its time. Depicting a scene from everyday life, it has generated multiple interpretations, both of its political meanings and artistic and historical aspects.  
→ Museo del Prado

crowning achievement of a great master.  
→ Museo del Prado

**4 The Three GraceS**

One of the most representative baroque works, this was painted by Rubens, one of its best exponents. The voluptuous figures of the three women demonstrate the beauty ideals of the period.  
→ Museo del Prado

**2 The Garden of Earthly Delights**

This triptych is one of Bosch's most enigmatic pieces. Considered one of the most fascinating paintings in art history, it depicts Paradise, Creation and Hell.  
→ Museo del Prado

**5 Guernica**

Picasso created this hard-hitting and symbolist work to represent the suffering caused by the bombing of the Bizkaia town of the title during the Spanish Civil War. A symbol of the horrors of war, it was shown at the 1937 International Exhibition in Paris to raise awareness of the Republican cause.  
→ Museo Reina Sofía

**3 The Nobleman with his Hand on his Chest**

One of the most famous portraits by Doménikos Theotokópoulos, aka El Greco, it shows a sixteenth-century nobleman (perhaps the third marquis of Montemayor) with his hand on his chest and looking at the viewer as though making a deal with them. A

**6 Les Vessenots in Auvers**

A spectacular piece by Vincent van Gogh, with luminous greens and yellows,

and nervous, unsettled brushstrokes that follow a wavy, repetitive rhythm as they depict this town north of Paris.  
→ Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza

**7 The Third of May 1808**

This painting by Goya shows the violent repression carried out by the occupying French army after Madrileños rose up against it on May 2 1808. Another of the Prado's key pieces, it's one of the Aragonese painter's most famous works in his 'Disasters of War' series.  
→ Museo del Prado

**8 Woman in Bath**

A masterpiece by pop artist Roy Lichtenstein, painted using a rudimentary red, blue and yellow primary colour scheme applied in his characteristic Ben-Day dots. The result looks like a comic book turned into a work of art.  
→ Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza

**9 The Great Masturbator**

A symbol of his sexual obsessions, Salvador Dalí's autobiographical dreamscape was painted at the end of the summer of 1929 after he'd spent several days with his future wife, Gala.  
→ Museo Reina Sofía

**10 Hotel Room**

The loneliness of modern cities is one of the central themes of Edward Hopper's work, and in this painting the engrossed female figure on the bed contrasts with the coldness of the room, in which clear lines and brilliant plain colours predominate.  
→ Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza

## ART IN MADRID

# A walk through art

**IF YOU WANT TO SEE ART** in Madrid, you only have to walk a few metres around one of the most impressive concentrations of galleries in the world – the triangle formed by the Prado, Thyssen-Bornemisza and Reina Sofía museums.

### THE PRADO MUSEUM

The Prado is the most important art gallery in Spain, comprising the Casón del Buen Retiro and an extension built in 2007 along with the main building. On its walls hang works by some of the greatest painters in history, including Titian, Rubens, Goya, Velázquez, Botticelli, Bosch and Caravaggio, among many others.

→ Paseo del Prado, s/n. M: Atocha.

www.museodelprado.es

### PASEO DEL ARTE CARD

This art pass gives entry to the collections of all three museums, and is valid for one year. It provides a 20-percent discount and is available to buy in any of the museums.

### PASEO DEL ARTE APP

The Paseo del Arte Imprescindible app gives you practical info as well as details about the top 24 artworks.



### THE THYSSEN-BORNEMISZA MUSEUM

The Thyssen houses the collection of the late Baron Hans-Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza, made up of priceless works from the English, German, Dutch and primitive Italian schools, as well as various European avant-garde movements.

→ Paseo del Prado, 8. M: Banco de España.

www.museothyssen.org

### THE REINA SOFÍA MUSEUM

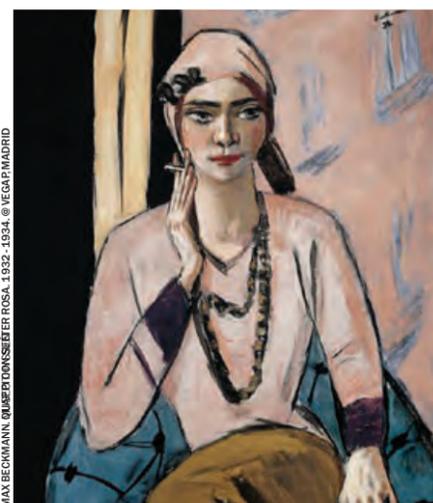
Madrid's museum of avant-garde and modern art. It was extended in 2005 by architect Jean Nouvel and houses one of the jewels of Spanish painting, Picasso's 'Guernica', along with works by Dalí, Miró and many others.

→ Santa Isabel, 52. M: Atocha.

www.museoreinasofia.es

## EL TOP 3

# Exhibitions



### Beckmann: Figures in Exile

This exhibition focuses on the unique expressionist style of one of the most important German artists of the last century. His paintings are raw, sharp and exceptional images.

→ Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza.

Oct 23 2018-Jan 27 2019.



### Rediscovering the Mediterranean

The Mediterranean Sea emerged as a key theme in the development of modern European art and was painted, in their own way, by artists such as Van Gogh and Picasso, among others.

→ Fundación Mapfre. Sala Recoletos.

Oct 10 2018-Jan 13 2019.



### Leonardo da Vinci. Los rostros del genio

To mark the 500th anniversary of the death of the greatest artist of the Renaissance, Madrid hosts this exhibition distributed across two locations, the Palacio de las Alhajas and the National Library. It's commissioned by TV presenter and Da Vinci expert Christian Gálvez.

→ Various venues. Nov 29 2018-May 19 2019.

### Museo Cerralbo

A museum-house featuring paintings, sculptures, ceramics, glassware and tapestries that give it a special charm, this chocolate box of art also hosts various cultural activities.

→ Ventura Rodríguez, 17.

M: Plaza de España.

### Museo del Traje

Take a trip through the history of clothing, from archaeological pieces to modern haute couture.

→ Av. Juan de Herrera, 2.

M: Ciudad Universitaria.

### Museo de Ciencias Naturales

One of Madrid's oldest museums with permanent exhibitions covering areas such as biodiversity, minerals and human evolution. Children will enjoy the activities and the huge dinosaur skeletons.

José Gutiérrez Abascal, 2.

M: Gregorio Marañón.



### Museo Sorolla

Home to the most extensive collection of works by the Valencian painter in Madrid, this is one of the best-preserved artists' houses in Europe. Its garden, designed by Sorolla himself, is a beautiful oasis.

