

VISITOR GUIDE



OFICINA DE RELACIONES
INTERNACIONALES
UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID



UNIVERSIDAD
COMPLUTENSE
MADRID

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Universidad Complutense de Madrid

is one of the richest in history and the largest one in Spain. Created in 1499, it has evolved to a modern, generalist, research-based university. Its offer includes close to 300 official academic programmes with increasing importance of joint international bachelor programmes. UCM hosts more than 70,000 students, almost 10% of them in Phd programmes. More than 500 research groups perform around 700 active competitive research projects. UCM consistently appears as one of the leading Spanish institutions in international university rankings.

The international vocation of the UCM is one of the keys axes of the strategic plan of the institution, with the aim to contribute to the quality of the academic experience offered and to the reinforcement of the research networks and activities. UCM is one of the Spanish leading host and sending university within Erasmus+ programme, with almost 4000 students moving each academic year. Besides pertaining to 13 international university networks, the university maintains more than 900 bilateral agreements with institutions from 77 countries. UCM researchers are strongly committed with European and international projects and networks. Participation in European programmes such as H2020 and others are strongly promoted and recognized, and the implementation of the HRS4R is priority in order to increase our attractiveness.



UCM is strongly connected to the city of Madrid, an increasingly cosmopolite and attractive city, and to the region, developing close ties with the economic, academic, cultural and civil tissue. UCM is divided in two Campuses: Ciudad Universitaria, in the downtown, and Somosaguas, 8 km from Madrid. Since 1927, the Ciudad Universitaria is developed as an integrated campus where education, science and culture merge harmoniously. The Campus of Moncloa endeavours to take the lead in responding to the challenges of the 21st century, namely knowledge and sustainable development.

INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT



The International dimension of the UCM is an indisputable fact. We have numerous agreements with universities around the world as well as grants and Exchange programmes to promote international mobility.

In the last academic year we received 7,164 foreign Students:

- 1,880 from EU
- 309 Europe (non-EU)
- 88 from North America
- 2,402 from Latinamerica
- 337 from Africa
- 2,153 from Asia

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Complutense Arts Centre (c arte c)

This museum-based area offers a view of the historical and artistic heritage and also acts as a dynamic forum for new art trends, culture and social integration.

Complutense Encounters

"Complutense encounters" is an open forum for debate and reflection that seeks to communicate and interact with society, with the goal of enhancing the university's role as a scientific, academic, cultural and social model.



Music

- Concerts
- Music on Campus
- UCM Symphony Orchestra
- The Complutense University Choir
- Choral groups
- Complutense University Spanish Dance Group
- Cinema and Theatre
- Plastic Arts
- Summer Courses in "El Escorial"
- The Complutense Summer School
- Complutense Latin American School

Sports

The UCM has five large sports facilities on campus and competes in a wide range of sports, such as basketball, football, indoor football, rugby, volleyball, handball, etc.



GETTING TO UCM

Madrid's public transport system offers easy, fast and convenient transport not only within the city limits, but to communities located outside of Madrid as well.

UCM has two beautiful campuses. The main campus is located in "Ciudad Universitaria" at the centre of the city and the other in the residential area of "Somosaguas" located just to the west of Madrid.

The closest Metro stations to the Campuses are "Ciudad Unviersitaria" and "Campus de Somosaguas".

JOURNEY PLANNER



City of Madrid



Madrid is a cosmopolitan city that combines the most modern infrastructures with a large cultural and artistic heritage.

Strategically located at the geographical centre of Spain, Madrid is one of the most important cities in Europe. Its charming yet vibrant historic centre offers a wide range of accommodation and services. All this, combined with the momentum of a very dynamic society filled with a warm and welcoming population have turned this metropolis into one of the western world's greatest capitals.

Visitors can enjoy the sun, go for a walk or go rowing in Madrid's large and beautiful parks and gardens.

The Retiro Park, the Casa de Campo and the Juan Carlos I Park, among others, make Madrid one of Europe's greenest capitals.

