

# CURIOUS CITIES... ZURICH

Unique locations, hidden corners and unusual objects as recommended by...



## MOULAGE MUSEUM

One of Zurich's oddest collections can be found at the Moulage Museum. From the French word for 'moulding', moulage is the art of making accurate medical models. Its last practitioner, Elsbeth Stoiber, worked at the University of Zurich, where the museum can be found.



## FREITAG SHOP

Zurich boasts its fair share of idiosyncratic shops. Chief among them is the flagship store of Freitag, the innovative bag manufacturer, which is housed inside seventeen converted freight containers on Geroldstrasse, several of which have been stacked to form an eye-catching tower.

## VINEYARD

Swiss wine is little known outside the German-speaking world because so little of it is exported. The Rebberg Chillesteig vineyard in Höngg not only produces some very drinkable wine but also features a picturesque old church at its summit.

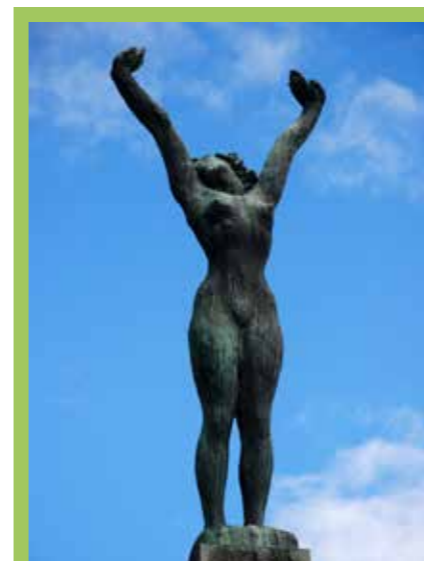


## ROMAN GRAVESTONE

The Romans founded Zurich around 15 BCE. Known as Turicum, the settlement functioned as a customs post for goods passing between Lake Zurich and the River Limmat. Among the few tantalising remains from the period is this Roman gravestone in the Lindenhof district.

## HOME OF DADA

Dissidents have long been drawn to Zurich, including in 1916 the group of anti-artists known as Dada. They based themselves in an upstairs room at the Cabaret Voltaire nightclub on Spiegelgasse, which still operates today as an alternative arts space.



## SAFFA ISLAND

Saffa Island is named after the Schweizerische Ausstellung für Frauenarbeit (Swiss Exhibition for Women's Work), which occurred here in 1958. Although Swiss women only received the vote in 1971, sculptor Hermann Haller's triumphant bronze reminds passers-by of the island's part in the process.



## LE CORBUSIER

The architect Le Corbusier was born in Switzerland so it seems fitting that his last commission is in Zurich. The Pavillon Le Corbusier in Seefeld contains little of the concrete he was infamous for and instead opts for surprisingly light steel and glass cubes.



**“Zurich is a city of Roman ruins and medieval walls, curious museums and secret gardens, quirky shops and converted factories”**

## LAW LIBRARY

Zurich has no shortage of modern architecture to complement its ancient buildings. An important example is the Law Institute Library on Rämistrasse, completed in 2004 to a design by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava and inspired by a human ribcage.



## ROTE FABRIK

Zurich's strait-laced conservatives met their match in 1980, when youth activists demanded more support for the alternative arts scene. They successfully occupied an abandoned silk mill on Seestrasse, which today functions as the vibrant Rote Fabrik arts centre.

## THE GROSSMÜNSTER

The Grossmünster in Zurich's Altstadt is one of the city's oldest churches, its twin spires an iconic part of the city skyline. It was completed in 1230 on a spot which according to Charlemagne was where Zurich's patron saints, the martyrs Felix and Regula, were buried.



Discover more with *Only in Zurich* by Duncan JD Smith  
Published by The Urban Explorer  
[www.onlyinguides.com](http://www.onlyinguides.com)

**“There is an awful lot more to the city Zurich than just an enviable reputation for banking, clean streets and punctuality”**