→ Paseo del General Martínez Campos, 37. M: Gregorio Marañón.

### Museo Lázaro Galdiano

José Lázaro Galdiano founded this museum to educate

and bring pleasure to future generations. Its collection is highly valued for its diversity, with ivory, silver and more.

→ Serrano, 122.

M: Gregorio Marañón.

## OTHER MUST-SEE MUSEUMS IN MADRID



## GALLERIES

From the Salamanca to the Las Letras neighbourhoods, Madrid boasts a wide selection of internationally renowned galleries that host some of the city's best exhibitions, most of which have free entry. Among the best known are the Marlborough (Orfila, 5), which has centres in other cities such as Barcelona and New York, and Juana de Aizpuru (Barquillo, 44). Also worth a visit are Ivorypress (Comandante Zorita, 46-48), which sells artists' books; Mondo Galería (San Lucas, 9), which specialises in photography; and La Fábrica (Alameda, 9), a multifunctional space with a gallery, café, bookstore and shop.

### Museo del Ferrocarril

Madrid's railway museum is home to a comprehensive collection of historic materials from Spain's different regions.

→ Paseo de las Delicias, 61.

M: Delicias.

### Museo de América

A journey through the history of the continent via more than 25,000 objects of every type.

→ Av. de los Reyes Católicos, 6.

M: Moncloa.

### Museo del Romanticismo

This museum recreates the lifestyle, art and customs of the nineteenth century, and includes objects that belonged to great literary figures such

as Mariano José de Larra. There's also a pretty garden.

→ San Mateo, 13.

M: Alonso Martínez.

### Museo Arqueológico Nacional

Discover the history of the different peoples and cultures of Spain and the Mediterranean, from antiquity to recent times. Highlights include unique Visigothic pieces and the famous Dama de Elche sculpture.

→ Serrano, 13. M: Colón.

## CULTURAL SPACES

### CaixaForum

This cultural centre occupies a futurist building that once

housed an electricity plant. Highlights include its vertical garden, which is more than 20m high and home to over 250 plant species.

→ Paseo del Prado, 36.

M: Atocha/Estación del Arte.

### Fundación Juan March

Exhibitions, concert seasons and free seminars of all types are held in this family institution opened in 1955.

→ www.march.es

### Fundación Mapfre

There are two venues, in Recoletos and Bárbara de Braganza, both devoted to photography. It also has a space dedicated to works by Miró.

→ www.fundacionmapfre.org.es

### Espacio Fundación Telefónica

You'll find exhibitions, workshops, meet-ups, talks and other free activities in this space located in Telefónica's 6,000m<sup>2</sup> headquarters.

→ Fuencarral, 3. M: Gran Vía.

### Fundación Canal

The headquarters of the Fundación Canal de Isabel II in Plaza Castilla houses one of the most interesting exhibition spaces in the city.

→ Mateo Inurria, 2.

M: Plaza de Castilla.

## MORE AT

TIMEOUT.COM/  
MADRID

# Books

## Literary corners

### CUESTA DE MOYANO

On the edge of the Retiro park, this is one of the city's nerve centres for lovers of secondhand books. The famous Moyano hill is part of Madrid's Paseo del Arte and it features original programming of weekend cultural events. Organised by Territorio Moyano, the project aims to promote and encourage reading in the area. The stalls have been there for years and make up the city's only permanent book market.

→ [www.territoriomoyano.org](http://www.territoriomoyano.org)



### OTHERS FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

If you need more literature in your life, make a note of these two spring dates: La Feria del Libro Antiguo y de Ocasión, in Paseo de Recoletos (April), and the Poetas festival in Matadero Madrid (June), an open and inspirational event that brings poets and the public together.

### FERIA DEL LIBRO

The most important date in the city's literary calendar takes place each year in the Retiro park from the end of May to the beginning of June. The Madrid Book Fair is a unique opportunity to discover the

latest publications, attend book signings, and meet authors in person. It features over 300 stalls covering different themes, as well as children's activities, workshops and plenty more.

→ [www.ferialibromadrid.com](http://www.ferialibromadrid.com)

### LIBROS MUTANTES

La Casa Encendida cultural centre hosts this fair for independent publishers every April, with fanzines, design, free workshops, children's activities and music.

→ [www.librosmutantes.com](http://www.librosmutantes.com)

## TOP 3

## Original bookshops



### Tipos Infames

→ Joaquín, 3. M: Tribunal. This bookshop specialises in independent authors and publishers, and also has a corner given over to a café/wine bar. It's a dynamic and open cultural space that, as well as promoting independent literature, offers other quality products such as wine and craft beer, not to mention a wide range of activities including book presentations, tastings, exhibitions, workshops and courses. A highly recommended alternative space in the heart of Malasaña.



### La Casquería

→ Embajadores, 41. M: Lavapiés. Since 2012 the old María Luisa offal and Manoli poultry stalls in the Mercado de San Fernando have been the home of this stand where you can buy books by weight. The price is 10€ a kilo and its aim is to promote free and sustainable culture and local trade.

### Tuuulibrería

→ Covarrubias, 38. M: Bilbao. This is the only bookstore (it has three branches) where you can choose the price of every book you buy. Its philosophy is that everyone should have access to literature, regardless of their economic resources. It also donates books to charity and sends them to developing countries, as well as organising activities and events.

## LET THE WORLD MATTER

Do you want to change the world?

Visit [livingforothers.es](http://livingforothers.es) and discover voluntary service in Madrid

# Food and Drink

www.timeout.com/madrid/restaurants

## Famous Madrid dishes

The capital is known for its great food and there are many typical dishes that define its delicious culinary culture. These are our favourites and the best places to try them



### EL COCIDO MADRILEÑO

Madrid's most typical dish is this stew made from chickpeas, broth and meat, although there are many variations on the basic recipe. The best-known version is undoubtedly that served in La Bola in the old city centre – its secret is to cook each serving in individual clay pots on a bed of charred holm oak.  
→ Taberna La Bola. Bola, 5. M: Ópera.

### HUEVOS ESTRELLADOS

The best version of this egg dish is the world-famous one made at Casa Lucio. It roasts, rather than fries, its eggs in a pan with a little oil, cooking the yolk and white

on both sides, before serving them on a delicious bed of fried potatoes. Simple presentation and classic flavours in a La Latina restaurant where tradition rules.  
→ Casa Lucio. Cava Baja, 35. M: La Latina.

