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Population

3.3 million in the inner city area (the metropolitan area of Madrid has a population of 6 million)

Currency

Euro, €1 = 100 cents

Opening hours

Traditionally 10.00 to 14.00, then 17.00 to 20.00, though these times may vary. Nowadays, however, it is more usual for shops to open from 10.00 in the morning until 22.00.

Internet

www.esmadrid.com
www.descubremadrid.com
www.munimadrid.es

Newspapers

El País
El Mundo
ABC

Emergency numbers

112

Tourist information

Madrid Tourist Centre
Address: Plaza Mayor 27
Tel. +34 91 588 16 36

Colon Tourist Centre

Address: Plaza Colón s/n

MADRID

PUBLISHING DATE: **2012-03-27** | COUNTRY CODE: **ES**

Contents: The City, Do & See, Eating, Cafes, Bars & Nightlife, Shopping, Sleeping, Essential Information, Maps

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It is possible that the city that never sleeps has calmed down a little in recent years. Yet, even if the bars close a bit earlier these days, you can still count on finding a party atmosphere at all times of the day and in all situations. And then, once you have had enough of socializing, you can take a few days out and enjoy the best kilometre of art to be found in Europe.

THE CITY



© Pablo Sanchez

Madrid is not as large as it might seem—especially the central districts. Right in the middle of the city lies the Puerta del Sol, a traffic nexus that is the “kilometre zero,” from which all distances are measured. Also, the house numbering on every street starts at the end nearest the Sol. West and south of the Sol, are the oldest areas of the city, Los Austrias, which contain the royal palace (Palacio Real) and the historic and well-trodden square, the Plaza Mayor.

The triangular area to the east and south of the Sol—with the Plaza de Cibeles, Atocha Station and the Sol at its corners—is one of the liveliest districts in Madrid, containing countless bars and restaurants. This is also where the three big museums stand in a row, and beyond them, the largest park in central Madrid, the Parque del Buen Retiro.

Directly south of the Sol, is Lavapiés: formerly a working class area, but now the most ethnically interesting part of the city thanks to a significant influx of immigrants from Africa and Asia.

North of the Puerta del Sol and the parade avenue of Gran Vía, are the Malasaña and Chueca districts. The former is an old residential area that has been cleaned up in the last twenty years, whilst remaining one of the city’s most relaxed bar districts. The latter, its neighbour Chueca, has also undergone a rebirth: today it is Madrid’s hippest quarter, a centre for a culture of clubbing, restaurants and clothes shops. Originally a gay district, it is now best described as broad-minded.



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DO & SEE



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Real Madrid

Real Madrid is a professional football club based at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid. Real Madrid is considered one of the best football clubs in the world, and they have won an impressive number of titles, both in Spain and abroad.

Santiago Bernabeu stadium was inaugurated in 1947 and has a capacity of more than 85.000 spectators. Three times the European Cup final has been held here.

Address: Avenida de Concha Espina, 1
Subway: Bus: 14, 27, 40, 43, 120, 147, 150
Metro: Santiago Bernabéu
Train: Nuevos Ministerios
Phone: +34 902 30 17 09 / +34 913 98 43 70
Internet: www.realmadrid.com, www.santiagobernabeu.com

Flamenco

Madrid is a city renowned all over the world for its

excellent Flamenco performances, and the popular dance can be seen in several taverns and bars around the city. Enjoy a three course meal and after dinner, take in the magical shows.

Flamenco is not only a dance though, but also the song and music to which the dance is performed. It originated in Andalusia and is known mostly for song accompanied by guitar and complex techniques of foot stamping and hand clapping and the use of castanets.

The best place to go for a breathtaking exhibit of Flamenco is "Corral de la Moreria". They are famous for their Flamenco shows and also serve great dinner.

