

✱ Renaissance Journal ✱

THE R-TIMES

EDITOR: CORINA ADAVAN

Executive Chef Alexander Kroll unfiltered

What really happens behind the kitchen doors? Fresh perspectives, quiet surprises—and a few untold stories...

Page 2



Zurich: What's on?

From major sporting events to cultural highlights—what's coming up in Zurich...

Page 8



Who put a gondola on our terrace?

A little Swiss secret—served with melted cheese...

Page 3

From Isan to Zurich: A culinary journey by Head Chef Nean

At Atelier Five Nean's Kitchen, a new story unfolds. Head Chef Nean brings the bold soul of northeastern Thailand to Zurich – vibrant, unexpected, and deeply personal.

Since March 2026, Atelier Five has transformed into a seasonal pop-up, inviting guests on a three-course sharing journey through Isan cuisine. Known for its intensity and contrast, the Thai dishes combine traditional flavors with modern techniques — authentic, yet refined and surprising.

Designed for sharing, the menu reveals a dynamic mix of textures and flavors, from spicy heat to fresh citrus notes and aromatic herbs. Familiar Thai elements appear in new interpretations, offering a fresh perspective on a deeply rooted cuisine.

Personal Signature

Born in Khon Kaen, Head Chef Nean draws on the expressive flavors of her home region — chili, lime, fresh herbs, and roasted rice — now reimagined with a contemporary approach and a strong personal signature. The experience at Atelier Five



Isan flavors on the plate.



Restaurant Atelier Five.

Nean's Kitchen unfolds around the open workbench at the center of the restaurant, where dishes come to life right in front of the guests, creating a setting that feels

«This is my story, on a plate.»

Nean,
Head Chef Atelier Five



Head Chef Nean bringing the flavors of Thailand to Zurich.

both personal and immersive. The close connection between kitchen and table brings a sense of movement and energy into the space, making each visit feel dynamic and engaging. The carefully crafted cocktails are designed to complement and elevate the bold flavors of the cuisine, adding another layer to the experience. Together,

food, atmosphere, and interaction create a setting that goes beyond a traditional restaurant visit.

Step into Nean's Kitchen

A culinary journey that is meant to be experienced firsthand. Explore the menu and make your reservation via QR-code.



Alexander Kroll and the story behind the flavors

Executive Chef Alexander Kroll shares his perspective on leadership, creativity, and what's happening behind the scenes at the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel.



Alexander Kroll, leading the culinary team at the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel.

From international kitchens to Zurich West, Alexander Kroll brings decades of experience to the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel. In this interview, he shares what drives him, what inspires his team, and what guests can expect from the hotel's culinary world.

Since when do you work for the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel?

I started here in August 2024 as Culinary Director of the Hotel.

Where did you work before?

I have been living in Switzerland for over 25 years and have had a number of exciting positions in various high end luxury hotels including the Widder Hotel Zurich, The Carlton St. Moritz, the Grand Hotel Zermatter Hof, the Intercontinental Davos or the Hotel Alex in Thalwil.

What excites you most about your profession?

I really love this profession. Being able to cover a large variety of responsibilities, whether overseeing large Banquets for 300 guests, cooking à la carte for our international

clientele, or establishing new Food and Beverage concepts. Being with my team and overseeing the operation is what I enjoy most.

What are the culinary offerings at the Renaissance?

Our Equinox Restaurant offers a mix of locally influenced and international dishes, while Atelier Five presents an exceptional menu from Northeastern Thailand. Guests can also enjoy snacks at Lucid Bar or from the summer terrace menu, paired with a drink from our extensive cocktail list.

For our Bonvoy Platinum guests and above, we offer daily changing snacks and finger food in the Sky Lounge on the 15th floor. For those in the mood for a traditional Swiss fondue, two converted gondolas provide a unique dining experience for up to six guests each.

What other projects do you pursue?

The Renaissance Zurich is actively involved in several charity projects. "Ein Herz für Kinder" is an international children's aid organization involved in medical research,

hospitals, schools, daycare centers, as well as supporting children in war and disaster zones.

