

DOWNLOAD PDF OFF THE BEATED TRACK IN MADRID (A NASH TRAVEL GUIDE)

Chapter 1 : 5 Secret Gems in Madrid | Travel Tips from Real Locals – Like A Local Guide

Madrid is a very safe city, but remember to mind your belongings, especially in city center areas. Drinking alcohol in public spaces is forbidden, so to enjoy the outdoors over a drink, find a pleasant pub with a terrace.

Grocery shopping in Spain is a day-long affair. Every item on my shopping list has its own specialty store and corresponding expert shopkeeper to sell me exactly what I want. But this specialization is not only true in Spanish shops, it is also true in the towns and villages across Spain where these products are made. You have the blue cheese village and the Iberian cured ham village. The moment we pulled into Guijuelo it was impossible not to notice the ham legs hanging in every shop window. This village of less than 6, residents produces more than half of all the Iberian cured ham in Spain. The black shapes that will later become some of the best hams in Spain rummage from tree to tree, scarfing down each fallen acorn. Olive Oil Olive trees as far as the eye can see! Photo Credit: Baeza, a town of about 16, in the southern region of Andalusia, sits in the heart of the largest olive oil producing region in the world. More olive oil flows through here every year than in all of Italy combined! Jerez de la Frontera: This is Sherry country , the only region in the world that can officially make this long-aged fortified wine. Tortilla de Patatas Ooey Gooey egg goodness! The small Galician village of Betanzos is the place that changed the face of Spanish tortilla. This most classic of Spanish dishes is an omelet of sorts made from potato, egg and sometimes onion. While most tortillas can be easily cut into slices much like a pie , the Betanzos style tortilla is a ooey-gooey concoction that oozes everywhere when sliced. This runny tortilla is so popular that it even has a festival dedicated to it. Try this gooey tortilla recipe – the best one ever! The anchovies are then filleted packaged in olive oil to be sold in Spain and around the world. Goose Barnacles Percebes, one of the most dangerous foods in Spain to collect! Goose barnacles, or percebes as they are known in Spanish, are one of the most dangerous foods in the world to harvest. These two-inch-long barnacles cling to the craggy rocks of the treacherous Galician coastline. A mass celebrates the barnacle collectors that died on the job that year. Tuna Bluefin tuna at the Cadiz market. The fishing village of Barbate along the southern coast near Cadiz has been fishing tuna using the same methods for 3, years. When silvery fins start flashing across the surface expert fisherman spear these giant fish, hauling them aboard. Steak A delicious local steak. This bold title goes to the aged ox steaks from El Capricho restaurant and ranch. Cherries The Valle de Jerte in bloom. The cherry blossom bloom here is a sight so beautiful, few places in the world can rival it. Every year the magnificent cherry blossoms are celebrated with a two-week long cherry festival filled with more products featuring cherries than you could ever imagine! Intense cheese and endless pours of Asturian hard cider? This tiny Galician village located just north of the Portuguese border is home to the largest and most impressive tribute to edible octopus in Spain! Have you visited any of these foodie villages in Spain? Any towns that we missed? Let us know in the comments!

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Chapter 2 : Barcelona Off the Beaten Path: Travel Guide on TripAdvisor

Madrid is a wonderful place to visit, as it has stunning architecture, top-notch museums, and a delicious culinary culture. There are tons of interesting things to see and do, and one of the best ways to discover the city is to put that guidebook away and just wander the streets.