Address: Calle Morería, 17
Phone: +34 913 65 84 46 / +34 913 65 11 37
Internet: www.corraldelamoreria.com

The Three Big Art Galleries

Madrid's three major art galleries are all within a short walk of each other, and together they make up a magnificent display illuminating the history of Western art. Each one of the galleries is so large, that the Paseo del Arte triple ticket may seem like an invitation to exhaustion, however, once you have visited one, you have the rest of the year to visit in the other two!

Prado

The Prado is the most famous one. Since the gallery first opened almost two hundred years ago, its collections have grown. The best known works in this extravagant collection of masterpieces were already present in the original collection: Goya and Velázquez, Tizian, Rubens, and Bosch.

Address: Calle Ruiz de Alarcón 23
Phone: +34 91 330 2800
Internet: www.museoprado.es

The Reina Sofia Museum

The third gallery in the trio, is housed in an enormous former hospital. The building dates from the mid-18th century, and has since added striking glass and steel

external lifts. The collection consists mainly of Spanish works from the 20th century—the most famous of which is without doubt, Picasso's 'Guernica.'

Address: Santa Isabel, 52
Phone: +34 91 774 10 00
Internet: www.museoreinasofia.es

The Thyssen-bornemisza Museum

Thyssen-Bornemisza complements the Thyssen Prado and the Reina Sofia with works representing 17th century Dutch painting, Impressionism, Russian Constructivism, and pop art, amongst other styles.

Address: Paseo del Prado 8
Phone: +34 902 76 05 11
Internet: www.museothyssen.org
More Info: Palacio de Villahermosa

Palacio Real

Madrid's Royal Palace is a magnificent creation dating from 1764, built to replace the Alcázar castle that had burned down thirty years before. Visitors are given access to almost the entire palace, including the Armoury and Pharmacy.

Address: Plaza de Oriente
Subway: Ópera
Phone: +34 914 548 800

El Escorial

The Monastery of San Lorenzo de El Escorial is located about 50 kilometers northwest of Madrid. It was founded by Felipe II, and was built to commemorate the victory at the Battle of San Quintín. The work began in 1563 and was finished by 1584. Its location is said to be decided on the advice of astrologers, doctors, philosophers, quarrymen, theologians and architects.

El Escorial was built on the idea of maintaining the symmetry and austerity, while also showing the power of the crown of Spain. It has many monuments, such as the servants quarters, the Queen's quarters, the Infante's (or Upper) house, and the Prince's (or Lower) house.

San Lorenzo de El Escorial is one of the most visited places in the Community of Madrid.

Plaza Mayor

Plaza Mayor is the main square in Madrid, measuring approximately 130 by 95 meters. There are no less than nine entrances to this majestic plaza and it is a great place to sit down, have a coffee and watch the tourists stroll by.

Address: Plaza Mayor

Puerta del Sol

Puerta del Sol means Gate of the Sun and is the most famous square in Madrid. It is a common place to meet up with friends and at night time it fills up with loads of people. It is also a good reference point when choosing accommodation, because everything is close to Puerta del Sol.

Address: Puerta del Sol

EATING



© VRoig

The varied culinary traditions of the entire Iberian Peninsula come together in Madrid to such a degree that experts discuss whether Madrid actually has a distinct culinary style of its own. The culinary culture of Spain's capital city has been enriched by immigrants from Andalucía, Galicia, Asturias and a number of other regions.

Santceloni

Delicious food is served at this establishment run by Oscar Velasco, apprentice to one of the giants of

Catalonian cuisine, Santi Santamaria. His influence can be seen in dishes such as shrimp ravioli stuffed with ceps.

Address: Paseo de la Castellana 57
Phone: +34 912 108 840
Internet: www.restaurantsantceloni.com

La Terraza Del Casino

Chef Pedro Roncero has joined forces with Ferrán Adrià, the legendary creator of Catalonia's nouvelle cuisine, in order to teach the residents of Madrid to eat mousse, parmesan ice lollies, liquid tortilla, and other molecular delights.

Address: Alcalá 15
Phone: +34 915 321 275
Internet: www.casinodemadrid.es

El Sobrino De Botín

A restaurant that really does live up to the epithet "classic." With a history going back almost 300 years, this must surely be the world's oldest restaurant. The food is also classical Spanish: steaks of lamb and sucking-pig, for example.