As Country President of "Chef Heads," a supporter of "Ein Herz für Kinder," I am involved in planning charity events for this cause. We are currently preparing a charity dinner with over 300 guests for summer 2027.

Tell us more about the new "Nean's Kitchen" concept?

Nean is our Head Chef and originally from Northeastern Thailand, the birthplace of Isan cuisine. She has put her heart and soul into this concept, inspired by the food she grew up with. The palate is full of bold flavors such as salty, sour, spicy, and aromatic, offering a genuine variety of homemade Thai dishes.

What do you do when you have time off?

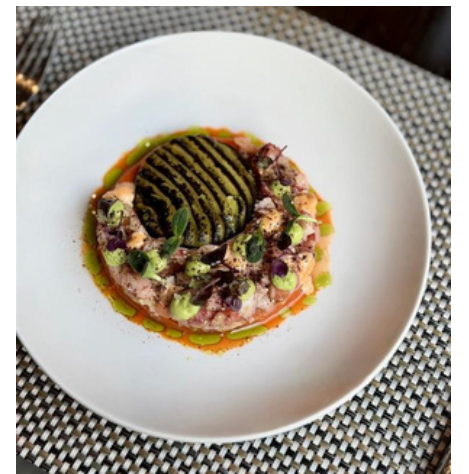
Born and raised in Hamburg, Germany, I am a big supporter of my home football team HSV Hamburg and I try to go to as many games as possible. Most of my private time, I spend with my 12-year-old son Maximilian.

Thai Cooking Experience

Have you ever wondered what it takes to create authentic Thai dishes? At Atelier Five, Chef Nean offers a hands-on cooking experience, where guests cook together and then enjoy the meal together—sharing flavors, techniques, and stories behind her cuisine. For available dates, please enquire at reception.

Weekly lunch menu

At Restaurant Equinox, the lunch menu changes weekly, bringing new flavors to the table. A well-balanced mid-day break, with a vegetarian option always part of the selection. For more details on this week's offering, please contact our reception team.



Dessert Time

In the mood for something sweet? Dansho makes sure there's always something tempting at Restaurant Equinox, with carefully prepared desserts that add a little extra to your visit.



Explore the Restaurant Equinox and Lucid Bar menu via QR code.



Marriott Bonvoy® Benefits

Did you know that as a Marriott Bonvoy® member, you can earn points not only for your hotel stays, but also while dining at our restaurants or enjoying a drink at Lucid Bar? It's a simple way to make the most of your visit, with points that can be redeemed for free nights, exclusive experiences, and more. Marriott Bonvoy® members earn points across a wide range of services, including stays at participating hotels, dining, car rentals, and selected tours worldwide. These points can be used for a variety of rewards, from hotel stays to unique travel experiences. Membership also comes with additional benefits from the start, such as complimentary Wi-Fi and access to the Marriott Bonvoy® App, allowing for convenient features like mobile check-in and mobile key during your stay. Not a member yet? Our reception team can guide you through the sign-up process, so you can start collecting points and enjoy the benefits right away. Alternatively, you can sign up easily via QR code at any time during your stay. Membership is free of charge.



Who put a Gondola on our hotel terrace?

A question we hear quite often—and yes, it's exactly what it looks like. Two gondolas, right in the heart of Zurich West, where city life meets alpine flair.

Since October 2025, something unexpected has found its place on the terrace of the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel: two original gondolas, once transporting guests up the mountains of Tyrol, Austria. Today, they have taken on a very different role, bringing a touch of alpine charm into an urban setting.

Originally part of the Zillertaler Bergbahnen, the gondolas carried skiers and hikers through the Austrian Alps. Before arriving in Zurich, they were carefully restored and transformed into cozy, intimate spaces, designed to create a unique dining experience in the middle of the city.

Each of the two gondolas can accommodate up to six guests and offers a setting that feels both private and playful. Whether for a relaxed evening with friends or a special occasion, the experience is designed to be enjoyed all year round.



Two gondolas bringing a touch of the mountains to Zurich.

