

JUN 22, 2018 @ 12:05 PM 20,861  EDITOR'S PICK

The 12 Coolest Neighborhoods Around the World



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I know the difference between expensive travel and the truly luxurious [FULL BIO](#) 

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We all know that the best way to really know a city isn't to go to the central square or major museums, or even the most tourist-trodden neighborhoods. What's more interesting is discovering the up-and-coming neighborhoods where local creatives are settling in and setting up shop.

It's especially important in cities where overtourism is becoming a problem, such as Barcelona and Amsterdam. Sure, walk down La Rambla or explore the inner canal belt, but then get out into the places where local life is really happening.

I asked some of my favorite travel experts for their tips on the best neighborhoods to explore right now. Here's what's on their radar.



Adam Alexander Photography Courtesy of Choose Chicago
Pilsen, Chicago

Chicago: Pilsen

“Featuring streets lined with hip galleries and walls decorated with colorful murals dating from the 1970s, the Pilsen neighborhood on Chicago’s Lower West Side is a nest of cutting-edge culture and art,” says Biggs Bradley. “It’s been fostered by successive waves of Eastern European and Mexican immigrants, in addition to local artists and students, who have molded this fascinating area over the past century and a half. At the [National Museum of Mexican Art](#), the 10,000-piece collection showcases the work of Mexican and Mexican-American artists. And there are a growing number of performance venues, art studios and trendy bars like the popular [Punch House](#).