

MADRID

The capital of Spain, located in the heart of the peninsula and right in the center of the Castillian plain 646 meters above sea level, has a population of over three million. A cosmopolitan city, a business center, headquarters for the Public Administration, Government, Spanish Parliament and the home of the Spanish Royal Family, Madrid also plays a major role in both the banking and industrial sectors. Most industry is located on the southern fringe of the city, where important textile, food and metal working factories are clustered. Madrid is characterized by intense cultural and artistic activity and a very lively nightlife.

The grand metropolis of Madrid can trace its origins to the times of Arab Emir Mohamed I (852-886), who ordered the construction of a fortress on the left bank of the Manzanares River. It later became the subject of a dispute between the Christians and Arabs until it was conquered by Alfonso VI in the 11th century. At the end of the 17th century, a defensive wall was built for the protection of the new outlying areas, tracing the roads of Segovia, Toledo and Valencia. During the 18th century, under the reign of Carlos III, the great arteries of the city were designed, such as the Paseo de la Castellana, Paseo de Recoletos, Paseo del Prado and Paseo de Acacias. At the beginning of the 19th century, Joseph Bonaparte undertook the reform of the Puerta del Sol and vicinity. The commercial street known as the Gran Vía was built as an east-west avenue at the start of the century. In the 1950's the north-south boulevard called Paseo de la Castellana was extended and modern buildings were erected housing the major financial institutions. What remains today of the distant past are mainly the Baroque and neoclassical structures of the 17th and 18th centuries, such as the Plaza Mayor (Main Square), the Palacio Real (Royal Palace) and others which will be described later during our tours of the city.

HOW TO GET TO MADRID

By plane

-Daily flights connect Madrid's Barajas Airport and the leading cities of Europe and the rest of the world. Daily flights are also available to other major Spanish cities.

-Shuttle service runs between Madrid and Barcelona with

regular departures between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m.

-Barajas Airport is 13 kilometers from the city. Regular metro and bus service is available from the airport to the underground bus terminal at the Plaza de Colón with various intermediate stops.

Iberia Airlines Information and Reservations:

☎ 902 400 500

Barajas Airport Information.

☎ 91-305 83 43

91-305 83 44

91- 305 83 45

and 91- 305 83 46

Information on buses to airport departing from plaza de Colón.

☎ 91-431 61 92

By train

- **Chamartin Station.** Located in the northern part of the city. Trains leave for the Spanish cities of Albacete, Alicante, Barcelona, Bilbao, Cádiz, Cartagena, Córdoba, Irún, Málaga, Santander, Seville, Soria and Zaragoza as well as France.

Chamartin Station

Calle Agustín de Foxá

☎ 902 24 02 02

- **Atocha Station.** Located in the southern part of the city. Trains serve the regions of Andalusia and Extremadura as well as Portugal. This is the departure and arrival point for the high speed train called AVE and where you catch the local trains to the suburbs and outlying areas. It is connected to the Chamartín Station by an underground train.

- The **AVE** or high speed train covers the distance between Madrid and Seville in two hours and a half with intermediate stops in the cities of Córdoba and Ciudad Real.

- **RENFE** is the name of the Spanish National Railway Consortium.

Renfe National Railway Consortium.

Renfe Information and ticket reservations

Atocha Station.

Avenida Ciudad de Barcelona.

☎ 902 24 02 02

By Road

The main roads connecting Madrid to the rest of Spain, France

and Portugal are:

- N-I**: Madrid - Burgos - Irún - French border.
 - N-II**: Madrid - Zaragoza - Barcelona - La Junquera - French border; N-II highway from Madrid to Zaragoza, A-2 highway, from Zaragoza to Barcelona and A-7 highway from Barcelona to the French border.
 - N-III**: Madrid - Valencia - Alicante.
 - N-IV**: Madrid- Córdoba- Seville-Cádiz.
 - N-V**: Madrid - Badajoz - Portuguese border
 - N-VI**: Madrid - A Coruña (Galicia).
 - N-401**: Madrid - Toledo
- Traffic Control Headquarters.
 ☎ 900 123 505
 Highway Assistance (ADA offers service free of charge).
 ☎ 900 100 899

- **Estación Sur de Autobuses.** (Bus Station). Destinations: Albacete, Algeciras, Alicante, Avila, Barcelona, Benidorm, Cartagena, A Coruña, Gijón, Lugo, Murcia, Oviedo, Santiago de Compostela, Segovia, Toledo, Zaragoza and International. Calle Méndez Alvaro. Information:
 ☎ 91-468 42 00

