

FINDING AN APARTMENT

in Madrid, Spain

Beginning Your Apartment Search

Your search for an apartment in Madrid is one of the most rewarding and empowering experiences that you will encounter as a study abroad student.

The housing search allows you to put your goals, priorities and preferences into perspective, and offers you a unique opportunity for immediate immersion in the language and culture. You will overcome your initial language insecurities through answering ads and meeting your potential roommates and landlords. It is during this interaction that you'll discover how self-reliant and capable you are, and that you are able to overcome challenges with success, even in a foreign language!

After the housing orientation and once you have reviewed the extensive information and hints in the housing section of your onsite Madrid Manual, you will be ready to get started. You will be able to decide the type of living situation that you prefer as well as the neighborhood that best suits you. During the housing search you will explore many different neighborhoods in Madrid and identify the distinct flavor that each offers its residents. Not only will you get to know the city, but its inhabitants as well. Interactions with Spaniards at this early stage in your study abroad experience provide you with useful insights about the Spanish culture and the rich use of its language.



What To Look For

The average price students paid in 2019-2020 was about 460 Euros, including utilities in some cases.

Through negotiation with landlords and office contacts, diligent hunting in the online advertisements and easy budgeting techniques, some students are able to rent apartments for less than 450 Euros, but it takes diligent searching.

Year after year, our students are able to find an apartment before the final move-out date at their initial temporary housing arrangement. The majority find an apartment within the first two weeks of their search, renting either a single or double room in apartments shared with other students. Roughly 82% of students live with at least one native Spanish speaker at home. Many later emphasize that this was a fundamental part of their language acquisition in Madrid, and that they were able to form deep lasting friendships with their roommates.

Many students also live with international students from all over the world. Together with these roommates they are able to explore the Spanish language together, consulting Spanish roommates with linguistic doubts, helping each other when in a language pinch, and even travelling in Europe together during school breaks.



SUGGESTED WEBSITES

First of all, you need to see which neighbourhood is better for you. Before trying to view the websites for renting rooms, you must get a feel for the different neighborhoods and what they offer. Here you have an interesting website that helps you to see what the most common student neighbourhoods are like according to people who live there.
<https://www.secretosdemadrid.es/category/distritos-de-madrid/>

There are several sites with many ads and offerings, and a section devoted exclusively to finding a room in an apartment community. The following Web sites have been used by students to successfully find suitable housing:

Idealista, www.idealista.com

- In the 3 boxes used to begin the search, choose “Alquilar”, “Habitación” and “Madrid.”
- Either on the map or under the list of areas, click on “Madrid Capital.” You can then choose what district of Madrid you would like to search.

Vibbo, <https://www.vibbo.com/>

- Click on “inmobiliaria”. Once the page opens up you will need to choose Madrid from the top bar.
- In the categories on the left will need to narrow down the search.
- The most interesting ones are price, category “pisos compartidos”, transaction type “en alquiler” and anunciante “particular”.

Roomgo, <https://www.roomgo.es/>

- The first step here is to create a profile and register. You will be walked through the process and then create a personal ad that essentially states you are looking for a room to rent. You will need to fill out specifics like the maximum price you are willing to pay and your contact information.
- Afterwards you can click on “ver anuncios” to see a list of ads to look through. There is also another helpful button “Nuevos pisos en Madrid” that lists the latest apartments postings. Once you select an apartment, click on “ver más” for more details.

Fotocasa, <https://www.fotocasa.es/es/>

- In the 3 boxes used to begin the search, choose “Alquilar”, “Habitación” and “Madrid.”
- Either on the map or under the list of areas, click on “Madrid Capital.” You can then choose what district of Madrid you would like to search.

Compartimos Casa, www.compartimoscasa.com

- You will need to create an account on this website in order to take advantage of the services offered. Start by “Inscríbete” at the bottom of the page.
- Once you are finished filling out the contact profile, you will be ready to start your search. This is a great website to share apartments with other occupants.

Recommended Student Agencies for Rent a Room

These are student agencies that help you to find a room! Help you with photos or virtual visits. You put your requirements or price and choose a room!

- www.aluni.net
- www.rookieintown.com
- www.uniplaces.com
- www.homiii.com

Your search may be challenging, but all of our students succeed in finding the right place for them.

Madrid is a big and bustling city with a multitude of options for everyone. It is important to be proactive and take initiative, carefully evaluate your preferences and options, and be patient with yourself and your new culture. The WIP Student Services Coordinator will assist you with preparing for your search, give you recommendations and advice, and help with other aspects of your search. Don't hesitate to ask questions and believe in your own capabilities. Thousands of students have come before you and done it; you can too, and learn about Madrid and its inhabitants in the process of finding one of the most unique living experiences that you will ever have!

