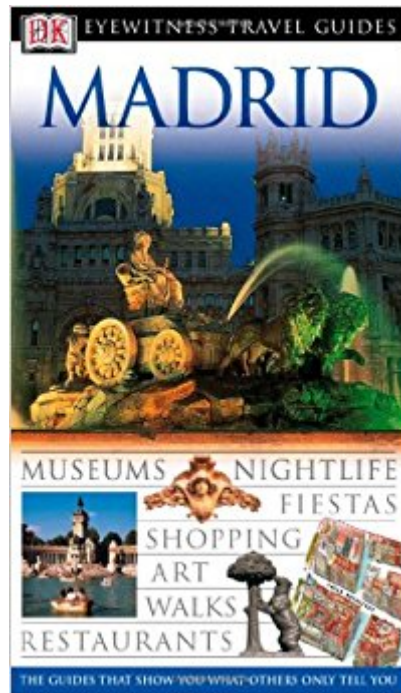


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# Madrid (Eyewitness Travel Guides)



## Synopsis

DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Madrid will lead you straight to the best attractions this city has to offer. The guide includes unique illustrated cutaways, floor plans, and reconstructions of major architectural sights, plus a pull-out city map clearly marked with attractions from the guidebook and an easy-to-use street index. DK's insider travel tips and essential local information will help you discover the best of this city in Spain, from local festivals and markets to day trips around the countryside. Detailed listings will guide you to hotels, restaurants, bars and shops for all budgets, while transportation maps and a chart showing the walking distances between sights will help you get around the city. With hundreds of full-color photographs, hand-drawn illustrations, and custom maps that brighten every page, DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Madrid truly shows you this city as no one else can.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

You'd be hard-pressed to find a more comprehensive, engrossing, and just plain fun-to-read guidebook than the Eyewitness Travel Guide: Madrid. Known for their eye-catching design, the Eyewitness city guides are practically spilling over with all sorts of useful information, and the Madrid version is no different. You'll find three-dimensional drawings, floor plans, and detailed neighborhood maps, as well as timelines and charts. There's even a map of the Metro. Broken down into four sections--"Introducing Madrid," "Madrid Area by Area," "Traveller's Needs," and "Survival Guide"--this book provides a complete picture of the city. Readers will especially love the hundreds of color photos showing everything from the city's famous plazas to a pitcher of sangria; the street-by-street illustrated city walks (Old Madrid, which takes in the Puerta del Sol and Plaza

Mayer, looks especially enchanting); the room-by-room explanations of the Palacio Real and Prado Museum; and, of course, the best places for tapas (Taberna del Foro is one). By the time you're finished with this book, you may know more than the locals. --Jill Fergus --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

...You feel, looking at them, as if you could close the book and step into the street. -- Contra Costa Times ...considered to be the world's best travel resource to over 30 destinations around the world, make it easier to plan a splendid vacation. -- North American Press Syndication Both novice and experienced travelers will be captivated. -- US News & World Report Each book is a visual as well as informational feast about a particular place. -- The New York Times Easily the best city guides available today. -- PLAYBOY Encyclopedic in scope, it's meant to be used before, during, and after your stay. -- Travel & Leisure The Best Guidebooks Ever -- SKY MAGAZINE The best travel guides ever. -- Sky Magazine -Delta In flight Magazine The most graphically exciting and visually pleasing series on the market. -- Chicago Tribune Want to know where to get a great espresso on your way to the Uffizi? Or how much to tip a hotel maid in New York City? Try these travel guides, each an intricate trove of 3-D aerial views, landmark floor plans, color photos and essential eating, shopping and entertainment info. With titles covering Paris, Prague, and London, these pocket-sized guides are like a Michelangelo fresco: deliriously rich in detail. -- People Magazine --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In anticipation of our recent trip to Madrid and Seville, I purchased several travel guides and maps. While there isn't a great deal of difference between most travel guides, I found this one to be exceptional. The book is well-organized and includes several maps, both local and regional. There are also ample (and well done) photos of historical buildings, museums, and art. For those unfamiliar with Spanish cuisine, there are several photos of tapas and other dishes, so you can see what it looks like before ordering. There is information on the airport, train routes, currency, language (including a brief language guide), and shopping districts. We went to almost every major museum in Madrid and this book was quite helpful in this regard. The book has information on over 35 (!!!) museums. There are maps, photos, and interior guides to most of the major museums, to include samples of what art/antiquities you can see on your visit. While Prado was worth seeing, we would have missed a lot by not visiting other museums. We took the train to Toledo and this book was helpful in this regard. There is a great, two page map of the city of Toledo, which was needed, as the streets of Toledo wind around, up and down various hills. There are also great descriptors of

