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BAG DESIGNER
BARBARA RIHL

6 DINING
HOT SPOTS

MUST-SEE
MONUMENTS

La Bonne Franquette

Today, Montmartre is, of course, one of the most visited neighbourhoods in Paris, which explains why it can be a tough place to find a decent meal. This is why I held out little hope for good food at a dinner that South African friends had booked at the neighbourhood's famous La Bonne Franquette without asking me, and since a good time rather than gastronomy was their goal I held my tongue. We began with an excellent bottle of Corsican white wine and some very good charcuterie in the wine bar, and then moved into the main dining room for dinner. A few minutes later, I found myself eating some excellent onion



soup, and then an absolutely delicious, poire de boeuf Charolais (tender steak). At the end of the meal, the amiable waiter served us all a complimentary glass of crémant de Bourgogne, and then the charming owner, Patrick Fracheboud, stopped by to check and see if we'd eaten well. I couldn't resist telling him that I'd been surprised by the quality of the food, which delighted him replying, "I'm a tourist myself sometimes too, and as far as I'm concerned it's an honour and a duty to feed my fellow travellers well." Needless to say, I highly recommend this place.

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