

BEST MADRID

Spring Course 2010

Agrotech 2.0: robot challenge **reloaded**

SURVIVAL GUIDE- February 2010



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1. Welcome

Welcome to the LBG Madrid Survival Guide, welcome to (E)Spain! Please read carefully our guide. Do not hesitate to ask us for any extra information if there is something that is not clear to you. This guide should serve you all the information you need, so don't forget it at home! We wish you very pleasant stay in Madrid!

2. About Spain

Most foreigners think about Spain as sun, good weather all year round, and beaches. However, Spain is much more than the Costa del Sol. It is drenched in the historical pageantry of empires and conquistadors, the artistic legacy of Goya, Velázquez, Picasso and Dalí, and the romance of Don Quixote.

According to most guides about Spain, the best time to visit us is in spring or autumn because in summer it is so warm and in winter it is a bit cold. However, you will enjoy your visit all year around. In every season there is always something exciting to do or some cultural event to discover somewhere.

Don't forget to enjoy our most known festivities...:

Carnaval takes place throughout the country in late February; despite of the wildest is said to be in Sitges, the most known is set in Canarias and in Cádiz. In March, Valencia has a week-long party known as **Las Fallas**, which is marked by all-night dancing, drinking, first-class fireworks and colorful processions.

Semana Santa (Holy Week) is the week leading up to Easter Sunday with parades of holy images through the streets; Seville is the place to be if you can get accommodation.



In late April, the **Feria de Abril** in Seville is a week-long party counterbalancing the religious fervor of Semana Santa.

The last Wednesday in August, the town of Buñol, in Valencia, goes bonkers with **La Tomatina**, a big huge fight inside the town, where the weapons are tons and tons of tomatoes.

Some figures about Spain:

- Area: ~ 500.000 km²
- Population: ~ 50 million
- Government: Parliamentary Democracy & Constitutional Monarchy
- King: Juan Carlos I
- Prime Minister: José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero (Socialist Party)

3. And what about Madrid?

Madrid is placed almost in the centre of the Iberian Peninsula and it is one of the highest capitals in Europe (650 m. above sea level). As a capital, Madrid is the biggest city in Spain (almost 5 million) and one of the most cosmopolitan.

To be oriented once you get to Madrid we give you a few tips. The main north-south artery is called **Paseo de la Castellana** (which turns into **Paseo de los Recoletos** and **Paseo del Prado**), and it connects the city's two main train stations, **Chamartín** and **Atocha**.

The oldest quarters are squeezed in between Paseo del Prado (where you'll find the city's great art galleries) and the **Palacio Real** (Royal Palace) to the west.



