

# How to look for an accommodation in Madrid for ETSIT-UPM Students

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Hello!

With this guide we are trying to help and make it easier for you to find an accommodation in Madrid. As a newcomer to Madrid, you might find it difficult to find a good and cheap flat or even decide on which is a good area to live in because you are most likely not familiar with the city.

## Where is ETSIT?

First of all is getting to know where we are, right? ETSIT-UPM is located in *Ciudad Universitaria*, very close to Madrid city center and very easy to access by public transport, or even by foot.

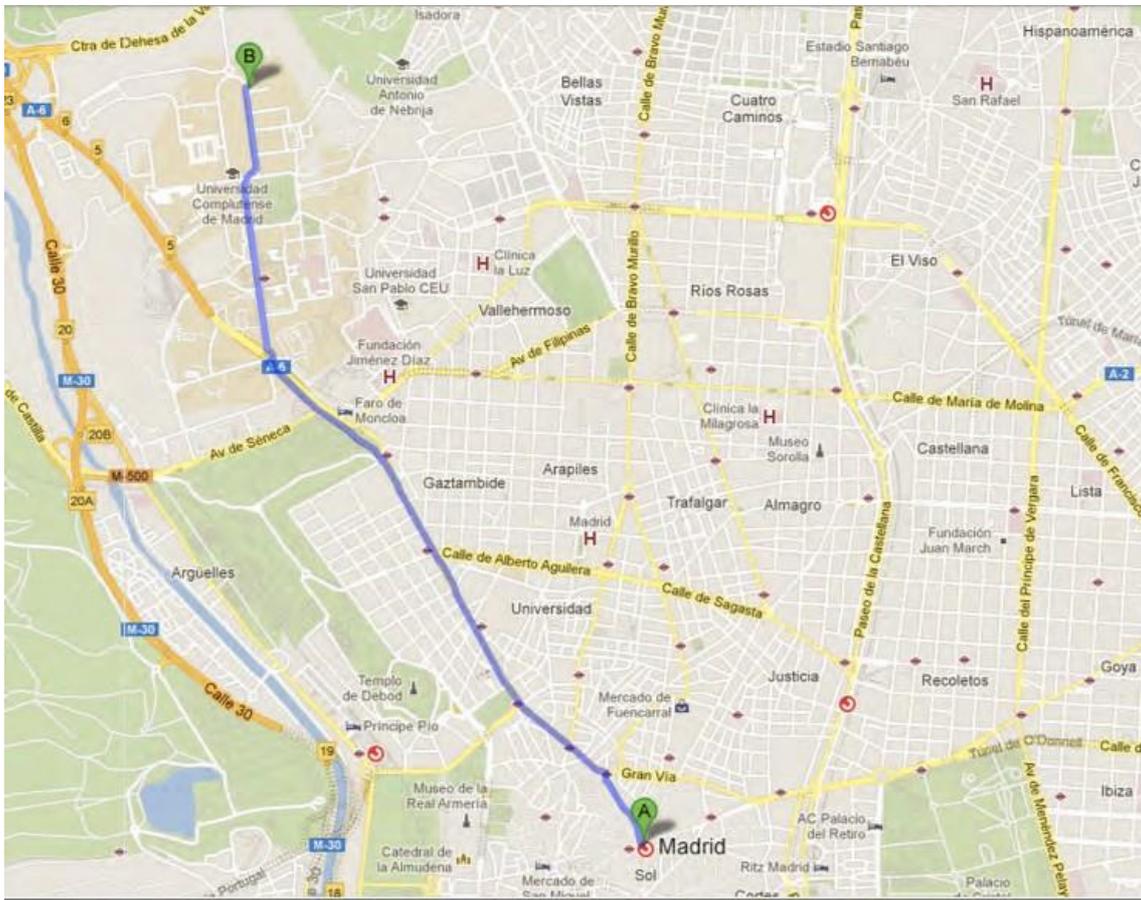
The address is:

*Avenida Complutense, 30  
28040, Madrid*

*Campus Map. ETSIT UPM (A)*



Here is a map to get a glimpse of the distances or the location where it is. This map shows the distance from Puerta del Sol (A), which is considered the most centric place in Madrid, to the engineering school. It is a distance of 5.2km.



## Getting to the school

### Underground:

**Ciudad Universitaria's** underground or metro stop (in line 6, usually know as “la circular”, “circle line” or “the grey” line) is the closest to the school. It is 1,1km away from it (about 10 minutes walking). You can easily walk from the stop to the School or take a bus that you will need to pay separately from the underground ticket. You can get a monthly ticket to use in the “A” area.

