Lonely Planet Experiences: Madrid Tapas Adventure

Madrid

Fact: Spanish people love to eat. If you want to experience the real Madrid, take a tip from us: do as the locals do and nibble and chomp your way through the city. From Madrid’s oldest taverns to its modern hip hangouts, this is your chance to indulge in the most delectable cuisine – tapas. And hey, we’ll even teach you some pro tapas tips along the way, the ultimate souvenir to take home with you! Start practicing your humble brag…

Experience the best travel stories for yourself. Join a local expert and uncover hidden gems on this city adventure hand-picked by the world’s leading travel publisher. Lonely Planet Experiences powered by Urban Adventures bring stories to life in the best-loved cities around the globe.

Highlights

- Visit the first tapas market in the country and learn all about the importance of Spanish market culture
- Get an introduction to the traditions of the Spanish aperitivo with a traditional vermouth and olive tasting
• Taste traditional recipes with a modern twist in a tiny gourmet tapas bar owned by two dedicated sommeliers (that’s wine experts to you and me)

• Discover the oldest parts of Madrid and stop at some of our favourite heritage taverns to try the house dish in each of them, including the best potato croquettes in the entire city!

• Stroll around the trendy neighbourhood of La Latina and soak up the historic vibes and breathtaking architecture of the old city centre too

• Each Lonely Planet Experience comes with six-months free access to Lonely Planet’s Guides App which includes over 8,000 destinations guides and unbeatable discounts to Lonely Planet Guidebooks

Inclusions: Local English-speaking guide, 1 drink and 1 tapas dish at each stop (5 tastings stops - including a cheese and olive tasting, a bocadillo de calamares sandwich, a croquette tasting and a Spanish dessert) plus 6 alcoholic drinks.

Exclusions: Additional food and drink, items of personal nature, tips and gratuities for your guide.

Schedule details

• Duration: 4 hours

• Meeting point:
  Plaza de la Villa, at the statue in the middle of the square.
  
  Your guide will be holding an Urban Adventures sign

• Find the exact meeting point with what3words: //splendid.fines.minder

• Starting time: 7.00 PM

• Ending point:
  Puerta del Sol
Your tapas adventure begins in Plaza de la Villa, the old main square in central Madrid. After a brief introduction to the city and its tapas credentials, we’ll head towards Mercado de San Miguel, the first gourmet market in all of Spain, for the first of many food tastings. Here we’ll start with an aperitivo, what else?! We’ll try traditional vermouth and we’ll taste some of Spain’s most succulent olives too.

Spain is a well-known cheese producing nation, offering the world such cheesy delights as manchego, mahon and idizabal. We’ll try some delicious Spanish cheese, alongside a glass of wine of course at one of the best cheese stalls in the market.

Next, we’ll head to the pulsating barrio of La Latina to explore its narrow lanes and fascinating history. This neighbourhood is ultra trendy right now and is popular with locals for its vibrant food and drink scene. We will visit a tiny, off the beaten path restaurant that is well known for their traditional tapas dishes - with a fusion twist. This tiny spot only has 6 tables so it’s always busy and it has a great atmosphere!

From there, we will head back to the oldest part of Madrid, as we walk we’ll continue to chat about the city’s history and food culture and your guide will point out some artisanal stores where you can pick up authentic, handmade souvenirs made by locals. If there’s time and the group are interested, we’ll make a quick stop at one of these shops.

Our next stop, right in the heart of Plaza Mayor is to try the iconic bocadillo de calamares, the famous sandwich of the city. To wash it down, we’ll try some local beer too! Back on the streets, your local guide will point out interesting sights and alternative food and drink stops for you to explore on your own as we head to our penultimate foodie highlight of the day.

Does it get much better than potato croquettes?! The perfect snack at any time of day and with so many different flavours to choose from, croquettes are the best! We’ll try some of Madrid’s most famous croquettes together at a heritage tavern that was originally built in 1860 and only specializes in these special potato treats.

After that, we’ll cross Puerta del Sol, one of the most iconic spots of Madrid and finish our tapas adventure with a local dessert and sweet wine in yet another historic location. This join has been run by the same family for over 100 years, serving a traditional Spanish dessert that might just remind you of something familiar.

Once you’ve finished your dessert, your guide will take you back to Puerta del Sol, where they can help you out with directions back to your accommodation or ideas on where to go next!

Additional information
Inclusions: Local English-speaking guide, 1 drink and 1 tapas dish at each stop (5 tastings stops - including a cheese and olive tasting, a bocadillo de calamares sandwich, a croquette tasting and a Spanish dessert) plus 6 alcoholic drinks.

Exclusions: Additional food and drink, items of personal nature, tips and gratuities for your guide.

Dress standard: Comfortable clothes and walking shoes are recommended. We recommend that you bring a water bottle, sunscreen, and hat during the summer months.

Your Trip: For your Urban Adventure you will be in a small group of a maximum of 12 people.

Confirmation of booking: If you have your voucher, your booking is confirmed. We'll see you at the start point. Get in touch if you have any concerns or require more information via the email address or phone number (business hours only) on your voucher.

Additional Information: If you have any allergies to certain foods, please let us know in advance by noting it in the 'Additional Request' section of the booking or by emailing info@madridurbanadventures.com.

Child Policy: Children between the ages of 6 and 11 inclusively are permitted on this tour at the rate listed above. Please select 'child' above when booking. Children below the age of 6 are not permitted on this tour.

Local contact

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