

EVERYDAY ABROAD

# SPAIN SCOUTING TRIP

EXAMPLE ITINERARY — REMOTE WORKER COUPLE

Madrid · Valencia · 3 Days

This is an example of what your personalized Spain Scouting Trip itinerary looks like. Every itinerary is built around your lifestyle, working hours, budget, and priorities — this one is designed for a remote worker couple comparing Madrid and Valencia as potential home bases.

## TRIP OVERVIEW



### WHO THIS IS FOR

A couple, both working remotely. Open to Madrid or Valencia. Budget-conscious but not penny-pinching. Want walkability, good coffee, and a community that doesn't feel too touristy.

### TRIP GOALS

Compare two cities side-by-side. Test the commute to co-working spaces. Get a feel for neighborhoods, cost of living, expat community, and day-to-day life.

### CITIES COVERED

Madrid (Days 1-2) · Valencia (Day 3)

### PACE

Structured mornings, exploratory afternoons. Enough breathing room to get a real feel, not a whirlwind checklist.

# DAY 1 · ARRIVING IN MADRID — FIRST IMPRESSIONS

📍 Malasaña & Chueca/Justicia, Madrid

## WHY THESE NEIGHBORHOODS?

Malasaña and Chueca/Justicia are two of the most popular landing spots for international remote workers. They're walkable, full of cafés, great food scene, and well-connected by metro. We'll spend the morning seeing if they feel like home.

### Neighborhood walk: Malasaña

9:00 AM

We start on foot which is the best way to feel a barrio. We'll walk the main streets, pop into a market, grab a coffee at a local spot, and talk through what you're noticing.

💡 *Malasaña skews younger and artsy. Chueca/Justicia (just next door) is a bit more polished. Both are walkable and lively.*

### Co-working space visit: Coworking Espíritu23

11:00 AM

We'll visit one or two co-working spaces in the area so you can see the working environment, pricing, and vibe firsthand. I'll have already researched which ones match your working style.

💡 *Monthly co-working passes in Madrid typically run €150–250. Day passes are available if you want to try before committing.*

### Lunch at a local restaurant

1:00 PM

A proper Spanish lunch at a neighborhood spot. We'll talk through your morning impressions, questions, and what you want to dig into this afternoon.

### Neighborhood walk: Chueca + grocery store visit

3:00 PM

We'll compare Chueca to Malasaña on foot, then stop into a Mercadona or local mercado to get a sense of grocery prices and what your weekly shop might look like.

💡 *Groceries in Madrid are significantly cheaper than in the US — expect to spend €60–90/week for two people eating well.*

### Metro orientation

5:00 PM

We'll ride a few lines together so you get comfortable with the system, understand journey times to key areas, and see how easy it is to get around without a car.

💡 *A 10-trip metro card (Metrobús) costs around €9. Monthly unlimited passes are €54.60.*

### Cañas in the barrio

7:30 PM

We end the day the Spanish way: with a beer or vermouth at a neighborhood bar. A chance to debrief the day and see what the evenings feel like in this part of the city.

## DAY 2 · GOING DEEPER — HOUSING, PARKS & REAL LIFE

📍 Chamberí & La Latina, Madrid

### WHY THESE NEIGHBORHOODS?

Chamberí is quieter and more residential: the kind of place people tend to settle long-term. La Latina is one of Madrid's oldest barrios, with a strong sense of community and slightly lower rents. Two very different options worth comparing.

### Chamberí morning walk + housing tour

**9:30 AM**

We'll walk through one of Madrid's most livable residential neighborhoods and look at the type of housing stock available — apartment sizes, building styles, street feel — so you can calibrate your expectations before you start searching.

💡 *2-bed apartments in Chamberí typically start around €1,400–1,800/month. I'll share current listings as a reference point.*

**11:30 AM**

### Retiro Park

Madrid's answer to Central Park — and a good indicator of how you'll spend your weekends. We'll walk through, check out the rowing lake, and talk about parks and green space in different neighborhoods.

### Lunch in La Latina

**1:30 PM**

One of Madrid's oldest and most local barrios, known for its bar and restaurant scene. Lunch here gives you a feel for the community that's settled in this part of the city.

💡 *La Latina has some of the best value eating in Madrid. Expect to pay €8–15pp for a full menú del día.*

**3:30 PM**

### La Latina neighborhood exploration

We'll walk the streets, duck into independent shops and galleries, and check out what the community feels like day-to-day. A very different energy from Chamberí — worth experiencing both.

### Practical life logistics session

**5:00 PM**

We'll sit down and go through the things no blog post fully covers: how to open a Spanish bank account, how NIE registration works, how healthcare functions for expats, and what your first 30 days will actually look like.

💡 *This is often the most valuable part of the scouting trip for people who are seriously planning a move.*

**7:00 PM**

### Free evening

Your evening to explore independently — I'll give you a personalized list of bars, restaurants, and spots to check out based on what you've told me you're into.

## DAY 3 · VALENCIA — THE ALTERNATIVE

 El Carmen & Ruzafa, Valencia

### GETTING THERE

The AVE high-speed train from Madrid Atocha to Valencia Joaquín Sorolla takes 1h 35min and costs roughly €15–40 depending on when you book. We recommend an early train to maximize your time. I'll advise on the best option for your dates.

**7:30 AM**

#### Train to Valencia

An early AVE from Madrid Atocha. Grab a coffee at the station. Atocha's main hall (with its indoor botanical garden) is worth a few minutes on its own.

#### El Carmen neighborhood walk

**9:30 AM**

Valencia's old town with medieval streets, street art, and neighborhood cafés. We'll walk and talk about how it compares to what you saw in Madrid.

 *Valencia is meaningfully cheaper than Madrid. Rent for a comparable apartment typically runs 20–30% less.*

**11:00 AM**


#### Mercado Central + local life

One of Europe's largest and most beautiful covered markets. A real indicator of local food culture and a useful reference point for what your weekly shop might look like here.

#### Lunch in Ruzafa

**1:00 PM**

Valencia's most international neighborhood, which is also a hub for remote workers, creatives, and expats. Lunch here gives you a strong feel for the community you'd likely be joining.

 *Ruzafa has excellent coffee and a strong co-working scene. It's often cited as the best neighborhood for remote workers in Valencia.*

**3:00 PM**

#### Ruzafa + co-working exploration

We'll walk the streets, visit a co-working space, and check in on the neighborhood feel in the afternoon, which is when the city really comes alive.

**4:30 PM**

#### Turia Gardens & the beach question

Valencia's famous dried-up riverbed is now a 9km park running through the city. We'll talk about proximity to the beach (15 mins by bike), year-round weather, and how the outdoor lifestyle here compares to Madrid.

#### Debrief: Madrid vs Valencia

**6:30 PM**

Before you head back, we'll sit down and go through everything: what resonated, what surprised you, and what your gut is telling you. I'll follow up within 48 hours with a written summary of recommendations tailored to your situation.

## WHAT COMES NEXT

Within 48 hours of your trip, you'll receive a written follow-up document covering:

- A summary of each neighborhood we visited and how it maps to your lifestyle, photos included
- Personalized housing search recommendations, including platforms, price benchmarks, and what to watch out for
- A cost of living estimate tailored to your specific situation
- Next steps for your visa application, if relevant
- Warm introductions to any specialists we discussed (housing, immigration lawyer, etc.)
- An open Q&A — reply to the document with anything that comes up as you keep planning

### READY TO PLAN YOUR SCOUTING TRIP?

Every itinerary is built around your specific situation: your cities, your timeline, your life.

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