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Paris restaurant named best in world

News24 Thursday 1st December, 2016



Paris - A Paris restaurant run by chef Guy Savoy was named the best in the world on Wednesday - according to the French-based guides aggregator La Liste - but Japanese restaurants came out on top overall.

Double Emmy-award-winning US television chef Eric Ripert came joint second for his New York fish restaurant Le Bernardin, sharing the honour with the minuscule Tokyo restaurant, Kyo Aji.

Value for money

Kyo Aji helped ensure that Japan triumphed again in the country rankings, with 116 of the top-rated 1 000 restaurants, three more than France, with Chinese chefs coming third.

But restaurants in Italy came out best on value for money.

Savoy's restaurant in la Monnaie, the old French national mint on the Left Bank of the River Seine, is famous for its artichoke soup with black truffle and filo pastry mushroom brioche and "cold steamed" blue lobster.

His 18-course "Innovations and Inspirations" menu costs amp;euro;490 without wine.

It was the top-rated French restaurant last year coming in fourth place in the La Liste, which was set up as a "more scientific and reliable" rival to the British-based 50 Best Restaurants ranking.

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Savoy - who trained the volcanic British chef Gordon Ramsay and remains his mentor - controversially did not make the 50 Best this year.

Nor did Kenichiro Nishi of Kyo Aji, whom La Liste called "the undisputed master of kaiseki", the traditional multi-course Japanese dinner.

French-born Ripert, 51, a Buddhist who picked up his Emmys for his PBS show Avec Eric, already holds the maximum three Michelin stars.

La Liste bills itself as a "guide of the guides", pulling together reviews from almost 400 guide books, newspapers and online sites from TripAdvisor to the New York Times and the prestigious Michelin rankings.

But tragedy struck the first winner Franco-Swiss chef Benoit Violier, who killed himself a month after winning for the Hotel de Ville at Crissier near Lausanne in Switzerland.

Tourist board

Savoy, 63, a three-Michelin-starred chef, comes from humble origins. His father was a municipal gardener in the small town of Bourgoin-Jailleu near Lyon in eastern France where his mother ran a fast-food "buvette".

He later trained as a chocolate maker before being taken on as an apprentice by the legendary Troisgros brothers for their restaurant in nearby Roanne.

La Liste's founder Philippe Faure, the head of the French tourist board, has accused the 50 Best of consistently "denigrating" French restaurants in its listing.

While 50 Best has repeatedly denied the charge, no French restaurants have made its top 10 for the last few years.

Source: News24

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The iconic Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall in the heart of Taipei will be closed on Feb. 28 to mark the 70th anniversary of the 2.28 massacre of civilians by KMT troops in 1947.

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