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Summary: Town & Country website looks to provide an insider's view of high society, fashion and culture, aimed toward imparting British sensibility whilst drawing on the legacy of its US counterpart. The website's content is a mix of fashion, beauty, food, wine, art, philanthropy, travel and stories about intriguing people in society.

Product: Villa Rene Lalique

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THE REINVENTION OF VILLA RENÉ LALIQUE

The glass designer's 1920s villa reopens as a hotel and restaurant

BY FRANCES HEDGES 4 NOVEMBER 2015



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A villa built by the French glass designer René Lalique in 1920 has opened to the public as a luxurious new hotel and restaurant.

Situated in the French region of Alsace, close to the German border, the villa was a holiday home for the Lalique founder until his death in 1945, when he passed it on to his son and granddaughter. Now, the Swiss entrepreneur and collector Silvio Denz has called on the talents of Lady Tina Green and Pietro Mingarelli – who designed Lalique Maison’s range of art deco-inspired furniture and homeware – to give the property a new lease of life.



The restored exterior looks exactly like the original, complete with blue shutters, while the six suites inside all pay tribute to René Lalique, with five named after his creations and the sixth after his granddaughter’s famous panther sculpture, ‘Zeila’. The rooms are furnished with Lalique Maison pieces in lacquered beige, black, ebony or blue that have been designed especially for the hotel.



The restaurant is located inside a strikingly modern building by Mario Botta that connects to the house via a walkway made from glass. Three ornate chandeliers by Windfall hang from the ceiling; the tables are laid with Lalique glasses and carafes; and a black bar studded with crystals takes centre stage in the 200-square-metre space. Diners can expect seasonal French dishes such as fillet of line-caught bass or marbled foie gras with Mirabelle plums and roast pigeon breast.



Beneath the restaurant lies a vast wine cellar decorated with 14 crystal panels that have been created in collaboration with the British artist Damien Hirst. Housing more than 20,000 bottles of wine, including rare vintages such as an Yquem, dating from 1865, the cellar is one of the finest in Europe and is available for private hire for tastings and events.

WNRMp G...né Lalique, 8 rue Bellevue, 67290 Wingen-sur-Moder, France