All the information about Madrid’s underground or Metro system can be found on their webpage: [www.metromadrid.es](http://www.metromadrid.es).

### Bus:

The buses that stop at ETSIT are:

**G:** Moncloa-Ciudad Universitaria

**82:** Moncloa-Barrio de Peñagrande

**F:** Cuatro Caminos-Ciudad Universitaria

**U:** Avda. Séneca-Ciudad Universitaria

All these buses except for bus F stop at Ciudad Universitaria's Metro stop and can be caught from there. Bus 82 from Moncloa to ETSIT doesn't follow the same path as Bus G because Bus 82 goes through a longer path that takes about 10 minutes longer from Moncloa to ETSIT.

All information about suburban buses in Madrid (EMT) can be found at:

[www.emtmadrid.es](http://www.emtmadrid.es).

#### **By foot:**

You can get to ETSIT from certain places in less than 20 minutes by foot too. You can do it from Argüelles-Moncloa (2-2.5km), Guzmán el Bueno (2km), Francos Rodríguez (2km) and some surrounding areas. You can also take a bus from these areas if you prefer to do so.

#### **By bike:**

Madrid's cycling paths are not amazing, but they do exist and can get you to ETSIT-UPM. The main areas from where you can go to ETSIT by bike are Moncloa (cycling path all the way) and Guzmán el Bueno (Most of the way). Obviously you can cycle from any other area or neighborhood in Madrid, but you should know that the city is not very well adapted to the cyclist world and you should be very careful when hitting the road.

## **Where can I party?**

### **CLUBS**

Some of the most famous clubs in Madrid are:

- **Joy** (it has Erasmus parties) (located in Calle Arenal)
- **Kapital** (supposed to be one of the biggest clubs in Madrid) (located in Atocha)
- **Mitty** (very common among university students) (located in Calle Julián Romea)
- **Sala Sol** (indie-rock music) (located in Calle Jardines)

### **BARS AND PUBS**

The areas with most bars and pubs are:

#### **Huertas**

It is probably considered the ultimate Erasmus area. It has a lot of bars and pubs, it is close to Sol and it is 'opened' all night long. The music that can be listened to over this place is **latin and commercial music**. The closest metro stops are: Sol, Tirso de Molina and Antón Martín.

#### **Alonso Martínez**

There are lots of pubs and bars for drinking. Bars play **all kinds of music** in and the closest disco is Independance (indie-rock music). The closest metro stop is Alonso Martínez.

#### **Chueca**

It is also known as the 'gay neighborhood' in Madrid. It is full of bars for having some beers with friends, pubs and **electro music** discos. The closest metro stop is Chueca.

## Malasaña

It is the favorite area of **alternative music** lovers. It is the neighborhood of the movement 'movida madrileña' during the 80's. You will find places and people to party both inside and outside of the bars, and it hosts places like 'La via láctea', which is one of the most famous Rock&Roll bars in Madrid. Its main street is Calle Fuencarral, and its closest metro stops are Tribunal and Bilbao.

## La Latina

Parties will be held and found over here during the days and during the nights; many foreigners choose this neighborhood as their favorite. It is probably famous because of the street market that takes place every Sunday on its streets called 'El Rastro'. It is very typical to go here on Sunday morning and stay there until midday when you will probably go to have some beers with your friends. The closest metro stops are La Latina and Tirso de Molina.

## Argüelles

It is very close to the ETSIT and has a lot of students. It is very common to meet your friends in the afternoons or evenings to have some beers any day of the week. It is also famous for hosting 'Los bajos de Argüelles' which is a square full of mainly rock, metal and punk bars. It also hosts the 'Orange' disco (international music) which is very close to the underground stop. In this disco there are Erasmus parties every Wednesday. The closest underground stops are Moncloa and Argüelles.

## Guzmán el Bueno

This area includes a lot of cheap bars and discos that are crowded with students. Some of them are 'LaSal' (90's music) or 'Mitty' (commercial music) (previously mentioned). There are some very famous tapas bars like 'La Llama' that are in Avenida Reina Victoria Avenue. 'El Cabañon' bar is also usually crowded because of its cheap prices on beers and alcoholic drinks. The closest underground stops are Guzmán el Bueno and Cuatro Caminos, but you can also get here stopping at Islas Filipinas metro stop.

