



v i l l a n u e v a
D E L A C A Ñ A D A

at
a glance



Ayuntamiento de
Villanueva de la Cañada

“Welcome

to Villanueva de la Cañada,
a place in the heart of Spain”



This publication was written in order to give people from outside Villanueva de la Cañada the opportunity to learn about our town and as a guide for those who have decided to come to our municipality to begin and continue their studies or, simply, for tourist reasons.

These pages show some of the secrets and wonders of Villanueva de la Cañada but are, without doubt, an invitation to all those inquiring people who look for a place dedicated to the art of knowledge, the environment, culture, sports and leisure.

It is a pleasure for me, on behalf of all residents, to invite you to visit our municipality, which I am very sure will pleasantly impress you and you will always remember. We welcome your visit.

Luis Partida

Mayor of
Villanueva de la Cañada



Villanueva de la Cañada

Villanueva de la Cañada is one of the 179 municipalities of the Comunidad de Madrid. It lies to the northwest of Madrid, it covers an area of 34.30 square kilometres and it is situated 30 kilometres from the capital of Madrid.

The landscape is formed by a vast plain, watered by two rivers, the Guadarrama and the Aulencia, and many streams.

As well as the urban area of Villanueva de la Cañada, there are several centres of population or urbanizations: Guadamonte, La Raya del Palancar, Mocha Chica and Villafranca del Castillo.





Town Planning

Villanueva de la Cañada has one of the lowest housing densities per hectare throughout the Comunidad de Madrid (13.7 houses per hectare). Its horizontal urban development has two clear targets: to offer inhabitants quality of life and to protect the environment. The municipality has an area of 500,000 square metres of green spaces, from which 315,000 sq are urban parks— with playgrounds for children, and entertainment areas for young and elderly people— and 190,000 sq form the pine forest park “El Pinar”.

Economy

The municipality has one the highest per capita incomes in the Comunidad de Madrid. At the beginning of the 20th century, the town lived on agriculture, but today, the service industry boosts the economy.

There are currently more than a thousand businesses settled in Villanueva de la Cañada, compared to four hundred which existed in the early nineties.





Population

Population



Villanueva de la Cañada currently has a population of more than 16,400 inhabitants. 51% of the population is under 35 years old, 42% is between 35 and 64, and 7% is over 65. The establishment of two private universities — Alfonso X “El Sabio”, in 1994, and Camilo José Cela, six years after— turns the municipality into a “university campus” with 13,000 students. 50% of these students, who come from other regions of Spain, live in Villanueva de la Cañada during the school year and their presence has fostered an unprecedented cultural exchange.





Social services

social services

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The “El Molino” Civic and Social Centre is a modern and functional building in which the City Council Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs is located. Furthermore, this building also houses the headquarters of the Mancomunidad de Servicios Sociales “La Encina” (social services community), which covers Villanueva de la Cañada and three other towns: Brunete, Villanueva del Pardillo and Quijorna.



Tourism

Tourism



One of the main tourist attractions in Villanueva de la Cañada are the municipal buildings built in the last twenty-five years, such as the “La Despernada” Cultural Centre, which was designed by the acclaimed architect Juan Navarro Baldeweg. The “F. Lázaro Carreter” Municipal Library and the Municipal Indoor Swimming Pool are also remarkable buildings, designed by the architecture studio Churtichaga y de la Quadra-Salcedo. These two buildings attract the attention of many Architecture students worldwide.



Other buildings worthy of mentioning can be found in the old centre of the town, including the white houses on the calle Real (Royal Street) and the plaza de España (Spain Square), where the Town Hall and the “Santiago Apóstol” Church are located. This area was part of the town reconstruction project which took place after the Spanish Civil War.

The first aquatic park in Madrid was built in Villanueva de la Cañada, being one of Europe’s largest outdoor water leisure facilities. More than 300,000 people visit this park known as “Aquopolis” every summer, and many of them also enjoy our town festival in July.



Environment

environment



The Town Council transformed an old minor road, which goes through the Guadarrama river regional park (1,132 hectares), into a nature path that residents can enjoy either walking, horse riding or cycling. Throughout the two kilometre route, one can catch a glimpse of the Aulencia castle, a medieval historical enclave which — according to some historians— was once residence of a Moorish king.



Education, culture and sports

education, culture and

Inhabitants avail of a very important educational offer. As for education, there are public and private centres which start at nursery school and go on to university. Something remarkable is the opening of the Lycée Molière more than a decade ago. It is a bilingual and bicultural school with more than seven hundred pupils who obtain both an academic qualification from the Spanish Department of Education and Culture and from the French Department of Education when they finish secondary school.

