

Welcome to Madrid

In the heart of the Retiro Park lies this large lake, a popular spot with the city's residents, who go there to sunbathe or hire rowing boats.

Built between 1634 and 1636 by the architect, Cristobal de Aguilera, this lake was the heart of the Buen Retiro Palace garden and was used to hold water shows, such as navy battles or mock battles, and boat rides for the King and Queen and their Court. At that time it was linked by a stream to the chapel of Saint Anthony of Padua, which no longer exists, and the Retiro had its own shipyard to build boats. In the middle of the lake there was an oval-shaped island which was used for theatrical and musical performances.

On the same spot, almost a hundred years later, Farinelli delighted the court of Philip V with his singing. In the last third of the eighteenth century the island in the centre was covered by the waters of the lake and in 1902 the monument to Alfonso XII was erected. Financed by popular subscription, it is an outstanding example of historicist architecture. The monument was designed by José Grases Riera and completed by Teodoro Anasagasti, while the equestrian statue crowning it is the work of Mariano Benlliure.

Currently, the lake offers several activities within the Estanque del Retiro Municipal Sports Centre such as **rowing boats** (100 boats are available, two of which are accessible to people in wheelchairs), **solar boat** (wheelchair accessible), solar classroom and [canoeing](#), aimed at children and young people between the ages of 7 and 26, provided by the Madrid Canoeing Federation.



Accessibility

General

The pier and the solar boat are adapted for wheelchair access.

Two of the rowing boats are wheelchair accessible through a gate located at the back of the boat.

Services

Image



Boat hire

Image



Sports area

Practical Information

Address

Paseo
de Colombia, 2
28016

Telephone

(+34) 91 574 40 24

Website

<https://bit.ly/3nKF9IZ>

Metro

Estación del Arte (L1)
Ibiza (L9)
Atocha (L1)
Retiro (L2)
Príncipe de Vergara (L2, L9)

Cercanías (local train)

Madrid-Atocha

Tourist area

Retiro

Fax

Email

idmretiro@madrid.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:

- Plaza de la Independencia, 6
- Calle Antonio Maura, 15
- Calle Espalter, 1
- Puerta del Ángel Cáido (Avenida de Alfonso XII, 54)
- Avenida de Menéndez Pelayo con calle Poeta Esteban Villegas
- Puerta del Pacífico (Avenida de Menéndez Pelayo, 73)
- Puerta del Doce de Octubre (Avenida de Menéndez Pelayo, 63)
- Puerta de Madrid (Avenida de Menéndez Pelayo esquina calle O'Donnell)
- Velázquez (calle Alcalá, 95)

Price

Boat rental:

To rent a boat for 45 minutes, call 915744024 for bookings.

Maximum capacity 50 boats.

Boats (price per boat): Mon - Fri: €6 (People over the age of 65 get a 70% discount on rental from Monday to Friday (non-public holidays) before 2pm, having previously proven their age at the ticket office, or presenting their madridmayor.es card)

Sat – Sun and Public Hols: €8

Tickets include boat rental for 45 minutes with a maximum of four occupants. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 18.

Solar Boat: €2 . Children under 4: free

Type

Parks and gardens

Times

Boat Rental:

Mon - Sun: 10am - 2pm / 3.15pm - Closing Time between 6.30pm and 8pm, depending on the time of the year.

You can [rent a boat](#) using the "Madrid Movil" app or on the website [deportes/web](#). To do this, go to the section 'Clases abiertas' (Open classes), where you can choose the venue and book a rental boat in advance.

Solar boat: Tue-Sun and Public holidays: 10am- 1:30pm. / 4pm - sunset (depending on the time of year) (see [official website](#)). From 1st to 28th February: closed

Closed: 24th, 25th and 31st December, 1st January



Official Tourism Website

