

La Vermutería at Tipos Infames bookstore in Malasaña

The vermouth pop-up bar, [La Vermuteria](#), is back at [Tipos Infames](#) bookstore in Malasaña this Saturday. Skim through the pages of a new book while you treat yourself to a refreshing vermouth before lunch!

Café Barbieri: A 114-year-old Art Nouveau café in Lavapiés

[Café Barbieri](#) first brought modernist charm to Madrid's working class district, Lavapiés, in 1902, and although the *barrio* has evolved dramatically over the last 114 years, the interior of this elegant bar hasn't changed one bit.

Some things have changed though – Café Barbieri is owned by a charismatic chap from New Delhi and staffed with bilingual youngthings. It also now has a small terrace, but this is not why you'd come here – its appeal is truly the interior.

The whole place is lined with mirrors which back then were a symbol of wealth. These mirrors are now aging well, stained a smoky bronze colour with dots of grey rust creeping in from the edges. The ceiling is framed with grids of ornate girders that are connected to decorative cast-iron beams, typical of older buildings in Lavapiés. Although never on, there are ceiling fans too – something increasingly rare in Madrid.

At the back of the bar is a grand piano on a small raised

stage. Almost every evening there's a live music session often featuring the piano, and this place does food too – typical Spanish stuff but with an edge.

The worn white marble table tops and red velvet seating lining the dining area mark this place out as opulent, but that's really not the vibe – it's chilled and cosy and attracts a spectrum of people, from the intrepid tourist who's braved it down the hill, to the unassuming local who fancies a read of one of the papers on offer.



Café Barbieri by day



Café Barbieri's beautiful ornate ceiling



The grand piano taking centre stage, and look at all those beautiful mirrors



Look at that original tiled floor!



The bar has a great selection of spirits & vermouth on tap



Café Barbieri by night

Café Barbieri is also on the same street as the Greek foodie place, [Egeo](#), so there you have it, your night is planned!

Info

- C/Ave María 45
 - Metro: Lavapiés
 - [Website](#) [Facebook](#)
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Vermouth Party at El Imparcial by La Vermutería

Even if you're hungover on Sunday morning, head over to [La Vermutería's](#) *pop-up aperitif party* from 12:30-2:30 at [El Imparcial](#), a chic restaurant and bar near metros La Latina and Tirso de Molina. It's the perfect way to whet your appetite before lunch, i.e. with a glass (or two) of Lustau vermouth, Spanish tapas and some dancing to a live DJ, plus good vibes all around. Don't miss it!

[#elpoderdelvermut](#)

Host: @vermuteriapopup

Venue: @imparcialmadrid

Vermouth Hour with La Vermutería at Tipos Infames (café/bookstore) in Malasaña

Say goodbye to August in style with vermouth! On Thursday night at 7pm, [La Vermutería](#) – a pop-up vermouth bar – will be holding the second edition of “[Reservas y Negronis](#)” at the café/bookshop [Tipos Infames](#) in Malasaña. A glass of vermouth (Rubino or Ambratto) will cost you €3 and a negroni will cost you €5. You'll also get a vermouth on the house if you buy a book over €12 ☐

Sunday Vermouth Hour with La Vermutería and Abastos 2.0. at The Table By

What are you doing on Sunday? Because [La Vermutería Pop Up](#) and [Abastos 2.0](#) are hosting a vermouth party at [The Table By](#) from 1pm – 4pm. And you're all invited! Expect lots of people, great music spun by **Dj Cucu** and an endless supply of [Vermú Petroni](#). **Free entrance.**

What's La Vermutería?

[La Vermutería Pop Up](#) is a travelling vermouth bar founded by two foodies – Paula Móvil & Roberto Castán – and created in collaboration with the online food magazine, [Plateselector.com](#). The idea is to take over different venues to throw **aperitivos**, mini-cocktail parties where the star drink is the one and only: **Vermouth**.

Each party features a different brand of vermouth, usually not (yet) well known amongst Madrileños.

Cosy Wine Bars in La Latina (with gluten free options!)

If you're looking for some dark and cosy wine bars to enjoy a glass of fantastic Spanish wine and some delicious tapas, then head to La Latina. Known as Madrid's tapas district, this neighbourhood is famous for its lazy Sunday afternoon tradition of tapas-bar-hopping, up and down the winding streets of Cava Baja and Cava Alta.

But first, the history of Cava Baja has more to do with foreigners in Madrid than you might think.

Originally a deep trench that ran along the outside of the medieval city walls, Cava Baja protected the city from bandits and scoundrels, and allowed the people of Madrid to come and go freely without using the city gates. Soon the city boundaries spread, and local taverns sprung up along this stretch to lodge (and feed) travellers and farmers, who came to Madrid to sell their wares at market; You can still see the street sloping downhill and curving to follow the path of the old city wall.

This means that, for expats and visitors to the city, enjoying a glass of local wine and food amongst the higgledy piggledy bars and old taverns of Cava Baja is to not only enjoy La Latina, but also repeat the history of many a travelling peddler visiting Madrid.

[El Tempranillo](#)

For people that like Spanish wine: El Tempranillo. From the moment that you see the entire wall of wine bottle racks behind the bar, you know that you are in the right place.

