

JUNE 8, 2009

7.90

Master Track  
For European  
Train Travel



Why the Soft  
Approach Makes  
Terrorists Talk



The Good, the Bad  
And the Gory at  
This Year's Cannes

# TIME

## Latina Justice

Will Sonia  
Sotomayor  
Change the U.S.  
Supreme Court?

BY RICHARD LACAYO



9 770928 843089

PRINTED IN THE U.S.A. BY TIME INC. 1101 AVENUE OF THE STARS, FORT LEE, NJ 07024

www.time.com



AMUSE-BOUCHE

# Pic Up

WHEN CHEF ANNE-SOPHIE Pic was awarded her third Michelin star in 2007, she became the first French woman so honored in more than 50 years. You might have expected her to open a restaurant in Paris on the strength of it (her base is Valence, in southwest France),



**New venture Pic at the Beau-Rivage Palace**

but as with her cooking, she likes to confound expectations. For her next move, Pic has taken over the dining room at the grande-dame Beau-Rivage Palace hotel on the shores of Lake Geneva in Lausanne, Switzerland. The reconfigured space is as pared down and elegant as her cooking, even echoing its play on layering, textures and translucency with floating suede panels on the walls. "Quite simply there was a meeting of minds and a shared sense of family and history with the hotel," explains Pic, who made her reputation at her fourth-generation family property, Maison Pic.

**Unusual Pic's beech-smoked asparagus with caviar:**

At Beau-Rivage Palace, she delights in exploring dishes that implore with liquid centers and contrast hot and cold. There's sublime fresh-morel mille-feuille with warm, runny aged Parmesan, morel cream and tarragon, and Sisteron lamb with molten Banois cheese, sweet Cévennes onions, capers, black olives and rocket emulsion. Pic is intrigued by unusual smoked tastes too. Asparagus is lightly smoked over beech and served with an exquisite layer of Aquitaine caviar. Even more unconventionally, the subtle bitter roast of Blue Mountain coffee is an inspired partner to low-temperature-steamed turbot, butter whisked with Menton lemon and gossamer-thin ravioli made with turnip and a hint of Arabica butter. "I like to exit the role of vegetables beyond mere condiment; it's part of a more feminine sensibility to cuisine but I invariably convert men, too," Pic says, smiling.

Alongside her highly contrasted menu ("Crisp and soft, sweet and acidulated, light and intense"), Pic serves the legendary crayfish au gratin and bass with caviar—the dishes created by her grandfather André and father Jacques that first helped win Maison Pic three-star status. "Flavors are such an important part of our memory," she explains with feeling. "This is the way forward—to know the best from before, but to continue to find my own creative culinary path." Find out more at [www.brp.ch](http://www.brp.ch). —BY SUDI PIGOTT

TIME TRAVELER

# Gentle Pleasures. The compact city of Christchurch is full of Kiwi charm

AT THE PRESTIGIOUS FLETCHER INTERNATIONAL Flower Show, held in March in Christchurch, New Zealand, locally born Crusaders and All Blacks scrum half Andy Ellis did something that rugby players aren't generally known for: he picked up a gardening award. He had help from landscape-architect mate Danny Kamo, and the theme of his silver-winning entry—cricket, beer and outdoor pursuits—was all macho.

None of the people of Christchurch would be surprised to learn of Ellis' green fingers. The South Island's largest city is obsessive about greenery, famed for its meticulously manicured greenswards—many of them rose gardens in the English style—and fully deserving of its "Garden City" tagline. Edwardian punts float down the peaceful, winding river Avon, while helmeted sightseers glide past on futuristic Segway transporters. This combination of the genteel and the modern is typical of the place, which offers plenty of artistic, culinary and recreational opportunities against a panoramic backdrop of ocean, peaks and plains. "Christchurch is a beautifully green, clean, safe city," says Ellis, who appreciates that "it's 10 minutes to surf at the beach and an hour from a snowboard in the Southern Alps. I go for a coffee at the funky cafés in town or grab a beer down by the Avon."

*Compact and friendly* are Christchurch's operative words. Studios and galleries flourish in the Cultural Precinct, [www.culturalprecinct.co.nz](http://www.culturalprecinct.co.nz), a small but artistically rich quarter featuring the Arts Centre, the Christchurch Art



DIVERSIONS

# Sails Pitch

"A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT" could well be the unofficial motto of Luang Prabang, the former capital of Laos that grants full meaning to the adjective *sleepy*. And cruising along the swirling depths of the Mekong grants an entrancing panorama of both natural and traditional life in the region.

The 130-ft. (40 m) *Nava Mekong* launched this year and sails twice daily, journeying



**Culture cruise** The famous Pak Ou caves are a highlight