



# Zürich

## Geneva + Basel



Need to know



Hotels



Food and drink



Retail



Essays



Culture



Design and architecture



Sport and fitness



Walks



Resources

Bistros. Apéro. Nightlife — Art. Design. Architecture — Hiking. Shopping. Swimming



... All aboard! Join us for a tour of these cities' outposts of good food, design, retail and more. Los geht's! ...

**Brunch, lunch  
and coffee**  
Light bites



2  
Café Frühling, Matthäus  
*Best-kept secret*

Ask a Basler for their top coffee spot and they'd probably direct you to this Matthäus address – eventually. But you can't blame them if they feel the need to keep the place a secret from outsiders.

Café Frühling's beans are roasted by sister company Spring Roasters, its baristas are nimble on the Sanremo Racer, its pastries are made by Dornach bakery Vital Speischaus and the tables outside catch the morning sun. Although the coffee list is longer than the food menu, it's in no way a sign of the baristas overextending their capabilities. Every brew here is a worthy contender and bolstered by Spring Roasters blends.

69 Klybeckstrasse, 4057  
+41 (0)61 689 1623  
cafe-fruehling.ch



1  
La Fourchette, Matthäus  
*French fancies*

This is home-style French cuisine at its finest. The eclectic interior reflects the regularly changing menu, scribbled on a blackboard by the window: beef bourguignon, savoury crêpes and homemade pastries. There's also an excellent selection of regional wines – ask chefs Maya Totaro or Claire Guerrier (both pictured, Totaro on right) for recommendations.

Lunch is served in a swift two-hour window but dinner is a lengthier affair. The buffet brunch on the first Sunday of every month books out quickly.  
122 Klybeckstrasse, 4057  
+41 (0)61 691 2828  
lafourchettebasel.com



**Around the world**

If you want to experience some more far-flung flavours while you're in town, head to Alte Markthalle Basel, a covered food court that offers everything from Persian plates and Vietnamese street food to Japanese bento boxes and Venezuelan arepas.  
altemarkthalle.ch

**Drinks**  
Wet your whistle

1  
Consum, Altstadt Kleinbasel  
*Grape expectations*

If you're hankering for a nice glass of wine, look no further than this laid-back wine bar in a former corner shop on Rheingasse. In winter, Consum is a cosy stop-in, with its wooden bar, leather banquettes and colourful tiled floor. In summer, punters spill onto the pavement, enjoying crisp rosés and cold beers on red chairs under cream-coloured parasols.

There are more than 100 European wines on offer, as well as a healthy list of gin and tonics and a sharp selection of cocktails. And where there's wine, there's cheese (here, it's a counter full of Gruyère, goat's cheese and more) plus charcuterie, from chorizo Iberico to salami cacciatore.  
19 Rheingasse, 4058  
+41 (0)61 690 9130  
consumbasel.ch



3  
Finkmüller, Am Ring  
*Coffee and treats*

Simon Müller's entrepreneurial drive was born from a health kick that saw him making his own natural oils. Selling his home-pressed coconut, black cumin and sunflower oils, he needed an income supplement and turned his focus to coffee.

Now Finkmüller is one of the top roasteries in the city, churning out ethically sourced beans. Besides silky espressos, the friendly café in Alte Markthalle Basel (see opposite) also serves tasty breakfasts and lunches, including flaky pastries and well-dressed salads.

20 Steinertorberg, 4051  
+41 (0)79 601 2361



2  
Nebel Bar, Clara  
*Cool drinks*

This dark space, designed by Basel-based Focketyn del Rio Studio and found just across the road from Zum Goldenen Fass (see page 103), may look too cool for its own good but inside there's a team of smiling staff, a buzzing crowd, a live DJ and a splendid selection of drinks.

Grab a Swiss Alpine beer, a Oaxacan mezcal or a glass of locally sourced wine from nearby French regions and take your time at the simple wooden benches or repurposed theatre seats.

94 Sperrstrasse, 4057  
+41 (0)61 554 1437  
nebel.cloud

**Down by the river**

In a prime position on the south bank of the Rhein, Cargo Bar is a hotspot for thirsty creatives.

The packed bar is a platform for young and emerging artists, hosting regular exhibitions and live-music events – the dates of which can be found on both its website and its blackboard.  
cargobar.ch