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SHOPPING



SIESTA TIME AT CASABARATA

SHOPPING

CASABARATA Sprawling flea market selling Djellabas, scrap metal and everything in between. Highlights are the mountains of second-hand clothing (rumored to be the final destination of “donations to Africa” sent from Europe), and the dirt road back area where vendors sell completely miscellaneous junk (see below). Best days: Thursday and Sunday.



POSTER FOUND AT CASABARATA

MADINI (5 Boulevard Pasteur) This family run parfumeurie has been in business for more than 500 years. Be prepared to leave smelling like a cacophonous atonal olfactory symphony.

FONDOUK CHEJRA / WEAVERS' MARKET (Marché des Pauvres Building, Rue de la Liberté) Pass through the stalls selling plastic hangers and head upstairs where you will find men

SHOPPING

busy spinning wool on antique looms. Eager salesmen/artisans will guide you through the stacks of blankets and bed covers

STATIONARY STORE (Boulevard Mohamed V, next to Pizzeria Oslo) Giant shop featuring pens, books, outdated magazines, faded French notebooks, deadstock Moroccan school supplies and other miscellany. The walls are lined with plastic grab bags comprised of bizarre yet ingenious combinations: e.g. French bodybuilding magazine, ciné-Roman, Moroccan wedding magazine + a box of tissues.

SOUK BARA COVERED MARKET (Opposite Grand Socco, entrance is below “Les passagers de Tanger”) The best place to get fresh produce, meat and spices all in one go. Look for the stand of Mr. Nassar Ibrahim (next to the man selling pigeons), for fresh pasta and pastilla dough made to order. Find him in the mornings and pick up your pasta the following day in a Kiri box. Delivery available, expect conversation.



MR. IBRAHIM'S TAGLIATELLE

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SHOPPING



GRAB BAG

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FOOD



VIEW FROM THE TOP

FOOD

AGADIR (21 Avenue Prince Heritiér) One of the few restaurants serving Moroccan cuisine as well as wine/beer. Good tagines and Moroccan salad. This is a one-man operation — the waiter is also the owner and the chef.

AVOCADO JUICE (red awning, opposite Grand Socco) Available at most cafes and restaurants, this drink is a mixture of avocado, banana, sugar and sometimes almonds and dates. The perfect breakfast.

MCDONALDS (Complex Dawliz, Rue de Hollande) Possibly the best view in town, the terrace of this hilltop McDonald's overlooks the beautiful bay of Tangier. Spring for a McArabia or just get some soft-serve and enjoy the breeze.

MOUSSA BEN NOUSSAIR STREET This zone is where a sizable portion of the young bachelor community of Tangier takes its evening meal. Serving savory *baisara* (pureed garbanzo soup), brochettes, fried/grilled fish or even couscous on Friday afternoons.

SEAFOOD AT THE PORT Wind your way to the back of the port until you come upon a row of tables piled with seafood. Here multiple vendors serve the same catch of the day prepared either grilled or fried to order. Look for the gentleman distributing napkins — you will need them.

STREET SNAILS (Northwest alley opposite Grand Socco) After 5pm a street vendor appears selling snails broiled in a murky broth with black pepper and lots of garlic. The meat is soft and the flavor best described as deep ocean and mushroom mud.

LEISURE



HOTEL EL MINZAH POOL

LEISURE

CINÉMATHÈQUE DE TANGER (Place du 9 Avril 1947) Housed in the restored landmark art deco Cinéma Rif on the Grand Socco, the Cinémathèque offers regional art house films, French classics and free wi-fi in the indoor/outdoor cafe.

HOTEL EL MINZAH SWIMMING POOL (85 Rue de la Liberté) Gain access to this luxurious outdoor swimming pool with either a fee (150dhs-ish), a “tip”, or just say you are going to the bar/restaurant. A nice getaway in the middle of downtown Tangier.

R’MILAT FOREST (Parc de Perdicaris) This popular public mountainside park offers beautiful ocean vistas. Families picnic and couples hike through the forested trails while young men partake in impromptu gymnastics with rings hung from tree branches. Kebabs, baisara and tea are available at the roadside restaurant.



R’MILAT

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



SNACKS AT DEAN'S BAR

BARS & NIGHTLIFE

REGINE CLUB (8 Mansour Eddahbi Street) Arrive early with your friends for a private black vinyl banquet and a private dance party atop the mirrored dance floor.

DEAN'S BAR (2 Rue Amérique du Sud, off of Rue de Liberté) One of Tangier's many faded glory bars. A former hangout of the Beats, now simply a great dive with cheap beers and surprisingly good complimentary tapas.

