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1. Geographical location

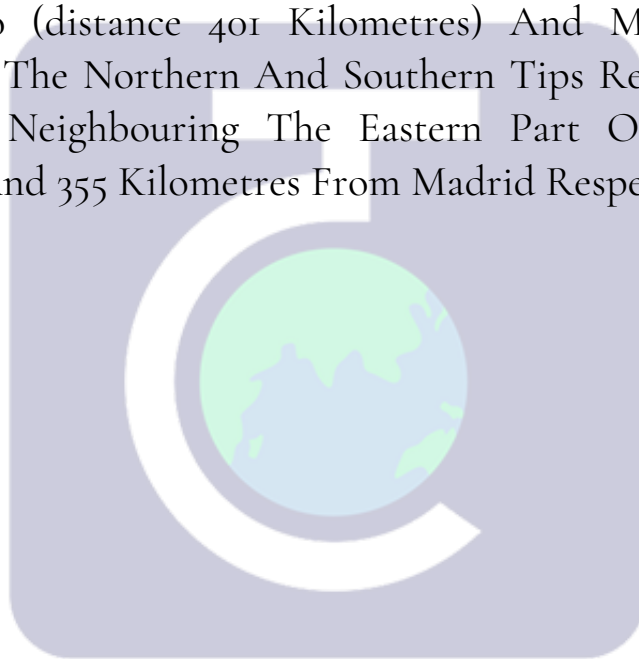
Madrid is the capital of Spain and is also the largest municipality community of Madrid. Located on the Manzanares in the centre of Community of Madrid and the country itself, Madrid lies at the geographical heart of the Iberian Peninsula. Situated on Meseta, which is an undulating piece of clay and sand, Madrid lies at an elevation of 2120 feet above sea levels which incidentally also identifies the city as one of the highest capitals in Europe.



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2. Neighbouring cities/countries

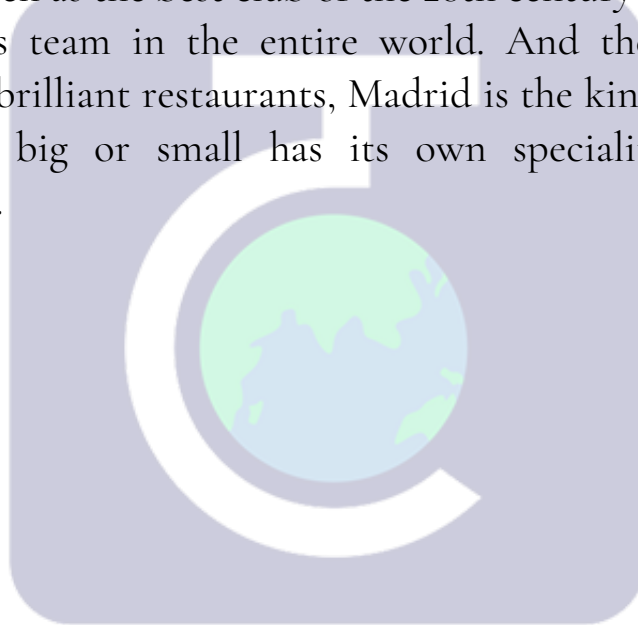
A Coruna And Lisbon Are Neighbouring Madrid On Its North Western And Western Sides Respectively. A Coruna Is Around 590 Kilometres Away From Madrid Whereas Lisbon Is 625 Kilometres Away From The Capital. Seville Is Situated On The South Western Side Of The Capital And Is At A Distance Of 536 Kilomtetres Whereas Murcia Is Located 397 Kilomteres Away On The South-eastern Side. Bilbao (distance 401 Kilometres) And Malaga Distance (530 Kilometres) Are On The Northern And Southern Tips Respectively. Barcelona And Valencia Are Neighbouring The Eastern Part Of Madrid And Are Approximately 623 And 355 Kilometres From Madrid Respectively.



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3. Significance

Madrid is an important financial centre of Spain and houses headquarters of the majority of major companies of Spain. There are numerous art galleries and museums in this city as Madrid has a rich history to go along and the Government here is proud to boast about the cultural diversity and rich history. Madrid is also home to giant football clubs like Real Madrid and La Liga. Real Madrid was also chosen as the best club of the 20th century and is apparently the most valuable sports team in the entire world. And the food here is extraordinary. With such brilliant restaurants, Madrid is the kind of place where ever restaurant, whether big or small has its own speciality which is famous throughout the town.



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4. History

The history of Spain is fascinating and its culture has helped shape the modern world into what it is today. Although a small territory of the south-western Europe, the history of this country is totally different from rest of the continent. The land of this country was always a matter of concern for the Carthaginians and Romans, who eventually fought over it. The Arabs also conquered the country once only to lose it Catholic Monarchs who turned Spain into one of the most powerful empire in the entire world, upon discovering America. Under the reign of the King Felipe, the Spanish Empire reached its peak as it was unified from Philippines to the Americas including Portugal and Netherland. At that time, some present day Germany and Italy were also part of the Spanish empire.



5. Cultural identity

The capital, Madrid, is the kind of city that never sleeps and is full of spirit. Spain has a complex history and this has helped in designing these unique regions and identities. Rome controlled the Iberian peninsula for around 600 years which left a deep impression on the region. Then it was the Visigoths, who induced their influence over the region. And then, it is almost impossible to forget about all the monuments and museums here and there are plenty of World Heritage sites as well. All in all, the cultural identity here is unique and diverse at the same time.



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6. Natural resources

This city is not lagging behind in terms of natural resources. Coal, Lignite, iron ore and tungsten amongst other are found here in plenty. To add, the natural areas cover almost 40 percent of the community and Sierra del Guadarrma is the national park of Madrid attracting a lot of tourists and locals.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Royal Palace of Madrid

Built in the 9th century, the Royal Palace is enriched with materials like Spanish marble and stucco, and doors made out of mahogany which are considered to be a piece of art. Tagged as one of the finest palaces in Europe, the decoration of the palace changes over time drawing inspiration from various artistic styles. Not the actual abode of the King of Spain, it is used by the Government to conduct ceremonies, official banquets, and various other functions.

Address : Calle Bailen s/n, 28071, Madrid

Zipcode : 28071

Location : 40.41795500000001, -3.714312000000063

Contact : 902044454

Website : <http://www.patrimonionacional.es/real-sitio/palacios/6039>

Nearest Public Transport : Calle de San Quintín N 10 Bus Station

Entry Fee : General: €10 Reduced: €5

Open & Close Timing : April to September: 10:00hrs-20:00hrs October to March: 10:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.2. Museo Nacional del Prado

One of the most frequented places in Madrid, the Prado Museum has masterpieces from schools in Italy and other parts of Spain with around 8,600 paintings and more than 700 sculptures. Opened in 1819, it houses the most comprehensive Spanish paintings and the ambiance here will take you back to the 11th century thanks to the Mozarabic murals from the Church of San Baudelio de Berlanga. There is also an apt display of the Spanish Golden Age through the works of Ribera, Murillo and Zurbaran.

Address : Paseo del Prado, s/n, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28014

Location : 40.4137818, -3.692127099999993

Contact : +34 913 30 28 00

Website : <https://www.museodelprado.es/>

Nearest Public Transport : Museo Del Prado Bus Station

Entry Fee : General Admission: €16 Admission and Guide Book: €25

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum

Considered to be one of the most extraordinary private collections representing European art, this museum displays and houses the most intricate artistic styles with all the depth. The museum might contain just one painting of a popular artist but it makes sure that the work of all the artists is accumulated under one roof as a gift to the people of Madrid who love art. The 2nd floor of the museum is home to the medieval art which contains some hidden gems that belong to the 13th and 14th-century Italian and German religious paintings.

