

How We Summer in Spain

It's (not as) hot in Madrid



Rosalie Duryee

Jul 13   

The heat arrives in Madrid in June, and at first we struggle to adjust. Everyone in the family strips their beds down to just sheets, and we shove anything that resembles a blanket into our closets. We begin the dance to keep our east-facing apartment as cool as possible, opening and closing the windows and persianas, sometimes futilely, as the heat settles over us. At first the pool is shockingly cold, but as the days stay hot, it becomes a refreshing opportunity to lower body heat before heading to bed.

So far our summer has been extraordinarily cool, with lots of windy days and brisk mornings. We're not complaining! In fact, we have nothing to complain about and feel very grateful for our life in Spain right now.

praises & prayers

- School ended in June month and we are in the middle of our Polar Expedition English camp and Vacation Bible School July 5-16. Please pray that the students who most need to hear the Gospel in a fun environment will come, and we can build relationships with their families as well.



This year we could not have a team from the US, so our team has consisted of Cindy Brown, Chris and Rose, Cami, Megan (another teacher at ECA), and Gabriela and Andres, two young people who speak English VERY well. It is super fun to get to know them better and serve God alongside them in this way.

- After over a year, Chris and his friend A. have started their bi-weekly *intercambio* (language exchange). They walk and talk, one day in Spanish and another in English. A. had a stressful year due to the coronavirus affecting his family and many of his friends, so please pray that Chris can be a comfort and encouragement to him.
- We are thankful that borders have opened and we will have visitors this summer!
- We're in the process of requesting our second 2-year residency.
- **NEW!** Our coworkers in Coslada have a teen outreach on Sunday nights, which we have started attending. Please pray for us as we get to know the *jovenes* (young people) who attend The Zone ministry. Many of you know that Chris and I have a heart for youth ministry, so we are excited to be able to help in this small way. Summer schedules are hard to navigate, so please pray for wisdom about being consistent for the kids.



some confetti

:: Try this [roasted tomato salsa](#) I made for my Bible study ladies a few weeks ago.

:: When Austin attended kindergarten in a local Spanish school, he cried every morning for a long time. One of the ways I tried to help him was to sing [This is My Father's World](#) as we walked to the school, especially the last verse, which I think I was singing to comfort my Mama heart more than Austin!

This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget

That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet!

This is my Father's world: Why should my heart be sad?

The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let the earth be glad!

:: I really enjoyed this piece by Alex Kocman that thoughtfully answers the question, [Is Every Christian a Missionary?](#)

some shameless self-promotion

:: [How we summer](#) in Spain, with a photo of Chris in the lovely pueblo Buitrago del Lozoya

:: Susanna, now age 10, wrote a blog post about a recent family day we enjoyed - click to read about our [Madrid Tortilla Tour](#).

:: I have a unique [perspective](#) on Independence Day as an American living abroad.

be inspired

“**Biblical hospitality** is the polar opposite of cultural trends to separate and isolate. It rejects the notion that life is best spent fulfilling our own self-centered desires, cordoned off from others in the private fortresses we call homes. **Biblical hospitality** chooses to engage rather than unplug, open rather than close, initiate rather than sit idly.”

Dustin Willis, *The Simplest Way to Change the World*

shop & empower

Trades of Hope has a new [styleboard](#). After the collection that made me become a Trades of Hope partner with the [Indira Earrings I wear ALL.THE.TIME.](#), this is one of my favorite collections to date, and the number of artisans it empowers is just thrilling.

10 new vibrant
designs empowering
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TRADES *of* HOPE

Made by women in [India](#), [Vietnam](#), [Haiti](#), [Peru](#), and [Cambodia](#), this kaleidoscope of vibrant colors will transform your summer style with fun, mood-elevating Color Therapy! The sale of these beautiful pieces enables women to maintain employment during the devastating pandemic and helps vulnerable families provide for their children. In Haiti, which is suffering so much unrest and instability since the [assassination of its president](#), our artisan partner is an “un-orphanage” and is helping with the orphan crisis by providing parents with sustainable business through creating designs that do good. To shop the new Color Therapy collection, visit my [Fair Trade shop](#).