

# view

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## RESTAURANTS, BARS, NIGHTLIFE

### GALA

(Regulierdwarsstraat 38. Tel +31 20 623 6303  
www.restaurantgala.com)



Gala Restaurant

For a taste of Spain in the heart of Amsterdam look no further than the new chic tapas restaurant Gala. Opened by the owners of the infamously popular Mexican restaurant Roses Cantina, this is a great place to spend a whole evening or just to drop by to sample a reasonably priced dish or two. Try the divine Shrimps a La Plancha served on a rippling blue wave, or take a journey across Spain with the Plato de Queso. Long and narrow in layout, Gala is reminiscent of a dark wine cellar, with a sleek minimalist decor, under-lit tables, up-lit walls, and curved ceilings. Sit on the tall stools alongside the chunky black marble topped bar, Spanish style, or enjoy more intimate surroundings in the room outback that overlooks the garden.

### TWENTY THIRD

(Hotel Okura, Ferdinand Bolstraat 333. Tel +31 20 678 8351 www.okura.nl)

Restaurant 11 in the Post CS building may have commanded the best view of Amsterdam for the last few years, but it no longer reigns supreme. Cocktail lounge bar Twenty Third, (unsurprisingly) located on the 23rd floor of the Okura Hotel, provides drinks and a variety of exclusive snacks from the hotel's Michelin star restaurant Ciel Bleu. Sample one of the 17 different champagnes on offer (6 of which are available by the glass) and feast on oysters and caviar, whilst gracefully reclining on a bench overlooking the city as the sun goes down. Open from 6pm until 1am daily.

## NEW RETAIL SOURCES

### WELLA WARENHAUS

(Keizersgracht 300 (corner of Berenstraat)  
www.wellawarenhaus.nl)

At the end of July the Jordan neighbourhood in Amsterdam welcomed a fresh concept store to its mix of antique, vintage and hip brand retailers. Wella Warenhaus is a platform for young designer talent, renting out store space to an interesting mix of labels. At present, within the spacious all-white walls, there are 14 designers including Cherry Sue's retro womenswear, Boulognes hand-made recycled bags and Huh's quirky modern furniture. The basement is currently under renovation to allow even more designers to join the Wella Warenhaus family in the future.

### SAPORO

(Wolvenstraat 21. Tel +31 20 4214730)

Another new addition to the Jordan is the high end independent Saporio. Specialising in Belgian and Danish labels such as College, Rützou, Vera Pepa and Violetta, this very stylish and compact store offers many luxury essentials. A soothing ambience is created inside with Diptyque fragranced candles and Turkish bath style paved changing rooms. If you're looking for high quality basics, or inspiration for how to add a twist to an essential item, with no cost limitations, then Saporio is definitely worth checking out.

### KAUPPA

(Oude Spiegelstraat 6. Tel +31 020 622 4848  
www.kauppa.nl)

From the land of a thousand lakes, newly opened Kauppa brings timeless and elegant Finnish design to Amsterdam. Described as "style with a thought, design with a twist, fashion with a positive attitude", Kauppa offers a fresh selection of clothing and homeware labels in a suitably Finnish environment of pristine white walls and birch trunk lighting. Ageless pieces of Artek furniture, textiles from Lapuan Kankurit and eco friendly womenswear from Globe Hope are just some of the treasures sold here.

## EXHIBITIONS & GALLERIES

### TASSENMUSEUM HENDRIKJE

(Herengracht 573. www.tassenmuseum.nl  
Open daily 10am till 5pm)

Get ready ladies! For Amsterdam now has a handbag museum with over 3500 Western bags, purses and accessories, ranging from the 16th century through to present day designs. Formerly located in Amstelveen, the museum's new Amsterdam home is a stunning 17th century building, with original ceiling paintings and inspiring period features. With many exhibitions planned for the future to run alongside the main collection, this is a museum worth visiting frequently, and with contemporary handbag designs on sale in the museum shop, it's worth taking some spare cash just in case you find that extra handbag that every woman needs.



S.Ivo, bags, Hendrikje, The museum of bags and purses, Amsterdam (The Pepin Press) 2004

### ANDY WARHOL: OTHER VOICES, OTHER ROOMS

(Stedelijk Museum, Oosterdokskade 5.  
www.stedelijk.nl Oct. 12 – Jan. 13 2008)

It's been forty years since Amsterdam hosted a Warhol exhibition, but this October the Stedelijk museum will begin a three-month tribute to the Pop Art master. The exhibition will not only show a selection of his most iconic works such as Marilyn Monroe and Campbell Soup Cans, but also 27 films, all the material he produced for television and rarely screened video tapes and audio recordings of Warhol himself. With a red carpet, paparazzi-style welcome and music from The Velvet Underground to accompany visitors around, this exhibition is an all encompassing window onto the soul of his work.