

The National

SEE WHERE THE TRAIN CAN TAKE YOU

THE DISPATCH



Faena Hotel

Argentine hotelier Alan Faena collaborated with director Baz Luhrmann (*Moulin Rouge!*) and his wife, costume designer Catherine Martin, to realize the ambitious, Old Hollywood-meets-Miami Beach-meets-Zsa-Zsa Gábor splendor of Faena. No expense or gold-leafable surface was spared on the opulent decor, which manages to go right up to the line without ever going over the top—that rarefied feat of design that requires supreme confidence and exacting taste. Here, luxe red velvet mingles with a game preserve’s worth of leopard upholstery, classic deco gets updated fit and finish, and gold literally flourishes alongside plus-size art by Damien Hirst and Jeff Koons. Much like Karl Lagerfeld eating bonbons in the back of a Rolls-Royce Phantom, it’s magnificent—and gone too soon; a weekend here just isn’t enough. The bold flavors continue at Pao, Faena’s modern Asian fine-dining star from James Beard Award-winning chef Paul Qui, and at Los Fuegos, where fire and meat dance at the hands of everyone’s favorite Patagonian wildman, chef Francis Mallmann.



Damien Hirst's golden mammoth outside Faena; sea urchin at Pao by Paul Qui