If you wish to be kept up to date with the very latest news and events from Madrid, register at www.esmadrid.com/recuerdamadrid. There you can download the form, fill in your personal details and send it to recuerdamadridptm@munimadrid.es.
GREETING FROM THE MAYOR

As well as being the capital city, Madrid is also the economic, social and cultural engine of Spain. It is a city that boasts a rich cultural past, but with its sights clearly set on the future. Proof of this can be seen by the major urban transformation that the city has undergone over recent years, as well as other groundbreaking projects being carried out in a number of fields in order to improve the quality of life for all its inhabitants, to better satisfy the expectations of its visitors, and positioning itself at the forefront of European capitals.

At the same time, Madrid is a modern metropolis that has managed to hold on to its traditions and customs; a cosmopolitan capital, which welcomes citizens from all around the world with open arms; it is pioneering, and focuses on accessibility and sustainability; it is an entrepreneurial metropolis. In conclusion, it is a city where visitors immediately feel at home; being in Madrid is the same as being from Madrid.

In a number of studies, Madrid has been acknowledged as one of the top ten cities to live in, to work in, to invest in and to visit. In fact, it has become one of the most appealing tourist destinations in Europe, as can be seen by the more than seven million tourists who choose to visit Madrid each year. Our cultural activities, shopping, food and drink and recreational activities are wide ranging and constantly evolving. Added to this are its numerous parks and gardens, which position Madrid as the number two capital in the world for the number of green spaces, and the city has a large number of sports centres and facilities where you can enjoy practicing sports.

Madrid invites you to discover all this for yourself, to enjoy the multitude of experiences and sensations that this wonderful city has to offer. We are sure that your trip will awaken your desire to return to Madrid in the future. And this is exactly what we hope to achieve.

Welcome to Madrid.

Alberto Ruiz-Gallardón
Mayor of Madrid
Mohammed I (852-886), son of Abderramán II, orders the construction of a citadel and the fortification of the hamlet of Mayrit, thus creating a walled town. The site chosen to build the citadel is the same as the later Trastamara Castle, the Hapsburg Palace and the present-day Royal Palace built during the Bourbon dynasty.

King Alfonso VI of Castile captures Madrid as part of his successful campaign to conquer Toledo.

The drawing up of the Fuero de Madrid, a series of municipal bi-laws and legal and penal regulations.

Alfonso VI creates a special Chamber whereby open debate is substituted by 12 town counselors, 2 mayors and a sheriff. It is considered to be the predecessor to the present-day City Hall.

Work begins on expanding the Plaza de San Salvador, the present-day Plaza de la Villa.

Creation of the first permanent Magistrate of Madrid.

King Henry IV grants Madrid the title of Muy Noble y Muy Leal (Very Noble and Very Loyal) for loyalty shown towards his person.
Start of the Hapsburg Dynasty (the House of Austria). Charles I is crowned King of Castile.

Madrid surrenders after the defeat of the comuneros in Villalar.

Francisco I of France is held prisoner in the Luján Tower.

Charles I confer the title of Imperial and Crowned to Madrid on request of Deputy Juan Hurtado de Mendoza.

Madrid joins the Comunero Movement under Juan de Zapata.

Empress Charles V enters the city.

Philip II chooses Madrid as the permanent headquarters of the Spanish Court. The city becomes the centre of a vast empire.

Building of the Casa de la Panadería – the Bakery.

Philip II orders the reconstruction of the Palace of Madrid, converting it into a royal residence.

Charles I orders the construction of a city wall, the third in the history of the city.

Philip IV orders the construction of the fourth city wall that lasts until the middle of the 19th century.

Emperor Charles V enters Madrid.

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Philip IV orders the construction of the fourth city wall that lasts until the middle of the 19th century.
The establishment of the Bourbon dynasty. Philip V claims the crown as heir to Charles II.

Foundation of the Royal Academy of Language.

King Charles III of Naples arrives in Madrid, instigator of the urban planning and the construction of buildings such as the Real Aduana (Royal Customs House) (1769), the Royal Post Office (1768), the Office of Natural History, the present-day Prado Museum (1785), the Royal Botanical Gardens (1781), as well as the Cibeles (1782), Neptune (1784), Apollo (1780) and Alcachofa (1782) fountains.

The former Palace is destroyed in a fire on Christmas Eve. Four years later, construction work begins on the present-day Royal Palace. It is completed in 1764.

Dos de Mayo (2nd of May), the people of Madrid rise up against the invading French army. For 5 long hours, they fight against immeasurable odds, resulting in a thousand dead.

José Bonaparte orders the tearing down of all areas of congestion in the city turning them into squares and public footpaths. He creates the area known nowadays as the Plaza de Oriente.

Definitive building work on the Plaza Mayor, giving it its present-day appearance.

Construction of the Puerta de Alcalá (The Alcalá Gates).

The former Palace is destroyed in a fire on Christmas Eve. Four years later, construction work begins on the present-day Royal Palace. It is completed in 1764.

Building of the new San Antonio de la Florida Hermitage.

José Bonaparte orders the tearing down of all areas of congestion in the city turning them into squares and public footpaths. He creates the area known nowadays as the Plaza de Oriente.

King Fernando VII grants Madrid the title of May Heroic (Most heroic) for the actions of its citizens on the Dos de Mayo.
Alfonso XIII officially launches the project to demolish various buildings in order to widen the Gran Vía. Work continues until 1929. This area sees the mergence of the first department stores / markets, and other specialized sectors such as banks, insurance companies, cinemas and offices.

Building work begins on the Ciudad Universitaria, founded by Alfonso XIII.

The proclamation of the Second Republic at the Puerta del Sol. Building work is completed on the building of the Ventas Bullring. Madrid-Barajas airport opens.

Construction of the Elizabeth II Canal and the aqueduct infrastructure to bring water from the river Lozoya to Madrid.

Elizabeth II places the foundation stone of the National Library.

The Ciudad Lineal urban planning project, the brainstorm of Arturo Soria, is approved.

Building work begins on the Bank of Spain on the site of the former Alcañices Palace. Work is completed in 1891.

Opening of the first stretches of tramways between Sol & Serrano and Recoletos & Hipódromo.

Elizabeth II places the foundation stone of the National Library.

Restoration and extension of Puerta del Sol.

On the 19th of November, the Prado Museum first opens its doors to the public.

1819 1851 1858 1861 1866 1884 1892 1898

1857 1861 1866 1874 1892 1898

1910 1929 1931
Start of the “movida madrileña” (a counter cultural movement), with the emergence of cultural icons such as Pedro Almodóvar and Alaska.

Madrid, European Capital of Culture. During the course of the year, the following venues are officially opened: the new Puerta de Atocha Train Station with AVE high-speed trains running from Madrid to Seville; the Reina Sofia Museum and Art Gallery; the Thyssen Bornemisza Museum; the City Museum; the Madrid Theatre, la Casa de América (former Linares Palace); the Arganzuela Greenhouses; the Rodríguez Sahagún park; the Juan Carlos I park; the “Lighthouse” and the transport hub at Moncloa.

Monarchy is restored with King Juan Carlos I.

April 3rd. First democratic municipal elections.

Opening of the new extension to the Prado Museum and the restructuring of the M-30 ring road.


Building work begins on the viaduct above calle Segovia that replaces the iron structure built in the 19th century.

Foundation of the Galería Preciados.

Construction of the Torre de Madrid building in the Plaza de España.

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1932 1934 1936 1943 1947 1954

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Opening of the National Music Auditorium in Príncipe de Vergara.

Pope John Paul consecrates the Almudena Cathedral.

Opening of the Royal Theatre for opera productions.

Centenary celebrations of the Gran Vía, whose very name evokes the essence and splendour of the shopping, the architecture, the culture, the fun and diversity of Madrid.

**PUERTA DEL SOL**
Royal Post Office (Bourbon, 18th century), the Maibrun sculpture (reproduction of the 17th century original), statue of Charles III on horseback (20th century), the Bear and the Strawberry Tree sculpture (20th century).

**CALLE ARENAL & SURROUNDING AREA**
San Ginés Church (Hapsburg, 17th century), Monastery of the Order of Descalzas Reales (16th century).

**PLAZA DE BAILÉN**
Almudena Crypt and Cathedral (19th and 20th century).

**PLAZA MAYOR**
The Ducal de Uceda Palace, Home to the State Council and the Military Headquarters (Hapsburg, 17th century), the Sacramento Church (Hapsburg, 17th century), remains of the Santa María Church (11th and 12th century), Alvaraz Palace, present-day Italian Institute of Culture (Hapsburg, 17th century), San Nicolás Church (Plaza de San Nicolás, 13th century).

**PLAZA MAYOR (HABSBURG, 16TH CENTURY AND BOURBON, 17TH CENTURY)**
Casa de la Provincia (19th century).

**PLAZA MAYOR**
House of Calderón de la Barca (Hapsburg, 17th century), Queen Mother’s Pharmacy (dating from the 16th century, building from the 20th century), San Miguel Market (19th century).

**PLAZA MAYOR**
Lunaes Tower (10th century), Casa de la Villa (Hapsburg, 17th century), sculptures of Don Alvaro de Bazán (19th century).

**PLAZA DE LA VILLA**
Almudena Crypt and Cathedral (19th and 20th century).

**DE LA VEGA HILL / EMIR MUHAMMAD I PARK**
Remains of the city walls (9th and 10th century).

**PLAZA MAYOR**
House of Calderón de la Barca (Hapsburg, 17th century), Queen Mother’s Pharmacy (dating from the 16th century, building from the 20th century), San Miguel Market (19th century).

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**PLAZA DE LA PROVINCIA**
Casa de la Provincia (19th century).

**PLAZA MAYOR**
House of Calderón de la Barca (Hapsburg, 17th century), Queen Mother’s Pharmacy (dating from the 16th century, building from the 20th century), San Miguel Market (19th century).