Address : Paseo del Prado, 8, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28014

Location : 40.41604059999999, -3.694925399999988

Contact : +34 902 760511

Website : <http://www.museothyssen.org/en/thyssen/home>

Nearest Public Transport : Neptuno Bus Station

Entry Fee : Permanent collection + temporary exhibits: Adults: €12 Reduced: €8

Group visit: €10

Open & Close Timing : Monday: 12:00hrs-16:00hrs Tuesday to Sunday: 10:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.4. Real Basílica de San Francisco el Grande

One of the oldest churches in Madrid, Real Basílica de San Francisco el Grande was recently restored and is considered one of the grandest ancient churches of the city. The extravagant dome of the building is estimated to be the largest in Spain and 4th largest in the world. The height of the dome is around 65 meters

and the diameter is around 33 meters. There is more to the church as behind the high altar, there are a series of corridors which display artworks from 17th to 19th centuries.

Address : C/ San Buenaventura, 1, 28005 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28005

Location : 40.41055120000001, -3.714575100000047

Contact : +34 913 65 38 00

Website : <http://www.madrid.es/portal/site/munimadrid>

Nearest Public Transport : San Francisco el Grande Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €3 Concession: €2

Open & Close Timing : September to June: Mass: 08:00hrs-10:30hrs Museum: Tuesday to Sunday - 10:30hrs-12:30hrs & 16:00hrs-18:00hrs July and August: Tuesday to Sunday - 10:30hrs-12:30hrs & 17:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.5. Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando

Real Academic de Bellas Artes has rendered an imperative role in defining the artistic edge of the city. As it is the Royal Fine Arts Academy, it has helped the local talent to improve leaps and bounds which have added a lot of international artists under the wing. The collection that hangs on the walls of the academy is exquisite and pricey. Madrid is home to other famous art galleries like the Thyssen and Reina Sofia amongst others which is why sometimes, the Royal Academy tends to get lost in the limelight; but there is no doubt about the fact that this Academy has had outstanding students like Picasso and Dali. The first floor of the structure is dedicated to 16th to 19th century paintings and is a center of attraction.

Address : Calle de Alcalá, 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28014

Location : 40.4177897, -3.700709800000027

Contact : +34 915 24 08 64

Website : <http://www.realacademiabellasartessanfernando.com/es>

Nearest Public Transport : Sol - Sevilla Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €8 Reduced (over 65, retirees and pensioners, groups between

15 and 25 people): €4 Below 18 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Sunday: 10:00hrs-15:00hrs Closed in August

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.6. Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía

Known as Madrid's premiere collection of contemporary art, Centro de arte Reina Sofia is easily Spain's single-most famous artwork and an abode to Picasso's Guernica and many more, some works of Salvador Dali and Joan Miro dating back to the 80s. The permanent collection of the museum is displayed on 2nd and 4th floors following a set criteria for displaying these paintings. You can find a majority of Picasso's and Miro's paintings spread across 2 floors. Room no. 206 of the museum houses the preparatory sketches of the artists which offer an insight into how they used to draw inspiration for creating such masterpieces. The museum is a must-visit for every art lover as it dives straight into the life of these amazing painters and sculptors.

Address : Calle de Santa Isabel 52, 28012 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28012

Location : 40.4079123, -3.694556899999952

Contact : + 3491 774 1000

Website : <http://www.museoreinasofia.es/>

Nearest Public Transport : Ronda de Atocha Bus Station

Entry Fee : General: €10 Temporary exhibitions: €4

Open & Close Timing : Monday and Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00hrs-21:00hrs

Sunday: 10:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.7. Santiago Bernabéu Stadium

Located in the middle of Paseo de la Castellana, this stadium was originally known as the Charratín Stadium and opened around 60 years back. Home ground of the Real Madrid team, it is deemed to be an elite stadium by the UEFA and the authority holds all kinds of events and soccer competitions here. Having a capacity of 80,000 people catapults this stadium amongst the top slots. There are

guided tours which take you on a detailed journey through the nooks and corners assuring a stunning view of the stadium.

Address : Av. de Concha Espina, 1, 28036 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28036

Location : 40.4530541, -3.688344499999971

Contact : +34 913 98 43 00

Website : <http://www.realmadrid.com/estadio-santiago-bernabeu>

Nearest Public Transport : Santiago Bernabéu Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €24 Children (up to 14 years): €18

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Saturday: 10:00hrs-19:00hrs Sundays and public holidays: 10:30hrs-18:30hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.8. Museum Sorolla

Known as the former home studio of the renowned painter, Joaquin Sorolla, this museum displays his collections dating back to 1911 scattered in all parts of his home. The house has been intact with the same decoration and architecture as it had been during the artist's lifetime. The best-preserved artist's house across the whole of Europe, the collection of paintings stand alongside furniture and other objects for visitors to see.

Address : Paseo del General Martínez Campos, 37, 28010 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28010

Location : 40.4354363, -3.69251729999999

Contact : +34 913 10 15 84

Website : <http://www.mecd.gob.es/msorolla/inicio.html>

Nearest Public Transport : Emilio Castelar Bus Station

Entry Fee : General admission: €3 Reduced admission (Groups of 8 or more and cultural volunteers): €1.50 Saturdays from 14:00hrs, Sundays, Under 18 years of age, university students, holders of a Youth Card or similar document, Over 65 years of age and pensioners, Disabled persons and their caretakers: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Saturday: 09:30hrs-20:00hrs Sundays and public holidays: 10:00hrs-15:00hrs Closed on Monday

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.9. National Archaeological Museum of Spain

Walk yourself through a plethora of pieces from Spain and afar that date back to prehistoric and Renaissance times at the National Archaeological Museum. In a treasury of religious art, don't miss out on the underground dummy of the primitive cave paintings discovered in Altamira and the Lady of Elx. Other compilations worth a visit include Visigothic votive crowns dating back to 1859, Roman mosaics, Greek vases, Spanish Renaissance lusterware, Talavera pottery, and some rare Andalusian glassware.

Address : Calle de Serrano, 13, 28001 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28001

Location : 40.423553, -3.6894019999999999

Contact : +34 915 77 79 12

Website : <http://www.man.es/man/home.html>

Nearest Public Transport : Museo Arqueologico Bus Station

Entry Fee : General admission: €3 Reduced rate (Groups of more than 5 with advance booking): €1.50 Saturday from 14:00hrs and Sunday mornings: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Saturday: 09:30hrs-20:00hrs Sundays and public holidays: 09:30hrs-15:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.10. Museo Cerralbo

Nestled below the present-day buildings near Plaza de Espana, Museo Cerralbo takes you back in time to understand how people in Madrid used to live. Visit this erstwhile home of Marqués de Cerralbo, a famous poet, archaeologist, and politician and skim through the art and historical objects. The different rooms in the house are jam-packed with oriental pieces, religious paintings, clocks, suits of armor, gondola of Murano glass, Bohemian crystal pieces, and local ceramics.

Address : Calle Ventura Rodríguez, 17, 28008 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28008

Location : 40.423764, -3.714541

Contact : +34 915 47 36 46

Website : <http://www.mecd.gob.es/mcerralbo/home.html>

Nearest Public Transport : Plaza de España Bus Station

Entry Fee : General admission: €3 Reduced ticket: €1.50

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Saturday: 09:30hrs-15:00hrs Thursday, extraordinary opening in the afternoon: 17:00hrs-20:00hrs Closed on Monday

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.11. Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas

Tagged as the most popular bullrings across the country, Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas is built in Neo-Mudéjar by the renowned architect Espeliú and should definitely be on your list while visiting Madrid. Adorned with red brick and ceramic tiles, it is divided in a ring with a diameter of 60 meters and a cluster of zones known as 'patios'. Apart from bullfights, this ring is also used for political meetings, concerts, tennis and Red Bull X-Fighters. If you are lucky enough to witness a show, do buy tickets in advance. The prices for the fights range from €5 to €147. Kindly check the website for the same.

Address : Calle de Alcalá, 237, 28028 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28028

Location : 40.4320996, -3.6633074

Contact : +34 913 56 22 00

Website : <http://www.las-ventas.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Ventas Bus Station Ventas Subway Station

Entry Fee : The prices for tour range between €9 to €12.

