

Travel Advisory 19 - 21 April, 2013

Welcome

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the 100th R8 Committee Meeting in Madrid. In this document you can find useful information about the city. Thank you for coming, we hope you enjoy your stay and all the activities!

Pilar Molina, Spain Section Chair

To and from Barajas Airport

By public transport. There are several ways (underground, bus, train, taxi) to get to Madrid Center by public transport, all of them properly indicated in all terminals. You can find below an explanation of the most direct itineraries:



Underground

Metro Line 8 runs from all the airport terminals to central Madrid. Tickets can be obtained in the machines in the underground entrance. There is a supplement for traveling to and from the airport.

Itinerary: **L8** » Nuevos Ministerios + **L10** » Cuzco

Travel time: 25-30 min

Fares: supplement, 3 € + single ticket, 1.50-2 € (depending on number of stations. To the Hotel it's 1.8 €). Also a 10 trip (bus combined) ticket available, 12.20 €.



Bus

There are many bus routes both to the city and of long-haul departing at Barajas Airport. You can buy tickets (cash only) on board the bus. The bus stops in the Airport are in Terminal 4 and 1.

Itinerary: **Route 200** » Avenida de América + **Route 11** » Plaza de Cuzco

Travel time: 80 min

Fares: 1.5 €+ 1.5 €

By taxi. All terminals have clearly signed taxi ranks outside the arrivals area. There is a 5.50 € supplement and no supplement for luggage. The fares vary depending on whether it's day or night time and the weekend. The total cost is typically **24-28 €** between the Hotel and the Airport (including supplement) and the average travel time is **20 min**.

Hotel Meliá Castilla

The Hotel Meliá Castilla is considered one of the most emblematic hotels in Madrid, appealing combination of classic and contemporary style in perfect balance.



Address

Calle del Capitán Haya, 43
28020 Madrid

+0034915 67 50 00

Cuzco **L10** Metro Station is 5 minutes by walk

For more information
about Madrid,
transport maps and
more, visit:

esMADRID.com



Madrid Basics

The City

The city of Madrid is the capital of the Kingdom of Spain and home to the Spanish Government, general Courts, other public administration and state institutions and bodies. It is divided into 21 districts with a total area of 60 m hectares and has a population of more than 3 M people.



Transports

The Metro network of the Autonomous Region of Madrid has 12 lines, as well as the Ramal Ópera-Príncipe Pío and three light rail lines, and is 319 km (198 miles) in length, making it the third longest in the world, after New York and Moscow. Madrid also has an extensive and efficient bus network, with a total of 209 routes (169 for the daytime network, 38 night buses and 2 special services).

Culture and Leisure

The city of Madrid has a broad cultural scene: internationally renowned museums, numerous art galleries and exhibitions, the best national plays and the most successful international musicals, marvellous opera and classical music performances, all types of music concerts and flamenco shows. Everything is possible in Madrid.



Parks and gardens

Madrid is a green city. Parks and gardens occupy 250,000 hectares (617,700 acres) and along the streets there are more than 248,000 trees. Madrid has some impressive parks, such as the Retiro or Capricho, extraordinary historic gardens, particularly the Real Jardín Botánico (Royal Botanical Garden) and palace gardens, such as the Campo del Moro and Jardines de Sabatini.

Shopping

You can find just about everything in Madrid. People have come to the city in search of the sophisticated, the unique or even the eccentric. Variety is the essence of shopping in the city: from the elegance and flair of the shops in the Salamanca district to the hip, alternative clothing of Fuencarral Street. Madrid transcends fashion; its style cannot be defined. It is said that the city is the sum of all trends, an amazing, living collage.



Currency

The Currency in Spain is the Euro (€).

Weather

In Spain there is a saying “En abril aguas mil”, which literally means that “In April, thousands of rains”. Thus, although you can enjoy sunny days at 25°C, the downpours are frequent. Therefore don’t forget your umbrella and wearing a thin coat.



100th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting

R8 50th Anniversary

Power Supply

The domestic electricity supply is 220 V/50 Hz throughout Spain with 2 pin wall sockets (Type C/F).

Time Zone

In April, the Time Zone in Madrid is CEST (UTC + 2)



Sightseeing in Madrid

Madrid is a tremendously historic and monumental city.

Its monuments and sights include the Royal Palace, the Plaza Mayor, the Almudena Cathedral, Puerta del Sol, the magnificent Plaza de Oriente and the city's many historic buildings and squares which make this one of Europe's most attractive cities for sight-seeing.

The city is an excellent combination of modern infrastructure and historic squares, churches, monuments and city gates.

It has several emblematic landmarks such as the Palacio Real, which is the largest Royal Palace in Western Europe, the Plaza Mayor, a spectacular Castilian square which dates back to the 16th century, the Puerta del Sol, Madrid and Spain's spiritual heart, since from this square all points on Spain's 6 major national roads are measured, and the Gran Vía, one of Madrid's main shopping streets connecting the spacious Plaza de España square with the magnificent old city gate of Puerta de Alcalá.

Madrid's art museums are second to none, with the Museo del Prado being internationally recognised as one of the world's premier galleries, particularly for European art.

The Reina Sofia museum, which houses Picasso's incredible work "Guernica", and the Thyssen-Bornemisza museum, one of the most important private collections in the world, make up Madrid's unique Avenue of Art, together with the new addition of the CaixaForum.

A visit to Spain's capital wouldn't be complete without a stroll around its Rastro Flea Market, which is a Sunday morning tradition for thousands of locals and tourists alike. Or take a relaxing walk through one of the capital's large and beautiful parks, The Retiro.

Saturday afternoon

Telefónica Building

The Telefónica Building was designed by Ignacio de Cárdenas. Even though the building is of American inspiration, Cárdenas touch can be felt in its exterior ornamentation, a nod to Madrid Baroque architecture. Its construction lasted from 1926 to 1929. During the Spanish Civil War it was used as an observatory by the Republican forces, what made it a target of bombings during the war. The Building rises 89 meters and is the second tallest building in Gran Vía.

