

À LA MÈRE DE FAMILLE

Chocolate

Paris, France

Opened in 1761

The tantalizing aroma of chocolate has wafted down the Rue du Faubourg, Montmartre, for more than 250 years. À la Mère de Famille, located at number 35 and painted in a deep green, is a Parisian institution. The Dolfi family took over the French capital's oldest chocolate store at the turn of the millennium and now looks after its heritage with care and sensitivity. Patterned tiles, dark wood shelving, and peg-shaped pendant lights hark back to the golden age of the late 19th century. The popular confections, spreads, candies, fruit pastes, and macarons are appetizingly presented in hand-labeled jars, drawers, and boxes. They are made in the company's very own workshop, two hours south of Paris, where new delicacies are constantly being added to the historical recipes. The original store has also grown. Today, 15 branches of À la Mère de Famille "sweeten" the inner Parisian arrondissements with historic façades and characteristic lettering—a true feast for the eyes.