## Gran Vía-Callao

It is one of the most centric areas, as well as a place where you can find hidden pubs on its streets if you are a rock music lover. Bar Costello (tandems held on Tuesdays), El Templo del Gato (rock music from California in C/Trujillos) and El Burlicher (pure rock music) are good examples of bars in this area. You will find 'El Tigre' bar in C/Infantas which is really famous because of the size of the tapas they serve when you order a drink. The closest metro stops are Plaza de España, Santo Domingo, Callao, Gran Vía and Banco de España, all of whom are in C/Gran Vía.

## Lavapiés

It is very close to Sol, and it is a very famous place to have some beers. It is not the best place to be at night in Madrid. A very well know bar in the area is 'Melos' in Espíritu Santo's street. It is known for its big 'rations' of food at a good price and specially known for a sandwich called 'La zapatilla' that has to be eaten by 4 people.

## Which is the best place to live in Madrid?

Well, this is a tricky question. There are a lot of very good areas, but you will most likely to be interested in something good, cheap and close to both college and the city center.

As you can see, there are mainly two favourite places in this line that are Argüelles-Moncloa and Guzmán el Bueno. Let's check the prices:

The cheapest accommodation you can find in Madrid living in an individual room in a shared apartment is around 250-350€, but it is not easy to find something like this.

The usual price is around 300-400€. You can find accommodations as pricy as you can imagine, but you can consider that more than 450€ is very expensive. Prices have risen for the last years, therefore if you leave it for the last minute you might only find offers around 500€

Of course, it all depends on the quality of the flat and its location... Let's analyse some of the main areas where you can rent flat in Madrid

### Argüelles-Moncloa

**What is offered?** Shopping area with a lot of supermarkets and bars. Easy access to any place by public transport or by foot. You have a direct bus to college and the possibility of getting there by bike or by foot. There is a park very close which can keep you far from the pollution of the city.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 330-430€/month.

**Bad things?** The flats are usually old and you are paying the area or neighbourhood where the flat is.

### Guzmán el Bueno-Cuatro Caminos

**What is offered?** There are a lot of supermarkets and bars with easy access to shopping areas by public means of transport or by foot. There is a direct bus to college and the possibility of getting there by bike or by foot.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 300-400€/month.

**Bad things?** It's quite far of the old city centre.

### La Latina

**What is offered?** It is in the old city centre. You can almost consider that parties are on your doorstep.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 300-430€/month.

**Bad things?** It's not as easy to get to college.

### Plaza de España-Callao-Gran Vía-Sol

**What is offered?** Shopping area with a lot of bars. Easy access to any place by public means of transport or by foot.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 350-450€/month.

**Bad things?** The flats are usually old and you are paying the area or neighbourhood where the flat is. There are very few supermarkets and the streets are overcrowded.

### Tribunal-Alonso Martínez

**What is offered?** Shopping area with a lot of bars. Easy access to any place by public means of transport or by foot.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 350-450€/month.

**Bad things?** The flats are usually old and you are paying the area or neighbourhood where the flat is. There are very few supermarkets and streets are overcrowded.

### San Bernardo--Quevedo--Bilbao

**What is offered?** Shopping area with a lot of supermarkets and bars. Easy access to any place by foot.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 330-430€/month.

**Bad things?** The flats are usually old and you are paying the area or neighbourhood where the flat is. It's not so easy to get to college.

### Islas Filipinas--Canal

**What is offered?** A lot of supermarkets and bars. Easy access to college and shopping areas by foot. You have a direct bus to college and it's very close to Moncloa (5-10 minutes walking)

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 300-400€/month.

**Bad things?** The flats are usually old and you are paying the area or neighbourhood where the flat is. It's not as easy to get to the old town.

### Príncipe Pío

**What is offered?** A very big mall, some bars and easy access to college and the city centre. It's placed between Parque del Oeste and Casa de Campo, two big green areas.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 280-430€/month.

**Bad things?** It's quite difficult to party in this area and there are not a lot of supermarkets.

### Puerta del Ángel--Paseo de Extremadura

**What is offered?** A lot of supermarkets and some bars. Easy access to college by metro. Cheap area.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 280-370€/month.

**Bad things?** It's quite far from the city centre.

### Valdezarza--Francos Rodríguez--Antonio Machado

**What is offered?** A lot of supermarkets and some bars. Easy access to college by bus or by foot. Cheap area.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 280-370€/month.