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.12. Madrid's Theme Park

Showcasing 6 different adventure zones, Madrid's Theme Park offers a myriad of action-packed activities for people of all ages. Nudge your inner child at the largest theme park in Europe where you can explore numerous rides and

entertainment options while giving your adrenaline a kick. The zones range from Nature, Tranquility, Automation, Infant, Grand Avenue, and the Virtual World Zone representing different levels and types of action. Don't miss out on Car Crash, 7 Peaks, The Pirates, The Labyrinth of Mirrors, The Valley of Prehistory, since these are the major highlights of the park.

Address : Casa de Campo, s/n, 28011 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28011

Location : 40.413121, -3.7509700000000052

Contact : +34 902 34 50 01

Website : <http://parquedeatracciones.es/>

Nearest Public Transport : Parque de Atracciones Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €31.90 Junior: €24.90 Senior: €19.20 Disabled persons: €19.60

Large family adult: €27.15 Large family junior: €21.20 Over 65s with companions, people below the height of 1 meter: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Hours of operations vary depending on the day of the week/month. The park usually opens at 12:00hrs and closes anywhere between 19:00hrs-00:00hrs depending on the day of the week. It is advisable to check the same once you finalize the day of visit.

Time Required : 12

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.13. Faunia

An enormous biological park in Madrid, Faunia is devoted to nature and proffers tourists with various ecosystems comprising of the jungle, the polar region, and African forests. Spanning across a botanical garden and zoological park, this is a must-see for nature lovers as well as kids. Gain an insight into the fauna of 5 continents ranging from familiar farm animals to those living in polar regions and jungles, including those classified as poisonous. Grab a quick bite and the different eateries that are situated here.

Address : Faunia, Avenida Comunidades, 28032 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28032

Location : 40.3919599, -3.6116782

Contact : +34 902 53 55 45

Website : <http://faunia.es/>

Nearest Public Transport : Minerva - Av. de las Comunidades Bus Station

Entry Fee : General (8-64 years): €26.45 Reduced (3-7 years and over 65 years and general large family): €19.95 Large family, person with disability and companion: €18.45 Children below 3 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Hours of operations vary depending on the day of the week/month. The park usually opens at 10:30hrs and closes anywhere between 16:00hrs-21:00hrs depending on the day of the week. It is advisable to check the same once you finalize the day of visit.

Time Required : 4

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.14. Madrid Zoo Aquarium

An abode to over 3,000 animals, Madrid Zoo Aquarium is a majestic European city zoo housed in Casa de Campo. You can spot Siberian tigers, mambas, zebras, flamingos, koalas, Atlas lions, celebrity pandas, and much more. Following the zoo, there is an aquarium with dolphin shows to pique your attention. Another major highlight is the Aviary spread across 3,000 square meters that houses around 60 species of eagles, condors, and vultures. Visit this attraction with your family and children to discover the treasures of marine life.

Address : Casa de Campo, s/n, 28011 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28011

Location : 40.4089785, -3.7614605999999

Contact : +34 902 34 50 14

Website : <http://zoomadrid.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Zoo Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults (7-24 years): €23.30 Kid (3-7 years), Seniors (Over 65 years), disabled people and their companion: €18.90 Large family adult: €13.70 Large family junior: €9.40 Children below 3 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Hours of operations vary depending on the day of the week/month. The park usually opens at 10:30hrs and closes anywhere between 16:00hrs-23:00hrs depending on the day of the week. It is advisable to check the same once you finalize the day of visit.

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.15. Parque Warner

If you wish to step up and interact with Batman, Bugs Bunny, Superman, Marty the Martian and Daffy Duck, then Parque Warner is the place for you in Madrid. Offering all sorts of entertainment for kids, teens, as well as adults, this park is divided depending on the themes like Old West, Superheroes World, Hollywood Boulevard, Cartoon Village, and WB Movie World Studios which are pretty amazing. Hop on the roller coasters, flume rides, dark rides, and river rapid rides and raise your adrenaline to the highest level.

Address : M-301, Km 15.5, 28330 San Martín de la Vega, Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28330

Location : 40.2302989, -3.5933780999999

Contact : +34 902 02 41 00

Website : <http://parquewarner.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Parque de Ocio-empleados Bus Station

Entry Fee : Individual (+140cm): €39.90 Junior (+100cm), senior (over 60 years), individual with large family document: €29.90 Junior with large family document, person with disability (equal or +33%): €25.90 Kids less than 100cm: Free admission Horror West Terror Passage: €4.90

Open & Close Timing : Hours of operations vary depending on the day of the week/month. The park usually opens at 11:30hrs and closes anywhere between 19:00hrs-00:00hrs depending on the day of the week. It is advisable to check the same once you finalize the day of visit.

Time Required : 12

Buy Ticket : No

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7.2. Free

7.2.1. El Retiro Park

Having been beautifully designed, the Gardens of Retiro have an array of marble monuments along with landscaped lawns. Unequivocally, this is one of the most desired places in Madrid with amazing scenery that attracts a huge number of visitors. Built in 1868, there is an artificial lake (estanque) within the park and is an excellent spot to unwind.

Address : Plaza de la Independencia, 7, 28001 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28001

Location : 40.4152606, -3.6844995000000015

Contact : +34 915 30 00 41

Website : <http://www.esmadrid.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Alcala-Lagasca Bus Station

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Plaza Mayor

Madrid's huge central square, Plaza Mayor is considered as one of the most beautiful open spaces found among the jammed streets of this beautiful city. It is undoubtedly a winning combination of imposing architecture accompanied with a set of historical tales. The square is abuzz with a vibrant street life on a daily basis and is a classic reference point in the city. Until the year of 1878, the central square used to be the place for bullfights and a lot of royal celebrations used to take place here.

Address : Plaza Mayor, 28102 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28102

Location : 40.41561809999999, -3.7070229999999935

Website : <http://www.madrid.es/portal/site/munimadrid>

Nearest Public Transport : Mayor N 21 Bus Station

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Temple of Debod

Temple De Debod is an Egyptian temple in downtown Madrid that was saved by the Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. The construction of the temple that is dedicated to Amon, God of Thebes started in 2200 BC and it took a lot of time for completion. Built and decorated in a design similar to the Meroitic chapel, it is a must-visit in Madrid.

Address : Calle Ferraz, 1, 28008 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28008

Location : 40.4240216, -3.717769500000031

Contact : +34 913 66 74 15

Website : <http://www.madrid.es/portal/site/munimadrid>

Nearest Public Transport : Ferraz-Luisa Fernanda Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Friday: 10:00hrs-14:00hrs and 18:00hrs-20:00hrs Saturday and Sunday: 09:30hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Plaza Santa Ana

A beautiful conflux of distinguished architecture and a breathtaking ambiance, the plaza features amazing monuments and is frequented by a large number of tourists and locals. Situated in the heart of Huertas, the plaza was laid out during the year of 1810 and later turned into a center point for intellectual life. The reason being, most of the cafés in the surrounding areas of the Plaza were filled by writers, poets and other artists who used to be engrossed in literary and philosophical discussions.

Address : Plaza de Santa Ana 1, 28012 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28012

Location : 40.414704, -3.7008313000000004

Nearest Public Transport : Principe-Pza. Sta. Ana Bus Station

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Ermita de San Antonio de la Florida

Having been restored recently, frescoed ceilings of Ermita de San Antonio are one of the most astonishing mysteries of Spain. Also known as the Panteon de

Goya, there is a small southern chapel here wherein you get to see Goya's work in the original form. The frescoes on the dome are simply brilliant and depict a scene which involves a person calling a young man to rise from the grave. Additionally, the painter's body was buried in front of the altar but his remains were transferred in the year 1919 from Bordeaux (France).

Address : Glorieta San Antonio de la Florida, 5, 28008 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28008

Location : 40.4253389, -3.7255291000000017

Contact : +34 915 42 07 22

Website : <http://sanantoniodelaflorida.es/>

Nearest Public Transport : Gta. San Antonio de la Florida Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Sunday: 09:30hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Plaza de Toros

In the eastern part of the central Madrid, lies one of the most significant bullrings in the entire world. A guided tour which can be booked through Las Venta's tour in advance is an excellent idea in order to get an insight into the bullfighting tradition which is fondly followed by most of the Spaniards. In addition to this, there is the beautiful Museo Taurino as well which puts up an excellent display of architecture. The museum was closed for the purpose of renovation and expansion. But as the place will open up, it will have dedicated space for the bullfighting legend, Manolete, and a separate place displaying all the curious costumes and props.

