

TRAVEL 4, UNCOVER A GEM

wo hours southwest of Paris, the region of La Perche in Lower Normandy is known for its horses, markets, and fairy-tale turrets. Here, chef Charles-Henry de Valbray and his decorator wife, Ségolène, have spent the last two decades restoring their family's fifteenth-century château (once a trysting spot for King Henry IV), turning it into one of the region's most enchanting secret escapes. Set on 25 acres of parkland, **Château de Saint Paterne** now has ten utterly chic rooms and suites, some done with traditional antiques and fabrics.



others with striking modernist interiors. For the ultimate in privacy, book the Orangerie suite. set off in its own building in the middle of a glorious park. Guests can enjoy the lovely pool and de Valbray's Asian- and Moroccan-influenced Provencal cuisine. Proving that style doesn't have to cost a fortune, doubles start at just \$174: chateau-saintpaterne .com.-RICHARD ALLEMAN

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