

# Welcome to Madrid

Every year on and around May 15th, Madrid honours its patron saint, San Isidro Labrador, with a packed programme of events featuring concerts, shows and an endless range of activities for all ages. Tradition meets modernity in the week-long festivities that see Madrileños dress up and dance *chotis* in the streets and enjoy picnics with friends and family in the Pradera de San Isidro Park.

Over one hundred miracles have been attributed to Isidore the Labourer, who was born and died in the Spanish capital. He was believed to have a special ability for finding water, and one of the festivities' biggest traditions sees *chulapos* and *chulapas* drinking saint's water from the spring next to the Ermita de San Isidro. Another tradition that lives on to this day is attending the Romería outdoor celebration in San Isidro Park. The park, better known as the Pradera de San Isidro (San Isidro's meadow), can also be found in some of Goya's paintings.

Traditional fare enjoyed on San Isidro is the *limonada* (a drink made with wine, lemon, sugar and chopped fruit, usually apple), and *rosquillas*, doughnuts that come in different shapes and sizes: *listas* ("smart", or glazed), *tontas* ("dumb", or plain), *de Santa Clara* (covered in dry meringue) or *francesas* (with almonds).

## Programme

Free activities for all the family are hosted across the city. Emblematic places such as the Plaza Mayor, Las Vistillas and Pradera de San Isidro Park provide the backdrop for such events as the Gigantes y Cabezudos parade, *chotis* dancing and wonderful concerts. Countless other activities are held in other parts of the city, like the Temple of Debod, the Rose Garden in Oeste Park, Plaza de Oriente and Tierno Galván Park. The opening speech, known as the *pregón*, is usually given in the Plaza de la Villa and is followed by a concert of zarzuela other traditional music.

## Religious acts

From 6 to 15 May, Madrid hosts a number of traditional religious ceremonies: the blessing of the water from the fountain and a ceremony in honour of Saint Isidore, the *Quinario* for the saint, a mass at the Colegiata de San Isidro, the Eucharist in the Chapel of the Cuadra de San Isidro, and the Romería church service in the Pradera de San Isidro Park.



## Practical Information

### When

From 6 to 15 May

### Address

### Telephone

### Email

### Metro

### Cercanías (local train)

### Prices

### Type

Special events  
Festivities

### Where

### Tourist area

Otros

### Fax

### Website

<https://www.sanisidromadrid.com/>

### Bus

### BiciMAD bike-share scheme

Consulta el mapa de estaciones .

### Times



Official Toursim Website