Royal Palace

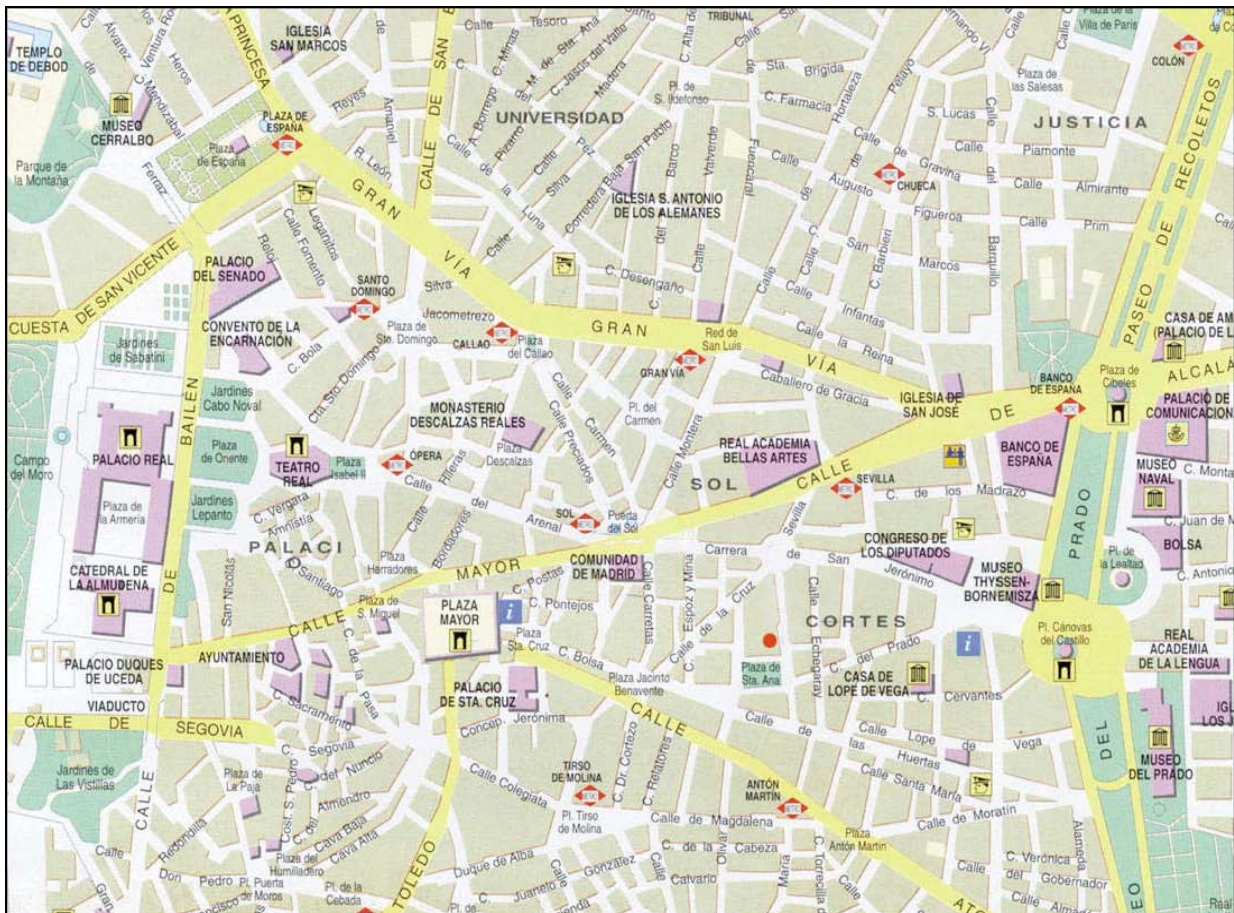
Midway, the barrios south-east of **Puerta del Sol** leading to the working-class district of **Lavapiés** are filled with seemingly endless restaurants, bars and cafes. **Lavapiés** is nowadays the most intercultural quarter in Madrid: there live people from around 90 nationalities.

The densest concentration of accommodation can be found around Puerta del Sol, **Plaza de Santa Ana** and the neighborhoods of **Malasaña** and **Chueca** (for hostels, called *pensiones* and *hostales*), and along **Gran Vía** (hotels). These are also the main areas to enjoy the night life.

Madrid's airport has been a working project for several years now. A new terminal has been recently added which makes a total of four terminals currently working. The airport lies 13km (8mi) north-east of the city. Metro (underground) is the best way to go downtown. It is 12 minutes away from **Nuevos Ministerios** station. Going by bus to **Plaza de Colón** (Colon Square) is also possible. We recommend you using the Metro.

Although we have already said that the summer can be terrible because of the heat, most of the people are on holidays and you can enjoy the city without its typical traffic jams and big concentration of people in the centric areas.

Quick downtown map:



4. Weather

The weather, in Madrid, is quite continental. In **winter** the temperature can be a few degrees below zero and in **summer** it can reach forty degrees while **spring** and **autumn** are the warmest months of the year. During April light showers are not unusual but the temperature stays rather warm.

Average temperatures for May are 10-20°C. In the month of Abril there is a mean of 12 raining days.

In fact, April is an unpredictable month, sometimes it's rather cold, windy and rainy and some others can be really warm, so we will inform you about the weather before you come. Check some webs, like weather.com the days before of event.

