

The 5 best places for **SUNDAY BRUNCH** and **LUNCH**

96 **MAURICE COFFEE BAR**

Cogels-Osylei 88
Zurenborg ⑥
+32 (0)3 284 89 44
www.mauricecoffeeknits.com

This cool coffee shop is the perfect spot for Sunday brunch before you set off to explore the flamboyant architecture of Cogels-Osylei. It was opened in 2014 by Flemish TV star Véronique Leysen, who gave up her broadcasting career to start a knitwear line. Book by phone.

97 **CHARLIE'S**

Volkstraat 66
Het Zuid ②
+32 (0)3 437 38 27
www.charliesantwerpen.be

Charlotte has created a beautiful coffee bar and brunch spot in a 19th-century town house. The interior is decorated with period fireplaces, designer lamps and house plants. There's a sunny terrace on the street and a little courtyard at the back. Charlotte is a perfectionist when it comes to coffee: your espresso is made from beans roasted in beech wood.

98 **SAIL & ANCHOR**

Guldenvliesstraat 60
Zurenborg ⑥
+32 (0)3 430 40 04
www.sailandanchor.be

English chef Michael Yates has brought the concept of gastro pub food to a cool location in Zurenborg. He serves fine dinners, tasty sausages from London's Borough Market and fish and chips, as well as a classic Sunday roast made with the best beef.



The 5 best COFFEE BARS

151 CAFFÈNATION

Mechelsesteenweg 16
Central Antwerp ①
+32 (0)3 689 70 13
www.caffenation.be

This relaxed, friendly coffee bar is popular with young urban nomads tapping on laptops or reading *De Morgen*. Owner Rob Berghmans imports the finest beans he can find, selling them to other coffee shops such as Coffee & Vinyl. Second location opened at PAKT.

152 NORMO

Minderbroedersrui 30
University Quarter ③
+32 (0)495 65 72 43
www.normocoffee.be

Here is a friendly espresso bar where art school students rub shoulders with the old lady in a coat who has dropped in with her dog. The interior is the familiar ramshackle Antwerp mix of brick walls, ancient armchairs and art magazines.

153 BLACK & YELLOW COFFEE BAR

Nassastraat 7
Het Eilandje ⑧
+32 (0)477 74 56 97
www.blackandyellowcoffee.com

This cool spot for coffee that opened in 2017 is close to the MAS museum. Its two tiny rooms have a few tables and chairs where you can sit with a magazine, or you can perch outside on a wooden bench. The coffee is lovingly made on a shiny Marzocco machine using Mok beans.

154 KOLONEL KOFFIE

Montignystraat 51
Southern Antwerp ⑦
www.kolonelkoffie.be

Kobe Van Gaveren and Femke Nuyens opened their friendly coffee bar in 2012 and moved to a new location, the upcoming Troonplaats, in 2014. They were inspired by the coffee culture of Australia, so the atmosphere is informal. The interior has a hip and laid-back industrial feel.

155 BUTCHERS COFFEE

Kasteelstraat 57
Het Zuid ②
+32 (0)3 334 91 93
www.butcherscoffee.be

The two globetrotting baristas behind the counter have created a friendly urban meeting place where you can sample some exceptional coffees. The interior is cool and relaxed with some details that remind of the building's past as a butcher's shop. You can also sit on a couple of benches out on the square.



The 5 best STREET MARKETS

196 VRIJDAGMARKT

FRIDAYS 9 AM TO 1 PM

[Vrijdagmarkt](#)

[Central Antwerp](#) ①

People have been coming to the street auction on the Vrijdagmarkt since the 16th century. Here is where dealers sell off old office furniture from firms that have just gone bankrupt, ornaments that once belonged to someone's grandmother, and plastic bin bags filled with miscellaneous junk.

197 GOEGEKREGEN

[Damplein](#)

[Park Spoor Noord](#)

[Antwerpen-Noord](#) ②

[www.goekregen.net](#)

A cool, friendly flea market is held regularly in the Park Spoor Noord. Organised by a local collective, it spreads along a meandering path that runs through the landscaped park. You find stands piled with old stuff from dusty attics, along with vintage clothes, classic vinyl and trendy houseplants.

198 ZATERDAGMARKT

SATURDAYS 8 AM TO 4 PM

[Theaterplein](#)

[Central Antwerp](#) ①

Antwerp's multicultural food market is held under a huge glass canopy on the Theaterplein. Stallholders sell fruit from Limburg and fish from Ostend, alongside exotic street food from North Africa, Asia and Turkey.

