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# THE PRINCIPAL MADRID

*Dazzling views of Madrid and contemporary design are the order of the day at this city hotspot*

**D**e Madrid al cielo (from Madrid to heaven) is how madrileños describe the skyline of their city, and hotelier Pau Guardans has certainly taken this mantra to heart. His latest venture in the centre of town places all the action, from informal check-in to fine dining, on the sixth and seventh floors, so guests can enjoy panoramic views over the Spanish capital.

Behind the palatial Renaissance-style façade on the famous Gran Vía, the hotel's décor suggests Manhattan loft-meets-French château, with marble floors, stained-glass windows and high ceilings providing a backdrop for earthy tones and contemporary

furniture. The magnificent sixth-floor Ático or penthouse (above left) incorporates a sun room, restaurant and bar, where the mix of 1950s coffee tables, deep leather chesterfields and Indian teak benches is set off by drapes in dusty rose and tangerine. On the floor below, bedrooms decorated in cool greys and mustard yellows feature design classics such as BFK's Butterfly Chair and Manel Ybargüengoitia's 1970s lamps, as well as works by Spanish artist Albert Coma. The icing on the cake is the seventh-floor rooftop, where striking 360-degree views of the city can be enjoyed from the laid-back terrace studded with olive trees.

## NEED TO KNOW

- The hotel's 76 rooms and suites are decorated in muted colours, with bathrooms in black, white, slate and gold. Many rooms offer views of the Gran Vía. Prices start from £145 per night, including breakfast.
- The restaurant menu is created by renowned chef Ramón Freixa, who holds two Michelin stars at sister Hotel Único Madrid.
- On the seventh floor, the deck of La Terraza is home to 20 sunbeds, two outdoor showers and an elegant water feature.
- The Principal Madrid, Marqués de Valdeiglesias 1, Gran Vía 2, 28004, Madrid, Spain. 0034 91 521 87 43, [theprincipalmadridhotel.com](http://theprincipalmadridhotel.com).

**TAKE IT HOME** *Recreate the modern, elegant style of the hotel's Ático*

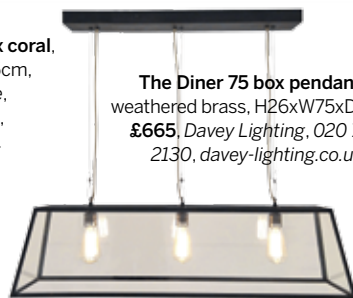


**Compton linen wing chair**, H133xW76xD77cm, £1,765. Oka, 0844 815 7380, [okadirect.com](http://okadirect.com).



**Key Largo faux coral**, H30xW24xD15cm, £49. India Jane, 020 8799 7166, [indiajane.co.uk](http://indiajane.co.uk).

**Mid Lead**, Absolute Matt Emulsion, £37 for 2.5 litres. Little Greene, 0845 880 5855, [littlegreene.com](http://littlegreene.com).



**The Diner 75 box pendant** in weathered brass, H26xW75xD22cm, £665. Davey Lighting, 020 7351 2130, [davey-lighting.co.uk](http://davey-lighting.co.uk).

**Salvage bookcase**, H266xW165xD46cm, £4,900. Barker and Stonehouse, 0333 355 7900, [barkerandstonehouse.co.uk](http://barkerandstonehouse.co.uk).



FEATURE EMMA J PAGE AND LAURA VINDEN