

# Chamberí and Castellana

**Chamberí** is a middle-class residential district in [Madrid](#). **Paseo de la Castellana** is an important northbound boulevard. Moreover this article includes listings in other, lesser-known **northern districts** of the city.

## Understand

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Chamberí is just north of the city centre. It is mostly residential and little frequented by tourists, but has nice intact neighbourhoods with well-preserved 19th century urban architecture. Neither overcrowded nor too quiet, this area may be a reasonable choice for lodging, with shops, restaurants and cafés that are mostly frequented by Madrilenians rather than catering to foreign guests.



Plaza de Chamberí



**Paseo de la Castellana** is Madrid's most prominent northbound arterial road. Its section that is closer to the centre was created in the 19th century, but it was significantly extended in the mid-20th century during the rule of fascist dictator Francisco Franco, when it was named *Avenida del Generalísimo*. The

more outlying section is still developing in the 21st century. The boulevard is lined by important business and financial institutions, e.g. in the highrise buildings of the AZCA, *Gate of Europe* and *Cuatro Torres* zones, as well as government offices, namely in the *Nuevos Ministerios* complex.

## Get in

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**1 Madrid-Chamartín-Clara Campoamor (Madrid Chamartín train station)**, one of the city's two main stations, is located in the northern part of the city, near La Castellana. Served by main line trains & Cercanías 

**C-1 C-2 C-3 C-4 C-7 C-8 C-10**.

Note: this is a large station with security checks on high speed services.

Cercanías (suburban rail) also stop at **2 Nuevos Ministerios** in the central section of La Castellana. This is a useful interchange station.

The Chamberí district is served by metro lines **1 2 5 7** and **10**.

Conveniently located stations are *Quevedo*, *Iglesia*, *Alonso Cano*, *Canal*, *Islas Filipinas* and *Bilbao*.

Line 10 accompanies the course of La Castellana from *Gregorio Marañón* to *Begoña*. Lines that cross the boulevard are 5 (at *Ruben Darío*), 7 (*Gregorio Marañón*), 6 and 8 (*Nuevos Ministerios*), 1 and 9 (*Plaza de Castilla*).



## See

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### Landmarks and architecture

- **1 Torres de Colón**, Plaza de Colón (metro: *Colón*). Eye-catching twin towers, constructed 1967–74. With 116 metres and height and 23 floors, they are among the highest buildings in Madrid.   (updated Apr 2017)
- **2 Plaza de Olavide** (Metro: *Bilbao*, *Quevedo* or *Iglesia*). Circular place and nice green space (thanks to the motorised traffic being directed through a tunnel), surrounded by an ensemble of colourful 19th-century residential buildings.   (updated Oct 2017)
- **3 Nuevos Ministerios** (*New Ministries*), Paseo de la Castellana 63 (metro/cercanías: *Nuevos Ministerios*). The modern government complex had already been planned by the republican government before the Civil War, but it was only completed in 1942 under the

Francoist rule. Its architectural style is Neoclassical. The ministries of public works and labour are seated here.    
(updated Apr 2017)

- **4 Hospital de Maides**. Former hospital complex, built in 1916 in an eclecticist style (similar to Palacio de Cibeles, that was designed by the same architects). It includes a church, Santa María del Silencio. The hospital was intended to serve the poorer classes, therefore nicknamed *Hospital de Jornaleros* ("hospital of day labourers"). After the Civil War it became a military hospital, before falling out of use in 1970. In the 1980s, it was acquired by the autonomous Community of Madrid, refurbished and has since then housed the council of public works as well as a library.    
(updated Apr 2017)



Torres de Colón 

- **5 Constitutional Tribunal** (*Tribunal Constitucional*). Modern circular building from the early 1980s, designed by architects Bonet and Valdés. (updated Apr 2017)

- **6 Plaza de Castilla** (*Metro: Plaza de Castilla (1/9/10); bus 27*). On the north side of the city and bisected by Paseo de la Castellana, this plaza is in the center of Madrid's skyscraper district. A tall obelisk sits in the center of the plaza while the **Gate of Europe** (*Puerta de Europa*) towers, two slanted towers which frame the boulevard, are on the north side of the plaza. Taking the #27 bus, which runs along Paseo del Prado and Paseo de la Castellana and ends at Plaza de Castilla, will take you past several Madrid highrises.    
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Plaza de Castilla 

