

CHIC BOUTIQUES

The streets where the [prestigious shops](#) are located form a discernable route: Cours Mirabeau, Rue Fabrot, then Rue Ancienne Madeleine, running into Rue Reinaud, which brings you to Place de Verdun and Rue Thiers. My favourites are a bit spread out, but the practical thing about Aix is that nowhere is too far away!

I love [Agnès B](#) for its basic, beautiful white shirts, perfect black trousers... It's in Rue Fernand Dol, in the Quartier Mazarin district with its 18th century private town houses, a beautiful walk. For handbags, [Un Jour Un Sac](#), 2 Rue Carriero, is always full of surprises. Sometimes we have invitation bag sales at Hôtel Cézanne. I prefer [Clergerie](#) shoes. They are in Rue Fabrot in a shop as exciting as its shoes. Coming back to shoe basics, go to [Armenac](#), Rue Pierre et Marie Curie. For pens (and leather articles as well), try [Makaire](#), by [Hermès](#), it's a writers paradise. What's more, they give you such a warm welcome, and if you come from Hôtel Cézanne... Men's fashion has its temple in [Daniel Crémieux](#), Rue Marius Reinaud. Make a detour and pop into Gant next door. They know how to dress men there as well. And since we are in Place des Chapeliers, the ladies should try on dresses by "Pomponettes" (a Marseille brand, of course) at Mademoiselle Louise or Chez Paloma. A warning for your credit card; trying them is keeping them!

To complete your change of look, Chez Bouvet (Rue Fabrot) can fit you out with a pair of glasses the like of which you always dreamed of having but never dared to think you'd own. There, yes!!

For [flowers](#), the number you need is [Stéphane Thévenin](#) 04 42 28 00 72.

Beautiful, fast and so polite. On a completely different note, beautiful Aix property is at Guillaume Rey ([Actuel Immobilier](#) 04 42 26 92 42).

A few kilometres from our beloved city centre, you just must taste Côtes de Provence red wine. We prefer it to rosé. Visit [Domaine de la Brillane](#), run by Mary and Rupert. Their cellar and their friendly approach is well worth a detour (06 80 93 55 63). To get there [Taxis Aixois](#) (04 42 27 71 11) are fast, punctual, and a Midi accent is guaranteed!

MARKETS

On a visit to Aix-en-Provence you must do the markets: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 08.00 to 13.00, unless it's raining. But when you realize that here we have 300 days of sunshine a year, the market is 3 times a week all year!

Markets are really happy places: discoveries, scents, loads of things to find...

[Place Richelme](#), "the producers": local produce, fruits, vegetables, honey, goats cheese...

[Place des Prêcheurs](#): large ORGANIC market and flowers, olives, spices, bread...

[Place du Palais de Justice](#): second hand goods, stoles, silverware, collectors' items (charms, books, disks...)

[Place de Verdun and along by the Cour d'Appel](#): everything, everything you need in the way of clothes, footwear, fancy dress...



RESTAURANTS

The most gastronomic...

Pierre Reboul, (11 Petite rue Saint Jean - 04 42 20 58 26), absolutely bursting with creativity! Completely the opposite of boring food, the flavours are sublime in the extreme. It should be noted that they make their own sparkling mineral water. The final gag is the little meringue, and you end up sending smoke signals to your neighbour. That seems to be what they mean by molecular cuisine...

Lounge atmosphere...

L'icône, (3 Rue F. Mistral - 04 42 27 59 82), modern, private surroundings, it's good.

La Rotonde, (Place de la Rotonde - 04 42 91 61 70), "see and be seen", it works both ways, in front of a large plate full of food, or just listening to the D J. Beautiful terrace in front of a large fountain.

Le Passage, (16 Rue Villars - 04 42 37 09 00), a drink or a few oysters between 2 cinemas.

Les 2 Frères, (4 Av. Reine Astrid - 04 42 27 90 32), "visual food", or so they say. Everything is there, the plane trees on the terrace, the LEDS, and modern Provence cuisine as well. In summer, total happiness.

100% Japanese...

Yamoto, a must, (21 Av. des Belges - 04 42 38 00 20), very zen and very, very good.

Le Yogi, (7 Av. Victor Hugo - 04 42 38 48 76), always up to the mark, it's good, the waitresses are dressed like "dolls", extremely beautiful terrace in the city centre.

100% Asian and delicious...

Thay Lai, the real good address, (16bis Rue des Marseillais - 04 42 23 53 79), good value. OK, the decor isn't that wonderful, but taste the "Phoe" or Barbecued duck, there's no better! And be nice to René, the owner and he'll be nice to you...

An address in Cours Mirabeau...

Sadly, just one, **Chez Antoine Coté Cours** (19 Cours Mirabeau 04 42 93 12 51), a bit of chic, Aix style. Italian-Provence cuisine.

In Italy...

Chez Ferretti, Italy "semplis e buono" (13 Rue Maréchal Joffre - 04 42 12 11 92)

Chez Jo, the essential super friendly pizzeria, well located (59 Rue Espariat - 04 42 26 12 47), good Italian-Provence specialities.

À La Pizza (Rue Aude - 04 42 26 22 17), go there for a vegetable pizza!!

Grills over a wood fire...

La Brocherie, for those who've got nothing against a rustic atmosphere, (5 Rue Fernand Dol - 04 42 38 33 21). Meat and fish, you're certain to have a good time!



BRASSERIES

All the Brasseries in Aix have a Provence flavour and sometimes pizzas on the menu.

Le Verdun, (20 Place Verdun - 04 42 27 03 24)

La Madeleine (4 Place des Prêcheurs - 04 42 38 28 02)

L'Archevêché (Place de L'archevêché - 04 42 21 43 57). Particularly attentive service, and they're clever enough to open very late during the International Opera Festival.

L'Office, (11 petite rue Saint Jean – 04 42 54 14 25) brand new, beautiful, all good ! The Chef (and owner as well) knows the food and he loves that !

Le Mille Feuille, (8 rue Rifle Rafle – 04 42 96 55 17) everyday some fresh products from the market are proposed, it's fresh and tasty . amazing terrace under the plane trees

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La Maison du Château (le Parc du Château, Montée de l'Eglise à Châteauneuf Le Rouge – 04 42 64 24 50) excellent address on the countryside. Old « Bastide » renovated and decorated in a modern style. It's contemporary with good cuisine, many choices and tasty of course (grilled meat, local food, pizzas, pastas,...)

There aren't any addresses in Aix that can really be recommended for fish. It's best to go to Marseille. Most restaurants listed here have beautiful terraces because in Aix-en-Provence we eat outdoors 300 days a year! It's wise to book a table in all these restaurants.