To complete the Swiss experience, the menu brings the mountains to the table. Guests can enjoy Swiss tapas alongside a traditional homemade fondue, paired with selected Swiss wines — perfect for cozy evenings that unfold at their own pace. Prepared in our kitchen, the fondue is made in-house and

served just the way you like it. Choose your favorite variation, from classic to mushroom, bacon, or even truffle, among others. So, who put a gondola on our terrace? Let's just say some ideas are too good to stay in the mountains. Explore the full menu via QR Code.



Our terrace is a place to slow down

When the days get warmer, the terrace becomes the place to be. A spot to slow down, enjoy the moment, and take in the atmosphere of Zurich West.



The sunny terrace at the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel.

During the warmer months, our terrace invites guests to step outside — whether for a relaxed lunch, an afternoon coffee, or an early evening cocktail.

Light dishes and finger food complete the experience, perfect for sharing or enjoying alongside a drink. From a quick bite to a longer stay, it's a place to unwind and linger. A setting that brings a different rhythm to the city.



Rosé
Special

CHF 29.90
per bottle

CHF 6.90
per glass

Exclusive offer at the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel, available for a limited time only.

A taste of Zurich: local wines from Diederik Winery

Not all great wines travel far. At Diederik Winery, just around the corner in Küsnacht, wines reflect the landscape, the people, and a passion for craftsmanship.

Switzerland's wine culture is as diverse as its regions, with over 2,500 winegrowers producing distinctive wines across the country. In the Canton of Zurich, the largest wine-growing region in Switzerland, vines grow on former glacial moraines — giving the wines their unique character and depth.

One of these local stories is the Diederik Winery, located in Küsnacht by Lake Zurich. Founded in 2014 and run by Dutch-born winemaker Didi together with his family, the winery combines international perspective with strong local roots. Across 4.5 hectares, around 16 grape varieties are cultivated, including a growing share of fungus-resistant vines — an approach that reflects both



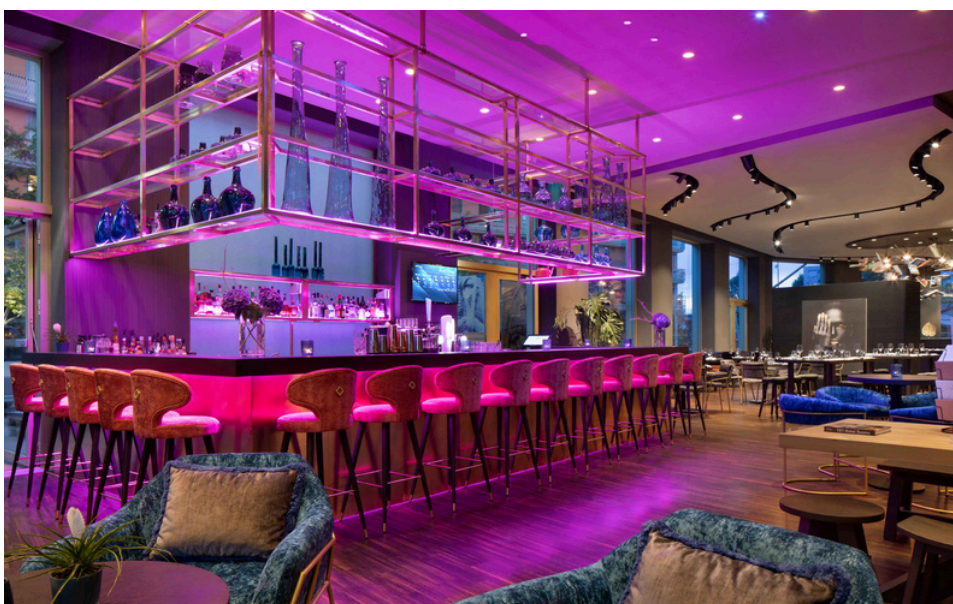
Diederik Winery in Küsnacht overlooking Lake Zurich.

innovation and sustainability. In good years, up to 40,000 bottles are produced, each one shaped by careful craftsmanship and a clear sense of identity. The quality of these wines has not gone unnoticed: at the Grand Prix

du Vin Suisse 2023, several Diederik wines were awarded gold and silver medals. At our restaurants, we offer a selection of these local wines, reflecting both the region and a strong commitment to quality.

