



## **MADRID CULINARIA: ART, FOOD & CULTURE**

With Art Curator Ronni Baer  
October 18-25, 2026

**Sunday, October 18, 2026**

**Bienvenido a Madrid!**

### **Morning and Afternoon**

### **Check in at the Hotel Wellington**

Check in at the lovely Hotel Wellington in the elegant Salamanca district. The hotel was historically favored by bull fighters. Take time to unpack, rest or take off and explore our neighborhood, the streets of Madrid or the many paths of the nearby 292 acre-Retiro Park.

**6:30 pm**

### **Opening Session at the Hotel Wellington**

We'll meet in one of the meeting rooms at the Wellington for a welcome/opening session. Sara Baer-Sinnott from Oldways and Ronni Baer of Princeton University will give you an overview of our week in Madrid. The finale for our welcome session will be an introduction to Spanish wines, with a guided tasting.

### **Dinner**

### **Welcome Dinner**

We'll walk a few blocks to a neighborhood restaurant introduction to Spanish cuisine.

**Monday, October 19, 2026**

**Old Madrid**

### **Morning**

### **Breakfast at the Hotel Wellington**

Enjoy the buffet breakfast at the Hotel Wellington in the tapestry-covered Breakfast Room.

**9:30 am**

### **Guided walking tour of Old Madrid**

Leave the Hotel Wellington for our guided walking tour of Old Madrid. Watch the spectacle of smells, sounds, tastes, colors and people in the epicenter of Madrid, the Plaza Mayor, and experience life in one of Europe's premier cultural capitals. We will have a break in the middle of the morning for churros and chocolate.

**1:00 pm**

**Lunch at Botin**

We'll enjoy lunch at Botin, the oldest restaurant in the world (1725), very close to the Plaza Mayor in Old Madrid. Ernest Hemingway called Botin the world's best restaurant.

**3:00 pm**

**Mercado de San Miguel**

After lunch, we'll make a short walk to the Mercado de San Miguel, where you can explore on your own, stopping for coffee or shopping for cookbooks or Spanish food specialties. Founded in 1916, and restored and reopened in 2009, the market is the last iron-covered market in Madrid. We'll choose a time to meet the bus for the return ride back to the Wellington.

**Afternoon and Evening**

**Free time for siesta or shopping and strolling  
and dinner on own**

Enjoy a quiet afternoon and evening or set out on your own for an afternoon of shopping, strolling, museums, with the evening free for dinner on your own with new or old friends. See our Madrid Restaurant suggestions.

**Tuesday, October 20, 2026**

**Treasures**

**Morning**

**Breakfast at the Hotel Wellington**

Enjoy the buffet breakfast at the Hotel Wellington in the tapestry-covered Breakfast Room.

**9:45**

**Real Academia des Bellas Artes de San Fernando**

We'll depart the Wellington for our tour of the Real Academia des Bellas Artes de San Fernando, a jewel of a museum, and a favorite of Oldways' and Ronni's. We'll have a guided visit to Real Academia des Bellas Artes de San Fernando. The museum on Calle Alcala features 13 paintings by Goya, as well as other paintings by Velazquez, El Greco, Zurbaran, Van Dyck and Rubens.

**12:30 pm**

**Cooking Demo and Lunch**

To help you bring a taste of Spain back to your home, we'll learn how to prepare a wide variety of traditional Spanish tapas at Alambique Cooking School. After the demo, our creations will be served for a fun and delicious lunch. Before we leave Alambique, if you wish, you'll have time to shop in Alambique's kitchen store.

**Late afternoon**

**Siesta and free time**

We hope you'll take advantage of some free time for a Spanish siesta, or perhaps you're ready for shopping and touring, or walking or exercise at the Wellington.

**Evening**

**Flamenco Show and Dinner**

A visit to Madrid isn't complete without a flamenco show! We'll have an early dinner and then watch the Flamenco Show.

**Wednesday, October 21, 2026**

**Toledo!**

**Morning**

**Breakfast at the Hotel Wellington**

Enjoy the buffet breakfast at the Hotel Wellington in the tapestry-covered Breakfast Room.

**9:00 am**

**Day in Toledo**

We'll leave the Wellington for Toledo, a UNESCO World Heritage city just 43 miles south of Madrid, for a day of history, architecture, food and wine. We'll visit the Cathedral, the Jewish quarter and other important sites with Ronni Baer and our tourguide, and we'll save some time for free time wandering through the narrow streets of the old city.

**2:00 pm**

**Panoramic view lunch in Toledo**

After some free time to shop and enjoy walking inside the walls of the old city, we'll leave for a short drive just outside the city for a lunch with a panoramic view.

**Evening**

**Free evening**

Enjoy an evening on your own, staying in for room service or venturing out for a night on town! See our Restaurant suggestions.

**Thursday, October 22, 2026 – Art and Food**

**Morning**

**Breakfast at the Hotel Wellington**

Enjoy the buffet breakfast at the Hotel Wellington in the tapestry-covered Breakfast Room.

**10:00 am**

**The Prado**

Art Curator Ronni Baer will guide us through the Prado Museum, with an emphasis on both the treasures of the Prado and the food-focused art, and the stories behind the works. The Prado is known for its collection of paintings by Goya, Velazquez, and El Greco, as well as other Spanish, Dutch, Flemish and Italian artists.

**Early Afternoon**

**Free afternoon and lunch**

We've left the rest of the daytime hours free, so you can stay at the Prado and tour at your own pace, or perhaps visit one or more of Madrid's other nearby world-class museums – Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza (western art of the last 800 years).

**Evening**

**Olive oil Tasting and Paella Dinner**

We'll have the pleasure of an olive oil primer and tasting by Fausto Luchetti, former Executive Director, International Olive Oil Council, followed by a spectacular paella dinner.

**Friday, October 23, 2026**

**Art + Tapas!**

**Morning**

**Breakfast at the Hotel Wellington**

Enjoy the buffet breakfast at the Hotel Wellington in the tapestry-covered Breakfast Room.

**10:00**

**Guided visit to the Reina Sofia Museum**

We'll visit the Reina Sofia for a guided tour of this contemporary art museum featuring a Spanish 20th-century art collection with works by Gris, Dali, Picasso & Miro, including Picasso's Guernica.

**Lunch and Afternoon**

**Free time**

**Evening**

**Tapas Tour**

For this essential Spanish experience, we'll divide into small groups, each with an experienced guide, for Tapas Hopping in Madrid.

**Saturday, October 24, 2026****Food and Cooking and Culture****Morning****Breakfast at the Hotel Wellington**

Enjoy the buffet breakfast at the Hotel Wellington in the tapestry-covered Breakfast Room.

**10:00 am****Choose a Tour!**

We're giving you a choice for your last full day of the Madrid Culinaria:

1. Hands-on Cooking class and lunch at Alambique
2. Walking Food Tour and lunch
3. Cultural visit with lunch

**Afternoon****Free time**

Take time for last minute shopping, packing or a Siesta!

**Evening****Farewell Dinner**

We'll meet in the evening for a spectacular Farewell Dinner at Restaurant Pante.

**Sunday, October 25, 2026****Adios****Morning****Breakfast at the Hotel Wellington**

Enjoy the buffet breakfast at the Hotel Wellington in the tapestry-covered Breakfast Room.

Departures or additional touring on your own