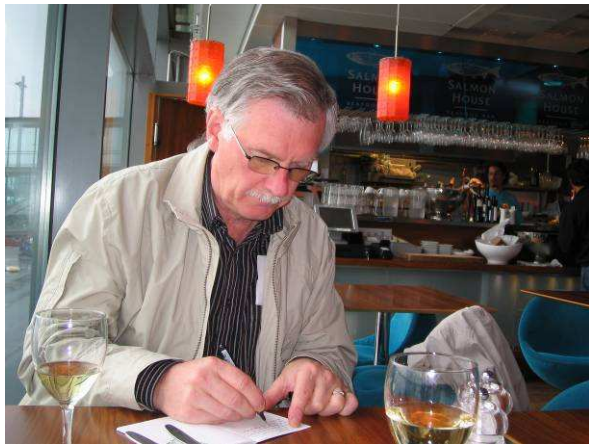


## TRIP TO MADRID THE 2<sup>ND</sup> OF MAY TO THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008

We left Gran 11.00 o'clock to have plenty of time. We parked the car as usual at Dalen Parking. We had checked in at 12.00o'clock.



While waiting we had a beer at Aquavit Bar.



Then we shared a shrimp sandwich at Seafood bar. They had good white wine there, W.Gisselbrecht.

Kjell also wrote in the travel diary while we were sitting there.



This is what we had at the plain



We came to Madrid nearly at time. The airport there is called Barajas. When were going down the stairs to get our luggage Kjell stumbled in the last step and fell and caught Anne Berit in the same fall. She got her ankle twisted and Kjell thumped his head on the floor and broke the frame on his spectacles, so he had to go rest of the evening without glasses.

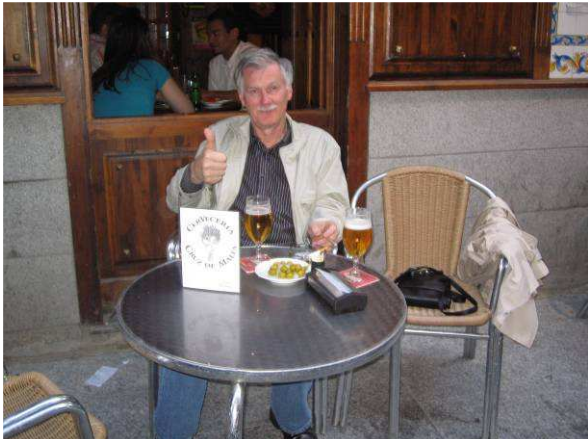
When we were installed at the hotel, we needed something to eat. When we came out it showed that there were a restaurant street just outside the entrance of the hotel. Wesat down on a restaurant where there was a free table.



Here we see in the direction of our hotel



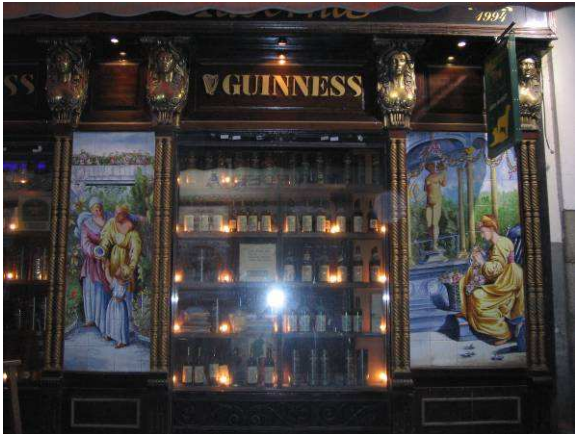
Here we see in the opposite direction



Here Kjell has a beer. He looks a bit funny without the glasses.



Afterwards we had various tapas.  
Ham – Paella – Bread with Rochefort  
Meat in tomato sauce



This is right across the street, an irish pub





Kjell bought a rose from a street seller



Anne Berit is smelling the rose



Here we are sitting satisfied, tired and content



We were also paid a visit by a street musician

The next day we were up about eight o'clock. We had breakfast at the hotel. It was coffee with milk, bread with butter and strawberry jam + a little lemon cake.

Afterwards we found an optician who could repair Kjell's spectacles. Meanwhile we sat at a restaurant across the street, waiting. It took an hour and the cost was only 3 €.



Here it is a smoke and a morning beer



We are looking right across to the optician



When this was finish we went on to the Retiro Park. We went past Plaza de las Cortes and Plaza Canovas del Castillo.



Here are a couple of guys who smear themselves in with a substance that make them look like statues.



On the Plaza de las Cortes there is a nice fountain.

We went past the Prado museum. Here there was long ques.



Outside the museum stands a statue of Goya.



Right above the Prado museum there is a nice church, S. Jeronimo el Real.





From the Prado museum there are only a few hundred meters over to one of the entrances to the Retiro park



Inside the entrance there are long avenues



There are a lot of plants and flowers



More flowers



Here we are in the park







There are also conifers, which are cut in a special way.



Here we were sitting a while at a restaurant just besides an artificial lake.



Here is a picture of the lake that is named Estanque.



There were a lot of activities in the park.

