

SPENCER CRONK'S WILD FIRST YEAR P. 62 | ROMANTIC STAYCATIONS P. 72

# AUSTIN

MONTHLY | FEB  
2019



TEXAS  
SWIM

HERE'S THE  
UT TEAM  
YOU SHOULD BE  
ROOTING FOR

► FRESHMAN DREW KIBLER IS SET TO  
HELP THE LONGHORNS VIE FOR THEIR FIFTH  
CONSECUTIVE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP. P.66

AUSTINMONTHLY.COM US \$4.95



# SWEET LIFE LOVES CAP TAIN

RELAX, EXPLORE,  
AND RECONNECT WITH  
YOUR MAIN SQUEEZE AT  
THESE ROMANTIC NEW  
STAYCATION SPOTS IN  
CENTRAL TEXAS.  
BY MADELINE HOLLERN

## THE CARPENTER HOTEL

### FOR URBAN DUOS

#### INFO

400 JOSEPHINE ST., (512) 682-5300,  
CARPENTERHOTEL.COM

#### RATES

\$199 AND UP PER NIGHT

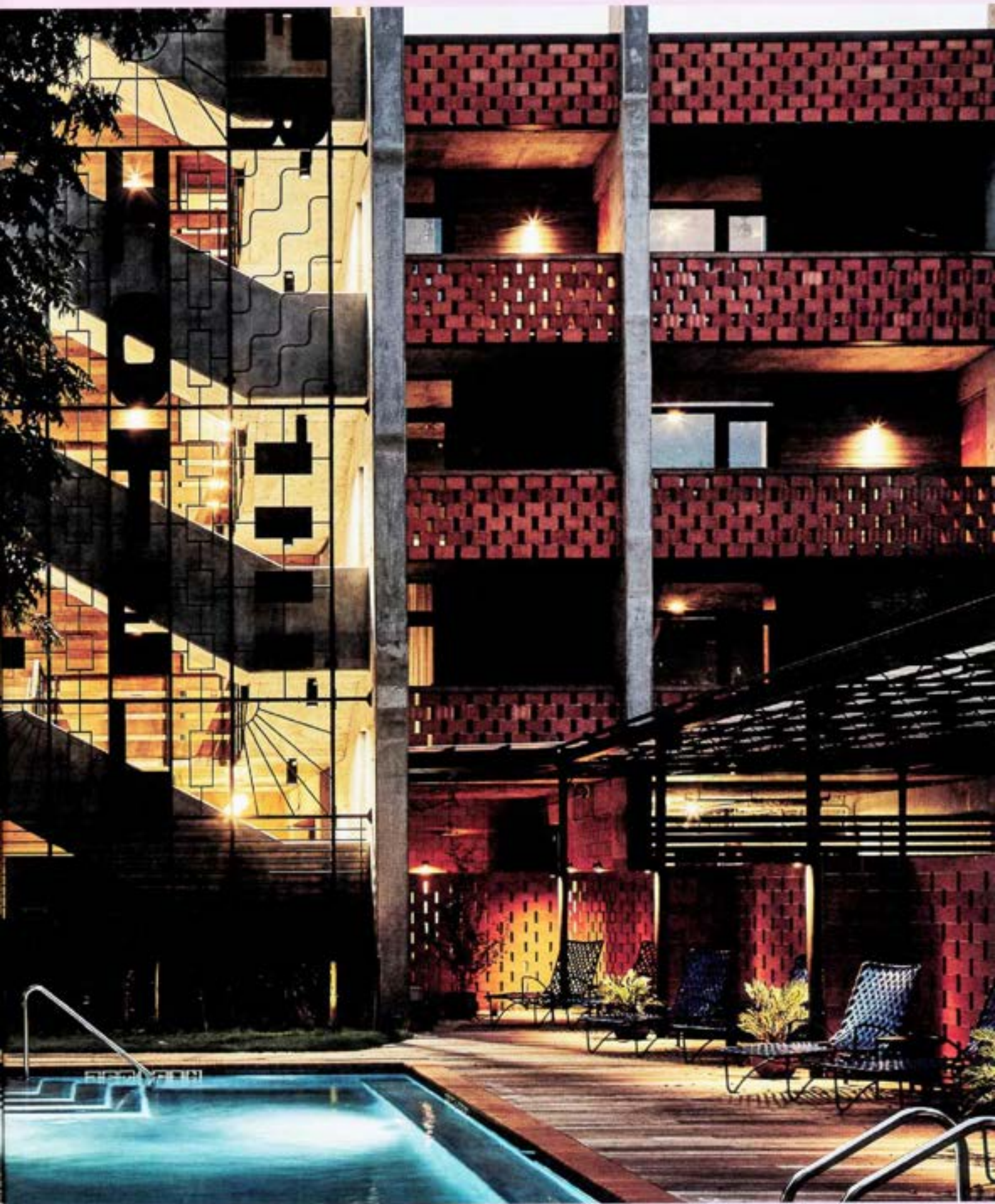
#### INSIDER TIPS

Don't miss decadent housemade pastries like sweet buns made with a chocolate cream filling at Hot L. Coffee, the hotel's lobby coffee shop. If weather permits, sip a beer in the open-air Quonset hut, or take a dip in the pool.

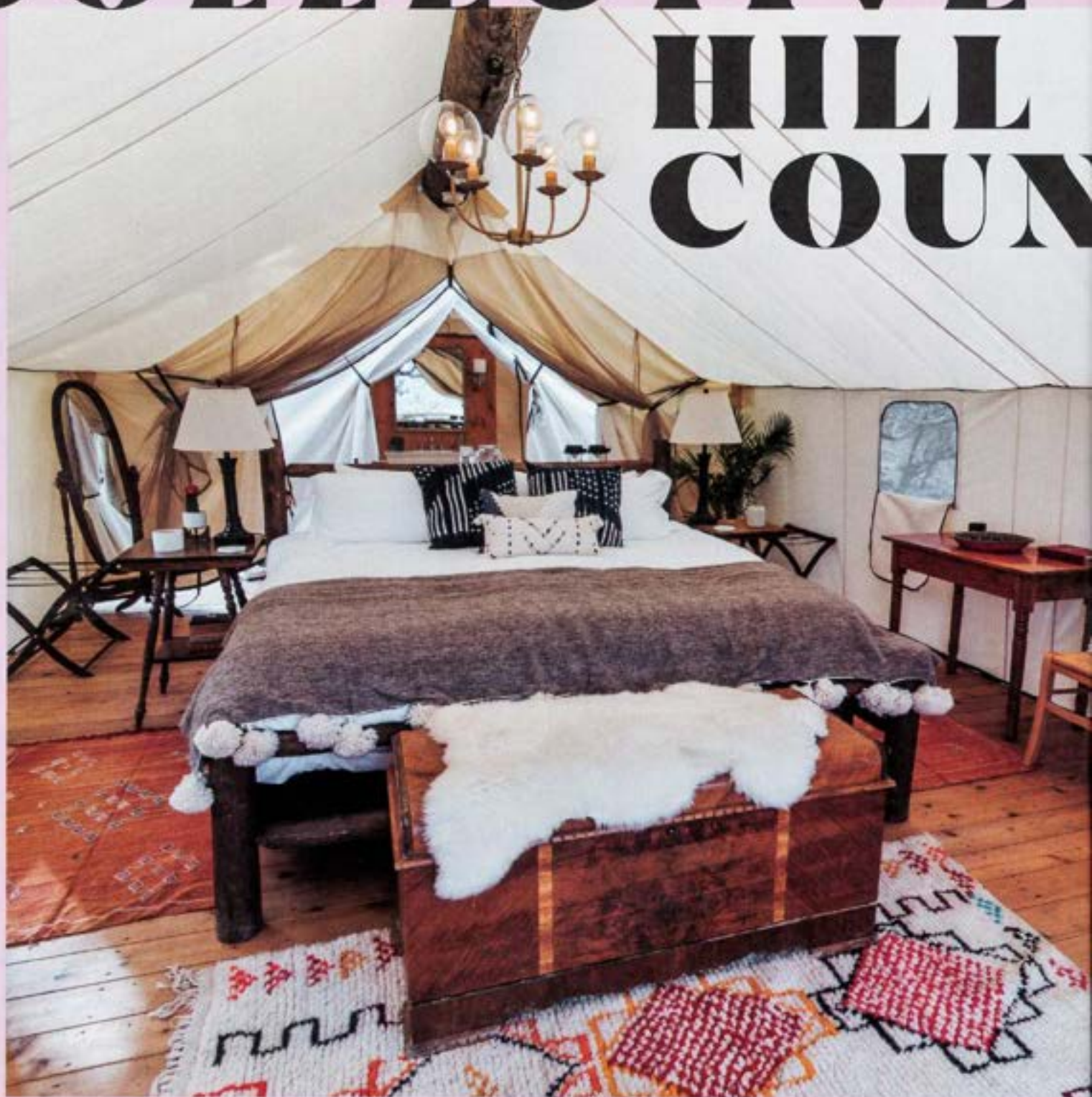
Opened in November, this hotel manages to feel like a hidden gem and the city's newest "it" spot all at once. Tucked away in plain sight, its lobby and restaurant sit in an unassuming building just off the intersection of Barton Springs Road and South Lamar Boulevard. The space is the former home of the Carpenters Union Local 1266, a union hall built in 1948 where carpenters once socialized and paid dues. Reimagined as a boutique hotel, The Carpenter Hotel features 93 rooms housed behind the original structure and a restaurant (nostalgically named Carpenters Hall) helmed by James Beard Award-nominated chef Grae Nomas. Have dinner à deux in the cozy dining room—its steak frites and mushroom-topped pappardelle are standout dishes—then retire to the lobby to sink into the soft-as-butter vintage Italian leather chairs and pick a vinyl for the community record player. All of the guest rooms are decorated in beautiful earth tones, with walkout terraces where you can stand and hear the sounds of the city, and beds with woven Indian blankets perfect for snuggling.

