Flights | Hotels | Cars | Packages | Cruises | Holiday Homes | Travel guide | Ideal weather | Search   Search for details, prices...   Go

TRAVEL HEADLINES | NEWS | READER REVIEWS | HOTEL REVIEWS | 360° HOTEL TOURS | CHEAP HOLIDAYS | EVENTS CALENDAR | PRACTICAL INFO | CHEAP FLIGHTS

Home   Focus   Bohemian style: arty hubs to see and be seen   Up and coming Parisian Boho culture

FOCUS: BOHEMIAN STYLE: ARTY HUBS TO SEE AND BE SEEN

2 - UP AND COMING PARISIAN BOHO CULTURE

TRAVEL IDEAS

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Tucked away from the French capital's most famous neighbourhoods, is an up and coming haven for those in the know. The 20th district of Paris has long been one of the city's most Bohemian neighbourhoods with famous music and art venues like the Bellevilloise and the Maroquinerie, but skipping a few streets away from that part of the district, is Paris' newest area to be seen in. Bagnolet. Apart from La Flèche d'Or (102, rue de Bagnolet), one of the better-known clubs in the city, the area was nothing much to write home about.

Independent boutiques, bars and restaurants have sprouted along the rue de Bagnolet, where the tiny cobbled alleyways leading up to the Père Lachaise adds to the charm. A few of our favourite places to hang out include the reliably lively and friendly **Abribus** (56, rue de Bagnolet) bar and restaurant, where you can sit down for a hot meal for less than 10 euros, a bit of a rarity these days!

For visitors with children (or without), a beautiful traditional toy shop, **La Truite Enchantée** (80, rue de Bagnolet), will be sure to charm you.

Other places we love include the newly opened **Merli Merlow** (55 bis, rue de Bagnolet) serves homemade burgers and pizza. And after you have gorged on French food and wine, you'll be in for a spot of shopping. We can spend hours at **Le Merle Moqueur** (51, rue de Bagnolet), flicking through the latest in contemporary French literature or at the back of the shop in the arts section. For original clothing, jewellery and bits of homeware, **La Botica** (pictured, 85, rue de Bagnolet) gets our approval for its unique pieces by young designers from all four corners of the globe.

Image: La Botica

London's Brixton Market revamp   Kensington Village, a world apart in Toronto

CONTENTS

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FLIGHTS	HOTELS	CARS	HOLIDAYS

○ One way   ● Round trip

From   To

Outward journey date   Return journey date
21   6
Apr 2012   May 2012

Adults   Children   Babies
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● Economy   ○ Business   ○ First

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