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P O V

Aline Asmar
d'Amman on
the Eiffel Tower.

RESTAURANTS

Haute Cuisine

LEBANESE DESIGNER **ALINE ASMAR D'AMMAN** PUTS HER STAMP ON THE FAMED JULES VERNE RESTAURANT, 410 FEET UP ON THE EIFFEL TOWER.

BY LINDSEY TRAMUTA

EVER SINCE ITS OPENING IN 1983, THE JULES VERNE restaurant on the second floor of the Eiffel Tower has been the ultimate affirmation of the real estate maxim “location, location, location.” Very few structures on earth are as iconic and as visited as Paris’s Iron Lady. So imagine Aline Asmar d’Amman’s response when she was commissioned to overhaul the storied fine-dining mecca, which sits hundreds of feet above Paris. “The tower is a symbol of innovation and boundless imagination,” says the Lebanese architect and interior designer. In other words, the stakes were high.

But this isn’t Asmar d’Amman’s first historically sensitive project. Having art-directed the four-year renovation of the Hôtel de Crillon, the legendary Paris hotel that reopened in 2017, she and her firm, Culture in Architecture, quickly became the go-to designers for breathing new life into the French capital’s most important buildings.

Asmar d’Amman is especially known for her work on destination properties in many of the world’s most beautiful cities (she’s currently designing a new Rosewood hotel in Venice). It’s her balance of raw materials and refined surfaces that draws attention, an aesthetic approach that ▷