**Puerta Del Sol**
Royal Post Office (Bourbon, 18th century), Kilometre Zero (20th century).

**CALLE MAYOR**
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House of Calderón de la Barca (Hapsburg, 17th century), Queen Mother’s Pharmacy (dating from the 16th century, building from the 20th century), San Miguel Market (19th century).
**ROUTE 2**  
**APPROXIMATE LENGTH: 3 HOURS**

1. **Plaza de Canovas del Castillo (Neptune)**  
   Madrid Stock Market (19th century), Monument to the Fallen of “Dos de Mayo” (19th century), Neptune and Apollo Fountains (Bourbon, 18th century), Thyssen Bornemisza Museum (19th century).

2. **Puerta del Sol**  
   The Retiro Park (17th-20th centuries), Monument dedicated to Alfonso XII, The Cecilio Rodríguez Garden, The Velázquez Palace, The Rose gardens, Fountain of the Fallen Angel, the Duque de Fernán Núñez pathway.

3. **Plaza de Canovas del Castillo (Neptune)**  
   Madrid Stock Market (19th century), Monument to the Fallen of “Dos de Mayo” (19th century), Neptune and Apollo Fountains (Bourbon, 18th century), Thyssen Bornemisza Museum (19th century).

4. **Calle de la Alhambra**  
   Royal Customs House or Ministry of Revenue (Bourbon, 18th century), San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts (Bourbon, 18th century), Madrid Casino (20th century), Calatrava Church (17th century), Metropolitan Building (20th century), San Jerónimo (18th century), Circle of Fine Arts (20th century), Carraleses Building (20th century), Bank of Spain (18th century).

5. **Plaza de Canovas del Castillo (Neptune)**  
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    Royal Customs House or Ministry of Revenue (Bourbon, 18th century), San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts (Bourbon, 18th century), Madrid Casino (20th century), Calatrava Church (17th century), Metropolitan Building (20th century), San Jerónimo (18th century), Circle of Fine Arts (20th century), Carraleses Building (20th century), Bank of Spain (18th century).

11. **Plaza de Canovas del Castillo (Neptune)**  
    Madrid Stock Market (19th century), Monument to the Fallen of “Dos de Mayo” (19th century), Neptune and Apollo Fountains (Bourbon, 18th century), Thyssen Bornemisza Museum (19th century).

12. **Calle de la Alhambra**  
    Royal Customs House or Ministry of Revenue (Bourbon, 18th century), San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts (Bourbon, 18th century), Madrid Casino (20th century), Calatrava Church (17th century), Metropolitan Building (20th century), San Jerónimo (18th century), Circle of Fine Arts (20th century), Carraleses Building (20th century), Bank of Spain (18th century).

13. **Plaza de Canovas del Castillo (Neptune)**  
    Madrid Stock Market (19th century), Monument to the Fallen of “Dos de Mayo” (19th century), Neptune and Apollo Fountains (Bourbon, 18th century), Thyssen Bornemisza Museum (19th century).

14. **Calle de la Alhambra**  
    Royal Customs House or Ministry of Revenue (Bourbon, 18th century), San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts (Bourbon, 18th century), Madrid Casino (20th century), Calatrava Church (17th century), Metropolitan Building (20th century), San Jerónimo (18th century), Circle of Fine Arts (20th century), Carraleses Building (20th century), Bank of Spain (18th century).

15. **Plaza de Canovas del Castillo (Neptune)**  
    Madrid Stock Market (19th century), Monument to the Fallen of “Dos de Mayo” (19th century), Neptune and Apollo Fountains (Bourbon, 18th century), Thyssen Bornemisza Museum (19th century).

16. **Calle de la Alhambra**  
    Royal Customs House or Ministry of Revenue (Bourbon, 18th century), San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts (Bourbon, 18th century), Madrid Casino (20th century), Calatrava Church (17th century), Metropolitan Building (20th century), San Jerónimo (18th century), Circle of Fine Arts (20th century), Carraleses Building (20th century), Bank of Spain (18th century).

17. **Plaza de Canovas del Castillo (Neptune)**  
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18. **Calle de la Alhambra**  
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19. **Plaza de Canovas del Castillo (Neptune)**  
    Madrid Stock Market (19th century), Monument to the Fallen of “Dos de Mayo” (19th century), Neptune and Apollo Fountains (Bourbon, 18th century), Thyssen Bornemisza Museum (19th century).

20. **Calle de la Alhambra**  
    Royal Customs House or Ministry of Revenue (Bourbon, 18th century), San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts (Bourbon, 18th century), Madrid Casino (20th century), Calatrava Church (17th century), Metropolitan Building (20th century), San Jerónimo (18th century), Circle of Fine Arts (20th century), Carraleses Building (20th century), Bank of Spain (18th century).
Getting to grips with a city like Madrid, especially one with more than a thousand years of history behind it, is a daunting and often time-consuming task. If your time in Madrid is limited, we have taken the liberty of compiling a list of monuments and places that visitors to Madrid should definitely not miss out on.

**THE ART WALK**

The Art Walk is a singular setting that combines art, architecture and nature and is located in one of the most characteristic areas of the city: the Paseo del Prado. It makes for a very pleasant stroll taking you past the Botanical Gardens as well as three of the most renowned museums in the world.

**PRADO MUSEUM**

Considered by many to be “the best art gallery in the world”, the Prado Museum is, if not the best, then one of the most respected art centres and is a must-see on any visit to Madrid. Its walls are decked with the best collections of works of art of the Spanish School from the 16th through to the 18th century. It also houses large collections from both the Flemish and Venetian schools, as well as smaller collections by German, French and English artists. The museum has been recently expanded and, thanks to a technically difficult overhaul by architect Rafael Moneo, now includes the Claustro de los Jerónimos (Cloister of the Jerónimos).

**THYSSEN-BORNEMISZA MUSEUM**

House in the Villahermosa Palace, this is the world’s largest private art collection and brings together some 1,000 works of art that cover 700 years of art from around the world, all the way from the 13th century up to the latest tendencies of the 20th century. The addition to the palace, located in the adjoining building, is home to the private collection of the widow of Baron Thyssen, Carmen Cer¬vera, and contains works of art from the 17th century through to the 19th century of both Spanish artists and artists from around the world.
This renowned museum, as well as housing Guernica (1937) by Picasso, is home to works of art by some of the most important artists of the latter part of the 19th century to the present-day - mainly Spanish in origin (Dalí, Miró, Julio González, Tapies, Chillida...). The museum is located at the site of the former General de San Charles Hospital, designed by Sabatini during the reign of Charles III and restored to its former glory in the 1980s. In September 2005, building work on the latest addition to the museum was completed. The new addition (designed by architect Jean Nouvel) consists of three buildings that house galleries and temporary exhibitions, auditoriums and a library all of which can be accessed directly from the Sabatini building.

C/ Santa Isabel, 52
Atocha
Monday to Saturday from 10am to 9pm. Sunday from 10am to 2:30pm. Closed Tuesdays.
€ Free entry Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7pm to 9pm, Saturdays from 2:30pm to 9:00pm and Sundays from 10am to 2:30pm.
+info: www.museoreinasofia.es

The idea of creating a Navy Museum dates back to the 18th Century, and as well as a library, the idea was to have all the natural sciences required for the comprehensive training of the Spanish Navy, housed under one roof. Through the museum’s galleries, boasting historic artefacts such as the Juan de la Cosa Map, the first map to have included America, visitors can get a glimpse of all the major decisive events from the Catholic Kings and the discovery of the Americas through to the Battle of Trafalgar, with special focus on the 18th Century Spanish ship building. Visitors will learn about the history of Spanish navy, mostly with a military focus, during the crucial times in Spanish history.

Paseo del Prado, 5
Banco de España
Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 8pm. Closed Monday.
€ Free entry
+info: www.museonavalmadrid.com

“La Caixa” cultural centre is also located along the Paseo del Arte and houses some fascinating temporary exhibitions as well as hosting other cultural activities. Built on the site of the former power station – one of the few examples of modern industrial architecture to be found in the historic centre of Madrid – designed by architectural firm Herzog and De Meuron, entry to the centre is decorated with a breathtaking vertical garden, the work of French artists Patrick Blanc.

Paseo del Prado, 36
Atocha / Banco de España
From 10am to 8pm. Guided tour of the building Mondays and Saturdays at 1pm and Fridays at 7pm. Advance bookings can be made at the information desk.
€ Free entry
+info: 91 535 73 00
+info: www.obra social.lacaixa.es

Furniture, pottery, glassware, jewellery, tapestries, oriental art, etc. and up to 30,000 different objects, which over the course of history have been used to decorate houses, palaces and monuments of different cultures. The oldest objects in the collection date back to the 4th Century BC, and go all the way through to the first half of the 20th Century.

Montalbán, 12
Banco de España / Retiro
Tuesday to Saturday from 9:30am to 3pm and Thursdays and Sundays from 5pm to 8pm. Closed Mondays and public holidays from 10am to 3pm. Closed Monday.
€ Free entry Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm, Saturdays from 2pm to 3pm and Sundays.
+info: 91 532 64 99 / 91 532 68 45
+info: http://mnartesdecorativas.mcu.es
The Palace, built in the 18th century on the orders of the first king of the Bourbon dynasty (Philip V), houses treasures comparable to other great European palaces. The surrounding urban landscape is very representative of Madrid’s colourful history and contains such emblematic buildings as: Plaza de Oriente, Teatro Real [Royal Theatre], Almudena Cathedral, Campo del Moro Gardens, Monastery of the Encarnación, Sabatini Gardens...

The gates of the Royal Palace are the venue for the Solemn Changing of the Guard (the Changing of the Guard at the Prince’s Gate of the Royal Palace) – excluding days of official acts of state or in inclement weather conditions. Regaled in their dress uniform, each “post” (consisting of 2 foot soldiers and 12 riders on horseback) falls into formation in front of the Puerta del Príncipe (Prince’s Gate) to the musical accompaniment of fife and drum.

