

# Ana La Santa... Baby it's cold outside

Being an expat in Madrid seems to equate to a couple of things; you're highly likely to favour drinking a caña over a coffee (it honestly works out cheaper), most of your wardrobe will consist of Zara purchases (although that *may* just be me) and I'm pretty sure that come Autumn time, you start to long for Sunday afternoons curled up in a pub with a fire and a glass of red for company. Whilst Madrid can offer a visitor many things (often wall to wall sunshine), it doesn't really pack a punch on the pub front...

**However, Ana La Santa has been become my default option for when I'm craving cosiness, and there's good reason why.**



Situated in what is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful

plazas in all of Madrid, Ana La Santa, the bar and restaurant that occupies the **ground floor of the hard to miss Hotel ME**, is without doubt the chicest (and next best thing) that's akin to a Gastropub that you might find back in Blighty. Picture a roaring fire, squidgy sofas, easy on the eye staff and the kind of simple style that is more often found in Scandi-land and you'd be on the right page.



# This season's buzz word for urbanites is hygge.

Pronounced *hoo-ga*, this Danish word defies literal translation. **In essence it means enjoying life's small but soothing moments** – perhaps nibbling some *croquetas de jamón* with one hand, whilst sipping a perfectly mixed [Gin and Tonic](#) in the other...

It's about investing in emotional well-being through the simple and homespun. That's exactly what I managed to achieve there on a biting cold Tuesday evening. I left feeling with a slightly larger waistline and feeling that **our host (the wonderful Alba) was a new friend – the service was THAT good.**

When Spain's not sunny (and trust me it happens) I urge you to bunker down amid soft cushions, flickering candles and bask in the warmth of Ana La Santa. All that's left on your part is to find yourself a Spaniard to snuggle with.

*All photos from Ana la Santa*

## Ana la Santa

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