### PATATAS BRAVAS

The patatas bravas served at Docamar are famous across Madrid. The potatoes are freshly cooked to perfection, and served with just the right amount of spicy bravas sauce. The bar keeps its winning recipe a closely guarded secret and once you've tried them you're sure to be back for more. It also sells its tasty bravas sauce for you to take home.  
→ Docamar. Alcalá, 337. M: Quintana.

### BACALAO REBOZADO

You have to go to Casa Labra to try this dish. There cod (bacalao) is the speciality, particularly cod croquettes and tajadas – pieces of fish fried in batter. You can either try them right there on the premises or take them away – no bad option, given that the restaurant and terrace are almost always full and the wait to order can seem eternal.  
→ Casa Labra. Tetuán, 12. M: Sol.

### ROSQUILLAS

These typical Madrid doughnut-like pastries are traditionally made in May during the annual San Isidro festival celebrating the city's patron saint, but you can

increasingly find them outside of that time. There are various types: rosquillas tontas are plain, while rosquillas listas are covered with icing and the Santa Clara ones are topped with meringue. Even Madrid's most creative bakers adhere strictly to tradition in making them.  
→ La Duquesita. Fernando VI, 2. M: Alonso Martínez.

### CROQUETAS

Some say it's the ones their mum makes, others say it's their granny's – Spaniards always have trouble agreeing who makes the best croquettes. So imagine the impossibility of doing it in a city where every bar

### CALLOS

La Tasquita de Enfrente is famous for its version of this traditional offal stew. Chef Juanjo López uses both special black and salted varieties of tripe, washing each one in cold water before cooking them for almost six hours.  
→ La Tasquita de Enfrente. Ballesta, 6. M: Callao.

and restaurant offers their own version. More runny, less runny; with Iberian ham or with shrimp and kimchi; coated in classic breadcrumbs or crunchier Japanese panko crumbs... The choices are endless, though we're rather partial to the ones at Santerra.  
→ Santerra. General Pardiñas, 56. M: Lista.

### CHOCOLATE CON CHURROS

You won't get your honorary Madrid members' card if you haven't tried chocolate and churros (deep-fried pastry fingers) at the Chocolatería San Ginés. This traditional city-centre café has tables downstairs, but you'll be lucky to

get one at weekends. Its churros are the perfect size and thickness, crunchy and hot. A Madrid must-do.  
→ Chocolatería San Ginés. Pasadizo de San Ginés, 5. M: Sol.

### TORRIJAS

La Casa de las Torrijas has been cooking these traditional Easter treats for years – its versions are so soft and juicy, they dissolve in your mouth. There are two different kinds, those made with milk and those made with wine, and it serves them both all year round. A classic Madrid dessert.  
→ La Casa de las Torrijas. Paz, 4. M: Sol.

### FOODIE TRADITION

## The perfect squid baguette

You can find the classic Madrid *bocata de calamares* at:

#### EL BRILLANTE

This beer bar opposite Atocha station has been serving its famous squid baguettes since 1961.  
→ Pza. Emperador Carlos V, 8.

#### SAGÁS MATADERO

Chef Oriol Rovira's version features aioli (garlic mayo) and squid in its ink.  
→ Plaza de Legazpi, 8.

#### PERRO BAR

This bar fries its squid in olive oil, then serves it in Galician bread with an olive sauce.  
→ El Corte Inglés. Plaza del Callao, 2.

#### BAR POSTAS

Off Plaza Mayor, Postas is famous for its squid baguettes, as well as its marinated fish and baby squid tapas.  
→ Postas, 13.



# Tortilla de patatas

The potato omelette is one of Spain's tastiest and best-known dishes. The question is, though, should it be with onion or without?

**THE TORTILLA IS AN ESSENTIAL** part of the national menu, and there are as many different ways of preparing it as there are people. Really, though, it has only three essential ingredients: eggs, potatoes and olive oil. Even so, put four friends together and no two will turn out an omelette that looks or tastes the same. With or without onion (and should it be caramelised)? Thin or four centimetres thick? Cooked through or slightly runny in the middle? Served sliced or on cocktail sticks...? Here we present some of the bars and restaurants with tortillas we'd swear by.



## LA ARDOSA

A classic bar for a pre-lunch or early evening drink with a traditional feel and shelves lined with dusty bottles. It only serves beers in double cañas but they go down well with something from the appealing menu – and when you try the tortilla you'll understand why this place is so famous. Duck behind the bar and you'll find a small lounge at the back. → Colón, 13. M: Tribunal.

## SYLKAR

No list of the best tortillas in Madrid would be complete without this family establishment. At first glance it might seem like a normal café-bar, but it hides not only a wonderful kitchen where everything is home-made using traditional recipes, but also a well-stocked wine cellar. Its torrijas – a kind of Spanish bread pudding, traditionally served at Easter – are also to die for. → Espronceda, 17. M: Ríos Rosas.

## CASA DANI

Occupying a small spot in the centre of the Mercado de la Paz, this bar serves breakfasts from seven in the morning and



## TABERNA PEDRAZA

This bar in the Retiro area puts a great twist on the traditional (onion-free) tortilla. It uses fresh free-range eggs that weigh between 56g and 60g and come from chickens fed on corn to make the yolk more yellow. The potatoes, meanwhile, are a hydroponically grown cross of the Kennebec and Agria varieties. The result is soft, yellow tortillas (the recipe comes from the renowned O'Pote restaurant in Betanzos in Galicia) that are beyond compare. One of the best in Madrid. → Ibiza, 38. M: Ibiza.

lunches from ten. Served with or without onion, in slices to eat at the bar or whole to take away, its tortillas, made with crispy potatoes and generous amounts of egg, are worthy examples of those you'll find in any traditional Madrid bar. → Ayala, 28. M: Serrano.

## OCAFÚ

Formerly known as La Penela, this restaurant makes tortillas the way they make them in the Galician town of Betanzos, and they're considered some of the best in Madrid. There are also other delicious Galician treats

to try, so you're sure to want to keep coming back. → Infanta Mercedes, 98. M: Valdeacederas.

## JUANA LA LOCA PINTXOS BAR

This trendy tapas bar isn't cheap, but it offers some top-level creative cooking – its pinchos (little combos of ingredients skewered on to pieces of bread) include ostrich, plum and crunchy bacon, and foie gras with caramelised apple. Its tortilla is cooked through but still runny, though the main difference is its inclusion of caramelised onion. Delicious! → Puerta de Moros, 4. M: La Latina.



