

# Contents

<b>List of Maps</b>	vi
---------------------	----

<b>What's New in Madrid</b>	1
-----------------------------	---

<b>1 The Best of Madrid</b>	4
-----------------------------	---

1 The Most Unforgettable Madrid Experiences . . . . .	5	5 The Best Things to Do For Free . . . . .	9
2 The Best Splurge Hotels . . . . .	7	6 The Best Stuff to Bring Home . . . . .	9
3 The Best Moderately Priced Hotels . . . . .	8	7 The Best Unique Inns . . . . .	10
4 The Most Unforgettable Dining Experiences . . . . .	8	8 The Best Museums . . . . .	10

<b>2 Planning Your Trip to Madrid</b>	12
---------------------------------------	----

1 Visitor Information . . . . .	12	9 The 21st-Century Traveler . . . . .	35
2 Entry Requirements & Customs . . . . .	12	<i>Online Traveler's Toolbox</i> . . . . .	37
3 Money . . . . .	16	10 Getting There . . . . .	38
<i>The Euro, the U.S. Dollar &amp; the British Pound</i> . . . . .	17	<i>Getting Through the Airport</i> . . . . .	41
4 When to Go . . . . .	20	11 Packages for the Independent Traveler . . . . .	47
<i>Calendar of Events</i> . . . . .	20	<i>Ask Before You Go</i> . . . . .	48
5 Travel Insurance . . . . .	23	12 Escorted General-Interest Tours . . . . .	49
6 Health & Safety . . . . .	25	13 Getting Around Madrid . . . . .	49
7 Specialized Travel Resources . . . . .	28	14 Tips on Accommodations . . . . .	50
<i>A Note on Discrimination</i> . . . . .	29	15 Recommended Books, Films & Music . . . . .	51
8 Planning Your Trip Online . . . . .	33		
<i>Frommers.com: The Complete Travel Resource</i> . . . . .	34		

<b>3 Suggested Madrid Itineraries</b>	53
---------------------------------------	----

1 The Best of Madrid in 1 Day . . . . .	53	3 The Best of Madrid in 3 Days . . . . .	59
2 The Best of Madrid in 2 Days . . . . .	57		

- 4 Getting to Know Madrid** 62
- 1 Orientation . . . . .62  
 4–5° izda.: *A Miniguide to Deciphering the Mystery of Madrid Addresses* . . . . .66  
*Neighborhoods in Brief* . . . . .68
- 2 Getting Around . . . . .70  
*Making Conversation with a Madrileño* . . . . .71  
*Fast Facts: Madrid* . . . . .74
- 5 Where to Stay** 81
- Which Neighborhood Should I Stay In?* . . . . .84  
*If You Have an Early Flight* . . . . .85
- 1 Near the Plaza de las Cortes . . . . .90
- 2 Huertas . . . . .91
- 3 Lavapiés . . . . .92  
*Life in a Former Bordello* . . . . .93
- 4 Near the Plaza España . . . . .94
- 5 On or Near the Gran Vía . . . . .94
- 6 Near the Puerta del Sol . . . . .98
- 7 Near Cibeles . . . . .102
- 8 Near Atocha Station . . . . .103
- 9 Near Retiro/Salamanca . . . . .104  
*Family-Friendly Hotels* . . . . .107
- 10 Chamberí . . . . .109
- 11 Chamartín . . . . .112
- 12 Avenida America . . . . .113
- 6 Where to Dine** 115
- 1 Restaurants by Cuisine . . . . .119  
*Going Green in Madrid* . . . . .125
- 2 Plaza Mayor & Austrias . . . . .126
- 3 Puerta del Sol . . . . .130
- 4 On or near the Gran Vía . . . . .135
- 5 Plaza de las Cortes & Huertas . . . . .136
- 6 Lavapiés . . . . .140
- 7 Paseo de Recoletos . . . . .141
- 8 Near Plaza de la Cibeles . . . . .143  
*An Early Evening Tapeo* . . . . .144
- 9 Near the Plaza España . . . . .145  
*Vineyards & Wineries* . . . . .146
- 10 Malasaña . . . . .146
- 11 Chueca . . . . .147  
*Family-Friendly Restaurants* . . . . .151
- 12 Retiro/Salamanca . . . . .152
- 13 Chamberí . . . . .158
- 14 Chamartín . . . . .160
- 15 In the Arturo Soria District . . . . .163
- 16 Near Plaza República Argentina . . . . .163  
*The Best of the Tascas* . . . . .165
- 17 Cuatro Caminos . . . . .166
- 18 Fuencarral . . . . .167
- 7 What to See & Do** 168
- 1 The Major Museums: The “Golden Triangle” of Art . . . . .168
- 2 Near the Plaza Mayor & Puerta del Sol . . . . .173
- Hop on a Bus* . . . . .174
- 3 Along or near the Paseo del Prado . . . . .177  
*Do You Know* . . . . .178