The Presentation of Credentials is one of the most solemn acts in the life of a diplomat where the sending Head of State presents the new Ambassador to the King. The ceremony involves 377 members of the Royal Guard.

The ceremony is conducted on Wednesday (excluding July, August and September) at midday on the first Wednesday of each month (excluding July, August and September) at midday on the first Wednesday of each month (excluding July, August and September).
The Retiro Park was built in the 17th century during the reign of Philip IV, this is the most important (historically and artistically speaking) of all the parks in Madrid and is one of the most beautiful city parks in the world. The park was originally home to a set of buildings that comprised a large palace, and a garden with a host of features: hermitages, grottos, covered paths, ponds etc. Its most attractive and unrivaled features are the Cecilio Rodríguez Gardens, the Alfonso XII Monument, the Retiro Lake, the ruins of the San Isidro Hermitage, the Velázquez Palace, the Crystal Palace, the Fuente del Ángel Caído (Fountain of the Fallen Angel), the Ciprés Calvo trees (Bald Cypress), the Alcachofa Fountain, etc.

**Retiro** © WINTER (from October to March): from 7am to 10pm (gates start to open at 6am, with all gates open by 7am and closing starts at 9:30pm, with all gates closed by 10pm). SUMMER (from April to September): from 7am to midnight (closing starts at 11:30pm, with all closed by midnight). Guided tours Saturday at 11am. Advance bookings on 91 273 988.

€ Free entry.

+info: www.madrid.es

The Puerta del Sol is the nerve centre of Madrid – par excellence. There is probably no other spot in Madrid that best reflects both the blend of cultures and the welcoming and cosmopolitan nature of the city. There are many icons that have been associated with the square over the years: the clock that rings in the New Year, the celebrated statue of the Bear and Strawberry Tree (symbol of Madrid), “Kilometre Zero” – the epicentre of the Spanish road network, and the last survivor of the neon advertisement boards that once covered the rooftops, that of Tío Pepe. In its early days, in around the 15th century, this was one of the access points through the large wall that surrounded the city.

Puerta del Sol © cúrate

* Retiro
* Plaza de Oriente
* Open Mondays
**PLAZA DE CIBELES**

This is one of the most beautiful, most centrally located and the most renowned places of Madrid, a fusion of both ancient and modern, and is flanked by four monumental buildings built during the 19th and 20th Centuries: the Linares Palace, the Cibeles Palace (home to Madrid City Hall), the Bank of Spain, and the Cuatro Torres Business Area.

In the very centre stands the iconic Cibeles Fountain. Together with the Apollo and Neptune Fountains, these are the decorations along the Paseo del Prado and are the brainchild of King Charles III (18th century). You may be interested to note that the Cibeles Fountain and the immediate surrounding area is the traditional meeting point for fans of Real Madrid football club when celebrating their championship titles. The Cibeles Fountain, such as the Puerta de Europa Towers (CTBA) on the Castellana, such as the Banco de España and the Cuatro Torres Business Area (CTBA) on the Castellana, is a bullfighting museum that bares testament to some of the incredible moments in the art and history of bullfighting. The Bullring, with a neo-Mudejar design (Moorish/Spanish), and with a capacity of 25,000, is the work of architects José Espeliú and Muñoz Monasterio, and first opened its doors to the public in 1931. There is bullfighting each Sunday from March until October, but the highlight of the year is characteristic of Madrid. Might we suggest that you watch the sun go down over the Pedriza or from one of the many great vantage points around the city: the Catedral Temple, in the Parque del Oeste (Western Park), from the Alto de los Cantones, or from the low hills in the Cerro del Tío Pío.

The deep electric blues skies that generate beautiful sunsets almost every day of the year are characteristic of Madrid. Might we suggest that you watch the sun rise up from one of many great vantage points around the city: the Catedral Temple, in the Parque del Oeste (Western Park), from the Alto de los Cantones, or from the low hills in the Cerro del Tío Pío.

Guided tours Sundays at 12pm. Advan- ced bookings at the Madrid Tourism Centre (Plaza Mayor, 27).

| C/ Alcalá, 237 | 91 356 22 00 | www.las-ventas.com |

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**GRAN VÍA**

Architecturally speaking, 20th and 21st century Madrid can for the most part be found along with its characteristically huge buildings, has grown to become the city’s financial district. Some of the major city planning projects of the past century have been developed along the Gran Vía, namely the Linares palace (home to Madrid City Hall), the Bank of Spain and the Cuatro Torres Business Area.

The Gran Vía has been one of the most emblematic thoroughfares of Madrid, not only from the city planning point of view, but for the social, economic and cultural role it has played in the life of the city, over the recent years, it has become the home to opening nights for both national and international musicals and cultural projects in the capital and became a veritable storefront of architectural styles. This grand avenue, of almost one and a half kilometres in length, has become one of the most beautiful, most monumental buildings built during the 19th century. You may be interested to note that the Gran Vía is another point of view, but for the social, economic and cultural role it has played in the life of the city, over the recent years, it has become the home to opening nights for both national and international musicals and cultural projects in the capital and became a veritable storefront of architectural styles.
Throughout the year, and as a great way to discover the city, the Madrid Tourist Board and its Discover Madrid programme offers visitors a great selection of fascinating tours that are available in a variety of languages (Spanish, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Japanese).

**STORY TIME**
A one-hour playtime activity for children between the ages of 5 and 10 aimed at getting them to use their imagination to discover the secrets of an “enchanted” Madrid. Story time is a one-of-a-kind experience that can be carried out both indoors and outside and that tells the story of Madrid in terms that a child will fully understand, appreciate and enjoy.

**THE HANDS-ON LECTURE SERIES**
Offers detailed, comprehensive information about specific aspects of the history, art, customs, traditions and ways of life of the City of Madrid. Activities are divided into two halves:

1st Half: Lecture: focusing on the specialized subject matter.

2nd Half: Educational Tour: guided tour that brings participants face to face with the places and monuments referred to in the preceding lecture.

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**2011 estimate rates**

**Ticket sales:**
Madrid Tourism Centre
in Plaza Mayor, 27
Winter schedule (16th Sep-14th Jun)
Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 8:30 pm.
Saturdays from 11 am to 5 pm.
Sundays from 9:30 am to 3 pm.
Summer schedule (15th Jun-15th Sep)
Monday to Friday: 9:30 am to 8:30 pm.
Saturday: 12 noon to 5 pm.
Sunday 9:30 am to 14:30 pm
Tele sales: 902 221 424
Caja Madrid ATM network
www.entradas.com
Exhibition of archaeological, colonial art, and ethnographic collections in a country where these are quite rare. The Museum is housed in the former residence of the collector, María Sánchez Casado. The collection includes some wonderful ornamental pieces and an outstanding art collection includes some wonderful ornamental pieces and an outstanding art collection. The walls are home to an important collection of 17th and 18th century paintings. The collection aims not only to illustrate the artistic value of the artifacts, but also to their didactic qualities, being this the unifying theme of the exhibition. Through the use of these artifacts, it is hoped to explain the basic theme of Catholic mass, its origins and evolution, to its present-day format. Of particular interest are the works of Master of the Martyrs, Jusepe de Ribera, Rubens, Van Dyck, and Murillo. The museum houses an excellent collection of Spanish abstract sculpture. The building, which, according to tradition, was once a private residence of the collector, is now a beautiful Escorial façade finished off with a very simple pediment and is the basis for the architectural style often termed Madrid Baroque. The walls are home to an important collection of 17th and 18th century paintings, and it is well worth paying a visit. One of the highlights is the church, with its Baroque treasure chamber that houses a fascinating collection of antique books, paintings, and manuscripts.
**MUSt-See MuSeuMS**

**L A L A T I N A**

Just metres from the Puerta del Sol stands a building that is home to the San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts Museum. For over 240 years the academy has been a centre of artistic excellence, home to the Royal Collection of paintings, works of sculpture, and works of architecture. The building was constructed between 1714 and 1725 by architect José Bordiñaga as a public  bank and housed the bank for the Vargas family (for whom San Isidro is better known as Casa de San Isidro, because according to the tradition of San Isidro and the Saint Francis the Great Basilica, the Saint francis the Great Basilica is to promote information about the history of Madrid from prehistoric times. The first phase of this building was an exhibition of paintings that date from the 18th to the 20th century. For this reason the exhibition is broken down by the different regional cultures of Spain.

**MUSEUM OF THE ORIGINS**

**La Latina**

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am to 6pm; Saturday, Sunday: 10am to 2pm. Closed Monday.

**Tribunal / Alonso Martínez**

Tuesdays and Sundays from 10am to 2pm. Saturdays and Sundays from 10am to 5:30pm.

**La Latina / Puerta de Toledo**

**Sorolla Museum**

The Museum is housed in the actual residence of the painter himself, known as Casa de Sorolla. Donated to the nation by the painter himself, it has been converted into a museum and is a small garden with strong Andalusian influences, designed by the painter's brother. The main floor and studio have been left in their original state. The museum has a series of Sorolla's collection in the world with sculptures, cer-

**MuSt-See MuSeuMS**

**The Pardo Royal Palace**

Henry IV, in the first half of the 16th century, commissioned the construction of a palace in the middle of what is now Madrid. It was finally finished in 1588 during the reign of Philip II. The Pardo Royal Palace inherited the general structure of the medieval castle, flanked by towers and surrounded by a moat. The main feature of the interior decor are the tapestries, woven at the Royal Tapestry Factory, based on compositions painted by Bayeu. Castile, and especi-ally that of Goya, who was commissioned by the Pari
to paint five of his most renowned series. Amongst the works of art are the fourteenth-century Portrait of Elizabeth the Catholic and Juan de Flandes and the Portrait of Madame de la Fonte. Inside is the Annunciation collection, which can be seen in the Royal Collection of paintings, works of sculpture, and works of architecture. The building was constructed between 1714 and 1725 by architect José Bordiñaga as a public bank and housed the bank for the Vargas family (for whom San Isidro is better known as Casa de San Isidro, because of its architectural style that was typical of a 19th century bourgeois household.

