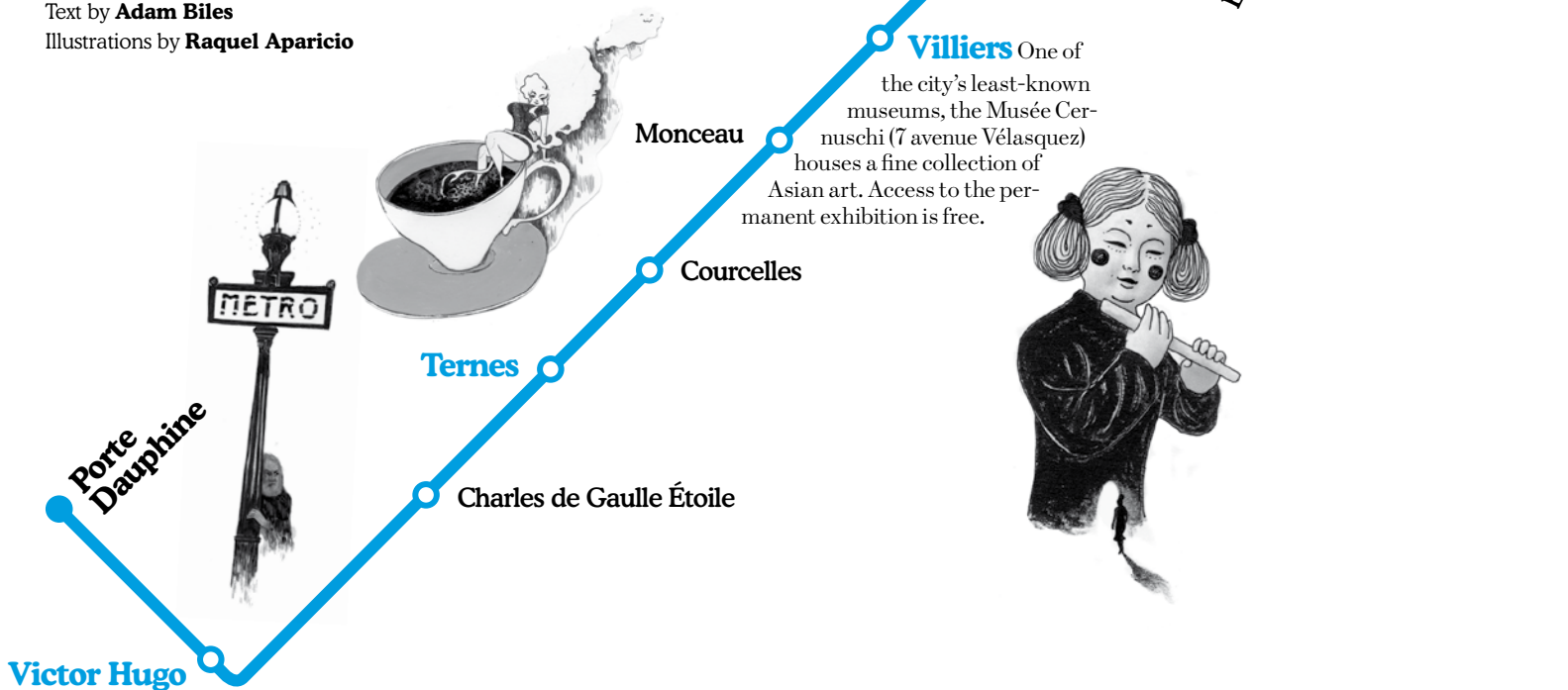


LIGNE 2 METRO PARIS

Whether cutting through the bourgeois neighbourhoods of the 17th arrondissement, passing under the sex shops and jazz bars of Pigalle, or rising above ground to take in the lively multicultural quarters of the north east and Belleville, the Line 2, more than any other, reveals all the different faces of Paris' right bank. Here are some of the highlights

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Victor Hugo An old joke says, “if you get bored on the metro, you can always look out of the window.” For the keen-eyed, however, this is not such a joke. Ghost stations remain visible all over the Parisian underground, and the former Victor Hugo station is a well-preserved example. Closed in 1931 because the sharp curve of the platform was considered too dangerous for passengers, you can see it, quite untouched by the graffiti that blights other similar relics, while travelling in both directions.