Address: Cuchilleros 17
Phone: +34 913 664 217
Internet: www.botin.es

Marisquería Ribeira do Miño

"Mariscos" is Spanish for seafood, and it is absolutely essential to try it when you're in Spain. Shellfish, lobster, cod, soup and paella - it's all about seafood!

Marisquería Ribeira do Miño is a great place to visit for some authentic Spanish seafood, some of their specialties are Galician octopus and ham with Galician turnip. Have some Galician wine with your meal: Albariño or Ribeiro.

Address: Calle de Santa Brígida, 1
Phone: +34 915 219 854 / +34 915 313 393
Internet: www.marisqueriaribeiradomino.com

Aderezo Restaurante

This is a very cozy restaurant with a rustic and inviting interior. The menu has plenty of seafood and all the dishes are very artistically presented. A feast for all your senses.

Address: Añastro, 48
Phone: +34 917 670 158
Internet: www.aderezorestaurante.es

Casanis

Casanis has brightened the walls with mosaics from renowned artists and it is truly a joy to rest your eyes on the vivid colours that fills every space in this charming restaurant.

Address: Ventura de la Vega, 9
Phone: +34 914 290 877
Internet: www.casanis-madrid.es

CAFES



© Bastien Deceuninck

Happy Day Bakery

Happy Day Bakery is also a colourful American store with products inspired by the happy 50's era. Apart from pies, cookies, cupcakes and muffins, you can buy perfect presents and books.

Address: Calle del Espíritu Santo, 11
Phone: +34 915 229 133
Internet: www.happydaybakery.es

Nurielle

Nurielle has everything to satisfy your sweet tooth, ice cream, pastries, coffee and tea and a wide variety of sweets. Their concept is to be modern, yet warm and comfortable.

Address: Hortaleza, 38
Phone: +34 902 10 38 16
Internet: www.nurielle.es

Café Gijón

Café Gijón is situated in the principal boulevard and was established in 1888. After the Civil War it became a meeting point for writers and artists and is still to this day a momentous café in Madrid.

Address: Paseo de Recoletos, 21
Phone: +34 91 521 54 25 / +34 91 531 05 48
Internet: www.cafegijon.com

Mamá Framboise

Mamá Framboise is french for Mama Raspberry and is a tea salon and pastry shop with an extensive menu. The décor is French Provencal and makes your visit even more enjoyable.

Address: Fernando VI, 23
Phone: +34 913 914 364
Internet: www.mamaframboise.com

Café Acuarela

Café Acuarela offers an escape from the stress of modern life. Either you can go in the morning and enjoy the peaceful quiet of a good cup of coffee, or you come at night, to plunge into exotic drinks and a spirited ambience.

Address: Gravina, 10
Phone: +34 91 522 21 43
Internet: www.cafeacuarela.es

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



© PromoMadrid

Because the clever Spaniards think you should always eat when drinking, most bars also serve food—usually tapas. And despite the efforts of the authorities, Madrid's nightlife still happens later than in most other cities.

Gabana 1800 Club

This is a very exclusive and chic nightclub, located on the ground floor of a prestigious hotel. This entails for example valet service and a VIP area that is usually filled with beautiful people. Don't be surprised if you meet soccer players and super models here.

Address: Velázquez, 6
Phone: +34 91 575 18 46 / +34 91 576 06 86
Internet: www.gabana.es

Joy Eslava

Joy Eslava has been a legendary disco in Madrid for thirty years now. Every day offers a new theme, a few examples are "Thursday - Epic Nights" and "Friday - Fabulush". House music is a favourite in this crowded venue with tourists and locals dancing together.

Address: Arenal, 11
Phone: +34 913 665 439 / +34 91 366 37 33
Internet: www.joy-eslava.com

Siroco

Siroco is an alternative night club that offers both national Dj's and concerts with up and coming new artists. here you can expect everything from reggae and karaoke to jazz and house music.