- **7 Cuatro Torres** (*Four Towers*), Paseo de la Castellana, 259A-D (*metro 10: Begoña*). Four sleek skyscrapers, constructed between 2004 and 2009. Standing 224 to 249 metres tall, they are the highest in Spain. From south to north, they are named Torre Cepsa, Torre PwC, Torre de Cristal, and Torre Espacio. In the latter, the embassies of Great Britain, Australia and Canada are seated.    
(updated Apr 2017)

## Churches

- **8 Basílica La Milagrosa** (<http://www.basilicalamilagrosa.es>), Calle de García de Paredes, 45 (*C/ Fernández de la Hoz; metro: Iglesia (1) or Gregorio Marañón (7, 10)*). Church from the 1900s in Neo-Mudéjar and Gothic revival style, dedicated to Our Lady of Miracles.    
(updated Apr 2017)

## Museums

- **9 Museo Sorolla** (<http://www.mecd.gob.es/msorolla/en/inicio.html>), C/ General Martínez Campos, 37 (*Iglesia 1 or Rubén Darío 5; Bus lines 5, 7, 14, 16, 27, 40, 45, 61, 147 and 150*),  +34 91 3101584, [museo.sorolla@mecd.es](mailto:museo.sorolla@mecd.es) (<mailto:museo.sorolla@mecd.es>). Tu-Sa 09:30-20:00, Su and holidays 10:00-15:00. This museum is in what was the impressionist painter's house and features fine furniture and porcelain as well as his paintings. €3 (adults), €1.50 (concessions); free admission Sa after 14:00 and all day Su.   
(updated Feb 2017)
- **10 Estación de Chamberí** (<https://www.metromadrid.es/en/who-we-are/metro-museums>) (*Chamberí Ghost Station*), Plaza de Chamberí (*Iglesia 1 walk 250 metres south; bus 3, 40,*

147). F 16:00-20:00, Sa 10:00-14:00&16:00-20:00 Su 10:00-14:00. Former metro station designed by architect Antonio Palacios (creator of the Palacio de Cibeles, Círculo de Bellas Artes and Hospital de Maudes). It was inaugurated in 1919, but closed in 1966, thereby becoming a "ghost station". Since 2008 it has been converted to a museum, exhibiting original counters, signs, maps and advertising posters from earlier ages. Free, booking from website (Spanish) linked from English site..   (updated Aug 2024)

- **11 Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales** (<http://www.mncn.csic.es/index.jsp>) (*MNCN / National Museum of Natural Sciences*), C/ José Gutiérrez Abascal, 2 (Gregorio Marañón  ; Nuevos Ministerios   ; Renfe Cercanías: Nuevos Ministerios),  +34 914 111 328, [info.edu@mncn.csic.es](mailto:info.edu@mncn.csic.es) (<mailto:info.edu@mncn.csic.es>). Tu-F 10:00-17:00, Sa Su and holidays 10:00-20:00; Sa Su in Aug 10:00-15:00. Contains a large collection of fossils and minerals, plus educational exhibits (some are described in English but many are in Spanish only). Has two parts open to visitors with separate entrances. The ticket is purchased at the main entrance and to visit the other part you need to exit from the main entrance, turn left and follow the building until you reach the second entrance. Your ticket will be checked again there so don't lose it. €7 (adults), €3.50 (students/children 4-16), free (seniors/children under 4).   (updated Aug 2024)

- **12 Museo Geominero** (<http://www.igme.es/>) (*Geo-mining Museum*), C/ Ríos Rosas, 23 (Ríos Rosas ),  +34 913 495 759. Part of the Spanish Institute of Geology and Mining, this museum is dedicated to Geology (with a focus on Mineralogy) and Paleontology, containing an impressive collection of fossils and minerals discovered on the territory of Spain and abroad. Also contains educational exhibits, although all are described in Spanish only. The interior of the building is just as impressive and may be worth a quick tour even if you are not particularly interested in Paleontology and Mineralogy. Free.   (updated Aug 2024)
- **13 Museo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología** (<http://www.muncyt.es/>) (*MUNCYT / National Museum of Science and Technology*), Pintor Velazquez s/n, Alcobendas.. The main entry for this museum has been moved to Alcobendas   (updated Aug 2024) see Alcobendas