- **Estación de la Sepulvedana.**
 (Bus Station).
 Destination: Segovia
 Paseo de la Florida, 11.
 Information:
 ☎ 91-430 48 00

- **Estación de Auto Res**
 (Bus Station)
 Destinations. Badajoz, Cáceres, Castellón, Cuenca, Salamanca, Valencia, Vigo and Zamora.
 Calle Fernández Shaw, 1
 Information:
 ☎ 91-551 72 00

Where to stay

- Madrid has over 50.000 beds available for visitors, 24.000 of them are in five and four star establishments (ratings range from 1 to 5 stars). Apartments have 6.000 beds available.

Hotel Information and Reservations:

Useful tips

-During the mid-winter months daytime temperatures in Madrid may drop to 7° Centigrade (45° F) During the months of July and August temperatures are hot. Madrid enjoys a large number of sunny days.

-Banking hours for the public are generally from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. On Saturday banking hours are the same from October to April. Banks close on Saturdays from May through September.

• Metro

- The Metro is the fastest way of getting around the city. The system consists of 10 different lines.

Open from 6 a.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Single journey fares are

135 pesetas

Information: Metro de Madrid

☎ 91-522 59 09

• Bus

- The bus system covers the entire city and outlying areas. Service from 6 a.m. to midnight.

Single journey fares are 135 pesetas and may be purchased directly on the bus

Information EMT

☎ 91-401 99 00

METROBUS is the new urban transit reduced rate ticket valid for 10 trips on either the Metro or city bus. It can be purchased for 705 pesetas at Metro stations, tobacconist shops (estancos) and Municipal Transport Company (EMT) booths located at some bus stops.

• Taxis

Radio-Taxi: 91-447 51 80

Radio-Taxi independiente:

☎ 91-405 12 13

Tele-Taxi: 91-445 90 08

Radio-Telefono Taxi:

91-547 82 00. Special taxi service for physically impaired:

☎ 91-547 82 00 and 91- 547 86 00

• Local trains

- Some train stations are connected at metro stations. For more information call

☎ 91-328 90 20

MUSEUM AND ART CENTERS

MUSEO DEL PRADO (Prado Museum)

Located in an 18th building designed by Juan de Villanueva, the Prado is considered one of the most important art galleries in the world. It houses masterpieces by Velázquez, Goya, El Graco, Zurbarán, Ribera, Ribalta, Titian, Raphael, Botticelli, Fra Angélico, Rubens, Bosch, Van der Weyden, Pussin, Lorrain, Watteau, Rembrandt, Dürer and Mengs, among others.

Paseo del Prado. Metro: Banco de España & Atocha

Open: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.;

Sunday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed: Monday.

☎ 91 330 28 00

MUSEO THYSSEN-BORNEMISZA (Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum)

This museum houses a splendid collection ranging from primitive Flemish to contemporary works. More than 800 paintings and sculptures, carvings, tapestries and other items are displayed.

Villahermosa Palace, Paseo del Prado, 8.

Metro : Banco de España.

Open : 10 a.m.to 7 p.,m.

Closed: Monday.

☎ 91 420 39 44 & 91 369 01 51

MUSEO NACIONAL CENTRO DE ARTE REINA SOFIA (Reina Sofía Culture Center)

A cultural center containing a permanent collection of Spanish contemporary art and offering a wide variety of temporary exhibitions coverig diverse modern artistic disciplines such as painting, sculpture, video, photography, films, et.

Calle Santa Isabel, 52.

Metro : Atocha.

Open: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Closed : Tuesday.

☎ 91 467 50 62 & 91 467 47 61

MUSEO CERRALBO (Cerralbo Museum)

A private collection including archeological artifacts, porcelains, tapestries and paintins from different periods.

Calle Ventura Rodríguez, 17.

Metro : Plaza de España & Ventura Rodríguez

Open : 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed : Monday and holidays

☎ 91 547 36 46

MUSEO LAZARO GALDIANO (Lazaro Galdiano Museum)

A treasure of paintings, clocks, furniture, jewelry, gold, silver, ivory and enamel objects from a private collection.

Calle Serrano, 122.

Metro : Núñez de Balboa.

Open : 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed : Monday and in August

☎ 91 561 60 84

MUSEO SOROLLA (Sorolla Museum)

Former home and studio of the famous painter, this museum contains a good part of his work as well as paintings by his friends.

Paseo General Martínez Campos, 37 .

