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TRAVELLER

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An A to Z of unplanned travel

From an Alicante wine pilgrimage to catching ZZZs in an Icelandic bubble hotel, we've got 26 reasons to take a spontaneous weekend trip...



<u>Berlin</u>



Konnopke's Takeout € € € € (Schönhauser Allee 44 B, +49 3044 2776) There's so much to see in Berlin that sometimes eating on the go is best. Keep an eye out for imbiss snack stalls selling falafel, pastries and currywurst for less than €5, starting with this 80-year-old stalwart beneath the U Eberswalder Straße metro station arches.

Le Petit Royal • € € € € (Grolmanstrasse 59, +49 3033 0060) This steak and grilled-fish restaurant has found its groove since opening in May. Staff are friendly, and everything on the menu is excellent (go for some chargrilled prawns).

Don't forget to admire the contemporary art while you wait.



Rum Trader ► (Fasanenstraße 40) At this place — which is a lesson in creative cocktail making as much as a bar — owner Gregor Scholl prowls around in a bowtie and waistcoat serving cocktails of his own devising, based on the spirit you want to drink and whether you'd prefer it sweet or sour. Trust in Scholl, he won't lead you astray.

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•Oktoberfest • Though purists may feel slightly uneasy celebrating Oktoberfest in Berlin rather than Munich, all the important elements are present and correct: big tents, brass bands, roasted meat and freshly brewed beer, surrounded by lots of jolly, tipsy Germans. Revels run until 16 October. kunstraumkreuzberg.de MARESA MANARA

Geneva



(enFaim) €€€€ (Chemin Neuf 4, Eaux-Vives, +412 2700 6063) Stop for a quick, healthy lunch at this tiny soup and juice bar, great for quinoa and chicken salads, grilled aubergine, pesto and mozzarella sandwiches, or its hummus or guacamole dips. Soak it all up with a 'kawi': a persimmon, kiwi, apple and ginger juice.

(Alma) €€€€ (Rue Henri-Blanvalet 6, +41 2 2736 3148)
This new Peruvian restaurant has got everyone talking about ceviche, with beautiful traditional dishes – like lomo saltado (steak stir fry) as well as its marinated-fish speciality – served in spacious and colourful surroundings, with the most lethal of South American cocktails, a pisco sour.



• Gatsby bar ▶ (Rue de Zurich 12) Every night, this piano and lounge bar gets the crowd going with an eclectic events programme that ranges from wine tastings to jazz, pop or rock gigs. Fill up on tapas, burgers or a steak, then order an Aperol Kiss cocktail and get on the dance floor.



(Swiss Boat) See the most of the city with the least possible effort on a cruise along the Rhône river, which also spans the region's serene countryside and villages in a three-hour jaunt. Best to reserve a time slot in advance, before heading to the Quai des Moulins de l'Ile to hop aboard. swissboat.com RANIA MARGARI

