Toledo, A City Of Three Cultures

Maribel's Guide to Toledo - Castilla-La Mancha ©

Maribel's Guides for the Sophisticated Traveler ™

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A City Of Three Cultures

Known as the “City of Three Cultures”, Toledo was once a place where Christians, Jews and Muslims lived together in relative harmony and largely for this reason was declared a world heritage site in 1987. Located some 70 km south of Madrid, Toledo, with its large number of architectural masterpieces, sits along the banks of the Tagus River (rio Tajo) which wraps around most of the city. Toledo was reconquered some 940 years ago, in 1085, the first time a major city in Al-Andalus was captured by Christian forces from the Muslims and spurred the Reconquista, the Christian conquest of Muslim Spain. Many of the historic cities main monuments, including the city wall and other fortified buildings, where built during the medieval and Muslim periods; San Servando Castle, the palace-fortress Alcázar, hammams, mosques, some homes and urban palaces, but you will also find remarkable architectural features from the Roman, Visigoths, and the Andalusian Umayyad dynasty, the Caliphate of Córdoba, periods, as this city has stood for more than 2000 years and was the leading center of Jewry in Spain.

Getting To Toledo

The former home of El Greco; painter, sculptor, architect, lies about one hour's drive, or a 33-minute train ride, south Spain's capital and is a must see for anyone visiting Madrid.

Arriving by Train

From Puerta de Atocha station, you take the high-speed AVANT for the bargain price of 11,10€ each way with a round-trip ticket. The trip takes about 34 minutes. You can check the departure schedule and purchase your ticket online at renfe.com at least a few days in advance, as the route can be busy with in the morning with commuters and others, and often sell out early. You might be sorely disappointed if you wait until the morning of your trip to purchase tickets. There is only one class of service on the AVANT trains, tourist, and four cars on each train, carrying a total of 232 passengers. For a full days tour we suggest that you depart on the 9:15 am AVANT so that you will reach the city before the monuments open at 10:00 am and return on 5:45 pm AVANT, getting you back to Madrid at 6:19 pm.

The city bus or a taxi can take you from the Toledo station, a beautiful Neo-mudéjar structure dating from 1920, and will take you up through the Puerta de Bisagra gate to the Plaza de Zocodover, the main square and heart of this World Heritage City, to start your day of touring. On the square you'll find the handy Toledo Tourist Office, *Casa del Mapa*, which is also the tourist office for all of Castilla-La Mancha, where you can pick up maps and brochures of Castilla-La Mancha. The office opens at 10:00 am. There are also information booths at the

Toledo train station, an office facing the cathedral at Plaza del Consistorio, the town hall square, and one more located across from the main entrance gate to the city, Puerta de Bisagra.

Driving from Madrid

For those arriving in Toledo by car from Madrid on the toll road, the AP-41, when reaching traffic circle where you will see a branch of the Toledo Tourist Bureau on the square in the park, take a right turn onto the Calle Alfonso VI which will become Paseo de Recaredo, drive past the Puerta Bisagra Gate and Hostal del Cardenal entrance on your left. A short distance further down, on your right, you'll find an underground Indigo Recaredo Toledo parking garage at Paseo de Recaredo, 22, open 24 hours/day — just follow the blue **P** signs. Has Electric Car Charging.

Across the street from the garage entrance you'll see signs for the escalator, remonte mecánico, that will zip you up to the historic quarter to begin your touring, avoiding a long, strenuous uphill walk.

Toledo City Tours

Self-Guided and Guide Tours

Pulsera turística de Toledo Monumental

The Toledo Monumental Tourist Bracelet (14€) includes entry to seven of the city's museums; Monasterio de San Juan de los Reyes, Sinagoga de Santa María La Blanca, Iglesia de El Salvador, Iglesia de Santo Tomé, Mezquita del Cristo de la Luz, Iglesia de los Jesuitas (San Ildefonso) and Real Colegio de Doncellas Nobles.

Paisajes Toledo

There is one private tour company with Official Tourist Guides offering reasonably priced city tours that we can recommend. Must reserve by phone: (+34) 683 160 676, or by email and **NOT** at the Tourist Office across from cathedral.

Toledo de la Mano

Adolfo Ferrero is a graduate of Tourism with a degree in Art History and is an official Tour Guide who belongs to the Regional Association of Tour Guides of Castilla-La Mancha. He also offers Tapas and Wine-tasting Tours. Call (+34) 629 177 810 to arrange a tour.

Hop On Hop Off Toledo

The Hop On Hop Off bus stops at the Alcázar, the Mirador el Valle and Puente de San Martín, the medieval bridge crossing the Tagus river, just 3 of its 10 stops. The other stops included Puerta de Bisagra, Hospital de Tavera, the Estación AVE, great if you are taking the train. The sightseeing bus operates daily from 10:00 am to 9:00 pm. Prices start at 29,97€ for adults, 23,97€ for children (4-11). Ticket is good for 1 day, 24 hours.

Toledo Train Vision

You can take the open-air tourist Choo-Choo, the Toledo Train Vision, also know as the Zocotren, departs from the Plaza de Zocodover for a 45-minute ride to the cities major monuments. It's not the best and the reviews are only so-so, but it's an easy way to see some of the highlights, and a break from walking and the heat if you're in Toledo during the summer. Tickets, 10,50€ for adults, are often oversold during the summer, so beware. The first departure is at 10:00 am.

Toledo approaching sunset

Toledo At Night

Although most people tour Toledo on a typical day-trip from Madrid, the city's charms are best appreciated at night after the hordes of bus tours and day trippers have disappeared and the hundreds of tourist shops, literally door-to-door, selling swords, damascene ware and other trinkets have closed. During the day Toledo can easily appear to be a city driven by and surviving on tourism alone, but at night it becomes much more pleasant, even a magical place for a stroll along its silent, cobblestone maze of steep, narrow streets inside it's ancient walls.

Toledo's highly dramatic skyline is only visible from outside of town, across the Tagus River, so if you stay inside the city walls, make sure to take a taxi drive or drive yourself up the Circunvalación ring road to the Parador or other Cigarrales area hotels or restaurants to enjoy this truly unforgettable view, especially striking at sunset, or in the late evening during the summer.

Night Walking Tours

Toledo, in the labyrinth of its old town, keeps the secrets of a magical universe rich in legends, mysteries and ancient traditions. Take a night walking tour through the hidden soul of the city with the Order of Occult Toledo, Toledo de la Mano, Toledo Guides or Rutas Nocturnas Toledo.

Cathedral de Toledo, one of the finest in Europe

Cathedral de Toledo

Toledo's Major Attractions

Sitting on a hill above the plains of Castilla-La Mancha, on the banks of the Tagus River, Toledo, a city of three cultures; Arab, Jewish and Christian, and former home of El Greco; painter, sculptor, architect, lies about an hour's drive or a 33-minute train ride south Spain's capital and is a must see for anyone visiting Madrid.