Madrid Off the Beaten Path November 8, This blog post was originally posted on April 22, and was updated on November 2, Looking to move off the well trodden tourist path and discover something extra special in Madrid? Madrid is packed with amazing art museums , world-renowned wine , centuries-old markets and perfectly manicured parks. It is also packed with tourists: And that means a day of sight seeing in Madrid often means long lines, crowded bars and packed plazas. There is a plethora of places packed with culture, beauty and, of course, spectacular Madrid food. You just need to know where to look. So ditch the travel book, toss the tourist map, and get off the beaten path in Madrid. This is the perfect way to get off the beaten path in Madrid for art aficionados! Tour the working factory and watch expert weavers at work creating spectacular tapestries. Monday-Friday from 10 a. Hop on the green Line 5 metro to El Capricho Park and stroll through this secluded oasis. Paseo de la Alameda de Osuna Hours: Saturday or Sunday from 9: If the sprawling neighborhood-wide Sunday flea market of El Rastro seems a tad overwhelming, the smaller, mostly indoor Mercado de Motores is the ideal place to pass your Sunday morning in Madrid. Located in the Railway Museum, the Mercado de Motores packs stalls of antiques, recycled object crafts, second-hand clothes and more between old locomotives and metro cars. Paseo de las Delicias, 61 near the Delicias metro stop Hours: The second weekend of each month from Streets packed with restaurants catering primarily to tourists line the plaza. We suggest skipping many of these less-than-stellar options and instead make the short five-minute walk to El Zagal , a simple restaurant with home cooking. Here you can feast on scrumptious raciones of pan-seared mushrooms with cured ham bits or homemade croquetas. They also offer a 3-course lunch featuring Spanish favorites like salmorejo cold tomato soup , grilled trout and beef steaks for Calle Trujillos, 7 Hours: Open daily from 1: Head instead to the Circulo de Bellas Artes museum, where a mere 3 euro buys you access to the impressive Azotea rooftop terrace which overlooks some of the most spectacular buildings in the city. On the rooftop you can lounge on outdoor sofas while sipping an ice cold cocktail and gazing out over the twinkling city of Madrid. We definitely recommend timing your visit to watch the sunset. Can you say espectacular? Monday to Friday 9: The stunning view from atop the Cirulo de Bellas Artes terrace. Paella which is actually from Valencia , a city about miles east of Madrid may have the international fame, but cocido â€” a stew of pork, beef, chicken, chorizo sausage, vegetables and garbanzos â€” is definitely the home favorite. During the winter months , restaurants across the city brew up big pots of cocido to warm the bellies of Spaniards and visitors alike. The ultimate delicious stew in Madrid. Click here for more day trip from Madrid recommendations!

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Chapter 3 : Best All-inclusive Family Resorts | Take The Family

This is the perfect way to get off the beaten path in Madrid for art aficionados! Tour the working factory and watch expert weavers at work creating spectacular tapestries. Learn about the factory's nearly year history and gaze upon fantastically preserved tapestries from masters like Juan Gris.

First I would like to respond to Robert. Is my house off the beaten track enough? The Ribeirasacra is not so well known, but it is becoming more popular thanks to several US wine importers and writers. But it still not overcrowded just yet. I hope it stays that way too. But the latter has not been restored in such away as to make it look like a building of the age where as Monforte has been. There is a lot more to this area then just wine there is a lot of history and in particularly old monasteries, some in ruins others are still in use. Other location sin and around Galicia that maybe of interest would be Fragas do Eume: The only riverside Atlantic forests in Europe, so they say. O Courel is truly spectacular. It is a great place to explore nature. Wolves roam freely and some times you may hear about bears entering the area from neighbouring Asturias. The beaches of Galicia at the moment are packed to overflowing. So they are hardly OTBT. One other place to suggest in the north of Spain is Taramundi. Often thought to be in Galicia but is actually in Asturias. Here again is some "untouched" countryside. The area is also known for its traditional way of making knives. If you are after some tips for the south then head for Extremadura. The city of Merida, has a lot of Roman remains "doted" around. One of particular note is Roman Temple to Diana. Something a bit newer? If you are interested in Bird Watching then Extremadura would also be a place for you to visit. Obviously the best time would be spring time. I always suggest hiring a car do get in and see the true undiscovered sights. Also one night stands do not work, so plan to hang around for say nights that is basically 2 days or more if the area is of great interest or you wish to relax.

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Chapter 4 : Paros Off the Beaten Path: Ultimate Travel Guide for the East Coast

Inside Madrid: Off the Beaten Path - Before you visit Madrid, visit TripAdvisor for the latest info and advice, written for travelers by travelers.

Best way to get around the island? An ATV costs you just 28 euros for the entire day and an you could see half of the island on a full tank of gas. Refueling will cost you nothing as well. Our first stop was Santa Maria beach. The only thing separating you and your quad from the crystal blue ocean are small coves. Without hesitation, we decided to turn around and spend an hour tanning and bathing in one of the coves rather than at the beach. We chose one along the path to Santa Maria and highly recommend you all do the same! It is so much better than staying on a beach. You really feel in touch with nature and get your own private cove with an unobstructed view of the neighboring island! Pat feeling like a King in his private cove. We started to get hungry so decided to head to the fishing port of Piso Livadi. As you arrive, you see the village and small boardwalk peering through the trees. If you plan on eating lunch in Piso Livadi during prime season, I highly recommend you make a reservation since almost every restaurant was packed! As you look out onto the waters of windy Golden Beach, you catch a glimpse of the small island of Drionsi just a couple of kilometers away that can only be reached by boat. This was both a good and bad idea. Good because the views were breath taking and unbelievable on the way up and down. Bad because we had no idea the trip would be so long and we were afraid our ATV would run out of gas..!! This is truly an off the beaten path city literally worth seeing. The town was quiet, cool " since we were in the mountains, and peaceful. Most of the townspeople where up at the main church, it seemed like some sort of festival was going on. So we decided to take advantage of the quiet village and explore what this old ancient capital of Paros had to offer. Cycladic architecture, neoclassical buildings, and quirky boutiques surrounded by vineyards and forests make for a perfect island getaway. I highly recommend everyone take a day trip out here if they can! Top of the mountain. We returned the ATV to our rental place in Naoussa and went home to get ready for dinner. Follow Svadore on Instagram: Svadore Follow Svadore on Pinterest:

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Chapter 5 : Spain off the beaten path - Fodor's Travel Talk Forums

What locals like to do in Madrid Where locals like to eat in Madrid Where locals like to party in Madrid. Special tip: For a more authentic Madrid experience, get the Like A Local mobile app. Brian is a freelance writer from Odense, Denmark. He moved to sunny Madrid in to find new inspiration and experience his girlfriend's hometown first-hand.

Whatever your vacation preferences, this country has something to offer you. Spain is a beautiful and picturesque representation of Old World Europe, with awe-inspiring architecture, fascinating centuries-old traditions and idyllic pastoral scenes, far removed from the hustle and bustle of modern life. At the same time, Spain is home to some of the hottest nightlife venues on the entire continent and is consistently at the forefront in the culinary world. And with a location that is conveniently reached from the rest of Europe by rail, air or car, it remains the perfect choice for anything from a spur of the moment weekend getaway to an extended holiday. Due to its immense popularity as a tourist destination, the challenge inherently presents itself to the lateral-thinking traveler to go beyond the prescribed and obvious destinations and attractions. By making the extra effort to seek out some wonderful hidden gems, you can stockpile an entire mental warehouse of memories and create a vacation experience that is completely unique to you.

Within Reach of Barcelona For most travelers, a vacation begins and ends in Barcelona, the second largest city in Spain. But during the summer months, most visitors are here for the beaches. The city boasts eight glorious white sandy beaches. For most visitors, they simply follow the rest of the throngs and end up at Barceloneta, which caters almost exclusively to tourists and at least has an easily reached location working in its favour. Instead, go here, the stunningly beautiful Platja de Castell, located approximately an hour and a half northward of Barcelona in the city of Palamos. Perhaps the best part of this beach is the fact that it has not been formally developed, and thus offers you crystalline waters next to picturesque shoreline replete with gorgeous natural coves and serene pine forests. Far enough away to thin out the crowds but close enough to be well worth the effort, this beach is the perfect place to relax, sip a cocktail and leave the world and your cares behind.

Within Reach of Madrid From a cultural heritage standpoint and an opportunity to appreciate history, art and architecture, it is hard to top Madrid, the capital city. Every year, over 7 million travelers visit Madrid to see for themselves the legions of incredible Renaissance and Medieval buildings, explore countless museums or cheer the dashing matadors while attending the obligatory bullfight. There is literally so much to do that it just might take several lifetimes of vacations to experience it all. Must-sees include the Museo de Prado, featuring some of the most important artwork over the past thousand years, including masterpieces by Rembrandt, Gloria and El Greco; the Plaza de Toros de Las Ventas, where you can watch the spectacle of the sport that is synonymous with the country, bullfighting; or the Plaza de Cibeles, highlighted by a gorgeous fountain that was created before America was a country. If you travel to Madrid, these are mandatory stops on your itinerary. See these sites, and you will make sure that you have seen what every single other tourist has also seen. The festival was created 30 years ago to offer internationally accredited avant-gard productions to educate and spread spread culture to the region. The celebration showcases the theater, music and dance performers from all over the world. For the entire month, extravaganzas are held at every venue of note in Madrid. More information on the festival can be found on the Madrid website.

Cadiz One of the best-known carnivals in all of Spain, indeed in the whole world, is held here in this port city in the South West. For two weeks every year several different traditional forms of music, costumes, decorations and processions all are combined by competing groups to regale the rest of the population with songs, parodies, witticisms and lampoonings of the news, current events and noteworthy people of the year. Every Saturday during the carnival, everyone is encouraged to dress in their brightest and cleverest costume, residents and visitors alike. Dancing, laughing, drinking and feasting are all the order of the day. It may surprise you to know that the city was founded over years ago by Phoenician sailors as a commercial stronghold. Climb the tower of the Old Cathedral for a review of the entire city and get a feel for how the sentries of millennia ago must have felt. The country of Spain has many, many more

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attractions and events sure to interest travelers of every bent. No guided tour, no website and no dictated itinerary can possibly allow you to see and experience everything Spain has to offer. The best way to live and breathe life the Spanish way is to leave the beaten path and let your whims be your guide. Go where the locals go and talk to everyone you meet. Only then will you stand the best chance of discovering all the hidden wonders in this great country.