## FREETAPAS!

### ÍNDALO TAPAS

Cold beer, friendly service and above all, you can choose a free tapa with your drink, just like in Almería. → Pérez Galdós, 7.

### LA BLANCA PALOMA

Chilled beer in tall glasses with the added appeal of free tapas and cheap spirits. → Espíritu Santo, 21.

### EL TIGRE

Always packed, it serves its beers with generous free tapas that change with each round. → Infantas, 30.



## Madrid's best tapas bars

Enjoying a beer and a few bites to eat is what the Spanish call *tapear*. Indulge at one of these places and you won't be disappointed

### TAPAS & PINCHOS Taberna Arzábal

Arzábal (pictured) offers traditional tapas bar cooking. With waiting staff rushing backwards and forwards and shelves full of wine bottles, this is about top-quality ingredients prepared with a minimum of fuss. The croquettes are a must. → Menéndez Pelayo, 13. M: Ibiza.

### CEVICHE & TIRADITOS Barra Eme

An urban bar where you can explore street food and culture from around the world – particularly Peru – with great dishes and cocktails. Chef Omar Malpartida's menu features Asian, European and Latin American influences. → Libertad, 5. M: Chueca.

### FRESH MARKET FOOD Mercado de la Reina

This place serves tapas and larger raciones from morning until last thing at night, with interesting seasonal variations adding a touch of the unexpected. One of the best bars on Gran Vía. → Gran Vía, 12. M: Gran Vía.

### EXQUISITE PINCHOS Taberna Laredo

Traditional Spanish food simply prepared using fresh market produce. You can enjoy all the

dishes on offer each day either at the bar or in the dining room. → Dr. Castelo, 30. M: Ibiza.

### ANDALUSIAN FRIED FISH Bocaíto

This 50-year-old bar specialises in toasts with toppings, tapas and traditional dishes from the Castile and Andalucía regions, with fried fish and fresh seafood from the Cantabrian Sea. → Libertad, 6. M: Chueca.

### HAUTE CUISINE TAPAS La Raquetista

One of the many gastrobars around the Retiro, La Raquetista specialises in haute cuisine tapas such as razor shell ceviche, chickpeas with black sausage and foie gras, and its amazing Russian salad. One of the best bars in the area. → Dr. Castelo, 19. M: Ibiza.

### IN A WINE GLASS Taberna del Chato

Tapas here are served in chatos – typical low wine tumblers – and include dishes ranging from salmorejo (a chilled tomato dip like gazpacho) to curried chicken, pickled partridge salad, tuna tartar with seaweed, and steak teriyaki. Each is a little mouthful of pleasure and, unsurprisingly, the place is always packed at weekends, so be sure to get there early! → Cruz, 35. M: Sol.



Federal Café



Pum Pum Café

TOP 5

# Cafés with charm

Good coffee, homemade pastries, attractive décor – our pick of perfect places to start your day with a tasty breakfast



Motteau

**1 Federal Café**  
The substantial breakfasts here are an ideal way to inject some energy into your morning. The menu features everything from Greek yogurt with cereal, to toast with all kinds of toppings, freshly baked croissants and scrambled eggs. Its products are all fresh and organic, including the flour and eggs, and there are gluten-free options, too. The delicious cakes are baked by the resident pastry chef and come in eight different varieties, while the coffee is similarly of luxury breakfast standard. Also offering a great brunch, this is a place where you can feel right at home.  
→ Plaza de las Comendadoras, 9. M: Plaza de España.

**2 Pum Pum Café**  
An old butcher's dating back to 1800 has been converted into this vegetarian haven where you can munch on delicious treats while breathing in the smell of its freshly toasted and ground organic coffee, sourced from a small Madrid producer. The breakfast menu features carrot, raspberry and lemon sponge cakes and up to 12 different baked items, including brownies, cookies, lemon pie and alfajores de maicena (Argentinian sandwich biscuits).  
→ Tribulete, 6. M: La Latina.

**3 Motteau**  
Inject some Parisian glamour into your morning coffee at Motteau, an independent pastry shop where you can watch the chef preparing delicacies such as lemon tart, chocolate tart with stout and sponge cake with hazelnut cream. The place is famous for its croissants, cheesecake and tarte tatin, which are partly to blame for the wonderful smell of French butter that permeates the shop. Whatever you choose, though, enjoy it with a good cup of coffee and the lively atmosphere.  
→ San Pedro, 9. M: Antón Martín.



Cereal Hunters Café



La Carmencita

**4 Cereal Hunters Café**  
More than 150 different cereal boxes greet you at this paradise for lovers of Cheerios, Frosties, Coco Pops as well as harder-to-find international imports such as Star Wars, Batman and Flintstones. Syrups, toppings (dried fruit, chocolate cookies, fruit jellies and more) and 20 different kinds of milk (some of vegetable origin) complete the menu at this Malasaña café that, though small, still includes a bar and a few tables where you can enjoy your bowl of cereal in peace.  
→ Mejía Lequerica, 14. M: Tribunal.

**5 Taberna La Carmencita**  
Breakfast in one of Madrid's oldest taverns (it dates from 1854) has its charms. Today La Carmencita can be found serving organic bread made with stone-ground flour from Zamora, fresh butter from farms in the Sierra de Madrid, cheese from San Pedro del Romeral, honey from Patones, jam from Liébana, homemade yogurt, juice from Valencian oranges, organic milk from free-range cows in the Madrid mountains, and freshly toasted fair-trade coffee. Simply marvellous!  
→ Libertad, 16. M: Chueca.

# Drink

## The craft beer crawl

**LA TAPE**  
This gourmet space combines its range of craft beers (both bottled and from the barrel) with a range of dishes to suit all tastes designed to match them, including houmous, Russian salad, cheese and cured meat boards and croquettes. There's a sizeable selection of Spanish and international beers and it can even organise private tastings and parties, too.  
→ SAN BERNARDO, 88. M: San Bernardo.

**IRREALE**  
Home to an extensive beer menu, with infinite options by the bottle and a range few other places can match on tap, this bar is sure to appeal to all hop lovers. If you're not already a beer geek, its tastings present the perfect opportunity to discover the growing universe of craft brews, while there's also a

good selection of food to accompany them.  
→ Manuela Malasaña, 20. M: San Bernardo.

**MAD BREWING**  
As well as allowing you to see the brewery where the beer is made and sample its main varieties, this place has a spacious New



York-style taproom where you can pair the brews with some top-notch food – all of it made in Madrid.  
→ Julián Camarillo, 19. M: Ciudad Lineal.

