10 Best restaurants in Madrid, according to Little Miss Madrid

So, if you're a long-time Madrid dweller, you'll remember the harsh days of the financial crisis which are now (thankfully) a sort of blip on the landscape of Madrid's movida. Business is booming and as a result, the culinary scene in the city now packs more than just a punch. It positively sizzles with the best of Spanish produce and rustic neighbourhood joints that can't be missed.

It's a tough one to call, but I'm not sure what I've done more of since having moved to the land of jam'on-eat out, or treat myself at the Zara sale. Either way, I've had a lot of hot dinners and have whittled down my favourites for you to work your way through. A sort of foodie bucket list as it were.

If traditional cuisine is your thing, hopefully I've got you covered. However, as the city lets go of its slightly conservative culinary roots, the patrons of the plazas and the tourists on the *terrazas* now greedily gobble ramen, cervices and bao buns with as much gusto as the locals love their pinchos. Many to-do lists are a chore, make this one a pleasure.

Here's a round-up of the 10 best restaurants in Madrid. You'll also find my full restaurant review of each one if you click on the link in the titles!

1. <u>Lady Madonna</u> - take a day off the diet



If you're in the mood for a great bit of grub without breaking the bank (and aren't we all?) head to <u>Lady Madonna</u>. Definitely the kind of place where you can dress up for dinner, it's just a stone's throw from Alonso Martínez and a little oasis in the heart of the city. Its charming little terrace is the perfect place to people watch, and the <u>Sunday brunch</u> is pretty damn delish.

<u>Facebook</u> & Instagram: <u>@ladymadonna_restaurante</u>

- Address: Calle Orellana, 6

• Metro: Alonso Martínez

• Phone: 915 02 41 82

2. <u>Bosco de Lobos</u> — a casual-chic restaurant in Chueca



Oh how I love this place. Let me count the ways... It's a favourite in the same way as a beloved leather jacket is. Bosco de Lobos is the perfect place for a casual yet chic dining experience. The menu covers every foodie fad but is complete with classics such as arroz and steak tartare. The desserts are to die for, as are the interior vibes — all dim lighting and shelves groaning with books. A must visit.

- Facebook & Instagram: @boscodelobosmadrid

- Address: COAM, Calle de Hortaleza, 63, 28004 Madrid

• Metro: Alonso Martínez, Chueca & Tribunal

• Phone: 915 24 94 64

3. Ana la Santa – baby it's cold outside



Situated on one of the most beautiful plazas in the city, Ana La Santa is housed in the ground floor of the Hotel Me. Beyond cosy in the winter and perennially popular, Ana La Santa always delivers on excellent service and an awesome ambiance.

- Facebook & Instagram: @analasantamadrid

- Address: Plaza Sta. Ana, 14

Metro: Sol/SevillaPhone: 917 01 60 13

4. <u>Bar Tomate</u> — modern minimalism at its best



Somewhat off the typical tourist trial, this is a great neighborhood spot. Chamberí is somewhat of a foodie mecca and Bar Tomate combines minimalist decor at its best and delicious cuisine. The vibe is rustic and the food is fresh. A winning combo if I ever I saw one.

