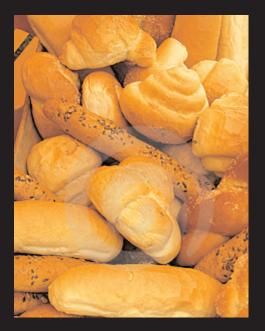
Amandine 12225 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles (310) 979-3211



Ooh, la la. This French patisserie/café in Brentwood is the real thing. One glance at those luscious baked goods posing oh-so nonchalantly in the display case and you'll feel homesick for Paris-even if you've never been there. Almond croissants, sugar-dusted brioche, sumptuous tarts filled with a ripe three-berry medley or bananas with caramel and chocolate chips...don't hate them because they're beautiful. The light and flaky pastry crumbles in your mouth like a buttery dream. A good lunch menu offers up hearty soups with hunks of crusty bread as well as traditional dishes like Niçoise salad, Croque Madame, quiche and other items with a decidedly French twist. Just be sure to save room for dessert, whether it's light cheesecake with lemon zest or dense chocolate cake with a walnut-graham cracker crust. Try to snag one of the few sidewalk tables for the full experience (admittedly, the people-watching on Wilshire Boulevard can hardly compete with the Champs-Élysées, but at least it won't rain). Bon appétit!



Take-out and dine-in only; no delivery Hours: Tue.-Fri. 7 a.m-7 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Parking: Small parking lot in back and metered street parking Accepted payment: American Express, Visa, MasterCard, Discover

Tlaquepaque On Highway 179 near 89A Sedona (928) 282-4838

When you think of Sedona, you think red-rock mountains... spiritual vortexes...shopping. Shopping? Indeed, a trip to Sedona just wouldn't be complete without a visit to Tlaquepaque. Here, you can get your mountain scenery while you shop. Nestled along Oak Creek, this outdoor, upscale shopping complex with the unusual name (say "T-lockey-pockey") is modeled after a real Mexican village and boasts nearly 50 establishments. There are restaurants of every breed, from the casual tree-lined patio of the Secret Garden Café (try the chicken pesto sandwich) to linen-tablecloth dining at Rene's (try everything). You'll find art galleries, funky shops with great jewelry, music boxes, books, candles, clothing, even a sculpture garden and a chapel. There's something for everyone here. Shopping in the Southwest isn't just about turquoise anymore.



Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily Handicap access routes Parking: Plenty of free on-site parking

