



**COMILLAS**  
UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA

ICAI

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CIHS

# WELCOME TO COMILLAS

For incoming students

**comillas.edu**



# What to visit in Madrid?

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Studying is not only about going to the university. Clic on the image to find out what to do in the city and sorrounding places.



# Museo del Prado

- Goya, Velázquez, El Bosco... All **the well-known Spanish pieces of art** from our national history are shown in the Museo del Prado.
- **The entrance is free** if you are younger than 25 years old, and show a student-ID (either Comillas' student card or your home university). More info: <https://www.museodelprado.es/>
- Calle de Ruiz de Alarcón, 23







## MUSEO THYSSEN-BORNEMISZA

European artists from the 13th to 20th century, such as Duccio, Van Eyck and Van Gogh are shown in this museum. The pieces were part of the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection. Tickets cost 10€, but you can get discounts if you show any student-ID or if you go with a group of more than 7 people. It is **free on Mondays**, from 12:00 to 16:00.

More info: <http://www.museothyssen.org/thyssen/home>. Paseo del Prado, 8



## Museo Sorolla

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- Sorolla is one of the most important Spanish impressionists of the last centuries. The museum was founded in his house and has a great collection of his work.
- The entrance is **free on Sunday and Saturday**, after 14:00. Otherwise, you will have to pay 3€. More info: <http://museosorolla.mcu.es/casa.html>
- Paseo del General Martínez Campos, 37



# Caixa Forum

- Located by the Paseo del Prado, this museum is well known for its “garden”: a wall with plants hanging. Prices and expos might change during your stay, so check their web regularly.
- More info:  
[http://obrasocial.lacaixa.es/nuestroscentros/caixaforummadrid/caixaforummadrid\\_es.html](http://obrasocial.lacaixa.es/nuestroscentros/caixaforummadrid/caixaforummadrid_es.html)
- Paseo del Prado, 36



# Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía

- This **modern art** museum is famous for holding the Guernica from Pablo Picasso, symbol of the recent Spanish history. Tickets cost 8€, but **it's also free** on Mondays; from 19:00 to 21:00 Wednesday through Saturday; and from 15:00 to 19:00 on Sundays.
- More info: <http://www.museoreinasofia.es/>
- Calle de Santa Isabel, 52





**Casa Encendida:** Close to Atocha and Museo Reina Sofia, there is this cultural place where concerts, expos and courses take place. It is also famous for its rooftop. If you are interested in meeting the Spanish independent scenery, this is your spot.

<http://www.lacasaencendida.es/conciertos/la-radio-encendida-2016-5295>

Ronda de Valencia, 2



**Tabacalera:** another independent art centre you can visit, hosted in the old Tobacco factory of Madrid. <https://latabacalera.net/>  
c/ Embajadores, 51





# Palacio Real

- Although it is the Royal Palace, our Royal Family does not live there. So you can visit it! If you bring your student-id and you are younger than 25 the entrance will cost 6€. Feel like a king/queen and learn a little bit more about our history during this visit. <http://www.patrimonionacional.es/real-sitio/palacios/6039>
- **Guardia Real:** the first Wednesday of each month, except for August and September, the Royal Army **changes the guard** in the Palacio Real. Although the one in Buckingham Palace is the most famous one, the solemnity of this event is unique.
- Next to the Royal Palace you can visit the Cathedral of Madrid and the gardens designed by the Italian architect Francesco Sabatini.





# Catedral de la Almudena



# Jardines de Sabatini





# Theme Parks

There are 2 theme parks in Madrid. If you are craving for some action, or a day to relax, you have the perfect plan here. Both parks are well connected by Metro and Renfe Cercanías Trains. You only need to choose between Parque Warner (<http://parquewarner.com/>) or the traditional Parque de Atracciones de Madrid (<http://parquedeatracciones.es/>).



## Las terrazas (rooftops)

Madrid has plenty of rooftops around the city. Although the most famous one is El Círculo de Bellas Artes (Metro Banco de España), there are many more (in some cases, less expensive).

Discover them and enjoy the view. Some of them are: Faro de Moncloa, Gymage, Hotel Suecia, El Corte Inglés Experience (Metro Callao), Hotel Exe Moncloa, Mercado San Antón, Oscar RoomMate, Hotel Silken Avenida de América, Terraza Cibeles...

# Parque del Retiro

- **Barcas del Retiro:** in the park, there is a pond famous for its boats. On sunny days, tourists and locals rent them to enjoy the sun in the water (swimming is forbidden). During weekdays renting one costs 5.80€/hour. Over the weekends and holidays it is a little bit more expensive, it costs 7.50€/hour. Enjoy rowing in the middle of the city!
- **Palacio de Cristal:** near by the Barcas, you can find this magical place. Part of the Reina Sofia Museum, the Palacio de Cristal is a glass building with a great cupola where different art exhibitions are shown. Entrance is for free and it is one of the most romantic places of the city.

