

Tandoori Station, a raved about Indian restaurant

Having heard wonderful things about [Tandoori Station](#) from so many people, I finally went there the other night with a group of friends, one of whom had previously written about the restaurant in her own food blog, [Las Mesas de Vanessa](#).



Tandoori Station is located in [Barrio Salamanca](#). Now I must admit that I was reluctant to eat Indian food that far from **calle** [Lavapiés](#) (if you don't know this street, it's lined with cheap and fun Indian restaurants that I like to call *curry row*). But **Tandoori Station** is different. One, it's higher-end and thus pricier, which is well worth it for its **generous portions** and **outstanding quality**. And two, **the service is very good**—you will be asked how everything is and given recommendations. If you go often enough, your name will be remembered and after-dinner shots will be on the house. And lastly, it's the kind of **comfortable place** where you can linger over drinks and dessert as long as you wish. So

needless to say, **it lived up to my expectations indeed!!**



Just one last note before I talk about the food—the **décor** includes features of a train station (as its name implies) and they have a **spacious outdoor seating area** which was very alluring even though we decided to sit inside.



from Tandoori Station's web

So here's what we ordered:

To start, they give you the typical crispy bread with three sauces to choose from. To drink, we ordered Indian beer called **Crown** and Vanessa ordered her favorite, **salted lassi**. We then ordered two appetizers—**Samosas** (filled with potato, peas and cilantro seeds) and **Aloo Tikkia** (mini potato hamburgers with paneer cheese). The ingredients tasted fresh and delicious, plus the sauces added a great kick to each bite.



When it came to the main course, I was planning on ordering **lamb curry**, because my friend Alondra told me it was out of this world. But as I looked at the menu I instantly fell in love with **Murghi Ki Balti** (curried chicken with yogurt sauce, tomato, cilantro, anis and other spices). It was really nice, but I still want to go back for the lamb!



Murghi Ki Balti chicken curry

We shared several other dishes too. Our table was full of colours and smells, and it took some creativity as to what sauce and rice to mix with what chicken or vegetable. We had **Murgh Ka Tikka** (marinated tandoori chicken) which I liked even more than the **Murghi Ki Balti**.



Murgh Ka Tikka (marinated tandoori chicken)



curried spinach

We also ordered **Kashmir Ka Pulao** (rice dish with raisins, nuts, and saffron), **curried spinach**, **aubergines** and **Madras Wali Machli** (swordfish curry, mildly spicy with a touch of coconut milk), and some **naan bread** too, of course. What can I say? It was all delicious! I don't think you can go wrong with anything here.



Madras Wali Machli swordfish



Kashmir Ka Pulau rice

Although I've only been here once, my friends have been back many times and say they've always enjoyed it thoroughly. So if you're looking for **great quality Indian food in Madrid**, I would definitely recommend **Tandoori Station**. It's especially **good for groups** (I noticed that many of the tables around us were either large groups of families or friends, and there was plenty of space). **Do make a reservation!**

[Web](#)

[Facebook](#)

Address: c/ José Ortega y Gasset 89-91

Phone: 914 01 22 28

Price Range: (20-30€)

Aranjuez



What to see:

In the south of Madrid, you'll feel royal as you walk through Aranjuez's lush gardens and visit its impressive Royal Palace. Built as the royal family's summer house, Aranjuez is best to visit in the spring or summertime so you can take in all the colors of its gardens in full bloom.

Unlike most towns in Spain, there are no tiny streets here. Aranjuez stands out for its large and spacious boulevards. Once you've built up an appetite, there are plenty of good Spanish restaurants right along the Tajo river where you can enjoy typical Spanish food and *carne de caza* (game food).

How to get there:

By train (Cercanías)

Depart from: Atocha train station

Schedule:

Departure ([Madrid – Aranjuez \(RENFE\)](#))

Return ([Aranjuez – Madrid \(RENFE\)](#))

Duration: approx. 50 min

Price: 3,30€ (round trip approx. 6,60€).

• By bus

Depart from: Méndez Álvaro: Bus 423

Schedule:

Departure ([Madrid – Aranjuez \(INTERURBANO\)](#))

Return ([Aranjuez – Madrid \(INTERURBANO\)](#))

Duration: approx. 1 hour

Price: 4,20€ (round trip 8,40€)

Where to find it on a map:



Images from [turismoenaranjuez.com](#) and [wikipedia](#)

Ávila



What to see:

There are plenty of reasons to go to Ávila. For example, the city is stunning (especially when it snows in winter), the cathedral transports you to ancient times and the old wall that still stands enclosing the city is simply amazing.

