

Paris

The French capital is still the place to go shopping in style. Make a weekend of it, with somewhere to stay, a new dining experience and a café where you can linger over the papers.

Writer — Annick Weber



SIT AND SIP Bonjour Jacob

The capital might be famous for its Haussmann-era *kiosques à journaux* and lively cafés but rare are the places where Parisians can pick up both a magazine and a quality coffee. With the opening of Bonjour Jacob in March 2021, Hani Belahcene and Aurélie Galopin are filling a gap in Paris's retail landscape. "It's all about slowing down," says Belahcene. That's why the shop also sells vinyl discs alongside slow-pour coffees and rare titles from around the world." bonjourjacob.com



ARMCHAIR TRAVEL

Tressé

In March 2021, when lockdowns were complicating international travel, brother-and-sister duo Sivan and Ketzia Chétrite launched a timely venture. Tressé offers womenswear, accessories and home items recalling the nuances and crafts of popular destinations, from the handpainted patterns of Provençal pottery to the pastels of Italy's gelaterias. "We think of our collections as suitcases filled with souvenirs," say the siblings. "We want to immerse our wearers in a different kind of journey, revolving around cultural inspiration and a form of local *artisanat*." tresse-paris.com

URBAN JUNGLE FOREST

At Forest, a new restaurant within Paris's Musée d'Art Moderne, vegetables take centre stage in chef Julien Sebbag's cooking: courgette carpaccio with stracciatella or mezcal-infused oyster mushrooms. "The idea for the restaurant came from a song by The Cure, at once unsettling and captivating," says Sebbag. forest-paris.com



HOME FROM HOME Hôtel du Sentier

The family-run Hôtel du Sentier is the place for anyone looking for a friendly, intimate Parisian billet. After a career in acting, Charlotte Castro opened the hotel with her husband, Samuel. "This is our fifth child," she says of the 30-bedroom property that brings together two generations, with the pair's children sometimes supporting them at the reception and in the on-site bistro. It's housed in a rare 18th-century hieroglyph-adorned building designed to celebrate Napoleon's victorious campaign in Egypt. hoteldusentier.com

BROGUE TRADER John Lobb

The first pair of John Lobb boots was created in London more than 150 years ago, and the British bootmaker branched out to France in 1899. This June, its eighth-arrondissement boutique reopened with a refreshed look by French architecture studio Ciguë. In a cosy space with walnut wood touches throughout, Parisians can shop the brand's ready-to-wear collections, or order a pair of made-to-measure shoes, which are crafted in an atelier nearby. [51 rue François; johnlobb.com](http://51.rue.Francois.johnlobb.com)



Tangier

Facing Europe across the Strait of Gibraltar at Africa's northern tip, Tangier is a city of crafts, atmospheric nightlife and a former palace turned hotel.

Writer — Hester Underhill



GOT THAT SWING El Morocco Club

Taking its name from the New York jazz club that was a favourite of Cole Porter and Marilyn Monroe, this Tangier institution attracts the movers and shakers of modern Morocco to its Mediterranean menu. There's also a snug piano bar where diners can retreat after their meal. During the day, the club runs a small café on the adjoining Place du Tabor, where locals gather under the shade of a fig tree. elmoroccoclub.ma

ROOM WITH A VIEW Hôtel Nord Pinus

French hotelier Anne Igou is behind this seven-room guesthouse that occupies an 18th-century palace at the kasbah's highest point. Its terraces have views over the old town and across the strait to Spain, 32km away. Igou's team spent eight months restoring the palace to its former glory, complete with hand-painted wooden doors and stained-glass windows. Colourful tiles feature throughout and the guesthouse is filled with eclectic antique finds, such as Syrian chandeliers and wrought-iron four-poster beds. nordpinustanger.com



Q&A Hicham Bouzid

Tangier-born artist and curator Hicham Bouzid launched Think Tanger in 2016 as a platform for residents to learn about news ways of inhabiting the city. He tells us more.

Why did you decide to start Think Tanger?
The city was, and still is, booming. It's also becoming globalised. Co-founder Amina Mourid and I wanted to learn more about its expansion but we didn't know who to ask. So we organised a programme of talks that explored this topic.

What kind of events do you organise today?
Our talks and podcasts bring together specialists from many fields – ecology, culture and sociology – to discuss the challenges facing Tangier. Our residency programme invites artists to document what's



happening in the city. There's also our Urban Labs scheme, where we offer radio workshops and video training to enable citizens to make documentaries.

Have you been working on any new projects?
Last year we published a magazine, *Makan*. It explores some of the questions from our podcasts and talks.

What topics have you covered recently?
We've been looking at informal urbanism:

people building makeshift homes, for example, and street vendors who come from the mountains to sell their harvest. This unofficial economy is central to the functioning of the city.

What's Tangier's cultural scene like?
We've seen a wave of energy from young people and some interesting artists emerging. But there's a lack of exhibition space to showcase this. think-tanger.com

HOME RULE Las Chicas

Stocking a mix of fashion, art and homeware from local craftsmen and designers, as well as glamorous vintage finds, everything in Las Chicas is proudly made in Morocco. The shop was opened by friends Ayda Diouri, Yasmine Durner and Farida Benlyazid in 2012 in a bright-white art deco building overlooking the Place du Tabor. Visitors can find everything from handmade lanterns and tiles to clothing from local brands Au Fil de Tanger and Laure Welfling. There's also a small café where shoppers can take a break from the hustle of the kasbah. laschicasdetanger.com

FRESH TAKE New Tangier

Following stints at Jimmy Choo and Louis Vuitton, Tangier-born Kenza Bennani returned home in 2014 to launch her own brand, New Tangier. Its focus is on reviving craft traditions with designs that riff on North African textiles and techniques. "I wanted to use traditional Moroccan crafts to create something new," says Bennani. Her designs are handcrafted by Moroccan artisans, who create everything from brocade clutches and leather satchels to kaftans. "Our fabrics are sourced nearby," she says. "We either work with traditional textiles or dead-stock fabric." The wares are displayed in an art deco showroom-cum-design studio. [6 rue Imam Soufiane Taouri; newtanger.com](http://6rueImamSoufianeTaouri.com)



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