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French Ranking of World's Top 1,000 Restaurants Includes Four Israeli Eateries

Israeli restaurants that made the list - Herbert Samuel, Mul Yam, Manta Ray, and Helena - are Israeli favorites.

Rotem Maimon | Dec 21, 2015 12:11 PM

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Mul Yam in Tel Aviv. Credit: Daniel Bar On

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A French list of the world's 1,000 best restaurants includes four Israeli restaurants.

The list was compiled by the French Foreign Ministry amid allegations that the Michelin rating discriminates against French restaurants. The Michelin ranking and San Pellegrino's list of the world's 50 best restaurants are influenced by outside considerations and don't accurately reflect the world's restaurants, claimed the French.

The Israeli restaurants on the list are [Herbert Samuel](#) (ranked 643); [Mul Yam](#), which has since closed (ranked 668); [Manta Ray](#) (779) and Helena (787). The first three are in Tel Aviv; Helena is in the Caesarea port.

These names are not particularly surprising for Israeli restaurant lovers; they have won significant acclaim within Israel.

The French created their rating by factoring in reviews by 200 restaurant guides, including Zagat and Michelin, as well as restaurant reviews in newspapers including the New York Times and the Washington Post. The restaurants were rated on factors including service, customer experience, value for money and food quality, stated the French.

The new list offers opportunities for inclusion for restaurants in some 148 countries where Michelin reviewers never visit, added the French.

The French began publishing details from "La Liste" earlier this month. The full list was published last Thursday.

The top restaurant on the list is Lausanne, Switzerland-based Le Restaurant de l'Hotel de Ville, run by French-born chef Benoit Violier.

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Japan had a full 126 restaurants on the list, making it the country with the largest representation. Both Russia and Turkey have a single restaurant on the list.

La Liste makes some other statements about other global rankings, too. The Michelin ranking has ranked Danish restaurant Noma within its top three spots for years now. In the French list, however, Noma is ranked 217; another Danish restaurant, Geranium, is ranked higher, at 173. The Italian restaurant Osteria Franciscana, which Michelin ranks second, is placed 18 on the French list.



Rotem Maimon
Haaretz Contributor

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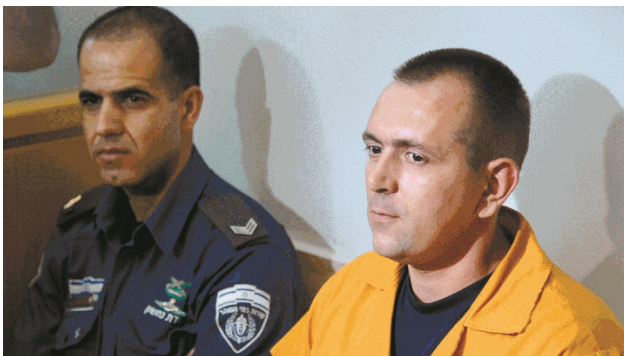


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