

SURFACING

Shop by Shop, Paris Reclaims Bagnolet

A NEIGHBORHOOD in Paris that has long been dismissed as seedy is slowly emerging from the shadow of the Père Lachaise. Situated at the southeast entrance of the famous cemetery, the Porte de Bagnolet area is becoming what the French would describe as *bobos* (bohemian-bourgeois). Bagnolet was originally a suburb of the French capital; when the city was enlarged in 1860, it became part of the 20th Arrondissement. Rue de Bagnolet, the area's main hub of activity, was lined with shuttered shops until around 1990, when the first wave of development brought a contemporary bookshop, *Le Merle Moqueur*, and a club, *La Flèche d'Or*, now reopened. And after the sleek hotel *Mama Shelter*, designed by Philippe Starck, opened in 2008, a second wave of creative and independent businesses began to

ent. **BOOKSANA HOSSENALLY**



◀ **O MILLE ET UNE FÈVES**
2, rue Monte Cristo
(33-1) 83-06-84-67
omilleetunefeves.com

This artisanal chocolatier on a side street off Bagnolet may be the neighborhood's best-kept secret. While Christine Dacquay tends to customers, Laurence Dali meticulously works every ounce of chocolate in the atelier in the back.



◀ **MÉLI MELLOW**
55 bis, rue de Bagnolet
No phone

Behind the counter at this bistro-casual diner, which opened in March, Nicolas Chapelier and Isabelle Deveaux rustle up American specialties like bagels, pizzas and burgers, all made fresh.



◀ **MAMA SHELTER**
109, rue de Bagnolet
(33-1) 43-45-45-45
mamashelter.com

The area's undoubted cosmopolitan hub, *Mama Shelter* is a lively and chic spot — equal parts restaurant, lounge and hotel — that comes especially to life in the evenings.

▶ **LA BÓTICA**
89, rue de Bagnolet
(33-1) 43-72-09-82
labotica.fr

This laid-back boutique, opened in 2010 by the young fashion designers Cavadonga Antuña and Jérôme Lebideux, offers limited-edition jewelry, housewares and clothing from around the world.



◀ **AU NOUVEAU NEZ**
163, rue de Bagnolet
(33-1) 43-56-94-55

In 2010, Agnès Baracco opened this wine shop as a contemporary and cozy oenological experience fueled by natural wines only. Cheese and wine tastings are held in the evenings.



Travel

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