



Condé Nast Traveller

INSIDE THE GREATEST
NEW HOTEL IN LONDON

DECEMBER 2014 US \$8.95 CAN \$9.95
INTERNATIONAL £4.30

CARIBBEAN SPECIAL

OUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE SECRET PLACES TO STAY



MARRAKECH
FOR LESS THAN
£100 A NIGHT

ON HOLIDAY WITH

- ★ ALICIA KEYS ★
- ★ CHRISSIE HYNDE ★
- ★ FLIGHT OF THE CONCHORDS ★

WHY IT'S THE PERFECT
LONG WEEKEND

CAPE TOWN

NEW YORK SHOPPING

BRILLIANT ROUND-UP OF THE BEST INDEPENDENT BOUTIQUES

LET'S TALK SHOP

NEW YORK JUST CAN'T BE
BEATEN FOR ATTENTION TO
RETAIL, SAYS MANHATTAN
NATIVE HANYA YANAGIHARA

PHOTOGRAPHS BY NICOLE FRANZEN



CH BOX

POTATO CHIPS

SEA-SALT CARAMELS (TO SHARE)

TURKEY & COMTE SANDWICH

great lunch today!

YOUR Summer TAKES YOU...

LAR GOT COV



de Villatte candles, elaborate paper flowers, carvings of North American birds, colourful Syrian glass chandeliers and all sorts of exquisitely chosen odds and ends, including tote bags, postcards and hand-plaited brush brooms. Come here to buy a gift for even the pickiest aesthete. The annexe sells rugs, cotton bedding, scarves and cushions. *6 East 2nd Street (+1 212 677 3917; www.johnderian.com)*

Michele Varian Yes, it has all the design staples you need for bohemian loft life: metallic-flecked wall coverings and textiles; shimmering burnt-velvet cushions; glossy pendant lamps. But this bright, high-ceilinged shop on the edge of Chinatown really excels as the place to find curiosa and home

gallery directors, film-makers and fashion executives browsing the well-edited rails for floaty maxidresses by Christophe Lemaire, sparkly collar necklaces by Shourouk and patent-leather brogues by Dieppa Restrepo. *123 Norfolk Street (+1 212 673 6405; www.mnzstore.com)*

Bird This Brooklyn mini-chain (there are three locations: Cobble Hill, Park Slope and Williamsburg) may not win points for imaginative decor: the wood-floored spaces are welcoming and cheerful, although not especially memorable. But who needs fancy fixtures when the smart, wearable clothes and accessories are so on-point? And who needs a trip into Manhattan when you can get your Proenza Schouler, 3.1 Phillip

But the most memorable styles might be by the house's own label: high-waisted twill trousers; dove-grey suedé stacked-heel clogs; linen wrap tops. *205 Mulberry Street (+1 212 925 1005; www.creaturesofcomfort.us)*

Maison Kitsuné What's more chic than a French streetwear clothing line? A French streetwear clothing line inspired by Japanese design, of course. In this Art Deco-inflected boutique just north of the Flatiron district you'll find quirky but classic menswear, including button-down shirts with the brand's signature fox logo (*kitsune* is Japanese for fox), and cute-but-never-sweet women's clothing: crisp cotton minidresses and shrunken cardigans. There are also Oliver Peoples

FORGET SQUASH OR TENNIS: THESE DAYS, THE MANHATTAN SPORT OF CHOICE IS SURFING. AND THE CLUBHOUSE IS A STORE AS RESPONSIBLE FOR CREATING THE TREND AS PROVIDING ALL THE EQUIPMENT

accessories you never thought you required, including cast-porcelain, gold-dipped deer antlers, modernist brass candelabras and paperweights in the shape of beetles, jackalopes and bat skulls. The store also stocks a collection of jewellery in precious and semi-precious metals. *27 Howard Street (+1 212 343 0033; www.michelevarian.com)*

CLOTHES

Maryam Nassir Zadeh There are two types of women in the world: those who want everyone to know exactly which labels they're wearing and those who don't. For the second group, there's this sunny Lower East Side boutique, where you can join the regular clientele of

Lim and Comme des Garçons fix right here? There's also a good selection of pieces by local designers, including Rachel Comey (flattering dresses), Zero + Maria Cornejo (drapey, bubble-hemmed tunics and tops) and Pamela Love (Southwest-style costume jewellery). *203 Grand Street, Williamsburg (+1 718 388 1655; www.shopbird.com)*

Creatures of Comfort The Nolita location of this LA-based boutique has every label the thinking woman loves, from MM6 by Maison Martin Margiela to Isabel Marant, as well as pieces from up-and-coming and indie lines, such as tribal-inspired brass pendants from A Peace Treaty and minimalist leather-and-rubber handbags from Building Block.

sunglasses, delicious citrus-scented creams and soaps from Aesop, and terrific unisex bags in bold colours from WANT Les Essentiels de la Vie. The store leads directly into the lobby of the NoMad hotel: the perfect place for a post-shopping tippie. *1170 Broadway (+1 212 481 6010; www.kitsune.fr)*