Main hall of the Geo-mining Museum 

## Do

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- **1 Auditorio Nacional de Música** (<http://www.auditorionacional.mcu.es/en/auditorium>) (*National Auditorium of Music*), C/ Príncipe de Vergara, 146,  +34 913 370 140, +34 913 370 139, fax: +34 913 370 300, [auditorio.nacional@inaem.mcu.es](mailto:auditorio.nacional@inaem.mcu.es) (<mailto:auditorio.nacional@inaem.mcu.es>). Ticket office: M 16:00-18:00, Tu-F 10:00-17:00, Sa 11:00-13:00; closed Sa in July and the month of Aug. The main concert venue for the Spanish National Orchestra and the Madrid Symphony Orchestra, as well as the main venue for touring classical artists and orchestras.   (updated Oct 2017)
  - **Orquesta Nacional de España** (<http://ocne.mcu.es/>) (*Spanish National Orchestra*),  +34 902 224 949 (tickets), fax: +34 915 632 907. Tickets are sold at ticket offices in the Auditorio Nacional de Música, Teatro María Guerrero, Teatro de la Zarzuela, Teatro de la Comedia, and Teatro Valle-Inclán.   (updated Feb 2017)
  - **Orquesta Sinfónica de Madrid** (<http://www.osm.es/>) (*Madrid Symphony Orchestra*), C/ Barquillo, 8,  +34 915 321 503, fax: +34 915 325 364, [osm@osm.es](mailto:osm@osm.es) (<mailto:osm@osm.es>).   (updated Feb 2017)

- **2 Real Madrid** (<http://www.realmadrid.com/en>). For football fanatics, a trip to the *Santiago Bernabéu*, the home of local club Real Madrid is not to be missed. Real Madrid is the most successful football club in Spain and Europe, having been crowned Spanish champions a record 32 times and European champions a record 11 times. Their biggest rivals by far are FC Barcelona, with which it contests matches known popularly as *El Clásico* at least twice a year. The rivalry between the two sides is by far the biggest in Spain and one of the most intense in the world, and stems from the longstanding traditional rivalry between the Spanish and Catalan speaking parts of Spain. As such, tickets for such matches often sell out very quickly. In case you arrive in Madrid on non-match periods, you can take a self-guided tour of the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium. It includes tours around the field, the dressing rooms, the Press Room and the Real Madrid Museum where the trophies and other memorabilia are kept. Without a loyalty card, the typical fees for adults is €16. However, a few days before a match, the chances are you will not be able to take the full tour, but only a part of it, with at least the Real Madrid Museum, at a reduced price.   (updated Jul 2016)
- **3 Cines Dreams** (<http://www.cinesdreams.com/>), C/ de Silvano, 77 (*Centro Comercial Palacio de Hielo; metro: Canillas*),  +34 91 4061785. This cinema is located in a shopping mall known for its ice-skating rink. It is a great place where teenagers can hang out since the mall also has restaurants, bars, and shops.



Santiago Bernabéu stadium 

## Buy

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- **1 El Corte Inglés Nuevos Ministerios** (<https://www.elcorteingles.es/centroscomerciales/en/eci/centros/centro-comercial-castellana>), C/ Raimundo Fernández Villaverde, 65,  +34 914 188 800. M-Sa 10:00-22:00, Su 11:00-21:00. If for some reason you will end up in the concrete jungle of Nuevos Ministerios with time to kill, there is an 8-storey sprawling El Corte Inglés for your delight just over the station. (updated Feb 2017)

## Learn

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- **1 Linguaschools Madrid** (<http://www.linguamadrid.com>), C/ Raimundo Lulio, 7,  +34 931 761 536, [info@linguamadrid.com](mailto:info@linguamadrid.com) (<mailto:info@linguamadrid.com>). Offers Spanish courses for foreigners all year round. Students with previous knowledge can start any Monday. For absolute beginners there are fixed start dates.
- **2 Canterbury TEFL** (<https://www.canterburytefl.com/>) (*International TEFL School in Madrid*), c/ Covarrubias 22,  +34 91 838 0082, [info@canterburytefl.com](mailto:info@canterburytefl.com) (<mailto:info@canterburytefl.com>). Language school that prepares you to obtain a TEFL certificate and also offers work as an English teacher in Madrid. €795. (updated Oct 2019)

