

# THE RIVER MANZANARES

(Madrid-Spain)



# Introduction:

The ***Manzanares*** is a river in central Spain, right tributary of the Jarama, which, in turn, is a tributary of the Tagus. This river, which runs entirely by the Community of Madrid, born in the Sierra de Guadarrama, in the Condesa Ventisquero the southern slope of the long rope near the ball in the world, and passes through Madrid. Ends at the town of Rivas-Vaciamadrid, after a journey of 92 km.

The river hosts through different ecosystems and environmental value areas that have received different levels of protection.



# Importance history.

Manzanares River, despite its small geographical relevance, has had great historical importance, from his close relationship with Madrid, capital of Spain. In fact, the city emerges as a Moorish fortress in the ninth century, to defend the existing river road along the river, threatened by the advance of the Christian kingdoms during the Reconquista. Much earlier, in prehistory, the river had received intense human activity, not only in the present term of Madrid, but also other parts of its course. There are archaeological sites that show the presence of people in the terraces from the time paleolítica.<sup>8</sup> In the Middle Ages, is organized around its upper reaches the Real de Manzanares, a large and influential dominion under the control of the House of Mendoza, which was disputed by the councils of Madrid and Segovia. In the twentieth century, was an important Manzanares Madrid defensive line during the Civil War.



# Localition map.



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# Manzanares River tributaries.



# Performance and

## Improvements.

In recent years there have intense improvement works by locks to conserve and enhance the flow, without these river level would be very low for the most part. With the Manzanares performances in some sections will be navigable for small boats and sports such as canoeing and rowing. Also there have been several improvements in the natural and urban environment, creating more surface trees, walkways and recreational spaces exist before and now available in the first half of 2011.



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