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# open table

Meet seven F&B entrepreneurs and chefs rethinking the status quo, explore new tasting rooms around the world, and discover a global lineup of restaurants that delight the senses

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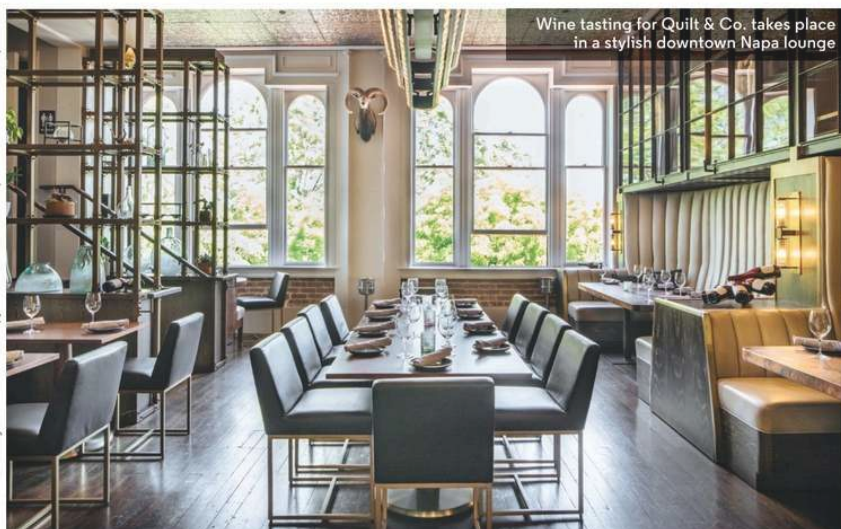
Danza del Sol Winery's Barrel Room in Temecula, California amplifies views of the vineyards



Located in Jarnac, France, Maison Courvoisier's Salon du Fondateur illuminates bi-color walls that recall bygone distilleries



Gilles & Boissier restored forgotten details in Maison Courvoisier, including in Salon Fleuri



Wine tasting for Quilt & Co. takes place in a stylish downtown Napa lounge

faux, lightweight, pre-finished polyurethane beams that exude an “unfinished, natural look,” points out AAHA Studio cofounder Harper Halprin, “and barrel-lined walls that create a direct connection to the local area.” A custom chandelier crafted from rope and exposed bulbs also “introduces a modern, artistic touch that contrasts beautifully with the rustic elements.”

Sustainability was key to the design, so reconstituted wine barrels are also found outside, cleverly standing in for tables and umbrella stands. But, Halprin says, “the true focal point is the large glass doors that span the back wall.” Opening to the alfresco ceremony space and entertainment areas, they frame views of the rolling hills, drawing the landscape indoors and eliciting “a magnificent play of light and shadow.”

## Maison Courvoisier

Built in 1857, Maison Courvoisier is one of the most famed Cognac houses in Jarnac, France. When Gilles & Boissier revitalized the property, founder Félix Courvoisier's legacy was front and center.

“We sought to capture the intimate, convivial atmosphere he would have cultivated. It was essential for us to imagine this man, to feel his presence, and through him, the brand he embodied,” says Dorothée Boissier, cofounder of the Paris architecture and design agency.

Isabelle Vignon, Courvoisier's historian, was instrumental to the process, and “this deep dive into the archives allowed us to design the bar, lounge, and salon, a space enriched with carefully curated archival pieces that narrate the story of the Maison,” she adds.

Bespoke glass shelving in the bar, lounge, and salon divides the space from the tasting room, distinguished by its monumental pure white marble table and François Houtin's handpainted frescoes, and the Salon du Fondateur, where “we incorporated bicolor boiserie walls, with the lower section painted in a deep black, an almost tar-like finish. This detail echoes a time when alcohol vapors from distillation would blacken the walls of old distilleries, a distinctive marker once used to identify clandestine operations,” explains firm cofounder Patrick Gilles.

Over the years, Maison Courvoisier's character was diminished, and Gilles & Boissier was keen to revive forgotten details—“to restore ceiling heights that had been lowered, reopen windows overlooking the Charente River that had been blocked, and, most importantly,” says Boissier, “to bring back architectural richness through elaborate moldings, decorative elements, and refined craftsmanship that are always at the heart of our projects.” hd