Cathedral de Toledo

The enormous 13th-century Gothic Cathedral of Saint Mary of Toledo, *Santa Iglesia Catedral Primada*, with it's unique triforium arches, one of the finest in Europe, can best be seen in its entirely, including the Chapter House, Choir, Treasury and Sacristy filled with El Grecos, plus a Caravaggio, Van Dyck and Goya, by renting the excellent audio guide available in the Museum gift shop across from the visitors' entrance at the Puerta Llana, where one must purchase the cathedral admission ticket. Open Monday to Saturday from 10:00 am to 6:30 pm, Sundays from 2:00 pm until 6:30 pm. Check the special opening hours. Closed

January 1 and December 25. Tickets are 12€, with a reduced rate of 8€ for seniors, while the complete visit with the Lumina, the night visit, is 33€. Admission is free on Sunday afternoons for Spanish citizens. Photography and mobile phones are strictly forbidden inside the Cathedral and Museums.

The VIII Centenary of the Toledo Cathedral will culminate in the Extraordinary Jubilee Year 2026.

Alcázar de Toledo

The former fortress, a Nationalist stronghold and scene of fierce fighting during the Spanish Civil War, has been completely renovated. Reopened in the spring of 2010, it houses Spain's official Military Museum, the Museo del Ejército. Open from 10:00 am to 5:00 am, closed Mondays, including public holiday, January 1 & 6, May 1, December 24, 25 and 31. General admission is 5€, but free to EU citizens over 65 and those under 18. And free on Sundays, March 29, April 18 May 18, December 6 and Spain's Armed Forces Day and every Wednesday. There is a restaurant and cafeteria in the museum, open during normal hours. Tel: (+34) 925 238 839 / 685 903 571.

Museo del Greco

The museum at Paseo del Tránsito is open from March 1 to October 31 from 9:30 am to 7:30 pm, and from November 1 to February 28 from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm, and on Sundays and bank holiday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Closed on Mondays, January 1 & 6, May 1 and December 24, 25 & 31. If you purchase a ticket to the El Greco Museum, you can enjoy a free guided tour led by a CEATE cultural volunteer (depending on availability). General admission is 3€, but free to those under 18 and seniors. Entry in free on Saturdays after 2:00 pm and Sundays, so your should plan accordingly.

Discover the other Grecos near the museum; Iglesia de Santo Tomé, Convento de Santo Domingo el Antiguo, Catedral, Museo de Santa Cruz, Hospital Tavera and Santuario de la Caridad.

Sephardic Museum and Synagogue

11th-century Toledo was home to the largest population of Jews in Spain. This museum, at Calle Samuel Leví, sits alongside the 14th-century synagogue,

Sinagoga del Tránsito, built for Peter the Cruel's treasurer, Samuel Levi, and is Spain's National Museum of Hispano-Jewish and Sephardic Art. It houses an impressive collection of artifacts of Jewish culture. The museum is open Tuesday to Saturday from 9:30 am to 8:00 pm, and on Sundays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Closed Mondays, January 1 and 6, May 1, December 24, 25, 31. General admission is 3€, 1,50€ for seniors. Free on Saturdays after 2:00 pm and all day Sunday. There is a multimedia guide that allows visitors to access multimedia content and the cultural events calendar for free from their mobile devices.

One of the beautiful Flemish tapestries in the Hospital de Santa Cruz

Museum - Hospital de Santa Cruz

The museum, at Calle Miguel de Cervantes, 3, below the Plaza de Zocodover, is housed in a 16th-century Renaissance building, a former charity hospital conceived by Cardenal Pedro Gonzálex de Mendoza. Downstairs you'll find a fine collection of Flemish tapestries. While upstairs you'll find a very interesting Ceramics museum displaying beautiful works from all of Spain's ceramics producing regions from Talavera to Manises to Catalunya. Open Monday to Saturday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Sundays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Closed January 1, 6 and 23,

May 1 and December 24, 25 and 31. General admission is 4€. Free on Wednesdays after 4:00 pm, all day Sunday and on May 18 and 31.

Iglesia de San Román

There is a fascinating mixture of architectural styles found within this church. Here you'll find the Museum of Visigothic Art, Museo de los Concilios y Cultura Visigoda, with a collection of VI, VII, VIII century artifacts from the former Visigothic kingdom of Toledo. Open Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm and 4:00 to 6:30 pm, and Sundays from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. General admission is 6€ (valid for the Museum of the Councils, Visigoth Culture and Museum of Santa Cruz). Admission is free on Wednesdays and Saturdays afternoons from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm and all day Sunday.

Hospital de Tavera

Also known as the Hospital de San Juan Bautista, it is an important example of Renaissance architecture in Toledo. El Greco contracted at the start of the 17th-century to paint three altarpieces for the church of the Hospital Tavera, but never lived to finish his work. The private museum belonging to the Museo Fundación Duque de Lerma houses a collection of earthenware containers and jars from Talavera and Puente del Arzobispo, and also includes important works by El Greco, Rivera, Berruguete, Tintoretto, and Titian, and is well worth a visit. Open daily from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm, and Monday to Saturday afternoons from 3:00 to 6:30 pm. Tickets are 6€ to see the museum, or 4€ for the courtyards, church and sacristy. Visits to the museum and pharmacy are groups only lasting 45 minutes, beginning at 10:15 am.

Convento de Santo Domingo el Antiguo

Not the most imposing religious site in Toledo, but the Mudéjar-style building in the Plaza de Santo Domingo el Antiguo, which dates from the 6th-century, is one of the oldest in the city. It was rebuilt in the late 11th-century by Pedro Alcocer and holds the tomb of El Greco along with important historical archives. It was also the reason El Greco came to Toledo in 1577 with a commission for nine paintings. Works here included El Greco's famous *Assumption*, which sits over the alter. Open Monday to Saturday from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm and Monday to Sunday afternoons, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Tickets are 3€.

Sinagoga Santa María la Blanca

The 12th-century Moorish-built synagogue, Calle Reyes Católicos, 4, has undergone a beautiful restoration of its tiny interior and is currently the administration of a community of cloistered nuns. It, and the Synagogue of the Transit, are the only two that survive of the twelve original Toledo synagogues. It's open daily from March 1 to October 15 from 10:00 am to 6:45 pm and from October 16 to February 28 from 10:00 am to 5:45 pm. Entrance is 2,80€. Closed January 1 and December 25. Included in the 14€ Toledo Monumental Tourist Bracelet museum package.

Mezquita de Cristo de la Luz

The tiny square mosque, dating from the early 10th-century (922), is the oldest monument building in the city, and is open daily March 1 to October 15 from 10:00 am to 6:45 pm, closing at 5:45 pm during the winter. Closed on Christmas and New Year's Day and closes at 1:00 pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Tickets are 4€, free for children 10 and younger. Audio guide available as an extra. Included in the 14€ Toledo Monumental Tourist Bracelet museum package.

