



"IT'S KITSCH, COOL AND MADE TO STARE AT..."

CULT DIRECTOR WES ANDERSON HAS DESIGNED A BAR IN MILAN. HOLLY RUBENSTEIN AUDITIONS IT

BAR LUCE
Milan, Italy
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WALKING INTO BAR Luce feels like stepping onto a film set. Of course it does, as this the only bar in the world designed by Wes Anderson, and he's brought his trademark palette and dreamy aesthetic to life with an auteur's eye.

I sit down at a diner-style green Formica table and note how perfectly it's offset by the glossy, baby-pink floor. Bow-tied waiters in tight white shirts could be choreographed movie extras. A jukebox and two pinball machines are placed just-so against one wall, while another is lined with jars of brightly coloured candy. Arched ceilings sport patterned wallpaper



TASTING NOTES

THE ONE FOR...

Afternoon refreshers with movie buffs and the fashion crowd.

DRINK THIS

The After 6.30PM, with rum, dark chocolate bitter and pear sugar.

Sip slowly...

EAT THIS

Bruschetta Niccolo, with shrimp, robiola cheese and cocktail sauce.

inspired by the roof of Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, one of Milan's most famous buildings. It's kitsch, cool and made to stare at.

Bar Luce is in Fondazione Prada, the fashion house's art space in the industrial district. In the Milanese tradition, it's as much about café food as it is chic cocktails. Panini, tiny tartines and pastel-toned patisserie – think creamy doughnuts – in a cabinet make the perfect accompaniment to an afternoon espresso.

At dusk, the bar comes alive, with Wes-seekers and fashion-wearers descending for aperitivi. The aperitivo Luce – gin, Campari, Zucca rhubarb aperitif and orange bitters – looks delightful. Nothing says "hot Italian evening" like a cooling aperitif, so with an Aperol number, and a tomato and anchovy bruschetta, I picture myself in a Wes Anderson movie, whimsically stirring my drink while Bill Murray raises a droll eyebrow at the next table. fondazioneprada.org