Lucid Bar, the place to be

A place to meet, unwind, and connect. Lucid Bar brings together a bold atmosphere with a sense of ease, right in the heart of the hotel.



Lucid Bar, where Zurich West comes alive.

From morning to late evening, Lucid Bar offers a setting that adapts to every moment of the day. During quieter hours, it's a relaxed spot for a coffee, a light bite,

or a casual meeting. As the day unfolds, the atmosphere shifts — becoming more vibrant, social, and full of energy. The menu keeps things flexible, with options from li-

ght bites to more substantial dishes, paired with a wide selection of cocktails and other drinks. Whether for a quick snack or something more, Lucid Bar is a fitting choice throughout the day.

R-Events with live DJ

Once a month, the atmosphere shifts. R-Events take place every last Thursday of the month (except August), from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM. As the evening begins, a live DJ sets the tone with curated beats, creating a vibrant and social afterwork atmosphere. Paired with drinks and snacks, it's the perfect setting to unwind, connect, and ease into the night with colleagues or friends.

Coffee Special

Known as Oliang, this sweet iced black coffee is a traditional drink with roots in Chinese-Thai culture. It was introduced to Thailand by Teochew Chinese immigrants and has remained a part of local coffee traditions ever since. Prepared using a cloth filter, Oliang develops a rich and distinctive flavor, setting it apart from modern coffee styles. Today, it continues to be enjoyed by those who appreciate authentic and time-honored drinks and is available at Lucid Bar.



Thai-inspired cocktails

Experience a hint of Thailand at Lucid Bar, with tropical notes of coconut, lychee, and passion fruit. The recipe below invites you to recreate it at home.



TSUKI PASSION

35 ml	Belvedere vodka
35 ml	Sake
20 ml	Coconut puree
15 ml	Passion fruit puree
70 ml	Lychee puree
15 ml	Lime

Artist Martin Wanner



Zurich-based artist and graphic designer Martin Wanner created 20 large-scale artworks as part of the hotel's renovation.

Born in 1964 and raised in Wettingen, his work is known for its playful and unconventional approach. Inspired by Dadaism, the graphics reinterpret the movement in a contemporary way, placing humor, irony, and the absurd at the center. Each piece tells its own short, unexpected story, sometimes surprising, sometimes amusing, but always inviting a second look. Displayed throughout the hallways, the artworks add a distinctive visual layer to the hotel experience, turning everyday spaces into moments of discovery.



Redesigned rooms bring a new identity to the hotel

A hotel redesign inspired by art? In 2025, the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel took a bold new direction.

In 2025, the hotel underwent a complete renovation of all guest rooms, marking a new chapter in its evolution. The redesign introduces a fresh concept that combines elevated comfort with a bold artistic vision.

Dada Reloaded

At the heart of the redesign lies an unexpected inspiration: Dadaism.

Born in Zurich in the early 20th century, this art movement is known for its playful, unconventional, and often provocative approach. It challenges traditional ideas and embraces creativity, humor, and surprise. The concept reinterprets Dada in a contemporary way, bringing its spirit into the hotel's new identity.

Sustainability meets design

The renovation goes beyond aesthetics, placing a strong emphasis on resource-conscious design. Existing materials were reused wherever possible and combined with sustainable solutions to create a modern, responsible environment. Guest rooms



Dada-inspired design in the hotel's guest rooms.

and hallways have been redesigned to reflect the new concept, with warm materials, artistic details, and thoughtful touches. The result is a setting that feels inviting and full of character.

A collaborative vision

The project was shaped by a creative team including Martin Wanner and Patricia Holler. As Founding Partner of Checa Woid Interiors, Patricia Holler has over 25 years of experience across more than 20 hotel brands.

At the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel, she translated Dadaism into a unique design, creating spaces that encourage discovery.

«Sustainability is part of design.»

Patricia Holler, Checa Woid Interiors

“Through a precise, curated design, we aimed to combine contemporary design with sustainable responsibility,” explains Patricia Holler.