Metro : Rubén Darío & Gregorio Marañón.

Open . 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 319 86 16

MUSEO ARQUEOLÓGICO NACIONAL (National Archeological Museum)

Museum containing archeological treasures from excavations throughout Spain. also displays old coins and ceramics from different eras.

Calle Serrano, 13.

metro : Serrano

open : 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.,

Sunday and holidays 9:30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

Closed . Monday.

☎ 91 577 79 12 & 91 577 79 20

MUSEO DE LA REAL ACADEMIA DE BELLAS ARTES DE SAN FERNANDO
(Royal Academy of Fine Arts of San Fernando Museum)

Paintings from the 16th through 19th century Spanish School are exhibited. Flemish, German, French and Italian Schools are also represented. Displays of sculpture and porcelain.

Calle Alcalá 13.

Metro : Sol.

Open : 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.;

Saturday, Sunday and Monday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

☎ 91 522 14 91

MONASTERIO DE LAS DESCALZAS REALES (Monastery of the Royal Barefoot Franciscans)

Frescos adorn ceilings and walls of this convent. Princeless collection of paintings, tapestries, religious imagery, relics and other objects.

Plaza de las Descalzas Reales, 3.

Metro : Sol, Opera & Callao.

Open : 10:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.; Friday 10:30 p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 542 00 59

MONASTERIO DE LA ENCARNACION (Monastery of the Incarnation)

Decorated in the 17th century by artists of the royal court. Religious painting and sculpture from the 16th to 18th centuries.

Plaza de la Encarnación, 1.

metro : Opera.

Open . Wednesday and Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 4 to 5.30 p.m.;

Sunday 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

☎ 91 542 00 59

CASON DEL BUEN RETIRO (Buen Retiro Museum)

Collection of Spanish painting and sculpture from the 19th century.

Calle Felipe IV, 13.

metro : Retiro.

Open : 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. , Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 330 28 00

PALACIO REAL (Royal Palace)

The Palace displays furniture, decorations, tapestries, sculpture and other works of art in the many rooms and halls formerly inhabited by Spanish kings since the middle of the 18th century.

Calle Bailén .

metro : Opera.

Open : October to March 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday and holidays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April to September 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday and holidays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Closed when official acta are held.

☎ 91 542 00 59

MUSEO DE AMERICA (Museum of the Americas)

This museum features American archeology and ethonology

collections from prehistoric to modern times.

Avenida Reyes Católicos, 6.

Metro . Moncloa.

Open : 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday and holidays 10 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

Closed Monday.

☎ 91 549 26 41

FUNDACION DE LA CASA DE ALBA (House of Alba Foundation)

The Palacio de Liria houses a collection of art belonging to the Duchess of Alba. Great masters such as Goya, Zurbarán, Renoir and Titian can be admired.

Palacio de Liria, Calle Princesa, 20.

Metro : Plaza de España, Ventura Rodríguez & Argüelles.

Visits by appointment only.

☎ 91 547 53 02

MUSEO DE LA CIUDAD (City Museum)

Different aspects of the city, engravings, photographs, urban planning projects, infrastructure, public services and customs of Madrid are on display.

Calle Príncipe de Vergara, 142

Metro : Cruz del Rayo.

Open : 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 588 65 99

MUSEO DEL EJERCITO (Military Museum)

Over 27.000 artifacts including weapons, uniforms, documents, flags, painting and sculpture tracing the history of the Spanish military are on display.

Calle Méndez Núñez, 1.

Metro : Retiro & Banco de España.

Open : 10 a.m. to 2. p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 522 89 77

MUSEO NACIONAL DE ARTES DECORATIVAS (National Museum of Decorative Arts)

Furniture and decorative items from the 15th to the 19th centuries may be seen.

Calle Montalbán, 12

Metro : Retiro

Open : 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 532 68 45

MUSEO ROMANTICO (Museum of the Romantic Period)

A museum in a mansion displaying furniture, paintings and other works of art of the 19th century, including a portrait of Larra and the gun that put an end to his life. Paintings characteristic of the Romantic period are exhibited.

Calle San Mateo, 13.

Metro : Tribunal

Open : 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Closed : Monday and in August.

☎ 91 448 10 71

PANTEON DE GOYA (Goya's Pantheon)

Small chapel where the world famous painter Francisco de Goya is buried; the dome was painted by Goya in 1798.

Paseo de San Antonio de la Florida, 5.

Metro : Norte.

Open : 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed : Monday and holidays.