Monasterio de San Juan de los Reyes

The Franciscan monastery-church, at Reyes Católicos, 17, was founded in 1476 by the Catholic Monarchs and originally designated to be the final resting place of Ferdinand and Isabella. But the surrender of Granada in 1472 was an event of such magnitude that it caused the King and Queen to change their burial plans, and the Royal Chapel of Granada became their mausoleum. The monastery has an elegant Gothic cloister. Open daily from 10:00 am to 6:45 pm, closing at 5:45 pm during the winter. Closed December 25 and January 1. Closes at noon on December 21, 24 and 31. General admission is 4€. Included in the 14€ Toledo Monumental Tourist Bracelet museum package.

Real Colegio Doncellas Nobles

The Royal College of Noble Maidens was founded in 1551 by the archbishop of Toledo and cardinal Juan Martínez Silíceo for the education of the young women, and in 1988 became to be considered one of the best schools of its king in Europe. The building, at Plaza Cardenal Siliceo, opened its door to the public for the first

time in 2015. Open daily from 10:am to 5:45 pm. Admission is 4€. Included in the 14€ Toledo Monumental Tourist Bracelet museum package.

Iglesia de Santo Tomé

To view El Greco's most famous work, the Burial of the Count of Orgaz, you'll find it on display covering an entire wall at the diminutive Iglesia de Santo Tomé, but beware of the heavy tour bus crowds. Best to be at the door upon opening at 10:00 am or a half hour before closing. Open daily from 10:00 am to 6:45 pm, at 5:45 pm during the winter. Closed on December 25 and January 1. General admission is 4€. Included in the 14€ Toledo Monumental Tourist Bracelet museum package.

Iglesia de El Salvador

The church was an Hispano-Muslim mosque dating from the 11th-century, oriented southeast in the direction of Mecca. It is a hidden Archaeological treasure. Its enigmatic visigothic pilaster stands out. The recent excavations allow you to explore the subsoil and discover the secrets that Toledo holds. Open Monday to Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:45 pm, Sundays and holidays from 11:30 am to 5:45 pm. Closes on the 23rd of the month at 5:30 pm. Admission is 4€. Included in the 14€ Toledo Monumental Tourist Bracelet museum package.

La Iglesia de los Jesuitas (San Ildefonso)

The largest baroque temple in Toledo, its huge twin towers climbing 50 meters into the sky, offers you a unique experience, the most spectacular views of the medieval city and the imposing Cathedral of Toledo. Admission is 4€. Included in the 14€ Toledo Monumental Tourist Bracelet museum package.

Puerta de Bisagra Nueva

Toledo's Gates

Puerta de Bisagra Nueva

The date of the original gate is unknown but the new Bisagra Gate construction began in 1559 and was completed in 1576. It's Toledo's best known city gate and is the main entrance into the old city. The entrance is flanked by two large circular and crenellated semicircular towers were built of masonry and decorated with a wide frieze of rusticated stonework in a checkerboard pattern.

Puerta de Alfonso VI de Toledo

The smaller 'Bisagra Antigua', the Old Door of Bisagra, was built in the 10th-century in the time of the Moorish Taifa of Toledo in Islamic Al-Andalus when, is was called the "Puerta de la Sagra", and served as the main entrance to Toledo

from the Vega plain. It was restored in 1905 after years of neglect. You'll find it about 50 meters away along the wall to your right.

Puerta del Sol de Toledo

The Gate of the Sun, with its castle-like appearance dates from the 1st-century and is of Roman and Islamic origin. It's just a few minutes walk from Puerta de Bisagara. It was one of the most important gates into the city. In the 16th-century a large marble medallion depicting the investiture of Saint Ildefonso with the chasuble was added and in the 17th-century the paintings of the Moon and the Sun were added (hence its current name).

Puerta de Alarcones

Dating from the Visigothic period, the gate is considered one of the oldest gates in Toledo and can be found in the old city, a few minutes walk from Puerta de Bisagara and Zocodover Square. It was part of the defensive complex during Islamic rule, when it was called "Puerta Mohaguía".

Puerta de Valmardón

Also known as Bab al-Mardum, is a few steps from Puerta del Sol. Built in the 9th or 10th century, it's probably the oldest gate in the city, providing access to the Islamic medina of Toledo and to the Mosque of Cristo de la Luz.

Puerta del Cambrón

Located a 15-minute walk from Puerta de Bisagra, it was renovated in the 16th-century on the site of an old Visigoth gate. Until the 15th-century it is was referred to as the "Gate of the Jews", *Bab-al-Yaud*, due to its proximity to the Jewish quarter.

Shopping In Toledo

Mazapanes

If you're a lover of marzipan, head straight to Mazapanes Santo Tomé at Calle Santo Tomé, 3 (since 1856), the principal artery running along the tourist path in the Judería, or former Jewish quarter. Just look for the gigantic marzipan cathedral in the store window! You'll find a branch at Plaza de Zocodover, 7, and one at Calle Colombia, 17. The Convento de San Clementen is considered one of the first monasteries in Toledo, founded outside the city walls after its reconquest by Alfonso VI in 1085.

Damascene Ware

About the ubiquitous damascene (*damasquinado*) ware, which is hammered black steel with gold inlay, done in jewelry, pill boxes, swords and any number of trinkets, I'm just no longer a fan due to sheer overkill of shops (at least 24) and hard sell of shopkeepers hawking it. But if this typical Toledana ware strikes your

fancy, be sure to purchase it at a shop displaying the official seal of authenticity. Your first stop should be at Damasquinados Suarez at Paseo Circo Romano, 8. Simón Artesanía is another trustworthy shop, whose artisan-owner has been featured in articles in leading Spanish travel magazines, can be found at Plaza San Vicente, 1. Other notable artisans include Angel Rus Jodar, Calle Santa Justa, Damasquinos Bisagra, Calle Real del Arrabal, 16, and Julio Peña García, Plaza de Solarejo, 8, and Regalos Damasco, Calle del Comercio, 49, should be worth a visit.

Toledo Steel

Bermejo, the oldest manufacture of swords in Toledo can be found at Espadas y Sables de Toledo, S.L. on the highway outside of Toledo at Ctra. Madrid Toledo, Km 61.(Olías del Rey). Antonio Arellano Pulgar, born in Toledo, is a Swordsmith Master. His shop is located at Calle Rio Mundo, 55. Espadas Mariano Zamorano, recognized for its artesian quality, can be found in the center of historic Toledo at Calle Ciudad, 19.

Hand Embroidered Linens

For lovely hand embroidered linens (placemats, tablecloths, napkins, pillow covers) from the village of Lagartera in the Toledo province, you'll find this reputable shop Bordados Velasco, at Calle Alfonso X el Sabio, 4, in the historic quarter. If you're looking for the famous Lagarteran Manila shawl, hand embroidered in natural silk, the third generation Artesanía Nava has a shop at Calle Hombre de Palo, 11, a couple of minutes walk from the Cathedral.