Address: San Dimas, 3
Phone: +34 606 421 750
Internet: www.siroco.es

Space Of Sound

An after-hours classic that was closed down by the authorities, but re-opened a year later. A vast space, enormous sound, hardcore DJs, and a mixed clientele. Sundays from 9.00.

Address: Sala Macumba, Estación de Chamartín
Internet: www.spaceofsound.com

Moma 56

Moma is not only a happening nightclub, but also a bar and a restaurant. The resident Dj will keep you moving until the small hours with beats of house, techno and dance.

Address: Jose Abascal, 56
Phone: +34 645 02 08 51
Internet: www.moma56.com

SHOPPING



© Tom Raftery

Put simply, there are three shopping areas in Madrid: Centro, located between Puerta del Sol and Gran Vía, Chueca, directly to the north and east of Centro and Salamanca, slightly further to the east. These represent three different types of shopping, especially with regard to the range of clothes offered.

It's middle-of-the-road in Centro trendy in Chueca and expensive designer fashion labels in Salamanca. In Centro, you will find El Corte Inglés—Spain's largest

department store chain, as loved as it is hated, but used by all. Carry on to the Chueca district, and reach Fuencarralthe, the hottest street in the area. Here you can visit El Mercado de Fuencarral, an entire gallery of clothes to go clubbing in, cool accessories and branded clothes with street credibility. Close by, you can also find The Deli Room, which sells a selection of hip Spanish designer labels displayed in a delicatessen setting.

In Salamanca, further to the east, the streets are lined with high-end boutiques: Camper, with the full range of men's and ladies' footwear from Spain's shoe success story, Mercado de La Paz, which is Madrid's most mouth-watering fresh produce market and Lavinia, Europe's self-proclaimed biggest wine shop.

Still not satisfied? Finish off your shopping trip at ABC Serrano in Salamanca, an eight-floor shopping centre with four floors devoted just to fashion. Here hot new designers such as Amaya Arzuaga rub shoulders with reliable stand-bys like Zara. There are also cafés, restaurants and a gym.

SLEEPING



© Rodney

Here is a quality selection of accommodation to choose from. Budget or luxury - Madrid has it all. You might want to book ahead, to make sure you get the hotel of your choice.

Westin Palace

Madrid's most glamorous hotel, full of old-world atmosphere and a younger, keener sense of anticipation. The lounge, with its magnificent glass cupola, is regularly used as a concert venue.

Address: Plaza de las Cortes, 7
Phone: +34 913 608 000
Internet: www.westinpalacemadrid.com

Petit Palace Ducal

A boutique hotel that is part of the High Tech chain that lives up to its name. Free broadband connection in all rooms, flat-screen monitors, exercise bikes and saunas in some rooms. A classical facade hides well thought-out design and practicality.

Address: Hortaleza, 3
Phone: +34 915 211 043
Internet: www.hthoteles.com

Room Mate Mario

A very centrally located and economical boutique hotel that takes its design seriously. Rooms are uncluttered, monochrome—resembling well-lit film sets.

Address: Campomanes, 4
Phone: +34 915 488 548
Internet: www.room-matehotels.com

Hostal Playa

A good and cheap option right in the thick of things. Clean, spacious and functional rooms, all en suite, with air-conditioning, and TV.

Address: Victoria 2, 4 Ixqda
Phone: +34 915 213 844
Internet: www.hostalplaya.com

Hotel Atlántico

Hotel Atlántico is a 4-star hotel situated on the street Gran Vía, very close to Puerta del Sol. This location gives easy access to any activity or sight you could possibly have in mind for your stay in Madrid.

