

# Top 10 guide to Metz

This delightful, little-visited city in north-east France is set to burst on to the tourist map when the new Centre Pompidou-Metz museum opens in May. John Brunton tips 10 highlights

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When the dazzling new [Centre Pompidou-Metz museum](#) opens its doors on 12 May, this little-known city in the north-east of [France](#) will suddenly become a hot new weekend destination. Only an 80-minute TGV ride out of Paris, Metz is a friendly, [utterly untouristy place](#), not at all geared up for the arrival of visitors from around the world. But like Lille, which was suddenly "discovered" when it became European Capital of Culture, Metz is something of a hidden secret, with a host of great bistros and gourmet restaurants, bars and clubs, shopping and markets.

## 7. Le Magasin aux Vivres



Magasin aux Vivres' quiche lorraine

There are a host of gourmet restaurants in Metz, but this stands out from the rest. Christophe Dufosse, the only chef in town to have a Michelin star, succeeds in highlighting local products while inventing original, creative recipes. His daring quiche lorraine is a "deconstruction" with all the ingredients presented separately; in a creamy risotto he uses pungent black truffles found in the surrounding countryside. The vineyards of the Moselle and the local Gris de Toul are well represented on an extensive wine list. The restaurant is part of a vast 16th-century military citadel that Christophe and his wife Delphine have renovated into a four-star hotel. Plush but reasonably priced (from €185 for a double), it's bound to become a favourite address for art lovers drawn here by the new Pompidou.

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