The Presidential Suite above Zurich

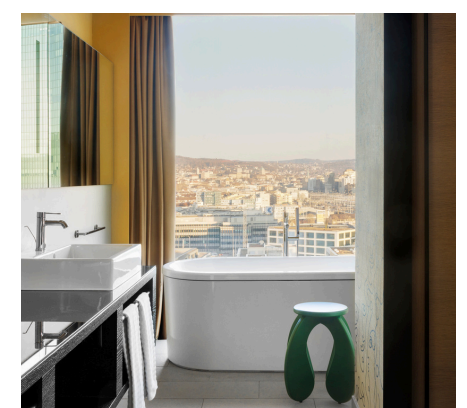
Spending a night in the Presidential Suite means experiencing Zurich from a different point of view. Located on the 15th floor, the city unfolds just outside the window, changing from daylight to evening glow.



A look into the living area of the Presidential Suite.

Wide city views define the space, framed by floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking Zurich. Inside, bold colors and strong shapes give the suite a striking and unmistakable character.

Spanning 136 m², the suite offers generous space, including a spacious living and dining area. The bathroom stands out in particular, with a bathtub positioned towards the city, turning the view into



Bathtub with a view.

part of the experience. It is this combination of perspective, design, and space that defines the suite. Curious to see more? Discover all our 48 suites across different categories via QR code.



Inside the Sky Lounge

An exclusive space to pause, connect, and recharge. The Sky Lounge offers a more private and relaxed setting within the hotel.



The Sky Lounge, located on the 15th floor above Zurich.

In 2023, the Executive Lounge was reimagined and relocated to the 15th floor, transforming a previous meeting space into today's Sky Lounge. Open throughout the day, the lounge combines a calm atmosphere

with thoughtful design and wide views across the city. A selection of food and beverages accompanies the experience, from breakfast to a variety of snacks and drinks throughout the day, with non-alcoholic options as well

as wine and beer. Access is reserved for Marriott Bonvoy Platinum members and above, as well as guests staying in suites or club rooms. Guests can also upgrade their stay to enjoy access to the Sky Lounge.

A venue for meetings and events

Did you know the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel is also a venue for meetings and events? 10 meeting rooms are spread across the first and second floors, offering space for a variety of occasions.



Meeting room on the second floor with access to the terrace.

The Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel also serves as a venue for meetings and events, with 10 meeting and event rooms located across the first and second floors. The spaces are designed to accommodate a variety of formats, from smaller meetings to larger conferences.

The largest room can host up to 300 guests, while a generous foyer provides a central area for coffee breaks, lunches, and casual exchange between sessions. On the second floor, an outdoor terrace reserved for events adds an additional dimension, often used for ap-

éros or relaxed breaks.

A dedicated event team supports the planning and execution of both corporate and private occasions, from conferences and meetings to celebrations such as wedding receptions.



Wedding reception in the hotel's event space Helvetia.

Rising Star

Lea is the sunshine of our Sky Lounge. For the past few months, she has been part of the Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel team and has quickly become a guest favorite.

With her warm and attentive approach, she makes every stay feel a little more special, creating moments that guests remember. Lea embodies what hospitality at the Renaissance stands for: personal, genuine, and thoughtful. She looks forward to welcoming you at the Sky Lounge.



Sauna & Gym

Located on the 15th floor, the gym and sauna offer a space to recharge while enjoying views across the city.

The gym is equipped with everything needed for an energizing workout, whether for a quick session or a longer training. The sauna, in contrast, provides a calm setting to unwind and take a break from the day.

Both facilities are open to all hotel guests, adding a moment of activity or relaxation to the stay.



GET IN TOUCH

Planning a meeting or event in Zurich? Get in touch with our Event team: events@zrhbr.ch

Traveling to Zurich regularly for business? For corporate rates, please contact our Sales team: sales@zrhbr.ch

Zurich West, a neighborhood to discover

From industrial roots to one of the city's most vibrant neighborhoods. Zurich West has become a place of change, creativity, and discovery.



The Viadukt in Zurich West is the perfect spot for local finds.

Zurich West was originally shaped by industry and production. Today, former factory sites like Schiffbau and the Viadukt have been transformed into restaurants, galleries, and cultural venues, blending history with a modern, creative scene.