**EL PEDAL**  
This small bar in Lavapiés crams in a good selection of craft beers from both Madrid and abroad.  
→ Argumosa, 33. M: Lavapiés.

**FABRICA MARAVILLAS**  
Not just one of Madrid's best breweries, the 'Factory of Wonders' is also one of Malasaña's first microbreweries, with a large variety of high-quality beers served in its attractive brewpub.  
→ Valverde, 29. M: Gran Vía.

**LA CASA DE LA CERVEZA**  
With over 30 years' experience, this bar features more than 30 beers on tap and over 150 in bottles, ranging from Madrid craft beer to Belgian and German brews. It's also a great place for watching sport.  
→ Luchana, 5. M: Bilbao.

TOP 3

## Irish pubs in Madrid



### The Irish Rover

One of Madrid's most famous Irish pubs, this place is known not only for its range of beers and its unbeatable location next to the Castellana, but also its frequent gigs and music performances. Offering a typical Irish-bar atmosphere, it's a good spot for meeting up with friends to watch a match, too.  
→ Av. de Brasil, 7. M: Santiago Bernabéu.



### Finnigans

Finnigans pub in Plaza de las Salesas has its own rugby team, the Madrid Lions, and shows the major games on its big screens. At the weekends it's always packed with people who flock here to enjoy a pint or two and the (mostly rock) DJ sessions. Be sure to try the burgers.  
→ Plaza de las Salesas, 9. M: Chueca.



### The James Joyce Irish Pub

Right in the city centre, next to Plaza de Cibeles, this Irish bar offers Guinness and Murphy's on tap, pub grub, chatty Irish (and Spanish) waiting staff, and rugby and Premier League matches on its enormous screens. Interestingly, the James Joyce used to be the Café Lion, a favourite writers' haunt in the post-Civil War years.  
→ Alcalá, 59. M: Banco de España.

BY THE GLASS

# Beyond beer: from wine to vermouth



**TABERNA AVERÍAS**

On Madrid's coolest foodie street, this bar offers dozens of wines from key Spanish regions and further afield.

**WHY GO?**

For the wide variety of wines served by the glass at reasonable prices and its young and trendy atmosphere.  
→ Ponzano, 16.  
M: Alonso Cano.

Alongside beer, Madrid's bars also have a great selection of wine and vermouth – a drink that's growing increasingly popular. We pick a couple of places to enjoy each one:

**LA CHULA DE CHAMBERÍ** is one of the best examples of the new style of Madrid bar, with a selection of tempting wines and well-chosen produce prepared skilfully and simply. There are cured meats, stews and toasts with various toppings, served at a few high tables and one big table for eight.  
→ Fernando el Santo, 11. M: Alonso Martínez.

**LA VIOLETA** is a refurbished tavern – now all marble and painted shelves – in the traditional Madrid neighbourhood of Chamberí. It sells over 30 vermouths, which go perfectly with its smoked or pickled anchovies, cheeses and other dishes and great atmosphere.  
→ Vallehermoso, 62. M: Canal.

**BODEGAS LA ARDOSA** – not to be confused with La Ardosa in Malasaña – is a minuscule bar with a beautiful tiled exterior and an interior lined with wine bottles. The patatas bravas and fried pork belly are very good, the beer comes in big glasses, and the vermouth on tap is delicious.  
→ Santa Engracia, 70. M: Iglesia.

COCKTAIL BARS

# Three G&Ts



**MUSEO CHICOTE**  
The walls are covered in photos of the bar's famous visitors

**Museo Chicote**

→ Gran Vía, 12. M: Gran Vía.  
Since it was opened by famous Spanish cocktail waiter Pedro Chicote in 1931, this bar has been renowned for its delicious cocktails, fun atmosphere and glamorous international clientele, as well as its exclusive and raucous parties. Almost 90 years on, Chicote is still a unique part of Madrid's nightlife, attracting all types of people in search of a great gin and tonic and a special vibe. There's also a menu of snacks to pair with the nearly 50 cocktails on offer, which include the mai-tai, the Hemingway and the Alaska.



**Salmon Guru**

→ Echegaray, 21. M: Gran Vía.  
Enjoy cocktail master Diego Cabrera's most popular creations at this chic, modern and beautifully decorated bar. There are 25 classic drinks to choose from, from G&Ts to numerous original creations that have earned this place its fame.



**Macera**

→ San Mateo, 21. M: Alonso Martínez.  
An industrial-style cocktail bar and café where barman Narciso Bermejo has recovered the original essence of the gin and tonic. The cocktail menu comprises ten classics created using Macera's own in-house-distilled spirits. A bar with a difference.

# WHERE TO EAT

## Essential restaurants for Madrid foodies



## La Casa Tomada

Without doubt, this place sells the most lavish baguettes in Madrid. Real food porn. And the same goes for the rest of its dishes, including the chilli cheese fries – chips topped with chilli con carne, melted cheddar, jalapeño peppers, red onion, a fried egg, coriander and bacon. Pure greed!

→ San Lorenzo, 9. M: Chueca.

**SANDWICHES**

**Bao Bar**

Bao buns are still all the rage and at this place they're delicious, with fillings such as shredded duck, cucumber, spring onion and hoisin sauce, or falafel, tahini and salad. They go great with a beer and the prices are reasonable.

→ Corredera Alta de San Pablo, 2. M: Callao.

**La Sanducherie**

A well-organised space with a mix of

high and low tables and a young and relaxed atmosphere. The service is friendly and the tasty baguettes include Thai chicken, the Cubano mi Hermano, and the Adoro el Pomodoro. There's craft beer, too.  
→ Luchana, 1. M: Bilbao.

**Crumb**

This place defines itself as Madrid's spot for haute cuisine sandwiches. It takes a lot of care over the bread, which is kneaded, shaped and baked every day with organic flour and sourdough starter.

There's wheat bread, bread with seeds, potato, honey and onion, rye bread... all filled with the freshest ingredients to make gourmet creations that are all its own.  
→ Conde Duque, 8. M: Noviciado.

**John Barrita**

From Javi Estévez of La Tasquería (who supplies the meat and more) and John Edward Torres of La Panotheca (who supplies the organic bread), this sandwich and tapas joint offers a relaxed style and lavishly designed backdrop. Open to all, the space is all exposed brick walls, wood and big windows, while the service is efficient and friendly.

→ Vallehermoso, 72. M: Canal.

