

# OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP IN MADRID

APRIL 21-23, 2019



**Western**  
UNIVERSITY • CANADA



**TERRAFFINITY**  
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP TRAVEL

The Terrafinity division of Terraficionados Travel Society and Journeymakers is pleased to be working with Western University

More info: [www.terraficionados.com/western-camino](http://www.terraficionados.com/western-camino)

## SUMMARY OF ITINERARY

Date	Activities	Accommodation	Meals
Sun April 21	Welcome to Madrid, Spain! Insider's Evening of Tapas and Wine in Madrid	Las Letras Gran Vía	D
Mon April 22	Half-day Tour of Royal Palace & Prado Museum	Las Letras Gran Vía	B
Tue April 23	Enjoy a morning at leisure in Madrid Join fellow travellers for the Camino Trip!	See Camino Trip itinerary	B

## DETAILED ITINERARY

### Sun April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

#### Daily overview

Welcome to Madrid, Spain!  
Insider's Evening of Tapas and Wine in Madrid

Accommodation: Las Letras Gran Vía

Meals: D

#### Details

Welcome to Madrid!

Our representative will meet you in the arrivals lounge and you will have a private transfer to your hotel. Check-in to your hotel, settle in and relax.

Tonight enjoy an Insider's Evening of Tapas and Wine in Madrid!

Your host for this evening is a genuine wine enthusiast and expert. Wine has always been an integral part of his life, from visiting the vines of his grandfather in the Ribera del Duero as a little boy, to taking his passion for wine into his university studies on the latest techniques of wine elaboration. He has traveled all over Europe visiting the continent's most iconic wine regions, but his big passions are Spanish wines and cuisine. His eagerness to share his expertise and inspire travelers makes for an unforgettable evening in a local neighbourhood that tourists rarely venture into.

During this exclusive tour, you will taste wines "off the beaten path" in authentic gourmet bars and taverns where the locals appreciate the quality served. The emphasis is on fun and you learn about the variety of Spanish wines and styles, whilst enjoying some fantastic tapas.

It is very much an insider's tour with a genuine expert and a different world to the increasingly touristy tapas bars in some parts of the center. For those who enjoy getting under the skin of the local foodie culture, as well as good company and conversation, this is a fabulous evening and highly recommended.

#### About Madrid...

Madrid is one of the world's most vibrant and seductive cities. It is a city with a charming and infectious atmosphere that the visitor can immediately sense, feel a part of and enjoy. A city that takes unabashed pleasure in its past traditions, it is proud to display a wealth of cultural treasures and architectural glories. Each neighbourhood has a flavour all its own and the city wonderfully juxtaposes its grandeur - elegant marble statues, spectacular fountains, the awe-inspiring Royal Palace - with lively bohemian districts, where funky restaurants and cafes are sprouting up between old established local favourites. It's an exciting time for food lovers in the capital too, where you can choose between traditional cuisine and state-of-the-art cooking techniques, in both restaurants and tapas bars.

If you're an art fan, you've come to the right place. Madrid is practically bursting at the seams with museums and galleries where you can get your fix of some of the greatest works of art from Velazquez, Goya, Picasso, El Greco, Dali and co. The Prado, the Reina Sofia and the Thyssen are the heavyweights and highly recommended at some stage of your visit.

Come to Madrid and live like a local for a few days... it's a place that quickly envelops visitors and almost always exceeds expectations.

#### Mon April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

##### Daily overview

Half-day Tour of Royal Palace & Prado Museum

Accommodation: Las Letras Gran Vía

Meals: B

##### Details

Today you will embark on a half-day tour of Madrid's Royal Palace and Prado Museum.

Madrid's huge and opulent Royal Palace fully merits a visit. There is an outstanding collection of paintings, sculptures and tapestries as well as the Royal Armoury, considered one of the best of its type in the world.

The tour will focus on the Bourbon Madrid so called after the "Bourbon" Kings, of the French dynasty, who built up this area. Originally it was an open area containing market gardens. This area was called the Prado (Meadow). The Bourbon monarchs, particularly Carlos III chose this area to provide a lasting architectural legacy for the madrileños.

The attractions in Bourbon Madrid which you will visit include the Puerta de Alcalá, Plaza de Cibeles, the Congreso de los Diputados (Spanish lower parliament) and of course the Prado Museum which you will visit with your guide. The visit tends to focus on works by Goya, Velazquez, Zurbarán and the paintings by El Greco, which of course would be ideally completed with a visit to Toledo. Your expert guide will make the visit a fascinating and memorable museum experience.

Time permitting, venture into the nearby Barrio de las Letras. This Madrid tour focuses on several of Spain's famous writers great composers, writers, comics and poets (Cervantes, Lope, Quevedo, Góngora) who lived in this neighbourhood.

As with all our city tours, the day is catered to your tastes and interests so can also include sites, monuments or places of interest not mentioned here.

This evening, you are free for dinner.

## Tuesday Apr 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

### Daily overview

Enjoy a morning at leisure in Madrid  
Join fellow travellers for the Camino Trip!

Meals: B

Accommodation: See Camino Trip itinerary

### Details

This morning you are free to explore Madrid on your own. Later in the afternoon, you will join fellow travelers for the beginning of the Camino trip. Please refer to the Camino trip itinerary to see what else is planned for today.

## ACCOMMODATION

Below is an overview of the accommodation. All rooms are Double Standard rooms.

### Hotel de Las Letras, Madrid

1 night: April 23-24

+34 915 23 79 80

Calle Gran Vía, 11, 28013 Madrid

<http://www.iberostar.com/hoteles/madrid/iberostar-las-letras-gran-via>

A great 4\* boutique hotel on bustling Gran Vía, borders the Letras neighbourhood, which is known for its association with well-known Spanish writers, poets and philosophers. Public areas feature glazed tiles, canopies, the original wood-and-iron elevator from 1917, a wooden staircase, and stone carvings. The rooms, painted in tones of ocher, orange, or burgundy, have high ceilings, wooden floors, indirect lighting, and over-the-top modern bathrooms. There is a charming rooftop terrace bar open to the public that's quite popular in the summer, and you can also enjoy contemporary Spanish food in the popular restaurant-lounge at street level.

## PRICING

678 EUR per person (double occupancy)

277 EUR supplement per person (if you prefer single occupancy)

Please note: If you would like double occupancy please coordinate to have a roommate, or we will try to match you with a same-sex roommate. Otherwise you are subject to the single supplement.

## CONDITIONS

### Included

- All activities outlined in the itinerary
- All admissions on the private tours
- All accommodation outlined in the itinerary
- All meals outlined in the itinerary
- Private group transfer from airport
- Value added tax
- All service charges and gratuities
- Private-guided activities: As a traveler with Terraficionados, you will be serviced with the best guides. Never second tier guides. We have built our reputation on our own services but also significantly on our network of fantastic guides and special collaborators.
- 24/7 In-Country Support: You will receive the 24/7 emergency number for our world-class ground operator partners

### Excluded

- International flights
- Travel insurance (Terraficionados recommends protecting your travel investment and your health while abroad. We offer various Cancellation & Interruption, Lost Baggage, and Out-of-Country Medical insurance coverages. If you need information or a quote for travel insurance please contact us.)
- Private transfers from airport; available upon request
- Personal expenses
- Other meals and beverages not mentioned in the itinerary