5. Spanish Food

Spanish people have their meals later than other Europeans. This is the Spanish meals timetable: breakfast may be between 8:30 and 9:30; lunch between 14:00 and 15:00 and dinner within 21:00 and 22:00. Of course, for social meals, the finishing hour can be very late (even 17:00 for lunch and 1:00 for dinners).

Cuisine is an important key in the Spanish culture development; it is based in the famous Mediterranean diet. It means the usage of numerous fresh vegetables, and the indispensable: olive oil.

Olive oil, also known as 'the liquid gold'. Spanish cuisine can't be conceived without olive oil. We use these as the only one grease or fat for frying or cooking. It tastes a little bit 'stronger' than other oils; it can be noticed when consuming it crude, for example in salad. It comes principally from Andalucía, the southern region of Spain. It's quite expensive, but it looks like there is no matter if the price rises and rises; people continue buying it. It's the healthiest fat, and doctors recommend it before any other one.

There are many typical dishes depending on the year periods and the region where you are. Some of the main dishes you can find around Spain are:

Paella: Although it is typical on the Mediterranean coast you can have *paella* everywhere. It is made of rice mainly, but you can also add shellfish, chicken, peas, beans or whatever you want. The definitive fact about paella is the pan where it's cooked. It's a short and flat pan, and it's obligatory to cook in a wood-fire (or in a gas-heater, that must cover all the surface of the pan).



Gazpacho: It is the perfect food for the summer. It's a soup made from: tomatoes, pepper, cucumber, onion, garlic, olive oil... but the most important: it's served cold! It is used as refreshment during the hot days in July and August. You can even add a few ice cubes.

Horchata: The best cold drink you can have. It is also typical on the Mediterranean coast but you can ask for it in any bar in Madrid. It looks like milk, but it tastes a little bitter.

Cocido madrileño: This is the most famous food originally from Madrid. It is a heavy meal composed mainly of chick-peas. It also has vegetables such as cabbage and different kind of meat.

Tortilla: Maybe one of the most known dishes from Spain. It's an omelet made with potatoes and eggs and sometimes you can add onion in it. It's very typical eating it for dinner or like a TAPA.

Jamón: It's a kind of cured ham that we use to eat with bread. Any time is good to taste such delicious meat. It's one of the most appreciated meal for foreigners. A good one can reach very high prices.



Tapas: You cannot forget the *tapas*. These are little portions of food that you get for free in some bars when you order a beer. Before lunch or in the beginning of the night, people go out from bar to bar drinking and eating *tapas*. There are many types of them and they are made of potatoes, fish, meat, cheese ... You can combine them.

And of course... **SANGRIA!!!!** You can't eat sangria, but everybody drinks it. It's made with wine, lemonade and pieces of different fruits. It has a secret ingredient that you only know if you come here and taste it!!! :-P

6. Currency and Prices

Since the first of January 2002, we are using the Euro. However, for those who are not familiar with it:

- Bank notes fractions are: 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5 €.
- Coin fractions are: 2, 1, 0.50, 0.20, 0.10, 0.02, 0.01 €.

People coming from Eastern Europe might need to exchange money.

There is no problem in exchanging money. Specially in the touristic areas there are many places where you can do it. You can also go to bank branches, travel agencies some hotels and even shops.

If you want to use a credit card or traveler cheques, there are many places which accept both.

In ATM machines in the streets, you can use the most common cards: VISA, Master Card...