MOROCCO PALACE (Rue du Prince Moulay Abdallah) gaudy carved-plaster homage to the Alhambra, tarted up with disco lighting and jumbo TVs. A self-described "oriental cabaret" with at least three different live bands nightly. Amazigh (berber) middle Atlas music and Chaabi synth-driven pop bands with charismatic lounge singers. Live music nightly from 11ish to 3am (till at least 5am on weekends, when the place is completely packed with narcos, prostitutes, and/or police-types and the occasional bellydancer.)

TANGER INN (1 Rue Magellan Ville Nouvelle Hôtel el- Muniria) Loud music, low ceilings, and a dart board give this basement bar its charm. Directly bellow the Hotel El Muniria, where Burroughs wrote *Naked Lunch*. The vibe is a little Interzone.

NO. 1 This dark bar and restaurant serves traditional Moroccan food. The charismatic owner speaks several languages making it a favorite among foreigners living in Tangier. When there's no soccer match — the flat screen TV is tuned to nature programs accompanied by the bar's soundtrack of Fleetwood Mac or Elton John.

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TANGIER



TANGER



TANGIERS



TEHRAN



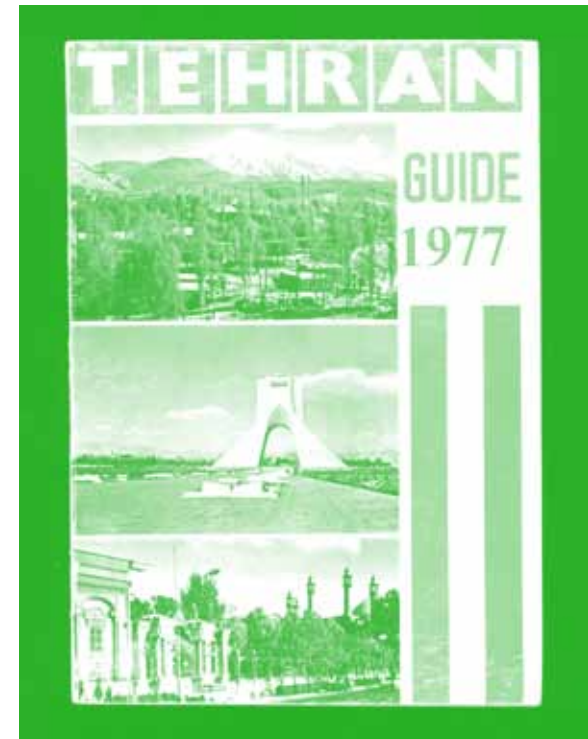
HOW TO —



WHEN IN IRAN

BY BETTY CHAPMAN

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THE ORIGINAL AKBAR MASHTI

AKBAR MASHTI (Tajrish) In 400BC the Persians invented the freezer. Shortly after that, they invented ice cream. In the 1950s Akbar Mashti opened his ice cream shop in Tajrish Square, and the rest is history. This is the rosewater saffron namesake to Tehrangeles's "Mashti Malone."

BEST FALAFEL (Corner of Nasserkhosrow and Soure Esrafil Streets) Iranian-style falafel. Comes without pita and accompanied by delicious pickled cabbage and a mysterious sauce. Very cheap.

CAFE NADERI (485 Jomhuri Street) The creation of an Armenian immigrant (arrived via Baku) who went by the name Khachik, Hotel Naderi opened at the turn of the twentieth century to cater to the itinerant Orientalist, the occasional Iranian businessman and the somewhat more occasional philandering husband. Today, Naderi and its adjacent café, restaurant, and patisserie live on, a tribute to classic cool and a stubborn rebuke to the newer-is-better tendencies. Avoid beef stroganoff.

GOLE REZAIIEH (180 30th Tirr Avenue) Possibly the best restaurant in town, Gole Rezaieh serves great food often to the soundtrack of experimental jazz. Although it is sometimes difficult to eat wild lentils to a one hour trumpet solo, the amazing *Albaloo pollo* (sour cherry rice) and coffee more than make up for it.

JOSEPH (Niloufar Street, in front of Hot Chocolate) Famous for its *noun-sefid* (white bread) sandwiches with parsley and onions. The boiled Frankfurter is amazing but you should be careful with the mustard. There is also a secret sandwich not listed on the menu which we cannot reveal here but let us note that Joseph is Armenian — a people known for their good sandwiches, amongst other things.

FOOD

PIZZA DAVOUD (Nofel Lochato Street, Lovlagar Alley) Mr. Davoud collects foreign currencies, religious posters (mostly pictures of Imams) and has a following of loyal customers. When you enter, he will give you a pound of *Kalbas Mortadella* with oregano and ketchup served on aluminum foil. This is a free treat and it will keep on coming until your pizza is ready. Please note that Mr. Davoud does not like it if you don't eat your appetizer. It is recommended to eat it very slowly to protect yourself from additional servings. Although dining at Pizza Davoud is an experience more cultural than culinary in nature, there have been people who claim to actually like the food.



