

THE TOWNS OF THE COMMUNITY OF MADRID

Since its inception, Suma Flamenca has aimed to spread its events out around different towns in the Community of Madrid and has scheduled shows in various locations within our community. This is partly an attempt to bring the flamenco tradition closer to “young” theaters, but it also gives us a chance to take advantage of the many corners, squares, castles, and ancient works of art to be found in the towns of the Community of Madrid.

Filling those spaces with up-and-coming and established artists allows us to achieve our goal of offering a taste of flamenco art to all of Madrid's citizens, whether they are experts or complete novices, young or old.

The flamenco festival in Alcobendas acts as a sort of prologue, although it is fully mature and has a life of its own. We have a flavorful yet delicate “starter dish”: Estrella Morente's exquisite voice will open the festival in San Lorenzo del Escorial, with Madrid lying at her feet. The historic city of Alcalá de Henares will host one of the best flamenco guitarists in history: Enrique de Melchor. Two shows will take place in the town of Rivas Vaciamadrid: first, a choreography by Mari Paz Lucena, then a concert featuring Guadiana and Paco Taranto. The village of La Cabrera has scheduled a concert by Carmen Corpas, while Juan de Juan's groundbreaking dance performance will be staged at Villaviciosa de Odón, and flamenco master El Güito will perform in Torrelodones.

This year, Chinchón's Plaza Mayor, an old-timer in such affairs, will again host Gerardo Núñez's guitar accompanied by dancer Carmen Cortés. At another Plaza Mayor (the one in Torrelaguna) Talegón de Córdoba and the young Sonia Miranda will be performing.

This edition of the festival will close in Buitrago de Lozoya, a village in Madrid that is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its Picasso Museum / Eugenio Arias Collection. There is a commemorative exhibit on display called *El Barbero de Picasso* (Picasso's Barber) and Suma Flamenca is joining the celebration by bringing another major star to the Plaza del Castillo: Enrique Morente who, on this occasion, will dedicate his singing to the genius from Málaga and his Barber.