☎ 91 542 07 22

MUSEO MUNICIPAL (Municipal Museum)

Located in a former hospice built by Pedro de Ribera, this museum is a good example of civil Baroque architecture in Madrid. The history of Madrid is displayed in assorted documents and works of art.

Calle Fuencarral, 78.

Metro : Tribunal.

Open : 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; August 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Closed : Monday and holidays.

☎ 91 588 86 72

ART EXHIBITIONS

In addition to the museums mentioned, there are other less well-known ones which are also of interest. There are also numerous centers, galleries and institutions where temporary art exhibitions and shows are held. Information on these schedules is published in the daily newspapers and also in the *Guía del Ocio*, a weekly publication on sale at the local newsstand.

Centro Cultural de la Villa (City Cultural Center)

Plaza de Colón.

Metro : Colón.

Open : 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.;

Sunday and holidays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 575 60 80

Círculo de Bellas Artes (Fine Arts Circle)

Calle Alcalá, 42.

Metro : Sevilla & Banco de España.

Open : 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.;

Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 531 77 00

Fundación Juan March (Juan March Foundation)

Calle Castelló, 77.

Metro : Núñez de Balboa.

Open : 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5:30 to 9 p.m.; Sunday and holidays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

☎ 91 435 42 40

Fundación la Caixa (La Caixa Foundation)

Calle Serrano, 60.

Metro : Serrano.

Open : 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.;

Sunday and holidays 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Closed : Tuesday.

☎ 91 435 48 33

Fundación Banco Central Hispano (Central Hispano Bank Foundation)

Calle Marqués de Villamagna, 3.

Metro : Colón

Open : 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Closed : Monday

☎ 91 575 14 30

Fundación Cultural MAPFRE (MAPFRE Cultural Foundation)

Calle General Perón, 40.

Metro : Santiago Bernabéu.

Open : 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday and holidays 12 to 8 p.m.

Closed : Sunday, holidays and in August

☎ 91 581 14 10

Centro Cultural Conde Duque (Conde Duque Cultural Center)

Calle Conde Duque, 11.

Metro : San Bernardo.

Open : 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5:30 to 9 p.m.; Sunday 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Closed : Monday.

☎ 91 588 58 24.

Palacio de Velázquez (Velázquez Palace)

Retiro Park.

Metro : Retiro.

Open : Winter 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. ;

Summer 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Closed : Tuesday.

☎ 91 573 62 45

Centro Mesoneros Romanos

Plaza Mayor. Casa de la Panadería.

Metro : Sol

Open : 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. ; Saturday, Sunday and holidays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

☎ 91 582 23 87

ART GALLERIES AND ANTIQUE SHOPS

There are more than 140 art galleries located mainly in the vicinity of the Calle Barquillo, and in the District of Salamanca along the streets of Serrano, Jorge Juan and Claudio Coello and near the Centro de Arte de Reina Sofía. In February the International Contemporary Art Fair called **ARCO** is held in Madrid, which is the most important art exhibition of the year. More than two hundred galleries and exhibitors from around the world show and sell their works. It is considered one of the three most important art fairs in the world.

Antique Shops are located mainly in various areas including the Rastro (Flea Market) and on the adjacent streets, as well as on and around the streets of Jorge Juan, Claudio Coello and Velázquez. On Calle Lagasca an Antique Center can be found. There are also possibilities for antique shopping along the streets of the Prado, Santa Catalina and in the Mercado Puerta de Toledo.

In Madrid, numerous auctions of antiques and artistic objects are held, organized by both Spanish and international firms. Auctions also take place at Monte de Piedad, an institution founded in 1724

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

MUSIC

- Teatro Real (Opera House). Plaza de Oriente. Metro: Opera.

☎ 91 516 06 60

- Auditorio Nacional de Música (National Concert Hall).

Calle Príncipe de Vergara, 146. Metro: Cruz del Rayo.

☎ 91 337 01 00

- Teatro Lírico Nacional de la Zarzuela (National Lyrical Theater). Spanish light opera from October to December. Calle Jovellanos, 4. Metro: Banco de España.

☎ 91 524 54 00

- Central Cultural de la Villa de Madrid. (City Cultural Center). Plaza de Colón. Metro: Colón.

☎ 91 575 60 80

- Fundación Juan March.

Calle Castellón, 77. Metro: Núñez de Balboa.

☎ 91 435 42 40

THEATER

- Círculo de Bellas Artes. Calle Marqués de Casa Riera, 2. Metro: Banco de España.

