

LUXURY

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SEE IT LIKE A LOCAL:
 Les Bains hotel has a late-night brasserie. *Opposite, clockwise from top left:* Learn to bake with Chef Anne de La Forest; enjoy music and cocktails at Le Très Particulier; indulge in petit fours at La Pâtisserie du Meurice par Cédric Grolet.

HIDDEN PARIS

by Irene Rawlings

David Prince. Opposite: Top Right: Florent Linker; Bottom Left: Pmonetta; Bottom Right: Pivan-BC



These days the wait to get into Notre-Dame can be at least two hours. And forget about jostling through the crowds to view the *Mona Lisa* or ascend the Eiffel Tower. The better way to experience the City of Light is by skipping the Louvre in favor of lesser-known 18th-century mansions and artists' studios, creating a personalized scent at a perfumer's workshop, dining with chefs in their homes, discovering secret speakeasies, taking a jewelry-making class at Van Cleef & Arpels, checking out secluded gardens, and checking in to ultra-private accommodations.



PERFECT PIEDS-À-TERRE

Pavillon de Madame is a stunning three-bedroom flat with interiors by French design legend Jacques Grange and located in a 17th-century building overlooking beautiful Place des Vosges. Stay among taffeta curtains, deep velvet sofas, an enormous fireplace, ironed linen sheets, and a large, eat-in kitchen with a Lacanche stove. From simple housekeeping to a private chef, all services can be arranged. Price upon request. pavillondemadame.com

La Réserve Apartments are housed discreetly in a grand Haussmann-style building with no obvious signage and only a subtle bell by the door. Ten apartments range from huge, one-bedroom flats to massive four-bedroom suites. The discreet 24-hour concierge provides everything from breakfast to car service to theater tickets. From \$1,825/night. lareserveparisapartments.com



Clockwise from left: An outdoor space at Le Réserve Apartments; the bar at Le Très Particulier; escargots en coquille at La Poule Au Pot; creative cocktails at Lavomatic, a funky bar up the stairs from a laundromat.



CLUBS AND SPEAKEASIES

In the lush back garden of the ultra-private Hôtel Particulier Montmartre—a former home of the Hermès family—find **Le Très Particulier**, a favorite with in-the-know Parisians, featuring DJs from Wednesday through Sunday. hotel-particulier-montmartre.com

Pass through the Da Vito pizzeria to the metal door of the walk-in fridge in the back and enter **Moonshiner**. Inside score whiskey cocktails, dozens of single malts, and a wide selection of French craft brews, including a must-try house blonde. +33.9.50.73.12.99

Among the 100-plus whiskies at **Sherry Butt** are a Hanyo single malt (now impossible to find) and a 30-year-old Laphroaig. Wildly popular with a young Paris crowd, Friday dance

parties feature electro spun by a DJ. sherrybuttparis.com

The well-concealed cocktail bar **Lavomatic** is up a tiny, dark staircase from a real laundromat. Expect Brillo-branded seating, drinks, and small bites. lavomatic.paris

Legendary jazz club **New Morning** is hidden behind the wrought-iron gate of a nondescript building near the bustle of Rue du Faubourg-Saint-Denis. Dizzy Gillespie and Stan Getz played this hot-and-sweaty place. newmorning.com

Gin is making a comeback at **Tiger**, a newish cocktail bar on Rue Princesse, familiarly known as Rue de la Soif ("Street of Thirst"), with an all-gin menu and food pairings. tiger-paris.com



NEIGHBORHOOD EATERIES

In-the-know foodies lunch at **École Ferrandi**, one of France's most important cooking schools with two restaurants: Le Premier and Le 28. The waiting list for a table can stretch for several weeks. ferrandi-paris.fr

Poulette is an old-fashioned, ceramic-tiled, zinc-bar bistro. Order the popular steak frites. pouletterestaurant.com

At **Pomze Paris** the entire menu is apple-centric. Try rare ciders fermented with Champagne yeast. pomze.com

La Marine is a haven in the newly hip Canal Saint-Martin area. Fish, oysters, escargots, and, because it is Paris, beef bourguignon. Regulars populate the heated terrace. lamarinecanalsaintmartin.com

Laid-back and casual, **La Poule Au Pot** (opened in 1935) serves hearty comfort food late into the evening. Try the indulgent onion soup, Sunday-dinner chicken, or filet mignon topped with foie gras. lapouleaupot.com

For late-night eats, **Les Bains**, the restaurant inside Les Bains hotel, serves a brasserie menu until 2 a.m. Or work up an appetite with a few laps in Le Club's recently restored pool, which is open until dawn. lesbains-paris.com



FOOD-FOCUSED EXPERIENCES

Chef and Ducasse alum **Anne de La Forest** hosts traditional French dinners and cooking classes on her romantic rooftop overlooking Sacre Coeur. anneiscooking.com

Travel concierge **Sacrebleu** can arrange private cooking lessons with in-demand chefs, a visit to a three-Michelin-star sommelier, and other custom experiences. sacrebleu-paris.com

