

# La Paca, the perfect Malasaña café and bar with art exhibits, movie nights and Chema...

As you walk through [La Paca](#)'s door, you feel like you're in the right place. This **funky café in Malasaña** is always a good choice when you're in the mood for a coffee, a beer, or something stronger.



La Paca's facade on calle Valverde in Malasaña (image from [Facebook](#))

**La Paca** is divided into two areas: the ground bears a worn-out floor from a different time period, when the place used to be a family's house. **Vintage furniture** from every single corner

of Spain fills the room: old sofas, lamps, Galician mirrors, and bird-cages. **La Paca**'s owner is an antique collector who travels across Spain in pursuit of treasure troves. You can find his finest pieces either sold at his **vintage store [La Republicana](#)**, or displayed at La Paca.



funky furniture at La Paca

One step up and you'll find **Chema**, the star bartender and the man who runs the show. As I say in Spanish, he's "***un terremoto de felicidad***" (an earthquake of happiness). Working alongside Chema is his sister, **Vero**, who's also the perfect host. Feel free to ask them both about the place and their drinks.

**La Paca's menu** has different types of tea and coffee served with cakes (carrot, cheese or *couland* which is an oozy chocolate muffin-type cake), and *bizcocho* (pound or sponge cake). If you're looking for a drink, they also have a wide

collection of **craft beers** (made from Madrid breweries) on tap, **wines** and **cocktails**.

In this quintessential **Malasaña café**, you've also got to try their **tortilla de patatas** (homemade Spanish omelet), it is my favourite!



my favorite tapa at La Paca

Another feature that makes **La Paca** so special is its **events**. On Wednesdays at 9pm, they have **free movie night downstairs**. They prepare the room in a way that reminds me of a **movie night** at a friend's house; sofas and people scattered about with no order whatsoever (plus the popcorn is also free!). I went last Wednesday and saw **Kill Bill I**, and the week before they had shown **Taxi Driver** (in Spanish with no subtitles).



free movie nights on Wednesdays at La Paca in Malasaña (image from [Facebook](#))

On Thursdays, **La Paca** holds **acoustic music performances**, making room for **up and coming Spanish artists**. Although Wednesday movie nights and Thursday concerts are held regularly, La Paca showcases several other events such as theater performances, **independent markets**, English classes, clown shows, and **art exhibitions**. In fact, when it comes to **art exhibits**, they're booked until 2016!



Theater performance at La Paca (image from [Facebook](#))

What I like most about **La Paca's** events is the way they're set up. Last time I was there, I ended up sharing a few beers with **Chema** and **Vero**, and I asked them how they make money from their events. Their answer was as simple as it was nice: **they just want to help people from the neighborhood**. If you have a **creative project** and you need a place to start, you shouldn't think twice about getting in touch with them.

Shhh..... today is Wednesday night and **the movie** is about to start!

## La Paca

[Facebook](#)

**Address:** c/ Valverde 36

**Metro:** Gran Vía or Tribunal