Shopping and discovery

Zurich West offers a different kind of shopping experience. At the Viadukt, small boutiques and local brands are set within the historic railway arches, creating a unique setting to explore. Nearby, concepts like FREITAG, known for its ico-

nic bags made from recycled truck tarps, reflect the innovative and sustainable spirit of the area.

Culture and exhibitions

Zurich West is also a center for culture and creativity. Venues such as Schiffbau and the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) reflect the district's strong artistic presence. Nearby institutions like the Museum für Gestaltung and Kunsthalle Zürich focus on design and contemporary art, while Maag Halle and Lichthalle are known for exhibitions and musical productions. Together, they offer a diverse cultural landscape, all within walking distance of the hotel.

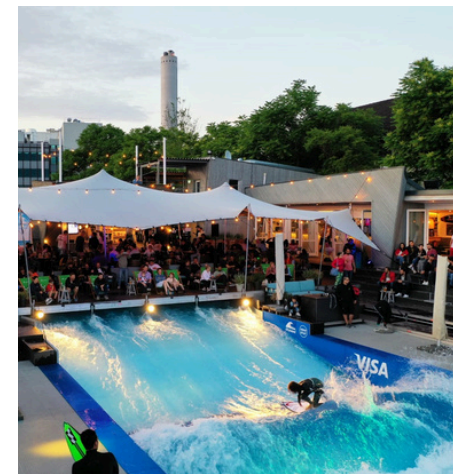
Nightlife and social scene

As the day turns into evening, Zurich West changes its rhythm. Bars, clubs, and restaurants shape a lively social scene, with well-known spots such as Frau Gerolds

Garten, Hive, and Supermarket drawing both locals and visitors. The district also offers a cinema for a more relaxed evening.

Surfing in the city

One of the more unexpected highlights is the opportunity to surf in the middle of the city. At Urbansurf Zurich, an artificial standing wave allows both beginners and experienced surfers to ride in an urban setting, just minutes from the hotel.



Urbansurf Zurich, surfing in the middle of the city.

Getting around made easy



Tram 51 takes you to the city.

At the reception area, a self-service terminal allows guests to easily plan their next steps. Tours and activities can be booked directly, and SBB train tickets can be purchased on the spot. The process is si-

mple and intuitive, and the hotel team is always available to assist if needed.

Easy access to the city center

The tram stop "Technopark" is just a short walk from the hotel, offering a direct connection to the city.

Tram 51 takes you to "Sihlquai/HB" within a few minutes, placing you right at Zurich's main station and in the heart of the city. Download the SBB app to easily plan your journeys and check connections.

Explore with "Zurich Tourism"

Zurich Tourism provides an overview of the city's main attractions, cultural highlights, and excursion options. The official platform offers a wide range of information, from museums and events to guided tours and day trips in

the surrounding region. It also includes practical travel details, helping visitors plan their stay and navigate the city with ease. Further information is available via QR code.



Plan your stay beyond Zurich

Experiences across Switzerland can be explored and booked online.

Through the hotel's Get Local platform, guests can discover a curated selection of activities throughout Switzerland. The platform offers inspiration as well as the possibility to book experiences directly, making it easy to plan excursions during the stay. Options range from visits to the Lindt

Home of Chocolate and museums to mountain excursions to some of Switzerland's most iconic peaks and trips to the Rhine Falls. For a more relaxed pace, spa experiences, wellness offers, and treatments are also available. Discover the platform via QR Code.



Lauterbrunnen can be visited on selected tours.

What's happening in Zurich

Zurich offers a dynamic calendar of events, bringing together culture, entertainment, and major sports moments throughout the year.

Event Calender

May 2026

Ice Hockey World Championship | public viewing and events

June 2026

Zurich Art Weekend | exhibitions and gallery events

June 2026

Street Food Festivals | culinary events across the city

June - July 2026

UEFA Football World Cup | public viewing and events

July - August 2026

Open-Air-Cinema | films under the open sky at Lake Zurich

August 2026

Theater Spektakel | performances by the lake

August 2026

Street Parade | one of the world's largest techno events

September 2026

Zurich Design Weeks | exhibitions, talks, and creative formats across the city

September - October 2026

Zurich Film Festival | international films and premieres

Game time at Lucid Bar

During the Ice Hockey and Football World Championships, Lucid Bar becomes a lively meeting point for fans. Matches are shown live during public viewing at the Lucid Bar, creating an energetic atmosphere throughout.