Pottery and Ceramics

For handsome ceramics from the villages of Puente El Arzobispo and Talavera de la Reina, go to Pincel y Barro Cerámica Artística at Calle del Real Arrabal, 20, below and on the opposite side of Hotel Abad, near the Bisagra Gate. For high quality reproductions of original Toledo ceramics, you can visit the shop of J. Serrano, a 5th generation craftsmen, at Calle San Juan de Dios, 1, between the church of Saint Tomé and the House of El Greco.

Leather Crafts

Antonio Dorado Gallego, a craftsman specialized in hunting and equestrian saddle and leatherwork, can be found at Calle Remedios, 21, in Madridejos, near Consuegra, while Joaquín García Huertos is located in Consuegra at Calle Quevedo, 13.

Traditional Dishes

The culinary history in Toledo comes from the influence of the gastronomies of the three cultures; Jewish, Arab and Christian, from slow-cooked meats like Perdiz estofada, or roasted partridges, the use of spices and the introduction of saffron, to such hearty feasts as lechazo (roast lamb).

- **Migas** - a traditional dish made from bread crumbs, garlic, and olive oil, typically served with a variety of meats and vegetables and fried eggs on top.
- **Marzipan** - a confection made from ground almonds and sugar, sometimes with almond oil or extract. It has protected 'designation of origin' status in Toledo and is a traditional dessert, often shaped into intricate designs and figure*s*. roasted suckling pig cooked in a traditional wood-fired oven. The meat is tender and succulent, the skin is crispy and flavorful.
- **Carcamusa** - a traditional rich pork casserole with tomatoes and peas, served with crusty bread to soak up the juice.

- **Sopa Castellana** - garlic soup, popular in Toledo, made with bread, garlic, paprika, and poached egg.
- **Cordero Asado** - roast lamb
- **Cochinillo Asado** - roast suckling pig cooked in a traditional wood-fired oven. The meat is tender and succulent, the skin is crispy and flavorful.
- **Perdiz a la Toledana** - stewed partridge Toledo-style, cooked with plenty of onions, garlic, bay leaves, thyme, and pepper, then covered with white wine.
- **Venado a la Toledana** - gamey venison, slow cooked in a blend of wine, herbs, and spices.
- **Truchas a la Toledana** - trout from the nearby rivers.
- **Saffron Rice** - rice flavored with saffron giving it a bright yellow color and a unique flavor. The local saffron flower, referred to a the red gold of La Mancha, is harvested between October and November in the planes south of Toledo, and is considered a fundamental element of Spanish gastronomy. The locally grown saffron, Azafrán de la Mancha, has a P.D.O., Protected Designation of Origin. Restaurants

Dining In Toledo

Alfileritos 24

A casual yet sophisticated dining spot by chef Víctor Infantes is located blissfully away from the tourist hordes at Calle Alfileritos, 24, and a favorite of local business types, it is housed in an ancient 14th-century Toledo building with central atrium on several floors. The ground floor Taberna is tapas bar/tavern, serving a Monday to Friday offering bargain priced snacks. The Menú degustación sin maridar (without paring) is 53€/person. Several dishes are gluten-free and vegetarian friendly. The restaurant opens daily from 10:30 am (breakfast) until 11:30 pm, 12:30 am on Saturdays. Closed July 15 to July 30. Part of Grupo Vive Toledo. They have a Solete from Repsol for 2025. Reserve online or call (+34) 925 239 625

Chef Infantes has another destination dining spot, Ancestral, with one Michelin star and one Repsol sun. He opened the restaurant in 2022 in Illescas (Toledo) before

relocating to Saliente 2, in Pozuelo de Alarcón, a few minutes drive west of Madrid.

El Albero

Recommended in the Michelin Guide 2025, this small family restaurant can be found at Calle de la Diputación, 6, where chef-owner Ismael Suleiman, one of the ambassadors for Raíz Culinaria, the gastronomic brand of the Regional Government of Castilla-La Mancha, is in charge of the kitchen, offering traditional cuisine with a more gastronomic focus, including white beans with partridge stewed Toledo-style. Recognized as one of the 100 best restaurants in Spain in 2025. Closed on Wednesdays. You can book online or call (+34) 925 254 069 / 689 972 949 to reserve your table.

Adolfo

This internationally recognized classic restaurant can be found at Calle Hombre de Palo, 7, in the historic center of Toledo. Chef Adolfo Muñoz offers a seasonal tasting menu for 88€, drinks not include. There is also a children's menu for 49,50€. Recommended in the Michelin Guide and has one Repsol sun for 2025. Closed Sunday nights. Reserve online or call (+34) 639 330 991 / 925 227 321.

La Mar Salá

This small family restaurant specializing in seafood and shellfish is located at Calle Honda, 9, near the Puerta de Bisagra and the escalators leading to the historic quarter. Open Monday to Saturday from 12:30 to 4:30 pm and Thursday and Saturday for dinner from 8:30 to 10:30 pm. There's a tasting menu for 65€, VAT included. Book online or call (+34) 925 254 785 to reserve a table.

La Cábala

In the Jewish quarter at Calle Cigarral del Ángel you'll find *"contemporary cuisine with soul and character"* as prepared by chef Juan Domínguez and his team. Open for lunch Monday to Saturday from 1:30 to 4:00 pm and dinner on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8:30 to 11:00 pm. Offers an à la carte menu plus three gastronomic menus for 59,90€, 64,90€ and 69,90€. Recommended in the Repsol and Michelin Guides 2025. Reserve your table online or call (+34) 925 258 661.

Venta de Aires

This classic traditional restaurant in the center of Toledo at Paseo Circo Romano, 35, has been a meeting place for hunters and gourmands for 134 years (1891) and is the oldest restaurant in Castilla-La Mancha. Chef Ignacio Díaz de la Cuerda offers an excellent three-course 30€ executive menu del dia and a 30€ rice menu. Open everyday from 12:00 pm to 11:30 pm. Recommended in the Repsol Guide 2025. Reserve online, on The Fork, or call (+34) 925 220 545 / 613 771 454 / 687 498 180.

Los Cuatro Tiempos

This popular tapas bar and restaurant, in a 16th-century building at Calle Sixto Ramón Parro, 5, opened in 1973, has been taken over by Álex García Marcano (La Ermitaña), grandson of Emiliano and Sagrario, founders of Los Cuatro Tiempos. It was closed for awhile but reopened in late September and is offering traditional dishes, ”grandma's cooking”. Open daily for lunch from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm and for dinner Monday to Saturday from 8:30 to 11:00 pm. You can book online or call (+34) 925 223 782 to reserve a table.

La Orza

Found in the heart of the Jewish Quarter next to the Iglesia de Santo Tomé at Calle Descalzos, 5, it’s just steps away from the El Greco Museum. Serving traditional and modern cuisine, including lomo de orza, pork tenderloin. Open daily for lunch from 1:30 to 4:00 pm and for dinner from 8:30 to 10:30 pm, Monday to Saturday. Closed Sunday evening. Tel: (+34) 925 223 011

Victor Sánchez-Beato

This small space with seating for 16 *“brings a breath of fresh air to Toledo’s dining scene”* according to Michelin. You can find it at Alamillos del Tránsito, 9, in the Hotel Pintor El Greco. Open for lunch and dinner Wednesday to Saturday and lunch on Sundays. Surprise tasting menu only for 62,50€, not including wine. Recommended in the Michelin Guide, It received a Repsol sun in 2025. Can be booked on The Fork, or call (+34) 677 879 633 to reserve a place at the bar.