If there is one thing, however, that characterizes Madrid, it is the deep, contagious passion for life reflected in its friendly, welcoming people. Madrid is host to many events of the performing arts such as concerts, exhibitions, ballets, select theatre productions, and the latest cinematographic releases.

You can enjoy a wide variety of Spanish and international cuisine or be charmed by its bars and taverns. Madrid's nightlife is another great attraction. Its pubs, bars, discos and flamenco clubs all form a part of its fantastic atmosphere.

270 Hotels in the city			
5 stars hotels:	24	Rooms:	4,894
4 stars hotels:	143	Rooms:	21,507
3 stars hotels:	77	Rooms:	6,511
Others:	628	Rooms:	9,591
Total:	871	Total Rooms:	42,503





GETTING TO MADRID DOWNTOWN

The Madrid-Barajas Adolfo Suarez Airport is strategically located just 12 km away from the city centre. It has four terminals, and it is possible to transfer between terminals using buses that are free for all passengers.

Terminal 4 is divided into T4 and T4S (Satélite). You can transfer between them using the train between terminals with an approximate journey time of four minutes.

Bus

When you leave the Barajas Airport, you should keep in mind the arrival terminal.

If you arrive at the T4, you have the following buses to take you to the city centre: Line 204 - Avenida de América, Line 827 - Tres Cantos-Metro de Canillejas and Line 828 - Universidad Autónoma-Recintos FERIAles

If you arrive at T1, T2 or T3, you can use: Line 101 Canillejas-Aeropuerto-Pueblo de Barajas, Line 200 Avenida América- Aeropuerto and Line 822 Coslada – Aeropuerto. For more information, visit EMT bus operator. [↗](#)



Metro (Underground)

The metro is still the quickest, most effective transport for arriving at the city centre. It is easy to use from any of the terminals. The entrance is located on the first floor of the T4 and the first floor of the T2 in the connection corridor with parking lot P2. There are various types of tickets and a fare called "Servicio Especial" from the Aeropuerto T1, T2, T3 and Aeropuerto T-4 stations. For travellers using a Transport Pass or Tourist Travel Pass, it is not necessary to pay this special fare.

Fares:

Multi Public Transport Card: 2,50 €

This card can be purchased from the ticket machines at any Metro station

One-way Metro ticket : 1,5 – 2 €, depending on the number of stations involved)

Airport extra charge: 3 €.