Table soccer adds a playful touch, while themed snacks and fitting drinks create a lively setting. Whether cheering for your favorite team or enjoying the atmosphere, the championship moments continue beyond the screen.

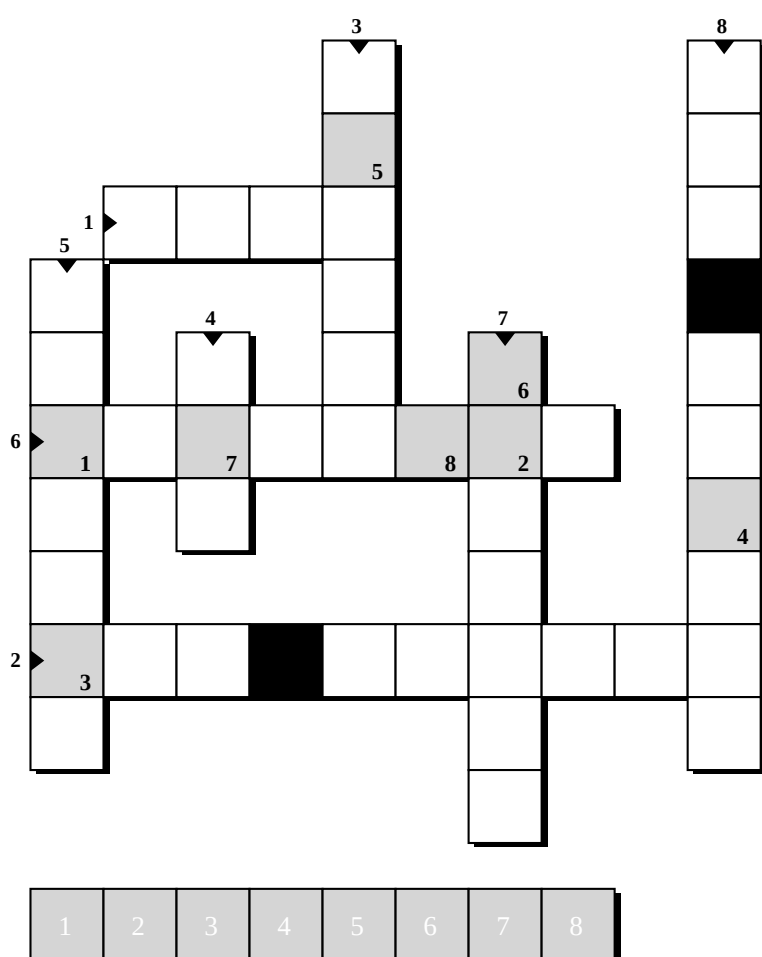


A vibrant atmosphere at Lucid Bar during the matches.

WIN A BOTTLE OF ROSÉ WINE

Solve the crossword by finding the answers throughout this newspaper. Combine the correct numbers to reveal the final word. Present your completed crossword, including the final word, at the bar to receive your rosé wine.

*The prize is a selected rosé wine. Should it be unavailable, an alternative prize will be offered.



Questions

1. From which region in Thailand is the concept of Atelier Five inspired?
2. What is the name of the executive lounge on the 15th floor?
3. Which homemade dish is served in the gondolas?
4. How many meeting/event rooms does the hotel have?
5. Which art movement inspired the hotel's new room concept?
6. What is the name of the winery supplying the hotel's local wines?
7. Where can you shop under railway arches in Zurich West?
8. Which major sport championship is taking place in Switzerland in 2026?



R
RENAISSANCE®
ZURICH TOWER HOTEL

Facts & Figures

Classification:
★★★★★

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8005 Zurich, Switzerland

Phone:
+41 44 630 30 30

Website:



Social Media:

renzrhtower
Renaissance Zurich
Tower Hotel

Opening:
2011

Owner:
SV Hotel AG, Switzerland

General Manager:
Stefan Buchs

Rooms:
300 rooms including suites

Room size:
from 30 m² up to 140 m²

Team:
around 120 employees