



Where Local Passion Meets Culinary Art

In this edition of the communal newsletter, we visited Groupe Aura – a company that has become an essential part of our community – and spoke with Patrick and Liette Pianon as well as Claudia Stagnitto about their activities and future plans.

For over 20 years, Groupe Aura has been part of the Luxembourgish gastronomic landscape. Today, they run eight restaurants, mostly in the east of the country, including four in the municipality of Niederanven. Founded by Patrick and Liette Pianon, the group stands for strong local roots and a committed vision of gastronomy.

Their presence in Niederanven began in 2009 with the takeover of the former Hostellerie de Niederanven, which was completely transformed and reopened as Osteria di Niederanven. This marked the beginning of a lasting bond with the municipality, strengthened by Patrick's personal ties as a long-time resident and former president of the U.S. Hostert football club (2007–2010).



(Liette et Patrick Piano, fondateurs et patrons du Groupe Aura)

In 2019, the group transformed the house next door to the Osteria into a completely new concept: Brasserie O', offering European cuisine with Luxembourgish, French, and fusion inspirations. The space is designed to accommodate both classic meals and friendly after-work gatherings – on the large terrace away from the road in summer, or in a cozy winter chalet.

Most recently, at the beginning of 2025, Groupe Aura took over two other iconic establishments in the commune: Castello Borghese and Charly's Gare, both of which also include hotel operations. These new ventures mark another step forward for the group, which aims to combine architectural quality with culinary authenticity. At Castello Borghese, homemade pasta production will be centralized. Major renovations are planned, with the goal of restoring the venue's historical charm from thirty years ago. At Charly's Gare, interior works are already underway, with an official reopening expected in the coming weeks.



(v.l.n.r.: Johnny Pintar, Nicolas Richard-Hruza, Claudia Stagnitto)

At Groupe Aura, each establishment is designed as a unique experience. Uniformity is deliberately avoided, the goal is to preserve the character of each location, whether it be its ambiance, architecture, or team. As Claudia Stagnitto, marketing manager and architect of the group, notes: "We must keep what people love, understand what touches them, and enrich it without altering its essence."



This human-centered, quality-driven approach is also evident in the group's supplier choices. Whenever possible, local partners are prioritized, complemented by classic and traditional distributors. This philosophy also shapes the concept of the Va Sano restaurant in Junglinster, which combines a wine bar and fine grocery store focused on authentic Italian products.

On a daily basis, each of the group's establishments operates independently with its own dedicated team, while benefiting from centralized organizational support. This structure ensures consistent quality while allowing each location the flexibility to develop according to its own identity. Across all restaurants, the emphasis is on the overall experience: personalized service, a refined setting, and a thoughtful menu. Customer feedback is considered essential for continuous improvement.



Looking ahead, one of the key areas of development is home delivery. Already available at Castello Borghese, this service may gradually be rolled out to other establishments in the group. The aim is to meet evolving customer expectations while maintaining high quality – even beyond the restaurant walls. This new offer is designed to complement the on-site experience and remains true to the group's image: accessible, refined, and deeply human.



While the commune of Niederaanven remains an attractive environment, the Horesca sector faces numerous challenges. A shortage of qualified staff, changing habits post-Covid, and the perception of dining out as a “luxury” all weigh on attendance. Despite these hurdles, the group remains optimistic: “We must constantly reinvent ourselves, listen to people's needs, and offer complementary options,” says Liette Pianon.

Patrick and Liette Pianon also point out some local difficulties, such as the lack of parking spaces and the absence of a real village center that would facilitate access to restaurants. Nevertheless, they commend the commune's recent efforts, especially in communication and cultural initiatives with local associations – such as the Buergbrennen or the upcoming Škoda Tour de Luxembourg in September 2025, which draw in visitors.

Groupe Aura is also actively involved in community life through sponsorship and an open dialogue with local stakeholders.

Finally, Patrick Pianon emphasizes a key point: the success of the group relies above all on its team – especially Johnny Pintar, Administrative and Logistics Manager, and Nicolas Richard, Human Resources Director. The smooth operation of the group depends on the daily commitment of the teams who ensure quality and continuity of service on-site.



We sincerely thank Patrick and Liette Pianon as well as Claudia Stagnitto for their time and wish them continued success and inspiration in their future projects within our commune.



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