4	Near Malasaña . . . . .	180	11	Príncipe Pío . . . . .	185
5	Near the Plaza de España . . . . .	181	12	Ventas . . . . .	186
6	Near Atocha . . . . .	182	13	Outside the City Center . . . . .	186
7	Salamanca . . . . .	182	14	Parks & Gardens . . . . .	187
	<i>Private Galleries</i> . . . . .	183	15	Especially for Kids . . . . .	189
8	Chamberí . . . . .	184	16	Special-Interest Sightseeing . . . . .	192
9	Moncloa . . . . .	184	17	Organized Tours . . . . .	194
10	Cuatro Caminos . . . . .	184	18	Sports . . . . .	195
	<i>Frommer's Favorite Madrid</i> <i>Experiences</i> . . . . .	185			

## 8 Strolling Around Madrid 198

<i>Walking Tour 1: Habsburg Madrid</i> <i>(The Austrias)</i> . . . . .	198	<i>Walking Tour 3: Puerta del Sol,</i> <i>Alcala &amp; Huertas</i> . . . . .	204
<i>Walking Tour 2: The Castizo</i> <i>Quarter (La Latina &amp;</i> <i>Lavapiés)</i> . . . . .	201	<i>Walking Tour 4: Gran Via,</i> <i>Malasaña &amp; Chueca</i> . . . . .	207

## 9 Shopping in Madrid 211

1 The Shopping Scene . . . . .	211	2 Shopping A to Z . . . . .	213
--------------------------------	-----	-----------------------------	-----

## 10 Madrid After Dark 224

1 The Performing Arts . . . . .	225	3 The Bar & Pub Scene . . . . .	237
2 The Club & Music Scene . . . . .	231	<i>Summer Terrazas</i> . . . . .	241
<i>The Sultry Sound of Flamenco</i> . . . . .	232	4 A Casino . . . . .	242

## 11 Side Trips from Madrid 243

1 Alcalá de Henares . . . . .	243	7 Patones de Arriba . . . . .	254
2 Aranjuez . . . . .	246	8 San Lorenzo de El Escorial . . . . .	256
3 Buitrago del Lozoya . . . . .	248	9 Toledo . . . . .	259
4 Cercedilla . . . . .	250	10 Segovia . . . . .	269
5 Chinchón . . . . .	251	11 Avila . . . . .	273
6 Manzanares el Real . . . . .	252		

## Appendix A: Madrid in Depth 279

1 A Look at the Past . . . . .	280	2 A Taste of Madrid . . . . .	285
<i>Dateline</i> . . . . .	280	<i>The Spectacle of Death</i> . . . . .	286

**Appendix B: Useful Terms & Phrases** 292

---

1 Basic Vocabulary .....292      2 Eating in Spain .....294

**Index** 298

---

General Index .....298      Restaurant Index .....307  
Accommodations Index .....306

## List of Maps

Spain	13	Walking Tour 3: Puerta del Sol, Alcalá & Huertas	205
Madrid Itineraries	54	Walking Tour 4: Gran Vía, Malasaña & Chueca	209
Madrid	63	Madrid Environs	245
Where to Stay in Central Madrid	88	Buitrago del Lozoya	249
Where to Dine in Central Madrid	116	Manzanares el Real	253
What to See & Do in Central Madrid	170	Toledo	260
Walking Tour 1: Habsburg Madrid (The Austrias)	199		
Walking Tour 2: The Castizo Quarter (La Latina & Lavapiés)	203		