**The Foro de Madrid**

The former palace of the Marquis de Mate
cilla, built in 1778, is home to a fascinating collection of 19th Century paintings, furni
ture and decorative art, which give us a better understanding of the cultural and po
titical society of 19th century Madrid during the Romantic period. Works of art by Goya, Esquivel, Madrazo, Alenza and the Bécquer, typi
cally of a 19th century bourgeois household.

**The Romantic Museum**

The National Romantic Museum is a museum that was established in 1929 by the order to conserve the paintings, in 1929 the museum was named a small garden with strong Andalusian influences, designed by the artist's brother. The main floor and studio have been left in their original state. The museum has a series of Sorolla's collection in the world with sculptures, cer-
Madrid, with its more than 3,000 restaurants, offers visitors an unforgettable dining experience with a choice of restaurants from the five continents. Not only is there international cuisine, but also a wide selection of regional dishes, as well as the local cuisine with its undisputed influence of the cooking styles from both Castile regions, the result of a fusion between the cooking habits of the Royal Court and the commoners. The dish synonymous with Madrid is the cocido madrileño that comprises a three-course meal with a soup to start, followed by greens and vegetables, and finished of with a meat dish.

Dining out

In Madrid, seafood and fish dishes are also part of the staple diet. 1,000 tonnes of seafood products arrive each day to its renowned fish market, the biggest in Europe and the second biggest in the world only to Tokyo.

The traditional desserts are quite conventional with things such as rosquillas torres y listas (a type of donut coated with either icing sugar or ground almonds), buñuelos de viento (cream puffs), chocolate with churros (fritters) or bartolillos de crema (egg custard tart). And these are just some of the great selection of delicious desserts.

Another of the specialties in Madrid is the tapas that comprises a bite-size portion, hot or cold, that is served with wine, vermouth, beer or a refreshment. Although tapas can be enjoyed anywhere in the city, there are particular areas of the city which, due to circumstances or geographical area, have their own particular style of tapas.

The centre of Madrid is considered to be the best area for having tapas simply for being in the very heart of the city. The area in and around Puerta del Sol and Plaza Mayor, popularly known as Hapsburg Madrid, is an area where you can enjoy having tapas in a great atmosphere.

Other busy areas for tapas are the Latina and the so-called Writers’ Quarter where you can find traditional taverns where tapas form the cornerstone of an excellent dining experience.

During the summer months, the specialties whether they may be, fish, tapas or international cuisine, can be enjoyed on one of the many open-air terraces, especially at dinnertime, and in all areas of the city.
Dining out

The century-old restaurants in Madrid are an example of the professionalism of successive generations that can clearly be seen in the uniqueness of each establishment. Diners who come to these restaurants can enjoy traditional dishes that will never go out of style and can savour some of their mouthwatering dishes that represent more than a hundred years of the history of Madrid.

More information is available on the following web page www.restaurantescen-tenarios.es.

• Bodega La Ardosa (1892)
  h C/ Colón, 13
  f Tribunal / Gran Vía
  b 91 521 49 79
  +info: www.laardosa.com

• La Bola (1870)
  h C/ La Bola, 5
  f Santo Domingo / Ópera
  b 91 547 69 30
  +info: www.labola.es

• Botín (1725)
  h C/ Cuchilleros, 17
  f Sol
  b 91 366 30 28
  +info: www.botin.es

• Café Gilón (1888)
  h Paseo de Recoletos, 21
  f Colón / Banco de España
  b 91 522 37 37 / 91 521 54 25

• La Casa del Abuelo (1906)
  h C/ Victoria
  f Sol
  b 902 02 73 34
  +info: www.lacasadelabuelo.es

• Casa Alberto (1872)
  h C/ Huertas, 18
  f Sol / Antón Martín
  b 91 429 93 65 / 07 06
  +info: www.casabeltoreto.es

• Casa Ciriaco (1887)
  h C/ Mayor, 84
  f Sol / Opera
  b 91 548 06 20

• Casa Labra (1860)
  h C/ Tetuán, 12
  f Sol
  b 91 531 00 81
  +info: www.casalabra.es

• Casa Pedro (1702)
  h C/ Nuestra Sr. de Valverde, 119
  f (Fuencarral)
  b 91 734 02 01
  +info: www.casapedronorestaurante.com

• Los Galayos (1894)
  h C/ Botóneres, 5
  f Sol
  b 91 366 30 28
  +info: www.bogalayos.net

• Lhardy (1839)
  h Carrera de San Jerónimo, 8
  f Sol / Sevilla
  b 91 521 33 85 / 91 522 22 07
  +info: www.lhardy.es

• Taberna Malacatin (1895)
  h C/ Pluda, 5
  f La Latina
  b 91 366 52 41
  +info: www.tabernamalacatin.com

• Taberna Oliveros (1857)
  h C/ San Millán, 4
  f La Latina
  b 91 364 50 92
  +info: www.tabernamalacatin.com

CENTURY-OLD RESTAURANTS IN MADRID

GASTRONOMY WALK

Ten of the best restaurants in Madrid offering diners a mouth-watering cuisine with a great variety of dishes in an unbeatable setting. All ten are located in the same area, namely the Casa de Campo showground, although each one is unique and has their own particular charm. Housed in very distinctive buildings – manor houses, palaces and ancestral homes – the restaurants comprising the Paseo de la Gastronomía combine their finely honed culinary skills with a pleasant ambience. Discover this culinary walk, located in the very heart of the city’s green zone, and enjoy a delicious meal seated in their dining rooms, or on their open-air terraces, beneath the stars of the Madrid skies.

Telephone reservations are required and information is available regarding group bookings. More information available at www.madridespacioycongresos.es.

• A Casiña
  b 91 526 34 25 / 91 526 32 61
  +info: www.acasina.com

• Colonial de Mónico
  b 91 479 37 33 / 91 479 26 86
  +info: www.grupomonico.es

• Casa de Burgos de Araceli
  b 91 464 16 12
  +info: www.restaurantecurrito.es

• La Masía de José Luis
  b 91 478 86 15
  +info: www.restauranteguipuzcoa.com

• La Pesquera
  b 91 464 16 12
  +info: www.restauranteguipuzcoa.com

• Restaurante Currito
  b 91 464 57 04
  +info: www.restaurantecurrito.es

• Restaurante Guipúzcoa
  b 91 470 45 21 / 91 470 25 47
  +info: www.restauranteguipuzcoa.com

• El Bosque Sagrado
  b 91 536 78 17
  +info: www.elbosquesagrado.es

• El Pabellón de Ondarreta
  b 91 479 97 79
  +info: www.ondarreta.es

• El Palacio de la Misión
  b 91 464 77 77
  +info: www.ondarretaesa.com

Useful Vocabulary

CHATO
a short, wide-bottomed wine glass.

CAÑA
draft beer served in a cylinder-sha ed glass.

SANGRÍA
a refreshing drink made from a sweet soda, red wine, sugar, cin - namon, lemon and/or other liquors or fruits.

BOCADILLO
a roll sliced in two lengthways ser ved with a variety of fillings.

MENÚ DE LÍA
a fixed-price menu offered by ho tels and restaurants, with a limited selection of dishes.

PULGA
a small roll.

TAPA
da small serving of food usually to accompany a drink.

RACÍON
a serving of traditional food, nor mally larger in size than a tapa, and normally served with a drink.

DINING OUT

DINING OUT

DINING OUT
The city of Madrid is a must-see for anyone planning a shopping trip. From the exclusiveness of some of the greatest designers and the “showrooms” of the most select names in international fashion, to traditional products from Madrid and the most avant-garde, visitors to Madrid will find thousands of excuses to go shopping.

A full day is required to get the most out of the Madrid shopping experience, as the city’s shopping areas are very popular throughout the year with residents of Madrid and visitors alike.

The centre is considered to be the artistic and historic heart of Madrid. This area has been witness to many events in the life and history of Madrid. As you shop along calles Mayor, Arenal, Preciados, Carmen or Gran Vía, you will discover a variety of fashion stores (clothes, shoes and accessories) and some of the typical department stores.

The area surrounding Plaza Mayor, Puerta del Sol and Plaza de Oriente, is full of small, traditional shops, many of which have not changed in appearance in the last 100 years: pharmacies, cake shops, stores selling religious relics, antique book stores, hat shops and ceramic workshops. Many of these establishments sell traditional Spanish articles such as fans, shawls, guitars or capes.

These streets are considered to be the most progressive and ultra-modern shopping areas of the city, and in recent years have become points of reference for Spanish modernism. On them you can find the boutiques of young fashion designers, accessories, arts and crafts… Special mention should be made of Triball, located between calles Ballesta and Corredera Baja de San Pablo, an area that has seen a sharp increase in popularity with the opening of art galleries, restaurants, clothes stores and is a great area for shopping in general.

The Banio de las Letras (Writers’ Quarter) is the birthplace of the first edition of Don Quixote and home to some of the key figures of Spanish literature. Nowadays it is the city’s name centre where you will find many theatres, hotels, bars and ticket offices for the main events and shows going on in the city of Madrid.

The streets of this multicultural neighbourhood are home to traditional Madrid stores as well as many others that sell traditional goods from different countries, from food products to art and crafts.

Within the Plaza Mayor Tourism Centre, is the Madrid Shop store that sells the Madrid brand merchandising that includes guides and videos about history, architecture, the Madrid museums, as well as T-shirts, stationary, the single Siempre en Madrid or tickets to the main events and shows going on in the city of Madrid.
Developed in the middle of the 19th Century, the Barrio de Salamanca or Salamanca District, is located between Paseo de Recoletos and the El Retiro Park. This orderly network of wide, straight and tree-lined streets was designed by Carlos María de Castro, and investigated by the Marquis of Salamanca. It very soon became the area chosen by the fledgling Madrid middle-classes to set up home. Faced with the gloomy and old-fashioned dwellings available in other areas of the centre of Madrid, the Barrio de Salamanca made an ideal setting for a more modern way of life. In and around the remodelled calle Serrano, top-notch businesses and services set up shop, turning the area into the chic district of Madrid. Major Spanish and international designers, delicatessens, luxury hotels, classy restaurants, art galleries and antique stores have turned the streets (callees) such as the aforementioned Serrano, Ortega y Gasset, Claudio Costa, Lagasca or Jorge Juan, into a shoppers paradise.