As far as education and culture are concerned, the “F. Lázaro Carreter” Municipal Library, inaugurated in 2002, is remarkable. During its first year, more than 50,000 people visited the installations. Users currently dispose of more than 17,000 volumes in bibliographic and audiovisual presentation. Furthermore, numerous activities to encourage reading, mainly for children, are programmed in the library.

The “La Despernada” Cultural Centre provides the majority of the cultural activities which are programmed every year. It is used for a broad range of activities, including drama, concerts and art exhibitions. There is also a programme of activities offered by the Municipal Schools of Music and Dance, Art and English, where students prepare for the Cambridge University Examinations.



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d sports



Another commitment of the Town Council is sport. There are several sport centres, but the “Santiago Apóstol” Sports Complex, with modern facilities, such as its indoor swimming pools, its diving pool -one the only two in the Comunidad de Madrid-, its four gymnasiums and its Football ground is remarkable.

The Town Council promotes sports through the Municipal Sports School: Basketball, Football, Judo, Fencing, Golf, Tae kwon do, Tennis, etc. Among the inhabitants there are numerous sportspeople who take part in international competitions and have won Olympic medals.

In total, more than 3,500 people participate in the sports and cultural activities promoted by the town council.



Villanueva «in Space»



Villanueva de la Cañada houses the European Space and Astronomy Centre (ESAC) from the European Space Agency (ESA). In the last 25 years, these installations have housed ESA's most important Satellite Tracking Station, where a long list of space missions have been carried out in the last decades.

ESAC is a reference centre for astronomers from all parts of the world, because it houses the archives of all planetary missions of the European Space Agency.



M600 to / à
EL ESCORIAL, MADRID



edited by / edité par

Villanueva de la Cañada Town Council
la Mairie de Villanueva de la Cañada

designed by / maquette-mise en page
ars public

to / à
BRUNETE, MADRID

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ACCESS/APPROACH ROADS

Roads:

M-503
(Vva de la Cañada – Madrid)

M- 521
(Vva de la Cañada –Quijorna)

M-513
(Brunete – M50)

M-600
(San Lorenzo de El Escorial)

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Buses:

to Madrid (Moncloa Station)
Bus route 623
Bus route 627

to Madrid (Principe Pio Station)
Bus route 581

to San Lorenzo de El Escorial
Bus route C669A
Bus route C669

DISTANCE:

Between Villanueva de la Cañada and:

Madrid – Barajas Airport:
45 Kilometres

Madrid- City Centre: 30 Kilometres

San Lorenzo de El Escorial:
23 Kilometres

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ACCÈS

Par la route:

M-503
(Vva de la Cañada – Madrid)

M- 521
(Vva de la Cañada –Quijorna)

M-513
(Brunete – M50)

M-600
(San Lorenzo de El Escorial)

TRANSPORTS EN COMMUN

Autobus:

à Madrid (Estación Moncloa)
Línea 623
Línea 627

à Madrid (Estación Principe Pio)
Línea 581

à San Lorenzo de El Escorial
Línea C669A
Línea C669

DISTANCE:

De Villanueva de la Cañada à:

Aéroport Madrid-Barajas:
45 kilomètre

Madrid (capital):
30 kilomètre

San Lorenzo de El Escorial:
23 kilomètre

- 1 Town Hall
Mairie
- 2 "Santiago Apóstol" Church
Eglise «Santiago Apóstol»
- 3 "F. Lázaro Carreter"
Municipal Library
Bibliothèque
"F. Lázaro Carreter"
- 4 "La Despernada"
Cultural Centre
Centre Culturel «La
Despernada»
- 5 "El Molino"
Civic Center
Centre Civique «El
Molino»
- 6 Health Centre
Médecine ambulatoire et
urgences
- 7 "Alfonso X El Sabio"
University
Université Alfonso X «El
Sabio»
- 8 "Camilo José Cela"
University
Université Camilo José
Cela
- 9 Sport Centre
"Santiago Apóstol"
Municipale
"Santiago Apóstol"
- 10 Aquopolis
- 11 Golf Club «La Dehesa»
Club de Golf «La Dehesa»
- 12 European Space Agency
Agence Spatiale
Européenne (ESA)
- 13 "Aulencia" Castle
Château de l'Aulencia

Villanueva de la Cañada **es futuro**