

Madrid Packing and Wardrobe Checklist

A stylist's list for women moving to Madrid from the US. Barcelona notes where the cities differ.

Before you pack

- ☐ Write down your US sizes for tops, trousers, dresses, shoes and bras
- ☐ Measure bust, waist, hips and inside leg in centimetres
- ☐ List the brands and cuts that fit you well
- ☐ Take everything out of your closet and sort it into four piles: ship, sell, give away, replace in Spain
- ☐ For each piece ask: would I buy this again today, at full price? If not, it doesn't come
- ☐ Check the size of your new closet if you can. Madrid flats are small and wardrobes are smaller

What to pack

Numbers are a starting point, not a rule. Adjust them to your life.

Coats and jackets

- ☐ 1 warm wool or wool-blend coat (Barcelona: a mid-weight jacket is enough)
- ☐ 1 trench or light jacket for October to May
- ☐ 1 or 2 blazers
- ☐ 1 leather or denim jacket

Tops and knits

- ☐ 3 to 4 thin knits for layering (merino, fine cotton)
- ☐ 3 to 4 shirts in cotton or linen
- ☐ 4 to 5 good T-shirts and tops in neutral colours
- ☐ 1 or 2 warmer jumpers for Madrid winter

Trousers, skirts and dresses

- ☐ 2 pairs of jeans that fit you perfectly, one dark
- ☐ 2 pairs of tailored trousers
- ☐ 1 or 2 pairs of wide linen or cotton trousers for summer

- ☐ 2 to 3 summer dresses in linen, cotton or viscose
- ☐ 1 skirt

Shoes

- ☐ 1 pair of loafers or ballet flats
- ☐ 1 pair of ankle boots
- ☐ 1 pair of clean leather sneakers
- ☐ 1 pair of sandals with a proper sole
- ☐ 1 pair of block heels for evenings

For evenings

- ☐ 2 to 3 dinner outfits: a nice top with good trousers, or a simple dress
- ☐ 1 good bag
- ☐ A few pieces of jewellery you wear every day

Basics and home

- ☐ Bras and underwear in your exact size
- ☐ Warm socks, slippers and a cardigan for cold flats in winter
- ☐ 2 sets of sportswear, for sport only
- ☐ Sunglasses and a scarf

What to leave behind

- ☐ Leggings, hoodies and gym sneakers as everyday clothes
- ☐ The heavy puffer and snow boots, unless you plan to ski
- ☐ Flip-flops for the city. They are for the beach and the pool here
- ☐ Thin stilettos. Cobblestones win
- ☐ Polyester and synthetic summer clothes
- ☐ Thick cotton hoodies and heavy pieces. Most flats have no dryer
- ☐ Duplicates. Keep the best one of each
- ☐ Anything you haven't worn in a year
- ☐ Hair dryers, straighteners and curling irons. Spain runs on 230V, the US on 120V. Buy new ones here

Buy when you arrive

Leave space in your suitcase. These are easy to find in Madrid and often cheaper:

- ☐ Summer basics in linen and cotton
- ☐ A light scarf for windy days and air-conditioned offices
- ☐ Plug adapters for anything you keep from the US
- ☐ Hair tools that work on 230V
- ☐ A drying rack for your flat

Want help with your own wardrobe?

I do a one-hour Pre-Move Wardrobe Edit by video call while you're still in the US. We go through your clothes together and decide what to ship, sell, keep and buy here. €100 (about \$115).

Book by WhatsApp or email: +34 685075321, info@thespoiledqueen.com

Already in Madrid? Ask me about the Madrid Fashion Tour.

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