The shopping area of Argüelles can be found in and around calleces Princesa and Alberto Aguilera, where you will find the major clothes chain stores as well as shops selling accessories and gifts, as well as the major department stores.

The AZCA business district, and calle Ortega y Gasset in particular, is a very busy shopping area, provide visitors with a variety of stores ranging from the most popular clothes chains to major department stores, home to boutiques selling major labels by both Spanish and international designers. Nuevos Ministerios / Cuervo / Santiago Bernabeu

Serrano / Velázquez / Goya / Núñez de Balboa

Serrano Shopping District

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The AZCA business district, and calle Ortega y Gasset in particular, is a very busy shopping area, provide visitors with a variety of stores ranging from the most popular clothes chains to major department stores, home to boutiques selling major labels by both Spanish and international designers. Nuevos Ministerios / Cuervo / Santiago Bernabeu
OPENING TIMES

Stores in Madrid are free to open at whatever time they choose but generally speaking, stores open between 9:30am and 2pm, and then again between 5pm and 8:30pm from Monday to Saturday. The major shopping centres do not close at lunchtime and stay open to 10pm from Monday to Saturday. Stores also open their doors on the first Sunday of each month, as well as other Sundays that are considered of high demand, as well as on some public holidays.

In the centrally located Sol district, shops are open all year round.

TAX REFUNDS

All visitors to Madrid who are not residents of the European Union can request the refund of the IVA (equivalent to VAT) on all purchases greater than €90.16. At the entrance to all stores you will see the name of the company that emits refund cheques.

To be reimbursed, you should follow these steps:

• Every time you make a purchase, ask for a refund cheque. This is required for your taxes to be later refunded.
• Upon leaving the European Union, present your refund cheques, along with your passport, your boarding pass and your purchases at the Customs Desk so that they can be verified.
• For a cash refund, hand in your copy of the refund cheques that have been duly stamped by Customs at the cash refund desk of the nearest Tax Free Office or at any other of the international offices.
• You can also send your refund cheques via mail, these must be duly stamped by Customs, indicating the account number of your credit card and the tax refund will be credited to your credit card in the currency of your choice.

Participating Tax Free Companies:
• Tax Free Shopping Global Refund www.globalrefund.com | 900 435 482
• Tax Free Shopping Premier www.premiertaxfree.com | 91 576 497
• Tax Free Spain Refund www.spainrefund.com | 91 237 004
In and around calles Toledo, Mayor, Segovia and Cava Baja, in addition to the great selection of restaurants, there are also a good number of quiet bars where you can enjoy a peaceful chat and a drink before starting your night. Those who are into having a good time will not be disappointed either given that this area is home to an endless array of cocktail bars and discos.

Travelers to Madrid probably already know that this is one of the most vibrant and animated capitals in the world, both during the day but especially at night. Until the early hours, discos, jazz lounges, pubs, bars playing live music, flamenco venues, cocktail bars and eccentrics venues that are virtually impossible to categorize, open their doors – especially on weekends – to a pleasure-seeking public looking to have a good time.

And when the spring arrives, the party atmosphere moves to the streets that become peppered with terraces and open-air cafés.

MAZARÍ

On the ground floor of the Europe Tower and along the Avenida de Brasil there are pubs and discos that are frequented by people from all walks of life. This particular area as well as the Paseo de la Castellana is renowned for being home to some of the most exclusive bars and restaurants that Madrid has to offer.

A large selection of cocktail bars and restaurants. Given their close proximity to the university, they are often frequented by students.

People from all walks of life meet in the Plaza del Dos de Mayo and the surrounding area where there are various live music venues, especially of the rock variety. During the 1980s, this area was the home to the infamous movida madrileña.

The Plaza de Alonso Martínez is home to a variety of bars and terraces. In the surrounding area you can also find pubs and discos and these are mostly frequented by the younger generation.

Behind calle Fuencarral and as a natural progression of the street life, both day and night, Chueca is one of the most genuine and cosmopolitan neighbourhoods in the centre of Madrid: The Madrid Soho. In recent years, this neighbourhood has become a point of reference for the gay and transgender community and is one of the most vibrant and entertaining neighbourhoods of the Madrid nights. Each year on the last Saturday of June or the first Saturday of July, the streets play host to the Gay Pride Celebrations and for a whole week the neighborhood is filled with a party atmosphere, full of colour and celebrations.

Plaza de Santa Ana is home to some of Madrid’s most traditional bars and pubs. Calle Huertas and the surrounding area has the highest concentration of cocktail bars, pubs and discos of anywhere in Madrid, and is therefore one of the most lively areas of the city. This enclave is frequented by all kinds of people, but especially by tourists and foreign students.

MADRID NIGHTS

LIVE MUSIC

Madrid’s nightlife is one of its great appeals, and is renowned world wide. A contributing factor to the city’s reputation is the Association of Live Music Venues, under the working name La Noche en Vivo (Live Nights), which includes more than 45 venues from both the city and the Madrid region. Not to be missed live sessions where all types of musical styles, and audiences can be found, where you can listen to the rising stars of the future, as well as to groups who have already made a name for themselves but who nevertheless have not forgotten the venues that first launched their careers.

+info: www.lanocheenvivo.com

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+info: www.lanocheenvivo.com
MaDriD for kiDS

Ones In MInd has specifically designed play and That combine Both educational and fun aspects each year. Children in Madrid, but questions The Kids is a frequen

Of Other children Of their own age. That allow parents to ask and in the company of their little ones. It is true to say that activities with their friends is exciting. The Museum of Aviation (Aeronautic and Astronautical Museum) in Madrid houses over 100 planes as well as uniforms, engines, model airplanes and other aviation artifacts, and amongst its collection of historic planes the Vickers-Aero Ltd, the oldest plane in Spain; the "Juan de la Cierva", with which captain isps and America crossed the South Atlantic in 1929; the German bomber Hendri- ksl H 11 E 1 and the C 19 autogyro (precursor to the modern helicopter), designed by Juan de la Cena, that first flew in the skies in 1952.

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MUNICIPAL FIRE BRIGADE MUSEUM
Opened in 1882, the museum’s aim is to conserve and exhibit the machines and materials (modern and not so modern) that have built up over the course of history by the different departments at the Fire Brigade.

Opened Monday to Friday from 10am to 1:30pm. Closed throughout August.

Free entry
91 478 65 72
www.municyt.es

WAX MUSEUM
The museum is home to wax replicas of major celebrities both past and present. It also recreates famous historic events and settings.

Paseo de las Delicias, 61
Delicias
Tuesday to Saturday from 10am to 2pm and from 4pm to 6pm. Sundays and public holidays from 10am to 3pm.
Free entry
91 530 31 28
www.museoceramadrid.com

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
The museum houses an important collection of gadgets and devices that date back to the Renaissance period and illustrate the history and evolution of science and technology, with special focus on what was happening in Spain.

Paseo de las Delicias, 61
Delicias
Closed Monday.
Free entry
91 484 52 00
www.fundacion.lacaixa.es/cosmocaixamadrid_es.html

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE
The National Museum of Natural Science administers a large collection of specimens, and runs a series of exhibits and educational activities aimed at the general public. The common goal is to heighten the public’s awareness of the great diversity of the natural world.

C/ José Gutiérrez Abascal, 2
Gregorio Marañón
Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 6pm. Saturdays from 10am to 8pm (excluding July and August – open from 10am to 3pm). Sundays and public holidays from 10am to 3:30pm.
Free entry
91 411 15 28
www.mncn.csic.es

THE CITY MUSEUM
The City Museum allows visitors an in-depth look at the evolution of Madrid from a historical perspective from its early days right up to the 20th century with urban planning design, monuments, customs and traditions, etc.

C/ Princesa de Vergara, 140
Cruz del Rayo
Tuesday to Friday from 9:30am to 8pm. Saturdays and Sundays from 10am to 2pm.
Free entry
91 588 65 95
www.esmadrid.com/museosdemadrid

THE RAILWAY MUSEUM
Located inside one of the oldest Train Stations in Madrid, the museum houses one of the most comprehensive collections of railway objects and artifacts in Europe, comprising steam, diesel and electric engines, passenger carriages, as well as articles related to the history of the railways.

C/ Ríos Rosas, 23
Ríos Rosas
Monday to Sunday and public holidays from 9am to 2pm.
Free entry
91 349 57 59
www.igme.es

THE GEM AND MINERAL MUSEUM
The goal of the Gem and Mineral Museum is to conserve, research, and promote the richness and diversity of Spain’s geologic, conservational, and artistic heritage through its major collections of minerals, rocks, and fossils from around all regions of Spain and from the former colonies, as well as mineral deposits of special significance.

C/ Pina Rossas, 23
Pina Rossas
Monday to Sunday and public holidays from 9am to 2pm.
Free entry
91 349 57 59
www.igme.es
MaDriD for kiDS

REAL MADRID MUSEUM
The Bernabeu Stadium Tour allows visitors to access some of the traditionally restricted areas of the stadium: the trophy room, the Presidential Box, the players’ tunnel, the benches and the changing rooms.

C/ Concha Espina, 1 (Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, gate 20)
Open from midday. Closing time dependent on available daylight so this may vary depending on the time of year.

b 902 311 709 / 91 512 37 80
+info: www.realmadrid.com

faunia (MaDriD BioLogiCaL park)
A nature and biodiversity themed park divided into different themed areas, the most notable being the largest polar ecosystem in Europe.