- Facebook & Instagram

- Address: Fernando El Santo, 26

■ Phone: +34 917 023 870

• Metro: Colon

5. <u>Luzi Bombon</u> — get ready to luck out

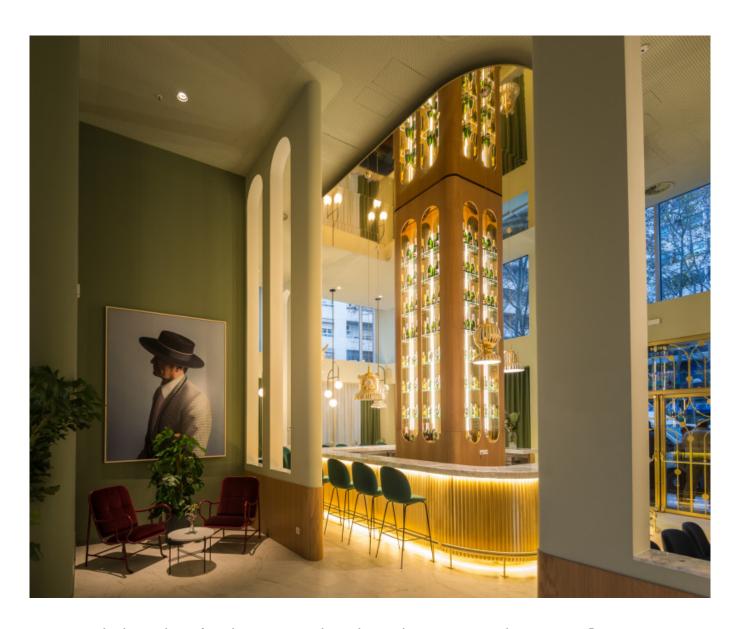


Situated on the swish and swanky Paseo de la Castella, <u>Luzi Bombon</u> is a stylish restaurant offering flawless service and utterly divine food. It's part of <u>Grupo Tragaluz</u>, meaning you're in safe hands when it comes to enjoying some marvelous munchies.

Facebook & Instagram: @luzibombon
Address: Paseo de la Castellana 35

Phone: 917 02 27 36Metro: Rubén Darío

6. <u>Somos Restaurant</u> — the jewel in Barceló Torres's crown



Located in what's become the iconic Torre de Barcelona, <u>Somos</u> <u>Restaurant and Garra Bar</u> have become the type of places to splash your hard earned cash. In an undeniably stunning setting overlooking Gran Vía, the outstanding cuisine is not too be missed and neither is the sunset as the sunshine bids the city goodnight.

<u>Facebook</u> & Instagram: <u>@somosgarra</u>

Located in: <u>Barceló Torre de Madrid</u>

Address: Plaza de España, 18

7. Picsa – got a 'pizza' my heart



On one of the hippest streets in Madrid (ok I'm biased, I live here) Picsa serves up delicious Argentinian pizzas that rival any that BA has to offer. The flavour combos are to die for — I never resist the lure of the chorizo criollo with provolone and hey Heber should you.

- Facebook, Website & Instagram: @picsa.madrid

- Address: Calle Ponzano 76

■ **Phone:** 915 34 10 09

■ Metro: Ríos Rosas or Cuatro Caminos

8. <u>Gracias Padre</u> — you'll be thankful for this Mexican restaurant



In the barrio of Salamanca, <u>Gracias Padre</u> is hands down one of Madrid's best Mexican restaurants. Here'll you'll find treats as tasty as tacos hailing from Tulum. Their frozen margs always hit the spot and the rainbow-esque surroundings are a riot of crayola colour.

- Facebook, Website & Instagram: @gracias.padre

- Address: Calle de José Ortega y Gasset, 55

- Phone: 910 66 00 85

• Metro: Lista

9. <u>Nubel</u> — the Reina Sofia Museum's stunning restaurant



Nubel is the beautiful restaurant housed in the world-famous Reina Sofía museum. It's a hybrid that feels like part restaurant/part nightclub as there's often a DJ playing a delectable mix of club classics that adds to the buzzy energy that envelops you on arrival.

<u>Facebook</u>, <u>Website</u> & Instagram: <u>@nubelmadrid</u>

- Address: Museo Reina Sofía, Calle de Argumosa, 43

• Metro: Atocha

• Phone: 915 30 17 61

10. <u>Picalagartos</u> — dine sky high on a gorgeous rooftop bar overlooking Gran Vía



Picalagartos is quite literally (in the words of the song) up on the roof. Towering above Gran Vía, it's perched atop the NH hotel. It boasts 360-degree views of our beloved city and combines great cocktails with great cuisine.

- Facebook, Website, & Instagram: opicalagartosmad

■ Address: C/ Gran Vía 21

• Metro: Gran Vía

All photos from each restaurant's respective social media accounts

By Cat Powell, aka @littlemissmadrid

Have any favourites that we should include in a second "best restaurants in Madrid" list? Let us know in the comments!

