

NEXT DESTINATION: MADRID

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The students of 1st of Batxillerat went to Madrid on our first school trip together. We left Vilafranca at 6 o' clock in the morning and we spent all the morning in the bus until 15 p.m., when we arrived in the big capital. It was long and tiring but also a good way of being in group. That afternoon, first of all, we left our luggage at the Youth Hostel called *Cantábrico* and we were distributed by rooms. It was a simple place but at the same time it was very comfortable and we spent really good nights there. Afterwards, we went to visit the literary_centre, full of historical and typical places, with the help of a nice guide. Every night we went to have dinner to "Fresco", a restaurant near our hostel where we could have good meals. When we finished, we could go out at night around "la Plaza del Sol".



The second day, we went to visit the *Thyssen Museum* and "el *Palacio Real*", a really nice and amazing place full of luxury. In the afternoon, we visited "la *Puerta de Alcalá*" as well as "Cibeles", and we did a game invented by our teachers. We were divided into groups of five in order to look for the most well-known places in Madrid. We could see how people live there, their philosophy, the day by day of the city and, to answer some questions, we had to ask people from there. The centre had lots of shops, it was always crowded and full of tourists, and we could eat a squids sandwich, a typical lunch there. The winner was who managed to answer ten questions, take the necessary

pictures and arrive first at "*Puerta del Sol*". At night, we went together to visit Madrid with different eyes than during the day. We walked across squares, streets, well-known buildings, monuments... At the end of the day, we returned to the hostel but not to sleep, we played cards games, we had fun and we slept a few hours.



The last day was the most artistic one. To start the day, the winners of the game which had been played the day before were invited to have breakfast with the teachers in a bar near the Hostel. Despite the fact that we were all very tired and asleep, we were always willing to do everything planned. We visited the "*Reina Sofía*" with a very funny guide and then, in the afternoon, after having lunch by our own, most of us ate at the *Atocha* train station and then, we visited the "*Prado*" museum. In these fantastic museums, we could see some of the most important paintings that exist in the world, like "*Guernica*" by Picasso or "*Las Meninas*" by Velazquez. After these visits, we had free time, so we could go to the huge and popular "*Retiro*" park where we had a relaxing time either sunbathing on the grass or having a walk.

The days went by and it was time to leave. We went to have our last dinner together and at 10 o'clock we met in the hotel to take our

luggage and face the return trip. The farewell was great. All of us were really excited and we started jumping, singing, joking, leaving behind all the tiredness to leave Madrid as it deserved.

This trip, for lots of us, has been a really good experience that we'll never forget. It was short but intense, three days that will always be in our mind