The hotel's  
outdoor  
pool resides  
next to its  
93 rooms.





# COLLECTIVE HILL COUN



# TRY



## FOR OUTDOOR LOVERS

### INFO

7431 FULTON RANCH ROAD, WIMBERLEY, (970) 445-2033.  
COLLECTIVERETREATS.COM/RETREAT/COLLECTIVE-HILL-COUNTRY

### RATES

\$299 AND UP PER NIGHT

### INSIDER TIP

Worried that the tent will be too chilly in the wintertime? Each unit has a wood-burning stove, space heater, and electric heated blanket to keep you warm and toasty.

Less than an hour's drive from Austin, this woodsy resort feels more like Colorado than the Hill Country. Unplug from technology and explore the intimate glamping destination, officially opened last September, which features 12 luxe tents with plush king-size beds and en suite bathrooms with showers, ultra-soft his-and-hers robes, and private decks with Adirondack chairs overlooking the 225-acre Montesino Ranch. Hike around the property's verdant trails to work up an appetite before a stellar five-course farm-to-table dinner featuring hearty proteins (think ribeye from grass-fed cattle and chili made with wild boar) and organic produce plucked from the neighboring ranch. You might hear the faint sounds of howling coyotes or gobbling wild turkeys in

the distance as you end your night roasting s'mores under the stars. In the morning, wake up early to see the sunrise together or arrange to receive a free farm-fresh breakfast in your room. With add-ons like in-tent couples' massages, ziplining, and horseback riding, the Wimberley resort is an easy place to bond with your better half.