The gastronomy-focused tour company **Purple Truffle** customizes visits to pâtisseries, boulangeries, and fromageries, accompanied by an acclaimed chef or artisanal producer. purpletruffle.com



SINGULAR SHOPPING EXCURSIONS

Step behind the scenes at **Van Cleef & Arpels** by signing up for a jewelry-making workshop to meet the craftspeople (called *Mains d'Or*). Learn about precious stones, and, with a little help, design a bauble for yourself. lecolevanclleafarpels.com

Create a personalized scent at **Le Studio des Parfums**, a boutique workshop in the Marais. Take it home in a blown-glass bottle. studiodesparfums-paris.fr

Galleries Lafayette, one of the famous *grands magasins* worth a visit even if you tend to avoid department stores, offers **The Concierge**: private rooms where you can relax and have a café viennois between purchases. **La Suite** is a private penthouse where you can try on hand-selected pieces and even enjoy spa treatments. Book by the hour or day. gallerieslafayette.com

Agnelle, the glove maker of the great Parisian houses Lanvin, Dior, and Givenchy, has opened its first store. Gloves come in 48 shades of leather and suede and are even scented by Guerlain. agnelle.com

Nous carries luxe streetwear and the latest products from yet-to-be-known brands like futuristic Wires Glasses and irreverent watches by The Electricianz. nous.paris

Didier Ludot is an important address for collectors of vintage fashion. Expect Balenciaga, Chanel, Dior, YSL, and Patou in near-museum quality. didierludot.fr

The artiste-corsetier **François Tamarin** creates ball gowns and the occasional wedding dress, but women mainly come for the made-to-measure corsets—*classique ou séduction*—swearing they are comfortable to wear. corset-paris.fr

Greets Paris coordinates unique experiences for clients such as a buying trip to the blue-chip fashion houses accompanied by a fashion coach and an interpreter. From \$375/person/half-day. greetsparis.com

Top: Alessandro Clemenza



BRILLIANT LITTLE MUSEUMS

The family of wealthy Jewish bankers who built this handsome mansion did not make it home after World War II. Now the building houses the **Musée Nissim de Camondo**, a collection that is a tribute to the family's extraordinary taste—spectacular 18th-century paintings, furniture, tapestries, and silver-and-gold objets d'art. Stay for a drink in the serene courtyard bar (the former stables). madparis.fr

Musée Jacquemart-André, another mansion-museum but better known, is a testament to the grandeur of a bygone era. Dutch and Flemish paintings, English portraits, and, above the staircase, a Giovanni Battista Tiepolo fresco. musee-jacquemart-andre.com

The **Musée Marmottan Monet** keeps the world's largest collection of Monets (including the celebrated *Impression, Sunrise*) at this former mansion of 19th-century coal-mining industrialists and art collectors. marmottan.fr

Musée des Arts Décoratifs, right next to the Louvre but often overlooked, has one of the world's most important

collections of decorative arts. The gift shop showcases the wares of young designers. madparis.fr

Victor Hugo drew inspiration for some of his masterpieces, including *Les Misérables*, from the Gothic-and-damask Place des Vosges apartment that he rented from 1832 to 1848, now **Maison de Victor Hugo**, a museum devoted to the author. maisonsvictorhugo.paris.fr

View unusual perfume bottles, including animal shapes decorated with precious stones, at the **Musée du Parfum**. Sign up for the perfumer's apprentice workshop to create your custom scent. musee-parfum-paris.fragonard.com

Above: Musée Jacquemart-André. *Right:* Sweets from La Pâtisserie du Meurice par Cédric Grolet. *Opposite, from top:* Galeries Lafayette department store; Anne de La Forest madeleines.

BAKERIES AND SWEET SHOPS

Maison Stohrer, Paris' oldest pâtisserie, was founded in 1730 by King Louis XV's personal pastry chef. Go for the plump éclairs, mille-feuille, and glazed tarts. stohrer.fr

Head pastry chef at Le Meurice, Cédric Grolet, launched a tiny shop, **La Pâtisserie du Meurice par Cédric Grolet**, selling haute pastries that are almost too pretty to eat. It opens at noon and closes when the last croissant is sold. +33.1.44.58.10.10

Near the Musée Rodin, Chef Philippe Conticini debuted **Gâteaux d'Émotions** last September. He bakes 500 cakes every day and when they're gone, he shuts the shop and goes home. conticini.fr

Franck Kestener creates chocolates and macarons with intense flavors like caramelized pear and saffron or raspberries and juniper berries. franck-kestener.com

Boulangerie Utopie offers classic loaves but also unusual combinations like matcha and black sesame and a dramatic black baguette infused with squid ink. +33.9.82.50.74.48

Mesdemoiselles Madeleines bakes the melt-in-the-mouth, shell-shaped cakes in dozens of flavors and colors, including the original that was so dear to Marcel Proust. mllesmwadeleines.com ♦