Madrid is not a very expensive city in comparison to other Western European cities. Here some average prices:



- Bread/Baguette: 0.55 – 1 Euros
- Coffee: 0.60 – 1.20 Euros
- Ice-cream: 0.60 – 3 Euros
- Mineral water (1/2 liter bottle): 0.75 –1.50 Euros
- Milk (1 liter brick): 0.70 Euros
- Lunch: 5 – 12 Euros
- Beer: 1.2 – 3 Euros
- Drink in disco: 4 – 9 Euros
- Entrance disco: 6 – 12 Euros
- Cinema ticket: 4 – 6.50 Euros
- Underground / Bus ticket for 1 trip: 1 Euro
- Underground / Bus ticket for 10 trips : 9 Euros
- Cigarettes (20 unit pack): 2 – 3 Euros
- Newspaper: 1 euro

7. Electricity

The electric current used throughout Spain is the European standard 220-240 V, A.C. 50 Hz. The sockets are two-pin, and adapters may be bought at most electrical and lamp stores.



8. Health

If you come from a European Union country you only need the EU sanitary card (the blue one), so if you need medical assistance, you should present your card which will give you the same entitlements as a Spanish citizen – medical care free of charge and the refund of part of the cost of medicine.

European Union citizens: **DO NOT FORGET TO GET YOUR EU SANITARY CARD BEFORE COMING TO MADRID!!!**

If you are not a citizen of the European Union but your country has signed an agreement for medical care with Spain (you can find out about this in the Social Security in your country), you should bring the appropriate form and act in the same way as members of the European Union.

If you are not a citizen of the European Union and your country hasn't any medical agreement with Spain, you will have to take out a private medical insurance. This should give you full coverage for medical care during your stay in Spain.

9. Emergency

ALL EMERGENCIES: 112

- Police: 091 / 092
- Firefighter brigade: 080
- Ambulance: +34 91 588 44 00 / +34 91 588 45 00 / +34 91 588 46 00
- Civil Protection : +34 91 537 17 00
- Foreign office information (in English) : +34 91 379 97 00
- Red Cross : +34 91 522 22 22
- Toxicological Information: +34 91 562 04 20

10. Travelling to Madrid

DO NOT HESITATE TO TELL US IN ADVANCE WHEN AND WHERE YOU ARE ARRIVING, WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO PICK YOU UP. Anyway, here you have some guidelines to arrive at the meeting point in case you have to come on your own.

Despite there are several kind of means of transport in Madrid, underground (called Metro in Spain) is the cheapest and fastest mean way to get to the meeting point.

An underground ticket for one trip costs 1 euro and it is valid as long as you don't leave the metro network (2 euro if you are leaving or arriving to any of the two metro stations in the airport). If you get out, next time you enter you will have to get a new ticket (even if you have left the network just for 1 minute)

If you will stay longer in Madrid, or come together several persons, it worth buying a 10 trip ticket. It costs 9 Euros, and can be used by more than a person at the same time, but you have to travel together and carry it with you all the trip.

[When a meeting point will be arranged, we'll inform you here carefully about how to reach it from any transportation mean: plane, train, bus...]

11. The meeting point

[Coming soon]

12. Events and sessions

Working sessions will be in ETSI Agrónomos faculty. It's the Agronomist Engineering College of the Polytechnic University of Madrid.

- The official language of all activities is English.
- All sessions are compulsory. You must be on time for them.
- At the end of the event you will get an attendance certificate.
- We will go by subway to the university. It will take around 25 minutes.



ETSI Agrónomos

13. Behavior

All day long:

- Punctuality: be on time at the meeting points.

During the working sessions:

- Do not miss the sessions.
- Do not eat or drink during the sessions.

At the social activities:

- Have fun and be the craziest at the party!!! :-)
- Bear in mind that you have to be 100% functional next morning!

14. Don't forget to bring

- Passport or ID card
- Visa (for those who need it)
- Travel and medical insurance
- Student card (EURO<26, ISIC card...)
- Formal clothes (for the Official Opening of the course)
- Clothes and shoes for walking and sightseeing and playing sports
- Camera

15. Contact BEST Madrid

• Main Organizers of Agrotech 2009:

Ana García:

Email: ana.garcia@best.eu.org
Phone: +34 661062012

Florencio Michelena:

Email: florencio.michelena@best.eu.org
Phone: +34 663311598

• President of BEST Madrid:

Jorge Casado:

Email: jorge.casado.esteras@best.eu.org
Phone: +34 653832503

We really recommend you bringing these numbers with you if you are coming to the event, in case you need any kind of help.