KALBAS PIZZA

REZA LOGMEH (Jomhuri Avenue, 25 Mirza-Kouchank-Khan Street) You can only get one thing here: bite size *koobideh* (ground beef) kabob sandwiches wrapped in *lavash* (flat bread). Mr. Reza keeps things simple.

FOOD

SANDEVICHE TAIAYI (Mirzaye Shirazi Street, in front of gas station) Good sandwiches and tasty soup. Again, mustard is very tasty but very dangerous. Do not try to charm the guy, he has a low tolerance and bad temper.

TAK SANDWICH AKA FERI KASIF (Niloufar and Apadana Streets) The late Feri Kasif was the mastermind behind a nasty breed of sandwich called *Vizhe* (special). A *Vizhe* sandwich consists of anything and everything that can fit in a bun. Initially Feri Kasif was a *kareh-khori* (munching) hot spot but soon its reputation surpassed its social strata. Now, almost any sandevichi has some type of *Vizhe* sandwich. The fries here are also famous. You can try and ask for sauce on the side but most likely it will come buried under *sos-e makhsos* (special sauce).

SHOPPING



MAN WASHES LION ON MOLAVI STREET SIDEWALK

SHOPPING

GOMROK SQUARE (MEIDAN-E GOMROK) A series of stores selling mostly foreign army surplus — from clothes and shoes to sleeping bags and swiss army knives. This is stuff that got dropped in nearby war zones and somehow found its way to Tehran.

USED BOOK STORE (Corner of Sohrevardi and Abrar Streets) A great quirky bookstore with a decent English language selection. Mostly you will find generic pre-revolution literature and lots of former library books. The organizing logic is idiosyncratic so you will want to spend as much time as possible.

NASSER KHOSROW AVENUE Here one can find drugs (both pharmaceutical and recreational), sex toys, banned books, and other black market items in addition to all kinds of cameras and film: old, new, and ancient.

MOLAVI STREET (around Vali Asr) Tehran's animal district. Smaller species are usually on display, but larger and more illicit animals are only viewable upon request. Wild cats, squirrels, owls and lions — oh my.

JOME BAZAAR (Jomhuri Street and Ferdowsi Streets, in front of Bazaar-e Kuwaitiha) Hosted in an enclosed parking structure, this Friday flea market is the best place for used items. Great knit socks, collectible stamps, photos, folk crafts, antiques and more. If you're interested in records, look for a man named Essi. He has a vast collection (over 3000) and lots of rock and roll stories.

KAREGAR AND JOMHURI STREETS In this district you will find myriad stores selling an unimaginable range of Shia Tchotchkes. From Kaaba shaped radios to pillows that play *Azan* — no stone is left unturned.

**EBRAT MUSEUM EXHIBIT**

BAM-E TEHRAN (Top of Kuhestan Street) Lookout point with a beautiful view of Tehran. A (relatively) popular make-out spot.

EBRAT MUSEUM OF IRAN (off Sabt Street) Housed in a former SAVAK building where political dissidents were tortured under the Shah's regime, this bizarre museum features wax tableaus of scenes of torture and detainment along with SAVAK ephemera. Although not mentioned in museum literature, the building was also used by the Islamic Republic for similar purposes after the revolution. Be sure to stop by the gift shop for some really strange Islamic souvenirs.

JAMSHIDIEH PARK Nestled at the foot of the Alborz mountains, Jamshidieh is one of the most beautiful parks Tehran has to offer. There are restaurants, tea houses, Parviz Tanavoli sculptures, swans and even a small open air amphitheater where you can watch people yell "AHH!"

NIAVARAN CULTURAL CENTER A Kamran Diba designed building that houses an auditorium, gallery, museum, and café. Take time to explore the entire park complex which contains a garden, library and the building that was formerly Farah's Secretariat. Like many Tehran parks, Niavaran is popular with teenagers, picnickers and hash smokers alike.

SHAFAGH PARK Another pleasant Kamran Diba designed park to sit, hang out and perhaps play some guitar in. The vibe is very Faramarz Aslami; there is lots of hashish.

THE CITY THEATER Although closed for a number of years after the revolution, the Theatr-e Shahr remains a vibrant hub for the performing arts in Tehran. A half-destroyed Parviz Tanavoli sculpture can be found in front of the theater, while a Mohasses sculpture, once on display, remains hidden from sight in the theater's basement.

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