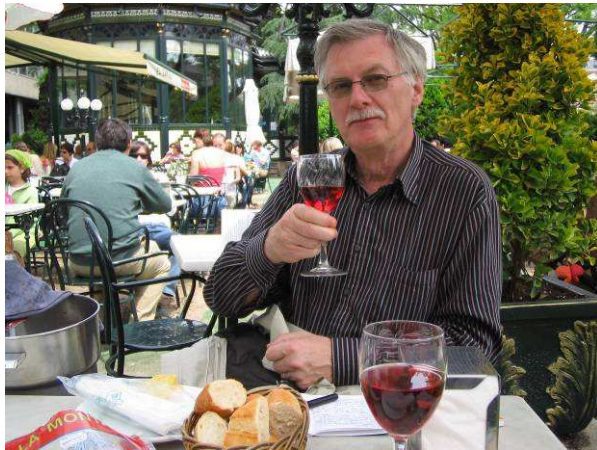
Among others, there were a band playing south American music, a puppet show and a conjuring show.

The puppet show had just finished when we came, so we got no pictures of puppets in action.





Then we went out of the park, past Plaza de la Independencia and Plaza de Cibeles. We went a bit up Paseo de Recoletos.



Here we had lunch at a restaurant named Terraza el Espejo.

Kjell had tuna and Anne Berit had sword fish. We had a glass of rosé wine along. It was very good.

We had a glass of sherry afterwards.

Anne Berit has an enjoyable time.

At this time satisfied and tired and we went back to our hotel to take a siesta.



We went past Palacio de Comunicaciones



We also went past a fountain which we don't know the name of.

It was now late in the afternoon, and during the siesta, we fell asleep and we slept so long that when we woke up it was evening and we were hungry again. One becomes hungry and tired when one goes as far as we do when we are walking around.



We went just outside in the street outside the hotel and sat at one of the outdoor restaurants there. Its name was Lozo Real. At first we had beer and fried sausages (tapas). Then it had to be the wine of the house, Campujuma tinto, and more tapas. It was at first paella and later on more fried sausages and grilled green peppers that were good and strong.



Here Kjell is writing in the diary again



Anne Berit is enjoying herself all the time



Here the waiter in work



We had a visit from this accordionist this evening too

At this time we had been sitting here quite long, so we were satisfied and tired again, so we went to our hotel for getting to bed. We went past an Italian restaurant and found out that we wanted sambucca and espresso, but they were not licensed, so we got no sambucca that evening.

The next day we were up as usual at around eight o'clock and had the usual breakfast before we went out to the corner restaurant and had espresso and a smoke.

Afterwards we went westwards in Madrid.





First we went over Plaza Major



Then we went past Plaza de la Villa with a baroque city hall



When we came down Calle Major we saw at first Catedral de la Almudena



When we rounded the corner we had the first glimpse of the palace, Palacio Real



Here we are outside and look into the palace yard, Plaza de Armeria



Here is a picture through the railing.





We also had to have a picture of the cathedral from another angle.



Now we were thirsty again and we sat down at a restaurant, El Anciano Rey de los Vinos, right outside the palace to have a beer.



This is a postcard showing the palace from the backside.

Here there is a palace garden called Jardines de Sabatini.

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Then we went to the famous Sunday market, El Rastro, not far away. Here were a lot of goods and packed with people.



Here is the painting and frame department



Here are various clothes





Here is an old Singer sewing machine.



At Restaurante Tineo there was a band that played for a long time.

We got bored and went in the direction of Plaza Major. Before we came there we found a restaurant called Restaurante Tineo. Here we had Sangria. It was the first time Anne Berit had tasted it. They had Manchego-cheese (goat's cheese) on the menu, so we tried tapas with that. To finish we had Jamon Iberico (Spanish cured ham) with a glass Vino tinto de la casa.

When we were back in our street we sat down at El café de la Luiza and had espresso and anis liquor before we went to the hotel and had a little siesta.

After the siesta we went out in the street again and sat at de La Cruz de Malta. There we had first Rioja wine and Patatas ali-oli, cold boiled potatoes in a sauce of mayonnaise, sour cream and an enormous amount of garlic.

After a while we went over to the neighbor restaurant, Lozo Real, where we had more Rioja wine, Ceba Zalama, and a tapa with green pepper. After that it was a chicken for Anne Berit and an entrecote for Kjell.



Here Kjell is eating green pepper and Anne Berit enjoy herself as usual.

Before we finished and went to our hotel we had an anis liquor and espresso at the corner restaurant, Ricote.





Here we are at Ricote



Afterwards we went around the block. The buildings were nice lit , like this one.

The next day were up at 8 o'clock and had breakfast.



Here Kjell is in the breakfast room



This guy managed the service



View from the breakfast room in the direction of the reception



From the reception.

After breakfast we went out to Ricote and had a smoke and a coffee. Then we packed our suitcases. We were allowed to leave them in the reception until we was going to the airport.

When we had done that we went for a round in the city before the plain was to depart in the evening. We first went over to Gran Via.





M A D R I D



M A D R I D

To the left is a picture from Gran Via, and above is a picture from Plaza de la Puerta del Sol. It shows a statue of a bear and a strawberry tree. This is also shown in Madrid's flag.

Then we went back in direction our hotel. To get the time pass by we were sitting for a long time at Cafe de Levante in Calle de la Victoria. There we had some beers, some cured ham, and at the end a shrimp omelet and a Spaghetti Bolognese.

Then we fetched our luggage and hailed a taxi just outside the hotel door. It took 20 minutes to the airport and cost 22€. We were there about 4o'clock. The departure was not until 19.10, but it was delayed and a new stipulated time was 19.44. Kjell put his head on his suitcase and had a little nap. Anne Berit solved some crossword puzzles. When we had checked in we bought some water and ice tea in the restaurant while we waited for the plane to leave.



Kjell is standing here and is tired



Here Kjell have a little nap

We came home at last a little delayed. Madrid was a nice town to go to, so it was a fantastic nice trip.