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Chapter 6 : Madrid: Off the Beaten Path - TripAdvisor

Explore Madrid with the "Madrid Off the Beaten Path" Travel Guide on TripAdvisor.

And you should definitely see those places. You better believe Madrid has no shortage of them! Located on the rooftop of a residential building, you have to find the right buzzer to ring at the front door for them to let you in. La Latina and Lavapies. Kikekeller I must have walked by this store a thousand times before I realized Kikekeller was a lot more than just a furniture shop. Head to the back of the store, and keep walking, until you find yourself in the lovely hidden hipster bar. The artistic space La Neomudejar is reserved for avant-garde creations, and hosts all kinds of exhibitions, talks, and video-art festivals. Artists of all disciplines actually live there and display their work. In addition to the art, the space is quite singular, as it used to be part of a train station. There are some great shows in very small, intimate venues, with amazing acoustics and very moving performances. Check out Essential Flamenco or La Chimera and prepare to get goosebumps. This place will leave a lasting impression. Eat there and enjoy the hustle and bustle, or eat it on a bench in Plaza Mayor where you can people watch. From the beautiful sculptures and fountains to the labyrinth, the small palace and little plazas, this is a well-manicured respite from the city. El Capricho is only open on weekends, so plan accordingly, but definitely include this one in your itinerary. Madrid is a wonderful place to visit, as it has stunning architecture, top-notch museums, and a delicious culinary culture. There are tons of interesting things to see and do, and one of the best ways to discover the city is to put that guidebook away and just wander the streets. Do you have anything to add to this list? Let us know in the comments below! This is a guest post by Samara Kamenecka. Samara Kamenecka is a freelance writer and translator, originally from New York but living in Madrid. She has travelled the country extensively, but feels right at home in the capital. She blogs over at Tiny Fry.

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Chapter 7 : Top 10 Madrid by DK Travel | www.nxgvision.com

The Lisbon Off the Beaten Track guide is divided into activities and food/drinks. In addition to the Guide to Lisbon Off the Beaten Path, make sure you check out the rest of the Travel Honey travel guides for Lisbon!

You should consider Nong Khiaw. Nong Khiaw is a small town in northern Laos, best known for its gorgeous scenery. When we were planning our recent stay there, we found it was difficult to find good up-to-date information on the town. We decided to jot down some of our travel tips and tricks to help out other travelers. The minivan is air-conditioned, left right on time, and surprisingly only took the advertised 3 hours even including a toilet stop ask your driver to stop halfway and he will. Where to Stay in Nong Khiaw There are tons of guesthouses here, most pretty basic but cheap. You will see that most of the backpackers coming off the public buses and minivans do this. Walk-ins often pay less than booking ahead. Ask for room 5 or 10 for the best view. The view from our guesthouse in beautiful Nong Khiaw Booking. We found the food was really good quality and surprisingly much better than what we found in Luang Prabang. Noymany is also a good option for breakfast banana crepes and french toast done right! Deen restaurant for Indian food makes a nice change for dinner the set menu is really good value. There are several tour companies in town offering full-day excursions that usually included kayaking, biking and hiking. Unfortunately, many of the tours cost , kip per person and up, so not exactly inexpensive. Plus, the price risk is on you. Great way to see the river. It can fill up with locals on a hot afternoon. Head up-river to Muang Ngoi. Many backpackers pretty much head straight there, barely stopping in Nong Khiaw. Muang Ngoi is even more rustic. Many excursions from the tour operators include Muang Ngoi, but they often cost , kip and up, per person. The best option, if you have time, is to spend a night or two in Muang Ngoi, as well as a couple of nights in Nong Khiaw before or after. How to rent a scooter There is only one place in town surprising we know that rents scooters. It is located just over the bridge on the east side. If you want an automatic scooter, you need to go early in the morning to ensure you get one. If you need to get back to town earlier than that like we did , you can book spots on a 9: The van was pretty comfortable, air-conditioned, and the driver stops half-way for a toilet break. It took just over 3 hours. Enjoy your time in Nong Khiaw – the real jewel of Laos. It was the highlight of our trip to Laos. Make sure you check out all our posts and photo galleries from Southeast Asia. About Us We are Trevor and Christine, two former finance professionals who left our careers to grab life by the balls! Current number of countries visited:

Chapter 8 : Madrid Off the Beaten Path – Devour Madrid

Dig a little deeper into Madrid's sights and sounds.

Chapter 9 : Spain - Off the Beaten Path Suggestions - Fodor's Travel Talk Forums

The best of Spain is on the beaten path: the beaten path being el Camino Francés (The Camino de Santiago) in the north and, in the south, the Romeria de la Virgen del Rocio that ends at the.