

Condé Nast Traveller

COMPLIMENTARY WITH
OCT-NOV 2015 ISSUE

INDIAN EDITION

SOUTH AFRICA

How to enjoy one of the world's coolest countries



RETAIL THERAPY IN CAPE TOWN

Whether you're looking for gifts or special treats for yourself, shopping in Cape Town is splurge-worthy.

Sarah Khan lists the spots you shouldn't miss

Luxury Africa Atelier

For jewellery that tells a powerful story, step into this intimate showroom for Legacy Collection's unusual pieces. Designer Charmaine Taylor forges eye-catching necklaces, rings, and cufflinks out of the remnants of the fence that surrounded Robben Island, the notorious prison where Nelson Mandela served much of his sentence. Model and actress Lisa Ray is a fan—she left with the Free Will pendant and the Deliverance ring. Zambezi Grace's crocodile leather handbags are also covetable. (www.luxuryafrica.co.za)



Watershed

If you're strapped for time, the Watershed complex at the lively V&A Waterfront makes for one-stop shopping bliss. Launched in 2014 as a stage for South African design at the heart of the city's busiest commercial hub, Watershed is a collective of stalls showcasing everything from housewares to cutting-edge fashion, all produced locally. Some of our favourites: wooden clutches from Indalo, whimsical hats from JK Milliner, African-print children's frocks from Patricia Nama and military trenches from Molo Mimi. (www.waterfront.co.za)



Merchants on Long

As the scion of one of South Africa's wealthiest families, Hanneli Rupert is no stranger to luxury. She's also passionate about pan-African design and at her concept shop, she showcases a curated collection of ethically produced, sustainable, high-end brands from around the continent. Alongside her own handbag range Okapi, Rupert stocks supermodel Liya Kebede's Ethiopian line Lemlem, Kenyan brand Njema Helena's vibrant prints, and Ghanaian label Christie Brown's luxe womenswear, all from behind a historic storefront on bohemian Long Street. (www.merchantsonlong.com)

Maison Mara

Hard-to-find international labels now have a home in Cape Town at Maison Mara, a swish concept



shop that brings global design to this far-flung tip of the world. Proenza Schouler bags, Acne jeans and leather jackets, Malin + Goetz bath products, and Phaidon art books—they're all under one sumptuous roof, thanks to careful sourcing by owner Kelly Withey. (www.maisonmara.co.za)

Luvey 'n Rose

Designed to resemble a rambling old manse, this rose-tinted Loop

Street gallery and salon is a gathering place for art lovers. Luvey 'n Rose is comprised of a maze of rooms heaving with masterpieces from both contemporary artists like Olaf Bisschoff and Zolani Siphungela, as well as South African masters like Walter Battiss. If you find yourself getting a little too comfortable in the antique couches and chairs in every room, you have the option of buying them too—everything from the art to the furniture is on sale. (www.luveynrose.co.za)

South African Market

You might walk right by SAM at first—it's upstairs from La Parada, a popular tapas bar whose hip (and boisterous) clientele regularly spills out onto the street, occasionally blocking the doorway to the ramp that takes you up to this





Cape Town locals lounging at the beach.
Clockwise from below: a piece from the Africasso collection by Imiso ceramics; the Bon Voyage Travel Wallet by Wolf & Maiden; a market at the Old Biscuit Mill; the historic terracotta façade at Merchants on Long

airy space. Once you do find it, however, it'll beckon you to stay awhile, thanks to its range of stylish housewares, fashion and accessories. If you're in town early in the month, don't miss the city's popular First Thursdays event, when Bree Street transforms into an outdoor party and shops stay open till late—SAM's balcony is the perfect perch for taking in the action down below. (www.ilovesam.co.za)



Imiso Ceramics

The Old Biscuit Mill is a historic factory now converted into a bastion of boutiques and restaurants (even the city's best known weekend market, Neighbourgoods). Tucked away in one corner of the complex is Imiso, a ceramics brand created by Zizipho Poswa and Andile Dyalvane.

Their odes to clay have diverse and intriguing origins—some collections were inspired by African traditions while others by indigenous flora and one, called Africasso, is inspired by Picasso. (www.imisoceramics.co.za)

THE WOODSTOCK EXCHANGE

The once grungy, now trendy Woodstock is Cape Town's creative hub—home to galleries, markets and cafés aplenty. The Woodstock Exchange complex in particular houses a clutch of independent boutiques, out of which the following three are our top picks.

Wolf & Maiden Creative Studio

At Wolf & Maiden's store in the complex, you'll find hand-stitched leather goods produced in-store—you can

watch the artisans at work as you browse the shelves. Kudu and cow leather is used to make accessories including wallets, bow ties and laptop bags. (www.wolfandmaiden.com)

Charlie H

Also visit Charlie H's atelier, an intimate space brimming with gorgeous handmade clothes in gauzy fabrics. The wrap dresses, kimonos, and blouses are luxuriously soft and feminine, perfect for summer wear. (www.charlieh.biz)

Ballo

Ballo is known for its eyeglass frames and cases, all made in Woodstock. What sets them apart

is the fact that they're all made from wood in designs so funky you'll want to bring home a pair or two even if you don't need glasses. (www.ballo.co.za)