## Eat

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### Budget

- **1 Home Burger Bar**, Paseo de la Castellana, 210,  +34 912 195 658. M 13:00-17:00, Tu-Su 13:00-17:00 20:00-24:00. *The place for serious hamburgers. Americans will feel at home!* (updated Feb 2017)

## Mid-range

- **2 Restaurante Samm** (<http://www.restaurantesamm.com/>), C/ Carlos Caamaño, 3B (Metro: Pio XII), ☎ +34 913 453 074, +34 913 506 071. Su-F 11:00-19:00. Best paella in Madrid, but only if you bring more than two people by order of the proprietor. Frequented mainly by locals, prepare to be stared at by the wait staff if you are from out of town. (updated Feb 2017)

## Splurge

- **3 Casa Nemesio** (<http://casanemesio.es/>), Paseo de la Castellana, 260, ☎ +34 913 238 410, [nemesio@lamaquina-elb-582802240.eu-west-1.elb.amazonaws.com](mailto:nemesio@lamaquina-elb-582802240.eu-west-1.elb.amazonaws.com) (<mailto:nemesio@lamaquina-elb-582802240.eu-west-1.elb.amazonaws.com>). Daily 12:00-01:00. Seafood. (updated Feb 2017)
- **4 El Telégrafo** (<http://eltelegrafomarisqueria.com/?lang=en>), C/ Padre Damián, 44 (500m from Bernabeu Stadium), ☎ +34 913 597 083, +34 913 506 119, [eltelegrafomarisqueria@grupo-oter.com](mailto:eltelegrafomarisqueria@grupo-oter.com) (<mailto:eltelegrafomarisqueria@grupo-oter.com>). Daily 12:30-00:30. Arguably the best seafood in Madrid. (updated Feb 2017)

## Drink

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**1 Cervecería Oldenburg**, Calle de Hartzenbusch, 12, Chamberí (Bilbao 1 4), ☎ +34914482341. closed Sun. Craft beers & good selection of Belgian & German Beers (updated Aug 2024)

**Beerhouse | Craftbeer Bar** (<https://beerhouse.es/>), C. del Cardenal Cisneros, 16, Chamberí (Bilbao 1 4). Craft beer bar with a mixture of local & foreign beers. (updated Aug 2024)

**Cervecería L'Europe** (<http://www.cerveceriaeuropea.com/>), C. del Cardenal Cisneros, 19, Chamberí (Bilbao 1 4), ☎ +34915939691. Small beer hall with a small food selection. (updated Aug 2024)

## Sleep

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### Budget

- **1 Safestay Madrid Central** (<https://www.safestay.com/venue/safestay-madrid-central/>), C. de Sagasta, 22 (Alonso Martínez 4 5 10, Bilbao 1 4), ☎ +34 91 445 0300, [reception.madct@safestay.com](mailto:reception.madct@safestay.com) (<mailto:reception.madct@safestay.com>). Hostel with private & shared rooms. chain with hostels in many large European cities. (updated Aug 2024)

## Mid-range

- **2 Caballero Errante** (<http://www.matchhotels.com/hotel/Caballero-Errante-35963.html>), Pinos Alta, 14. 3 star hotel with modern features, clean rooms and helpful staff. Just over 1.5km walk from the Bernabeu Stadium.

- **3 Pension Paquita** (<http://www.pensionpaquita.com>), Calle Lacoma 5, ☎ +34 91 739 3831.  
Family-run.

## Splurge

- **4 Eurostars Suites Mirasierra** (<http://www.eurostarssuitesmirasierra.com/EN/hotel.html>)  
*(formerly the Sheraton Madrid Mirasierra)*, C/ de Alfredo Marqueré, 43, ☎ +34 917 277 900, [info@eurostarssuitesmirasierra.com](mailto:info@eurostarssuitesmirasierra.com) (mailto:[info@eurostarssuitesmirasierra.com](mailto:info@eurostarssuitesmirasierra.com)).  
Check-in: 15:00, check-out: 12:00. A modern luxury hotel located in prestigious residential district Mirasierra, overlooking the Sierra de Guadarama. Facilities include a fitness centre, free parking, and free Wi-Fi. The hotel is also home to the Restaurante Verdil (<http://www.restauranteverdil.com/en/>). Doubles €93+, breakfast €25. (updated Jan 2017)

## Connect

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Paseo de la Castellana

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