Address : Calle de Alcalá, 237, 28028 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28028

Location : 40.3861204, -3.7389071000000006

Contact : +34 912 76 12 87

Website :

<http://www.madrid.org/cs/Satellite?pagename=ComunidadMadrid%2FHome>

Nearest Public Transport : Pza. De toros de las ventas Bus Station.

Open & Close Timing : 10:00hrs-17:30hrs.

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Congreso de los Diputados

Originally constructed as a Renaissance building, the lower house of Parliament was completely revamped in 1950. This adorned the building with a façade of a neoclassical portal. Additionally, the imposing lions that watch over the entrance were actually refined and smelted using the cannons which were fired during the wars fought with Africa in the 19th century.

Address : Calle de Floridablanca, S/N, 28071 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28071

Location : 40.4161478, -3.696658399999933

Contact : +34 91 390 6000

Website : <http://www.congreso.es/portal/page/portal/Congreso/Congreso>

Nearest Public Transport : Neptuno Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Friday: 08:30hrs-20:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Museo de Arte Público

The place is famed for accommodating a fascinating collection of 17 abstract sculptures which also includes the works of the renowned, Eduardo Chillida. In addition to this, the works of Catalan master, Joan Miro are also on display here. The sculptures are placed beneath the overpass and the ambiance of this place, which to most people's annoyance includes a hint of traffic and pigeon waste, somehow adds to the overall appeal.

Address : Paseo de la Castellana, 40, 28046 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28046

Location : 40.43336969999999, -3.687640600000009

Website : <http://www.madrid.es/portal/site/munimadrid>

Nearest Public Transport : Serrano - Maldonado Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. CaixaForum Madrid

A fascinating structure, Caixa Forum is probably the most awe-inspiring landmark of the beautiful city of Madrid. The structure seems to float above the ground with a lavish vertical wall of foliage that goes as high as 4 floors across which most of the exhibitions and performances take place. The same space has soaring ceilings and the exhibitions here are always worth checking out as they include multimedia shows and photography. The admission is free here but the visitors do need to pay a nominal amount (starting from €4) in the case of exhibitions.

Address : Paseo del Prado, 36, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28014

Location : 40.411112, -3.693571000000002

Contact : +34 913 30 73 00

Website : <http://agenda.obrasocial.lacaixa.es/es/caixaforum-madrid>

Nearest Public Transport : Museo Del Prado Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Sunday to Friday: 10:00hrs-20:00hrs Saturday: 10:00hrs-00:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. El Corte Inglés

An emporium of departments like fashion, games, sports accessories, baby care, clothes, accessories, cosmetics and stationery, this mall is your one-stop shopping destination in Madrid. From high-end labels to local brands, this mall caters to everyone's needs. Surrounded with many culinary outlets you can put your hunger pangs to rest while shopping here.

Address : Plaza del Callao, 2, 28013 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28013

Location : 40.4197394, -3.7055014000000003

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. Alpargatus

Stock up your closet with a diverse range of footwear on sale at Alpargatus. With

everything ranging from kids footwear and shoes for men to a stupefying variety of footwear for women, you are surely not going to leave this shop empty-handed.

Address : Calle Postas, 20, 28012 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28012

Location : 40.4158213, -3.706214300000056

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. Puerta del Sol

One of the most renowned and lively places in Madrid, Puerta del Sol is a major square with a mounted statue of King Carlos III and the spot for the radial webbing of Spanish roads that converge at the same point. You will also find the famous clock here, the bells of which indicate the traditional eating of the Twelve Grapes as well as the beginning of a New Year.

Address : Plaza de la Puerta del Sol, s/n, 28013 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28013

Location : 40.41688329999999, -3.7024404

Nearest Public Transport : Sol Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.13. Plaza de Cibeles

Unravel the historic past of Madrid at the Plaza de Cibeles, a prominent square that sees a huge influx of tourists throughout the year. Adorned with fountains, this architectural masterpiece is designed in neoclassical style with several marble structures. Symbolizing the capital, this square divides the district boundaries into different parts namely Centro, Retiro and Salamanca. The Fountain of Cibeles is a glorious landmark of the city and each of the 4 corners of the square is overshadowed by 18th and 19th-century buildings.

Address : Plaza Cibeles, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28014

Location : 40.41933709999999, -3.693083600000022

Nearest Public Transport : Cibeles Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.14. San Miguel Market

Opened in 1916, San Miguel Market is one of the most ancient and ravishing markets in Madrid. Admire the stunning 20th-century glass walls, which are easily reckoned as the finest examples of iron and glass architecture in this beautiful Spanish capital. From stalls selling fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, and seafood to tapas bars serving wine, you will find everything that you need in this galvanizing market. This place gives you to perfect opportunity to immerse yourself in the local culture.

Address : Plaza de San Miguel, 3, 28005 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28005

Location : 40.4154223, -3.709022

Website : <http://www.mercadodesanmiguel.es/>

Nearest Public Transport : Plaza Mayor Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Sunday to Wednesday: 10:00hrs-00:00hrs Thursday to Saturday: 10:00hrs-02:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.15. Puerta de Alcalá

Puerta de Alcalá, popularly known as the 'Alcalá Gate', is one of the iconic monuments of Madrid and dates back to the 19th century. Standing in the city center, it is a neo-classical granite monument designed by the Italian architect, Francesco Sabatini in 1764 and rises to 19.5 meters. It features 3 large archways and 2 small passageways with the facade adorning decorative elements. Each archway is decorated with a lion's head and the 4 statues on the top represent Prudence, Justice, Temperance (or Restraint) and Fortitude (or Courage).

Address : Plaza de la Independencia, 1, 28001 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28001

Location : 40.419992, -3.6887369999999

Website : <http://www.madrid.es/portal/site/munimadrid>

Nearest Public Transport : Puerta de Alcala Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.16. Plaza de España

Known as Madrid's main avenue, Plaza de España is one of the city's busiest intersections as well as a bustling square. This beautiful green square is encircled by imposing buildings with a huge fountain and statue of Cervantes along with bronze statues of Don Quixote and Sancho Panza right in the center. Head here to submerge in history and take a number of photographs back home.

Address : Plaza de España, 28008 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28008

Location : 40.4233828, -3.7121647

Nearest Public Transport : Plaza de España Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.17. Almudena Cathedral

Madrid's only cathedral, Almudena was built in 1993 and stands majestically in front of the Royal Palace and is renowned for its sheer size. Once inside, don't forget to visit the adorned statue of Our Lady of Almudena, set right in front of the awe-inspiring altarpiece as well as the crypt known for its neo-Romanesque vaulting.

Address : Calle de Bailén, 10, 28013 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28013

Location : 40.415651, -3.714552

Contact : +34 915 42 22 00

Website : <http://www.catedraldelalmudena.es/>

Nearest Public Transport : Palacio Real Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-19:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.18. Madrid Río

An enormous recreational and cultural area in the heart of the city, Madrid Río is a spacious waterside park along the Manzanares River ornamented with walking and bike trails, play areas, bridges, ponds and fountains. You may want to visit this park for the leisurely facilities it provides and the charismatic culture it houses. Have a romantic stroll with your partner, enjoy the different cultural activities or let your kid roister in one of the many play areas.

Address : Puente de Toledo, 28019 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28019

Location : 40.3980331, -3.7109345999999

Contact : +34 633 14 54 90

Website : <https://www.esmadrid.com/en/tourist-information/madrid-rio>

Nearest Public Transport : Yaserias Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday to Sunday: 04:00hrs-03:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.19. Plaza de Oriente

Tucked between the alluring Palacio Real de Madrid and the Teatro Real, Plaza de Oriente is one of the most charming and picturesque squares of Madrid. Statues of former Spanish kings encircle the captivating garden while the center is dominated by a bronze statue of Philip IV. With the best backdrop, you are surely getting a lot of pictures. You can also spot some terrific street artists who sell their creations.