Feel free to contact Main Organizers for doubts related to the activity. :-)

16. Tips of Spanish Language

Hello, goodbye, thank you and so on:

English	Spanish
Hello	Hola
Good morning	Buenos días
Good afternoon	Buenas tardes
Good evening/ Good night	Buenas noches
Good bye	Adios
How are you?/ Fine thanks	¿Cómo estás? Bien, gracias
My name is...	Mi nombre es....
I am ... years old	Tengo ... años
Thank you	Gracias
You are welcome	De nada
Yes / no / perhaps	Sí / no / quizás

In the street:

English	Spanish
Excuse me	Perdone
What time is it?	¿Qué hora es?
I don't speak Spanish	No hablo español
I don't understand you	No te entiendo
What does it mean?	¿Qué significa esto?
I don't know.	No lo sé
Could you tell me the way to ...?	¿Me puede indicar como llegar a ...?
Where is ...?	¿Dónde está ...?
Straight on	Recto
Right/ left	Derecha/izquierda
Please	Por favor
One ticket to ..., please	Un billete para ..., por favor.
Bus/train/plain/subway station	Estación de autobús/tren/avión/metro
When and where does the train / bus / plane for ... leave?	¿Dónde y cuándo sale el tren / autobús / avión para ...?
I am tired	Estoy cansado/a
Where is my luggage?	¿Dónde está mi equipaje?

In restaurants and shops:

English	Spanish
How much does it cost?	¿Cuánto cuesta esto?
What is this?	¿Qué es esto?
My size is ...	Mi talla es ...
I want this	Quiero esto
Could you show me that, please?	¿Me podría enseñar eso, por favor?
Where is the toilet, please?	¿Dónde está el lavabo, por favor?
I'm hungry/thirsty	Tengo hambre/sed
Entrance/ exit	Entrada/ Salida
Emergency exit	Salida de emergencia
The bill, please	La cuenta, por favor.
I want a beer / mineral water / tee / coffee	Quiero una cerveza / agua mineral / te / café.

Do you like him/her?:

English	Spanish
I like you	Me gustas
I love you	Te quiero
Kiss me	bésame
You have such beautiful eyes	Tienes unos ojos preciosos
You are handsome / pretty	Eres muy guapo / guapa.
You are so sweet / cute	Eres tan dulce / encantador.
Do you want to dance with me?	¿Quieres bailar conmigo?
Love	Amor
Was your father a thief? Because someone stole the stars from the sky and put them in your eyes.	¿Era tu padre un ladrón? Porque robó las estrellas del cielo y las puso en tus ojos.
Can I offer you a drink?	¿Qué bebes?
It's a bit hot here! Do you want to go outside?	Hace calor aquí dentro, ¿salimos fuera?
I am a strawberry, eat me!	Soy una fresita, cómeme!
Do u wanna see my butterfly collection?	¿Quieres ver mi colección de mariposas?

Phrases we hope you won't need to use:

English	Spanish
We are in Spain, aren't we?	¿Estamos en España, no?
I needed a toilet, but now it's too late	Necesitaba ir al baño, pero ya es demasiado tarde
Wasn't it a toilet?	¿No era un baño?
Sorry Mister Policeman, it will be the last time	Lo siento Señor Policia, será la última vez.