**El porrón canalla**

This popular sandwich restaurant was born out of the experience and know-how of Juanjo López, formerly of La Tasquita de Enfrente. It's the place to go for authentic sandwiches made the way they've always been made and accompanied by wine, beer and tinto de verano (wine with lemonade) served from typical spouted glass porrónes. With striking



industrial décor, the space focuses on classic flavours and traditional, quality ingredients such as cured meats, preserves and freshly baked bread.  
→ Ballesta, 2. M: Gran Vía.

**CHINESE**

**Lamian**

Lamian by Soy Kitchen takes you on a journey through the most traditional specialities from China, Taiwan, Korea and Japan, all fused together into authentic Asian

street food by the imagination and skill of chef Yong Ping Zhang (aka Julio). The décor is attractive, while the ramen is unbeatable – a soup of well-balanced flavours and a light and vibrant texture.  
→ Plaza de los Mostenses, 4. M: Callao.

**XiangZili**

The guo qiao mi xian (crossing the bridge noodles) served here would rival Asterix's cauldron of magic potion for potency and flavour. Looking like a speakeasy, this restaurant from the

people behind the lively KungFu serves up the spicy cuisine of Yunnan province.  
→ Libreros, 18. M: Santo Domingo.

**Shanghai Mama**

This place's incredibly tasty ku bak rice with chicken, seafood and egg is one of the best around. None of its range of dumplings is likely to disappoint, either – to choose one, the xialongbao made from meat and black truffles is as delicate as it is explosive. It would also be wrong to leave without trying its famous hot and sour soup and traditional crispy duck with almond and cherry sauce. For dessert, the fried banana is a good option – and lighter than it looks.  
→ Infanta Mercedes, 62. M: Tetuán.

**PERUVIAN**

**Tiradito**

The ceviche and raw fish at this bar are something special, all prepared with ingredients from across Peru's three regions by chef Omar Malpartida, a star of Peruvian cuisine. It's also excellent value for money.  
→ Conde Duque, 13. M: San Bernardo.

**La Cevichería**

With a name derived from combining two of Peruvian cuisine's most representative dishes – ceviche and anticuchos – this place is the creation of chef Miguel Ángel Valdiviezo and Melina Salas, the pair behind Madrid's first ceviche restaurant, Tampu, now in Calle Prim. Here the space is divided between the bar and a dining area with low-level tables. →Télez, 20. M: Menéndez Pelayo

**Quispe**

This place doesn't skimp on the quality of its produce – bluefin tuna for the tiradito shiso and Galician beef for the lomo saltado (marinated steak with veg and fried potatoes). There are also hot and cold dishes, nods to Peruvian nikkei and chifa fusion cuisine and a selection of original tapas made from the recipes of top chef friends. The décor provides a window on the country's acerbic art and culture that runs parallel to the diversity served up on your plate. →Orellana, 1. M: Alonso Martínez.

**MEXICAN**

**María Bonita**

Comfortable, good and cheap, this place is one of those honest and homespun taco bars that wants nothing more than for you to spend a fun hour enjoying the dishes arrive at your table – a soup, a prickly-pear salad, a

side of tacos... →Duque de Liria, 9. M: Ventura Rodríguez.

**Mawey**

Run by two experienced chefs who make everything on the premises, including the tortillas, this taco bar continues to raise classics to new levels (such as the succulent cochinita pibil and impeccable suadero) and to separate itself from the pack with unusual recipes – the gobernador tacos are sensational. But Mawey best demonstrates its uniqueness in the form of its constantly revolving list of exquisite fillings, such as pig's ear and duck carnitas. →Olid, 6. M: Quevedo.

**Mestizo**

This place does nachos, quesadillas with various fillings and more than ten types of taco. But it also does tamales, nopales and stews such as duck in mole sauce with cherry and walnuts. We especially recommend the molcajete mestizo (there are chicken, beef, vegetarian and prawn versions) – a huge stone pot filled with avocado, chorizo, cheese, onion, coriander and salsa. →Recoletos, 13. M: Retiro.

**JAPANESE**

**Yokaloka**

One of the first Japanese food stalls in the Mercado de Antón Martín, this has become a hotspot for all things Japan in the city centre, with freshly prepared



sushi, ramen and other specialities. Both its bar and its tables are always full. →Santa Isabel, 5. M: Antón Martín.

**Miki**

Don't expect fantastically original creations, makis loaded with stylistic flourishes or a menu with infinite options here – this is no-frills cooking. A classic Japanese restaurant that comes at you head on, it's sure to win over those most devoted to this cuisine in its purest form. →Duque de Sevilla, 4. M: Cruz del Rayo.

**Kappo**

If it wasn't because you'd come here to try the food and the Tasmanian trout nigiri you've just picked up with your fingers is providing a tempting introduction to his omakase sushi, you could end up

mesmerised by chef Mario Payán's movements behind the counter here. He prepares sushi with the harmony, firmness and precision of a martial art. →Bretón de los Herreros, 54. M: Gregorio Marañón.

**ITALIAN**

**Don Lisander**

This trattoria with its delicious thin-crust pizzas and home-made pasta marks the peak of transalpine cooking in Madrid. Don't miss its 'bruschette' of eggs with truffle and its spectacular tiramisu. →Infanta Mercedes, 92. M: Valdeacederas.



**Forneria Ballaró**

Featuring a wood-fired oven, this place serves up amazing Sicilian dishes, including kebabs made from porchetta, Segovian suckling pig, rocket and mayonnaise; potato and Sardinian sausage croquettes; rice balls stuffed with ragu, peas and mozzarella and, of course, spectacular pizzas. →Santa Engracia, 90. M: Canal

**PIZZAS**

**Fratelli Figurato**

The very sharp and exacting Riccardo and Vittorio closed the door on their former lives to open this welcoming and popular Neapolitan pizzeria. They've now won over half the neighbourhood with their Italian soundtrack, their light and alternative doughs – everything from long fermentation to wholemeal, multicereal and seeded – and their heat-resistant stone pizza oven that maintains all the qualities of a

traditional wood-fired one. →Alonso Cano, 37. M: Alonso Cano.

**Écolo**

At the back, in a bright space with extraordinary windows, a huge wood-fired oven absorbs the constant coming and going of pizzas here. All of them are organic, made from select ingredients and of a good size – you won't want to give up even half a slice of one to leave room for the piattini (sbriciolona toscana, caponata, coppa...) or panna cotta. There's also an enviable range of craft beers. →Embajadores, 28. M: La Latina

**TRADITIONAL**

**Los Galayos**

You'll find praiseworthy quantities of honesty, diligence and exacting know-how at this place off Plaza



Mayor. The cooking is based on Castilian traditional and roast suckling pig is one of the house specialities. If you don't want to venture into the restaurant on your first visit, try one of the dishes at the bar. →Botoneras, 5. M: Sol.