It also claims to be the Spanish city with the most amount of Romanesque and Gothic churches per capita. Plus it's the birthplace of Spain's national saint, Santa Teresa de Ávila.

But to be honest, I would go here for the following: **judías del barco** (beans from Avila), **chuletón de ternera** (large beef steak) and **yemas de Santa Teresa** (traditional sweets made with egg yolks).

How to get there:

• By train (Renfe)

Depart from: Chamartín train station

Schedule:

Departure ([Madrid – Ávila \(RENFE\)](#))

Return ([Ávila – Madrid \(RENFE\)](#))

Duration: approx. 1 hour 20 min

Price: 12€ (round trip approx. 24€).

• By bus

Depart from: Estación Sur. Méndez Álvaro

Schedule:

Departure ([Madrid – Avila \(Larrea\)](#))

Return ([Avila – Madrid \(Larrea\)](#))

Duration: approx. 1 hour 20 min

Price: 8,90€ (fares + round trip ticket approx. 20€)

Where to find it on a map:

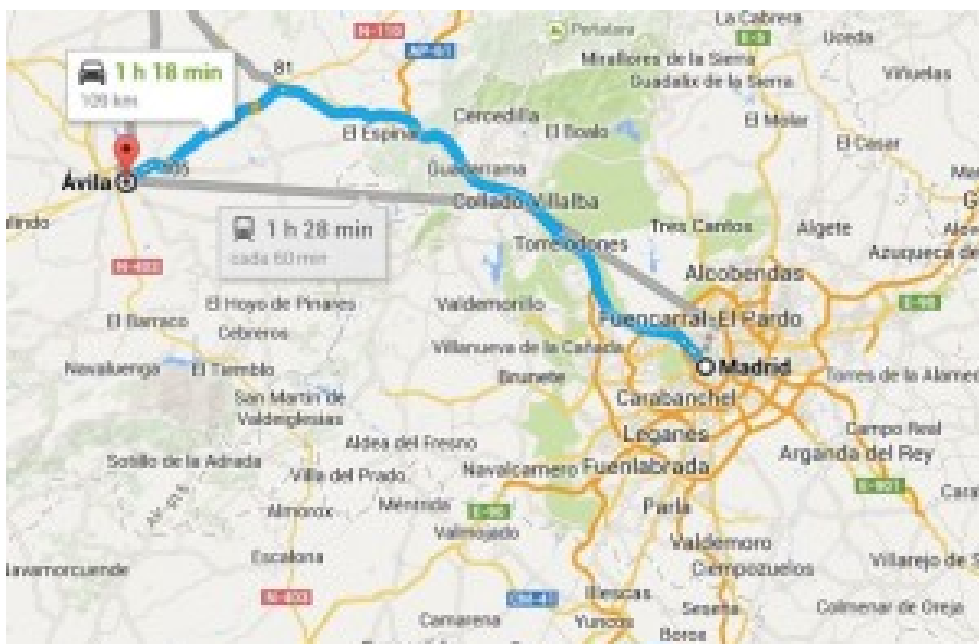


Image from Hostal Alcantara and abc.es

Alcalá de Henares



What to see:

In Miguel de Cervantes' hometown, you'll find one of the oldest university campuses in Spain – Universidad de Alcalá – which was founded in the 15th century. The city still boasts some of the magnificent buildings from that time.

History aside, I'd say that Alcalá de Henares is most known for its generous and free tapas. So after you visit the University and walk through the town to see its monuments and *plazas*, you should rest at one of the bars close to Plaza Miguel de Cervantes and enjoy a cold beer that is sure to come with a nicely-sized tapa. The most famous tapas bar in Alcalá is El Índalo, but there are many others. This cute town is

perfect for a relaxing day trip!

Here's a great post: [7 reasons Alcalá is worth more than a day trip from Madrid](#)

How to get there:

▪ By Train (Cercanías)

Depart from: Atocha train station

Schedule:

Departure ([Madrid-Alcala de Henares horarios y precios \(RENFE\)](#))

Return ([Alcala de Henares – Madrid horarios y precios \(RENFE\)](#))

Duration: approx. 35 min

Price: 2,50€ (round trip approx. 5€).

▪ By bus

Depart from: Avenida de america: Buses 223, 225, 227

Schedule:

Departure ([Madrid-Alcala de Henares horarios y precios \(ALSA\)](#))

Return ([Alcala de Henares – Madrid horarios y precios \(ALSA\)](#))

Duration: approx. 40 min

Price: 3,60€ (round trip 7,20€)

Where to find it on a map:

