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YOU LOVE,
MADRID
LOVES
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WHOEVER YOU LOVE, MADRID LOVES YOU

In recent years Madrid has become a top destination for LGBT travellers, and it's easy to see why. Not only is it a first-class tourist and cultural destination but it's also a fun, friendly and tolerant city where diversity is a defining feature of everyday life. The Madrid Pride festivities, considered to be among the best in the world, are a good example of this.

You live Madrid, but more than anything you *feel* it. It's always waiting with open arms; welcoming, accepting and integrating people from other places. In terms of protecting LGBT rights and equality, Spain boasts some of the most progressive legislation in the world. Same-sex marriage has been a reality since 2005. All of this is strongly in evidence in the capital, which is a benchmark for many countries where full equality has yet to be achieved. Wherever you're from and whoever you love, Madrid loves you.



More information
www.esmadrid.com/LGBT

CHUECA

NEIGHBOURHOOD OF DIVERSITY

Its very name evokes the principles of freedom, respect and tolerance. Chueca is much more than a neighbourhood – it's held up as an example by the LGBT movement the world over. This is hardly surprising as it was the point of origin of what has become an unstoppable shift towards visibility, a way of life based on respect.

A few decades ago a number of bars, restaurants and multiple businesses specialising in the LGBT market, such as bookshops and fashion boutiques, began to open in the neighbourhood. Some of these are now iconic establishments: the Berkana bookshop, Café Figueroa and the Black and White club, among others. Their presence initially surprised the neighbourhood's lifelong residents, who have been privileged witnesses of its transformation into a hub of tolerance and modernity; a place where people can live a life free of prejudice or exclusion.

The neighbourhood is one of Madrid's most cosmopolitan and vibrant areas. Its main nerve centre is Plaza de Chueca, and another hotspot is Plaza de Pedro Zerolo, which was renamed in 2015 in honour of one of the activists who worked the hardest to protect the rights of the LGBT community in Spain. The neighbourhood is teeming with avant-garde art galleries, the trendiest shops around, restaurants serving international cuisine and lively outdoor bars and cafés that line its streets at every turn. It bustles with life both during the day and after the sun goes down, and boasts some of the most entertaining nightlife in town.

The energy and vitality of the surrounding neighbourhoods combine with that of Chueca to offer visitors a broad and varied range of options that's difficult to match. Calle Fuencarral, for example, is indisputably Madrid's main shopping thoroughfare, Malasaña is the heart of the city's indie scene and home to up-and-coming creative artists, and Salesas has a spirit that lies somewhere between chic and bohemian.

LAVAPIÉS AND LA LATINA

These are two adjacent, multicultural neighbourhoods. Describing them with the word "fusion" would be an understatement; it's commonplace to see lifelong residents living side by side with their new Latin, African and Asian neighbours. The two neighbourhoods are among the city's oldest, and the rich ethnic diversity of their streets has made them an example of integration without compromising their authentic and traditional Madrid character.

Many new LGBT-friendly establishments have chosen to set up shop in La Latina, the most popular neighbourhood for a fun Sunday out in Madrid. Lavapiés is also home to a thriving alternative gay and lesbian scene, which goes to show just how broad the city's range of tolerant spaces is.



THE BEST PRIDE FESTIVAL IN THE WORLD

LATE JUNE - EARLY JULY

Pride Week is a must in Madrid's calendar of events. It's one of those festivals that the entire city gets involved in, taking to the streets to enjoy a few days of fun. It is now the most heavily-attended LGBT event in Europe, and is regarded as the best in the world due to its diverse programme and –above all– the amazing parade, which sees over a million and a half people gather in the streets of Madrid's city centre each year.

In Madrid, the LGBT Pride celebrations are a way to welcome the arrival of summer, and people from all walks of life take part in them regardless of their sexual orientation. If there's one thing that the festivities stand out for it's the way they unite people of all ages, trends, cultures, nationalities and tastes. All of them come together and share space during the celebrations, which are rooted in the normalisation of the status of the LGBT community in Spain.



