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Cravan Paris

In 2018, Franck Audoux opened Cravan, a tiny bar in Paris' the sleepy 16th arrondissement. Five years later, that quirky drinking den has now given way to a glitzy outpost in the fashionable Saint-Germain-des-Prés neighborhood through a partnership with Moët Hennessy, the wine and spirits division of luxury powerhouse LVMH. Across five floors of a well-preserved 17th-century building on Boulevard Saint-Germain, guests can wander through three distinct bars (the upper levels house a private atelier and rooftop kiosk for film screenings) and peruse a Cravan-curated Rizzoli bookstore. Most elements, such as wood walls and parquet and stone flooring, were re-used or upcycled. "No two rooms are alike," says Ramy Fischler, founder of local design practice RF Studio, noting how there is a juxtaposition "between the warm, natural colors of the historic furnishings and the cooler, metallic tones of the contemporary furniture and fittings that coexist with each other." An edgy 1970s vibe on the second floor references the "legendary drugstores that have disappeared today," says Fischler, and playful details like a boxing bag dangling in the middle of the staircase nods to Cravan's namesake, the Dadaist poet and boxer Arthur Cravan. Fischler envisioned the bars as cinema stages, eager to "mix sophisticated sets with more raw spaces," he says, "to offer a multitude of viewpoints."