Address : Calle de Bailén, 17, 28013 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28013

Location : 40.418412, -3.7121735

Contact : +34 914 29 49 51

Website : <http://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/Jardines-de-la-Plaza-de-Oriente-Lepanto-y-Cabo-Noval?vgnextfmt=default&vgnextoid=5089e5iec d6ee210VgnVCM200000oc205a0aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=iccd566813946010VgnVCM100000dcoca8coRCRD>

Nearest Public Transport : Opera Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:30hrs-21:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.20. Oeste Park

Adding to this list of huge urban parks in Madrid, Oeste Park (Western Park) is a beautiful area housing plenty of monuments and reclining areas. Famed for its English design, this verdant shade card of green attracts a large number of tourists as well as locals. The major highlight is the Rose Garden spread over an area of 15,000 square meters which is the venue for the International Competition for New Roses.

Address : Paseo Moret, 2, 28008 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28008

Location : 40.4310525999999, -3.7264036999999

Contact : +34 914 29 49 51

Website : <http://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/El-Ayuntamiento/Medio-ambiente/Parques-y-jardines/Patrimonio-Verde/Parques-en-Madrid/Parque-del-Oeste?vgnextfmt=default&vgnextoid=0a57899a90c7e210VgnVCM200000oc205a0aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=38bb1914e7d4e210VgnVCM1000000b205a0aRCRD>

Nearest Public Transport : Lisboa Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.21. Palacio de Cristal

Structured right in the heart of Buen Retiro Park, Palacio de Cristal is an eye-catching glass palace duplicated from London's Crystal Palace. Rising to a height of 22 meters, this structure is completely made of glass placed in an iron framework on brick base in the design of a Greek Cross. It is known to have been made to hold far-flung flora and fauna as a part of an exhibition on the Philippines. Currently used for art exhibitions, it overlooks the beautiful artificial lake of Retiro Park.

Address : Paseo República de Cuba, 4, 28009 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28009

Location : 40.4136266, -3.6820397

Contact : +34 917 74 10 00

Website: <http://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/Instalaciones/Palacio-de-Cristal?vgnextfmt=default&vgnextoid=113f29ea9281c010VgnVCM1000000b205a0aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=df22fo73808fe410VgnVCM2000000c205a0aRCRD>

Nearest Public Transport : Plaza Niño Jesus Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : October to May: Monday and Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00hrs-18:00hrs Wednesday to Saturday: 11:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.22. Jardines De Sabatini

One of the most beautiful gardens of Madrid, Jardines de Sabatini act as an architectural and ornamental extension of the Royal Palace. Adorned with various sculptures built in classic style, and spread over a unique geometric design make the garden a frequently visited spot in the city. Although it looks spectacular during the day, the best time to visit them is at night, when they reach the zenith of exquisiteness. Bearing an amazing natural backdrop, this attraction will definitely be the love interest of every traveler visiting Madrid.

Address : Calle de Bailén, 2, 28013 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28013

Location : 40.4202739, -3.71396720000007

Contact : +34 915 42 59 00

Nearest Public Transport : Jardines de Sabatini Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-21:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.23. Casa De Campo Park

Spanning across an enormous area of 1,722 hectares, this green space is the most prominent park in Madrid. Head here to take a break from sightseeing and relax in the lap of nature. A natural oasis with a range of activities for you to indulge

in, Casa de Campo invites you to enjoy kayaking and mountain biking along with a power-packed amusement park. The largest ecosystem in Madrid lets you enjoy nature, spot animals, play some sports and just stroll around.

Address : Paseo Puerta del Angel, 1, 28011 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28011

Location : 40.4263555, -3.7587456999999

Contact : +34 915 29 82 10

Nearest Public Transport : Campus de Somosaguas Bus Station (Not Recommended)

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.24. Gate of Europe

Tagged as one of the world's first tilted highrise buildings, Gate of Europe are twin office structures built by American architects, Philip Johnson and John Burgee. Further braced by primary diagrid of structural steel, the building is clad with stainless steel and a dark curtain wall. Falling at an inclination of 15°, the sight of these 2 towers is majestic and will give all the avid photographers an opportunity to click great pictures.

Address : Gate of Europe, 28036 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28036

Location : 40.466389, -3.6877779999999

Nearest Public Transport : Plaza Castilla Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.25. Neptune Fountain

Neptune is one of the most majestic fountains of Madrid. This alluring fountain represents the Sea God, Neptune in a chariot pulled by seahorses and is encircled by dolphins and seals. Spectacularly lit at night, it is undoubtedly a must-see on your visit to Madrid.

Address : Plaza Cánovas del Castillo, s/n, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Zipcode : 28014

Location : 40.4152651, -3.69416279999999
Nearest Public Transport : Neptuno Bus Station
Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours
Time Required : 0.5
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.26. Gran Vía

Madrid's major thoroughfare, Gran Vía is flocked by numerous locals and tourists walking up and down the broad walkway lined with a large number of shops, restaurants, coffee houses and few legendary cocktail bars. This 1,300-meter long shopping street is a famous shopping hub in the city where you won't return empty-handed.

Address : Calle Gran Vía, 28013 Madrid, Spain
Zipcode : 28013
Location : 40.42101479999999, -3.7073401999999976
Time Required : 0
Buy Ticket : No



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8. Key sites sports & adventure

There are not many adventure sports to do when in Madrid, a few which are available are a few kilometres away from Madrid such as canoeing which is

- **Canoeing -**

Address : Poyatos, Spain

Location : 40.427122,-2.05003

Contact No : +346821732 35

Website : <http://www.paddleinspain.com/index.php>

Time Required : 0.00



9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

- **Palacio de Deportes de la comunidad:**

Address : Av. Felipe II, s/n, 28009 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.423993,-3.675817

Contact No : +34 914 44 99 49

Website : <http://www.barclaycardcenter.es/>

Open/Close time : Monday to Thursday. 09:00hrs-14:00hrs and 16:00hrs-19:00hrs. Friday. 09:00hrs-15:00hrs.

- **Vicente Calderon:**

Address : Paseo de la Virgen del Puerto, 67, 28005 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.401708,-3.720635

Contact No : +34 902 26 04 03

Website : <http://clubatleticodemadrid.com/atm/instalaciones>

10. Spas and relaxation

- **Caroli health club:**

Address : Calle Miguel Ángel, 29, 28010 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.438034,-3.691798

Contact No : +34 910 00 18 86

Website : <http://www.carolihealthclub.es/>

- **Chi Spa:**

Address : Conde de Aranda, 14, 28001 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.421707,-3.686612

Contact No : +34 915 78 13 40

Website : <http://thechispa.com/>

- **The Lab room:**

Address : Calle de Claudio Coello, 13 bis, 28001 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.421894,-3.687331

Contact No : +34 914 31 21 98

Website : <http://www.thelabroom.com/>

- **Fusiom:**

Address : Calle de Alcalá, 55, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.419886,-3.691758

Contact No : +34915240275

Website : <http://www.fusiom.es/>



11. Events calendar

Month	Events
	Madrid Carnival
	Madrid Carnival- Taking place in February, the festival includes a lot of parades and costume parties. The day end with traditional burial of the Sardine thereby marking the end of winter and commencement of Spring.
	Fiesta de San Isidro
	Fiesta de San Isidro- This is easily the largest festival in Madrid and the events of this festivals offer a beautiful opportunity to wear traditional castizo finery and to taste delicacies like thick steamy broth. The city hosts concerts and there is music and dancing all over the city. This fiesta runs from 11th of May to the 15th.
	Madrid Pride Week
	Madrid Pride Week- A huge festival celebrated by gay people which attracts around 2 million people from the gay neighbourhoods of Chueca. This

festival usually takes place during the end of June.

