



Rolf's Madrid Spain Trip Tips

Here are my recommendations for you while in Madrid! Enjoy!

Most trips to Spain will start in Madrid, a city where I lived for 3 years.

Getting Around:

From Airport:

In Madrid getting to the center, the metro or taxi are best.

Taxis:

Taxi Cabs in Madrid are OK. Elsewhere, especially in Spain they are SUPER expensive. Always make sure you settle the price in advance.

Bus:

Cheap and good.

Air:

Cheap flights are easy to buy online. trivago.com or Kayak.com

Train:

Probably the best way to travel in Spain. Renfe has a very good network of high speed trains (AVE).

Rental Car:

If you are covering a lot of Spain, a rental car is the way to go. Super cheap weekly rentals can be found in Madrid and Malaga. Get a Diesel car, as it is cheaper to fill up, and they drive way better. They may ask you for an international license, but normally your regular one will do.

Safety:

Spain is a safe city as far as petty crime is concerned. But beware of your belongings at all times - but specially when parking your car, smash and grabs are always happening so never leave anything important in your car!

Lodging:

Spain has some fantastic hotels! Every hotel has a rating from 1 to 5 stars. There are also distinctions between Hotels and Hostals depending on the services offered. Some Hostals are as good as 5 Star hotels. Then there are also Casa Rurales. My favorite are the state run chain of Paradores Nacionales which usually are in amazing locations. <https://www.parador.es/>

Money:

Credit Cards are accepted at hotels and some restaurants. Use banks for exchanging money. ATM's work very well. La Caxia and Sabadell charge the lowest ATM fees.

Cell Phone Service:

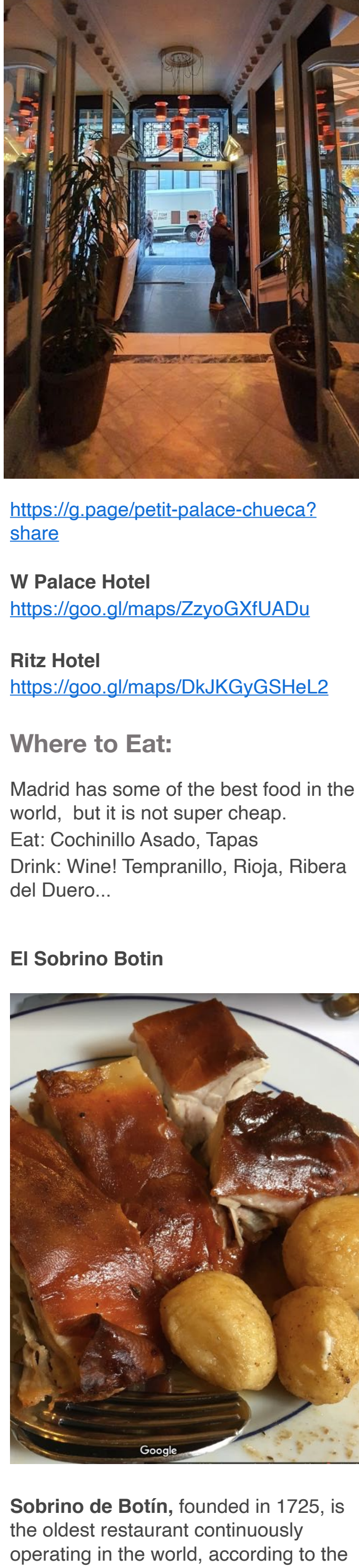
Buy a local SIM Card from **Movistar** or **Yoigo**

Madrid

Where to Stay:

Airport Area:

Axor Hotels



4, Calle Campezo, 28022 Madrid, Spain

<https://goo.gl/maps/rhLpKhj3U92>

Downtown:

Petit Palace Chueca



<https://g.page/petit-palace-chueca?share>

W Palace Hotel

<https://goo.gl/maps/ZzyoGXfUADu>

Ritz Hotel

<https://goo.gl/maps/DkJKGyGSHel.2>

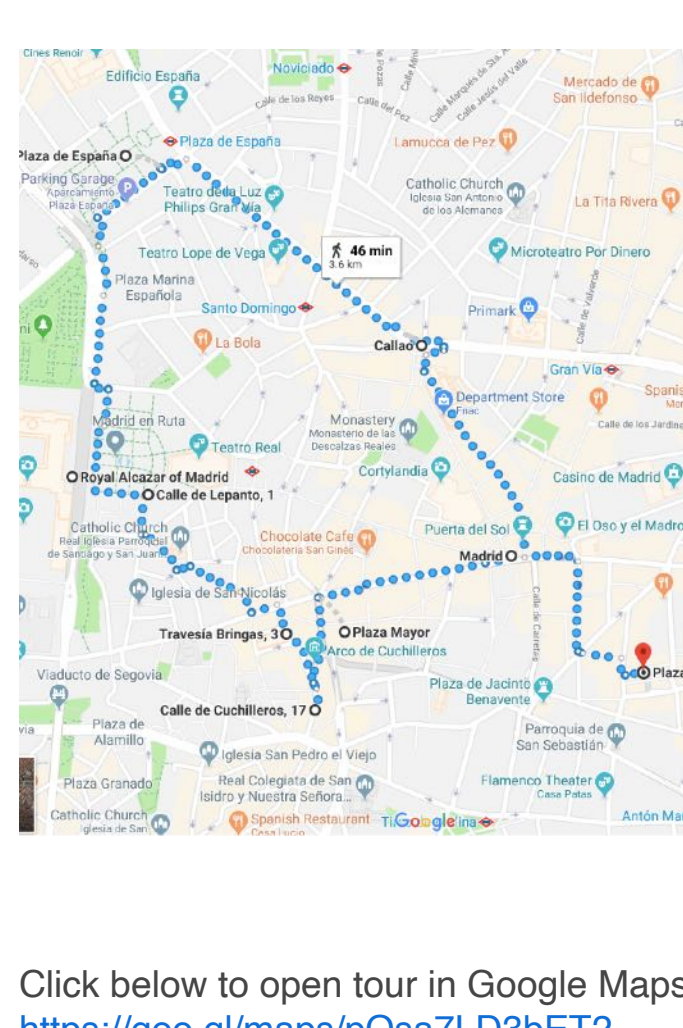
Where to Eat:

Madrid has some of the best food in the world, but it is not super cheap.

Eat: Cochinillo Asado, Tapas

Drink: Wine! Tempranillo, Rioja, Ribera del Duero...

El Sobrino Botin



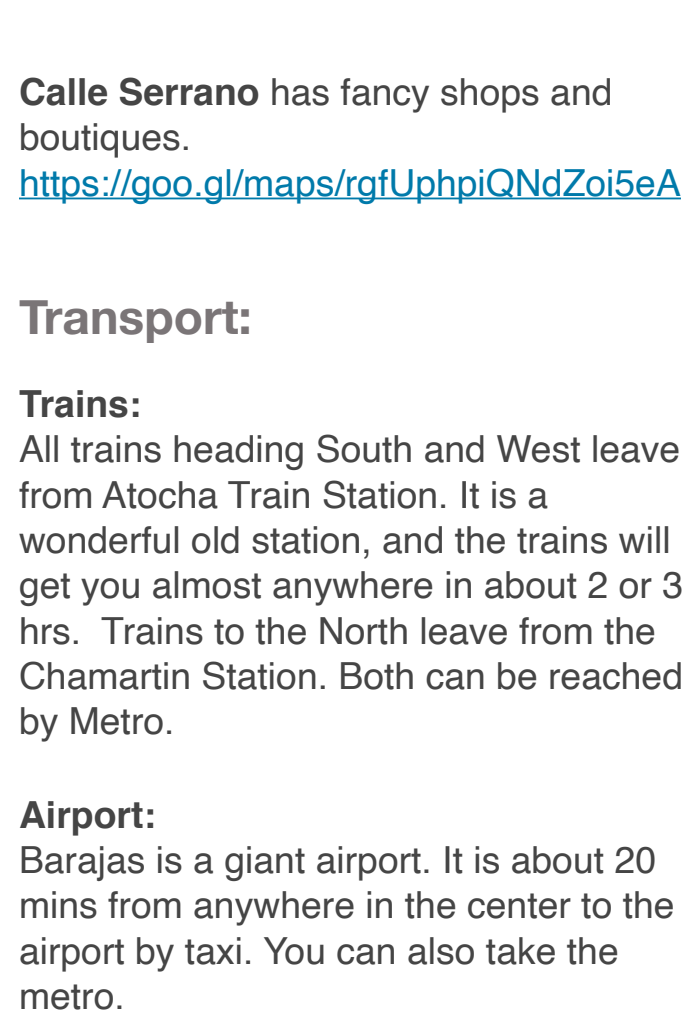
Sobrino de Botín, founded in 1725, is the oldest restaurant continuously operating in the world, according to the Guinness Book of Records. The suckling pig is amazing.

Calle Cuchilleros, 17, 28005 Madrid, Spain

+34 913 66 42 17

<https://goo.gl/maps/p66oAMnqqsC2>

Plaza Santa Ana (Tapas Area)



<https://goo.gl/maps/tDnewP7xhSzkDjYW6>

What to See & Do:

Madrid has some fantastic museums and shopping. The Prado is great, but my favorites are the Thyssen and the Reina Sofia.

Museo Thyssen & Reina Sofia

Located near the Prado Museum on one of the city's main boulevards, known as part of the "Golden Triangle of Art", which also includes the Prado and the Reina Sofia national galleries.

Puerta del Sol

Plaza Mayor (Botin Area)

<https://goo.gl/maps/pQsa7LD3bET2>

Palacio Real

Plaza Santa Ana (Tapas Area)

My Madrid Walking Tour:

Click below to open tour in Google Maps

<https://goo.gl/maps/pQsa7LD3bET2>

Shopping:

El Rastro Sunday Flea Market.

Mercado de San Miguel

<https://goo.gl/maps/SUUsnbT1qo4kSXihL6>

Calle Serrano has fancy shops and boutiques.

<https://goo.gl/maps/rgfUphpiQNdzoi5eA>

Transport:

Trains:

All trains heading South and West leave from Atocha Train Station. It is a wonderful old station, and the trains will get you almost anywhere in about 2 or 3 hrs. Trains to the North leave from the Chamartin Station. Both can be reached by Metro.

Airport:

Barajas is a giant airport. It is about 20 mins from anywhere in the center to the airport by taxi. You can also take the metro.

Metro:

The Metro is probably the best way to get around, as it is cheap and has lots of stations.