

OCEAN DRIVE

Miami's Best New Luxury Boutiques

by lauren finney



A look from Akris's spring show

Miami has long been known by locals as a playground for luxury fashion shoppers from around the world, and its status as a top shopping city continues to grow. Last year alone, all the major shopping destinations—Bal Harbour Shops, the Village of Merrick Park, Lincoln Road, Dadeland Mall, Aventura Mall, and more—saw immense growth, bringing new brands and revamping boutiques.

Opened last month at Bal Harbour Shops, [Akris](#)'s (*Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Ave., 305-866-2299*) fourth US boutique will have the brand's signature curvilinear wood wall to showcase its minimal, sleek designs, including a safari-inspired spring collection.

Spanish brand [Delpozo](#) (*35 NE 40th St., Miami, 305-573-1009*) chose Miami's Design District as the home of its first US flagship store. The company is headed by Creative Director Josep Font, who immediately understood Miami's value: "After our first US show, an investor in Miami proposed opening a store there. Miami is an open door to Latin America, where we have many followers."



Christian Louboutin's men's boutique in the Design District

[Christian Louboutin](#) (180 NE 40th St., Miami, 305-548-8246) opened his third US men's boutique just down the street, complete with a "tattoo parlor" where shoppers can customize their shoes with embroidered personalized tattoos or one of Louboutin's own designs. Joining the forces on NE 40th Street is Parisian fashion house [Berluti](#) (161 NE 40th St., Miami, 305-573-

4170), while a temporary [Hermès](#) (175 NE 40th St., Miami, 305-868-0118) store helps devotees keep up with the label's covetable goods while a new flagship gets built down the street.



Ariel Burman in his preppy-chic Cottage Miami store

Farther out, Diane von Furstenberg opens a [DVF](#) boutique (*Village of Merrick Park*, 320 San Lorenzo Ave., Coral Gables, 305-446-4003) in the Gables, and Ariel Burman's [Cottage Miami](#) (1728 West Ave., Bay 5, Miami Beach, 305-534-9917) dispels preppy stereotypes with a signature mix of American and European brands ranging from Stubbs and Wootton and

Michael Bastian to Band of Outsiders and Todd Snyder. Says Burman, "The market in Miami is unique. Along with a vibrant community, you consistently have an influx of tourists, regardless of the time of year; it's becoming harder to say that Miami is a seasonal destination. There was an opening in the market to curate a very specific look."

With all of these new and improved options, Miamians can shop 2014 and beyond with confidence and style.