



**LEEM – Laboratory for Space and  
Microgravity Research  
(LEEM)**



*All You CAN Fly  
8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> April 2010*



## *Madrid: Information Report*



## Information about Madrid

### 1. Useful information and brief history<sup>1</sup>

#### *Brief history*

As it is known today the Autonomous Region of Madrid is a result of its rich historical legacy marked by the print of its people and the events that it has known along its history. It is hard to refer to Madrid before the Muslim period even though many Roman and Prehistoric remains have been found.

In the year 1202 Madrid obtained its jurisdiction, but it was not until 1561 when Philip II changed the Imperial Court from Toledo to Madrid, that it became the capital of Spain and remained so forever.

Madrid experienced its greatest transformations during the reign of Charles III. Nowadays the city of Madrid, as well as its Autonomous Region named after it, presents a cosmopolitan air, in addition to Madrid's already famous character as an open city to visitors and immigrants.

#### *Attractions*

- **Museo Reina Sofia:** At the southern end of the avenue known as the Paseo del Arte (Art Walk) is the Reina Sofía Museum and Art Centre, whose permanent collection was opened by their Majesties the King and Queen of Spain on 10 September 1992. This museum, dedicated to the art of the 20th century, is located in an area of particular resonance with the citizens of Madrid: the roundabout of Charles V, popularly known as "Atocha". It is one of the largest museums in the world with some 12,505 square metres of exhibition rooms.
- **Palacio Real:** It is the official residence of His Majesty the King of Spain, although he does not actually live here. Apart from its role as a museum, it is only used for ceremonial purposes on state occasions such as diplomatic functions and official events.
- **El Escorial:** Currently holding the designation of **World Heritage** monument, this was the residence of Philip II, who in El Escorial created his palace, the great library and a pantheon intended as the final resting place of his parents, Charles I of Spain and Isabel of Portugal, his family and successors. The group of buildings also comprises a large basilica and a monastery.

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<sup>1</sup> Fuente: <http://www.turismomadrid.es>



- **La Puerta de Alcalá:** This is one of Madrid's most symbolic monuments. King Charles III of Spain ordered the building of the Puerta de Alcalá (Alcalá Arch) in 1778, and charged Sabatini with its design and execution. The idea was to replace the old and damaged archway of that time with another which would provide a more grandiose point of convergence for the avenues that meet there.
- **Templo de Debod:** The Temple of Debod is one of the few examples of Egyptian architecture that can be seen in its entirety outside Egypt, and the only one of its characteristics in Spain.
- **Palacio de Cristal:** Located in the Retiro Park in Madrid, the Crystal Palace, also known as the Chocolate Box, was designed by Ricardo Velázquez in 1887 for use as a hothouse during an exhibition on Spain's colonies. Once the exhibition was over it became the site of the Overseas Museum.
- **La Cibeles:** This fountain, which has become an iconic symbol of Madrid, has stood in the square of the same name between the Paseo de Recoletos and the Paseo del Prado since 1782. The fountain depicts the goddess Cybele, the symbol of earth, agriculture and fertility, on a chariot drawn by lions, and was designed by Ventura Rodríguez in the reign of Charles III of Spain. The marble fountain originally stood next to the Buenavista Palace in the Paseo de Recoletos, and was moved to its present location in the middle of the square in the late 19th century.
- **La Catedral de la Almudena:** The first plans for building a great cathedral in Madrid date from the 16th century, in the time of Charles I of Spain. Various projects were considered, and the architect Francisco de Cubas was finally chosen to carry out the work. His design was in the Gothic style but adapted to the Romantic style of the period.
- **Banco de España:** It is the central bank of Spain. The interior houses an important collection of paintings, including works by Goya, Mengs, Maella and Vicente Lopez, among others.
- **Plaza Colón:** It is in the Jardines del Descubrimiento. At the heart of this one is installed a flag of 290 square meters and 25 kilos, on a mast of 19 tons of steel and 50 meters high.
- **Puerta del Sol:** Here is the so-called Kilometer Zero Spanish radial road. Especially watch emphasizes the Post House.
- **El Retiro:** It is a park of 118 acres (1.18 km<sup>2</sup>) located in Madrid. It is one of the most significant sites of the Spanish capital.