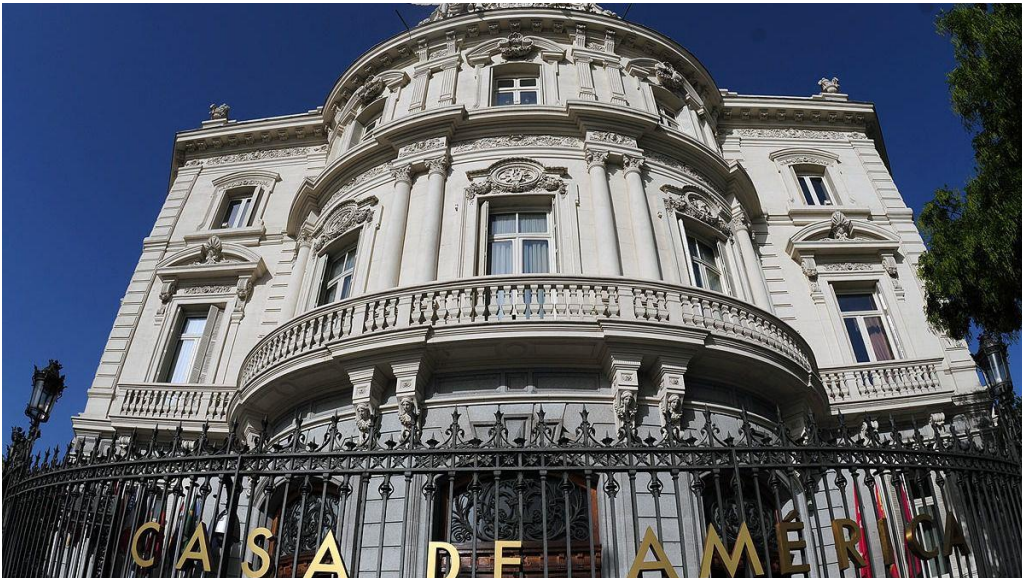






**Conde Duque:** Near ICADE/ICAI you can find this old building managed by the City Hall, famous for its cultural activities. This center organizes all kinds of festivals, for free. If you are into music or you are a film lover, keep this place in mind. Check their program online:

<http://www.condeduquemadrid.es/>



**Casa América:** Close to Cibeles, you can find this small palace. It might not seem really attractive from the outside, as it looks like any other old building in the city, but it holds a secret inside. Every morning from 10am to 13pm you can visit this wonderful place. If you are 25 or younger, the entrance costs 5€. <http://www.casamerica.es/visitas>



**Filmoteca:** The Spanish Government has created this public space where films are cheaper than in other theaters. Do not expect to find the same films you find in any cinema, but foreign films in their original version, subtitled into Spanish; or sessions dedicated to well-known directors and their master pieces. More info in <http://www.mecd.gob.es/cultura-mecd/areas-cultura/cine/mc/fe/cine-dore/programacion.html>

**Cines VOSE:** You want to go to a cinema but you cannot speak Spanish very well, or at all? DO NOT WORRY! We have cinemas where you can watch films in the Original Version, subtitled in Spanish. The most famous one is located in Calle Princesa, Plaza de los Cubos. It is called **Cine Renoir**, but it is not the only one. Check their website for more info, locations, tickets and programs:

<http://www.cinesrenoir.com/cartelera/ciudad/MAD/>





# Free tours

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- There are plenty of free tours around downtown. The most reliable is Sandman's <http://www.newmadrid-tours.com/es/tours-diarios/tour-gratis.html>.
- We strongly recommend you to attend the Orientation Week Tour with Comillas. You can visit the city and meet other international students.





# El Rastro (flea market)

Every Sunday, people from La Latina, one of the most famous districts, come out into the streets to enjoy its Flea Market. The most valuable things to buy are the antiques in the stores. After walking down the street Ribera de Curtidores and its surroundings, Madrileños usually meet up for a small “aperitivo” (appetizer).

Take the metro La Latina (line 5) or Tirso de Molina (line 1) to get to El Rastro!







# Matadero

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- The old slaughterhouse of Madrid turned into a **cultural place**. It has a theater and several exhibitions halls. Many famous **markets and concerts** take place on its premises. It has a restaurant and it is a good spot for renting a bike and cycle around Madrid Rio. Check out its activities and schedules in <http://www.mataderomadrid.org/>
- It is situated by the river Manzanares, a great space to take a stroll and enjoy the landscape of Madrid.
- Metro Legazpi



**Mercado de Motores:** Every second weekend of the month there is a special market inside the Railway Museum in Paseo de las Delicias. It is a perfect plan for the weekend! You can find the most special stores in town: from vintage articles to typically marinated products. After visiting the Market you can enjoy a *caña* in the surroundings with your friends. It gets really crowded. For more info check out the official website

<http://mercadodemotores.es/>

**Café Central:** Madrid has a broad cultural offer. It is famous for its concerts and live music bars. One of the oldest, and best ones is the Café Central. Its broad jazz offerings, make this Café the perfect place for a relaxed afternoon. Check the concerts schedule online <http://www.cafecentralmadrid.com/>





# Flamenco

- Spain is well known in the world for its dance: the flamenco. Although it is typical in the South, you can find good places called '**tablaos**' where you can see live shows.
- Check out their websites first, as they do not run every day and sometimes they charge at the door. The most famous ones are El Café de las Chinitas, Las Carboneras, Cardamomo, Casa Patas, El Corral de la Morería y El Corral de la Pacheca.





