

# TATLER

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## TO CATCH A PRINCE

How Grace Kelly  
plotted her path  
to Monaco

## FLIRTY WHITE LOOKS FOR SUMMER

## A MERCENARY MARRIAGE

Simon Mann's  
wife breaks her silence

## A BILLIONAIRE BITES BACK

Flavio Briatore on  
Max Mosley &  
monogamy

## ELECTION FEVER!

Who'll be  
fighting for  
the first  
sleepover at  
Chequers?

## BEAUTY AFTER A BREAK-UP

# Bewitched

How fashion & Harry Potter  
fell for Clemence Poesy



## Travel

◁ central Beirut, this is the best spot for traditional Lebanese cooking and plenty of freshly caught seafood. *Jounieh Old Road, Keserwan (tel: 00 961 9 910 520).*

### Cocteau

The walls here are doodled and cartooned with Jean Cocteau's mini-masterpieces. It's the loveliest restaurant in town and service is super, with a waiter per person. *Sodeco, Achrafieh (tel: 00 961 1 616 617).*

### MYU

Incredibly trendy French-Asian restaurant with an industrial-chic interior by engineer-turned-chef Joseph Mourani. *Rue St Antoine, Gemmayzeh (tel: 00 961 3 334 476).*

## FOR LATER

### Sky Bar

Successfully relocated to the Biel Centre, this is the original Beirut rooftop bar, where champagne flows and local socialites descend every weekend to see and be seen. *BIEL Centre, Downtown (tel: 00 961 1 995 555).*

### BO18

Underground bunker with a retractable roof built on the site of the Karantina Massacre – the tables are made of coffins and everyone is clad in Prada. *Quarantaine (tel: 00 961 3 810 618).*

### Music Hall

An old cinema turned into a burlesque cabaret joint: by midnight there's dancing in the aisles, by 3am there's dancing on the tables. *Starco Building, Central District (tel: 00 961 3 807 555).*

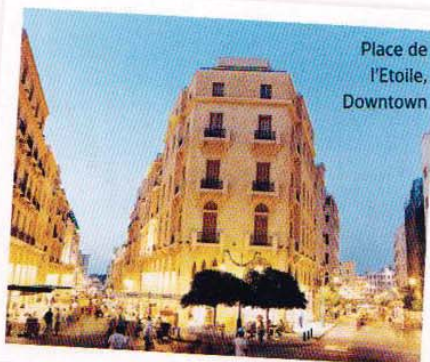
### Torino Express

One of the smallest bars in Beirut, this is a bohemian hangout for local artists and musicians. It's café by day with impressively strong espressos, and bar by night with a DJ, great cocktails and a very cool crowd. *Gouraud Street, Gemmayzeh (tel: 00 961 3 611 101).*

## WHERE TO SHOP: FASHION AND JEWELLERY

### Johnny Farah

Deerskin and cowhide bags, belts and accessories. Johnny F, the dynamo behind Casablanca restaurant, has a global following



(with stores in New York, Paris and Dubai) but it all started in Beirut, his hometown. *Rue Said Akl, Saifi Village (tel: 00 961 1 974 808).*

### Madame Réve

Lina Chammaa and Hala Mouzannar scour the flea markets of the world for all sorts of bits and bobs and magic them into vintage accessories and future heirlooms. *Mar Mikhael, Achrafieh (tel: 00 961 1 565 545).*

### Milia M

This young Lebanese designer took Milan Fashion Week by storm with her floaty romantic collection. Her Saifi Village shop is a sliver of space filled with ethereal goodies. *1051 Bloc D, Saifi Village (tel: 00 961 1 570 611).*

### Nada Le Cavalier

In a city heaving with big-name jewellers (Bulgari, Tiffany, Mouawad), this collection of rare and extremely intricate mosaic pieces is a showstopper. *Sursock Street, Achrafieh (tel: 00 961 1 200 821).*

### Plum

The Browns-cum-Colette of Beirut, where the well-heeled stock up on Pierre Hardy handbags and swoon over the latest Issa, Phillip Lim, Christopher Kane and Lanvin. *Ariss Kanafani Street, Saifi Village (tel: 00 961 1 976 565).*

### Sarah's Bag

The boutique for embroidered, beaded bags and crocheted clutches in retro shapes. Queen Rania and Catherine Deneuve are fans. *Liban Street, Achrafieh (tel: 00 961 1 575 585).*

### Tippy.K

Swarovski-crystalled flip-flops and metallic embroidered wedges designed by Beirut-born Tamara Kosta. Visit [tippyk.com](http://tippyk.com).

## DESIGN AND FURNITURE

### Bokja

Matthew Williamson and Christian Louboutin love the Bokja girls, Huda Baroudi and Maria Hibri. They take 20th-century Western pieces and upholster them in bold, colourful tapestries and textiles from the Middle East and Asia. *Mukhalassiya Street, Saifi Village (tel: 00 961 1 700 008).*

### Nada Debs

Opulent Arabesque meets minimalist Far East in Nada Debs's new collection. Think mother-of-pearl inlaid on Perspex on show in her New York-style loft space. *Mukhalassiya Street, Saifi Village (tel: 00 961 1 999 002).*

### Orient 499

Lanterns adorned with Arabic calligraphy, traditional abayas in vibrant colours, soaps, oils, loofahs, shoes, jewellery – all sourced from Lebanon. *Rue Omar Daouk, Mina el-Hosn (tel: 00 961 1 369 499).*

## WHAT TO SEE

### AUB Archaeological Museum

Hidden inside the American University of Beirut, this little treasure gives an overview of the development of mankind in the Middle East, from the Stone Age to the Islamic period. An added bonus is wandering through the 70 acres of university grounds. *Bliss Street, Hamra (tel: 00 961 1 340 549).*

### Robert Mouawad Private Museum

We love a private museum and this one is gorgeous. A 1911 Beirut mansion with Middle Eastern interiors, filled to the rafters with jewellery, metalwork, antiquities, Islamic pottery, books and Chinese porcelain. *Army Road, Zokak el-Blat (tel: 00 961 1 980 970).*

### Sursock Museum

It's the house more than the temporary art exhibitions that's the draw. A magnificent Italian-Lebanese-style mansion. *Sursock Street, Achrafieh (tel: 00 961 1 210 892).*

## HOW TO GET THERE

The smartest way to go is BMI Business Class – then you can take advantage of the smashing new departure lounge in Heathrow's Terminal One. *Business class, from £1,191 return. Visit [flybmi.com](http://flybmi.com).* □