- **Museo El Prado:** Located in the heart of Madrid, since 1819 the Prado Museum has been at the centre of an extensive artistic network which includes works by masters from all over the world. Its various rooms contain not only exceptional examples of paintings by Spanish artists (Goya, Velázquez, Zurbarán...), but also works by the great masters of other schools (Titian, Reubens and Hieronymous Bosch, for example), as well as outstanding sculptures and other forms of artistic expression.
- **Museo del Aire:** Spanish Aviation Museum From its pioneering days. It's placed near Cuatro Vientos Aerodrome.

### *Nightlife*

The Region of Madrid offers leisure ideas to suit all tastes, with a wide range of options for tourists and local residents alike. The city of Madrid and the towns and villages of the Region are both true to their roots and open to the latest trends. **Tradition and modernity** are the two key elements in all the options available: have fun with the little ones at the different theme parks, discover the capital's happening nightlife, choose a theatre performance or a film from the broad variety showing... These are just a few alternatives from the **interesting range of leisure options** available.

Everyone thinks of Madrid as the city to catch the latest musical on the Gran Via – our very own Broadway. On the streets of the city, the arrival of summer brings the opening of the year's most fashionable terrace bar, and with each new season comes the exhibition of the moment. Nevertheless, **Madrid is much more than the Spanish capital** - each and every one of the towns that make up the Region of Madrid offers a varied agenda of musical, theatrical and film events, not forgetting the broad array of bars, cafés and restaurants.

**Cultural tourism** together with improvements in infrastructure means that Madrid is now just a stone's throw from other capital cities. Its airport (Barajas) is just 15 minutes from Nuevos Ministerios (almost in the city centre). Atocha station, meanwhile, is the departure point for high-speed intercity rail services. RENFE regional rail services connect many of Madrid's 179 municipalities, with a wide range of alternatives. Here you will find an important reason why the region is so attractive – the friendly people and their infectious **passion for life**.



### *Climate*

Most of the Autonomous Region of Madrid has a continental climate with temperatures that range from 0° C, or slightly lower in the winter, to up to 40° C in the summertime. Yet, the temperatures in the northern mountainous area of the region are much colder than those mentioned above in the winter and milder in the summer.

The average annual temperature is 14° C, ranging from 5° C in the colder months to 25° C in the hotter.

The amount of rain varies, though it is mainly scarce in the large continental area of the region. Therefore, there is hardly a need of an umbrella.