199 MARKT VAN MORGEN

[Kloosterstraat / Vismijn](#)

[Het Zuid](#) ②

[www.marktvanmorgen.be](#)

Young Antwerp designers set up stalls at the south end of Kloosterstraat on certain Sundays in the summer. It's worth coming just to wander around listening to some cool band playing in the background while nibbling on a cupcake from a brightly-painted caravan parked on the street.

200 BOEKENMART

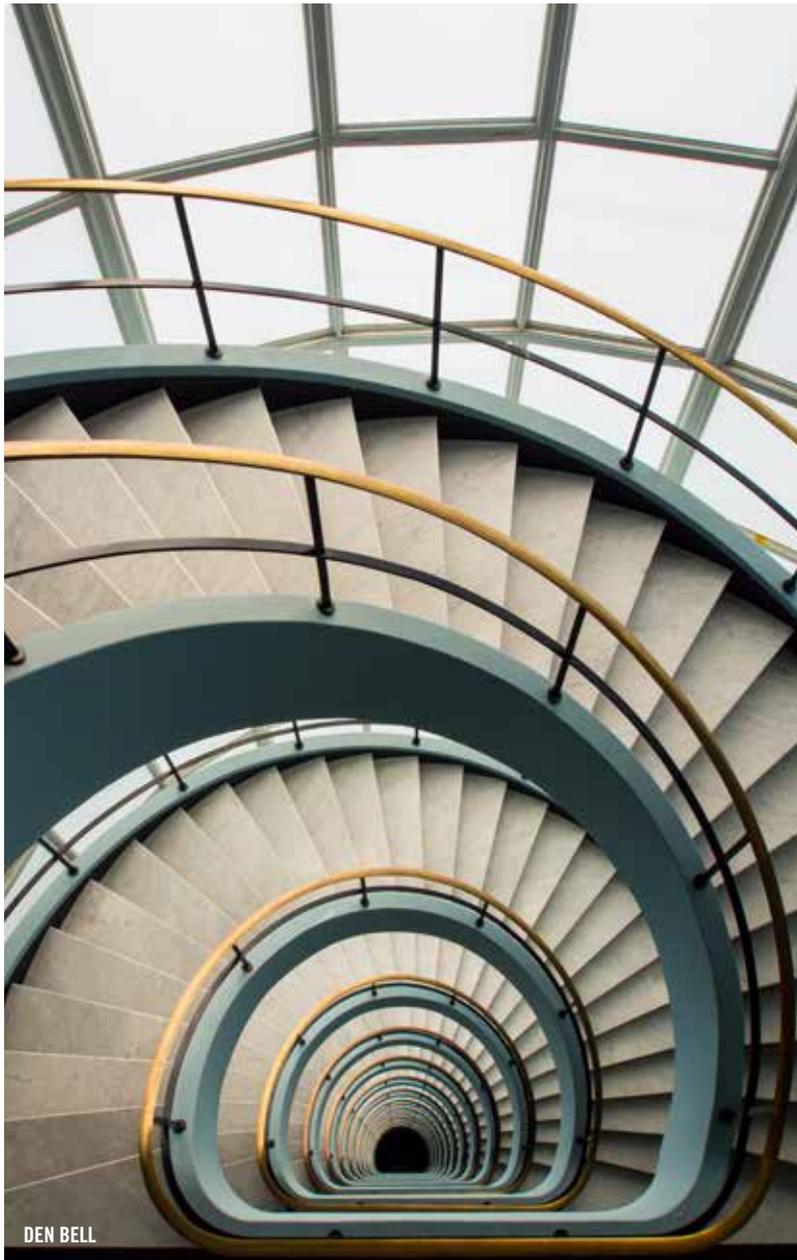
EVERY THIRD SUNDAY OF
THE MONTH, 10 AM TO 4 PM

[De Coninckplein](#)

[Antwerpen-Noord](#) ③

A relaxed monthly market on the square outside the city library where stallholders sell old books, vinyl records and street food. A pleasant place to spend a Sunday morning browsing among dusty books.





DEN BELL

20 BUILDINGS TO ADMIRE

The 5 most IMPRESSIVE TOWERS ————— 138

The 5 most striking MODERN BUILDINGS ——— 141

The 5 finest ART NOUVEAU buildings ————— 143

*The 5 most striking buildings in the
ZURENBORG QUARTER* ————— 145

The 5 best CARTOON MURALS

311 JAN BOSSCHAERT

Wolstraat 12
Central Antwerp ①

A wall in the narrow Moriaanstraatje (Moor Lane) is decorated with a cartoon mural based on the work of comic strip artist Jan Bosschaert. It shows the statue of the Flemish writer Hendrik Conscience on the nearby Conscienceplein with a heap of miscellaneous books scattered on the ground.