**Bad things?** It's quite far from the city centre.

### Lavapiés--Embajadores--Delicias--Legazpi

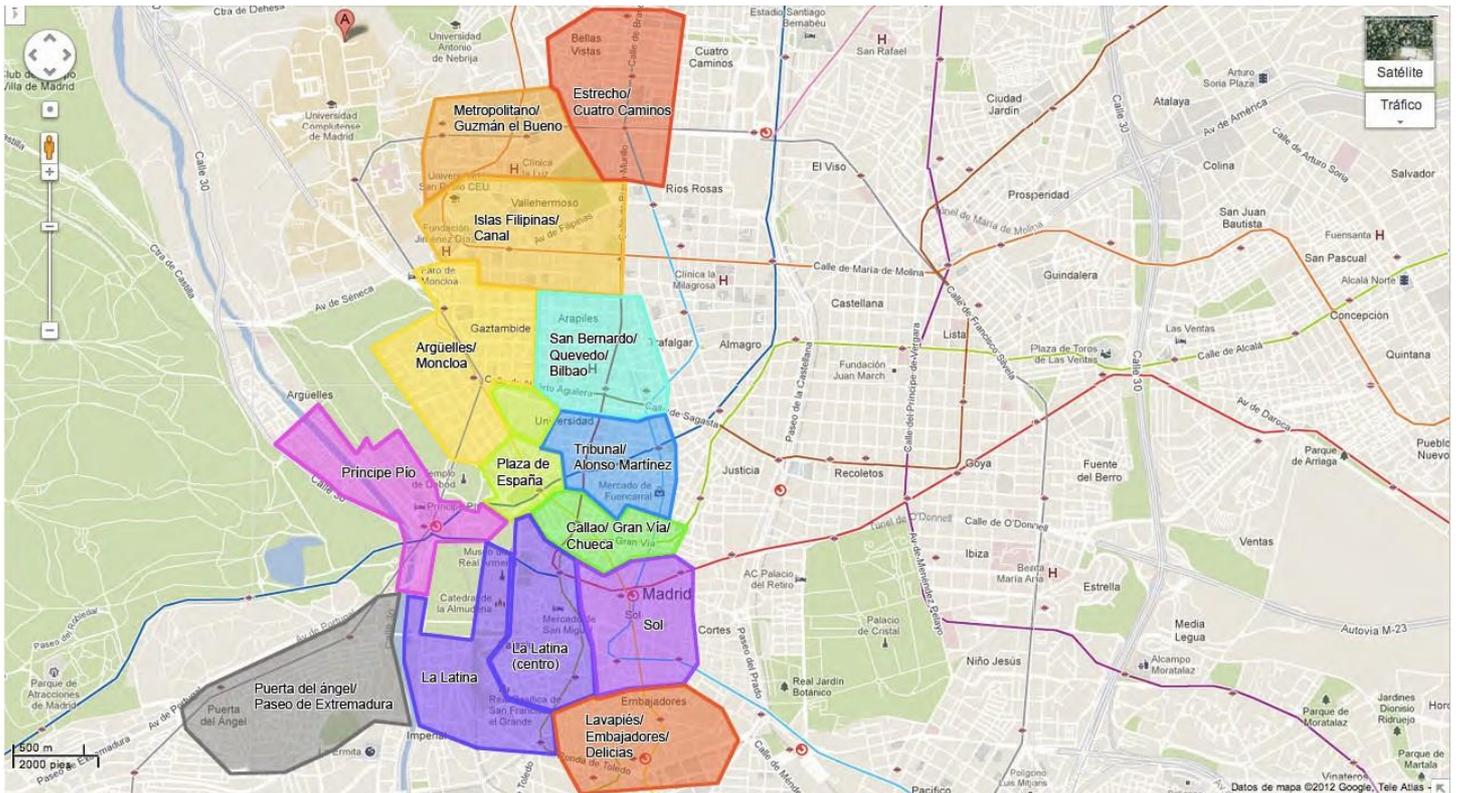
**What is offered?** A lot of supermarkets and bars. Easy access to shopping areas by public means of transport or by foot.

**How much for a flat?** The normal price for a single room is around 250-370€/month.

**Bad things** The flats are usually old and you are paying the area or neighbourhood where the flat is. It's quite far from college. Not very safe area.

### Madrid's map

All the areas except Francos Rodríguez, Valdezarza and Antonio Machado (which are just above ETSIT (A)) have been highlighted on the map:



You can see the metro lines as well in the same map.

