

**International Journal of Central Banking**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Financial Stability Conference**

Madrid, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June 2010



**Banco de España – Alcalá, 48 – \*\* Meeting Venue \*\***

*Calamarte Entrance*  
28014 Madrid

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Located in Calle Alcalá, it's just one step from the Hapsburg Madrid and some of the main monuments from that dynasty, including: Plaza Mayor, Plaza de la Villa, Casa de la Villa, Iglesia del Sacramento church and Plaza de Oriente. It is also near Gran Vía & Salamanca Quartier shopping areas as well as El Prado, Thyssen & Reina Sofia Museums.

**LOCATION INFORMATION**

**MADRID**

Magerit, "land rich in water". This is the name the Arabs gave to this area on the central plain close to the Guadarrama Mountains, where Felipe II later chose to establish his court. It is surprising to discover that, ever since the time of the Arabs, water has been a key factor in the development of our city, in a land with abundant streams and underground waters.

With the arrival of the Austrias dynasty, the city took a central role in the destiny of the country, with the monarchy and the Empire on which "the sun never set" based around the Royal "Alcazar", where the royal palace stands today, and the Buen Retiro palace, of which only the gardens remain.

After the Austrias dynasty, there came the Bourbons, the fire the burnt down the old Alcázar and the building of the new Royal Palace. Carlos III built bridges, hospitals, parks, fountains (Neptune, Cibeles, Apollo), scientific buildings (the Prado Museum, the

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Royal Botanical Gardens, the Observatory), the sewers (... water again). He came to be known as the “best Mayor Madrid ever had”. These are the fascinating roots of the city’s history.

The Golden Age in Spain stretched from the 16th to the 17th centuries, after all, so much creative energy could not be squeezed into a mere 100 years. This is the Madrid of the Austrias, the Renaissance and the Baroque, of the Literary District, the Administration and the Royal Court. It is the age of Cervantes, Lope, Quevedo and Calderón; of intrigues in politics and theatres with comedies featuring swords and capes. It is the Madrid of today's film hero - Captain Alatriste.

It is also the Madrid of Velázquez and his Felipes III and IV on horseback; of the “Meninas”, the icon of the city since it was painted by Diego Velázquez for the walls of the old Royal Alcázar. It is the Madrid of the great cultural, artistic, economic and political flowering. It is the most authentic Madrid.

**MAP OF MADRID**



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## USEFUL INFORMATION

### Airport

Note: Madrid International Airport may also be referred to Barajas Airport.

More information about Madrid's airport & flights can be found at:

[http://www.aena.es/csee/Satellite?pagename=subHome&Language=EN\\_GB&c=Page&SiteName=MAD&cid=1049727006353](http://www.aena.es/csee/Satellite?pagename=subHome&Language=EN_GB&c=Page&SiteName=MAD&cid=1049727006353)

### Transport from the airport to Madrid City Centre

*Note: The organisers do not provide transport from/to the airport.*

### Taxis

Each terminal has its own taxi rank opposite the exit doors. The cost payable is indicated on the meter. It is advisable to request a receipt.

Taxi fare to Madrid city in non-peak traffic conditions is approximately €30-35 and takes about 30 minutes. There are supplements of €5,50 of journeys to/from airport & €1 for each luggage item.

### Taxi Tips

It is very unusual to tip taxis in Spain and therefore there is no requirement on the passenger to do so.

### Trains

The Spanish Railway Network (RENFE) does not run directly to/from Madrid-Barajas Airport. Nonetheless, the long-distance, AVE and suburban train stations are accessible in just a few minutes using the Underground.

#### *Suburban trains*

Madrid has a network of suburban trains that link up with the Underground network. In the following stations there are connections train-Underground connections: Atocha RENFE, Embajadores, La Laguna, Aluche, Nuevos Ministerios, Príncipe Pío, Pitis, Recoletos, Méndez Álvaro, Vallecas and Vicálvaro. In the arrivals zone of T1 (ground floor) there is a RENFE (Spanish railway network) office. There you can obtain information about the railway network and make reservations or buy long distance and high speed (AVE) train tickets

*Cercanías Renfe:* [http://www.renfe.es/cercanias/madrid/index\\_horarios.html](http://www.renfe.es/cercanias/madrid/index_horarios.html)

#### *Atocha RENFE-AVE*

Take suburban train to Nuevos Ministerios (2 stops) and then change at Nuevos Ministerios to tube line 8 in the direction to the airport. (aprox. 25 min)

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Financial Stability Conference**

*Madrid, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June 2010*

*Chamartín*

Take suburban train to Nuevos Ministerios (1 stop) and then change at Nuevos Ministerios to line 8 in the direction to the airport. (aprox. 20 min)

*Nuevos Ministerios*

The transportation hub connects with seven RENFE suburban lines: C1 (Alcalá-Alcobendas-San Sebastián) C2 (Atocha-Chamartín-Guadalajara) C7a (Alcalá-Atocha-Chamartín-Príncipe Pío) C7b (Atocha-Chamartín-Tres Cantos), C8a (Atocha-Chamartín-El Escorial) C8b (Atocha-Chamartín-Cercedilla) and C10 (Villalba-Príncipe Pío-Atocha-Chamartín-Tres Cantos).

**Underground**

*Line 8. Nuevos Ministerios-Airport T4*

Stops:

T4, floor -1

T2, first floor Access to the Underground from the airport is via the connecting passageway to car park P2, in the centre of the terminal.

Timetable:

Consult timetables and fares at [Madrid Underground](#)

Price:

Remember that it is necessary to pay extra to enter and exit the airport stations (T1,2,3 and T4). The amount is 1 Euro extra.

*Nuevos Ministerios*

The transportation hub connects with fifty Underground stations by means of lines 6 (Circular), 8 (Nuevos Ministerios-Airport T4) and 10 (Hospital Infanta Sofía -Puerta del Sur).

**MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

**Climate**

Madrid and the heart of Spain, enjoy Mediterranean climate. It has been regarded as the sunniest capital of the continent. The best time to take a tour to Madrid is during spring and summer seasons.

The hottest months are July and August. May, June, September and early October experience warm temperatures. During summer, the average temperature reaches up to 40°C (104°F).

In winter, the average temperature goes down to 13°C (55°F). Daytime in winters is shiny and nighttime is generally cold. The minimum temperatures rarely go beyond

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Financial Stability Conference**

*Madrid, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June 2010*

freezing point. The rainfall in Madrid is a periodical phenomenon. The city rarely witnesses snowfall.

More practical information can be found on the Madrid Turismo website <http://www.esmadrid.com/en/cargarAplicacionVideo.do?identificador=6697>

### **Mobile Phones**

To ensure your mobile phone functions when arriving into Madrid make sure it has been set up with international roaming.

### **Banks/Currency**

Most ATMs will accept various credit and debit cards. There are many banks and foreign exchange booths located at Gran Via y Alcala St. Credit cards are a usual payment method in shopping, but customers will be required to show official ID to confirm identity.

### **Tipping**

No service charge applies in Spain. Tipping is not mandatory but a 5-10% tip in restaurants and hotel bars is normal for good service.

### **Post Office**

There is a post office (Correos) located next the Banco de España at Plaza de Cibeles, Opening hours: Monday to Friday: 08:30 – 20:30 h.; Saturdays: 09:30-13:00 h.

### **Nightlife**

In spring and summer, terraces begin to spread out over almost every paved space available. You can relax on a terrace where you can chat quietly with friends and enjoy a meal or a drink. This is the essence of Madrid in summer, and its many terraces offer something to satisfy all tastes.

### **USEFUL WEBSITES**

To help you find your way around Madrid and make the most of your free time we have chosen the following websites that offer useful information that you may wish to look at prior to your arrival in Madrid.

**A tourist site for Madrid** – includes entertainments, tours, venues & events, accommodation and special events: <http://www.esmadrid.com/es/portal.do>

**Practical information** – consists of a range of useful information for tourists visiting Madrid including; banking hours, health information, voltages, visitors' information centres and more: <http://www.esmadrid.com/en/portal.do?IDM=456&NM=2>

**Transport** – provides detailed travel information for buses and underground transport: <http://www.emtmadrid.es/index.html?lang=eng>

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**Restaurant Guide** – contains restaurant reviews and descriptions by food type and/or location: <http://www.esmadrid.com/en/portal.do?IDM=304&NM=3>

**Shopping Guide** – for a list of shopping venues for all tastes: <http://www.esmadrid.com/en/portal.do?IDM=303&NM=3>

#### WEBSITES TO SOME OF MADRID'S ATTRACTIONS

**El Prado Museum:** From its privileged location surrounded by trees and some of Madrid's greatest monuments, the National Museum of the Prado is one of the most visited attractions in the capital. The museum is home to the most important Spanish painting collection in the world.

<http://www.museodelprado.es/en/>

**Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum:** The Thyssen-Bornemisza, with almost 1,000 works of art, is extraordinarily located in a cultural and artistic itinerary that is unique in the world. Come to the museum and enjoy a privileged tour of seven centuries of European painting, from its origins in the 13<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the 20<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.museothyssen.org/THYSSEN/home>

**Spanish National Library:** This library works to identify, preserve, conserve and disseminate the written heritage of Spain. The museum, which houses over 30,000 manuscripts, around 3,000 incunables and some 500,000 examples of printed matter, is a fascinating journey through the history of the book.

<http://www.bne.es/en/Inicio/index.html>

**Reina Sofia Museum:** Works by Dali, Miró and Juan Gris join Picasso's *Guernica* on a fascinating journey through the history of contemporary art. The new scheme that commenced in 2009 contrasts works from different painters, origins, periods and subjects, thus illustrating different facets of the avant-garde.

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

**Royal Palace & Royal Armoury:** Home to the Kings of Spain from Carlos III all the way through to Alfonso XIII, Madrid's Royal Palace is now open to anyone who wants to take a trip through Spanish history. Visitors can wander through the many rooms, enjoying the beautiful architecture and the art collection still housed here.

<http://www.patrimoniocional.es/Home/Palacios-reales/Palacio-real-de-madrid.aspx>

**Monumental Madrid:** With a past full of history, Madrid is working hard to preserve the traditions still to be found in its oldest neighbourhoods whilst keeping up with the avant-garde and the future. We invite to a virtual tour over the historical evolution of Madrid through the buildings and monuments erected at each time.

<http://www.esmadrid.com/monograficos/madridmonumental/monografico.html>