

15. WHERE TO SLOW DOWN THE PACE IN GENEVA

LOCAL DISH

Their June speciality? Red tuna steak with tangy zucchini and sumac, paired with Soral – a Genevan Pinot Blanc. Fresh as a daisy.



If Italy and Brooklyn were to have a lovechild, it might look a lot like Carouge. Expect jazz, graphic novels and board games with burgers in this arty 'hood



> IN CAROUGE,
LIFE IS taken one or two notches less seriously than in Geneva proper – just ten minutes away by tram – leading

locals to refer to visiting this Italianate district as like taking a “small vacation”. Built by Sardinia in the 18th century, today Carouge is filled with indie ventures and artsy youths hanging out amid the eateries on Rue Vautier and Rue Ancienne. No rushing allowed.



▲
VALMANDIN
46 Rue Ancienne
UN engineer turned expert barista, Neslihan Grasser is not snobby with non-coffee-connoisseurs, though she's strongly against using syrup: “True caramel notes are rounder and subtler in the mouth. My aim is to show you the real stuff.”
valmandin.ch

▲
LE BISTROT LION D'OR
53-55 Rue Ancienne
Working in the neighbourhood's oldest restaurant space (est. 1703), Le Bistrot's Chef Benjamin is obsessed with seasonality. Begin with the French asparagus atop a Montreux duck egg on the terrace.
leliondor.lebistrot.ch

WORDS SARAH PAIGE PHOTOS TIM E WHITE

WHO'S BEHIND THE COUNTER?

L'ANTRE-PEAUX

43 Rue Ancienne

Addicted to the sweet smell of leather since age 15, handbag designer Chris Murner takes umbrage at Geneva's perennial interest in boring crocodile bags with gold clasps. The antidote? Playing with geometry and loud colours in her own polished collections. All the bags are stitched and hand-dyed in her studio, separated from the boutique by a glorious, vine-filled garden.

chrismurner.ch



BD CAROUGE

31 Rue Vautier

Owner Pierre turned his childhood dream of owning a graphic novel shop into a reality three years ago. "The first man in the world who made comics was actually from Geneva," he says with obvious pride. Ask to see BD's copy of the first comic book ever, dated 1833.

bd-carouge.ch



THE SHELFIE

BD sells the Titeuf series, about a schoolboy with a cowlick, by local artist Zep.

New mainly Franco-Belgian comics arrive every week.



You'll find more than 3,000 comics. Owner Pierre has read them all.

DON'T MISS...

Carouge's eclectic Saturday morning market at Place du Marché buzzes until 2pm. Head there for local brews, expert macarons and the occasional Colombian trumpeter. Winning.



L'ÉCHAPPÉE BELLE 1 Rue Saint-Victor

A pretty escape indeed. Run by two giggly BFFs, this adorable little shop sells everything from baby Converse and witty pastel mugs to sparkly leather satchels, Danish house slippers and kids' PJs.

lechappee-belle.ch



TREAT YOURSELF

Flamingos, gnomes and deer trapped inside mason jars (109CHF) make whimsical pendant night lights at L'Échappée Belle.



LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

LAURENCE RASTI

Photographer at Carouge's artist collective, La Fonderie

"I studied at Geneva's Les Arts Appliqués. My graphic designer friends all work in Carouge because of the rejuvenated factories/industrial zone where you can have your atelier. People raised here don't ever move away – it's something we always laugh about!" laurencerasti.ch



CINÉMA BIO

47 Rue St-Joseph

"Bio means movement in Greek," says Eduardo, the Birkenstock-wearing projectionist who's worked at this indie movie house for 35 of its 105 years. Grab a glass of organic rosé and duck into Bio's documentary theatre for an eye-opening screening.

cinema-bio.ch

INSIDE OUT

Rap it up at Le Chat Noir's well-established hip-hop open mic night, held on the first Thursday of every month.

The fumoir here is the most sophisticated smoking area you'll ever visit.

Old meets new on the cocktail menu. Try the Mezcal Negroni (16 CHF).



For more insider tips on GENEVA and many more destinations, check out our city guide videos at easyJet.com/cityguides

LE MARCHAND DE SABLE

4 Rue Vautier

Chef Jeremy used to do his homework in the corner booth of what is now his organic burger, beer and board games bar. You want the Ninosaure burger with stracciatella (a fluffy blend of mozzarella and chives).

lemarchand.ch

LE CHAT NOIR

13 Rue Vautier

Known for jazzy jam sessions and cocktails, Le Chat Noir's acoustically agreeable little concert cave downstairs also hosts the Swiss Comedy Club. Accordions and mismatched vintage school chairs fill up the charming upstairs watering hole.

chatnoir.ch

GENEVA LIVE

WE'VE MEASURED
HAPPINESS :
IT'S 140M HIGH.

geneve.com

