

### 3-Day Walking Itinerary in Madrid

If there's a city full of charm and perfect for exploring on foot, it's Madrid. A destination that offers endless activities and adapts to all types of travelers—you're sure to find the trip you're looking for here.

That's why we've put together a 3-day itinerary that will take you through the most iconic places, charming neighborhoods, and history-filled corners, optimizing the route so you can enjoy it to the fullest without needing transportation.

And if you want to discover its best-kept secrets with the help of the best local guides, you can book our Free Walking Tour here:

Get ready to experience the city in a unique and original way with us.

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#### Day 1: Historic and Traditional Madrid

 Route: Puerta del Sol → Plaza Mayor → Mercado de San Miguel → Almudena Cathedral → Royal Palace → Plaza de Oriente → Sabatini Gardens → Temple of Debod

#### What to see and do:

- **Puerta del Sol:** Our starting point is at the *kilometer zero* of Spain and the heart of the city, where the New Year's Eve countdown takes place. Here, you can see the Casa de Correos, the famous Tío Pepe sign, and the statue of the Bear and the Strawberry Tree. Oh! And don't forget to take a photo!
  - **Plaza Mayor:** One of the most beautiful squares in Spain, surrounded by historic buildings and terraces. While we don't recommend most restaurants here, trying a calamari sandwich from *La Ideal* or *La Campana* (just outside the plaza) is a must.
  - **Mercado de San Miguel:** A perfect stop to try traditional tapas in an iconic building with a vibrant atmosphere.
  - **Almudena Cathedral:** The most famous religious building in Madrid—and good news, entry is free!
  - **Royal Palace of Madrid:** Located right in front of the cathedral, this is the official residence of the Spanish royal family. You can visit the interior (*2025 entry price: from €19*).
  - **Plaza de Oriente & Sabatini Gardens:** If you're feeling a bit tired by now, the Sabatini Gardens offer a perfect place to rest with stunning palace views.
  - **Temple of Debod:** To end your first day in Madrid, watch the sunset with the best views at the Temple of Debod. This authentic Egyptian temple originally stood on the banks of the Nile but was later gifted to Spain by Egypt.
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## Day 2: Cultural and Elegant Madrid 🇪🇸

 Route: Gran Vía → Círculo de Bellas Artes (rooftop) → Barrio de Las Letras → Prado Museum → Retiro Park → Puerta de Alcalá → Salamanca District

### What to see and do:

- **Gran Vía:** Start your second day in Madrid by walking down Spain's most famous avenue, full of theaters, shops, and emblematic buildings like the Carrion Building.
  - **Círculo de Bellas Artes:** At the end of Gran Vía, you'll find this cultural center. Head up to the rooftop and enjoy a coffee with one of the best views of Madrid.
  - **Barrio de Las Letras:** Perfect for strolling if you love discovering small bookstores and cozy cafés. Many Golden Age writers like Cervantes, Quevedo, and Lope de Vega lived here.
  - **Prado Museum:** If you're into art, a visit to the Prado Museum is a must. Here, you'll find masterpieces by Velázquez, Goya, and Bosch.
  - **Retiro Park:** After a busy cultural morning, how about some relaxation? Just a short walk away, you'll reach El Retiro Park, Madrid's green oasis. Don't miss the Crystal Palace and the Grand Pond.
  - **Puerta de Alcalá:** Right outside the park, you'll find this old city gate, now one of Madrid's most iconic landmarks. A must for that perfect photo!
  - **Cibeles Fountain & Madrid City Hall:** This is where Real Madrid fans celebrate their team's victories. Right behind it, you'll see the stunning Madrid City Hall.
  - **Salamanca District:** End the day by exploring the city's most elegant neighborhood, full of luxury boutiques, fine dining, and stylish rooftops.
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## Day 3: Alternative and Modern Madrid 🇪🇸

 Route: Plaza de España → Malasaña → Chueca → Mercado de San Antón → Lavapiés → Reina Sofía Museum → Atocha Station

### What to see and do:

- **Plaza de España:** Start your day in another key spot of the city. Here, you'll find the statue of Don Quixote. Right in front, you'll see the RIU Hotel, home to one of the most popular rooftop bars in Madrid. Enjoy the view and, if you're not afraid of heights, snap a photo on its glass walkway.
- **Malasaña:** Just a short walk from Plaza de España, you'll reach Madrid's most artistic and bohemian neighborhood. This is the place to go if you love vintage shops, modern cafés, and street art.

- **Chueca:** Another vibrant neighborhood worth exploring, Chueca is the heart of Madrid's LGBTQ+ scene, full of lively streets and bustling terraces.
  - **Mercado de San Antón:** Just a few meters from Chueca's metro station, you'll find this market with a rooftop terrace, perfect for taking a break and enjoying some delicious food.
  - **Lavapiés:** This is Madrid's most multicultural neighborhood, filled with murals, traditional taverns, and an authentic local vibe. Here, you'll also find the Reina Sofía Museum, a must-visit for modern art lovers and home to Picasso's Guernica.
  - **Atocha Station:** Madrid's main train station is more than just a transportation hub—inside, you'll discover a beautiful indoor garden with over 7,000 plants!
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 **Useful Tips:**

- ✓ **Best time for walking:** Mornings and afternoons are ideal, especially in summer when the midday heat can be intense.
- ✓ **Transport:** The entire itinerary is walkable, but you can take the metro if you need a break.
- ✓ **Helpful apps:** Google Maps, Metro de Madrid, Citymapper, and TheFork (for restaurant reservations).

Are you ready to discover Madrid on foot? This itinerary will make you fall in love with the city!



*"But there's always a dream that awakens in Madrid,  
And there's always a flight back to Madrid ❤️"*