

IN 1672, THE SUN KING ORDERED FRENCH NOBLEMEN TO HAND THEIR GOLD AND SILVER TABLEWARE over to the Treasury. What's a marquis to eat on? Faïence, or tin-glazed earthenware, was the answer—and the picturesque Provençal village of Moustiers-Sainte-Marie, with its abundance of skilled ceramic artisans, produced coveted examples of the art. Today, faïence workshops packed with the intricately hand-painted tableware line the town's narrow streets. Atelier Soleil, with its appealingly whimsical motifs, is one of the town's finest. *Pieces from \$30 to \$230. 011-33-4-92-74-63-05, www.soleil-deux.fr.*