### How to look for a flat or a room

Most of the people who rent a flat or a room advertise it on the Internet in a website. You can look for a room or flat in one of these ones. As you can guess, the majority of the ads have been written in Spanish, but there are some websites that are dedicated to Erasmus people, so there are some ads written in English as well.

Please take into account when you contact the advertisers that they might not speak English if the ad has been written in Spanish. Feel free to ask us (the mentors) to translate into Spanish whatever you might need.

Pay attention to the areas and the prices (the prices we have told you are usually with NO extra expenses included, and extra expenses are usually at a maximum of 50€/month). Remember you can ask us anything ;)

Here you have some websites to help you find a flat:

## Erasmusu

<http://erasmusu.com/es/erasmus-madrid/alquiler-estudiantes>

On this website you will find both Spanish and English adverts. Be specially careful with them because there are a lot of people who want to get more money from you for the rooms, taking advantage of your naivety.

## Idealista

[www.idealista.com](http://www.idealista.com)

Normally, just Spanish adverts. It's possible to filter by areas, gender, price, smoking/not smoking... It's the most famous in Madrid.

## Fotocasa

[www.fotocasa.com](http://www.fotocasa.com)

Similar to Idealista.

## loquo

[http://madrid.loquo.com/es\\_es](http://madrid.loquo.com/es_es)

It works through word searches. You have to access to 'compartir piso/alquiler de habitación' to look for a room. In the section 'busco habitación' you can put an advert in either Spanish or English talking about who you are, what you are looking for and how much you can pay for a room. It's an easy option, because a lot of people will be able to contact you before your arrival. You will have an idea about what is offered in Madrid at that moment. In addition, you might arrange a visit before arriving.

## Can I choose a dorm room instead of a flat?

Of course you can! But it's not easy to be admitted. The residences (dorm rooms) in Madrid usually have meals and dinner included in the price, and prices are usually higher than flats.

Here you have some selected residences in case you want to have a look.

**Residencia Galdós** (<http://www.residenciagaldos.com/>) (<http://goo.gl/maps/FGrc>)  
(Metro: Metropolitano)

10 minutes walking from the ETSIT, rooms are fully furnished, with microwave, fridge and private bathroom.

**Price double room:** 995€/month/person + 8% of taxes

**Price single room:** 1250€/month + 8% of taxes

**Colegio Mayor Isabel de España** (<http://www.cmisabel.com/>)  
(<http://goo.gl/maps/0ghG>) (Metro: Metropolitano)

10 minutes walking from the ETSIT. Pretty big rooms with private bathroom. Sunday's dinners are not included.

**Price single room:** 3069€/term + 8% of taxes

### **Colegio Mayor Chaminade** (<http://www.cmuchaminade.com/>) (<http://goo.gl/maps/52kn>) (Metro: Metropolitano)

10 minutes walking from the ETSIT. All the rooms are single and some of the have private bathroom. Good feeling and environment.

**Price single room:** 850€/month + 8% of taxes

### **Arti** (<http://www.arti.es>)

Placed in Gran Vía, with good environment.

**Price single room with private bathroom:** 1100€/month

**Price double room with bathroom:** 790€/month/person

**Price triple room with bathroom:** 706€/month/person

**Price triple room without bathroom:** 646€/month/person

### **Others residences ans “colegios mayores”**

Santa María del Estudiante (<http://www.cmestudiante.com/>)

Méndel (<http://www.cmmendel.com/>)

Jaime del Amo (<http://www.jaimedelamo.org/>)

Santa Mónica (<http://www.cmumonica.net/>)

Loyola (<http://www.cmuloyola.org/es/>)

## **Temporal accommodation while looking for a flat**

There are a lot of hostels in Madrid, but be careful with the quality-price relationship.

From the International Office, they have recommended us a cheap hotel in case you need to stay there for a few days. If you come alone, maybe you will be more interested in a hostel (called ‘albergue’ in Spanish).

The cheap hostel we are talking about is: <http://www.hostalconcepcionarenal.es/>

Placed very close to Sol and cheap if you come with more people. Triple room: 58€ (19.3€/each). Double room: 40€ (20€/each)

Hostels in Madrid can be found on these websites:

[www.hostels.com](http://www.hostels.com)

[www.hostelbooker.com](http://www.hostelbooker.com)

[www.hostelworld.com](http://www.hostelworld.com)

## **Anything else?**

Mentors are ALWAYS ready for your questions. Not just for the accommodation, but for Madrid info, subjects information, parties...