Address: Gran Vía, 38
Phone: +34 91 522 64 80
Internet: www.hotelatlantico.es

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



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Exchange Office

There are more fun things to do on your holiday than look for exchange offices or ATMs. Exchange your currency before you leave and get time to do things that you really want. At Forex Bank you can always buy foreign currency free of charge, at hours that suits you. For more info about Forex Bank visit our website or click:

<http://www.forex.se/sv/Om-FOREX/Bankbutiker/>

Airport

Madrid's airport, Barajas, lies a little over ten kilometres northeast of the city. The cheapest way to get to Madrid is by metro: line 8 goes to Nuevos Ministerios. Journey time: 30 minutes. The taxi ride costs about €20 (more at nights and on Sundays) and takes 30-60 minutes.

Internet: www.aena.es

Public Transport

Madrid's metro system consists of 16 lines that serve both the city and its suburbs. The metro is also the most efficient way of getting around, and runs from 06.00-02.00 daily.

The EMT bus network is made up of about a hundred lines, including a useful "circle route" (the buses are marked with a C). Buses run from 06.00-23.30 daily. Night busses leave from Plaza de Cibeles.

Taxi

When taxis are available for hire, this is indicated by a "Libre" sign in the front windshield and a green light on the roof.

Radio-Taxi Asociación Gremial

Phone: +34 914 475 180

Radio-Taxi Independiente

Phone: +34 914 051213

Teletaxi

Phone: +34 913 712131

Post

Most post offices are open Monday through Friday, from 8:30-20.30, and on Saturdays from 9.30-13.00. The main post office on Plaza de Cibeles, stays open until 21.30 on weekdays and from 8.00-14.00 on Saturdays.

Pharmacy

All chemists' have a list or a sign in the window with details of the duty chemists', with the nearest one highlighted. There are two chemists' that are open at all times:

Farmacia Central (does not take credit cards)

Address: Paseo de Santa Maria de la Cabeza

Phone: +34 914 730 672

Farmacia Lastra (takes credit cards)

Address: Conde de Peñalver 27

Telefon: +34 914 024 272

Web: www.farmalastra.com

24-hour phone number for reporting crimes: 902 102
112

Dentist

There are English-speaking dentists at the Clínica Dental Cisne.

Address: Magallanes, 18
Phone: +34 914 463 221
Internet: www.clinicadentalcisne.com

Telephone

Country code: +34

Area code: 91

Electricity

220 volt

(125 volt in some older buildings)

Tourist Information

There are several Tourist Information Centres in Madrid:

Madrid Tourist Centre
Address: Plaza Mayor, 27
Phone: +34 915 881 636

Colon Tourist Centre
Address: Plaza Colón s/n

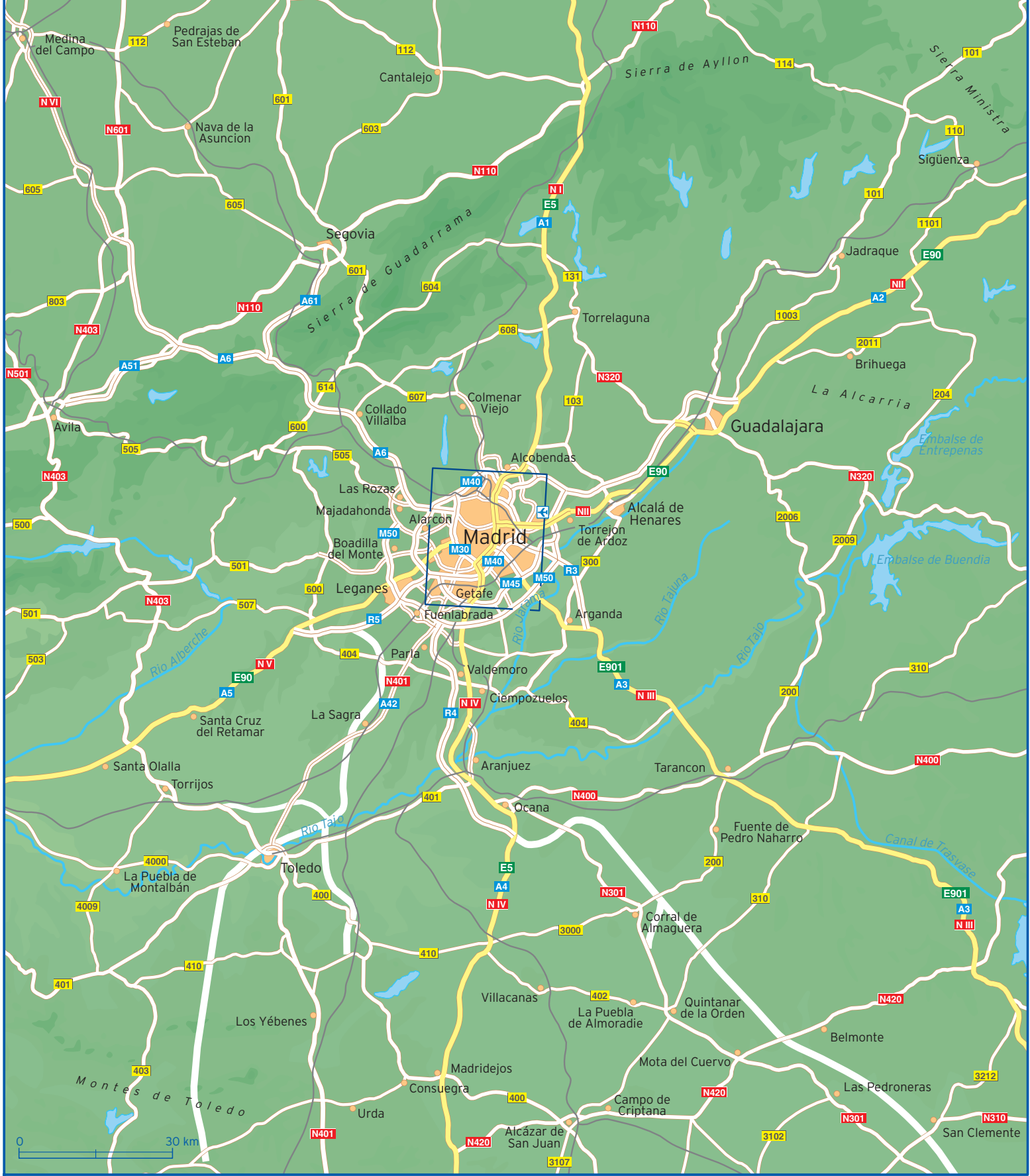
Cibeles
Address: Plaza Cibeles s/n

