

# Contents

## — Navigating the city

Use the key below to help navigate the guide section by section.

- H** Hotels
- F** Food and drink
- R** Retail
- T** Things we'd buy
- E** Essays
- C** Culture
- D** Design and architecture
- S** Sport and fitness
- W** Walks



012 — 013

### Map

Visualise the city with our handy map of Madrid, which will prepare you to explore the key areas covered in this guide.

014 — 015

### Need to know

From local habits to aligning yourself to Spanish time, here is the best way to get to know the city's streets, sights and sounds.



016 — 027

### Hotels

Whether you want timeless elegance, design-led hostels, boutique intimacy or glorious rooftop views, there are plenty of options when it comes to bedding down for the night – or crawling under the sheets having made the most of the next chapter.



028 — 047

### Food and drink

Eating is at the heart of life in Madrid, whether it takes place in a Michelin-starred restaurant or at a market stall. We've put together a culinary tour of those and everything in between, along with the best bars and most enticing food shops, for when your stay in the city is a little more extended.

028 — 040

### Restaurants

041 — 044

### Bars

044  
Cafés

045  
Rooftop bars

046 — 047  
Food markets



048 — 065

### Retail

High-end design outlets rub shoulders with big fast-fashion chains in Madrid but the city's craftsmen and smart boutique collections are the stars of our buying guide. Besides fashion, you'll find our recommendations for pioneering homeware, bookshops and record stores – and some unexpected treasures too.

048 — 050

### Menswear

051 — 053

### Womenswear

054 — 055

### Mixed retail

056 — 060

### Homeware

061 — 064

### Specialist retail

065

### Bookshops



066 — 068

### Things we'd buy

From snacks to bags and tableware, our pick of essential pieces for any visitor wanting to return home with a little Madrid spirit for a loved one – or themselves



069 — 092

### Essays

The ancient yet resolutely modern Spanish capital has as much of a soft spot for mythmaking as it does the contradictions it celebrates. Our writers share their passion for the city and fondly debunk a few clichés to give you an in-depth, insider view of the lesser-seen Madrid.



## C 6

093 — 105

### Culture

Madrid's transformation from crusty conformity to artistic adventurism is in full swing. Whether you're in the market for world-beating museums or avant-garde galleries – or just want to unwind with a drink at an intimate music venue – our pick of the city's cultural offerings will have something to suit your mood.

093 — 097

### Museums and public galleries

098 — 099

### Matadero Madrid

100 — 102

### Commercial galleries

102 — 103

### Live venues

104

### Cinemas

105

### Media round-up

## D 7

106 — 121

### Design and architecture

There's always plenty going on in Madrid and no wonder: this is one of Europe's most densely populated cities. Luckily, that means eye-catching architecture everywhere you look, from great public projects to modest, old-world backstreets and plazas.

106 — 109

### Modern architecture

109 — 111

### Parks

112 — 113

### Legacy buildings

114 — 115

### High-density housing

116 — 118

### Transport hubs and buildings

119 — 121

### Visual identity

## S 8

122 — 127

### Sport and fitness

There's no need to put your fitness regime on hold while on holiday. We've rounded up the best places to get physical, and put together a few cycling and running routes to help you make the most of Madrid's green spaces. Plus: the finest grooming emporiums to keep you looking your very best.

122 — 123

### Gyms

123

### Swimming pools

124 — 125

### Alternative ways to stay fit

125

### Cycling

126 — 127

### Running routes

## W 9

128 — 137

### Walks

There is no better way to understand the nuances of Madrid than setting off into its network of narrow streets. Our five themed walks take you through our favourite neighbourhoods, breaking off every now and then for curio-crammed shops and appealing, home-cooked bites.

128 — 129

### Malasaña and Conde Duque

130 — 131

### Lavapiés

132 — 133

### Chamberí

134 — 135

### Barrio de Las Letras

136 — 137

### Chueca and Las Salesas

## M

138 — 139

### Resources

Be in the know with our bite-size guide to events, slang and the city's soundtrack. Plus tips on what to do on a rainy day.

140 — 141

### About Monocle

Find out more about our global brand, from groundbreaking print, radio, online and film output through to our cafés and shops.

142 — 143

### Acknowledgements

The people who put this guide together: writers, photographers, researchers and all the rest.

144 — 145

### Index