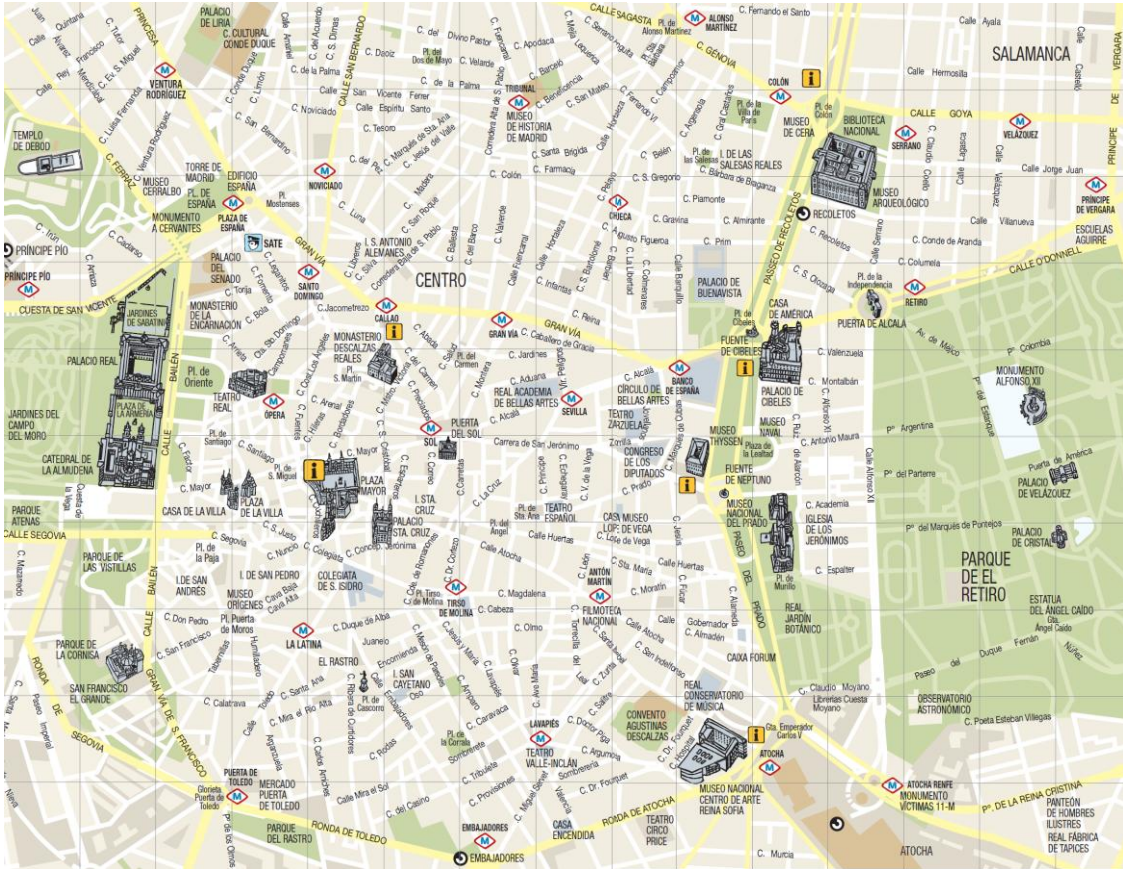
### *Gastronomy*

Madrid gathers the culinary art from all around the country and there is no regional cuisine that is not expertly represented in our city. Madrid has included these contributions in its gastronomy and also those which have come from afar, originating a great variety of dishes with the Madrilenians stamp.

One of Madrid's main attractions is its great number of bars and taverns where you are able to relax after a busy day, enjoying a glass of wine or a beer accompanied by a tasty 'tapa'