**LEFT**  
The interior of each lavish tent includes a king-size bed and full bathroom.

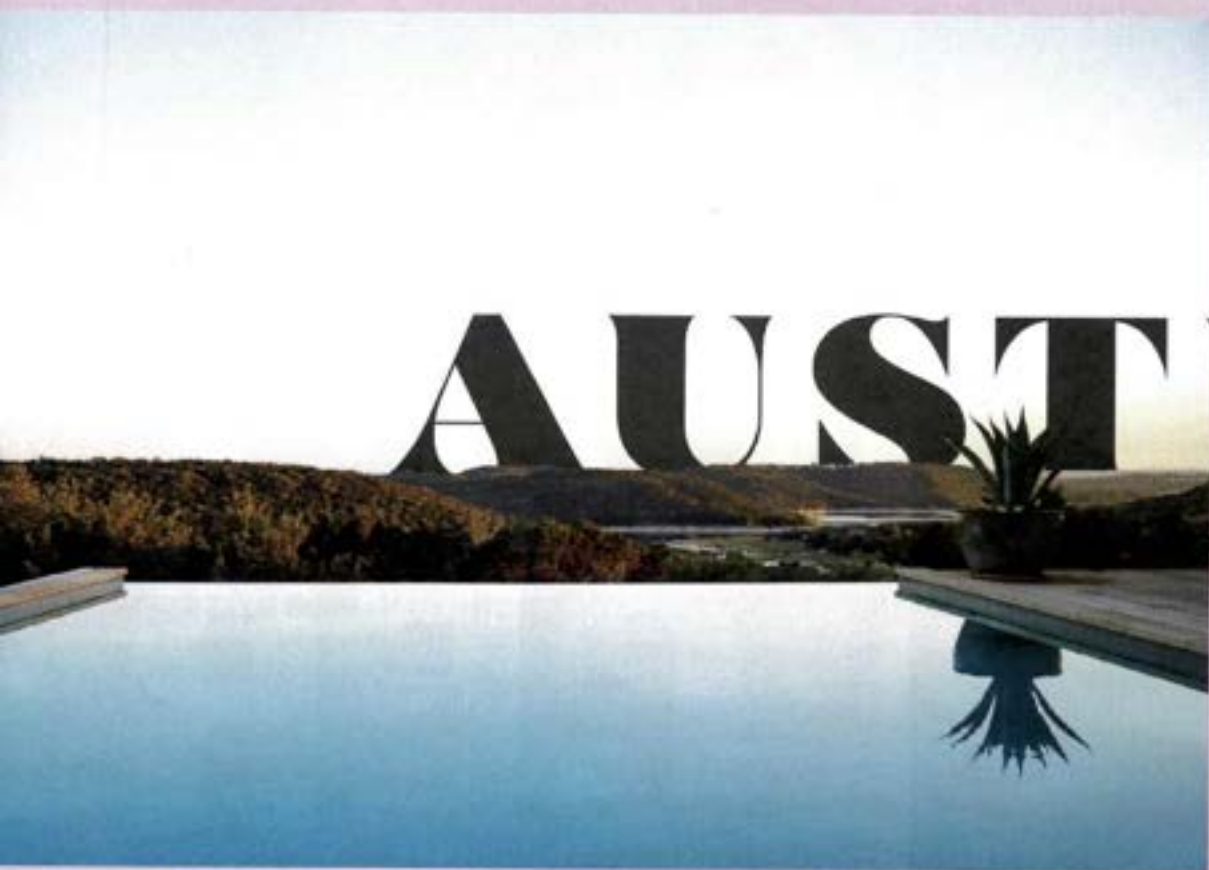
**ABOVE**  
Guests can dine outdoors while enjoying views of scenic Montesino Ranch.

# MIRAVALE



FIRST SPREAD PHOTO BY ALEX LALL. PHOTOS COURTESY: SECOND SPREAD, COLLECTIVE RETREATS; THIRD SPREAD, MIRAVALE.

# AUSTIN



## FOR ADVENTUROUS COUPLES

### INFO


13500 FM 2769. (855) 234-1672. [MIRAVALAUSTIN.COM](http://MIRAVALAUSTIN.COM)

### RATES

\$529 AND UP PER PERSON PER NIGHT, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY, WHICH INCLUDES A \$175 NIGHTLY RESORT CREDIT, ALL MEALS, AND COMPLIMENTARY CLASSES. (SOME CLASSES ARE EXTRA.)

### INSIDER TIP

Get ready to unplug. Miraval Austin limits the use of cellphones to guest rooms and designated common areas to promote mindfulness.

Surrounded by the lush Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, Miraval Austin is breathtaking in its beauty. The 220-acre property, which opened in January in the space formerly occupied by West Austin resort Travaasa, is awash with cedar and oak trees and gorgeous hilltop views of Lake Travis. While Miraval is nestled in a serene landscape perfect for relaxation, adventure is the name of the game at this experiential resort. Team up with your significant other for an array of stimulating activities such as hatchet throwing, archery, kayaking, tarot card readings, vegetable harvesting at on-site Cypress Creek Farm, floating meditation, and horse painting (literally: painting the side of a horse as a form of creative expression). Each of the 117 guest rooms has feathery soft beds and a deck or patio, and the resort has two heated saltwater infinity pools and a jacuzzi. Instead of doing a traditional spa treatment for two at its Life in Balance Spa, consider booking the Yojana, an interactive sound therapy experience in which couples place crystal singing bowls on each other. *Ahhh.* 

**CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT**  
The resort hosts alfresco farm dinners; a saltwater infinity pool overlooking Lake Travis; a couple explores a hiking trail on the property.