

LIVING

What Does a French Girl Do in New York During Fashion Week? Just Ask Aurélie Bidermann

FEBRUARY 10, 2017 9:00 AM
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Photo: Courtesy of Aurelie Bidermann.



New York Fashion Week is upon us. But between all the hustle and bustle that comes with dashing in between shows, it's important to find some spots where you can unwind. So, who better to ask about the best shops, restaurants, and cafés than a French jewelry designer who frequently visits New York City? Enter Aurélie Bidermann, whose eponymous brand now has two Manhattan-set stores. However, this isn't to say that you should completely eschew the hubbub that takes over the city this time of year. As Bidermann says, "My favorite part about New York Fashion Week is observing all the amazing street style. The energy throughout the city that week is like no other place in the world!"

Basic Sustenance

I have two favorite restaurants in New York. I am a big fan of Italian food, so when I want to eat the best pizza in town, I always go to Pasquale Jones on Mulberry Street. I'm also in love with Shuko—it's really the most amazing Japanese restaurant in the city. Finally, Sant'Ambroeus has great coffee and Italian sandwiches for when you're on the go. Every time I'm in New York, I get one of their salami sandwiches.

Food for Thought

My favorite book is *The Philosophy of Andy Warhol (From A to B and Back Again)*. And with its levels and levels of books of any kind (rare, used, and collectible), the Strand is the greatest place to find a good read. They have a wonderful selection of gems in the basement. I love to get tangled up inside, and always leave with something!

Stomping Ground

The Upper East Side from 75th Street to 80th Street is my favorite neighborhood. First of all, there's the Met Breuer, Gagosian Gallery, and Almine Rech Gallery. But the best museum is the Met. I always spend hours and hours in the Middle Ages and Roman and Etruscan rooms. There's also Zitomer for cosmetics, and Ballet Beautiful, which is where I go for my exercise class. E.A.T. restaurant is great, too, as is the toy store E.A.T. Gifts (I love to find things for my daughter there). The Upper East Side is also where my apartment is. It's like my home away from home when I'm not in Paris.

Bits and Pieces

I clearly like to do a lot of things—but I do have some more favorites! I love to go to flower markets, especially the one on 28th Street. On the weekends, I eat at Eataly, and go to the Union Square Greenmarket. And for clothes, you can't beat New York Vintage. I am a big fan of vintage stores, and their selection is just amazing.

Finally, like most French girls, I love to cook and host dinner parties at my place for friends. I like to adapt my meals with seasonal fruits and vegetables, and never cook the same dinner twice.