Barten Tapería

Located at Calle de las Tendillas, 4, Ventura del Álamo's (Grupo Vive Toledo) new restaurant opened in 2022 in the heart of Toledo's historic center, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Brunch is 13,50€. The weekday lunch menu is only 20€. Open Monday to Thursday from 10:00 am until 5:00 and from 7:00 pm until midnight. Enjoy Flamenco in Barten's Tablao (check the schedule). Open Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00 and to 2:00 am and from 10:00 am until midnight on Sundays. Closed all day Wednesday. Reserve your table online or call (+34) 925 293 337.

Tobiko

Chef Javier Ugidos, listed as one of the 10 best chefs without a Michelin star by 'Best Chefs' magazine, opened his restaurant in 2014 at Ronda de Buenavista 27, a short walk away from the hustle and bustle of Toledo's historic center. The 16 course tasting menu is 85€ plus 30€ for the wine paring. There is also a Tobiko menu for 55€ and a Classic menu for 43€. Closed Mondays. For reservations you can email restaurantetobiko@gmail.com, book a table on The Fork, or call (34) 925 210 589.

Casa Tabordo

You'll find this garden restauant sitting on the banks of the Tagus River at Carretera De La Peraleda, Camino Del Ejido, where they offer a tasting menu for 57€. Open for lunch Tuesday to Sunday at 1:30 pm and for dinner Thursday to Saturday at 8:30 pm. Can be booked on The Fork, or call (+34) 925 257 825 / 619 198 011 to reserve a table.

Madre Tierra

This classic vegetarian restaurant, opened in 2007 by Chef Jose Maria Villapalos, can be found at Calle Bajada Tripería, 2. Has a Repsol Solete for 2025. Open for lunch on Mondays and lunch at 1:00 pm and dinner at 8:30 pm during the rest of the week. Closed on Tuesdays. Book online or call (+34) 925 223 571 to reserve a table.

Iván Cerdeño-Cigarral del Ángel

Dining In The Countryside

Iván Cerdeño-Cigarral del Ángel

Located a few minutes west of Toledo at Calle Montesión, 107, the restaurant, under the direction of chef Iván Cerdeño, specializes in seasonal wild game, including hare, *liebre a la royale*, and partridge, *perdiz a la toledana*. Now with two Michelin stars and three Repsol suns. Open for lunch Wednesday to Sunday from 1:30 to 4:00 pm and dinner on Fridays and Saturdays from 8:30 to 11:00 pm. The 90€ lunch menu is only available on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Outstanding! Reserve your table online or call (+34) 621 220 820.

La Ermitaña

A NY Times article by Dale Fuchs recommended this restaurant (La Ermita) for cliff side dining in the storehouse of a 15th-century sanctuary but with modern decor. It's found on the Carretera de Circunvalación on the road leading up to the

Parador, at Ermita del Valle, one of Toledo's most spectacular viewpoints, with breathtaking views of the Alcázar, the Cathedral, and the Tagus River. Market-driven cuisine. Open Monday to Thursday from 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm, on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 pm to 1:30 am, and Friday to Sunday from 1:00 pm until 1:30 am. Kitchen closes at 11:00 pm. Book your table online or call (+34) 925 253 193

Hierbabuena

Founded by chef Miguel Ángel López at Carretera Circunvalacion, 1, the restaurant is now in the hands of his daughter, chef Esther López, who offers a seasonal tasting menu, a modern reinterpretation of classic cuisine, for 72€. There is also a executive lunch menu, Monday to Friday, for 35€. The Gastrobar, overlooks the Toledo Valley. Call (+34) 925 223 924 to reserve a table.

Palio

This restaurant, with one Repsol sun and a Michelin Bib Gourmand 2023, can be found at Calle Mayor, 12, in Ocaña, about 50 minutes east of Toledo, 62 km from Madrid. Reserve your table online or call (+34) 925 130 045.

Lunch at Botero

Tapas And Wine Bars

Botero

Located at Calle Ciudad, 5, behind the Town Hall (Ayuntamiento), this lively and informal tavern is a good option for a wine and small plates dinner. Good selection of wines and has a Repsol Solete. Open Monday to Thursday from 12:30 pm to 1:00 am, Friday and Saturday until 2:00 am and Sundays until midnight. Book online or call (+34) 925 280 967 to reserve a table.

La Tintilla

You'll find this tapas bar off the beaten path at Calle Real, 15. Open daily until 4:00 pm, and Thursday evening from 7:00 to 11:00 pm, Fridays until 11:30 pm. Tel: (+34) 925 841 845.

Trébol

Located just steps from Plaza de Zocodover at Called Santa Fe, 1, has one of the loveliest terraces in Toledo and celebrating its 40 anniversary this year. Opens for breakfast at 9:00 am. Part of Grupo Vive Toledo. Book online or call (+34) 925 281 297.

Ludeña

"*One of the most emblematic places for the people of Toledo*" can be found at Plaza de la Magdalena, 13. Has a Repsol Solete. Try the carcamusas and venison stew. Open daily until 4:00 pm and Thursday to Saturday evenings from 8:00 to 11:00 pm. Closed on Wednesdays. Tel: (+34) 925 223 384.

Taberni Gastrobar

Chef Bernardo Romo Pozo's "*Cheese, Pistachio, Saffron* " was presented at 14th edition of the Cheese Bites Competition Madrid Fusion 2024. You can find this hidden gem at Ronda de Buenavista, 55. Open Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Friday evenings from 8:30 to midnight, and on Saturdays from noon to 5:00 pm. Tel: (+34) 665 876 717.

Embrujo

This popular tapas bar can be found at Calle Santa Leocadia, 6. They are open Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm and in the evening from 7:00 to 1:30 am. Opens on Saturdays at 11:00 am. Closed on Sundays. Enjoy the terrace in the evening with the locals. Email embrujo@tabernaembrujo.com to reserve a table or call (+34) 925 210 706.

La Abadía

Hip, exposed-brick brewpub pouring craft beers and serving from extensive breakfast and tapas menus can be found at Calle Santa Fe, 14. Open Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and everyday from noon to midnight, 1:00 am on Saturdays. Part of Grupo Vive Toledo. Book online or call (+34) 925 192 251 to reserve a table.

La Tabernita

You can head over to Calle Santa Fe, 14, in the heart of Toledo's historic center for more traditional tapas in a modern setting. Open Monday to Friday from 1:00 pm

to 5:00 pm and from 8:00 pm until midnight, Saturdays and Sundays from 12:30 pm to 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm until midnight. Does not accept reservations but you can call them at (+34) 25 213 006.