La Paloma

La Paloma- Even though most of the Madrid's residents start for their annual holidays on the coast, there are some imperative castizo festivals during the month of August. Starting from national holiday on the 15th, the non-holiday makers make the most of the ongoing street parties.

Los Veranos de la Villa

Los Veranos de la Villa- This festival ends during the month of September and is reckoned as Madrid's summer arts festival. It runs for around 2-3 months and includes around 100 shows pertaining to music, dance, theatre, cinema and circus performances which are held at various venues and squares.

Columbus Day

Columbus Day- October 12. This commemorates the exact day when Columbus first set foot in the American continent. The festival is celebrated throughout Spain. In Madrid, a special

parade is held in Plaza de Colon which is led by the military and then followed by the King and the entire Royal Family.

Madrid Jazz Festival

Madrid Jazz Festival- Usually taking place in November, this festival includes music performances and other jazz related activities. The festival adopts a different theme every single year.

Nochevieja

Nochevieja- December 31. To mark the last day of the year, people in Madrid gather near the Puerta del sol which is a clock tower. Instead of counting down from 10, people count down from 12 inferring prosperous 12 months in the next year. The tradition dictates you to eat a grape at every count and then popping a champagne at midnight.

12. Key local guides and tours

a. Madrid Bike tour- The tour is designed to give the visitor an insider's look in order to know the town like a local and not a tourist. Even though you'll be biking through different routes to cover the 'must see' places, at the same time, you will get to know about the places which are not popular tourist destinations. The tour helps in letting you know the city but at your own pace. The guide takes you through the city while passing on info during the frequent short stops. The guides claim that you will be able to witness the entire city in just 2 hours while it would take around a day to cover the city. The tour can be arranged in your language so that you are in a better position to understand the details. With a total duration of 3 hours, the tour starts from central Madrid station. Entrance fees for attractions is not included in the tour price. Bike tour starts from €25.

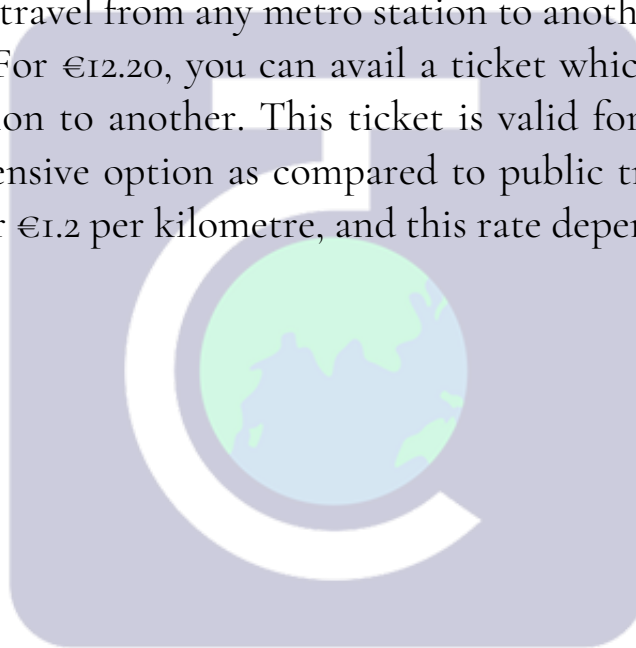
b. Eat Madrid, Gastronomic Private tour- Madrid has so much to offer in terms of food that it can be a little overwhelming to know about all the nice restaurants and bars. But that is where the Eat Madrid tour will help you sort out things for better. The tour provides a nice and a fun way of knowing the prominent restaurants, the pleasant taverns and the bars around the city. Not just the places where food is worshipped, the tour will familiarise you with those exquisite dishes as well. The tour is actually a remix of History and social structure of the city.

13. Transportation hubs

- a. Barajas Airport Madrid's Barajas Airport is at a distance of around 15 kilometres from the city centre and the airport has 4 terminals to accommodate the huge influx of passengers. The Airport experiences a lot of regular and charter airlines.
- b. Estacion Atocha The National rail company in Spain is called RENFE. And Atocha & Chamartin are two main train stations in Madrid. It depends on the type of train you are going to board in order to select the railway station. However, some trains pass through both the stations. Nonetheless, it is convenient to reach the other station because of metro connectivity. Estacion Atocha is located in the South of the city and it mainly serves destinations in the southern part of Spain. In addition to this, trains reaching travelling to the eastern Mediterranean coast are also managed by Atocha. For destinations- Malaga, Cordoba, Valencia and Seville, you will be boarding the train from this station. It is also the home base for the high speed train which connects Madrid with Ciudad real, Seville and Cordoba. Chamartin railway station takes care of all the trains from the North of Spain (Basque country, Barcelona and France) arrive here and the station is connected to the rest of the city by Metro.
- c. Estacion Sur de Autobuses The largest bus station in Madrid, it is located within the interchange station which is called Mendez Alvaro. The interchange itself, contains a metro and train station as well. But the bus station is the main station for medium and long distance bus travel, towards the south of the country. The bus station is enormous and is considered as the most modern bus station within the city. It was renovated during July 1977 and as of now around 40 bus companies operate from this bus station.

Index**14. Transportation cost**

a. Buses- The city has a reasonable bus network which can take you throughout the town. In some parts, you can single tickets which cost between €1 and €2. But in major cities like Madrid it is better to purchase combined trip tickets as they can be used for travelling in any form of public transport. b. Combined tickets- In a city like Madrid, it is reasonable to buy combined single tickets for Zones. A €3 ticket will let you travel from any metro station to another in a different zone. c. Bus Travel Card- For €12.20, you can avail a ticket which is valid for 10 trips from any metro station to another. This ticket is valid for covering Zone A. d. Taxi- Taxi is an expensive option as compared to public transport. You end up paying around €1.5 or €1.2 per kilometre, and this rate depends on the time of the day as well.



15. Baggage allowance

If you are travelling through public transport in Madrid, there are seldom any extra charges for carrying baggage. However, if there is a lot of baggage to be carried, it is advisable to hire a private taxi.



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16. Must try food and local savouries

Madrid has plenty of restaurants serving excellent food which makes the visit to this city even more memorable. These restaurants are scattered all over the city and most of them have their specialities to offer. But there are certain areas like Calle de Alcala and Los cuchilleros housing excellent restaurants and people visit these areas to have their delightful meals.



17. Restaurant & Nightlife

Food -

- **Los Galayos:**

Address : Calle Botoneras, 5, 28012 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.427272,-3.708320

Contact No : +34 913 66 30 28

Website : <http://www.losgalayos.net/>

- **StreetXo:**

Address : Calle de Serrano, 52, 28001 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.427691,-3.687241

Website : <http://www.streetxo.com/>

- **San Gines:**

Address : Pasadizo San Ginés, 5, 28013 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.416757,-3.706918

Website : <https://chocolateriasangines.com/>

- **Casa Revuelta:**

Address : Calle de Latoneros, 3, 28005 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.413931,-3.707854

Contact No : +34 913 66 33 32

- **Casa Lucio:**

Address : Calle Cava Baja, 35, 28005 Madrid, Spain.

Location : 40.412097,-3.709727

Contact No : +34 913 65 32 52

Website : <http://casalucio.es/en/>

Open / Close Time : 13:00hrs-16:00hrs & 20:30hrs-00:00hrs.

- **Sergi Arola Gastro:**

Address : Calle de Zurbano 31, Madrid, Spain.

Location : 40.431539,-3.693553

Contact No : + 3491 310 2169

Website : <http://www.sergiarola.es/>

Open / Close Time : September To May: Tuesday-Saturday-1400hrs-1530hrs and 2100hrs-2330hrs.

- **Casa Lhardy:**

Address : Carrera de S. Jerónimo, 8, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.416667,-3.701389

Contact No : +34 915 21 33 85

Website : <http://lhardy.com/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday to Friday. 09:00hrs-22:00hrs Saturday. 10:00hrs-22:00hrs. Sunday. 10:00hrs-15:00hrs. Monday. 09:00hrs-22:00hrs.