☎ 91 531 77 00

The main events of the year are the **Festival de Otoño** (Autumn Festival), the **Festival de Teatro Iberoamericano** (Iberian-American Theater Festival) and **Los Veranos de la Villa** (Summer festival).

CINEMA

-There is a concentration of cinemas along the streets of Gran Vía and Fuencarral. Films in their original language can be seen in the theaters near the Plaza de España and in the Plaza Jacinto Benavente. la Filmoteca Nacional (National Film Library) shows films in their original version with Spanish subtitles or simultaneous translations. Calle Santa Isabel, 3. Metro : Antón martín.

☎ 91 369 11 25

PARKS AND GARDENS

- Parque del Retiro

The Retiro Park was built in the 17th century by order of Felipe IV as a recreational area for royalty. It occupies 350 acres of land and boasts more than 15,000 trees and important monuments among the lovely gardens.

Plaza de la Independencia.

Metro: Retiro, Ibiza and Menéndez Pelayo

- Jardín Botánico

Created by Carlos III in 1774, the royal botanical garden boasts numerous varieties of trees and plants. Neoclassical gates, doors and former greenhouse designed by Juan de

Villanueva may also be admired.

Plaza de Murillo, 2. Metro: Atocha. Hours 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

☎ 91 420 30 17

- Casa de Campo

Located on the right bank of the Manzanares River to the west of Madrid, the Casa de Campo is a large park with an area of about 4000 acres. Rowboats can be rented for a ride around the artificial lake. Swimming and tennis can also be enjoyed. The Parque Zoológico or Zoo and Parque de Atracciones, a large amusement park, are found in the southern part.

Metro: Lago and Batán.

A cable car can be taken from Paseo de Pintor Rosales.

- Parque Quinta Fuente del Berro

A small, quiet park crisscrossed by paved pathways and dotted with fountains and flower beds.

Metro: Ventas1.

- Parque del Oeste

A park in the western part of the city bordering the Paseo del Pintor Rosales which has a lovely rose garden and various monuments. The Teleférico or cable car to the Casa de Campo departs here.

Metro: Argüelles and Moncloa.

FOOD AND DRINK

Madrid is a melting pot for the cuisines from all over the peninsula. Gourmets sometimes argue whether Madrid cuisine exists or not, but the truth is that the capital of Spain has enriched its gastronomy with the contributions of the Andalusians, Galicians, Asturians and other immigrants who have settled here.

A good number of dishes and recipes can be named however which can be considered typical of Madrid. Among them, the **cocido madrileño** must be mentioned; a stew combining chickpeas with vegetables (cabbage, celery, carrots, turnips and potatoes) and chicken, beef and pork and which is turned into a huge succulent meal. **Callos** or tripe is another of the typical dishes identified with local cuisine and may be found in some of the well-known restaurants in Madrid. We must not neglect the humble and savory **sopa de ajo** (garlic soup), **caracoles** (snails), **tortilla de patatas** (potato omelet), the famous recipe of **besugo al horno** (baked bream), so typical in the capital in spite of its distance from the ocean, or dishes in

which **bacalao** (cod) is the main ingredient. Madrid's sweet tradition can be appreciated through its desserts; from **torrijas** (a type of French toast), typical in the springtime and linked to Holy Week, to the **barquillos** (rolled wafers), **bartolillos con crema** (a type of small pie with custard) the **buñuelos** (a type of fritter filled with custard, whipped cream, etc.) in November, the **mazapán** (marzipan) and **turrón** (soft and hard nougat) at Christmas and the **rosquillas de anís** (anise-flavored doughnuts) during the festival of San Isidro.

In Madrid, as well as in the rest of Spain, the **tapa** (savory tidbits of a variety of dishes served as appetizers) is an old gastronomic tradition. You can find numerous establishments specialized in serving these tapas. "Ir de tapeo" (going out for tapas) is a tradition; hundreds of bars scattered throughout the streets of Madrid serve a tapa accompanied by a small glass of wine or beer.

SHOPPING

- Concentrated in and around the Plaza Mayor are an assortment of shops selling **traditional articles** such as espadrilles, fabrics, ropes, hats and religious articles.

- **Fashions** for men, women and children and Spanish and international designers take up shop around the streets of Almirante and Conde de Xiquena, as well as in the district of Salamanca which concentrates the best shops for **jewelry, shoes, leather goods, furniture, gifts, etc.**

- Large **department stores** are located in the vicinity of the Puerta del Sol, and on the streets of Princesa, Goya and Castellana.