**Cruz Blanca**

Its cocido served in two parts is

famous and has received both the praise of critics and numerous rewards. It takes around 15 hours to make, carefully adding each ingredient – the ham, the bone marrow, the beef, the bacon... – step by step. →Carlos Martín Álvarez, 58. M: Portazgo.

**Botín**

Still standing after almost 300 years, the world's oldest restaurant is famous for its suckling pig and lamb. Hemingway ate here, too. →Cuchilleros, 17. M: La Latina.

**VEGETARIAN**

**La Encomienda**

A large space in Lavapiés with a bar and dining room where almost everything is gluten-free and with many good raw food and vegan options. There's also a set lunch menu and a brunch is available at weekends. →Encomienda, 19. M: Tirso de Molina.

**Pizzi & Dixie**

Botanique, the vegan eatery in the Mercado de Antón Martín, wasn't big enough for chef Nacho Sánchez, so he went off to explore new horizons. Pizzas and other Italian dishes are the pillars of his cooking and his veganism and passion for healthy eating are still every much in evidence on the menu at his Malasaña joint. →San Vicente Ferrer, 16. M: Tribunal.

**Vega**

This place is bustling and loud but comfy and pleasant. Ingredients are locally sourced, organic, or fair trade, and the service is good. →Luna, 9. M: Santo Domingo

**FUSION**

**Kitchen 154**

If you like spicy dishes, Asian street food or eating at lively bar counters (though you can also book a table), you'll love this venue in the Mercado de Vallehermoso. Music, flaming woks, high-speed kitchen coordination and more... →Vallehermoso, 36. M: Quevedo.

**Latasia**

This venue spans everywhere from Lima to Bangkok with a stopover in Singapore.



**El canadiense**

This hamburger joint boasts a non-stop kitchen at weekends and a menu that lets you choose between 200g and 400g versions or special options including salmon and veggie falafel burgers. Our pick is the Vancouver, which comes in a brioche bun with provolone cheese, mushrooms, truffle mayonnaise and rocket.

→Carranza, 10. M: Bilbao.

We highly recommend the sweetbreads (addictive), chilli crab (with a sauce you'll want to keep spreading and spreading), pig's ear (finely sliced and with an attractive glaze) and the dim sum of the day. →Paseo de la Castellana, 115. M: Cuzco.

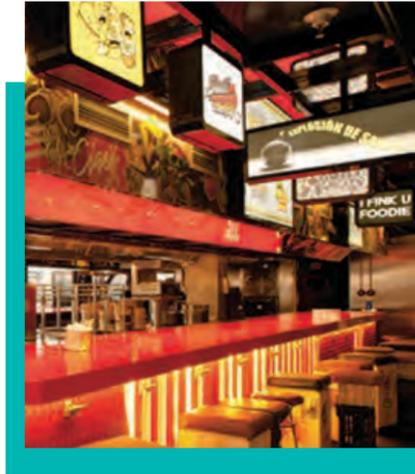
**StreetXO**

The street food version of chef David Muñoz's three-Michelin-starred DiverXO restaurant. You'll be hard pressed to experience such a vibrant atmosphere and unusual tastes anywhere else. →Serrano, 52. M: Rubén Darío.

**HAMBURGERS**

**Goiko Grill**

Constantly growing, Goiko is now one



of Madrid's most popular burger bars, leaving chains such as Five Guys and New York Burger far behind with its quality meat and low prices. →Bilbao, 3. M: Bilbao.

**Meat**

There's just one solitary hamburger on the menu here. OK, there are also fries and onion rings to go with it, but nothing else. Choose how you want the ecological meat of your Royale with cheese cooked and it'll serve/wrap it up for you in a sheet of brown paper big enough to fit all your sauces and sides. →Santa Teresa, 4. M: Alonso Martínez.

**GASTRO BARS**

**Recreo**

Just one look at the classic starters (gilda skewers, stuffed mussels...) is enough to give you an idea of the approach at this fresh and glossy place. Everything looks familiar and delicious, and everything is about Spanish comfort food (creamy

rice, breadcrumbs, pork, cheese boards). But there's also a clever touch that lifts each dish. →Espartinas, 5. M: Goya.

**El ingrediente**

Headed up by two young chefs, David Gutiérrez and Miguel Ángel López, this is a small project in a small space – many of the dishes are finished behind the bar, giving birth to a new concept: a neighbourhood restaurant with a chef's counter. The pair have cut their teeth in various other interesting restaurants in the capital, but here is where their careers are taking off and they're putting what they've learnt to the test. →Alenza, 5. M: Ríos Rosas.

**ASIAN**

**Tuk Tuk**

Authentic Asian street food is the speciality here, with the delights including Indonesian rendang, Malaysian satay kebabs, the Sexy Siao Bao from the Philippines,

Vietnamese pho soup and several legendary curries, including gaeng phet from Thailand. There are Asian cocktails, too. →Barquillo, 26. M: Chueca.



**Yakitoro**

Spanish celeb chef Alberto Chicote's reinterpretation of a classic Japanese bar. →Reina, 41. M: Banco de España.

**HAUTE CUISINE**

**Punto MX**

Mixing tradition and the avant-garde, this one-Michelin-starred restaurant adds a modern touch to classic Mexican recipes without losing a pinch of their flavour. →General Pardiñas, 40. M: Lista.

**Dstage**

Chef Diego Guerrero practises his freestyle cooking at this two-Michelin-starred restaurant crisscrossed by metal pipes and with the kitchen in view at the back. →Regueros, 8. M: Chueca.

**La Cabra**

With young chef Javier Aranda in charge of the kitchen, this one-Michelin-starred spot is arguably one of Madrid's best and most stylish restaurants. →Francisco de Rojas, 2. M: Bilbao.

# Foodie Makers

The typical stalls are giving way to a vibrant and diverse culinary showcase

## San Miguel

Madrid's most central market was also the first to undergo a gourmet transformation. It's retained its early twentieth-century iron structure but the interior is now abuzz with revamped stalls. Although you can still shop here, most of its visitors, mainly tourists, come here for a drink, lunch or dinner. The choice is almost unlimited.

→ Plaza de San Miguel, 3. M: Sol.

