

appointment. Closed Sunday and Monday. Credit cards accepted.

Lace dresses, one-offs

It's hard to find this little corner shop in the Born, especially as both the front and interior are all black, reminiscent of some dimly lit early 20th-century cabaret. The young Israeli-Catalan designer also dresses in black so you hardly see her amid her clothes racks. But it is well worth a visit for the long, flowing, body-hugging dresses that Tolstoy's or Chekhov's heroines might have worn. They are all enhanced with pieces of lace that Natalie finds in flea markets, takes apart, and then adds in as trim. This is incredibly refined work that attracts resourceful young Barcelonans in search of an original, one-off evening or wedding gown.

SNÖ MITO NORDICO

Séneca, 33. Map 1, D3.

Metro: Diagonal.

Tel: 93 218 08 59.

www.snobarcelona.com

Open 10:30am to 8:30pm.

Closed Sunday. Credit cards accepted.

Nordic trends

Barcelona loves all things Scandinavian. And as Scandinavians love the sun, their shops are popping up all over the city. In the Gracià neighborhood there is even a **Barcelona Reykjavík**—an authentic Scandinavian bakery selling Nordic bread, sandwiches, and pastries (*Doctor Dou, 12; map 2, D3; tel: 93 302 09 21*). Here in this trendy little street lined with architect's firms, distinctive designers, and vintage decorator galleries, Snö proposes collections of Finnish, Swedish, Norwegian, and Danish clothes in a decor of aged wood, industrial-style ceilings, and varnished concrete floors. The accent is on basics and

jeans for men, women, and children, not forgetting a range of design objects: Filippa K, Acne Jeans, David&Martin, Cheap Monday, Merde, and the inevitable big design names like Brio and Iittala. Another Nordic-style shop also in the Born district is **Acopenhagen**, *Ribera, 8; map 2, H6; metro: Barceloneta; tel: 93 295 66 88; www.acopenhagen.com*

VERDE ESMERALDA

Plaça Bonanova, 2. Map 1, D1.

Tel: 93 418 83 15.

Metro: Vallcarca.

www.verdeesmeralda.es

Open 10am to 2pm and 4:30pm to 8:30pm. Closed Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday.

Credit cards accepted.

Sandals

You decide on the model, the type of leather, and maybe the color. You agree on the size and then add pearls, crystals, studs or spangles if you feel like it. A week later, your unique custom sandals are ready, and they fit like a glove. And all for a price that is hard to resist.

Other location: Pedralbes Centre. Diagonal, 609. Map 1, B2. Metro: Maria Cristina. Tel: 93 410 49 18.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

RITUELS D'ORIENT

Loreto, 50. Map 1, C2.

Metro: Maria Cristina.

Tel: 93 419 14 72.

www.rituelsdorient.com

Open Thursday 1pm to 10pm,

Friday 4pm to 10pm,

Saturday 10:30am to 8pm.

Open for women only Tuesday 1pm to 9pm, Wednesday 10:30am to 8pm, and

Friday 1pm to 4pm.