

# Area Focus: Camden Passage, N1

By Jo Caird

**WHY?** This rabbit warren of streets tucked away behind Upper St, near Angel Tube station, is one of North London's most charming spots to shop, eat, drink and stroll

**WHEN?** Wed and Sat daytimes for the smaller antiques shops, vintage shops and stalls, and every day and into the evening for everything else.



## 2 EXCELLENT VINTAGE

This area is famous for its antiques shops and stalls, which specialise in vintage clothing and accessories, some from the 19th century. **Annie's Vintage Costume and Textiles**, one of the larger shops, is a Camden Passage institution and claims John Galiano among its fans (12 Camden Passage. ☎ 020 7359 0796. 🌐 anniesvintageclothing.co.uk). Stroll through **Pierpoint Arcade** on Wed and Sat and squeeze into its petite, lovely shops.



## 3 SILVER SCREEN

A two-minute walk north brings you to **The Screen on the Green**, a 300-seat cinema screening independent and mainstream films. The charming building dates from 1911 and oddly enough, played host to an early gig by the punk band the Sex Pistols in 1976, just after the release of their iconic hit, *Anarchy in the UK*. It's open daily. **83 Upper Street. ☎ 020 3145 0525. 🌐 everymancinema.com**

## 3 TASTY TREATS

**The Breakfast Club** is open all day for brunch, lunch, dinner, snacks and smoothies. The staff are young and funky, the atmosphere relaxed and the portions generous (31 Camden Passage. ☎ 020 7226 5454. 🌐 thebreakfastclubsoho.com).



A great place to rest weary legs. There's nowhere to sit at **Paul A. Young Fine Chocolates**, but the ice-cream and sorbet, made daily on the premises, are to die for (33 Camden Passage. ☎ 020 7424 5750. 🌐 paulayoung.co.uk).

## 4 ART ATTACK

**Sesame**, located just outside the confines of Camden Passage, is a trendy and popular gallery dedicated to emerging international artists. It's a selling gallery so be prepared to spend your visit gazing at little red dots and wishing you were richer than you are.

**354 Upper Street. ☎ 020 7226 3300. 🌐 sesameart.com**



## 4 A BARREL OF FUN

If a proper old boozer is what you're after, you're in luck, as **The Camden Head** is just that. It offers a range of real ales on tap, as well as all the usual beverage options and a basic pub menu of main meals and snack plates. There is a large covered outdoor seating area, so it's ideal for summer. Check the website for details of the regular comedy gigs.

**2 Camden Walk. ☎ 020 7359 0851. 🌐 99clubcomedy.com**



## 5 CONTEMPORARY FASHION

There's plenty of contemporary fashion too. Drool over the gorgeous footwear at **Laura J. London** (114 Islington High Street. ☎ 0207 226 4005. 🌐 laurajlondon.com), and don't miss actress Sadie Frost's shop, **Frost French**, for super chic womenswear and accessories (22-26 Camden Passage. ☎ 020 7354 0053. 🌐 frostfrench.com).

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