Chic and modern from the outside but small and traditional on the inside, El Tempranillo has the perfect mix of low

lighting, muted conversation and good Spanish wine- and a table to sit at if you order some tapas.



Compared with other wine and tapas bars in Cava Baja, El Tempranillo has something unique that is difficult to put your finger on.

Right in the heart of the hustle and bustle of Cava Baja, it is comparatively understated- but quietly confident. It has a real buzz of people under the dimmed lighting, but is surprisingly quiet. This muted conversation gives a sense of privacy in which you can enjoy your glass of wine, share a few tapas and have a meaningful conversation with good friends- without having to raise your voice.

The tapas at El Tempranillo are addictive. Try the 'revuelto de champiñones salvajes' (mushroom omelette), or the tostas. You might have to wait a little to order at peak times during the weekend or evenings, but the dishes come out quickly once ordered and are worth the wait.

Then, the wine. Order from the chalk board, which has an impressive selection of wine that comes from almost all the wine regions of Spain. Most exciting, though, is their larger than average selection of good Spanish wines available by the glass, with prices starting as low as 2,50€ and 2,70€. Arrive a little early, set up your company at a table, and enjoy some good wine.



Calle Cava Baja, 38

[Juana La Loca](#)

Juana La Loca makes a nod towards Juana, the 'mad queen of Castile', who although was probably just another misunderstood female royal, still makes for a good story and name for a wine bar.



Small, dark, cosy and kinetic, Juana La Loca is perfect for a glass of Spanish wine and some delicious tapas.

Tightly packed inside, with small tables edging around the long bar, Juana La Loca mixes the worlds of both restaurant and wine bar into one dynamic space. With both bar and table enjoying tapas and wine, just with each enjoying more of one than the other, the two functions blend harmoniously into one shared space.

To start with a glass of wine, choose from the wine board behind the bar. Although the choices are slightly restricted and slightly pricier by the glass, the quality of the wine makes up for the lack of selection. If you like deep, complex red wines, try a Ribera del Duero *Crianza* or *Reserva*.

Without a doubt, the most famous dish served at Juana La Loca is the *tortilla de patatas*: a buttery, melt-in-the-mouth tortilla, finished with a crispy outer layer and served on top of a slice of bread. If you are being visited by friends or

family in Madrid who have not yet tried *tortilla de patatas*, this is the one to debut.

The '*huevos rotos*' are also to-die-for, either to share or as a *ración* for yourself: crispy, chewy, buttery fries topped with melting fried egg, small salty strips of *jamón*, salted *pimientos de padrón* and a shake of paprika, all served on a long plate.

Very well accompanied by a glass of fresh wine to clean your palate and a bowl of Juana La Loca's moreish olives, these delicious options can also be served gluten free if you ask the waiter. The prices may be a little higher, but the quality of the wine and food are a step above the rest.

A little tip is to bring cash with you, as they do not accept cards. The small wine bar-restaurant also fills up quickly in the evenings; after 20:30 tables are only for a meal of tapas (plus wine) and bar spots are only for wine (plus a tapa). Arrive early enough to enjoy some good wine and conversation amongst the relaxed atmosphere, and feel the bar fill up with the buzz of evening service.



Plaza Puerta de Los Moros, 4

www.juanalalocamadrid.com

La Concha

If you like sherry, cava or vermouth, then you are in luck. This tiny mismatched bar with painted wood panels and creative details offers a great selection of Spanish fortified wines and sparkling cava from Cataluña. A refreshing take on the usual full-bodied red wine offered in La Latina, come to La Concha for something a little different.



La Concha has a nomadic feel, keeping in tune with the street's history of travelling visitors, and offers both the upstairs bar for drinks and downstairs seating area for tapas.

If you have yet to try vermouth, a fortified wine infused with various roots, barks, flowers, seeds, herbs and spices, La Concha has 'Vermut Miró', a Spanish vermouth from the northern Spanish city of Reús.

La concha also has a selection of Spanish Sherries, or 'Jerez' in Spanish. Hailing from the D.O. wine region with the same name, Jerez de la Frontera, Jerez is unique in its elaboration; you cannot find a fortified wine like Sherry anywhere else in the world.



If you like bubbles: Cava. Spain's answer to champagne, this bubbly sparkling wine can come in 4 different kinds: Cava, Cava Reserva (minimum 15 months ageing), Cava Gran Reserva (over 30 months ageing) and Rosé. La Concha has more than one of each kind, from different wineries, to try. Order a glass with one of their tapas. Although Cava traditionally matches well with fish or sweet fruity flavours, this is not necessarily the case; a Brut Nature Gran Reserva would go well with meat dishes, roasts or spicier foods.

On a week night you will easily find a spot here. Just head down the kooky stairs and order from their small tapas menu, which is also available completely gluten free.



Calle Cava Baja, 7
www.laonchataberna.com

Extra notes

If you would like to know what to look for in these wine and tapas bars, or are not sure what kinds of wines you like yet, you can also do some [wine tasting in Madrid](#).

Wine word

Maridaje – food and wine pairing

Here are a few more articles you might like:

[Madrid's 3 Best Wine Shops](#)

[Taberna Lamiak, another wonderful bar in La Latina](#)

[Madrid's Best Cafe-Bookshops](#)