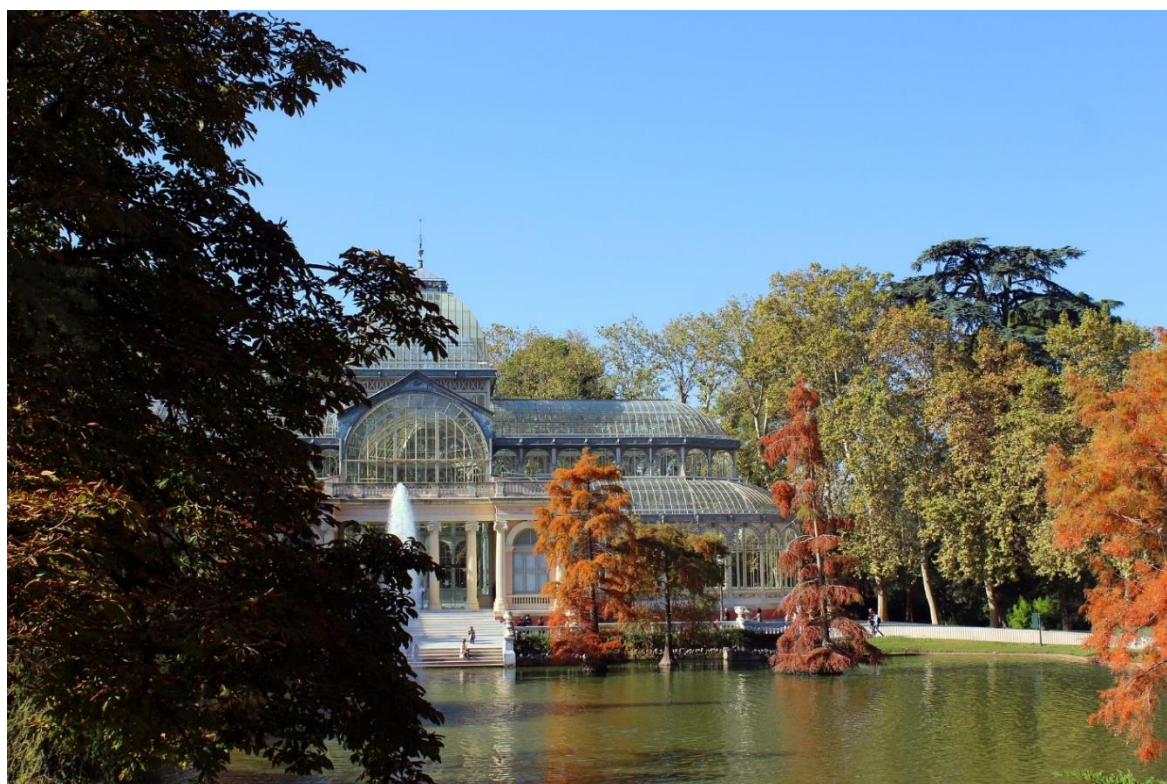
10 trips ticket: 12,20 €

For more information visit [**METRO**](#)

Taxi

Travelling to the city centre by taxi is the most convenient but also the most expensive option. To take a taxi, you must go to the designated taxi stop located at the exits of each one of the terminals.

[Map of the underground network](#)
[Touristic map of the underground network](#)
[Suburban bus, journey planner](#)



Tourism, Leisure and Culture



The Art Route, a world of painting with easy reach

A route that will take you through the past, present and future of painting: this is the "Paseo del Arte" (Art Avenue) in Madrid. Spain's capital is home to three of the world's most important collections: the Prado Museum, the Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum and the Reina Sofía National Museum.

Prado Museum

It has one of the world's most important collections of paintings, with some of the finest works from the Spanish, Italian and Flemish schools from the 12th to the 18th centuries.

Some of the most outstanding paintings include "Las Meninas" or "The Family of Philip IV" (also known as "The Maids of Honour") by Velazquez; Goya's Majas; and "The Garden of Earthly Delights" by Hieronymus Bosch, in addition to works by artists of the stature of Titian, Rubens and El Greco.

Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum

This museum represents the perfect transition, a link between the classic works of the Prado Museum and the contemporary style found in the Reina Sofía Art Centre.

The itinerary begins with 13th-century Western painting and goes all the way through to the most important movements of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Highlights of its artistic collection include works from the Impressionist, avant-garde and 60s Pop-Art movements. Hanging on its walls you'll find paintings by masters such as Monet, Van Gogh, Cezanne, Klee and Kandinsky, among many others.

Reina Sofía National Art Museum

Avant-garde and state of the art – these may be the adjectives that best describe the Reina Sofía National Art Museum. It highlights the most innovative artistic trends and sets the standard in contemporary art. It is also home to Pablo Picasso's world-famous "Guernica". Miró, Dalí, Tàpies, Juan Gris and Chillida, among others, are all represented in this museum's extensive collection.



HERITAGE

6 UNESCO Heritage sites near the city

- [Alcalá de Henares \(33 Km from Madrid\)](#)
- [El Escorial \(45 Km from Madrid\)](#)
- [Aranjuez \(49 Km from Madrid\)](#)
- [Toledo \(a 72 Km from Madrid\)](#)
- [Segovia \(a 93 Km from Madrid\)](#)
- [Ávila \(a 109 Km from Madrid\)](#)

Madrid boasts one of the most packed calendars of concerts, festivals, shows, sports events and exhibitions in the world.

For information on museums, monuments, accommodation, gastronomy and much more, visit the following [Website](#):

Practical Information



Climate

Madrid has a dynamically varied climate, sunny warmth in the summer and a damp cool breeziness during the winter. Winter temperatures rarely dip below freezing, even in the coldest months of December and January. When packing, whether fall or spring, it's best to bring clothes for layering.

International calls

To make an international call, first dial the prefix 00 and then the country code, area code and, finally, the number you want to call. If you wish to receive calls from abroad, the code for Spain is 34.