Ternes Packed with small shops and hollering grocers, rue Poncelet, a few streets away from Place des Ternes, is an oasis of genteel tradition in the midst of a fast-changing city. Le Stübli – an Austrian pâtissier and Salon de Thé – at number 11 fits perfectly in such an environment. Whether you choose to lunch in the elegant upstairs salon or to take in the street life with tea and cake on the pavement tables, be prepared for a difficult choice – the cornucopia of authentic cakes and strudels on display can be a little overwhelming. A cliché perhaps, but the Sachertorte is exquisite.

Pigalle If it's the thought of pink strip lighting and wipe-clean surfaces that have dissuaded you from visiting a museum of erotic art then Pigalle's Musée de l'érotisme (72 Boulevard de Clichy) is the ideal first adventure. Occupying seven floors of a renovated cabaret house, the ambiance is far more serious gallery than titillating sideshow. The permanent collection includes plenty of religious and contemporary art and there are regular temporary exhibitions changing every few months. Look out particularly for the captivating objects and photos from the famous maisons closes of the 19th and earlier 20th century on the second floor.

Barbès-Rochechouart

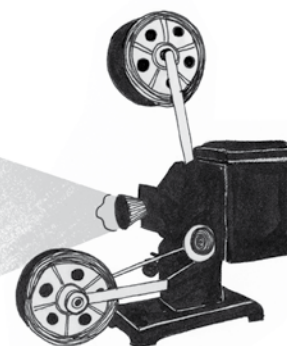
The guilty secret of many Parisian shoppers, Tati on 4 Boulevard Rochechouart, and the stores and markets around Barbès, heave with life. Tati itself, inspired by the Grands Magasins of boulevard Haussman, has expanded to fill this whole stretch of boulevard Rochechouart. The illegitimate offspring of a department store and a flea market, it is perfect for those items that you know you'll get fleeced for elsewhere, although be prepared to hunt for them. Outside, the food market on Wednesday and Saturday is one of the cheapest and most exotic in town.



Anvers
There's a reason why some pilgrimages become a cliché. Remind yourself why you fell in love with Paris by trekking up to the Sacré-Coeur for the most romantic view of this most romantic of cities, whether day or night.

La Chapelle

Stalingrad



Barbès – Rochechouart

Jaurés

Colonel Fabien



Belleville
Kill some time at the **Bar Aux Folies** (8 rue de Belleville) the transformed cabaret joint where Piaf used to sing for centimes.

Couronnes

Ménilmontant



Père Lachaise

Philippe Auguste

Alexandre Dumas

Avron

Nation

Stalingrad Built to replace the derelict warehouses of a cattle market, the MK2 cinemas Quai de Loire and Quai de Seine are an important contribution to the rejuvenation of the long neglected area around the bassin de la Villette. Facing each other across the canal these handsome film houses – comprising six rooms apiece as well as restaurants, cafés and bookshops – pride themselves on combining the newest releases with idiosyncratic re-screenings of older movies. The new tide of people attracted to the canal has led to a whole crop of new bars and restaurants, like 25° Est a few metres along the water. *7 quai de la Loire / 14 quai de la Seine*

Père Lachaise One too many visits to Jim Morrison on your Sunday strolls through Père Lachaise? Fear not, says guide François Mathias, there's life in the old cemetery yet: "Look out for the tomb of Auguste Maquet – Dumas' unacknowledged collaborator, who hit back at his old associate by having the titles of their books inscribed on his tombstone – and that of Claude Chapp, the pioneer of the telegraph whose grave is marked by a miniature replica of his invention. Women hoping for a vigorous lover should seek out the grave of journalist Victor Noir and rub the impressive bulge in his trousers." François then added that for men hoping for a lover of their own gender, the Carré des Marechaux remains a vibrant meeting place.