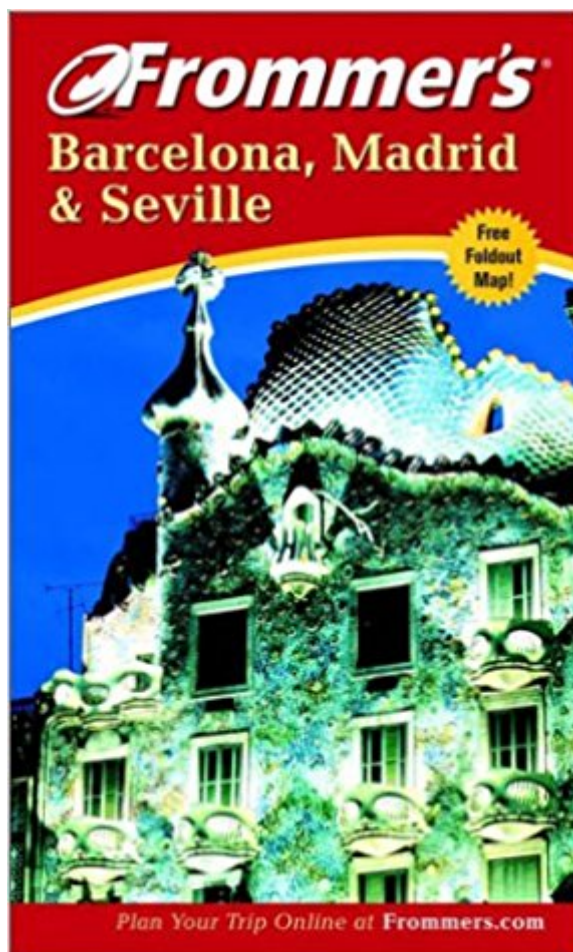


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# Frommer's Barcelona, Madrid And Seville (Frommer's Complete Guides)



## Synopsis

You'll never fall into the tourist traps when you travel with Frommer's. It's like having a friend show you around, taking you to the places locals like best. Our expert authors have already gone everywhere you might go -- they've done the legwork for you, and they're not afraid to tell it like it is, saving you time and money. No other series offers candid reviews of so many hotels and restaurants in all price ranges. Every Frommer's Travel Guide is up-to-date, with exact prices for everything, dozens of color maps, and exciting coverage of sports, shopping, and nightlife. You'd be lost without us! This brand-new edition of Frommer's Barcelona, Madrid & Seville is the definitive guide to the three premier cities of Spain. From sophisticated Barcelona, with the wild modernist architecture of Gaudí, the astounding Picasso Museum, and the colorful street life of La Rambla, we journey to the nation's capital for a taste of Madrid's tapas bars, incredible nightlife, and of course the artistic treasures of the Prado. And last but not least, we cover Seville, perhaps the most romantic and evocative destination in Spain. It's all done with the trademark Frommer's attention to style, accuracy, and detail.

## Book Information

Series: Frommer's Complete Guides (Book 193)

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: \*Frommers; 4 edition (January 17, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0764567136

ISBN-13: 978-0764567131

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 2.8 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,734,123 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #62 in Books > Travel > Europe > Spain > Seville #176 in Books > Travel > Europe > Spain > Madrid #304 in Books > Travel > Europe > Spain > Barcelona

## Customer Reviews

Experience a place the way the locals do. Enjoy the best it has to offer. And avoid tourist traps. At Frommer's, we use 150 outspoken travel experts around the world to help you make the right choices. Frommer's. Your guide to a world of travel experience. Choose the Only Guide That Gives You: Outspoken opinions on what's worth your time and what's not. Exact prices, so

you can plan the perfect trip no matter what your budget. Off-the-beaten-path experiences and undiscovered gems, plus new takes on top attractions. The best hotels and restaurants in every price range, with candid reviews.

Veteran travel writers Darwin Porter and Danforth Prince have written numerous bestselling Frommer's guides, notably to France, Italy, England, Germany, and Spain. Porter, who was bureau chief for the Miami Herald when he was 21, wrote the first-ever Frommer's guide to Spain while still a student. Prince, who began writing with Porter in 1982, worked for the Paris bureau of the New York Times.

Not wanting to lug around a tome covering all of Spain, and not wanting to purchase separate city guides for each of the places I intended to visit, I found this book to be a great compromise (since it covered three of the places I intended to visit). The book gives detailed critical reviews of hotels and restaurants, and points you to the most important sites in each area (with one walking tour of each and detailed information about various sites). This is a great book if you're planning to spend 1-3 days in one or more of these areas. It even gives travel information for places to visit surrounding each area (for example, offering a guide to Toledo, near Madrid). Overall, I was very pleased, especially considering the reasonable price. One warning, however, is that some of the maps (and the placement of items on those maps) are inaccurate.

Frommer's is an excellent guidebook (though I personally like Lonely Planet and DK, Frommer's is a solid 3). Some of the reviews I read have been negative, and it seems to be somewhat misplaced towards the guidebook. I can understand that not finding a laundry is frustrating. But if that is your only gripe with it, why not leave it at that? It seems to me that any problems you may have with rude hosts is more of a personality clash than anything a guidebook could help with. Honestly, although not perfect, we found this book a more than adequate starting point for our Spanish adventure. My advice: Rate the book on its own merits, and your vacation on your planning. The two should stay separate. All in all, I believe that this book, along with DK's line of books, are a good pick for info on a trip to these beautiful cities.

While traveling through Europe, my husband and I decided to visit Barcelona. Since it was the only country we had not researched before we left, we decided we better pick up Frommer's guide. To our dismay, most of the information in it was inaccurate or misinforming. For example, the street the

laundry was listed on was misspelled. When we finally found it (in the pouring rain) it was a laundry service, not self-serve. So there was 2 hours of "dead time" not to mention paying 3 times as much money for getting our clothes cleaned. The silver lining I guess was that the laundry lady was one of the 3 nice Spanish people we met during our 6 day visit. I wish that Frommer's would have given us some forewarning on Spanish culture and rudeness. Even the service people in our 4 star hotel were grumpy. Everyone seems to need either a fiesta or a siesta. On our final night in Barcelona, we counted our change and had just enough money to catch the metro and attend a Spanish dance. Upon our arrival (late because the directions were fuzzy) we found that both the time and the amount listed were incorrect. We then found out that the metro closes down earlier than the book states, so we got to spend our last pasettas on a cab ride back to our hotel. When I got back I was so aggravated that I could have started a bonfire with it. There were several other omissions and inaccuracies that we ran across but all in all my final straw was when I contacted Frommers online for a refund and read that they do not offer refunds--I needed to contact the point of purchase. No wonder it was the only English guide book left in Germany--nobody wanted it!! I learned a lot of things from our European excursion. One of the best I can tell you is use Lonely Planet guides! And visit the information station at the airport--they may not be friendly but at least their brochures are helpful!

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