- **Open-air markets.** The **Rastro** is the most famous of the flea markets which opens on Saturdays and Sundays between the Plaza de Cascorro, La Latina and the street of Embajadores. Everything imaginable can be found here from valuable antiques to used clothing, including collector cards, books, records, paintings, etc.

- **Feria del Libro de Madrid.**

This book fair is held in the Retiro park at the end of May and beginning of June and brings together the most important publishers in Madrid.

- **Feria del Libro Antiguo y de Ocasión.**

This book fair for old and used books is held on the Paseo de Recoletos at the beginning of May.

- **Feria del Libro sobre Madrid.**

This book fair held in May features books about Madrid. Plaza de Isabel II.

NIGHTLIFE

Nightowls will find Madrid a paradise every night of the week. Visitors must keep in mind the late dining hours; restaurants do not even open until eight or nine o'clock.

Many night establishments are open until the early morning hours.

- In the vicinity of the **Plaza de Santa Bárbara**, the *Glorieta de Bilbao* and **Alonso Martínez**, a large number of popular bars, pubs, fast food restaurants and ice cream parlors are concentrated.

- The bars in the districts of **Argüelles** and **Moncloa** are generally frequented by University students and a younger crowd.

- **Malasaña**, in the vicinity of the Plaza de Dos de Mayo, has countless cafés and bars with live music, in addition to moderately-priced restaurants.

- The **Calle Huertas** and the **Plaza de Santa Ana** offer a lively nightlife and cafés with live music.

- The streets of **Paseo de la Castellana**, **Paseo de Recoletos** and **Paseo del Prado** boast quality restaurants, cafés and popular night spots.

- In the summer months and especially at night, open-air terraces abound in the areas of the **Paseo de la Castellana** and the **Parque del Oeste**.

The daily newspapers generally publish a weekly entertainment supplement on Thursday or Friday which provides detailed information on restaurants, bars, cinemas theaters, art galleries, etc.

FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS

- **Carnaval**, a carnival with parades and costume parties culminating on Ash Wednesday with the traditional burial of the Sardine, marks the beginning of Lent.

- During the **Fiestas del 2 de Mayo**, a festival of the Community of Madrid, celebrations include a wide variety of concerts, open-air dancing and sporting events. Bullfights are also held.

- May 15th marks the start of the celebrations surrounding the month-long **Fiestas de San Isidro** honoring the patron saint of Madrid and are the most lively popular festivities in Madrid. Tradition demands that one attend the **romería** (pilgrimage) to the saint's meadow to drink from the miraculous water at the fountain of the hermitage. Traditional Castizo dress is worn, and the typical **barquillos** (rolled wafers), **buñuelos** (fritters) and **rosquillas** (doughnuts) are for sale. This time of year also ushers in the famous **Feria taurina** or bullfighting fair which also carries the name of the patron saint of Madrid and lasts from the middle of May to the middle of June at the Plaza Monumental Las Ventas bullring. Concerts, open-air dances and outdoor celebrations are also held during this period.

- The 13th of June, the day of **San Antonio**, young girls have a date at the hermitage of San Antonio de la Florida. According to dressmakers' tradition, a single girl must place 13 pins in the baptismal font, and if one of the pins sticks to her finger, she will marry during the year.

- August is the month of celebration in some of the typical districts of Madrid. From the 6th to the 15th, the **Fiestas de San Lorenzo**, **San Cayetano** and **the Virgen de la Paloma** are commemorated with processions, open-air dancing, and sidewalk concerts in the park of the Vistillas and vicinity.

ADDRESSES OF GENERAL INTEREST

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONES

• Correos (Post Office)

- Main office for telegraph and postal services, Palacio de Comunicaciones.

Plaza de Cibeles.

☎ 91 396 20 00

Hours: 8 a.m. to midnight

• Telephones

- Main Office of the Telephone Company, Telefónica.

Gran Vía, 30.

Open 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

- Public telephones are either coin-operated or can be used with telephone cards that may be purchased at tobacconist

shops.

- Telegrams by telephone: ☎ 91-522 20 00.

