

Kueli's Top 36 Bars and Restaurants in Madrid

Top Top

1. *Top Lamb and Piglet Roast*: El Pedrusco de Aldealcorvo, Calle Juan de Austria 27, 91 446 88 33. Try the matanza —a mixed order of chorizo, morcilla, picadillo and lomo— as a starter and the have roast lamb (cuarto delantero) or roast piglet as the main dish. Naturally with a green salad. Reserving and preordering of the roast is a must. A place that is not quite as good as this one but that gives you the top pricequality ratio in lamb roasts is Asador Los Arcos (Calle Ponzano 16, 91 442 58 84)

Top Tapas Bars

1. *Top Standing Tapas*: La Trucha, Calle Manuel Fernández y González 3, 91 429 58 33. Sitting down is almost impossible. Roasted artichokes, mushroom skewers, roasted asparagus, roasted baby garlic, Spanish omelette and whatever else you see around and fancy.
2. *Top Tortilla de Patatas*: Sylkar, Calle Espronceda 17, 91 554 57 03.
3. *Top Croquetas*: El Quinto Vino, Calle Hernani 48, 91 533 66 00.
4. *Top Grilled Sardines*: Rianxo, Calle Raimundo Fernández Villaverde 49, 91 534 88 32.
5. *Top Oysters*: If you are in the mood for standing-up, smallish, reasonably priced and outstanding oysters, go to Fide, Calle Ponzano 8.
6. *Top Grill*: Marisqueria Norte-Sur, Calle Bravo Murillo 97, 91 554 02 21. Dumpy, stand-up room only except for a tiny nook in the back, remarkable sea-food and vegetables (try the baby onions) and pretty good meat, and very reasonably priced.
7. *Top Surprise*: If you want to splurge and are in the mood for something truly extraordinary try the empanada de perdiz (partridge pie) in the bar of Combarro, Calle Reina Mercedes, 12.

Top Spanish Restaurants

1. *Top Red Meat and Top Basque Grill*: Asador Frontón, Calle Tirso de Molina 7, 91 369 16 17. This is the original place and it is the one I usually go to. The locale is not too fancy. They have a significantly fancier branch (Calle Pedro Muguruza 8, 91 345 39 01). Their roasted red peppers are a must. This is also a great place for basque style grilled fish (besugo or cogote de merluza)
2. *Top Sitting Down Tapas*: El Bocaíto, Calle Libertad 4, 91 532 12 19. The house speciality is toasts with shrimp, cockles, etc. They are all superb. Also good mushroom skewers, and great salads. Lamb cuttlelets (chuletitas de cordero) are a must for the main dish. I also like the smoked eel with a wafer thin omelette. This place is not cheap.
3. *Top Spanish Tavern*: Taberna Toscana, Calle Manuel Fernández y González 10, 91 429 60 31. This is another great tapas place. It is easy to find an empty table. Meat stew (morcillo) and tomato salad absolutely essential.
4. *Top Andalusian Fish*: Alborán Ponzano, 41 91 399 21 50. Very good saltbaked fish. For starters try the fried shrimp and vegetables, the fried lemon-marinated boquerones, the grilled baby squid or the grilled conchas finas. Please do not eat paella at this place.

5. *Top Fancy Gallician*: Rianxo, Calle Raimundo Fernández Villaverde 49, 91 533 50 30. Excellent sardines and sea-food salad (salpicón). Outstanding Gallician meat (solomillo sartén). Very good empanadas: try empanada de chocos, and, if you are adventuresome try the lamprea in season.
6. *Top Simple Gallician*: Pazo Coruña, Calle Pio Baroja 6, 91 504 44 53.
7. *Top Architects' Hangout*: La Manduca de Azagra, Calle Sagasta 14, 91 591 01 12. Architects just love this place. Don't ask me why. Surprisingly enough, the food is excellent too. Start with whatever vegetables they propose. They are truly remarkable. For the main course both the meat and the fish are good bets.
8. *Top Paella*: Go to Valencia. But if you really insist you might want to try one of these places: Sann 2, Calle Carlos Caamaño 3, 91 350 60 71. El Ventorrillo Murciano, , Calle Tres Peces 20, 91 571 56 22. Los Arroces de Segis, Calle Infanta Mercedes 109, 91 571 56 22.
9. *Top Fabada*: Casa Hortensia, Calle de la Farmacia 2, 91 539 00 90.
10. *Top Traditional Madrid*: Botín, Calle Cuchilleros 17, 91 366 42 17.
11. *Top Sophisticated Eating*: Viridiana Juan de Mena, 14 91 523 44 78.
12. *Top Cocido*: Malacatín, Calle Ruda 5, 91 365 52 41.
13. *Top Callos*: San Mamés, Calle Bravo Murillo 88, 91 534 50 65.
14. *Top Dumpy Place, Secret Wine Cellar and Grilled Cod*: Camariñas.
15. *Top Outdoor Dining*: Casa Guipúzcoa. Currito.

Top Ethnic Restaurants

1. *Top Decor*: La Gamella, Calle Alfonso XII 4, 91 532 45 09. The Ceasar's salad used to be great at this place but I have not been here for a while.
2. *Top Steak Tartare*: El Viejo Len, Calle Alfonso X 6, 91 310 06 83. Charming, tiny French restaurant. Great place for tete-a-tetes.
3. *Top Fashion*: Nodo, Calle Velázquez 150, 91 564 40 44.
4. *Top Pizza*: Luna Rossa, Calle de la Luna 24, 91 532 15 54.
5. *Top Pasta*: Pulcinella, Calle Regueros 7, 91 319 73 63.
6. *Top Sushi*: Minabo, Calle Caracas 8, 91 308 22 77.
7. *Top Oriental Fusion*: Café Saigón, Calle Maria de Molina 4, 91 563 15 66.
8. *Top Bratwurst*: Fass, Calle Rodriguez Marín 84, 91 563 60 83.
9. *Top Duck Magret*: Caripen Bistro, Plaza de la Marina Española 4, 91 541 11 77.
10. *Top Thai*: Thai Gardens, Calle Jorge Juan 5, 91 577 88 84.
11. *Top Fresh Foie*: San Mamés, Calle Bravo Murillo 88, 91 534 50 65.
12. *Top Mexican Food*: Entre Suspiro y Suspiro. La Taquería del Alamillo. La Taquería de Birra.
13. *Top Chinese*: China Crown.