

Marianne Hoogeveen's favorites

A real Quick Bite:

I lived near the Place Jourdan for several years and the best frites in Brussels can be found at "Maison Antoine". This quarter is quite "booming" since 5 years and now there is also a great pizza place Mamma Roma, "pizza slices" to go or "eat in" and weighed by the kilo....There's always a queue whether you go to Antoine or Mamma Roma but worth the wait I can assure you!

A quick Bite:

Brasserie Martin Pêcheur, ave Georges Henri, Brasserie Georges (Schaerbeek), Olio & Oliva (WSL). I love a quick bite at simple but good brasseries in the neighborhood. As I live in an area that borders Schaarbeek, WSL and Etterbeek, there is quite a good choice for a quick lunch or dinner when I don't feel like cooking.

A Serious Tete a Tete:

L'assiette de Bernard, Place Jourdan has very good food and an interesting monthly menu, much better than your "average" brasserie and also the sommelier can recommend some good wines (look for the smiles on it's wine menu)! , "Le Coq en Pate" (Woluwe St Lambert) is a good Italian with equal qualitative menus, no pizza here but fine Italian cuisine !

Business, Business, Business:

When I take international visitors out for dinner in Brussels, often I choose Belga Queen for the "décor", people are always impressed. Brasserie "La Roue d'Or" is a nice walk from the Grand Place and it's kitchen is open quite late (midnight I believe) so convenient if you have late arrivals! Last week I enjoyed a very nice dinner on the terrace at Le Vismet (Place St. Catherine) great seafood and will definitely go back!

When I travel abroad:

Amsterdam: Hotel Okura for it's teppanyaki, having a show in front of you between bites is nice and entertaining when you have guests,
Casa di David is an Italian in the city centre (Singel) and tourists go there as well as the locals,

reservations are a must, good authentic food.

“Sichuan” is situated in the Regulierdwarsstraat and the first Chinese in Holland to get a Michelin star, definitely go there for it’s peking duck menu!

Restaurant “Mero”, Scheveningen, high quality seafood near the harbor.

Some other favorites:

Hotel: For a romantic weekend break near the beach, I really enjoy going to the Dutch coast, Schoorl, beautiful dunes and preserved nature area. Hotel/restaurant Merlet, Schoorl is a great stay and they have a very good restaurant as well. Nice to walk on the beach or ride a bike and then relax in the evening with a good meal.

Something completely different...I have been to Las Vegas a few times and love visiting the hotels there. Last time we stayed at The Venetian and people either love it or hate it but I love being there for a few days in that crazy, artificial world. However we also combined Vegas with the Grand Canyon and staying in a log cabin afterwards “brings you back to normal”.

Another favorite is Miami and it’s art deco hotels, great “people” watching on the terrace in South Beach. Last but not least I was fortunate enough to travel to Kenya & Tanzania on safari and this was one of the best holidays ever, the lodges are spectacular and people extremely friendly, definitely one of my favorites!

City: New York, Barcelona, London, Venice, Cape Town, Valletta

Country: too many to name...

Venue: The Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta

Best kept MICE secret: The Hague

MICE personality: Myriam Winnepenninckx, Myriam is “Miss Switzerland” and a true MICE professional!

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