

SURFACING

A Spanish SoHo Springs Up in Seville

WITH many shops in Seville struggling in the wake of the economic crisis, one group of merchants and artists banded together last November to reinvent their neighborhood. Taking inspiration from the revitalization of nearby Plaza de la Encarnación and the opening of the giant mushroom-like Metropol Parasol, they adopted a moniker associated with fashionable districts in London and New York, founding Soho Benita. Almost overnight, this forgotten barrio off the tourist path was spruced up with flower arrangements and evolved into a shopping destination that balances art and culture with handmade artisanal goods by local designers.

MICHAEL TULIPAN



LA PINCELADA
Calle Pérez Galdós 20, (34-955) 190-320
lapinzelada.com

A new dining spot, the gastrobar La Pincelada features modern twists on tapas like foie gras with PX sherry gelée or risotto with plums and mushrooms.



ZÁLEZ
Calle Don Alonso El Sabio 6,
(34-636) 897-838
nuriagonzalez.com

Last June, the designer Núria González opened her first shop, stocking colorful handbags, backpacks and accessories.



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METROPOL PARASOL
Plaza de la Encarnación 18
metropolsevilla.com

Billed as the world's largest wooden structure, Metropol Parasol towers over Soho Benita. Built atop Roman ruins preserved in a subterranean museum, the complex features restaurants, a market and a rooftop with stunning views.

DELIMBO ART SPACE
Calle Pérez Galdós 1
(34-955) 294-188
delimbo.com

Serving as both a boutique and gallery devoted to street art, Delimbo stocks graphic T-shirts and limited-edition prints in front, with large Moorish-style rooms in the rear providing a blank canvas for rotating art shows.



HOTEL ITACA
Santillana 5-7;
(34-954) 228-156
itacasevilla.com

This year-old hotel occupies a restored manor house with 22 rooms, a rooftop pool and a two-story Andalusian courtyard.



LE VOILÀ
Calle Pérez Galdós 4;
(34-618) 072-614
le-voila.blogspot.com.es

Le Voilà opened last fall in a refurbished 19th-century palace with a ceiling fresco from the 1890s. Penélope Melero operates a workshop specializing in accessories and recently introduced a line of vintage clothing.