Cuchara de Palo

Traditional cooking methods, using slow, gentle cooking techniques and local ingredients. Located at Calle Santa Fe, 1, near the statue of Miguel de Cervantes. Open Monday to Thursday from 10:00 am to 11:30 pm and Fridays until 12:30 am. Opens at 10:30 am on Saturday and Sunday. Part of Grupo Vive Toledo. Call (+34) 925 224 606 to reserve a table.

Terraza Quiosco de Caracena

This is a small oasis with great music and even better cocktails in the heart of Toledo at Calle de El Salvador, 1. Has a Repsol Solete 2025. Tel: (+34) 602 341 191

Taberna Skala

Offering traditional cuisine at Cuesta de la Sal, 5. Has a Repsol Solete for 2025. Tel: (+34) 677 581 049

Jacaranda bar

Located in the Dos Codos alley in Toledo, this temple of Toledo's bohemian scene opened its doors in 1978, when its manager, Ramón de Pablos, was just in his twenties. Callejón Dos Codos, 1. Repsol Solete since 2021.

Hacienda del Cardenal

Overnighting In Toledo

For first time visitors to appreciate the charms of the city I highly recommend a stay in one of Toledo's highly atmospheric inns within its ancient walls.

Áurea Toledo

This historic Eurostars property, a group of seven medieval courtyard houses with 66 rooms, is in the heart of the historic center of the city at Bajada Pozo Amargo, 7, in the Barrio de los Canónigos or Pozo Amargo, at the base of the cathedral. It has a steam bath, vitality pool and fitness center. Tel: (+34)

Palacio Eugenia de Montijo

For those who wish to splurge a little, I suggest this elegant 5-star property at Plaza Juego de Pelota, 7. Now a Marriott Autograph Collection, it's one the most luxurious lodging within the city walls. There are 40 plush rooms with handmade

carpets and antique furnishings plus large marble baths, a lovely and tranquil atrium lobby with beautiful dome, a spa with hammam and a restaurant and lobby bar. There's easy access to the hotel from the ring road. Parking is available off-site at Parking Santo Tomé, Calle Santa Úrsula, 8, with 50 covered spots. Tel: (+34) 925 274 690

Paco de Lucía

Boutique Entre Dos Aguas

La Casa de Paco de Lucía, where Paco de Lucía lived and found inspiration, has only 5 rooms arranged around the central courtyard. Located in one of Toledo's most authentic and bohemian corners at Plaza de Santo Domingo Antiguo, 2, it offers an unforgettable memory of the city and the most outstanding flamenco artist of all time. Enjoy Flamenco Evenings at the hotel. The Entre Dos Fuegos restaurant, the smallest restaurant in Toledo, overseen by chef Miguel Ángel López, offers creative market cuisine in a Japanese-style bar for 9 diners. Contact them online or call (+34) 627 612 369.

San Juan de los Reyes

Located in the historic center, in the old Jewish quarter, Judería Mayor, next to the Monastery of San Juan de los Reyes at Calle Reyes Católicos, 5, is a 19th-century Mudejar-style building, which was a weapons factory before it became a flour mill, offers 35 comfortable rooms, including a family room, 24-hour reception and private parking, and is only a few minutes walk from the Museo el Greco. Pets are not allowed. Their restaurant, La Fábrica de Harinas (the flour mill), offers traditional local cuisine with a modern twist. Recommended in the Repsol Guide 2025. Call (+34) 925 283 535 or WhatsApp (+34) 690 008 321.

Pintor El Greco

The comfortable and cozy inn with its own restaurant is at Alamillos del Tránsito, 13, in the very heart of the Jewish quarter, steps away from the House-Museum of El Greco and within easy walking distance of the city's monumental treasures. It's a traditional country style house with 55 rooms and modern, minimalist decor. Good for families. Pets are welcomed (maximum 25 kg.) upon request. Parking is available at the hotel. Enjoy the tasting menu with live cooking at their Sánchez Beato Restaurant or try the Splendido Trattoria. Tel: (+34) 925 285 191

Hacienda del Cardenal

This former 18th-century archbishops' mansion in pale brick, is located at Paseo de Recaredo, 24, tucked into the city's thick, fortified walls right at the Bisagra gate. The small 27-room 4-star hotel is romantic and quiet, filled with beautiful antiques and ceramics. Its sitting rooms and guest rooms, below wood beamed ceilings, have simple, traditional hand-carved Castilian furniture, wrought iron lamps and tiled floors. The modern baths are decorated with hand-painted blue tiles. There are lots of nooks and crannies in which to sit, and the fountain filled Moorish gardens are very inviting, and there is a pool. Since access is through three tiers of gardens, up several flights of steps, I don't recommend it for the elderly or those traveling with smaller children. The hotel is not equipped with an elevator. The hotel's adjacent restaurant serves its legendary specialties of roast lamb and roast suckling pig plus the signature Toledoan dish of roast partridge (*perdiz estofado*). It's particularly pleasant for summer night dining on the lovely "chill-out" terrace surrounded by the walled garden and fountains. There is also a tavern. Tel: (+34) 925 224 900

Santa Isabel

This 42-room inn is a very affordable budget option located on a quiet side street in the center of the historic quarter at Calle Santa Isabel, 24, close to the Cathedral. It's a 15th-century former noble house with roof terrace boasting a lovely panoramic view of the city. Some of the superior double rooms and balconies and some of the rooms are large enough to accommodate a family of four. The simply decorated rooms come equipped with A/C, TV and en-suite bathrooms with shower. There is an elevator, complimentary Wi-Fi and 24-hour reception. Some rooms are on the small side. Parking is available upon request. Tel: (+34) 925 253 120.

Botique Adolfo

This 12-room boutique property, with all with balconies overlooking the iconic Zocodover Square is located above the classic Restaurante Adolfo in Plaza de Zocodover at Hombre de Palo, 7, next to the Cathedral. The building, dating from 1906, combines contemporary design with state-of-the-art facilities. The 2-room suite is 35 m2. Tel: (+34) 925 252 919

Abad Toledo

This small 3-star boutique hotel in a 19th-century building at Real del Arrabal, 1, offers 22 comfortable rooms as well as three apartments next to Puerta del Sol de Toledo and the Mosque of Cristo de la Luz. The hotel is only 1 km from both the Museum of Santa Cruz and the Monasterio de San Juan de los Reyes. Parking is available nearby. Tel: (+34) 925 283 500

Parador de Toledo

Staying Outside Toledo

Parador de Toledo

For repeat visitors with a car or a family with small children not wishing to spend the entire day pounding the well trodden tourist trail, I have often recommended the Mudejar-inspired 79-room Parador de Toledo, with its seasonal outdoor pool. Located just outside of the city (4 km) across the Tagus River in the Cigarrales zone (a *cigarral* meaning a summer residence of 17th-century aristocrats), it sits atop the Cerro del Emperador hill. The view from this vantage point is simply priceless, allowing one perfect photo ops of the entire city, with Toledo looking even more dramatic, with magical sunrises and sunsets. The Parador restaurant offers regional cuisine. Covered parking is available. Tel: (+34) 925 221 850

The only real disadvantage of staying at the Parador is the additional cost of the taxi to and from the city.