Business opening hours

In Spain, large department stores and shopping centres open all day from 10 am to 10 pm. Small retailers normally close between 1,30 pm and 4,30 pm approximately.

Lunch and dinner times are later than is normally the case in other European countries. People usually have lunch between 2 pm and 3 pm, while dinner is served between 9 pm and midnight.

Banking

Banks in Spain Banks are normally open, Monday to Friday, from 8:00 am to 2:30pm. Online banking and telephone banking are widely used. There is a very large network of automatic teller machines; Servired and 4-B offer the most terminals.

Important: each of them charges a fee for withdrawing cash if the card does not belong to their network.

Credit card payments are also very common. All major credit cards are accepted at most businesses, but payment by check is not commonly accepted.

Tapas

Tapas are a typically Spanish custom that has been successfully exported recently abroad. It consists basically of small portions of food served at bars to accompany drinks. Depending on the part of the country, it may be just a bite-sized portion offered free of charge by the establishment or more or less sophisticated, complete portions that the customer selects and pays for, in place of a meal. People usually go out for tapas at the weekend.

Smoking

Smoking has been prohibited by law in all enclosed work and public places throughout Spain, including bars and restaurants, except for open-air terraces. The consumption and purchase of tobacco is prohibited for anyone under the age of 18.

Electricity

Electricity in Spain is 220 volts, and plugs have two pins. If you're coming from the UK or Ireland, you'll need an adapter from three pins to two pins in order to use electrical devices. In the US, where electricity is supplied at 120 volts, you'll need a transformer from 120 volts to 220 volts. We recommend that you buy the adapter/transformer at the international airport you are flying from, since it is rather difficult to find one in the electric shops in Madrid.

Alcohol

In Spain, alcohol may be purchased at any supermarket, neighbourhood shop and even at petrol stations. Alcohol cannot be sold to or consumed by anyone under the age of 18. Furthermore, many regions and towns have prohibited drinking alcohol in public places, except where expressly authorised.

Cost of living

One of your most important questions when coming to Madrid is probably how much money will you need in your everyday life. Although the average monthly expenses of a student are about €900-1,300, prices (especially housing) vary quite a lot depending on the place you choose (and if you choose a shared flat, a hall of residence, etc.)

Here is a list of average prices:

Coffee:	€1.50
A continental breakfast:	€3-5
Soft drink or beer:	€2,5
Loaf of bread:	€0.80
A set menu in a restaurant:	€10-20
Ticket for a one-way bus or metro journey:	€1.50 /€2.0
10-ride pass:	€12,2
Monthly pass:	€54,6
A packet of cigarettes:	€4.50
Newspaper:	€1.50
Cinema ticket:	€9

Language

The official language in Spain is Spanish or Castilian Spanish, which is spoken by all citizens. However, certain Autonomous Communities have their own official language in addition to Spanish. Catalan is spoken in Catalonia, Galician in Galicia, and Basque in the Basque Country and part of Navarre. The Balearic Islands and Valencia also have their own official languages.

Timezone

Spain uses Central European Time (GMT+01:00) and Central European Summer Time (GMT+02:00) in Peninsular Spain, The Balearic Islands, Ceuta, Melilla.

In the Canary Islands, the time zone is Western European Time (GMT±00:00) and Western European Summer Time (GMT+01:00).

Madrid Healthcare System

Healthcare centres are manned by the Primary Healthcare Team, which mainly consists of family and paediatric doctor/s, nursing staff and administrative staff. There may also be other support staff, such as social workers, midwives and physiotherapists.

You should visit your closest [healthcare centre](#) for any health-related problem or query. As a general rule, they are open Monday to Friday from 08:00 until 21:00.

European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)

European residents who are covered by a social security scheme in their country of residence are entitled to a **European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)**. The card simplifies the procedure when receiving unforeseen medical assistance during their visit to a member state.

The EHIC entitles the holder to the same treatment at the same cost as a national of that country.



Visas

Information on visas and travelling to Spain are available at the following [website](#)

Emergency Contacts

Emergency Service (police, fire and ambulance) can be called on 112 (no area code needed) .



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