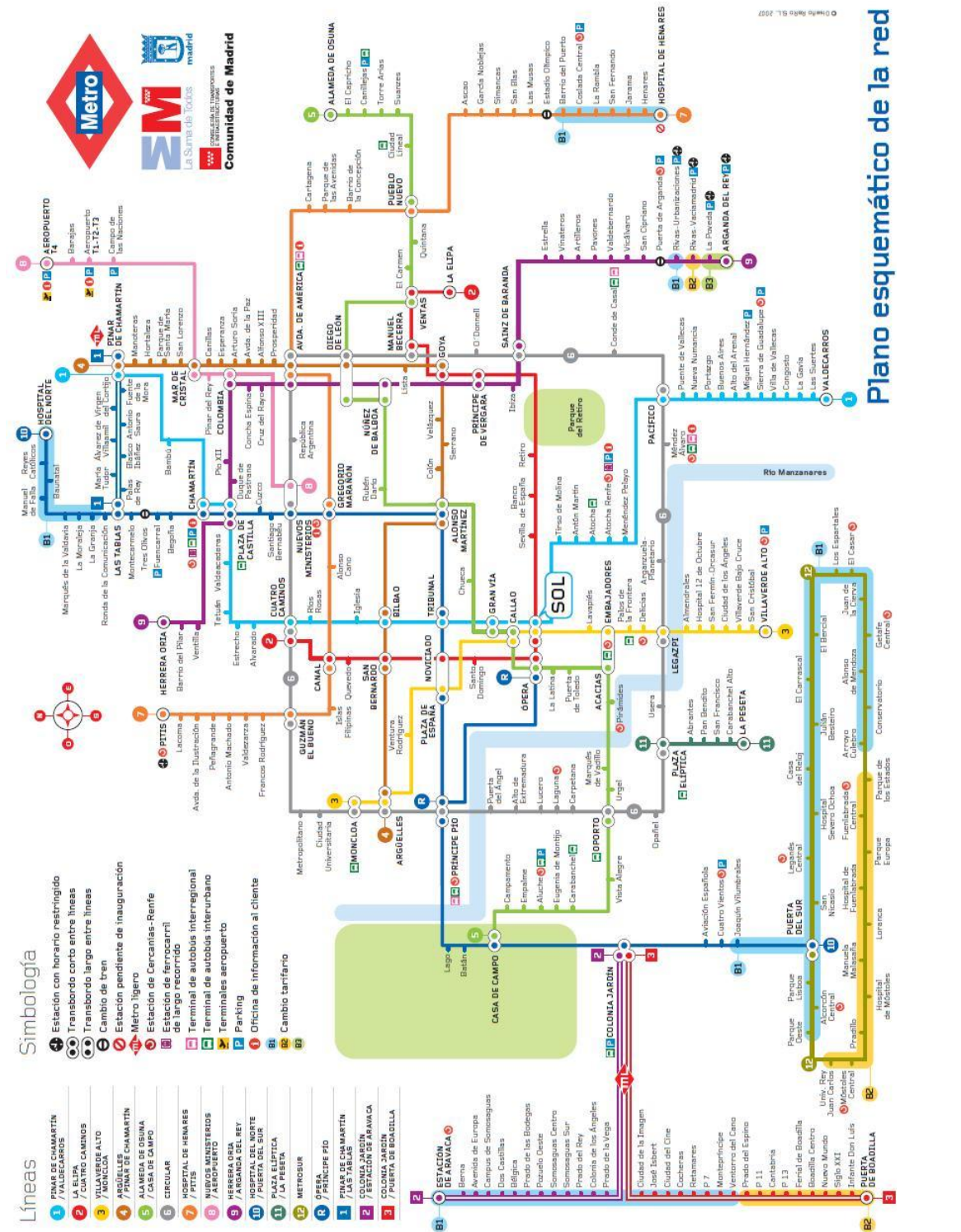
## 2. Madrid Map





Public Transport

➔ Underground





→ Train





### 3. Accommodation

- **Pop Hostel**

Address: C/ Espiritu Santo 18, 28004 Madrid

Price: 13€ - 19€

Contact: **Tfno:** 915 228 663

- **Barbieri International Hostel S.l.**

Address: C/ de Barbieri 15, 28004 Madrid

Price: 14.50€ - 16€

Contact: **Tfno:** 91 531 02 58

**Fax:** 91 531 02 62

**E-mail:** [info@barbierihotel.com](mailto:info@barbierihotel.com)

- **Mad Hostel**

Address: C/De la Cabeza 24, 28012 Madrid

Price: 16€ - 18€

Contact: **Tfno:** 91 506 48 40

**Fax:** 91 506 48 41

**E-mail:** [info@madhostel.com](mailto:info@madhostel.com)

- **Albergue juvenil Ajmadrid (Albergue municipal)**

Address: C/ Mejía Lequerica, 21, 28004 MADRID

Price: 18.92€ – 24.75€

Contact: **Tfno:** 00 34 91 593 96 88

**Fax:** 00 34 91 593 96 84

**E-mail:** [info@ajmadrid.es](mailto:info@ajmadrid.es)

- **Abba Youth Hostel**

Address: C/ de Colón 9, 28012 madrid

Price: 16€ - 22€

Contact: **Tfno:** 902 112 446



