

TOUR 4: Literary Quarter

SHORT DESCRIPTION

was once home to Spain's illustrious writers of the 16th and 17th centuries. Today, the Literary Quarter is a popular area teeming with interesting bars ,cafes, pastry shops and old taverns

TIME:

During aprox. 2 hours we'll see the most important highlights
2 milles/ 3,25Km

LONG DESCRIPTION:

This tour focuses in the time period of the famous writer Cervantes which is a wonderful theme for this walking tour in the Old Madrid. You will walk the streets of an area, which at one time was awash with great composers, writers, comics and poets: the district of the Muses. It would be so easy to walk through Las Letras without realizing what special and important people have lived here, unless you follow your Tourist Guide's explanation, which is full of tidbits of intriguing information. Miguel de Cervantes, our most renowned writer, unveils the essence of the Literary Quarter, where culture has a hundred faces, from the intellectual to the more popular one.

Starting Point:

Plaza de Santa Ana

1. **Español Theatre.**
2. **Calderon de la Barca Statue**
3. **Federico Garcia Lorca Statue**
4. **Mentidero de Comediantes**
5. **San Ignatius Church**
6. **Ateneo:** Since its foundation in 1820 the Ateneo has been a center of the intellectual and political life of Madrid and Spain.
7. **Cervantes death house:** Close to the Casa de Lope de Vega, there once stood the house in which Cervantes died on April 23, 1616 but which was demolished in the 19th C
8. **Lope de Vega House and Museum: This was once** the House of the great dramatist and poet, creator of the 17th C. Spanish comedia, settled here in 1610. The rooms of the house and the little garden, in which Lope de Vega and his family lived, worked and took their ease, are now open to the public as a museum, and offer an appealing impression of everyday life in Madrid in Spain's Golden Age.
9. **Churros & Frites Factory**
10. **Jose Echegaray Born House**
11. **Quevedo House:** At the corner of Calle Lope de Vega and Calle de Quevedo is a tablet recording that the writer Francisco de Quevedo (1580-1645) lived here. His rival Góngora (1561-1627) is also believed to have occupied the house about 1619.
12. **Trinitarias Convent:** The charming conventual church with its three-arched entrance and its oval windows is flanked by two plain two-story blocks with balconies. The convent was founded in 1612, but the present buildings date only from 1673. Designed by Marcos López, it is a showpiece of 17th C. Madrid architecture. The convent is also notable as the burial-place of Miguel de Cervantes (d. 1616), creator of the immortal figure of Don Quixote
13. **La Dolores Tavern**
14. **Jesús de Medinacelli Church**
15. **Platerias Tavern**
16. **Caixa Forum Museum**
17. **Reina Sofia Art Museum**
18. **Music Conservatory High School**
19. **Medical Association**
20. **Santa Isabel School**
21. **Agustinas Descalzas Convent**
22. **Fernan Nuñez Palace**
23. **Filmoteca "Dore"**

- 24. The Chocolate Bar**
- 25. Royal Academy of History:** The building was constructed by Juan de Villanueva in 1788, to house the site of the House of the Hieronymus monks. It is a neoclassic style building of great simplicity. Outside and worthy of note is the main front, with crowned entrances and a projecting balcony, adorned with a screen of San Lorenzo. Recently restored by the architect Chueca Goitia
- 26. Matute Sq. House of Fernandez Moratín** a play written by a leading literary figure of the Spanish Enlightenment. It expresses the exploration of the social mores and sentimental preoccupations that riveted the early nineteenth-century Spaniards.
- 27. San Sebastian Church and Cemetery**
- 28. Palacio de Tepa**
- 29. Angel Sq.**
- 30. Café Central Jazz-Bar**
- 31. Haagen-Dazs Theatre**
- 32. Medina Mayrit Arab Baths**
- 33. Ending Point**