- Information: ☎ 1003

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Emergencies and Public Safety. ☎ 112
- Emergency medical assistance. ☎ 061
- Red Cross: ☎ 91 522 22 22

• Police

National Police. ☎ 091

Municipal Police. ☎ 092

Civil Guard Traffic Police. ☎ 91 457 77 00

• Firemen. ☎ 080

• Highway Information. ☎ 900 123 505

• Lost and Found. ☎ 91 588 43 46/48

• Citizen Informtation. Town Hall. ☎ 010

EXCURSIONS FROM MADRID

Alcalá de Henares. An old city only a short distance from Madrid, the seat of the famous University founded in 1498 by LCardenal Cisneros. The university building, at Plaza de San Diego, boasts a splendid Plateresque façade. The interior courtyards are also worth visiting, especially the most famous one called the "patio trilingüe" where classes of Hebrew, Greek and Latin were taught. Interesting cloisters, gardens and the auditorium may also be admired. Within the town, churches and convents attract our attention, such as the Church of Magistral, started in the 12th century, the Archbishop's Palace, the convent of Las Bernardas, the church of the Jesuits and the convent of los Filipenses. on the Calle de la Imagen, the house where Cervantes was born, which has been reconstructed and refurbished with furniture and household items of the era, can be visited.

33 Km. from Madrid on the N-II highway in the direction of Guadalajara. Trains from Atocha and Chamartín Stations leave

every 10 minutes. Buses at the beginning of Avenida de América depart every 10 minutes.

Tourist Information:

☎ 91 889 26 94

Aranjuez. Poised on a fertile plain bather by the Tagus River, this royal retreat boasts beautiful jewels such as the **Palacio Real** (Royal Palace) and the magnificent gardens which surround it. It was a residence of kings since the 15th century. In the 17th century the Bourbon kings built the palace and its gardens. Although plagued by fires and subsequent reconstructions, the Royal Palace continues to maintain authentic architectural unity. The **Jardín del Parterre** garden is adorned with numerous sculptures, the Jardín de la Isla stands out for its fountains and the **Jardín del Príncipe** is an English-style garden. The **Casa del Labrador** is a neoclassical hunting pavilion constructed by order of King Carlos IV and located in the Jardín del Príncipe.

The town of Aranjuez was built starting in the 18th century. King Fernando VI ordered the structures to be erected according to a design of streets and dwellings that responded to ideas of the Enlightenment movement. Various outbuildings of the palaces and other monuments of interest can also be admired.

47 kilometers from Madrid on the N-IV highway. Trains leave every 30 minutes from Atocha Station Buses leave from the Estación Sur de Autobuses. From May to October (with the exception of August) there is special tourist train on Saturdays called the "Tren de la Fresa" (Strawberry Train).

Tourist Information.

☎ 91 891 04 27

Chinchón. The charming Plaza Mayor surrounded on three sides by two and three-story houses with wooden balconies is well worth a visit. Its church has a painting by Goya, La Asunción de la Virgen (Assumption of the Virgin). The 17th century Convent of Las Clarisas is also interesting.

45 Km. from Madrid on the N-III highway, take turnoff at Arganda. Buses leave every hour from the street Avenida del Mediterráneo, 49, between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Manzanares el Real. A picturesque town in the Sierra de Guadarrama at the foot of La Pedriza mountain, summer residence for many madrileños. Its 15th century castle is a jewel of civil architecture. It is worthwhile taking a stroll through La Pedriza park and along the banks of the Manzanares

river.

47 Km. from Madrid on the Colmenar Viejo highway.
 Buses from Plaza de Castilla, Mateo Inurria.

El Escorial. Felipe II ordered construction of these startling austere, grandiose, granite structures. The monastery, church and palace melt in a framework of courtyards, corridors and rooms forming a rectangular block crowned by four towers with pointed spires on each one of the corners, offsetting the horizontal lines. Also noteworthy is the **basilica**, topped by a 92 meter dome and paintings on the vaults by Lucas Jordán. Along the walls there are 43 altars with painted altarpieces and the main chapel of the nave concentrates the greatest decorative treasure of the church. The **Patio de los Reyes**, which precedes the basilica, is a solemn rectangular courtyard where the bareness of the walls contrasts with the truly royal grandeur of the front façade.

- **Palaces.** In those occupied by the Hapsburgs, the Sala de las Batallas decorated with frescoes is worthy of special mention. Outstanding among the palaces are the sumptuous rooms belonging to the Bourbons, decorated with luxurious tapestries and Pompeyan ceilings.

- **Chapterhouses.** Works by El Greco, Velázquez, Ribera, Titian and Bosch, along with paintings from the 16th century Venetian School, can be admired.

