

Chinchón

Community of Madrid · Spain

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Chinchón is a small historic town about 45 km southeast of Madrid. It is best known for its Plaza Mayor, an irregular, almost circular medieval square surrounded by three-storey houses with wooden balconies.

It also has a hilltop ruined castle, a Baroque church with a painting attributed to Goya, and a strong tradition of anise liqueur and garlic. It is a popular day trip from Madrid, ideal for lunch.

When to visit

Spring and autumn are the most pleasant. Summer is hot and dry, and winter is cold. The town is busiest at weekends and holidays.

At Easter the town stages the *Pasión de Chinchón*, a passion play with local actors. In summer and early autumn the Plaza Mayor is used for events, and in the past for bullfights.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	10° / 15° Feels like 6°	0° / -4°	Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	12° / 18° Feels like 8°	1° / -5°	Dry air
March	Fair Fair for sightseeing	15° / 22° Feels like 11°	3° / -3°	Dry air
April	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 26° Feels like 15°	5° / 0°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 31° Feels like 20°	9° / 4°	Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	30° / 37°	14° / 8°	☀ 21 sunny days · Dry air · UV 8 (Very high)
July	Fair Fair for sightseeing	34° / 38°	17° / 13°	☀ 28 sunny days · Dry air · UV 9 (Very high) · Up to 11 days above 35°
August	Fair Fair for sightseeing	33° / 38°	17° / 13°	☀ 26 sunny days · Dry air · Up to 10 days above 35°
September	Great Great for sightseeing	27° / 33°	14° / 8°	Dry air
October	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 28°	9° / 4°	Dry air
November	Fair Fair for sightseeing	14° / 20° Feels like 10°	4° / -2°	Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	11° / 16° Feels like 7°	1° / -4°	Dry air

Best months: May, June, September, October

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- The Plaza Mayor is the main square, with its wooden balconies, bars and restaurants, and a Baroque layout from the 15th and 16th centuries.
- The Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de la Asunción is the parish church, which has an altarpiece painting by Francisco de Goya, whose brother was a priest here.
- The Torre del Reloj is the clock tower on the square, next to the church.
- The Casa de la Cadena is a historic mansion.
- The Castillo de los Condes is a ruined castle on a hill south of the square, with views.
- The Teatro Lope de Vega is a historic theatre.
- The Convento de las Clarisas is a convent in the old town, where nuns make sweets.

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What to experience

- Have lunch on a balcony of the Plaza Mayor, with roast lamb or suckling pig.
- Taste *anís de Chinchón*, the local liqueur, at a distillery.
- Climb to the castle ruins.
- Visit at Easter for the Passion play.

Day trips

- Ⓐ Madrid (about 45 km): the capital.
- Ⓑ Aranjuez (about 40 km): a royal town with a palace and gardens.
- Ⓒ Alcalá de Henares (about 55 km): a UNESCO university city.
- Ⓓ El Escorial (about 90 km): a monastery and royal palace.



Where to explore

Other places nearby:

- **Madrid area**: Madrid, Aranjuez, Alcalá de Henares and El Escorial.

Getting there

- **By bus**: Buses run from Madrid's Plaza Elíptica station in about an hour. Check the timetable, as services are less frequent on Sundays.
- **By car**: The A-3 motorway and the M-404 reach Chinchón in about 45 minutes from Madrid.
- **By air**: Madrid-Barajas airport is about 60 km away.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The town is small and the sights are all within a short walk. The streets are steep and cobbled.
- **Taxi**: Few taxis are available, so plan your return trip in advance.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The town is small, but the streets are steep and cobbled.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Steep streets and traffic on the access roads make cycling harder.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: It is the easiest way to arrive from Madrid, but the bus also works.
- **Parking**: Park on the edge of town. The center is pedestrian only in parts.
- **Roads**: Good roads, with heavy traffic at weekends.

Food & drink

Chinchón is known for roasts: *cordero asado* (roast lamb) and *cochinillo* (suckling pig), cooked in wood ovens. Local garlic (*ajo de Chinchón*) is used in many dishes, such as garlic soup. The town is also known for anise liqueur (*anís de Chinchón*), distilled locally, and for sweet anise rolls.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Churros · Churros con Chocolate
Fried dough sticks served with a thick, dark hot chocolate for dipping — a classic Spanish breakfast or late-night snack.

LUNCH

Paella Valenciana
A saffron-scented rice dish cooked in a wide, shallow pan. The traditional Valencian version uses chicken, rabbit, and green beans — best eaten at midday.

Gazpacho
A cold, blended soup of raw tomatoes, cucumber, pepper, garlic, olive oil, and vinegar, originally from Andalusia. Served as a drink or a starter, especially in summer.

DINNER

Pulpo a la Gallega
Boiled octopus sliced onto a wooden board and dressed with olive oil, coarse salt, and smoked paprika — a signature dish of Galicia.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Jamón Ibérico
Dry-cured ham from acorn-fed Iberian pigs, sliced paper-thin and eaten on its own or with bread. The finest grade, jamón ibérico de bellota, is one of Spain's most prized products.

Tortilla Española
A thick potato and egg omelette, served warm or at room temperature, found in virtually every bar in Spain. Often eaten as a tapa or a quick meal.

Patatas Bravas
Fried potato chunks served with a spicy tomato sauce or aioli — one of the most common tapas across the country.

Pintxos
Small snacks anchored to slices of bread with a toothpick, the Basque Country's answer to tapas. Found in bar counters across San Sebastián and Bilbao, often with elaborate toppings.

Croquetas
Crispy breaded cylinders with a creamy béchamel filling, typically made with jamón, bacalà (salt cod), or mushrooms.

DRINKS

Rioja Wine · Vino de Rioja

Spain's best-known wine region produces full-bodied reds from Tempranillo grapes, aged in oak. The crianza, reserva, and gran reserva labels indicate increasing age and complexity.

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Safety & health

Chinchón is a safe town. The cobbled streets are uneven and steep, so wear good shoes. In summer the heat is strong, so bring water and sun protection.

History

The town developed in the Middle Ages, and the Plaza Mayor was laid out in the 15th and 16th centuries. The castle was built in the 15th century by the Count of Chinchón, and was damaged in the Peninsular War in the early 19th century.

The town has been declared a Historic-Artistic Site, and the Plaza Mayor remains its public center for fiestas and festivals.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Spain at a glance:

CURRENCY

EUR €

EMERGENCY

112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES

Spanish

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

DATA SOURCES

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