Avenida de las Comunidades, 28
Open all year round from 10am. Opening and closing times vary depending on the time of year.

b 91 301 62 10
+info: www.faunia.es

ENTERTAINMENT

THE DREDD TODEO
A gift to Spain from the Egyptian State in 1968 in appreciation for the help given in the salvaging of the Abu Simbel temples. Construction on the temple began in the 2nd century B.C. and continued throughout both the Ptolemaic and Roman times.

Pº del Pintor Rosales
Ventura Rodríguez / Plaza de España

b 91 303 95 15
+info: www.esmadrid.com/museosdemadrid

MAX MADRID
The world’s most advanced movie projection systems (Imax, Omnimax and Imax 3D). Incredible screens that literally envelop viewers and make them the star of the show.

Avda. del Planetario, 16 (Enrique Tierno Galván Park)
Open from 10am to 1:45pm and from 5pm to 8:45pm. Summer (June 23rd –September 23rd) Tuesday to Friday from 11am to 1:45pm and from 5pm to 7:45pm.

b 91 467 34 61 / 91 467 38 98
+info: www.planetmad.es

THE DEBoD temple
A gift to Spain from the Egyptian State in 1968 in appreciation for the help given in the salvaging of the Abu Simbel temples. Construction on the temple began in the 2nd century B.C. and continued throughout both the Ptolemaic and Roman times.

Pº del Pintor Rosales
Ventura Rodríguez / Plaza de España

b 91 366 74 15
+info: www.esmadrid.com/museosdemadrid

MADRiD has a NUMBER OF GREAT PLACES WHERE THE WHOLE FAMILY CAN HAVE FUN TOGETHER.

REAL MADRID MUSEUM
Located in the very house where Father Co-loma, author of Ratoncito Pérez (the Spanish equivalent of the tooth-fairy) based the stories of this famous and beloved character.

C/ Arenal, 8 –1ºf
Mondays from 5pm to 8pm. Tuesday to Saturday from 11am to 2pm and from 5pm to 8pm. Closed Monday mornings, Sundays and public holidays. Free entry for children.

b 91 522 69 68
+info: www.casamuseoratonperez.com

MADiD for kiDS

MADiD zoo & AQUARiUM
This comprehensive zoo has some 500 species of animal from the 5 continents with 6,000 samples, but it also has a large aquarium that specializes in tropical marine life. There is also a dolfinarium that puts on some incredible displays by these very intelligent mammals.

C/ de Campo de las Martires
Open from midday. Closing time dependent on available daylight so this may vary depending on the time of year.

b 902 345 014 / 91 512 37 70 / 91 512 37 80
+info: www.zoomadrid.com

MADiD PLANETARIU M
The main goal of the Planetarium is to reconnect visitors with the Cosmos and to strengthen the bond by educating individuals on the fundamentals of astronomy in an easy to understand format that is suitable for all ages.

C/ Ardo del Planetario, 16 (Enrique Tieno Galván Park)

b 91 467 34 61 / 91 467 38 98
+info: www.planetmad.es

MADiD funFair
Rides, shows and street entertainers. The facilities also include a kids zone with rides specially designed with smaller children in mind.

Casa de Campo
Open from midday. Closing time dependent on available daylight so this may vary depending on the time of year.

b 91 467 48 00
+info: www.zooamadrid.com

WARiNER THEME PARK MADiD
Five different themed areas with rides, shows, games, restaurants and shops, with characters from the world of Warner.

San Martín de la Vega (A-4 dual carriageway, exit 22)
Open all year round from March until January. Opening and closing times vary depending on the time of year.

b 902 024 100 / 91 821 12 34
+info: www.parquewarner.com

uNIVERSAL HuMANGEAR House & MuSeuM
Located in the very house where Father Co-loma, author of Ratoncito Pérez (the Spanish equivalent of the tooth-fairy) based the stories of this famous and beloved character.

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+info: www.casamuseoratonperez.com

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MADiD FunFair
Madrid Cable Car
The cable-car is a great opportunity to get a very different view of Madrid. The crossing takes visitors 40m off the ground and reaches a speed of 3.5 m/s.

Paseo del Pintor Rosales
Puerta del Ángel
1172 541 11 18
+info: www.teleferico.com

Madrid Snowzone
This is the only indoor ski slope in Spain and the largest in Europe. Located at the Madrid Xanadú Shopping and Recreational Centre.

Madrid Xanadú Shopping Centre.
A-5 dual carriageway exits 22 and 25 (Arroyomolinos).
528 / 534 (departs from Príncipe Pío)

Junior drivers (8-14 years, minimum height 1.30m): Monday to Friday from 6pm to 8pm. Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays from 11am to 5pm. Drivers under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. All drivers 15 years old and above must show ID.

902 361 309
+info: www.madridsnowzone.com

DREAMS ICE PALACE
1,800m2 ice rink.
C/ Silvano, 77

Skate rink (closed for the summer):
Wednesday and Thursday from 8:45pm to 10pm, Fridays from 5pm to 11:30pm, Saturdays and public holidays from midnight to 10pm.

91 710 01 59
+info: www.palaciodehielo.com

ROWBOAT RENTALS
On the lakes at the Retiro Park and at the Casa de Campo, visitors can enjoy a peaceful row or a trip on a small launch, and on many weekends it is the perfect venue for most water sports.

THE RETIRO LAKE
The Retiro Park
Open every day from 10am until sunset.
91 514 40 54
+info: www.madrid.es

CASA DE CAMPO LAKE
Paseo Embajadores, 8 (Casa de Campo)
Open every day from 10am until sunset.
91 514 40 54
+info: www.madrid.es

circus price – circus and theatre
A multidisciplinary cultural arena that is suitable for hosting performances not only linked to the circus, but also to music, theatre, art, in short, any kind of event. A place where the whole family can have fun throughout the year.

Ronda de Atocha, 35
Retiro / Embajadores
91 527 98 65
+info: www.esmadrid.com/circoprice

Dreams Ice Palace
CARLOS SANZ CENTRE (KART & BUSINESS)
3,000m2 racetrack, technically very advanced and safe, with a built-in Deco real-time timekeeping system.

C/ Seapointe 3 (Blimar Art Deco Recreational Centre)
Puerta del Ángel

Monday to Friday from 6pm to 7pm, Fridays from 6pm to midnight, Saturdays and public holidays from 11am to 7pm, Sundays from 11am to 11pm.

91 673 10 13
+info: www.aquopolis.es

AQUÓPOLIS - SAN FERNANDO DE HENARES
San Fernando de Henares (A-2 dual-carriageway, km. 15.5)
June to September from midday to 7pm. July and August from midday to 8pm.

91 673 10 13
+info: www.aquopolis.es

AQUÓPOLIS - VILLANUEVA DE LA CAÑADA
Avenida de la Dehesa (Villanueva de la Cañada)
June to September from midday to 7pm. July and August from midday to 8pm.

91 815 69 11
+info: www.aquopolis.es

Water Parks
ROWBOAT RENTALS
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91 514 40 54
+info: www.madrid.es

CASA DE CAMPO LAKE
Paseo Embajadores, 8 (Casa de Campo)
Open every day from 10am until sunset.
91 514 40 54
+info: www.madrid.es

Municipal Puppet Theatre
Throughout the year, you can enjoy a variety of performances in this puppet theatre, where both children and adults can delight in some truly magical characters.

The Retiro Park (access via the Plaza de la Independencia)
Retiro
91 792 41 12
+info: www.tittirilandia.com
www.madrid.es
Madrid is a city full of culture, with wonderful monuments, entertainment and great food; but at the same time, it is an ecological and environmentally friendly city. A stroll through the Retiro or Oeste parks, or the Sabatini or Campo del Moro gardens is a pleasurable experience that should not be missed out on.

**El Retiro Park**
(see also “Must See Madrid”)

**Campo Del Moro Gardens**
It owes its name to the fact that on a number of occasions, it was chosen as the place to set up camp by the Muslim armies when besieging the city. It was Queen Isabel II, in 1844, who commissioned the creation of a park/garden on the west wall of the Royal Palace, which was when it became the gardens as we know them today. It boasts two famous fountains, the Newts Fountain (Tritones) and the Shell Fountain (Conchas), that mark the two ends of the gardens, intertwined with sweeping, rolling paths.

**Royal Botanical Gardens**
Located next to the Prado Museum, it was commissioned by Charles III in 1781, and designed by architect Juan de Villanueva and botanist Gómez Ortega. The gardens currently occupy some 8 hectares of land and are divided into three terraces, the two lower ones, Neoclassical in style (the Square Terrace and the British Schools’ Terrace) and the upper one, Elizabethan Romantic in style (Plan of the Flower Terrace). Also worth mentioning, are the functional structures such as greenhouses, the Villanueva Pavilion, the Linneo Pond or the Research and Laboratory building. The gardens are surrounded by magnificent iron railings and can be accessed by either of the two gates: the Murillo and the King’s Gate, both of which were the work of Villanueva.

**Parque del Capricho**

The Botanical Gardens are one of the largest in Europe, and received the first specimens of American flora, collected from a herbarium and which included plant specimens from a number of scientific expeditions carried out in the 18th and 19th Centuries. It is a spectacular garden, located in the very heart of Madrid, where you can browse, stroll, learn and delight in nature any time of the year.

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The Molinos Gardens date back to the start of the 20th Century. The gardens are well preserved and still retain almond plantation that boasts a variety of species, protected by deciduous and coniferous woodlands, through which the main paths cross. It still has its two windmills, after which it was named, called, a rationalist mansion (architecturally one of a kind in Madrid, the Casa del Retiro) and other farm buildings and a lake.

CASA DE CAMPO
The origins of the Casa de Campo stretch out past the banks of the Manzanares river. The area was the site of a large estate that would stretch from the Royal Palace of Aranjuez, repite with monuments, landscaped and with English-style walkways and winding paths, and naturalist in style. The park was created in 1785, when the Duke and Duchess of Osuna decided to build their country home on the site of the former Royal Stables, built between 1600 and 1620. This is possibly the most interesting of all Madrid parks, as it is a creation of three different cultural zones, each of their most appealing and characteristic traits, thus fully warranting the name "El Capricho" (the whim).