- **Biblioteca.** The library preserves more than 40,000 volumes and manuscripts dating from as far back as the 9th century. It also has a museum of painting with works by Titian, Veronese, Zurbarán and Tintoretto among others and an Architecture Museum which contains documents pertaining to the construction of the monastery. Outside the complex a special visit is warranted by the **Casita del Príncipe**, a small palace erected by Carlos II, and the **Casita del Infante**, built for Prince Gabriel, brother of Carlos IV. Both are designs of Juan de Villanueva.

The Monastery is located in the town of San Lorenzo de El Escorial, 50 Km. northwest of Madrid on the N-VI highway. Trains leave from Atocha, and Chamartín Stations.

Tourist Information:

☎ 91 890 15 54

Avila. Magnificently preserved medieval wall surround this somber city, birthplace of St. Teresa. The cathedral dates from the 14th century 115 Km. northwest of Madrid on the N-VI

highway. Trains leave from Atocha Station.
Buses depart from Paseo de la Florida, 11
Information:

☎ 920 35 71 26

Segovia. Its impressive Roman aqueduct, the majestic Alcazar castle, the Cathedral and numerous churches are attractions not to be missed. la Granja de San ildefonso, a lovely palace and gardens with monumental fountains some 11 Km. from Ssegovia is another interesting spot.

87 Km. northwest of Madrid on the N-VI highway. Trains leave from Atocha Station.

Buses depart from paseo de la Florida, 11.

Tourist Information:

☎ 921 46 03 34

Toledo. Fascinating monumental city, center of the Visigoth reign, Imperial capital and residence of Moors, Jews and Christians. El Greco's adopted town has some of his masterpieces.

70 km. southwest of Madrid on the N-401 highway Trains leave from Atocha Station.

Buses depart the Estación del Sur. Tuorist Information:

☎ 925 22 08 43.

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TOURIST INFORMATION

International code: 34.

Tourist Information.

TURESPAÑA.

☎ 901 300 600

Municipal Office of Tourist Information.

Plaza Mayor, 3.

☎ 91 366 54 77 & 91 588 16 36

Madrid Community Tourist Information Offices.

* Calle Duque de Medinaceli, 2

☎ 91 429 49 51

* Puerta de Toledo Market.

☎ 91 364 18 76

* Estación de Chamartín. Central vestibule, gate 15.

☎ 91 315 99 76

* Barajas Airport. T1 Terminal.

☎ 91 305 86 56

Municipal Board of Tourism and Congress Offices.

Calle Mayor, 69.

☎ 91 588 29 00

PARADORES

Reservation Center.

Calle Requena, 3. 28013-Madrid.

☎ 91 516 66 66 . Fax: 91 516 66 57

Parador de Chinchón.

Avd. del Generalísimo, 1.

☎ 91 894 08 36

Fax: 91 894 09 08

SPANISH TOURIST OFFICES ABROAD

Canada. Toronto. Tourist Office of Spain. 2 Bloor Street West, 34th floor. Toronto, Ontario M4W3E2. ☎ (1416)961 31 31, fAX (1416)961 19 92.

Great Britain. London. Spanish Tourist Office. Manchester Square, 22-23. London W1M5AP. ☎ (4417)486 80 77, fAX (4417)486 80 34.

Japan. Tokyo. Tourist Office of Spain. Daini Toranomom Denki Bldg. 4F.3-1-10 Toranomom. Minato-Ku. Tokyo-105. ☎ (813) 34 32 61 41-42, Fax (813)34 32 61 44.

United States of America

Los Angeles. Tourist Office of Spain. 8383 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 960. Beverly Hills, California 90211. ☎ (1213)658 7188 & 658 7192, Fax (1213)658 1061.

Chicago. Tourist Office of Spain. WaterTower Place Suite 915 East. 845 North Michigan Avenue. Chicago, Illinois 60611. ☎ (1312)642 1992 & 944 0216, Fax(1312)642 9817.

Miami. Tourist Office of Spain. 1221 Brickell Avenue. Miami, Florida 33131.

☎ (1305)358 1992, Fax(1305)358 8223.

New York. Tourist Office of Spain. 666 Fifth Avenue, 35th floor, New York, New York 10103.

☎ (1212)265 8822. Fax(1212)265 8864.

EMBASSIES IN MADRID

Canada. Calle Nuñez de Balboa, 35 ☎ 91-431 43 00, Fax: 91 431 43 00

Great Britain. Calle Fernando el Santo, 16. ☎ 91-319 02 00, Fax: 91-308 08 82

Japan. Calle Serrano, 109. ☎ 91-590 76 00, Fax: 91-590 13 21

United States. Calle Serrano, 75. ☎ 91-577 40 00,
Fax: 91-587 23 03