More information
www.madridorgullo.com



WORLD PRIDE MADRID 2017

In 2017 the city of Madrid will host the **largest global event for the LGBT community, WorldPride 2017**, thanks to a bid submitted in 2012 to InterPride (the International Association of Pride Organisers), which was approved by unanimous vote. Several cities have previously hosted WorldPride, namely Rome, Jerusalem, London and Toronto.

Madrid will throw itself wholeheartedly into the celebrations with an extensive cultural programme that will flood the city's main streets and squares with music, dance, performing arts, visual arts, literature, sporting competitions, talks, children's activities and more.

Madrid's city centre will be the hub of WorldPride Madrid 2017, with events held in several of the capital's most famous squares. The huge festival will take place in numerous locations and will feature concerts, open-air parties, art, culture, talks and sport.

The WorldPride 2017 programme will kick off with the **Opening Ceremony** (23 June 2017) and end with the **Closing Ceremony** (2 July 2017). The whole week will be packed with activities. Of particular note are the **International Human Rights Conference** (26-28 June 2017), **Pride Park** (a cultural and exhibition space with stalls for organisations, associations and national and international companies geared towards the LGBT community) and the **International Festival of Culture**.

The main event of WorldPride Madrid 2017 will be the **Pride Parade** on 1 July. This large LGBT Pride protest will see **more than 2 million people** and associations from all over the world march through the city's main streets in an act of celebration and defence of diversity and equal rights.

LGBT EVENTS

UNION CUP MADRID 2017

28-30 APRIL

In 2017 Madrid will host the Union Cup, the European rugby championships for gay-friendly teams. This key sporting event is also important in terms of showcasing LGBT rights.

www.unioncupmadrid.com

WORLD PRIDE 2017 (+ EUROPRIDE 2017)

23 JUNE-2 JULY

In 2017 the city of Madrid will host the largest global event for the LGBT community: 10 days filled with concerts, cultural festivals, sports and social activities. This major festival attracts over a million people every year. This time round, with Madrid chosen as the world Pride capital, three million people are expected to attend.

www.worldpridemadrid2017.com

WE PARTY

JUNE-JULY AND DECEMBER

This is one of the most famous LGBT event promoters in the world, and it organises two major festivals of particular note during the year: the We Party Gay Pride Festival, which is associated with the Pride festivities, and the We Party New Year Festival at Christmas.

www.wepartyontour.com

GAYDAY MADRID

SEPTEMBER

Madrid's Parque de Atracciones (amusement park) hosts this day of diversity when lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual (LGBT) individuals as well as their friends and families can enjoy a rainbow-coloured day in a festive and inclusive atmosphere.

www.gaydaymadrid.es

LESGAICINEMAD

NOVEMBER

A must for queer movie fans. The best gay-themed films and films directed by members of the LGBT community are screened for over a week at one of the most comprehensive festivals on the circuit.

www.lesgaicinemad.com

MADBEAR MADRID

DECEMBER

The MadBear festival is one of the biggest international gatherings for bears. Thousands of people attend the festival in Madrid every year.

www.madbear.org

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

CULTURAL CALENDAR

To stay up to date with all the exhibitions, shows and other events taking place in the city, visit **www.esmadrid.com**.

LGBT ASSOCIATIONS

COGAM MADRID LGBT COLLECTIVE

(+34) 91 522 45 17

(+34) 92 523 00 70

www.cogam.es

FELGTB

National Federation of Lesbians, Gays, Transsexuals and Bisexuals

(+34) 91 360 46 05

www.felgtb.org

ARCÓPOLI

LGBT Association of the Complutense and Technical Universities of Madrid

www.arcopoli.org

FUNDACIÓN TRIÁNGULO

(+34) 91 593 05 40

www.fundaciontriangulo.org

TRANSEXUALIA

Spanish Transsexuals Association

www.transexualia.org



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