# Toros en Ventas (bullfighting)

- **Every Sunday**, from March to October, Plaza de las Ventas opens to bullfight. The best moment is over the month of May, when the Feria de San Isidro takes place. You can find cheap tickets, just be careful to buy them in the shade (“a la sombra”), if you do not want to spend 5 hours under the burning sun of Madrid.

<http://www.las-ventas.com/>

- Metro Ventas





# Going out in Madrid



- There are some many places to go as well at night in Madrid. You can dance in one of the several **discos**, such as Kapital (Atocha), Independence (Atocha), Joy Eslava (Ópera), etc.
- Or you can go to any of the different **pubs** in one of the neighbourhoods of Madrid, such as Tribunal, Chueca, Alonso Martínez, Nuevos Ministerios, etc.





# One-day trips



# Toledo

You can be in the city center of Toledo in **less than an hour**. It is known for its history, art and cultural diversity. Home of El Greco, Toledo is the center of the Jewish history in the Peninsula. We strongly recommend you to spend a day in the city and walk around its old streets. <http://www.toledo-turismo.com/>

- **By train:** there is a train every hour from Atocha, not only regular trains, but AVE trains. You can buy the tickets in Atocha or online <http://www.renfe.com/>
- **By bus:** there is also a bus from Plaza Elíptica every hour. It takes longer than the train, but it is cheaper. You can get tickets directly in the station the same day.
- **Blablacar:** it is a different way to save money while travelling with people from the rest of the country. We recommend you to use it with at least one other friend. Check the website to see if someone is going that weekend! <https://www.blablacar.es/>





# Segovia

One hour away from Madrid, going North, Segovia is known for its Roman Aqueduct, delicious food and Alcazar. Enjoy the city while trying new dishes from the Spanish gastronomy, such as the “cochinillo”.

- **By train:** Every hour from Chamartin station you can find several regular or AVE trains that will take you to the city center. You can buy the tickets at the station or online: Renfe’s website.
- **By bus:** La Sepulvedana will take you from Moncloa station. Ask for more information at the station. You can buy the tickets the same day you travel.
- **Blablacar**







# Aranjuez

Aranjuez is a small town in the surroundings of Madrid, famous for its incredible Palace. Wait for spring to enjoy its gardens. Find out about the Spanish Monarchy and its history while visiting this piece of art. A little piece of advice, Aranjuez is known for its strawberries, do not forget to try them if you go there during spring!

- **By train:** You can travel to Aranjuez from the main stations in Cercanias (C3). With the Abono Joven de Transportes it is for free.
- **By bus:** In Estacion Sur (Mendez Alvaro) or Paseo del Molino (Legazpi) bus number 423 will take you to Aranjuez, also for free with your Abono de Transportes. Ask in the station for more information.

# El Escorial

The Monastery of the Escorial played a key role in the Spanish history. Go for a day, visit its hallways and hear the darkest stories of our country. Advice, avoid going on a cold day, or you will freeze inside its walls.

- **By bus:** At Moncloa station you can take two buses: numbers 661 and 664. If you have the Abono Joven, it is for free.
- **By train:** At Chamartin station, take Cercanias train C8A. You can travel for free if you have Abono Joven de Transportes.





# Granja de San Ildefonso

You will have the chance to visit the Royal Palace, the Royal Glass Factory, its gardens and several churches. Enjoy the spring and autumn weather in this wonderful spot for a day.

- **By bus:** La Selpuvedana offers a bus service from Moncloa station. Ask at the station for more information.
- **By train:** you will first need to go to Segovia. Once you arrive there, take a regional bus (number 12) that will take you directly to La Granja.





# Cuenca

Cuenca, the city of the “Hanging Houses”, is famous for being one of UNESCO’s World Heritage spots. The surroundings of the city are also known for its distinctive scenery. If you love nature, Cuenca is your place.

- **By train:** you have several trains all day long. Choose between regular trains or high-speed trains (AVE). For more information, prices and schedules check Renfe’s website.
- **By bus:** Avanza Bus offers several options to go to Cuenca. Check their website for more information <http://www.avanzabus.com/>





# Alcalá de Henares

Home of Miguel de Cervantes and El Quijote, Alcalá is famous for its university. You can visit the writer's house and learn about the most important book of the Spanish literature.

- **By bus:** In Avenida de América, bus number 223 will take you directly. It is free if you have the Abono Joven de Transportes.
- **By train:** Cercanías C2 from Atocha and Regional Trains from Chamartin station will take you there. It is free if you have the Abono Joven de Transportes.

