MADRID GUIDE

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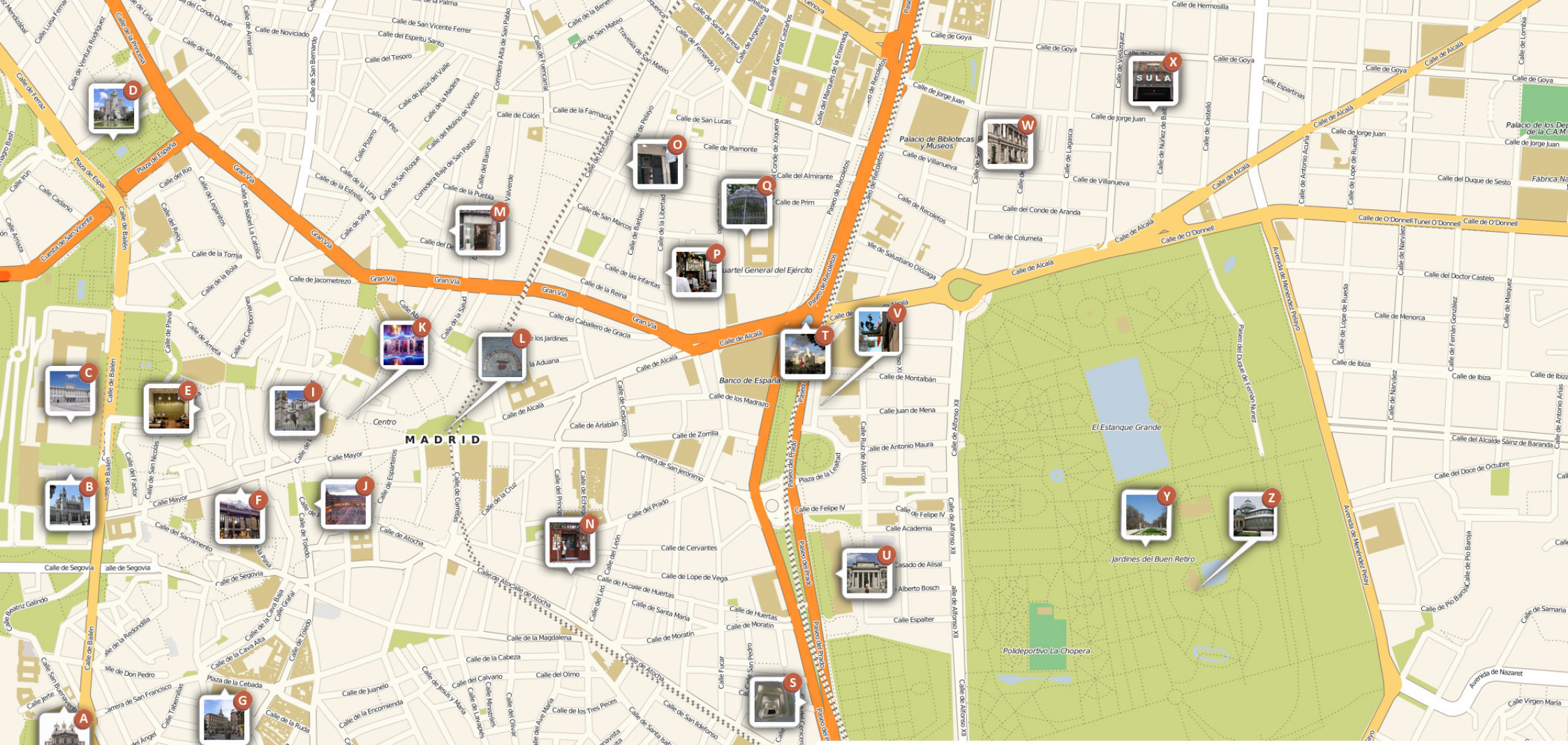

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Must See Things in Madrid A-Z

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San Francisco el Grande Basilica / Basílica de San Francisco El Grande

A

Part of the Franciscan convent, this church is famous for its extravagantly frescoed dome. You can even see some paintings by Goya.

C/ San Buenaventura, 1, 28005 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41083, W3.71445
Phone:
+34 913 65 38 00
Opening hours:
Tue – Fri: 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Sat: 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Admission:
General admission: €3

Almudena Cathedral / Catedral de Nuestra Señora de la Almudena

B

The aim of Madrid's first Catholic cathedral was to overwhelm the believers. Well, it does 'cause the medley of styles is really something.

C/ Bailén, 8-10, 28013 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41607, W3.71453
Phone:
+34 915 42 22 00
Opening hours:
Cathedral:
Mon – Sun: 9 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. (10 a.m. – 9 p.m. in summer)
Masses: noon, 6 p.m., 7 p.m.
Museum:
Mon – Sat: 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Sun & on special holy events: closed
Admission:
Cathedral: free
Museum:
Adults: €6
Seniors, students & residents of Madrid: €4

Royal Palace of Madrid / Palacio Real

C

The official residence of the Spanish royalty is a must-see. Spotting the king here will be hard, as it is used only for state ceremonies.

Plaza de la Marina Española, 6, 28013 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41673, W3.71450
Phone:
+34 915 59 74 04
Opening hours:
Apr – Sep:
Mon – Sat and Public Holidays: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Oct – Mar:
Mon – Sat and Public Holidays: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Changing of the guard:
Every Wed (except Jul, Aug and Sep): 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Puerta del Príncipe (calle Bailén)
Solemn Changing of the Guard:
first Wed of every month at noon (except July, Aug and Sept)
Admission:
Official Salons, Royal Pharmacy and Armouries:
General: €11
Reduced: €6
Temporary Exhibitions:
General: €5
Reduced: €3
Gardens:
Free admission

Spain Square / Plaza de España

D

Square dominated by a dashing monument which is dedicated to Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra. Don Quixote and Sancho Panza are in the vicinity.

Plaza de España, Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.42353, W3.71321

Lo Scolapasta

E

Come to this restaurant if you want to taste authentic Italian cuisine. Their spaghetti, lasagne and pizza are legendary.

C/ de la Amnistía, 6, 28013 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41732, W3.71053
Phone:
+34 915 41 67 27
Opening hours:
Mon – Sat: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. & 9 p.m. – midnight
Sun: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Market of San Miguel / Mercado San Miguel

F

The market is a crown jewel of Madrid's city center. It's full of delicious food, nice smells, interesting sights and sounds.

Plaza San Miguel, 1, 28013 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41577, W3.70943
Phone:
+34 915 41 51 04
Opening hours:
Mon – Wed & Sun: 10 a.m. – midnight
Thu – Sat: 10 a.m. – 2 a.m.

Plaza de la Cebada

G

This square witnessed several executions in the 19th century. Nowadays, there are nicer things awaiting you here such as cozy cafés.

GPS: N40.41105, W3.70997

El Rastro

H

This famous flea market has to be seen to be believed. There are dozens of stalls selling just about everything and thousands of visitors.

Ronda de Toledo, 1, 28005 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.40876, W3.70756
Opening hours:
Sun & Public Holidays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Church of San Ginés / Iglesia de San Ginés

I

Admire one of the oldest standing churches in Madrid which is literally breathing with history. Lope de Vega was baptised here!

C/ Arenal, 13, 28013 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41734, W3.70694
Phone:
+34 913 66 48 75
Opening hours:
Mon – Sun: 8:45 a.m. – 1 p.m.; 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Plaza Mayor

J

Madrid's central plaza is dominated by a statue of King Philip III. It is a site of many events such as concerts, games and festivals.

GPS: N40.41542, W3.70750

Joy Eslava / Teatro Joy Eslava

K

Huge club (formerly a theater) with plenty of room for dancers. Mix of current international hits.

C/ Arenal, 11, 28013 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41716, W3.70647
Phone:
+34 913 66 37 33
Opening hours:
Concerts usually start at 9 p.m., the venue opens an hour earlier.

Puerta del Sol

L

Highlights are many – this place is point 0 and also the most common meeting point. It is lined with many notable buildings.

GPS: N40.41688, W3.70380

La Tasquita de Enfrente

M

Small but excellent restaurant that serves seasonal produce. Delicious food and terrific service.

C/ Ballesta, 6, 28004 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.42132, W3.70342
Phone:
+34 915 32 54 49
Opening hours:
Mon – Sat: 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. – midnight

Casa Alberto

N

This restaurant was established in 1827 and it manages to bring A-rate food & wine. Spanish cuisine at its best!

C/ Huertas, 18, 28012 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41379, W3.69988
Phone:
+34 914 29 93 56
Opening hours:
Tavern:
Daily: noon – 1:30 a.m.
Restaurant:
Mon, Sun: 1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Tue – Sat: 1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. – midnight
Aug 11 – Sept 2: closed

Baco y Beto

O

Central yet wonderfully calm, this bar serves tasty tapas and excellent wine. It is popular with locals and tourists alike.

C/ Pelayo, 24, 28004 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.42276, W3.69842
Phone:
+34 915 22 84 41
Opening hours:
Mon – Fri: 8 p.m. – 1 a.m.
Sat: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. & 8 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Bocaito

P

Traditional Spanish restaurant which is located in a 150-year-old house. Their excellent tapas are to die for and the wines are so good.

C/ Libertad, 4, 28004 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.42034, W3.69735
Phone:
+34 915 32 12 19
Opening hours:
Mon – Fri: 1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. – midnight
Sat: 8:30 p.m. – midnight

Buenavista Palace / Palacio Buenavista Madrid

Q

Majestic palace which houses the headquarters of Spanish army. The interior is very flamboyant and the gardens lovely.

Calle de Alcalá, 51, 28014 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.42116, W3.69495
Opening hours:
Last Friday of the month: 11 a.m. (except July, Aug, Dec)

Queen Sofia Arts Center / Centro de Arte Reina Sofía

R

The museum houses a ginormous collection of Spanish art of the 20th century. Come to see the works of Dalí, Picasso, Miró and others.

C/ Santa ISABEL, 52, 28012 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.40861, W3.69398
Phone:
+34 917 74 10 00
Opening hours:
Main Venue:
Mon, Wed – Sat: 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Tue: closed (including holidays)
Sun: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Jan 1 & 6, May 1 & 15, Nov 9, Dec 24, 25 & 31: closed
Palacio de Cristal and Palacio de Velázquez:
Oct – Mar: daily: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Apr – Sept: daily: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Last admission: 30 minutes before closing time
Opening hours of some exhibitions in the center may vary.
Admission:
General admission: €8
Reduced: €4
Free admission:
Mon, Wed, Thu, Sat: 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Fri: 7 p.m. – 11 p.m.
Sun: 3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Apr 18, May 18, Oct 12 & Dec 6
Palacio de Cristal and Palacio de Velázquez:
Free admission

Caixa Forum

S

This wonderful museum of post-modern art was reconstructed in the 2000's. Notice the vertical garden and cast-iron roof.

Paseo Prado, 36, 28014 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41088, W3.69297
Phone:
+34 913 30 73 00
Opening hours:
Mon – Sun: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Admission:
Entry: €4

Plaza de la Cibeles

T

This square is a star attraction of Madrid. The Neo-classical palace, fountain and the bank are its main draws.

Plaza de Cibeles, 28014 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41935, W3.69312
Phone:
+34 915 88 16 36

Prado Museum / Museo del Prado

U

The name speaks for itself – this renown museum prides itself on one of the largest collections of European art in the world.

C/ Ruiz de Alarcón, -23, 28014 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41381, W3.69257
Phone:
+34 913 30 28 00
Opening hours:
Mon – Sat: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Sun & Public Holidays: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Jan 1, May 1, Dec 25: closed
Jan 6, Dec 24 & 31: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
(Last admission: 30 minutes before closing)
Admission:
General: €14
General + Museum Guide: €23
Seniors (over 65): €7
Students (18-25), children (under 18), disabled: free
Mon – Sat: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., Sun & Public Holidays: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.: €7

Naval Museum of Madrid / Museo Naval

V

This museum offers a glimpse of the history of the Spanish navy. Do not miss the map of Juan de la Cosa – first map of the Americas.

Paseo Prado, 5, 28014 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41748, W3.69282
Phone:
+34 915 23 87 89
Opening hours:
Mon: closed
Tue – Sun: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. (Aug: Tue to 3 p.m.)
Jan 1 & 6, Good Friday, May 1, July 16, Dec 24, 25 & 31: closed
Admission:
Voluntary donation: €3

National Archaeological Museum of Spain / Museo Arqueológico Nacional

W

If you are interested in numismatic, archaeological and ethnographical finds, then pop in this museum. Currently closed for renovation.

C/ Serrano, 13, 28001 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.42325, W3.68821
Phone:
+34 915 77 79 12
Opening hours:
Mon: closed
Tue – Sat: 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Sun & Public Holidays: 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Admission:
Free admission

Sula Bar / Sula

X

This bar is closed.

C/ Jorge Juan, 33, 28001 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.42380, W3.68323
Phone:
+34 917 81 61 97
Opening hours:
This bar has been closed.

Buen Retiro Park / Parque del Buen Retiro

Y

A former royal park which was opened to public at the end of the 19th century. Admire the Crystal Palace and the Monument to Alphonso XII.

C/ Alfonso XII, 14, 28014 Madrid, Spain
GPS: N40.41420, W3.68375
Phone:
+34 915 21 51 72
Opening hours:
Summer:
Mon – Sun: 6 a.m. – midnight
Winter:
Mon – Sun: 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Crystal Palace / Palacio de Cristal

Z

The ancient exhibition space for biological artifacts from the Philippines is now used as an art gallery. Designed by R. Velázquez Bosco.

GPS: N40.41357, W3.68153

Opening hours:

Oct – Mar: daily: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Apr – Sept: daily: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

(Last admission: 30 minutes before closing time)

Admission:

Free admission

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