



there magazine

BRUSSELS AIRLINES' INFLIGHT MAGAZINE

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FLOWER POWER

**WHY
BELGIAN
FLORIST
MARK COLLE
IS FASHION'S
GO-TO
GUY**

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 



The French at The Midland Hotel

MANCHESTER

UNITED KINGDOM MANCHESTER AIRPORT, 8KM

👤 63,047,162 📞 +44 🌡️ 16°C 🇬🇧 BRITISH POUND (GBP) ✈️ THREE TIMES DAILY



SLEEP **Velvet** (2 Canal Street, (0)161 236 9003, velvetmanchester.com, rooms from £75/€88) is one of the few hip boutique hotels in the city centre. It has just 19 rooms, with exposed brick walls and four-poster beds, plus a bar, restaurant and penthouse suite.

EAT Celebrated Cumbrian chef Simon Rogan has teamed with The Midland Hotel to launch new restaurant, **The French** (Peter Street, (0)161 236 3333). Meat straight from his Lake District farm is served in a grand dining room.

CULTURE Sir Kenneth Branagh takes to the stage in *Macbeth* while The xx entertain across town during the **Manchester International Festival** (4-21 July, mif.co.uk). Talks, theatre, music and exhibitions take over the city's indoor and outdoor spaces.

SHOP **St Ann's Square** is a great jumping off point for an afternoon of shopping – there are often market stalls serving hot exotic food, and designer and high-street shops line the square, undercover arcades and nearby streets.

LATER **Odd Bar** (30-32 Thomas Street) is exactly that, but aside from out-of-the-ordinary décor, the late-night bar in the buzzing northern quarter sells a wide range of local ales to creative thirtysomethings and at the weekend has a roster of youthful, local DJs.

TIP For the best in old and new, head to **Spinningfields**, the latest quarter to be given a revamp. Set around the beautiful John Rylands Library, marvel at the stained-glass windows, then head along the canal for a water-side drink at a swanky wine bar. **Amy Dennis**

/ INFO

TRAIN During the day there are seven direct trains an hour to Manchester Piccadilly, taking around 20 minutes. The service runs less frequently at night. Tickets cost £4.50/£4.

TAXI A taxi to the city centre costs about €23/£20, and the journey takes 20 to 30 minutes.

TOURIST INFO
visitmanchester.com

MARSEILLE

FRANCE MARSEILLE PROVENCE AIRPORT, 25KM

👤 62,814,223 📞 +33 🌡️ 23°C

🇪🇺 EURO (EUR)

✈️ TWICE DAILY



SLEEP Tucked midway between Marseille's downtown and the seaside Parc National des Calanques, **Hotel 96** (96 Chemin de la Soude, (0)4 91 71 9022, hotel96.com, rooms from €79) is owned by sibling team Alice and William Racine. Twelve airy rooms and one suite sprawl over the 19th-century home; breakfast (€10) is served in the garden alongside the hotel's swimming pool.

EAT Indulge in lamb and stuffed tomatoes, or langoustine with artichokes, at **La Table du Fort** (8 Rue Fort Notre Dame). Their market-fresh lunch menu is a bargain at €19.

CULTURE As part of Marseille's celebrations as European Capital of

/ INFO

BUS Shuttle buses (navette-marseille.aeroport.com) run every 15-20 minutes from the airport to Marseille's Saint-Charles train station. Tickets cost €8 and the journey takes approximately 25 minutes.

TAXI A taxi from the airport to the city centre costs around €50 and takes about half an hour.

TOURIST INFO
marseille-tourisme.com



Hotel 96 is an airy refuge from the city

Culture 2013 (mp2013.fr), last month saw the opening of the **Museum of Civilisations from Europe and the Mediterranean** (Fort Saint-Jean, J4 Esplanade). It comprises both the 12th-century Fort Saint-Jean, and a 21st-century cubic structure trimmed in a pattern of lace-like concrete, by Algerian-French architect Rudy Ricciotti.

SHOP Pop into boutique **Bird Song** (5 Rue du Panier) to pick up designer

My-Linh Mary's sheer blouses, colourful tunics and printed cotton handbags.

LATER Grab a seat at one of **Festival de Marseille's** (festivaldemarseille.com/en) cinema screenings or dance performances until 12 July.

TIP Head to Le Corbusier's **Cité Radieuse** (280 Boulevard Michelet). French designer Ora-ïto has remade the former rooftop gym into contemporary art space **Mamo**. **Kathryn Tomasetti**