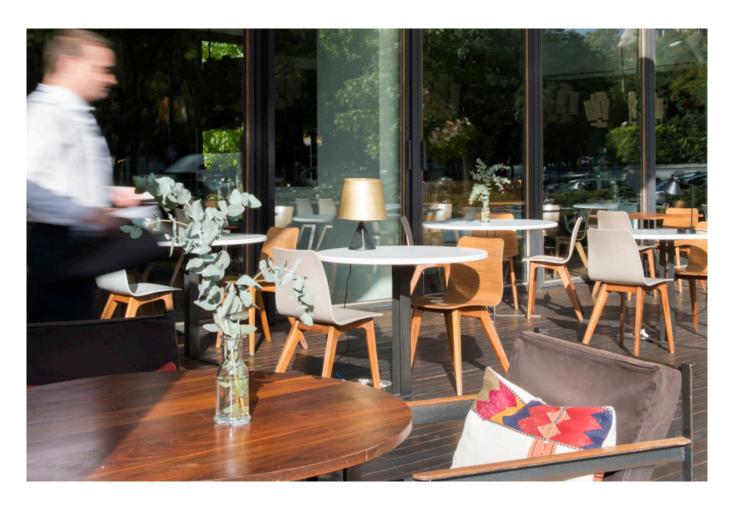
I lucked out at Luzi Bombon

I am a country girl by birth and now a bona-fide city girl by choice. However, the downside of living in Madrid means that I now rarely see greenery on a daily basis (unless you count the succulents that I 'try' to keep alive in my humble abode). But on the flipside, being an urban dweller gives me access to some of the fanciest places to eat, with the best part being that they're often right on my doorstep.



Whilst I love a Netflix binge like most millennials, I still relish any given opportunity to don my glad rags and go out for a proper slap up dins. So dress up I did when I headed to Luzi Bombon with a suitably stylish friend in town, and wowzers did we enjoy a veritable feast from beginning to end.

Luzi Bombon isn't located in an area of Madrid that I often frequent, i.e. it's not within walking distance of my apartment. I had to treat myself to a taxi (partly due to the vertiginous heels that I was tottering about in) but it's undoubtedly central enough to appeal to both locals and out-of-towners alike.



What struck me first were the wall-to-wall photogenic diners — you won't just be salivating over the menu if the evening I visited was anything to go by. The clientele was as upscale as the perfectly mixed G&T that I was sipping on within minutes of arriving — a G'Vine in case you're interested.

It's a sexy venue; possibly the slinkiest of all the <u>Madrid-based Grupo Tragaluz</u> (which also runs <u>Bar Tomate</u>) offerings with low lighting casting an Insta-worthy filter over my dining companion. Now until recent years I'm not ashamed to admit that I had relatively simple tastes — but due to external influencers in the form of more adventurous friends, I'm starting to pride myself of never saying never and giving anything a go. In that spirit, I sampled as much as was humanly possible whilst wearing leather and not wanting to be

forklifted out of the venue.



The standout star of the show was the giant 'fruits de mar' platter that caused the table to groan under its sheer weight. Recommended by the waitress who clearly knew her stuff, it was a-ma-zing and has turned me into a complete crab convert. Obviously it's not the kind of thing that I'm whipping up at home, which gave the whole meal an even greater sense of occasion. Even as a novice foodie, I have told every man and his dog about that platter and now I'm urging you to hotfoot to Luzi Bombon and do the same.

Dinner doesn't come cheap but if you're looking to impress, aka maybe bag a second date with the object of your affection, Luzi Bombon is a fab place to pull out all of the stops. As someone who's rarely lured out of her barrio, Luzi Bombon is well worth the cab ride and gym class that you'll undoubtedly need to do the following day (in order to burn off every savoured calorie). If seafood platters and pretty peeps are

your jam, Luzi Bombon is the (meal) ticket for you.

Luzi Bombon

Facebook & Instagram: @luzibombonAddress: Paseo de la Castellana 35

Phone: 917 02 27 36Metro: Rubén Darío