Callao
Address: Plaza Callao s/n

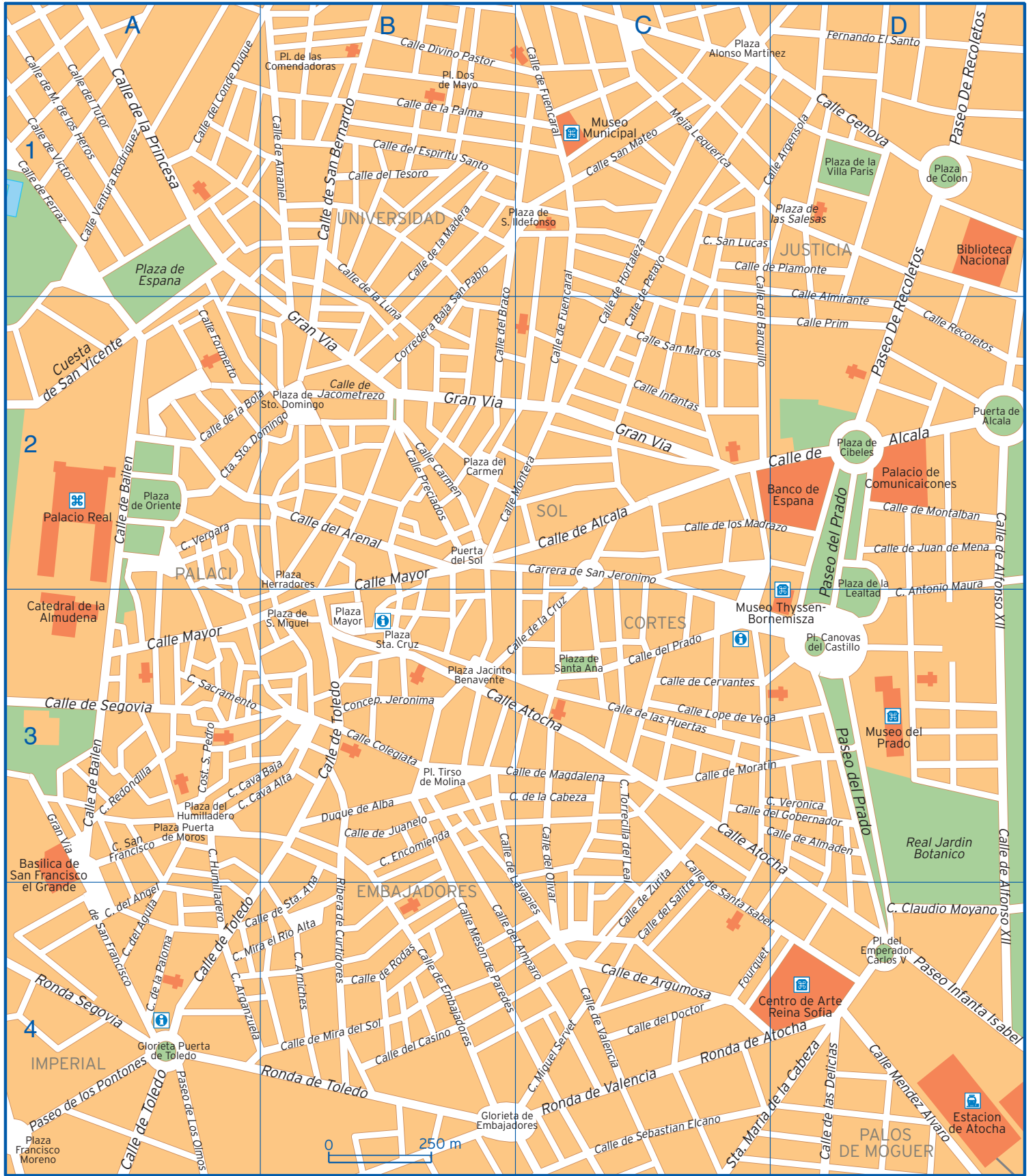
Madrid Barajas Airport, T4

SATE (Assistance Service for Foreign Tourist) - Police
Station in the city centre.

