

ON THE MAP

# MADE IN STOCKHOLM

On the outskirts of Sweden's capital, the once-overlooked neighborhood of Birkastan is now bustling with stylish boutiques and casual cafés that cater to the city's new creative class.

**1 Ulrika Sandström** Romantic ruffles and feminine frills get a rock-and-roll twist in the homegrown designer's current collection, but don't miss her line of neutral shifts at the pocket-size shop. *36 Norrbackagatan; 46-8/5456-4410; ulrikasandstrom.se.*

**2 Carin Wester** The current darling of the Stockholm fashion scene, Wester stands out with sharp silhouettes and playful prints for men and women, all on display in her white-walled boutique. *24 Rörstrandsgatan; 46-8/305-415; carinwester.com.*

**3 Paus Bar & Kök** The tiled dining room walls hint at the bistro's previous incarnation as a charcuterie. These days, menu favorites include grilled steak and scampi risotto, while the bar is a popular haunt for post-work aperitifs. *18 Rörstrandsgatan; 46-8/344-405; dinner for two \$80.*

**4 Xoko** At this modern café, traditional treats get an artistic twist, like princess cake draped with pale green marzipan and crowned with red raspberries. *15 Rörstrandsgatan; 46-8/318-0487; dessert for two \$10.*

**5 Mellqvist** Need a lift? The city's finest espresso is served in this hole-in-the-wall coffee shop, where local devotees pop in for daily caffeine fixes and leisurely weekend brunches. *4 Rörstrandsgatan; 46-8/302-380; coffee and pastries for two \$13.*

**6 Acne Archive** You'll find past best sellers—suede bodysuits, asymmetrical jackets—by edgy Swedish label Acne on the racks, along with a trove of shoes, accessories, and one-off designs. *53 Torsgatan; 46-8/302-723; acnestudios.com.*

—INGRID K. WILLIAMS




SHOP

# HERMÈS MAKES A SPLASH

Everyone's favorite saddle-maker turned wait-list-handbag purveyor, Hermès, is now setting up shop on Paris's Left Bank. That's right: after 174 years, the brand has finally ventured over to the other, artsier side of the Seine to open a store in a building formerly occupied by a public swimming pool. Inside you'll find mosaic tiled floors that recall the space's aquatic beginnings, as well as three ash-wood "huts" that serve as mini boutiques. On offer? A range of leather bags and accessories, *bien sûr*, but also wooden furniture and cashmere blankets at La Maison—the house's first foray into home goods—plus a florist, a café, and (yes) even a saddle or two. *17 Rue de Sevres, TK Arr.; 33-1/4222-8083.* —MIMI LOMBARDO

STOCKHOLM, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: COURTESY OF ULRIKA SANDSTRÖM; PIA ULIN (4); BIANCA BRANDON-COX (2); HERMÈS; FRANÇOIS BOUCHON/FIGAROPHOTO