



(5)-2181-The gorgeously decorated Throne Room, Royal Palace, Madrid, Spain.  
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This palace is in the western part of the city, some distance above the Manzanares river. It is a huge, rectangular pile of granite five hundred feet long, with four massive towers and two side wings. This is not a very ancient royal residence, as European palaces go; it was not until 1560, in the time of Philip II., that the court was permanently located at Madrid, and this home of kings is a creation of the Bourbon monarch Charles III., who came from Naples. It cost the country about fifteen million dollars. Napoleon came here in his day when he had made Joseph Bonaparte the ruler of the land. The story goes that he stroked a marble lion on the grand staircase as he came up, saying "At last I hold Spain, so long desired!" and, as he took in the real splendor of this room, he observed to his brother, "Really you will be better housed than I am, myself."

This Throne Room was decorated a little more than two hundred years ago while Charles III was King. Those magnificent lions that so impressively uphold the dignity of the monarch's seat are of gilded bronze. The enormous, glittering chandeliers are of sparkling rock crystal set in gleaming silver. These mirrors on the walls were the most splendid of their kind in the days when the room was made ready for royal receptions and audiences. They have reflected the figures of some of the most distinguished princes and nobles of Europe, and echoed the charms of some of the loveliest women that ever wore jewels or played with eloquent fans.

The paintings on ceiling and walls are by Tiepolo and other famous artists.

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The Gorgeously Decorated Throne Room, Madrid, Spain.

La Chambre du Trône Somptueusement Décorée, Madrid, Espagne.

Der prächtig verzierte Thronsaal, Madrid, Spanien.

Cámara del Trono Lujosamente Decorada, Madrid, España.

Den kostbart dekorerade kröningssalen i Madrid, Spanien.

Пышно украшенная тронная комната в Мадриде, Испания.