Address: Leganitos, 19
Phone: +34 915 488 537/ +34 915 488 008







C. Claudio Moyano	D4	Calle de Moratin	C3 D3	Carrera de San Jeronimo	C2
C. de la Cabeza	B3 C3	Calle de Pelayo	C1 C2	Corredera Baja San Pablo	B1 B2
C. Miguel Servet	C4	Calle de Piamonte	C1 D1	Costanilla de San Pedro	A3
C. Mira el Rio Alta	A4 B4	Calle de Rodas	B4	Cuesta de San Vicente	A2
C. San Francisco	A3	Calle de San Bernardo	B1	Cuesta de Santo Domingo	A2 B2
Calle Almirante	D2	Calle de San Lucas	C1	Duque de Alba	B3
Calle Argensola	C1 D1	Calle de Santa Isabel	C3 D4	Fernando El Santo	D1
Calle Atocha	B3 C3 D3	Calle de Sebastian Elcano	C4	Glorieta de Embajadores	B4 C4
Calle Carmen	B2	Calle de Segovia	A3	Glorieta Puerta de Toledo	A4
Calle Cava Alta	A3 B3	Calle de Sta. Ana	A4 B3	Gran Via	B2 C2
Calle Cava Baja	A3 B3	Calle de Toledo	A4 B3	Gran Via de San Francisco	A3 A4
Calle Cervantes	C3	Calle de Valencia	C4	Mejia Lequerica	C1
Calle Colegiata	B3	Calle de Vergara	A2	Paseo de Los Olmos	A4
Calle de Alcala	C2 D2	Calle de Veronica	C3 D3	Paseo de los Pontones	A4
Calle de Alfonso XII	D2 D3 D4	Calle de Victor	A1	Paseo De Recoletos	D1 D2
Calle de Almaden	C3 D3	Calle de Zurita	C3 C4	Paseo del Prado	D2 D3
Calle de Amaniel	B1	Calle del Aguila	A4	Paseo Infanta Isabel	D4
Calle de Antonio Maura	D2 D3	Calle del Amparo	B4 C4	Pl. Canovas del Castillo	D3
Calle de Argumosa	C4	Calle del Angel	A4	Pl. de las Comendadoras	B1
Calle de Bailen	A2 A3	Calle del Arenal	B2	Pl. del Emperador Carlos V	D4
Calle de Carlos Arniches	B4	Calle del Barquillo	C1 C2	Pl. Dos de Mayo	B1
Calle de Embajadores	B4	Calle del Casino	B4	Pl. Tirso de Molina	B3
Calle de Ferraz	A1	Calle del Conde Duque	A1	Plaza Alonso Martinez	C1
Calle de Fuencaral	C1 C2	Calle del Doctor Fourquet	C4 D4	Plaza de Cibeles	D2
Calle de Hortaleza	C1 C2	Calle del Espiritu Santo	B1	Plaza de Colon	D1
Calle de Jacometrezo	B2	Calle del Gobernador	C3 D3	Plaza de la Lealtad	D2
Calle de Juan de Mena	D2	Calle del Humilladero	A3 A4	Plaza de la Villa Paris	D1
Calle de Juanelo	B3	Calle del Olivar	C3 C4	Plaza de las Salesas	D1
Calle de la Arganzuela	A4	Calle del Prado	C3	Plaza de Oriente	A2
Calle de la Bola	A2 B2	Calle del Sacramento	A3	Plaza de S. Ildefonso	B1 C1
Calle de la Concepcion Jeronima	B3	Calle del Salitre	C4	Plaza de S. Miguel	B3
Calle de la Cruz	B3 C3	Calle del Tesoro	B1	Plaza de Santa Ana	C3
Calle de la Encomienda	B3	Calle del Tutor	A1	Plaza de Sto. Domingo	B2
Calle de la Luna	B1 B2	Calle del Braco	B1 B2	Plaza del Carmen	B2
Calle de la Madera	B1	Calle Divino Pastor	B1	Plaza del Humilladero	A3
Calle de la Palma	B1	Calle Formerto	A2	Plaza Francisco Moreno	A4
Calle de la Paloma	A4	Calle Genova	D1	Plaza Herradores	B2
Calle de la Princesa	A1	Calle Infantas	C2	Plaza Jacinto Benavente	B3
Calle de la Redondilla	A3	Calle Lope de Vega	C3 D3	Plaza Mayor	B3
Calle de la Torrecilla del Leal	C3 C4	Calle Mayor	A3 B2 B3	Plaza Puerta de Moros	A3
Calle de las Delicias	D4	Calle Mendez Alvaro	D4	Plaza Sta. Cruz	B3
Calle de las Huertas	C3	Calle Meson de Paredes	B4	Puerta de Alcala	D2
Calle de Lavapies	B3 C4	Calle Montera	B2 C2	Puerta del Sol	B2
Calle de los Madraza	C2 D2	Calle Preciados	B2	Ribera de Curtidores	B3 B4
Calle de M. de los Heros	A1	Calle Prim	D2	Ronda de Atocha	C4 D4
Calle de Magdalena	B3 C3	Calle Recoletos	D2	Ronda de Toledo	A4 B4
Calle de Mira del Sol	B4	Calle San Marcos	C2	Ronda de Valencia	C4
Calle de Montalban	D2	Calle San Marcos	C1	Ronda de Segovia	A4
		Calle San Mateo	A1	Sta. Maria de la Cabeza	C4 D4
		Calle Ventura Rodriguez			