

Shopping, Zürich, Switzerland.



From luxury to international brands, and from tradition-steeped stores to urban Zurich labels: shopping in Zurich inspires both aficionados of exclusive items and lovers of fashion. “Lädele” is what Zurich residents call enjoying a leisurely shopping spree through the multi-faceted districts of the city – whether on the exclusive, world-famous Bahnhofstrasse, in the picturesque Old Town along the River Limmat, with its over 2,000-year-old history, or in the trendy urban quarters of Zürich-West and Aussersihl.

→ zuerich.com/shopping

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A Quarter to Suit Everyone

Bahnhofstrasse and Downtown Zurich: Luxury Stores, International Brands, and Top Chocolatiers

The internationally acclaimed shopping precinct along the Bahnhofstrasse was created after Zurich Main Station was built on the site where the city's fortified moat stood 150 years ago. Stretching over a distance of just under a mile, it links Zurich Main Station with Lake Zurich. Nowadays, department stores, boutiques, and jewelry shops can be found lined up in a row like pearls on a necklace. Exclusive fashion and accessories are on sale at, for example, Bongénie Grieder, Swiss luxury fashion and leather goods at Bally, and a fine selection of quality sportswear at Och Sport. Somewhat hidden behind the tower of St. Peter's Church is the diamond boutique, Vainard, offering one-of-a-kind and exclusive handcrafted jewelry in Parisian art deco style. The Swiss tradition-steeped companies, Türlér and Bucherer, also manufacture their own watch and jewelry collections and customized pieces in their own smithies. Other addresses for an exclusive choice of watches and jewelry are Beyer Uhren und Juwelen, Christ Uhren & Schmuck, and KURZ Schmuck und Uhren.

Department stores on the Bahnhofstrasse

In Zurich's department stores, you can find everything your heart desires. The Jelmoli department store, which opened in 1899, is not only the oldest in Zurich, but also the largest shop-within-a-shop department store in Switzerland. It houses more than 1,000 established retailers spread out over seven floors and selling more than 250,000 products. In the basement, Jelmoli also runs a Food Market complete with take-out counter, offering choice specialties from all over the world. Less than a two-minute walk away are the department stores, Globus (also with a delicatessen department), Manor, Migros City, and St. Annahof. Both Globus and Jelmoli provide an in-house personal shopping service.

Old Town: Where Trends Meet Traditions

In Zurich's Old Town, artisans, antique dealers, bookshop owners, florists, and hairdressers can be found alongside trendy boutiques, Zurich labels, and jewelry stores. This combination of many different kinds of specialist shops is unique to this quarter, and makes the Old Town particularly attractive for shoppers. To this day, handicraft and tradition are actively fostered in many of the shops here, such as at the over 150-year-old, family-run Schwarzenbach Kolonialwaren, selling a range of colonial goods. The minute you enter this store, you are transported back to bygone days. The shop still has its original furnishings, and hanging in the air is the scent of freshly roasted coffee and spices and fruit from all corners of the globe. Messer-scharf and Swiss Cutlery offer a selection of Swiss Army knives and other typical artisan products. In sharp contrast to this are the numerous chic boutiques, which contribute to the diversity and unique character of the shopping facilities in Zurich's Old Town. A good example of this is The Time-Tunnel: here the fashion-conscious can browse through the second-hand designer objects or have their hair cut. Also of interest is the boutique, Thema Selection. In the mid-1970s, the three founders sold avant-garde fashion for self-assured women. Initially business was

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slow, for their friends and acquaintances were mostly squatters and artists with no money. But a rapturous article in Vogue caused this to change overnight. To this day, Thema Selection stands for feminine elegance and self-confidence.

Schöpfe: Local Handicrafts

Situated on the opposite bank of the River Limmat is Schöpfe, one of the city's oldest districts. This quarter is still dominated by artisans, and visitors can often obtain expert advice from the master craftsman or artist – whether goldsmith or woodcarver – in person. Schweizer Heimatwerk, which sells exclusively top-quality handicraft items made in Switzerland, also has a branch here. One door further along, Marktlücke Zurich offers unemployed women the opportunity to reintegrate themselves into working life by making beautiful handcrafted products and selling them in the store. Equally dexterous are the creative staff at Mörgeli Bilderrahmen, selling exquisite handmade picture frames, Fé's Accessoires, and Spirit of Silk, with its hand-printed silk scarves.

Europaallee – the Newest Urban Quarter Next to Zurich Main Station

A new quarter known as Europaallee has recently sprung up between the busiest train station in Switzerland – Zurich Main Station – and the multicultural Langstrasse quarter. All kinds of people come together here every day, for the diversity to be found in Europaallee is great. Innovative shopping concepts – such as a specialist sports store with an integrated boulder wall or a boutique that in the evening is transformed into a yoga studio –, restaurants, take-out outlets, cafés, bars, and pubs rub shoulders with food stores and shops selling Swiss design and fashion accessories. The quarter is also home to the Kulturhaus Kosmos, a veritable cultural mecca featuring an excellent book salon with movie theater, a cafe and bistro, literary soirées, and round-table discussions on a variety of subjects.