17. Embassies

1. Embassy of Austria

Paseo de la Castellana, 91
28046 Madrid Tel: + 34 91 556
53 15 Fax: + 34 91 597 35 79
Mail: madrid-ob@bmaa.gv.at

2. Embassy of Belgium

Paseo de la Castellana, 18 – 6ª planta
28046 Madrid Tel: + 34 915 776 300
Fax: + 34 914 318 166 Mail:
Madrid@diplobel.org

3. Embassy of Bulgaria

Santa María Magdalena, 15
28016 Madrid Tel: + 34 91
345 66 51 Fax: + 34 91 359
12 01

4. Embassy of Croatia

Calle Claudio Coello, 78 – 2º
28001 Madrid Tel: + 34 91
577 6881 Fax: + 34 91 577
6905 Mail:
cromad@teleline.es

5. Embassy of Czech Republic

Avenida Pío XII, 22 – 24 28016
Madrid Tel: + 34 91 353 18 97
Fax: + 34 91 353 18 98 Mail:
madrid@embassy.mzv.cz

6. Embassy of Denmark

Calle Claudio Coello, 91 – 4º
28006 Madrid Tel: + 34 91
431 8445 Fax: + 34 91 431
9168 Mail: madamb@um.dk

7. Embassy of Estonia

Calle Claudio Coello, 91 – 1º D
28006 Madrid Tel: + 34 91 426
16 71 Fax: + 34 91 426 16 72

8. Embassy of Finland

Paseo de la Castellana, 15
28046 Madrid Tel: + 34 91 319
6172 Fax: + 34 91 308 3901
Mail: sanomat.mad@formin.fi

9. Embassy of France

Salustiano Olozaga, 9 28001 Madrid
Tel: + 34 91 700 78 00 Fax: + 34 91 700
78 01 Mail: ecrire@consulfrance-madrid.org

10. Embassy of Germany

Calle Fortuny, 8 28010 Madrid
Tel: + 34 91 557 90 00 Fax: + 34
91 310 21 04 Mail:
[zreg@madri.auswaertiges-
amt.de](mailto:zreg@madri.auswaertiges-amt.de)

11. Embassy of Greece

Avenida Dr. Arce, 24
28002 Madrid Tel: + 34
91 564 46 53 Fax: + 34
91 564 46 68

12. Embassy of Holand

Avenida Comandante Franco, 32
28016 Madrid Tel: + 34 91 353 75
00 Fax: + 34 91 353 75 65 Mail:
mad-az@minbuza.nl

13. Embassy of Hungary

c./ Fortuny 6. 4o Izqu. 28010,
Madrid Tel: + 34 91 413 70 11 Fax:
+ 34 91 413 41 38 Mail:
info@embajada-hungria.org

14. Consulate of Iceland

Calle Peguerinos, 5 Ciudad Puerta
de Hierro, Madrid Tel: +34 91 373
15 06 Fax: +34 91 373 92 65

15. Embassy of Italy

Calle Lagasca, 98 28006 Madrid Tel: +
34 91 423 33 00 Fax: + 34 91 575 77
76 Mail:
archivo@ambitaliamadrid.org

16. Embassy of Latvia

Calle Diego de León, 36 – 4º
28006 Madrid Tel: + 34 91
563 17 45 Fax: + 34 91 411 04
18 Mail:
letspan@lite.eunet.es

17. Embassy of Lithuania

Calle Pisuerga, 5 28002 Madrid
Tel: + 34 917 022 116 Fax: + 34
91 310 40 18 Mail:
embajada@emblituania.es

18. Consulate of Macedonia

Capitán Haya, 60 - 6º
28020 Madrid Tel: + 34
91 570 66 41

19. Embassy of Norway

Paseo de la Castellana, 31
(edificio Pirámide, 9) 28046
Madrid Tel: + 34 91 310 31
16 Fax: + 34 91 319 09 69
Mail: emb.madrid@mfa.no

20. Embassy of Poland

Calle Guisando, 23 bis 28035
Madrid Tel: + 34 91 373 66
05 Fax: + 34 91 373 66 24
Mail: embajada@polonia.es

21. Embassy of Portugal

Calle Pinar, 1 28006 Madrid Tel: +
34 91 782 49 60 Fax: + 34 91 782 49
72. Mail:
embaportugal@telefonica.net

22. Embassy of Romania

Avenida de Alfonso XIII, 157
28016 Madrid Tel: + 34 91 350
44 36 Fax: + 34 91 345 29 17
Mail: roembmad@wol.es