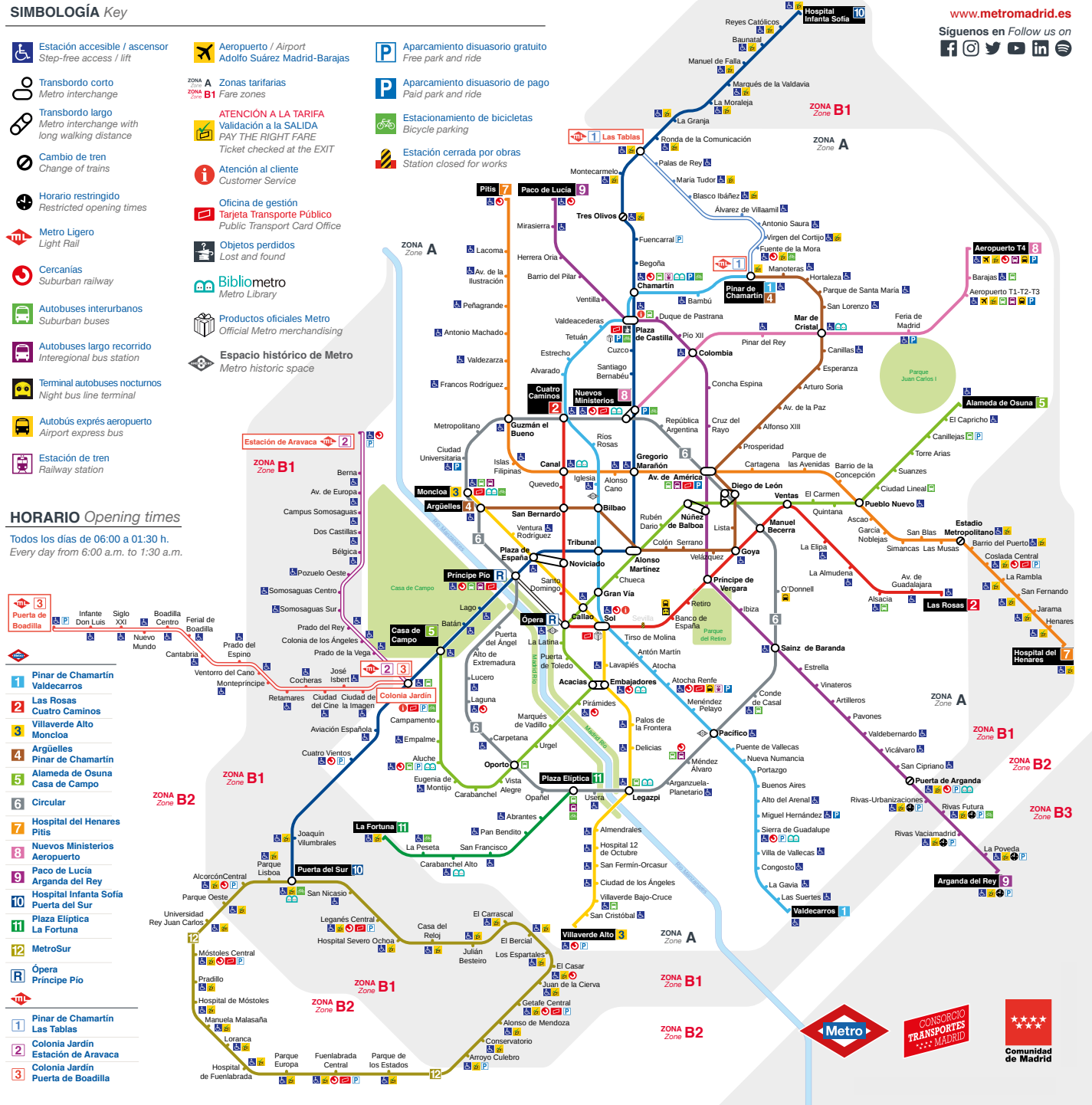




Useful tips

What should I know about shopping in Madrid?
Madrid has very competitive prices compared to other European capitals, the VAT refund conditions are better, so the final prices are much more attractive.