AC Hotel Ciudad de Toledo

This contemporary-style business class hotel (46 rooms, 3 suites), part of the Marriott Brand, serves as a good alternative to the Parador, but without the pool, for those arriving by car (free on-site parking) and wishing the peace and quiet of a location in the country. It also lies on the ring road, but closer to the city, with a city bus stop right outside the door. The bus runs by every hour and the ride takes a short 10 minutes. Taxi fare to and from the city is slightly lower here due to the closer proximity to the city gates. The AC enjoys the same fantastic panoramic views of the city as well. Rooms come equipped with the usual AC features. Not all rooms have terraces with views, so be sure to upgrade to a room with a view. The AC Lounge is open for dinner. Can be booked with Marriott points. Tel: (+34) 925 285 125

Eurostars Palacio Buenavista

If you're looking for 5-star luxury with a view, you might consider this 109-room luxury property just outside the city with lovely views of the city from afar. This is a genuine 16th-century palace designed by El Greco and where Cervantes, Tirso de Molina, Baltasar Gracián and El Greco himself used to hold social gatherings. The hotel offers all the usual amenities in a completely refurbished palace and a shuttle service three times daily to pick guests up at the train station and to take them into the city for touring. There is a full service spa with up to date exercise equipment, treatment rooms, and hydrotherapy pool as well as a kids' club. The outdoor pool is seasonal, open from late June to mid-September. Dining options included the formal Quixote Restaurant offering traditional regional cuisine, a poolside Tajo river terrace, a more casual Toledana bar and restaurant that serves casual fare and the free buffet breakfast. Parking is an additional 10€/day. Located at Concilios de Toledo 1, you can be in the center of the city in 15 minutes. Tel (+34) 925 289 800

Consuegra windmills

The Castle of Consuegra

Excursions From Toledo

The Windmills of Consuegra

If you're planning on spending a few days in Toledo, then why not do a day trip to see the famous windmills of Castilla-La Mancha in the medieval village of Consuegra, just southeast of the city. If you do not have a car, there is regular daily bus service between Toledo and Consuegra on the Sarma bus. Round-trip tickets are 12,60€. Tickets are available online. The first departure is 12:15 pm Monday to Friday. Check the Saturday and Sunday schedules at: Grupo Samar Coaches.

Castle of Consuegra

The fortress castle, dating from the 13th-century, is considered the best preserved castle in all of Castile-La Mancha, and is now open to visitors from June 1 to September 30 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and in the afternoons from 4:30 to 7:00

pm. It closes at 6:00 pm during the rest of the year. Entrance to the Castle and Bolero Mill is 4€.

The Man from La Mancha

2015 was the 400th anniversary of the publication of the second volume of Cervantes' tale of Don Quixote *"El Ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quijote de la Mancha"* (Amazon). About 30 minutes drive northeast of Toledo, off the A-42 in the small village of Esquivias, you'll find the Museum of Cervantes, where Cervantes "talked to his characters". The one hour (3€) guided visits are available Tuesday to Friday from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm and in the afternoon from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, and on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm.

Saffron and Ethnographic Museum

This museum, located in the former Franciscan Convent in Madridejos, near Consuegra, was opened in 2008 and offers a detailed tour of the production of Saffron, where you get only 1 kilogram of saffron for every 250,000 kilograms for flowers. Visits are available on Fridays from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and on Saturdays starting at 10:00 am.

Fiesta de la Rosa del Azafrán in Consuegra

Festivals In The Toledo Provence

Fiesta de la Rosa del Azafrán

The Rose of Saffron Festival normally takes place during last full weekend of the month of October in Consuegra and Madridejos, and has been held each year since 1963.

Batalla Medieval de Consuegra

With nearly 500 participants, the Consuegra Medieval Festival, which began in 1997, takes place over several days in mid-August in the village of Consuegra celebrating the death of the only son of El Cid Campeador, Diego Rodríguez, in the battle against the Almoravids lead by Yusuf Ibn Tasufin, on August 15, 1097. Tasufin's Saharan Berbers (Amazigh) had defeated the Castilian-Leonese monarch Alfonso VI at the Battle of Sagrajas (Zallaqah) in 1086. The reenactment of the Battle of Consuegra is done on a human chessboard.

Easter Week in Consuegra

Holy week in Consuegra is notable for its simplicity. The Napoleonic War and Civil War wreaked havoc on the religious imagery of Consuegra and wasn't revived until the mid-20th century. Today nearly 3,000 people dedicated to the beliefs, feelings and traditions take part in the Semana Mayor.

Danzantes y Cristo de la Viga

This impressive and colorful festival in Villacañas, about 90 minutes south of Madrid, is from April 27 to May 1 and includes dancers performing in the Glorieta del Prado. The first dance is the Royal March.

Dancers and Sins of Camuñas

The Corpus Christi festival takes place generally two months after Easter, with two groups, 'sins' and 'dancers', appearing in traditional costumes and masks, representing the eternal struggle between Good and Evil. Camuñas is about 50 minutes southeast of Toledo.

Fiesta de Ánimas y Carnaval

This traditional Easter celebration in Villafranca de los Caballeros, about a one hour drive southeast of Toledo, dates from the 16th-century and attracts visitors from throughout Spain. Villafranca de los Caballeros is about a 10-minute drive to the east of Camuñas.

Bodegas y Viñedos Casa del Valle

Wine Touring From Toledo

If you're planning on spending a few days in Toledo it will give you the possibility of visiting some of the premium wineries and some of the more interesting villages in the area.

Toledo

Viñedos & Bodegas Garva

The small family winery opened in 1897 in the heart of Toledo with vineyards in the Ramabujas and La Dehesilla districts, the only vineyards located within the city itself. Guided visits are available Monday to Saturday from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, ranging in price from 20€ to 30€/person.where you can enjoy an unforgettable experience touring the vineyards, learn about the art of winemaking, and participate in unique tastings that celebrate the excellence of the region. Book your

visit online, email pedidos@bodegasgarva.com, or call (+34) 925 245 599 to arrange a tour and tasting.

Yepes

El Toledillo de la Mancha, one of the Magical Villages of Spain, is about 40 km to the east and where in late May to early June they will be celebrating the Calderonian Days, a baroque festival that lasts nearly a month. First held in 2000, it has grown to become one of the most significant cultural and tourist events of the Ocaña Region. For lunch in Yepes, your can try La Casa Grande, Calle Calvo Sotelo, 7, or head to Calle Mayor, 12 in Ocaña and have lunch at Palio with one Repsol sun and a Michelin Bib Gourmand 2023.

