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María Ricetto,
principal at
the Ballet
Nacional Sodre

A Ballerina's Montevideo

Romeo & Juliet and youth orchestras.

“I MOVED BACK to Uruguay a few years ago, after having lived in New York for almost 14 years. Every time I would come back, I saw how the city was changing. It's not like ten years ago, when, if you wanted to go to the theater, you'd have to cross the river to Buenos Aires. The **Teatro Solís** is the oldest theater—it reopened after almost a decade of renovations—and the **Auditorio Nacional del Sodre** opened in 2009, which is where the Ballet Nacional is based. We're really the only major dance company here—now that Julio Bocca has taken over, our repertory has expanded a lot; this season I'll be dancing Juliet in *Romeo & Juliet*. But there's this up-and-coming choreographer, Martin Inthamoussu, who's always putting on shows for his **Compañía de Danza** at this small theater, **Sala Verdi**. All my dancer friends live around the theater, in the Centro, so we mostly hang out at this bar **Bluzz Live**; in the summer, everyone spills out onto the street. Though my schedule is tight, I'll do my best to hear classical music. The **Orquesta Juvenil**, the national youth orchestra, just played one of my favorite pieces, Ravel's *Bolero*, at the Sodre, and it was fantastic—you could really feel their energy.” *As told to Rebecca Milzoff*

Her Other Musts

HOTEL

“The **Don Boutique Hotel** (from \$100; donhotel.com.uy), in Ciudad Vieja, located right in front of the Mercado del Puerto, only has a few rooms but is really nicely designed; it's modern and minimalist, and it has a great rooftop pool.”

CLOTHING BOUTIQUE

“When I have a big

event, I'll get something at Carolina Criado's boutique, **Caro Criado** (Carlos Saez 6695). This season, her clothes had a huge American West influence, and last season she brought a lot of interesting fabrics from India into her collection.”

SPECIAL-OCCASION RESTAURANT

“Take an easy \$1, 30-minute bus ride to **Burdeos** (end of

Avenida General Artigas; 598-95-243-012), a seafood restaurant in El Pinar, located alongside a river. The last time I was there, I had a shrimp the size of my hand!”

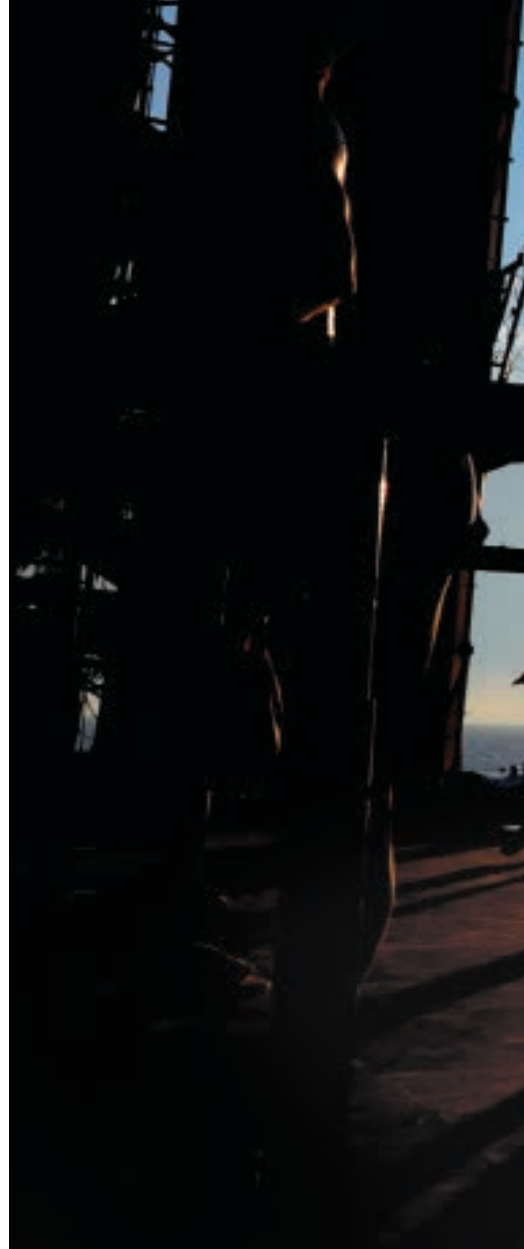
DAY TRIP

“**Colonia**, a two-and-a-half-hour drive, is this quiet, older city with a basilica, run-down streets, and these beautiful river beaches. My boyfriend and I just

rented a little house there just for the weekend.”

SOCCER STADIUM

“Try to see a game at the **Estadio Centenario** (in the *Parque Batlle*, nr. *Avenida Dr. Americo Ricaldoni*), where the first World Cup was played in 1930. Even if there's no game, it's worth a visit for the museum with historic photos and old uniforms, plus you can take a tour.”



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Lana Cavar,
design director for
the Croatian
National Theater

A Designer's Zagreb

All-white lamp shops and socialist-modernist patio bars.

“IN THE 15 YEARS or so since Yugoslavia fell apart, Zagreb has gradually become known for its small-batch furniture, influenced by the mid-century modernism of the socialism era. I love the recent boomlet of design-related spots on tree-lined **Dežmanov Prolaz**. Highlights include **Love, Ana**, the all-white studio-store of Ana Tevšić, whose signature is her portable, copper-topped beechwood lamps; a pair of artsy café-bars called **Velvet**, one painted light gray, the other dark gray, by Zagreb's famous florist and interior decorator Saša Šekoranja. A stroll east of Zagreb's central **Ban Jelacic Square** is the **Croatian Design Superstore**, which features about 150 Croatian designers. The designers themselves hang out at **Potepuh**, one of the last public spaces with 1960s low-back armchairs by Bernardo Bernardi. It's great for day drinking on the patio.” *As told to Anja Mutic*

Her Other Musts

HOTEL

“**Studio Kairos** (from \$58 a night; studio-kairos.com) is a four-room B&B, a quickie tram or bike ride east of Ban Jelacic Square. I hear the homemade jams they serve are delicious.”

FOOD MARKET

“**Dolac** is Zagreb's main food market, dating back to the 1930s. Look for the *sir i vrhnje* (cottage cheese and cream) and local corn bread.”

CLOTHING STORE

“Call ahead for a visit to **Little Horse and Baby Beuys** (*Tomiceva* 7; 99-355-3095), the

studio of the Mujicic sisters, hidden in the back of a courtyard by the funicular. Their children's toys and clothing are handcrafted with Japanese silk and vintage buttons made of porcelain and seashells.”

MUSEUM

“I love the **Technical Museum** (*Savska* 18; 1-4844-050) for its mid-century industrial vibe and its ephemeral feel. At the Nikola Tesla Cabinet, you can test out some of the inventor's experiments, and the planetarium simulates the night skies from the North Pole to the Equator.”

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