- **Las Cuevas de Luis Candelas:**

Address : C/ de Los Cuchilleros, 1, 28005 Madrid, Spain

Location : 40.414888,-3.708162

Contact No : +34 913 66 54 28

Website : <http://www.lascuevasdeluiscandelas.com/>

Open / Close Time : Friday and Saturday. 13:00hrs-00:30hrs Other days.
13:00hrs-00:00hrs.

- **La terraza del Casino:**

Address : Calle de Alcalá 15, Madrid, Spain.

Location : 40.417844,-3.700263

Contact No : +34915321275

Website : <http://www.casinodemadrid.es/casinoa/index.html>

Open / Close Time : Monday to Saturday- 1300hrs-1600hrs and
2100hrs-0000hrs.



18. Average meal cost

Madrid is known for its food and culture. There are plenty of options for eating out. Therefore, the average cost of a meal comes to around €10. And when it comes to drinks, the average cost of a drink in Spain is around €3.



19. Shopping

Madrid being the capital of Spain has a lot of character to it and there are some things which you can purchase from the capital. The kind of things which are not available at your native place. traveling to a city like Madrid, you can buy Saffron because it is extremely cheap in Madrid as compared to other parts of the world. Corte Ingles is the place where you can find good quality saffron at reasonable rates. Since Madrilenos are extremely serious about their food, how about getting some candies from La Violeta. A candy shop located in the middle of Madrid which sells delicious colored candies and other chocolates. If you still have time and resources, try to get a pair of shoes from Madrid as this European country is famous for its shoes as well. You can try purchasing a pair from Alpargatus which is a famous clothing store having branches in different parts of the city.



20. Tourist benefits

If you end up purchasing products in Madrid, while you are not a resident of European union, you can save up to 21 percent of the shopping amount. But to avail this tax rebate of 21 percent, you need to have total bill of more than €90.15. If the bill is in accordance, you can enjoy Tax Free shopping in Madrid. However, this is not applicable on restaurant and hotel bills.



21. Essential local apps

GuiaPunto is a local app which is generally used by the population over here. Launched in the year of 2015, it can search whatever you want within a city. The app charges a flat rate as well.



22. Driving

If a tourist or a visitor is trying to drive here, he or she needs to have an international driving permit and a driving license from the native state as well. If you do not have one, you can be fined a hefty amount.



23. Travel essentials

In Madrid, the electric power comes in at 220 volts and at 50 Hertz. These specifications can be found throughout Europe but in North America, the specification differ a little. So, if you are coming in from North America or any other country/continent, it is advisable to take a charger which can manage the power at 220 volts so that you can charge your phones and laptops. Although most of the charger are able to convert from one to another standard charger, still, it is advisable to carry a standard travel adapter plug.



24. Essential clothes

In Madrid, the electric power comes in at 220 volts and at 50 Hertz. These specifications can be found throughout Europe but in North America, the specification differ a little. So, if you are coming in from North America or any other country/continent, it is advisable to take a charger which can manage the power at 220 volts so that you can charge your phones and laptops. Although most of the charger are able to convert from one to another standard charger, still, it is advisable to carry a standard travel adapter plug.



25. Local currency

Euro is the official currency here and 1 Euro equals to 1.12 USD.



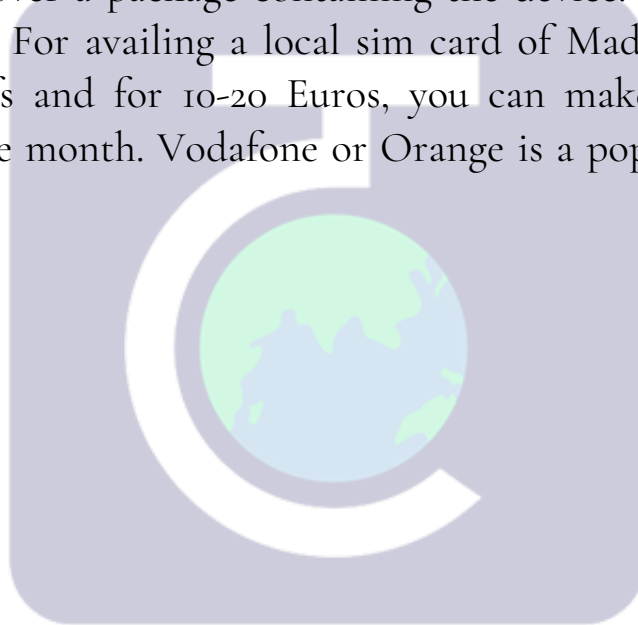
Index**26. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges**

The government has regulations in place which implies that every user who swaps an ATM card which does not belong to their network, will have to incur \$5 withdrawal charge and this will be charged on every transaction. Try using partner ATMs to avoid this charge.



27. Staying connected

The telecom operators in Madrid have an AlldayInternet device on offer. The device works as a portable Wi-Fi and can help you connect with 5 devices simultaneously. You will be able to enjoy the Spanish 4G/3G network without having to pay roaming charges. This can help you save a lot. You can avail this device by simply informing about your arrival and as you check in to your hotel, you will be handed over a package containing the device. Avail and return the package accordingly. For availing a local sim card of Madrid, you will have to carry your ID proofs and for 10-20 Euros, you can make local calls and use network for an entire month. Vodafone or Orange is a popular option amongst tourists.



28. Time Zone

Current time zone in Madrid is the Central European Summer time. However, the next change will be the Central European Time zone because Madrid falls in the category of cities with different time zones. Current offset: UTC/GMT +2 Hours.



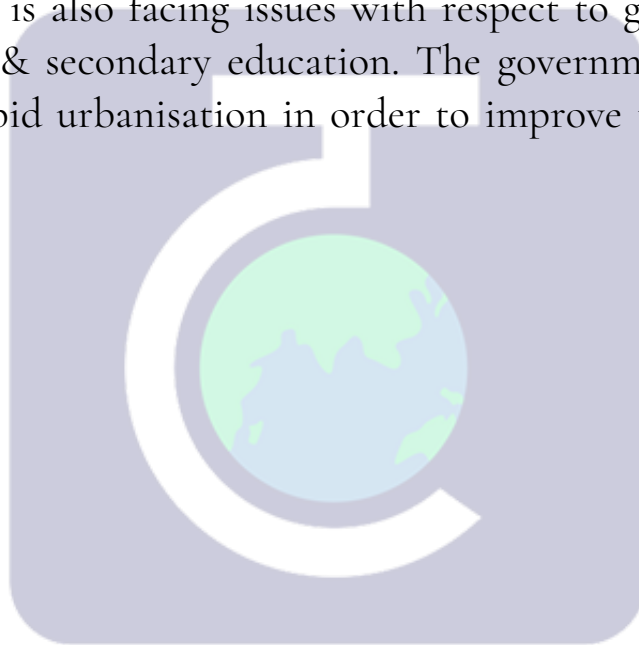
Index**29. Languages**

A majority of the population here will speak in Spanish or Castilian. Basque is spoken by around 2 percent of people who generally belong to Valencia or Catalan.



Index**30. Political Scenario**

Madrid has a city council and a Mayor and they are elected by the people. Spaniards are eligible to vote after 18 years of age. In addition, the autonomous community of Madrid has an elected regional parliament which is similar to most of the European legislatures. The region parliament here elects a Presidents who officiates the regional government and heads the same. Madrid's municipal and regional government is also facing issues with respect to general welfare of the people and primary & secondary education. The government here is trying to cope up with the rapid urbanisation in order to improve the overall quality of life.



31. Economic Scenario

The economy of the city is under the influence of the service sector at present. Simultaneously, being the capital, it is one of the largest financial centres in Europe and the largest in Spain. Taking a look at the year of 2008, 72 percent of the companies in Spain, has their headquarters in Madrid. Additionally, Madrid has around 30 research centres and 17 universities as well. In Spain, Madrid is second industrial centre right after Barcelona and specialises in high-technology production.



Index**32. Religious belief**

The majority of the population of this city consists of Catholic and is by far the largest religion here. Catholicism is widely practiced as the Madrid religion and the capital has festivals and events that fall in perfect alignment as well. The religious scene was pretty conservative but now gradually, things have changed and anyone can experience a fair amount of liberalization amongst the residents of Madrid.



