

Wallpaper*

*Architecture | Design | Art | Travel | Entertaining | Beauty & Grooming | Transport | Technology | Fashion | Watches & Jewellery

FEBRUARY 2022

Our highlights of the year

DESIGN AWARDS 2022

Best

Celestial Glow
Outdoor Living
Transparent Tech
Drinking Den
Use of Colour
Tableware
Art Destination
Night Out
Rocket Launch

Plus more!

BEST

Elogio del Vacío VI (2000), by Spanish sculptor Eduardo Chillida, stands at the entrance to Hauser & Wirth's latest outpost (this page), which is located on Menorca's Isla del Rey (opposite), the site of a former naval hospital, built in the 18th century by the English



Located on Isla del Rey, a small island in Menorca's Mahón harbour, the latest outpost of art behemoth Hauser & Wirth comprises a gallery, outdoor sculpture trail, education lab, restaurant, gardens and boutique. Visitors arrive at this unique setting by boat and are greeted by a candy-pink oblong Franz West sculpture – a cheeky statement that sets the mood for this exciting new art destination, which opened in July 2021 with an exhibition by LA-based artist Mark Bradford. For years, Hauser & Wirth has been dedicated to renovating old architectural gems, beginning

with its revitalisation of the Löwenbräu brewery building in Zurich in 1996 and cemented with its Somerset art centre in 2014. But in terms of its location and heritage, the Menorca project takes this passion to the next level. 'We could not have picked a more complicated place to build an art gallery,' says Iwan Wirth. 'It's highly protected, covered with rocks, and there was no electricity, let alone the logistics of being on its own island. But we have an appetite for unusual sites. We are constantly searching for places and spaces that can be inspiring for the artists we work with – because a white cube can be quite limiting.'

ART DESTINATION



Photography: Be Creative, Menorca/Daniel Schäfer. Courtesy of the estate of Eduardo Chillida and Hauser & Wirth. © Zabalaga Leku, San Sebastián, VECAAP, 2021

Hauser & Wirth, Menorca

WRITER: BLAIRE DESSENT

We have to keep it exciting for them and for us.' For the design, renovation and landscaping, the gallery turned to architect Luis Laplace and landscape designer Piet Oudolf, both of whom worked together on Hauser & Wirth's Somerset outpost. Laplace sought to 'enhance Menorca', using as much local and recycled material alongside the island's strong craft traditions. Take, for example, the use of the local marés stone with its soft pinky-beige tones, and the straw lamps, handwoven by a teenage boy from the island, that decorate the outdoor space. Sustainability has also become a core

mission for Hauser & Wirth, and initiatives here include rainwater collection, energy-efficient climate control, and the landscaping by Oudolf, who worked with local plant experts to create a native flora garden that will renew and thrive all year long. Meanwhile, the gallery's restaurant, Cantina, focuses on local and sustainable food that highlights the island's culinary strengths. It's hard not to fall for its utopian ideals and be excited by its potential. An exhibition by American artist Rashid Johnson opens next summer – go for the art, stay for the experience. ✨ hauserwirth.com