

# AROUND MADRID

Welcome to Madrid!

I'm very proud of being selected to help all of you to enjoy as much as possible your next visit to our city during GP Madrid. In this guide you'll find some information about different topics that may help you during this visit: transport, tourism, gastronomy and a couple of interesting hotels nearby the event site to rest after a long and tiring day of hard work.

In this guide you'll find links to a website professionally made by the city's major house. Dedicated to provide tourists useful help and information, the links are accompanied with brief summaries I wrote explaining each link's content. Here you also have a [map of the locations described in this guide](#) and with a proposed itinerary around the city.

## A LITTLE HISTORY ABOUT MADRID

A [view of Madrid's history](#); from its origins back in the XVIII century up to today's vibrant metropolis. Find out more on Madrid's historical legacy and on its transformation into a cosmopolitan and open city to visitors.

## TOURISM

Let's start our walk Around Madrid, where you'll find plenty of interesting places to visit.


### ▪ Culture

In Madrid you'll find a great variety of cultural attractions to visit if you want to satisfy your [thirst for culture](#).

You can take a [magnificent cultural walk](#), starting with the *Prado*, *Thyssen* and *Reina Sofía* museums; continuing with Madrid's *Royal Palace*, the *Almudena Cathedral* or the originally Egyptian *Temple of Debod*; and finishing with the genuine icons of Madrid, the *Puerta de Alcalá* and the *Cibeles Fountain*.

### ▪ Green Zones and Nature

On the other hand, if you prefer to [enjoy the embrace of nature](#) lying on the green lawn of a park, or to spend some time relaxing while walking between trees, you can find that in one of Madrid's green zones, like *El Retiro* park,



the *Royal Botanical Garden* or the *Sabatini Gardens*. If you are also looking for a good place to do some exercise or to walk around the entire day breathing clean air, on the West of Madrid, really close to the event site, you can visit the largest green zone of Madrid, the *Casa de Campo*.

## ▪ Leisure

When it comes to [leisure activities](#) Madrid provides many options, the *Parque de Atracciones*, an amusement park also nearby the event site, same as the *Zoo/Aquarium*. Just outside Madrid you'll find the *Warner Bros.* theme park, and the *Xanadú Snow Park*, home to Spain's only indoor ski slopes.

When the night falls, you may enjoy Madrid's nightlife; you'll soon learn why our city is known as one of the European entertainment capitals. *Moncloa-Argüelles*, *Alonso Martínez*, *Huertas*, *Chueca* o *La Latina* are some of the well known nightlife areas filled with bars you can go to enjoy Madrid's night.

## GASTRONOMY

If there is a word that describes [Madrid's gastronomy](#), and in general, Spanish gastronomy, this word would be "[tapas](#)". This philosophy, this culture rooted in Spanish society is what truly represents our gastronomy. You can also find a lot of other restaurants or cafeterias, like in any other cities; but if you're looking for the real thing, for the "typical Spanish" way, you shouldn't leave the country without trying some [tapas](#).

As a suggestion you can find conveniently near the event site, and located in the map, the *A Ría de Noia* restaurant. There are also some restaurants all along the same street as the staff hotel, or also in the mall on top of *Príncipe Pío* station. Please have in mind that near the venue it will be much more difficult to find restaurants.

## TRANSPORTATION

Once you know what you may want to do during your visit to Madrid, you just need to know how to go from one place to another. But don't worry, we may not have Olympic Games we wanted, or a good beach near the sea... but if there is something where Madrid really outstands, that would be our [public transport system](#).

Madrid has the second largest European metro system, in addition to RENFE's railway system and the EMT Urban Buses. This high quality public transport system is also one of the cheapest in Europe, just 1€ for a single trip, and the only one that allows you to go straight from the airport to the city for only 2€.



Here you'll find the [fares summary](#), the complete [Metro System Map](#), and some information about [different zones travel titles and combinations](#).

As you can see, there are a lot of ways of moving within Madrid, so if you want to take my advice, avoid taking taxis. They are too expensive and most of the times not worth it. Remember Madrid's taxis are white with a red stripe across both sides. You can simply stop one on the street or also order one by phone calling 915478200 or 913712131.

A very simple metro walkthrough:

▪ **From the airport to the staff hotel:**

Take line 8 to *Nuevos Ministerios* and change to line 10 towards *Puerta del Sur*, and get off at *Príncipe Pío*. The hotel is across the street as you walk out the station.

▪ **From the staff hotel to the venue:**

At *Príncipe Pío* station take line 6 southbound and get off at *Alto de Extremadura*, as you exit the street metro entrance turn left through a corridor in the building in front of you, cross the avenue (Avenida de Portugal) and enter the Casa de Campo Fairgrounds. The event site is the first building on the left.

## A COUPLE HOTELS

One last thing I think could be useful for you, if you haven't found one yet, could be these hotels. I selected them mainly for their location, very close to the Florida Norte hotel (the staff hotel), and just two Metro stations away from the Event Site, but also for their reasonable prize.

▪ **Hotel Principe Pío**

[Website](#)

▪ **Hotel San Antonio de La Florida**

[Website](#)

If you need anything else after reading this guide, feel free to contact me or any other local judge, we will be glad to provide any assistance you may require. I hope this guide is useful during your visit to Madrid.

Sergio Pérez Marcos  
DCI Judge Level 1  
Madrid