312 MERHO

Paradijsstraat 4
University Quarter ③

Turn down the little lane called Paradijsstraat and you will find a comic mural covering the entire side wall of a house. This work from 2007 is based on the *Kiekeboe* series by the graphic artist Merho. The mural includes an imaginary lane leading off the Paradijsstraat.

313 JAN VAN DER VEKEN

Eiermarkt 8
Central Antwerp ①

This mural on a blank back wall of the KBC Bank Tower was created by Jan Van Der Veken, a comic book illustrator from Ghent whose work has appeared on the cover of *The New Yorker*. Van Der Veken's affectionate portrait of city life reflects the Atomic Style of the 1960s.

314 DICK MATENA

Korte Nieuwstraat
Central Antwerp ①

A striking 2008 comic mural based on a graphic novel by Dick Matena appears outside the Hendrik Conscience Library. It shows Frans Laarmans, the failed capitalist in Willem Elsschot's novella *Kaas* (Cheese), striding across Grote Markt with a bag full of unsold Edam cheese.

315 ILAH

OPPOSITE:
Keizerstraat 58
University Quarter ③

The illustrator Ilah is famous for simple comic strips in *De Morgen* newspaper featuring a young woman called Cordelia. The mural in Keizerstraat, commissioned by the university, shows Cordelia struggling with her studies.



The 5 most surprising sculptures in MIDDELHEIM PARK

Middelheimlaan 61
Suburbs (Middelheim) ⑫
+32 (0)3 288 33 60
www.middelheimmuseum.be

366 MISCONCEIVABLE

Erwin Wurm's humorous art works are dotted around Middelheim Park. His most striking work, *Misconceivable*, features an astonishing bent yacht resting on a brick wall. The same artist is responsible for the crashed car leaning against Carl Milles' 1949 sculpture *Pegasus*.

367 ARCHAEOPTERIX LITHOGRAFICA

The Antwerp artist Panamarenko has spent a lifetime creating odd flying machines and prehistoric birds. His tiny mechanical bird *Archaeopterix Lithografica* sits on top of a dead tree, flapping its wings helplessly when anyone approaches.

368 SURROUNDINGS

Located on the edge of the park close to the Braem Pavilion, Alik Cavaliere's *Omgeving* looks like a street of typical Belgian town houses. But these buildings are simply façades.

369 ROMEINSE STRAAT

Guillaume Bijl's *Romeinse Straat* (Roman Street) lies hidden in the woods. It looks like a genuine archaeological site, complete with a notice in three languages stating that the stretch of broken paving dates from about 39 BC. Not true. It was in fact placed here by Bijl in 1994.

370 ORBINO

Luc Deleu has transformed a stack of five shipping containers into a large installation. You can climb the steps to enter the top two containers, where art is exhibited.



25 PLACES TO SLEEP

The 5 most HIP PLACES to stay ————— 202

The 5 most STYLISH B&Bs ————— 204

The 5 best SMALL HOTELS ————— 206

The 5 best lodgings for a ROOM WITH A VIEW — 208

The 5 most UNUSUAL PLACES to sleep ————— 210

The 5 best WEEKEND WALKS

416 ANTWERP HISTORY

Grote Markt
Central Antwerp ①

For a walk in the historical town, begin on Grote Markt and follow Wisselstraat, then Oude Beurs, glancing into the courtyard at No. 16. At the end of the street, go left along Zirkstraat and then right to reach the Sint-Paulus church. Take time to explore the church and its strange garden before crossing the Veemarkt and turning down Peterseliestraat. This leads to the Burchtgracht, which follows the line of the city moat passing below the Vleeshuis, where fragments of the city wall have survived.

417 WATERFRONT

Hanzestedenplaats 1
Het Eilandje ⑧
+32 (0)3 338 44 00
www.mas.be

For a perfect Sunday morning walk, begin with brunch at Storm, the MAS museum cafe, then follow the quays into town. At the riverside restaurant RAS, cross the road to the pedestrian tunnel and walk through to reach Linkeroever. Turn right and follow the waterfront until you come to the windmill on the bend in the river. Here you find several restaurants that make perfect lunch spots.

417 WATERFRONT

