

Boutique temples turned into heavens with a cup of coffee. ☕

# VIENNA

## a1 Lounge

In Vienna, enjoying a good conversation has traditionally been inseparable from enjoying a good cup of coffee. The a1 Lounge adds a new dimension to tradition. Not only can guests acquire state-of-the-art mobile phones in the futuristically designed concept store, they can also check out the latest discoveries in the field of mobile technology. An impressive ramp decorated with holographic "future cubes" leads to the first floor lounge where direct human communication reigns. The swanky bar with its cosy seats has quickly become one of the city's hippest places to hang out on Vienna's #1 shopping mile, the Mariahilfer Strasse.

**a1 Lounge, Mariahilfer Strasse 60, Vienna, [www.a1lounge.at](http://www.a1lounge.at)**



# ATHENS



## DKNY

Imaginative, functional, urban – that's the unmistakable style of New York designer, Donna Karan, and it is just as valid for her shops as it is for her fashion. One of the first to give her customers a chance to feel comfortable while shopping, her New York flagship store was the first to boast a cosy relaxation area. Soon afterwards small but exquisite coffee bars became part of the basic design of her shops – such as this one here in the DKNY Store in the Attitudes Mall Glyfada, a suburb of Athens. Anybody unsure which outfit suits them best can mull things over while enjoying an Espresso.

**DKNY, 17 Al Panagouli, Glyfada, Athens, [www.dkny.com](http://www.dkny.com)**

# BARCELONA



## La Gauche Divine

The concept store was named after a Spanish artists' collective from the 60s, which inspired the owners when they put their design concepts into practice. Considerable love of detail went into the creation of a multifunctional space where fashion, art and design skilfully complement each other. There are many reasons to visit the Gauche Divine: The fashion comes mainly from young Spanish and European designers, the gallery exhibits the works of a different young artist every month and the music played here has inspired many DJs. The best way to explore the place is simply to drop in for a glass of Leche-Leche or Spanish wine in El Petit Café and check out the latest trends.

**La Gauche Divine, Passage de la Pau 7bis, Barcelona, [www.lagauchedivine.com](http://www.lagauchedivine.com)**



## Celux

Anybody fond of luxury will find the Celux salon something quite akin to paradise on earth. Located in the penthouse of the Louis Vuitton Omotesando building, it opens its exclusive doors to members only, all of whom belong to the crème de la crème of the fashion, lifestyle and luxury industry. Accordingly, the selection of goods is high-class. While the exquisite products of the deluxe conglomerate LVMH can be acquired on the lower floor, the lounge on the top floor offers self-service champagne, wine, cocktails and fingerfood.

**Celux, 3-5-29 ONE Omotesando Kita-Aoyama Minato-ku, Tokyo, [www.celux.com](http://www.celux.com)**

# MILAN



## Corso Como

The Corso Como 10 in the centre of Milan is a distinguished market place for the senses and has become one of the city's landmarks. In order to fully appreciate all of its charms one had better allow extra time – say, an entire day. In addition to the exclusive designer shops there is also an art gallery, a bookshop and a hairdresser in this concept store created by Carla Sozzani, the sister of the Italian Vogue editor. The most convenient place for a break is certainly the shady patio – a cosy place where many natives come to kick-start the evening with a cup of good coffee.

**Corso Como 10, Milan, [www.10corsocomo.com](http://www.10corsocomo.com)**

# PARIS



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## Artcurial

Located on what is probably the most famous of Parisian streets, the Champs-Élysées, Artcurial is something of a Mecca for art aficionados. Built in 1844, the former Hotel Dassault today accommodates a gallery for modern and contemporary art, an auction house and one of the most renowned art libraries, comprising more than 10,000 books. Quite recently browsing has become even more enjoyable, as it is now possible to leaf through books while sipping a cup of excellent Espresso, either in the new café with a view of the library or even on the spacious terrace, weather permitting. Boasting one of the very few private gardens in this part of town, it is well protected from the hustle and bustle outside. Without a doubt one of the city's most beautiful places to philosophise on the wonders of art.

**Artcurial, 7, Rond-point des Champs-Élysées, 75008 Paris, [www.artcurial.com](http://www.artcurial.com)**



## Quartier 206

Friedrichstrasse is one of the top addresses in Berlin when it comes to shopping for luxury and Quartier 206 is surely the heart of the shopping mile. Its reputation as a cult store and shopping temple for celebrities and socialites comes as no surprise. Store by store this is where one finds the international fashion elite, as well as new clothes, shoes, accessories, flowers, art, books and interior design items. All in all, an exclusive selection of the world's most beautiful things, some available for the first time ever in Germany. If your head starts spinning because of the huge variety of goods on display, the elegant bar is the place for you. It is the ideal place to collect your thoughts and develop a strategy before doing some serious shopping, or to come to inspect your trophies afterwards.

**Quartier 206, Friedrichstrasse 71, Berlin, [www.quartier206.com](http://www.quartier206.com)**

# LONDON



## Selfridges

The new Moët Bar in London's hip department store, Selfridges, amounts to a redefinition of "shopping heaven". Designed in the style of the 20s by one of London's hottest architectural firms, Fusion Design & Architecture, it offers all amenities needed to recover in a stylish manner from the exertions of a shopping spree – while idly sipping a glass of champagne. Anybody requiring a stronger dose of relaxation can always withdraw to one of the comfortable chaises longues. Huge plasma screens on the walls display recent creations and fashion shows by international designers – and provide the necessary inspiration to regain one's strength and continue the shopping spree with renewed vigour.

**Selfridges, 400 Oxford Street, London, [www.selfridges.com](http://www.selfridges.com)**