Pilgrim Surf and Supply There's a good selection of rubber fins, flippers and surfboards at this Big Sur-by-way-of-Brooklyn store, but the real reason to visit the space, with its wide-plank wood floors, sawhorse tables and metal lamps, is for its range of board shorts. They come in bright colour combinations inspired by classic Repp ties, alongside cotton T-shirts and sweatshirts, waxed canvas tote bags

Below from left: homewares at Michele Varian in Chinatown; surfboards at Pilgrim Surf and Supply; Bklyn Larder, a deli and cheese shop in Park Slope, Brooklyn; a selection of chocolate bars at Mast Brothers. Opposite, a display of edible goodies at Bklyn Larder



Bklyn Larder Although this forever-crowded Park Slope provisions shop is best known for its cheese selection, you'll also find everything else needed for a picnic in nearby Prospect Park, including meats, salads, quiches and sweets: the house-made pumpkin-seed brittle, fig-and-nut bars and chocolate macaroons are particularly addictive. And the bounty of made-in-Brooklyn goods – Empire Mayonnaise's Sriracha-flavoured spread, McClure's spicy pickles, Early Bird's chunky granola and Bklyn Larder's own jars of tangerine-scented sugar – are perfect presents for your fussiest food-obsessed friends. 228 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn (+1 718 783 1250; www.bklynlarder.com)

Belloccq With its gorgeous, deep-lilac walls, distressed wooden floors, shaggy floral arrangements and shelves lined with the company's signature buttercup-yellow canisters, this tea shop looks as if it has been decorated by a Dutch master who got into a time machine and wound up in Greenpoint. Tea connoisseurs and neophytes alike are encouraged to browse, sniff, sample and simply marvel: some of the handcrafted blends, especially the ones made colourful with dried flowers, seem almost too pretty to sip. Products include the brand's own riff on classic chai and tea accessories such as cups, pots, strainers and whisks. 104 West Street, Brooklyn (+1 800 495 5416; www.belloccq.com)

Aedes de Venustas Every obscure perfume, candle, room spray or incense stick ever made can be found in this subterranean West Village boutique, which resembles, in the best way, a Victorian courtesan's boudoir. The owners, an elegant and engaging German couple, are experts at choosing fragrances for novices who might be overwhelmed, and are generous with samples. Aedes also makes its own scents, and anything in the store can be gift-wrapped in a beautiful box topped with a nosegay of fresh flowers. 9 Christopher Street (+1 212 206 8674; www.aedes.com)
Min This dark, den-like store on a quiet stretch of eastern SoHo is lined with wood-panelled bookshelves, each

LESS A BOUTIQUE AND MORE A CABINET OF WONDERS, THIS SOHO STORE SELLS OBJECTS, PRESENTED MUSEUM-STYLE IN GLASS CASES AND OVERSIZED VITRINES, THAT YOU WON'T FIND ANYWHERE ELSE



Above from left: clashing patterns at Michele Varian; Mociun jewellery shop in Greenpoint, Brooklyn; homeware designer and shop owner Michele Varian; Maryam Nassir Zadeh boutique; display cases at Ted Muehling jewellery store. Opposite, a curious watch display at De Vera in SoHo

Mast Brothers You smell this shop – from its delicious, delirium-inducing perfume of dark chocolate – before you see it. The company, one of the pioneers in Brooklyn's growing band of artisanal food producers, makes small batches of self-consciously old-fashioned bars in inventive flavours, including Pecan Maple and Serrano Peppers, from this self-consciously old-fashioned space in Williamsburg. The salvaged-wood counters recall an early 20th-century general store; there are pendant lights and subway tiles on the walls. All the bars are beautifully packaged in vintage-inspired Italian paper and make excellent souvenirs. 111 North 3rd Street, Brooklyn (+1 718 388 2625; www.mastbrothers.com)

PERFUME AND BEAUTY

Twisted Lily This store in the Boerum Hill neighbourhood of Brooklyn is not much to talk about design-wise – clean white walls and blonde-wood floors – but inside, the offerings are much more interesting, complex and dark. We're talking about the fragrances on offer, of course: hard-to-source home scents that smell of burning cypress; small-batch perfumes redolent of absinthe. You will discover notes of everything from saddle leather to Granny Smith apples, styrax to whiskey. And there's also plenty of lovely rose and violet scents for the traditional shopper. 360 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn (+1 347 529 4681; www.twistedlily.com)

of which is stocked with perfumes, colognes, soaps, incense, blotting papers and body washes from mostly small, mostly artisanal producers in the USA and Europe. The more expensive and lesser known lines are arranged in neat tableaux on various tables and display cases, and all are meant to be tested. The staff are helpful without being overbearing, although if you crave some extra attention, or don't know where to start, they'll sit down with you on the big leather sofa that dominates the centre of the space and conduct a patient, in-depth (and very serious) interview to ascertain your deepest olfactory desires. 117 Crosby Street (+1 212 206 6366; www.minnewyork.com)