Bodegas y Viñedos Casa del Valle

With 82 hectares of newly planted vineyards of Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Syrah, and 65 hectares of olive groves surrounding the estate, this French-style Châteaux winey, a "Vino de Pago" (Single Estate Wine), with a total of 250 hectares, is part of the Olarra Winery Group, and began production in 2000. The winery, sitting in the heart of the Tagus Valley, in Yepes, boasting state-of-the-art technology, is a one hour drive south of Madrid, or about 25 minutes drive northeast of Toledo. You can reserve the 2-hour tour online (Spanish only). Private tours, in English or French, can be requested by emailing enoturismo@bodegacasadelvalle.es or by calling (+34) 925 155 533. Needless to say, their wines are excellent.

Bodegas Más Que Vinos

Más Que Vinos (More Than Wines) was opened by the Spanish-German winemaker team of Margarita Madrigal, Alexandra Schmedes, and Gonzalo Rodríguez in 1999 on the Meseta de Ocaña, in Cabañas de Yepes, the modern winery, surrounded by vineyards, lies 45 minutes south of Madrid. Their historic family winery, La Plazuela (the small square), with the traditional clay amphorae called *tinajas*, dates from 1851, is located in the nearby village of Dosbarrios. 90-minute visits are available Monday to Saturday beginning at 11:00 am. Contact them online, or call (+34) 925 122 281 to arrange a tour and tasting.

Bargas

On the third Friday in September the village of Bargas, which is located just to the north of Toledo, begins the 5-day festival of Cristo de la Sala, the most important festival of the year with the “chupinazo," in the plaza del Ayuntamiento, the Town Hall Square. This year’s fiesta was held from 19 to 23 September. For lunch in Bargas you can try La Bodeguita del Arte, a Repsol Solete, at Calle Teodoro Pérez y Pérez, 15, or try Casa Zapico with Asturian cuisine.

Bodega Finca Loranque

This 500 hectare wine estate, built in the 18th-century by the Counts of Floridablanca, is the region's oldest winery. It’s located within a 30-minute drive north of Toledo, just to the west of the village of Bargas, or about 50 km south of Madrid. Wine was first produced on this land in the 11th-century. The estate was taken over by the Díaz Bermejo family in 1981. Visits, for a maximum of 10 people, are available Monday through Saturday by appointment only, and include a tasting of 3 wines. A wine tasting course, lasting 1-1/2 hours, is available for a maximum of 6 people. Call (+34) 925 590 316 / 667 784 234 to request a visit, or email them at comunicacion@fincaloranque.com to arrange a tour and tasting.

Malpica de Tajo

This village, with its impressive 14th-century French-style castle-palace surrounded by a moat and overlooking the river, is about a 45-minute drive west of Toledo and 30 kilometers from Talavera de la Reina. It has been occupied since it was built and is used as a residence by the Dukes of Airén. It’s not open for visits. For lunch in the area you can try Los Trujis, the Trujillo brothers restaurant with game-inspired dishes. The restaurant is now located in Talavera de la Reina at Avenida de la Constitución, 7. Closed Tuesdays. Recommended in the Michelin Guide 2026. Another good option for lunch in Talavera is Restaurant Raíces with one Michelin star.

Pagos de Marqués de Griñón

This beautiful estate, Finca Dominio de Valdepusa, considered one of the most important in the region, is located about an hour’s drive west of Toledo, south of Malpica del Tajo, in the Pusa River Valley. It has been in the Don Carlos Falcó, Marquis of Griñón, family since 1292, and first opened its doors to the public in

2009. Their red wines are produced exclusively from their own grapes under the watchful eye of Bordeaux oenologist Michel Rolland. In 2002 they received the first official Pago in Spain, Dominio de Valdepusa. Contact them at (+34) 925 597 222 to arrange a tour of the winery and estate, and enjoy a gastronomic lunch.

Bodega Finca Constancia

The avant-garde, cutting edge winery in the rolling landscape of Otero, 40 minutes drive west of Toledo, and north of Malpica del Tajo, is part of the González Byass' experience in winemaking. This new winery and vineyard, sitting on 230 hectares, was designed by Architect Gonzalo Tello to be integrated into the landscape, similar to a traditional Bordeaux Château. It opened to the public in May 2006. The cellar houses 1200 barrels comprised of American and French oak on five levels. Tours (1-1/2 hours) and tastings, and a walk through the vineyards, are available Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm by reservation only. Call (+34) 607 265 690 / 925 861 535, or email fincaconstancia@gonzalezbyass.es, to arrange a tour and tasting.

La Guardia de Toledo

Sitting above the Madrid-Cádiz highway, the village has been in existence since at least the Bronze age. It's name is from the Arabic word *wardja*, meaning sentinel or lookout. The palace boasts a beautiful Baroque façade and there is a Ethnological Museum. On one of its slopes above the highway, you will find the remains of old cave houses carved into the rock where the poorest families lived. If you find yourself in La Guardia at lunch time, then you can try Restaurante el Llano at Carretera de Andalucía, km 83, or Bar Casa Pepe at Gta. de Tullerías, 9.

Bodegas y Viñedos Martúe

About 55 km east of Toledo you'll find this beautiful "hacienda" style, wine estate in La Guardia de Toledo. The dream of Fausto González, La Finca Campo Martuela, another VINO DE PAGO, was first planted in 1990. The Campo Martuela Estate, with 30 hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot, Merlot and Syrah, was finished in 2002, in time for its first harvest. The El Casar Estate has 51 hectares of vineyards that include Malbec and Chardonnay. Martúe is one of the most exciting wines to have emerged from wine region of La Mancha. Open for 2-hour visits on Fridays and Saturdays at 11:30 am with a minimum group of 10. 4-

hour private group tours that include a tour, tasting, and lunch, are also available upon request. Email enoturismo@martue.com, or call (+34) 925 123 333 for more information or to arrange a visit.

Their 56 hectare Bodegas Blanco Nieva estate, founded in 1989, is located in Nieva, about a 35 minutes drive northwest of Segovia on the CL-60.5

Manzaneque

Located about a 30-minute drive south of Toledo on the CM-42, the village's 14th-century castle has been completely restored and now serves as the town hall. For lunch you can try El Rincón Del Cojo at Calle Calvo Sotelo, 20. Nearby you'll find Castillo de Peñas Negras, just to the east of the village of Mora. Dating from the 10th-century, it is one of the most architecturally significant castles in Castilla-La Mancha. Also nearby is the 14th-century Castillo de Orgaz in the village of Orgaz.

Bodegas NOC

The winery, in the small village of Manzaneque, about 29 km southeast of Toledo, dates from 1918, produced the first Brut from Los Montes de Toledo, and the first in the world made with Tempranillo grapes using the traditional method. The standard visit, with a minimum of 4 people, includes a tasting of three wines, is 49.90€/person. The 2-hour visit, with a tasting of four wines, is 81€. The premium 6-hour visit includes a 4x4 tour of the estate, lunch in their elegant hunting lodge featuring traditional dishes, wine pairings, beverages, and dessert, is available in Spanish, English, Italian, and Portuguese for 185€/person. You can reserve your visit by emailing marketing@bodegasnoc.com, or by calling (+34) 925 344 727.

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