Opening hours Most of the shops open at 10:00 a.m. and close at 9:00 p.m. especially in the center and commercial areas. The shopping malls close at 10:00 p.m.

TAX V.A.T. If your habitual residence is not in the European Union, remember that you can request a refund of VAT on purchases in accordance with current legislation.

To haggle It is NOT common to haggle over prices in shops, yet at flea markets, it is an integral part of the street shopping experience.

Credit cards The majority of stores accept all kinds of credit cards for purchases. Among them Visa, Master Card, American Express, Diners Club, China Union Pay...

Sales Although we can find offers and opportunities throughout the year, there are two seasons of sales: in winter from January 1 to February 28 and in summer from June 21 to August 31.

Shipping of my purchases Many shops have their own local, national or international messenger services. It is very comfortable to travel without bulges.

Tips Tips are not obligatory, but for certain services, they are a welcome addition to the workers' salary: waiters, taxi drivers and bellboys. It is the way to show appreciation for a good job. The amount depends on the cost of the service and the level of customer satisfaction, but it can never be demanded.

Currency exchange You will easily find exchange offices in the city centre. For example, Western Union offices in Gran Vía.

Shopping by metro The Madrid subway network is a fast and economic way to move about the city and do your shopping.

Tourism offices For more information on shopping in Madrid, visit one of our tourist offices located in the emblematic places of the city. Check at: www.comunidad.madrid

Shopping outside the capital: World Heritage



Aranjuez: The Bourbons chose Aranjuez located on the banks of the Tagus River to establish their spring residence. It is a real privilege to walk along this landscape, declared by UNESCO as a World Heritage site, and visit its gardens: El Jardín del Príncipe, De La Isla or Del Parterre, as well as The Royal Palace, La Casa del Labrador or La Plaza de Toros. **Typical products:** autochthonous garden products, wedding boutiques, jewelry, textiles, footwear, gourmet. **Main shopping areas:** Central area, Foso-Morera, Travelling Flea Market, El Deleite shopping mall. Discover the Aranjuez market "Mercado de Abastos" and the products of its fertile valleys, like strawberries and asparagus.



Alcalá de Henares: Cervantes's home town, declared a UNESCO World Heritage site, and its historical center is an ideal place to explore. Its streets, squares, and monuments, like San Ildefonso Chapel, Alcalá University or Arzobispal Palace take us back to the Spanish Golden Age. **Typical products:** sugar almonds, "rosquillas" (local donuts), gourmet products, textiles, handicrafts. **Main shopping areas:** Central area, Calle Mayor and surroundings, Reyes Católicos Avenue, Juan de Austria Avenue; shopping malls: Alcalá Magna, La Dehesa, El Val, Garena Plaza.



San Lorenzo de El Escorial: Is distinguished by its extraordinary artistic heritage, its cultural offer and its magnificent location in the Sierra de Guadarrama mountain range. The Monastery of San Lorenzo de El Escorial and the oldest theatre of its kind in Spain are located here. These streets breathe the country air of past centuries. **Typical products:** Sierra de Guadarrama meats, bakery, art, antiques, etc. **Main shopping areas:** Juan de Leyva, Reina Victoria, Floridablanca, Del Rev, etc. Municipal public market. El Zaburdón shopping mall.

Shopping areas

- Centro
- Chueca, Malasaña, Salesas
- Barrio de las Letras
- Salamanca - Retiro
- Argüelles
- AZCA

Interesting places

- Plaza Mayor
- Palacio Real / Plaza de Oriente
- Teatro Real
- Templo de Debod
- Parque del Retiro / Palacio de Cristal
- Plaza y Palacio de Cibeles
- Museo del Prado
- Museo Reina Sofía
- Museo Thyssen
- Museo Arqueológico
- Museo Cerralbo
- Museo Romántico
- Museo Lázaro Galdiano
- Museo "Real Madrid"