33. Visa requirements

The individual's passport needs to have at least two blank pages and in addition to this, a copy of the ticket reservation is also necessary. Schengen travel insurance of a minimum 30,000€ which provides coverage within Spain and the entire area that falls under the Schengen. After you complete the formalities associated with obtaining a visa, you can have the permission of the Government for travelling to Madrid. Depending on the purpose of your visit, you will have to submit documents accordingly in order to obtain the specific type of Visa.



34. Essential vaccination

Travellers need to ensure that they are up-to date on routine vaccines before they commence their trip to Madrid. You should pay a visit to your General Practitioner and ask about the kind of vaccines you require. As such there are no specific vaccines you need to take before visiting the capital of Spain.



Index**35. Theft and Safety**

Madrid is considered as one of the safest city in Spain i.e. crime wise. There is no denial about the fact that there is a little crime in the country but there is nothing really serious that every traveller needs to know about. Around the metro or train stations of the big cities you need to be aware of pickpocketers because tourists are a soft target for initialising such a theft. Even during the events and festivals, tourists need to be aware of pickpocket scam artists in order to ensure a satisfactory stay.



Index**36. Embassy/Consulate**

Almost all the developed countries have their embassies in Madrid. Additionally, even the prominent developing countries like India also have their foreign embassy here. You can get to know if your country has got a foreign embassy in Madrid by checking out the url- <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/spain>



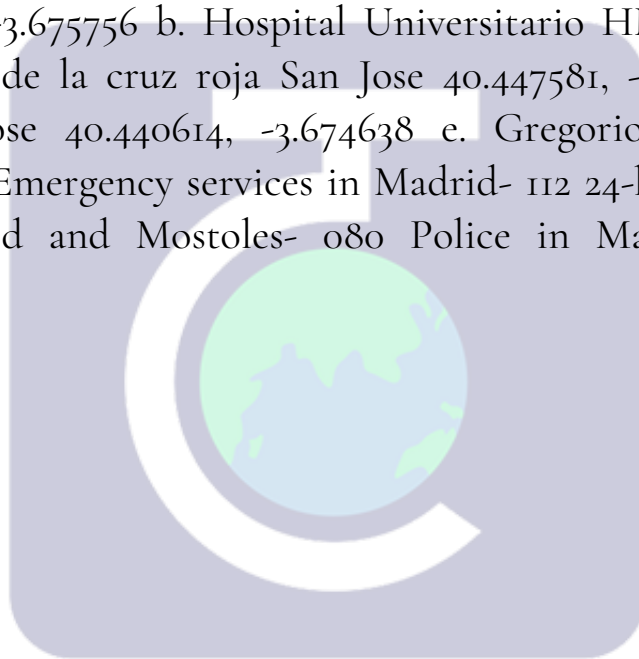
37. Accessibility

In the major cities like Madrid, the accessibility for handicapable tourists and locals is improving every single day. In these cities, there are numerous monuments, museums and restaurants which offer partially or totally accessible. Madrid has established the kind of public transport system (bus fleet) which offer audible and visual announcements. However, in some of the smaller cities of this country, the accessibility options are still limited.



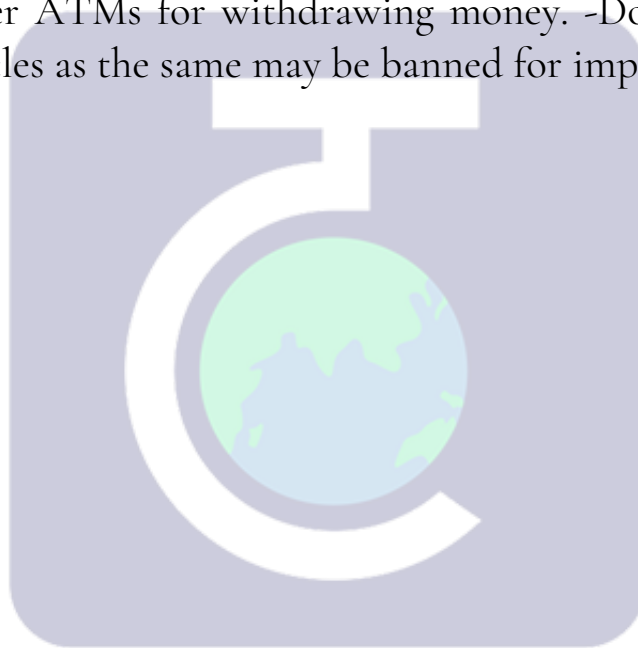
38. Emergencies

The Medical support system throughout the country is decent enough to ensure that you do not need to worry about the medical care. And for most of the tourists, the Schengen travel insurance is already in place, as it part of requirements for obtaining the Visa. And there are plenty of sound and consistent hospitals which can be trusted as well. a. Hospital Universitario de la Princesa 40.434220, -3.675756 b. Hospital Universitario HM Madrid 40.432100, -3.707333 c. Central de la cruz roja San Jose 40.447581, -3.707664 d. Hospital Quironsalud San Jose 40.440614, -3.674638 e. Gregorio Maranon Hospital 40.419146, -3.670397 Emergency services in Madrid- 112 24-hour chemist- 098 In case of Fire: Madrid and Mostoles- 080 Police in Madrid: National- 091 Municipal- 092



Index**39. Do's and Don'ts**

Do's- -Access free public Wi-Fi at different public transport station to save on your data bill. -Try to get a local orange sim card to save on your roaming bills. - It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. Don'ts- -You should not carry a lot of luggage while using public transport for travelling. - Try to avail a 'same network' ATM card or partner ATMs for withdrawing money. -Do not carry unsealed/unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import



Index**40.Tipping basics**

Since Madrid is so high on food, there are myriads of restaurants which will prepare mouth-watering delicacies for you. So, if you are visiting an upscale restaurant, the usual tip is around 10 percent of the total bill. But if you are in a normal budget place, you can probably round up the bill or if you thoroughly enjoyed the service, you can possibly pay an extra Euro for maybe 2-3 Euros if the food and service were satiating enough for you.



Index**41.Pet info**

There are a lot of strict regulations if someone is planning to move to Madrid along with their pet. You need to make sure that you carry all the correct papers, not only for Spain for all the countries you are going to pass through. Dogs, cats and ferrets need to have a microchip in place or the pets need to have a registration number tattooed in an ear before they set foot in Madrid. The regulations are strict and if you are not from the UK, you need to have a proof that your pet has been vaccinated against rabies before coming to Spain.



Conclusion – Why to select this destination

A city like Madrid has so much to offer, that it becomes a little difficult to absorb all of it in a single go. Starting with the culture of the city, it is an understatement to say that the cultural aspects of this city are simply overwhelming. The residents of Madrid celebrate festivals with a lot of passion. However, that being said, other cities in Spain like Barcelona or Valencia have festivals during every single month of the year and there are people who join in from all over the world to celebrate them. The native people here love celebrating these festivals and participate with all the zeal and fervour. Talking about the food in Madrid, it is simply a pleasure to taste the cuisines here. This city houses some of the best restaurants in the entire world. Madrilenos consider food as an art and this is clearly evident from their preparation and the level of seriousness they have when it comes to food. The delicacies here are mouth-watering and every upscale restaurant is famous for a speciality or two. There is just no limit to the love people here have for their food. Every city in Spain has a charm of its own and they are unique in one aspect or the other. Partly because, Spain has been through such a glorious time in the history and as different people governed the country, all of them left an indelible mark on the country which has led to a diverse culture and a unique history. But to be specific about Madrid, it has so much to offer different kinds of travellers or tourists. Madrid, has so many museums and art galleries because this country has produced some exceptional artists over the years as well. The Government of Madrid has tried its level best to preserve the precious history of this country and city by constructing museums to showcase the historical artefacts and documents. All in all, it is simply a joyride to visit this part of the country and it is sure to be an experience of a lifetime for many.

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