PARQUE DEL OESTE
A park designed at the start of the last century by the French landscape architect Charles Garnier, it is located in the Casa de las Naciones complex on the site of the century old Hinojosa olive grove, and is considered a "puesta de la ciudad" or city gate. The overall design of the park can only be appreciated from the sky so the city. The capricious design is reminiscent of the growth a city like Madrid, which is fluent, subject to the whim of the Mayor of Madrid. The park is surrounded by as a city around an estuary, surrounded by a complex on the site of the century old Hinojosa olive grove, and is considered a "puesta de la ciudad" or city gate. The overall design of the park can only be appreciated from the sky so the city. The capricious design is reminiscent of the growth a city like Madrid, which is fluent, subject to the whim of the Mayor of Madrid. The park is surrounded by a small dock, a shrine to Baco (Dionysus), a greenhouse, a 6,000m2 labyrinth made of stone and even has its own beekeeper. The park is open to the public, it was handed over to the city of Madrid.

EL CAPRICHITO PARK
The origins of the Capricho Park in the Alameda de Osuna district of the city, date back to the latter part of the 18th Century, when the Duke and Duchess of Osuna were inspired by the French landscape architect Charles Garnier, it is located in the Casa de las Naciones complex on the site of the century old Hinojosa olive grove, and is considered a "puesta de la ciudad" or city gate. The overall design of the park can only be appreciated from the sky so the city. The capricious design is reminiscent of the growth a city like Madrid, which is fluent, subject to the whim of the Mayor of Madrid. The park is surrounded by a small dock, a shrine to Baco (Dionysus), a greenhouse, a 6,000m2 labyrinth made of stone and even has its own beekeeper. The park is open to the public, it was handed over to the city of Madrid.

LA FUENTE DE BERRO PARK
The origins of the Alcázar de la Masa stretch out past the banks of the Manzanares river. The area was the site of a large estate that would stretch from the Royal Palace of Aranjuez, repite with monuments, landscaped and with English-style walkways and winding paths, and naturalist in style. The park was created in 1785, when the Duke and Duchess of Osuna decided to build their country home on the site of the former Royal Stables, built between 1600 and 1620. This is possibly the most interesting of all Madrid parks, as it is a creation of three different cultural zones, each of their most appealing and characteristic traits, thus fully warranting the name "El Capricho" (the whim).

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The origins of the Capricho Park in the Alameda de Osuna district of the city, date back to the latter part of the 18th Century, when the Duke and Duchess of Osuna decided to build their country home on the site of the former Royal Stables, built between 1600 and 1620. This is possibly the most interesting of all Madrid parks, as it is a creation of three different cultural zones, each of their most appealing and characteristic traits, thus fully warranting the name "El Capricho" (the whim).

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The garden, as we know it today, was commissioned by the Marquis of Romaña to Javier de Winthuysen, painter and garden designer, in 1920. Even with the recent remodelling, it still conserves its original structure. It comprises a series of brick-lined paths that go to create four separate quadrants, and a central intersection where there is a fountain.

Small and elegant, the garden is a fusion of neoclassicism elements and Andalusian courtyard, but the main feature being its suspended structure, located on a raised embankment, with the exception of the slope along calle de Segovia, which borders it.

La Latina
C/ Príncipe de Anglona, 1

WINTER (October to February): from 10am to 6:30pm. SUMMER (March to September): from 10am to 8:45pm.
+info: www.esmadrid.com

In the very centre of Madrid is a tropical garden, which, due to its characteristics, its location and its plant life, is the only one of its kind in the world. We are talking about the Atocha Station Greenhouse, which currently comprises 4,000m2 of greenery, and home to a total of 7,200 plants from 500 different species from the Americas, Australia, Asia and Africa. For these reasons, the greenhouse is no longer merely a place that passengers simply pass through, it is a place where visitors can stop to have a rest, read, or simply chat, in a characteristically tropical setting.

Palacio de Cristal de Arganzuela Greenhouse
The greenhouse is built using a metallic structure, rectangular in shape, and covered with panes of reinforced glass, resulting in a totally glazed-in building, with an overall surface area of 7,100m2, more than five times the area of the Palacio de Cristal in the Retiro Park. The greenhouse boasts a modern, computerised climate control system and houses more than 1,200 species of plants, most of which are exotic.

San Isidro Cemetery
The San Isidro Cemetery, built in 1811 alongside the San Isidro Chapel, is the oldest one in Madrid. From inside, you get a breathtaking panoramic view of the city with the Royal Palace as a backdrop. The cemetery surprises visitors with its spectacular beauty thanks to its amazing cypress trees and the 19th Century funerary architecture, designed by the greatest architects of their time, with some mausoleums being veritable shrines that contain carved elements designed and created by some of the greatest sculptors.
FOOTBALL
In Madrid, you can watch top class football throughout the year. Real Madrid and Atlético de Madrid, both clubs being over one hundred years old, play in the first division of the Spanish Football League. The other Madrid football teams are Rayo Vallecano and Getafe. The Spanish Football League starts in early September and ends in June. Matches are played on Saturdays and Sundays with European competition and the Copa del Rey (the King’s Cup) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays.

**REAL MADRID**

Santiago Bernabéu Stadium
C/ Concha Espina, 1

Ticket sales: 902 324 324 and from the stadium ticket-sale counters on match days from 11am onwards (depending on availability of tickets).

+info: www.realmadrid.com

**ATLÉTICO DE MADRID**

Vicente Calderón Stadium
Plasencia de la Vega del Puerto, 67

Ticket sales: 902 330 500 and from the stadium ticket-sale counters on match days from 11am onwards (depending on availability of tickets).

+info: www.clubatleticodemadrid.com

**RAYO VALLECANO**

Teresa Rivero Stadium
Payaso Fofó

+info: www.rayovallecano.es

**GETAFE CLUB DE FÚTBOL**

Coliseum Alfonso Pérez
Avda. Teresa de Calcuta, (Getafe)

+info: www.getafecf.com

**ESTUDIANTES**
Community of Madrid Sports Arena (Palacio de Deportes)
Avenida de Felipe II

+info: www.clubestudiantes.com

HORSE RACING
Horse racing at the racetrack takes place every Sunday during the spring and autumn season. It is located nearby the Monte del Pardo, and is a prefect way to do something a little different with your Sunday mornings. During the summer months of June and July, there are also evening races on Thursday nights.

**ZARZUELA RACECOURSE**
Coruña Dual-carriageway (A-6), km. 8
Open Sundays from 10am to 3pm, Races start at 11am.

+info: www.hipodromodelazarzuela.es

BASKETBALL

**REAL MADRID**

Madrid Caja Mágica
Vistalegre Sports Palace (Manzanares Park)
Avda. Plaza de Toros

+info: www.realmadrid.com

**ATLÉTICO DE MADRID**

Vicente Calderón Stadium
Plasencia de la Vega del Puerto, 67

+info: www.clubatleticodemadrid.com

**RAYO VALLECANO**

Teresa Rivero Stadium
Payaso Fofó

+info: www.rayovallecano.es

**GETAFE CLUB DE FÚTBOL**

Coliseum Alfonso Pérez
Avda. Teresa de Calcuta, (Getafe)

+info: www.getafecf.com
BULLFIGHTING

There is bullfighting each Sunday from March until October, but the highlight of the year is the renowned San Isidro Festival, during the month of May when there is bullfighting every day with some of the great bullfighters in Spain. Other bullfighting festivals worthy of note are the ones during the "La Feria de Invierno" (Winter Festival) in February, the "Feria de la Comunidad" (Festival of the Community of Madrid) during the first days of May and the "Feria de Octubre" (The Autumn Festival) at the start of October. Tickets can be bought at the Plaza de Toros ticket counters on the very day. For the "San Isidro Festival" it is best to buy tickets beforehand.

FLAMENCO

Although Madrid is not the birthplace of flamenco, the capital of Spain is considered by many to be the "showcase of flamenco" and any artist wishing to make a name for themselves on the international stage must first succeed here. The city has a number of tablaos flamencos (flamenco theatres). From time to time the city plays host to flamenco festivals or you can enjoy one of the shows performed by some of the great flamenco artists at one of the city's major theatres.
TOURIST OFFICES

- MADRID TOURISM CENTRE
  - Plaza Mayor, 27 (Casa de la Panadería)
  - Sol / Ópera
  - Monday to Sunday from 9:30am to 8:30pm

- CENTRO DE TURISMO COLOM
  - Plaza de Colón (pedestrian passageway between calles Génova and Goya)
  - Colón
  - Monday to Sunday from 9:30am to 8:30pm

- PLAZA DE CIBELES
  - Pz de Cibeles, on the Paseo del Prado
  - Banco de España
  - Monday to Sunday from 9:30am to 8:30pm

- PLAZA DE CALLAO
  - Plaza de Callao
  - Callao
  - Monday to Sunday from 9:30am to 8:30pm

- PASEO DEL ARTE / ART WALK
  - Calle Santa Isabel on the corner of Goya del Emperador Carlos V (Atocha)
  - Atocha
  - Monday to Sunday from 9:30am to 8:30pm

- MADRID-BARAJAS AIRPORT
  - TERMINAL 2
    - Arrivals foyer between arrival halls 5 and 6
    - Aeropuerto T1, T2, T3
    - Monday to Sunday from 9am to 8pm

- MADRID-BARAJAS AIRPORT
  - TERMINAL 4
    - Monday to Sunday from 9am to 8pm

- REMOTE ACCESS:
  - 91 588 16 36 | F: 91 480 20 41
  - www.esmadrid.com
  - turismoptm@munimadrid.es
  - Monday to Sunday from 9am to 8pm

- FOREIGN TOURIST ASSISTANCE SERVICES (SATÉ)
  - This service aims to provide personalised assistance to foreign tourists who, having been the victim of a crime or having suffered some other traumatic experience, such assistance is provided by specially trained staff from the Madrid Tourist Board and the National Police Force.
  - Calle Leganitos, 19 (Central Police Station)
  - Santo Domingo / Plaza de España / Callao
  - Infosate: 91 548 85 37 / 91 548 80 08
  - 24-hour crime line: 902 102 112
  - Every day from 9am to midnight.
  - Infosate: www.esmadrid.com/sate madrid
The Madrid Card offers cardholders a series of services by establishments participating in the tourist pack promotion, including free access to 40 museums (including the Prado, Reina Sofía and Thyssen) as well as discounts in shops, restaurants, recreational centres and car rentals.

