

Welcome to Madrid

Madrid is home to some wonderful examples of cast-iron architecture. One of the most striking is the Glass Palace which is located in El Retiro Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was originally built in 1887 as a greenhouse to showcase flora and fauna as part of an exhibition on the Philippines, then a Spanish colony. Today it is owned by the Reina Sofía Museum which uses it all year round as a venue for hosting temporary exhibitions.

It was designed in the late 19th century by architect Ricardo Velázquez Bosco. He modelled it on Joseph Paxton's Crystal Palace which had been erected in Hyde Park (London) back in 1851. The structure made of glass plates and cast iron sits on a brick base decorated with ceramic tiles by Daniel Zuloaga (the renowned Spanish ceramist whose tiles can also be found on the façade of the nearby Velázquez Palace and covering the dome of the Church-Convent of Santa Teresa). The palace, which was restored in 1975, is surrounded by horse chestnuts. It stands next to a small pond filled with ducks and geese, just a stone's throw from the Velázquez Palace, which is also used by the Reina Sofía Museum for temporary exhibitions.



Practical Information

Address

Paseo
de República de Cuba, 4
28009

Telephone

(+34) 91 774 10 00

Website

<http://www.museoreinasofia.es/>

Metro

Estación del Arte (L1)
Ibiza (L9)
Retiro (L2)

Cercanías (local train)

Madrid-Atocha

Price

Free.

Tourist area

Retiro

Fax

Email

info@museoreinasofia.es

Bus

1, 2, 9, 10, 14, 15, 19, 20, 26, 28, 32, 51, 52,
60, 61, 63, 74, 146, 152, C1, C2, N2, N3,
N5, N6, N7, N8, N9

BiciMAD bike-share scheme

Alquiler de bicis (BiciMAD)

Docking stations:

- Puerta del Doce de Octubre (Avenida de Menéndez Pelayo, 63)
- Puerta del Pacífico (Avenida de Menéndez Pelayo, 73)
- Puerta del Ángel Caído (Avenida de Alfonso XII, 54)

Times

Oct, Mar: 10:00am - 7:00pm

Nov-Feb: 10.00am - 6.00 pm

Apr-Sep: 10:00am - 9:00pm

Closed: 1, 6 January, 1 May, 25 December

24, 31 December: 10:00am - 5:00 pm

The Glass Palace may not open on rainy days due to the characteristics of the building.

Type

Cultural venues

Sights and monuments

Cultural centres, exhibition halls, foundations



Official Tourism Website

 | MADRID