Zürich-West and Aussersihl: Urban Zurich Labels

The creative sector in Zurich is booming. This is particularly evident in the trendy quarters of Zürich-West, formerly the city's industrial district, and Aussersihl, with the long, drawn-out Langstrasse running through it. New galleries, restaurants, bars, and clubs are opening here all the time. In addition, textile and furniture designers, jewelry makers and fashion designers, architects and graphic designers enthral with their outstanding designer pieces. Close to the colorful Langstrasse, Fabric Frontline continues Zurich's silk tradition, which dates back to the 13th century. Designer Ida Gut and the Swiss-style label, Beige, also have their businesses nearby. The legendary Freitag bags are sold in Zürich-West in a tower made out of 17 rusty shipping containers stacked on top of each other. With its stock of 1,600 bags and accessories, it houses the world's largest selection of individual recycled freeway bags. Anyone interested in Zurich labels are treated to a fantastic overview at Saus und Braus, which sells solely Swiss-made fashion and accessories.

Shopping Malls

The Sihlcity shopping center in the southern part of the city was built in 2007 on the site of a former paper factory, to which brick buildings and a tall chimney still bear witness today. The present-day shopping mall, with its 80 shops, event hall, movie theater complex, health and wellness spa, numerous

Zürich Tourism

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restaurants, and the Hotel Four Points by Sheraton combines traditional buildings from the 1950s with state-of-the-art architecture, and offers an incomparable shopping and enjoyment experience.

Open 365 Days a Year

At Zurich Main Station, you can shop in a central location every single day of the year; with more than 135 retail outlets, ShopVille Zurich offers an extensive range of services and stores. Here you can find everything you could possibly wish for – including on Sundays and public holidays. Shopping is also possible 365 days a year at Zurich Airport, which is home to over 80 retailers, as well as various service providers. Moreover, once they have passed through passport control, travelers also have 50 duty-free shops to choose from.

Food and Specialty Markets

Various markets are held in Zurich every week. Arguably the best known of them all is the Bahnhof-Markt in the massive concourse at Zurich Main Station. Every Wednesday, market traders from all over Switzerland sell a host of wonderful culinary delicacies here, ranging from Puschlav bread to Persian fruit. The best place to buy flowers and vegetables is the market at Bürkliplatz on Tuesdays and Fridays, or at Marktplatz in Oerlikon on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Further flower and vegetable markets can be found at Helvetiaplatz and on the Rathausbrücke. Trinket collectors, antique enthusiasts, and bargain hunters should head to the flea market at Bürkliplatz, held every Saturday between May and October. And every Saturday, 300 or so vendors ply their wares at the Kanzlei flea market.

Swiss Chocolate and Zurich Confectionery

Switzerland is famously the land of chocolate. It therefore comes as no surprise that here, in the largest Swiss city, the choice is not only extensive, but also exquisite. One of the most famous addresses in the world for delectable sweet confectionery is Confiserie Sprüngli, renowned for its personalized service and mouth-watering creations – such as the world-famous Luxemburgerli mini-macaroons. Other top addresses for chocolate products and gifts for sweet-toothed loved ones back home are Teuscher on the Bahnhofstrasse, Vollenweider Chocolatier, Honold, and Läderach Chocolatier Suisse. In addition, chocolates lovers can look forward to Lindt's Home of Chocolate, which opens on the banks of Lake Zurich in 2020. This spectacular experience world will feature the largest Lindt's store in the world, various exhibitions, and workshops. Besides chocolate, (Züri-)Tirggel is a particularly delicious Zurich specialty. This crispy cookie made from honey, flour, and spices is decorated on the upper side with scenic motifs or coats-of-arms. Nowadays, this confectionery is produced, among others, by Biscuits-Suter AG in Schönenberg, or made by hand at the Honegger Tirggel bakery.

Store Opening Hours

In Zurich and surrounding area, the stores are generally open between Monday and Friday, from 9am to at least 6.30pm, with late shopping once a week. In downtown Zurich, as well as at certain shopping malls, stores remain open until 8pm on weekdays and 6pm on Saturdays. On Sundays and public holidays, when the stores are generally closed, it is still possible to shop at ShopVille at Zurich Main Station, at Zurich Airport, in certain outlets close to train stations, and at gas stations.

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Events

Man's World

January 31 – February 3, 2019, Stage One, Zürich Oerlikon
→ mansworld.com

Criterion

March 28 – 31, 2019, Messe Zürich, Zürich Oerlikon
→ criterion.ch

Fashion Hotel

tba, Zurich
→ fashionhotel.net

Blickfang

November, tba
→ blickfang.com

Kreislauf 345

May 18 – 19, in the Kreis 3, 4 & 5 districts, Zurich
→ kreislauf345.ch

Weekly Fresh Markets

BahnhofMarkt

Wednesday, 10am – 8pm, Zurich Main Station

Market at Bürkliplatz

Tuesday & Friday, 6 – 11am, Bürkliplatz, 8001 Zürich

Marktplatz, Oerlikon

Wednesday, 6 – 11am & Saturday, 6am – 12pm, Marktplatz Oerlikon, 8050 Zürich

Weekly Market, Helvetiaplatz

Tuesday & Friday, 6 – 11am, Helvetiaplatz, 8004 Zürich

Flower & Vegetable Market, Rathausbrücke

Saturday, 6am – 12pm, Rathausbrücke, 8001 Zürich

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Flea Market at Bürkliplatz

Saturday, 6am – 4pm, Bürkliplatz, 8001 Zürich

Flea Market, Kanzlei

Saturday, 8am – 4pm, Kanzleistrasse 56, 8004 Zürich

→ flohmarktkanzlei.ch

Contact

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