Points of sale:
- Madrid Tourism Centre, Plaza Mayor, 27.
- Madrid-Barajas Airport, Terminal 4 Hotel Reservations, Vialaje A.A.
- Main hotels and travel agencies.
- "Madrid Visión" buses and ticket desk, Calle Felipe IV, next to the Prado Museum.
- Wax Museum, Paseo de Recoletos, 41.
- Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum, Paseo del Prado, 8.

Telesales: 902 088 908 / 91 360 47 72
Mon - Fri: 10am to 2pm and 3pm to 7pm, and Saturdays from 10am to 2pm, excluding public holidays.

The Madrid Visión offers a variety of panoramic bus tours around Madrid with stops at the major museums and monuments. The average length of each tour is 75 minutes and tickets are valid for 24 or 48 hours, depending on the type. Passengers can get on and off the bus at any stop along the route. Recorded commentary is available in a number of languages.

- Madrid Visión Ticket Kiosk in Calle Felipe IV, next to the Prado Museum
- Banco de España
- 91 765 10 16 / 91 779 18 88
- info: www.madridvision.es

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MADRID CARD

MADRID VISIÓN

ORGANIZED TOURS

The following companies organize tours of Madrid and the surrounding areas:

- Julitravel
  - Plaza de España, 7
  - 91 539 96 25
  - www.julitravel.com
- Pulmantur
  - Plaza de Oriente, 8
  - 91 541 18 05
  - www.pulmantur.com
- Trapsatav
  - Plaza de España, 7
  - 91 539 96 25
  - www.trapsatur.com

• Alcalá de Henares, 32 Km 2h 40’
• Aranjuez, 47 Km 2h 45’
• Ávila, 115 Km 2h 55’
• Cuenca, 167 Km 2h 30’ (N) y 2h (E)
• Salamanca, 212 Km 3h 5’ (standard bus) y 2h 30’ (express bus)
• Chinchón, 45 Km 1h 55’
• El Escorial, 56 Km 1h 55’
• Segovia, 87 Km 1h 30’
• La Granja, 99,2 Km 1h 50’
• Toledo, 71 Km 1h 75’

BUSES TO THE SURROUNDING AREAS

PRACTICAL INFORMATION
Madrid presently has two main Train Stations: Atocha and Chamartín. All major intercity routes depart and arrive at one or the other.

**ATOCHA TRAIN STATION**

This is the arrival and departure station for the AVE (High Speed Train) that presently has routes to the following Spanish cities: Cordova, Seville, Toledo, Saragossa, Lleida, Tarragona, Barcelona, Huesca and Malaga.

- **Glorieta del Emperador Carlos V**
- **Atocha Renfe**
  - Information and ticket reservations: 902 320 320
  - International information: 902 243 402
  - +info: www.renfe.es

**ENCHAPÍN**

In the taquilla último Minuto (or Last Minute tickets), something unique to Madrid, there is a great selection of theatre tickets that can be purchased just a couple of hours before the start of a performance, with discounts of up to 50%.

- **Plaza del Carmen, 1**
  - Gran Vía / Sol
  - Wednesday to Sunday from 5pm to 10pm.
  - +info: www.taquilaultimominuto.com
  - **Other points of sale for theatre, cinema, exhibitions, concert tickets etc.**
  - Localidades Gálvez,
  - Plaza del Carmen, 1.  +34 91 519 91 31
  - www.bullfightticketsmadrid.com
  - www.elcorteingles.es
  - www.entradas.com
  - www.fnac.es
  - www.ticketmaster.com
  - www.topticketline.es
  - www.servicaixa.com
  - www.telentrada.com
  - www.teatro-real.es

The major celebration in Madrid falls on May 15th, San Isidro’s Day, the Patron Saint of the city, but it is not the only one. Different neighbourhoods have their own celebrations, the most traditional and typical being those of San Antonio de la Florida (June 13th), San Antón (January 17th) or the Virgen de la Paloma (August 15th), during which both the men and women don their traditional chulapos and chulapas. Other major celebrations are those of Christmas, Carnival and Easter.

During the course of the year there are 14 official public holidays:

- **January 1st**: New Year (E)
- **January 6th**: Epiphany or Day of the Three Wise Men (E)
- **March-April**: Easter Thursday and Good Friday (E)
- **May 1st**: Labour Day (E)
- **May 2nd**: Day of the Community of Madrid (A)
- **May 15th**: San Isidro (Patron Saint of Madrid) (L)
- **August 15th**: Assumption of the Virgin (E)
- **October 12th**: Spanish National Holiday (E)
- **December 6th**: Day of the Constitution (E)
- **December 8th**: Immaculate Conception (E)
- **December 25th**: Christmas Day (E)

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

**TRAIN STATIONS**

- **CHAMARTÍN TRAIN STATION**
  - C/ Agustín de Foxá
  - Chamartín
  - Information and ticket reservations: 902 320 320
  - International information: 902 243 402
  - +info: www.renfe.es

**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

- (E) Estatal, (A) Autonómico y (L) Local.
- **November 1st**: All Saints Day (E)
- **November 19th**: Virgen de la Almudena (Patron Saint of Madrid) (L)
- **December 8th**: Day of the Constitution (E)
- **December 25th**: Christmas Day (E)

**TELEPHONE AND INTERNET TICKET SALES**

**CREDIT CARDS**

Although Madrid has a comprehensive network of banks that are located throughout the city, the most practical way to take money out is to use a cash dispenser / ATM as these are available 24 hours a day. Most cash dispensers offer services in a variety of languages. Generally, if you use a cash dispenser / ATM that is part of a bank other than your own you must pay a small commission.

Practically all commercial establishments, hotels and restaurants accept credit cards, but it is always best to carry some cash on you. The older and more traditional taverns and bars only accept payment in cash.

In the case of theft, loss or retention of the card by a cash dispenser, it is best to cancel the card immediately:

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- **Practical Information**

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- **Plaza del Carmen, 1**
  - Gran Vía / Sol
  - Wednesday to Sunday from 5pm to 10pm.
  - +info: www.taquilaultimominuto.com

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The airport metro line 8 is and it is the quickest service. It takes just 45 minutes to get to the city centre from the airport. The airport has two metro stations: “Aeroportivo T4” in Terminal 4, and “Aeroportivo T1-T2- T3” that serves the remaining terminals. Tickets cost €1.00 and the service runs from 6am to 1:30am.

The EMT buses (express service) that connect the airport with the city centre, departs every 15-20 minutes and take passengers to Cibeles and Atocha. The service runs 24-hours every day and has a special fare of €2.

Passengers will also find a notable fleet of taxis at the airport and these take approximately 30 minutes to reach the centre.

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<td>7 days</td>
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*50% discount for children under 11.*
As far as getting around on bike is concerned, Madrid offers more advantages than disadvantages: little rain, relatively flat terrain, many pedestrian areas, etc.

Passengers are allowed to travel on the Metro with their bicycles on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays throughout the day and evening. This service is available on all lines; and during the week (Monday to Friday) from 10am to 12:30pm and from 9pm until the service terminates.

The Cercanías RENFE suburban train network also allows passengers to travel with their bicycles every day of the week, excluding rush hour. Passengers are recommended to check rush hour travel restrictions on the internet (www.renfe.es/cercanias).

**Bikespain**
- Plaza de la Villa, 1
- 91 559 06 53
- www.bikespain.info

**Bravo Bike**
- C/ Juan Álvarez Mendizábal, 19.
- 91 758 29 45 / 607 44 84 40
- www.bravobike.com

**By Bike**
- Avda. de Menéndez Pelayo, 35.
- 902 876 483
- www.bybike.info

**Ciclos Otero**
- C/ Segovia, 18-20.
- 91 547 32 25
- www.oterociclos.es

The best and most pleasant way to discover Madrid’s most characteristic areas such as Hapsburg Madrid, or equally interesting areas but off the beaten track is to stroll through its streets and squares. You will discover some of Madrid’s many secrets, and when we say Madrid, we mean the many facets of this charming city: happy and caring, dynamic and modern, cosmopolitan and welcoming; a single city with a multiplicity of characters.

And to make things even easier, the Madrid Tourist Board, through its Discover Madrid Programme, has put together a variety of guided tours that will allow visitors to discover the city in a host of different languages (Spanish, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Japanese).

**Motos & Bikes.**
- C/ Príncipe de Vergara, 24
- 645 267 180
- www.motosandbikes.es

**Pangea**
- C/ Melilla, 10.
- 91 517 28 39
- www.rutaspangea.com

**27 Bikes**
- C/ Alcalde Sainz de Baranda, 16
- 91 573 06 92
- www.27bikes.com

**Trixi**
- C/ Jardines, 12.
- 91 523 15 47
- www.trixi.com

**UrbanMovil**
- Plaza de Santiago, 2.
- 91 542 77 71
- www.urbanmovil.com

**FOR PEDESTRIANS**
- Plaza Mayor, 27 (Madrid Tourism Centre)
- Sol / Ópera
- Monday to Friday from 9:30am to 8:30pm. Saturdays from 11am to 5pm. Sundays from 9:30am to 3pm.
- descubremadridptm@munimadrid.es
- info: www.esmadrid.com/descubremadrid