- **Hotel Euromadrid**

Address: C/ San Mesonero Romanos, 7, 28013 Madrid

Price: 55 - 65 €

Contact: **Tfno: 91 521 72 00**

**Fax: 91 521 45 82**

**E-mail: [hoteleuromadrid@domus-hoteles.es](mailto:hoteleuromadrid@domus-hoteles.es)**

- **Hotel Petit Palace Puerta del Sol**

Address: C/ Arenal, 4, 28013 Madrid

Price: 90€ - 100€

Contact: **Tfno: +34 915 210 542**

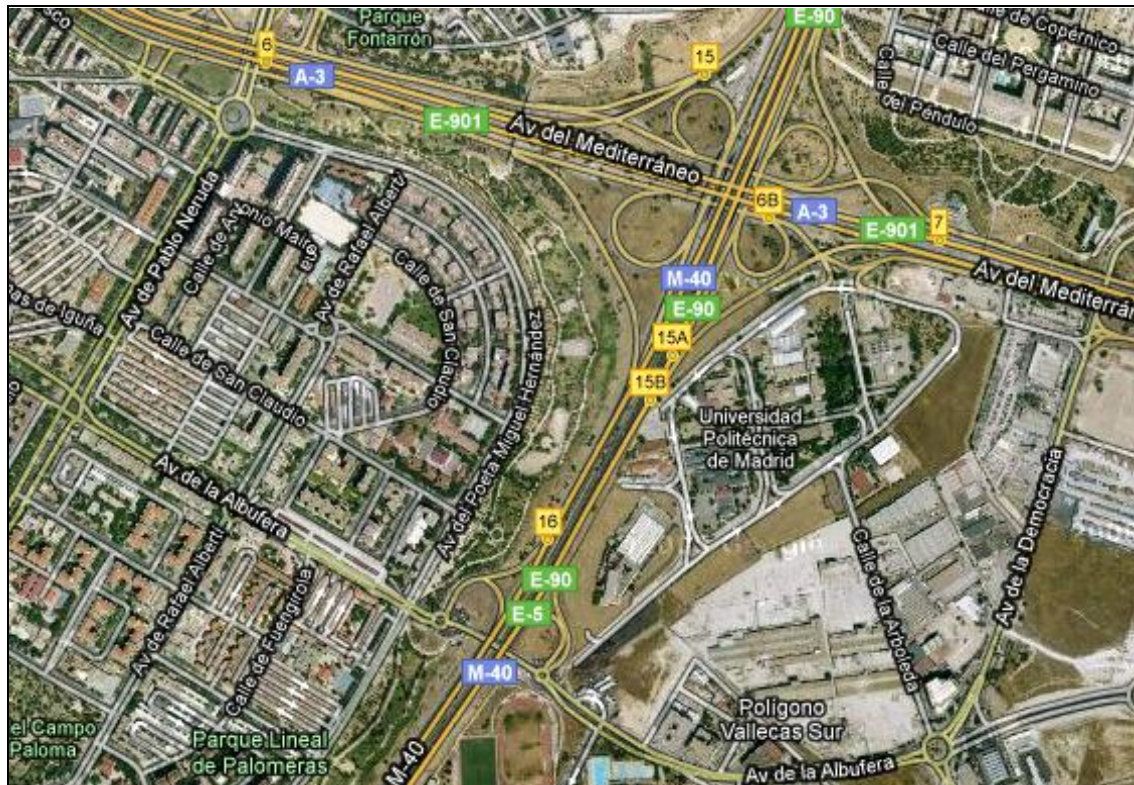
**Fax: +34 915 210 561**

**E-mail: [sol@hthoteles.com](mailto:sol@hthoteles.com)**



#### 4. Directions to Campus sur

Address: Carretera de Valencia, Km 7, 28031 Madrid



Map of surrounding area



Picture of the entrance to the EUITT



**Getting by public transport:**

- There is a direct bus from Conde Casal Square to EUITT, line E-Campus Sur. Schedule: Monday to Friday from 7.30 to 22.00 every 5-8 min.





**Getting by car:**

- Campus Sur is accessed through the service lane of the Carretera de Valencia (A3), following the indication of UPM-Campus Sur or Avenida de la Albufera.

