

Urban Explorer Cherie's Travel Itinerary

"I view travel as a way of learning about cultures, and that's what's most appealing to me. I love hearing different languages, trying different cuisines, and learning about each place's history."

- 9am** ● --- Head to Popham's in Islington to grab breakfast: a bacon maple croissant and an oat flat white, both to go. Plus their rosemary sea salt plait to snack on for later in the morning (or now if I'm feeling extra peckish). Be prepared to wait in line, especially on a weekend! (P.S.: They've also got a Hackney branch with a pasta restaurant.)
- 10am** ● --- Walk over to Victoria Miro on Wharf Road and see their excellent curation of contemporary art, and also swing by Parasol which is right next door.
- 11.30am** ● --- Stroll (or cycle, if you're feeling brave) along Regent's Canal towards Broadway Market. Check out the many independent artisan stalls for knick-knacks, Donlon's for art and photography books, and have a second coffee of the day: Climpson & Sons for something local, or Arabica for flavours from beyond east London.
- 1pm** ● --- Lunch at Cafe Cecilia - reservations are a must!
- 3pm** ● --- Head towards Browns East, the outpost of the famous Mayfair luxury designer store with a decidedly Shoreditch vibe. Also, check out Redchurch Street and its many boutiques and cafes, like Jolene (the little sister of the original Jolene in Hackney). The neighbouring Calvert Avenue area is also a breath of fresh air with its mix of modern boutiques and traditional storefronts like the local laundrette. Move on towards Brick Lane and Spitalfields for more shopping, especially if you're on the hunt for some good vintage. In case you're hungry again, doughnuts from St John or some snacks from Dumpling Shack should do the trick.
- 7pm** ● --- For dinner, if you're still near Calvert Avenue, Rochelle Canteen is a sure winner. Or check out P. Franco in Clapton for a casual dinner over delicious small plates and natural wines. If tasting menus are your thing, go to Behind Restaurant back in London Fields for a fish-focused menu, or The Water House Project for relaxed fine dining.