sites in Toledo other than the Alcazar (we went to El Greco's house/museum, and this guidebook had a good description of what to expect). Like most other Eyewitness Travel Guides, this one fits well into a backpack or purse. We took three travel guides with us, but this is the one we used the most, and the one we took with us on our daily treks. While you will want to read other books and websites before taking your trip, taking this book alone should be sufficient. I don't have any major complaints about the book, but I wish these guides didn't include so much information on restaurants. If you want to know where to eat and what to expect---wherever you go---look it up at [TripAdvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com). Also, while there is a small language guide in the book, do yourself a favor and learn more of the language than what you'll find in these kind of travel guides. If you go to Madrid, have fun!

My wife and I do a fair bit of travel, and have been fans of the DK guides for many years. We have previously used DK country guides, as well as city and regional guides and they have always enhanced our experience in each location. The Madrid guide was no exception: it is well laid out and illustrated, up to date, and with good recommendations to get the most from your stay in one of the most liveable, fascinating and culturally rich cities in the world. Depending on time available, and for a broad range of budgets, this guide makes appropriate recommendations for sightseeing, visits to culturally significant places, accommodation, local transport systems, and food. My wife and I are long past the various "backpackers" guides; the DK guides cost a little more, but are better laid out, sturdy and durable, and contain all the information that make a visit to a new destination more enjoyable, safer, and culturally rewarding. The DK Madrid guide met and exceeded our expectations for guiding us throughout this beautiful city, including its art galleries, markets, plazas, shopping, countless tapas bars and, yes, bull-fights. Highly recommended for new and repeat visitors to Madrid.

I am an experienced traveler (30+ countries) who is nearing retirement and plan to travel extensively, who has recently become obsessed about finding "good" guidebooks. So this review is a comparison of the books I looked at for Madrid. I started with the Insight Guide. I was seeking to get background, history, etc. The Insight Guides seem to vary enormously from one to the next in both quality and orientation. I think they are good for an entire country if you are trying to decide where in the country or what parts you want to see. I thought the guide for Madrid was useless. It provided very little information about the city or the culture. It seemed to be best if you were planning on moving to Madrid and wanted to find out the differences between the various suburban

areas. I suggest you forget this one. I looked at the Mini-Rough Guide. I didn't like the format and it was too terse for my taste. In my opinion, Rough Guide still needs to produce a guide for Madrid that is a regular, not a mini Rough Guide. The LP Guide to Madrid seemed pretty mediocre. The stiff covers also made it awkward to use or hold open to a particular page. The information and descriptions were inadequate compared to some other guides. The Eyewitness Guide to Madrid is, I think, the best overall guide to Madrid. (Generally I prefer Eyewitness guides for City's much more than as a guide for an entire country.) The maps are good, the pictures of the food and other items are very helpful. The hotels and restaurant sections were pretty good, but not great. If you are looking for hostels, you will need the LP guide. Eyewitness does not give great historical depth, but it gives you some, probably enough for most tourists. Guide Books are not the best source for detailed historical and cultural information anyway. The Time Out guide was almost like a tourist's yellow pages, primarily a listing of hotels, restaurants, sites, services, etc. It had the best listing of restaurants and hotels and covered all price ranges. It wasn't as good as Eyewitness is describing the things to see and do. I ended up getting the Eyewitness Guide to use while sightseeing, supplemented by the Time Out Guide for picking hotels, restaurants and being able to look up things. Another reviewer recommended this same combination in order to visit Tapas bars. I'm not that much into Tapas, but I still think these two are the best combo. Eyewitness is not perfect, but it's the best one that I saw. Incidentally, the Spain Rough and LP guides Madrid sections do not cover Madrid as well as the Madrid-only guides. You are looking at a 60-page section, compared to the Madrid-only guides of around 300 pages length.

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