## Vallehermoso

The quality and quantity of the cuisines piled up under this market's roof have made it one of the most interesting in the city. You have everything from fusion cooking by top chefs to spicy delights, Canarian delicacies, Asturian classics, top-class fried pork belly, craft beer to suit all tastes and probably the best pastrami sandwich you'll find anywhere in Madrid.

→ Vallehermoso, 32. M: Quevedo.

## San Antón

You'll always be able to come here to buy first-class produce – charcuterie, meat, fish, fruit and veg – but its roof terrace remains its biggest draw. Even so, you'll do well to take the round-the-world trip offered by its food stalls before sitting down for a drink.

→ Augusto Figueroa, 24B. M: Chueca.

## Antón Martín

Lavapiés is changing at the same pace as this market. Japanese, Italian and Mexican joints plus a couple of places to enjoy a drink share space with stalls selling everything from ecological

goods to cereals of all colours and seaweed.

→ Santa Isabel, 5. M: Antón Martín.

## San Ildefonso

In the heart of Malasaña's main shopping area, this three-storey market is devoted to international gastronomy and great atmosphere. There are around 20 stalls for ordering a bite to eat, two semi-covered terrace areas and three bars.

→ Fuencarral, 57. M: Tribunal.

## Mostenses

South American and Asian stalls come together in this market where you can try authentic Peruvian cuisine or buy that Chinese vegetable you normally only eat in restaurants.

→ Plaza de los Mostenses. M: Plaza de España.

## San Fernando

The character of this neighbourhood market has changed more slowly than that of some of the others here. Now,



**The changing Antón Martín market now features Japanese, Italian and Mexican joints next to tapas stalls and more**

next to the regular stalls that are reinventing themselves at weekends, there are those selling natural wine and Greek, Portuguese, Japanese and Italian food.

→ Embajadores, 41. M: Lavapiés.

## La Paz

Joining the legendary Casa Dani at this market, you'll now find a taco stand, a trattoria and gourmet food stalls serving portions to try right there and then.

→ Ayala, 28. M: Serrano.

# Getaways

## A region worth seeing

The towns and places around Madrid are home to a host of architectural, natural and historic wonders



## ARANJUEZ

The southernmost town in the Madrid region, Aranjuez is a charming place that you can travel to on the local Cercanías train network. Its Palacio Real is worth a visit, as are the beautiful gardens, which have been declared a Unesco World Heritage site.

→ www.aranjuez.es

## PATONES DE ARRIBA

Patones de Arriba is best known for its 'black architecture', which uses the abundant local black slate. First constructed in the sixteenth century, the town makes the most of each side of the mountain to create a unique farming village.

→ www.patones.net

## CHINCHÓN

The fifteenth-century Plaza Mayor is this small medieval town's main attraction. It's surrounded by three-storey buildings with angular galleries and over 230 wooden balconies, all painted green.

→ ww.chinchon.es

## SAN LORENZO DE EL ESCORIAL

The town's huge monastery, Felipe II's pet project and built between 1563 and 1584, has been declared a World Heritage site and is the main reason to visit. If you do, be sure to try the Montia restaurant.

→ www.elescorial.es

## GUADARRAMA NATIONAL PARK

Encompassing 30,000 hectares and 11 ecosystems, this protected area is one of the most-visited natural spaces in Madrid and Segovia.

→ www.parquenacionalsierraguadarrama.es

## BUITRAGO DE LOZOYA

This town in the Sierra de Guadarrama has one of the best preserved walls in the region – they're now considered a National Monument.

→ www.buitragodelozoya.es

## ALCALÁ DE HENARES

Declared a Unesco World Heritage site in 1998, this charming town to the east of Madrid is famous for its university and as the birthplace of 'Don Quixote' author Miguel de Cervantes.

→ www.ayto-alcaladehenares.es

# Just a stone's throw away

Madrid is the perfect point from which to visit other nearby cities full of fascinating attractions and history



**1 Toledo**  
Seventy-two kilometres from Madrid and just 25 minutes on the AVE high-speed train lies Toledo, the capital of Castilla-La Mancha and the old capital of the Kingdom of Spain. The city sits on the River Tagus and is famous for its Alcázar, Santa María cathedral, old Jewish quarter, the San Juan de los Reyes monastery, the San Martín bridge and the Puerta Nueva de Bisagra. In short, it's not to be missed.

→[www.toledo.es](http://www.toledo.es)

**2 Segovia**  
Heading to Segovia, just an hour from Madrid, means visiting its aqueduct, the most important example of Roman civil engineering in Spain. It also means trying its famous suckling pig – at Casa Cándido, if you can, to see how they slice up the tender meat with a plate. It's well worth taking a relaxed stroll round the aqueduct and the old quarter. A city brimming with charm that's little more than half an hour from Madrid on the AVE.

→[www.segovia.es](http://www.segovia.es)

**3 Cuenca**  
Cuenca is famous for its Hanging Houses (Casas Colgadas), of which you can visit three: the two Casas del Rey, home to the Museum of Spanish Abstract Art, and the Casa de la Sirena, which houses a restaurant. Another unmissable stop just outside Cuenca is the Ciudad Encantada, with its spectacular natural rock formations shaped over thousands of centuries.

→[www.cuenca.es](http://www.cuenca.es)

**4 Ávila**  
Ávila is famous for its Romanesque wall, which was built at the end of the eleventh century and surrounds the city's old quarter. It's also known as the resting place of the remains of Santa Teresa de Jesús, a sixteenth-century nun who was born in the town, and for being Spain's highest provincial capital at 1,131m above sea level.

→[www.avila.es](http://www.avila.es)

**5 Salamanca**  
About two hours' drive from Madrid, Salamanca is best-known as a university town. Its limestone architecture is unique, and there are many impressive buildings to see, such as the main university building, with its frog statue hidden, and the Plaza Mayor. Its historic old town is one of the prettiest in Spain.

→[www.salamanca.es](http://www.salamanca.es)

**6 Burgos**  
Burgos is home to one of the country's most spectacular gothic cathedrals, built over 800 years ago and the city's main tourist attraction. Barely 15 minutes outside of town, you'll also find the fascinating Atapuerca archeological site, which is a must-visit. In terms of cuisine, the city is famous for its morcilla blood sausage – don't leave without trying some.

→[www.burgos.es](http://www.burgos.es)

**7 Córdoba**  
Just two hours by train from Madrid, Córdoba is one of Spain's richest historical cities. The Mosque-Cathedral is a crucible of Arab and Christian cultures. A getaway you can round off with a visit to the Medina Azahara archaeological complex, also a World Heritage site.

→[www.cordoba.es](http://www.cordoba.es)



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