

Out & About

WHERE TO GO, WHAT TO SEE, AND HOW TO STEP INTO SPRING INSPIRED

| ON THE ROAD |

EASY DOES IT

New Orleans is humming with freshly minted museums, eclectic restaurants, and bayou-tiful boulevards. For access to it all, plunk yourself in the Marigny district. Consider staying at **Hotel Peter & Paul**—a 19th-century schoolhouse, church, and convent now filled with guest rooms done up in handmade textiles and painterly palettes (hotelpeterandpaul.com). Then hit these colorful spots.



COME HUNGRY to the **Franklin**, a grocery-store-turned-gastropub where the dinner menu (breadcrumb-topped blue-crab pasta, hanger-steak frites) is as authentically NOLA as the expertly crafted cocktails. thefranklinnola.com

MOSEY DOWN Frenchmen Street. Peruse the nightly open-air **Palace Market Frenchmen**, where artists and jewelers sell top-notch work; follow your ear to the **Spotted Cat Music Club** for some hopping live jazz. palacemarketnola.com; spottedcatmusicclub.com

SNAG A SEAT at the **Marigny Opera House**—a church built in 1848 that's been converted into an ethereal performance venue—and behold its resident ballet company leaping through an original number. marignyoperahouse.org

| WHY NOT? |

Learn on Location

To make more than memories on your next getaway, book a creative class at a hotel.

Walland, Tennessee

Go behind the lens with master photographers John Dolan and Heather Ann Thomas at the luxe Great Smoky Mountains retreat **Blackberry Farm**, and join them on a field shoot in the property's lush produce gardens. **March 15 to 18; \$800**, blackberryfarm.com.

Charleston, South Carolina

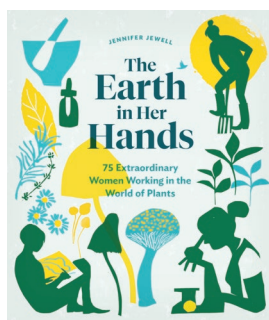
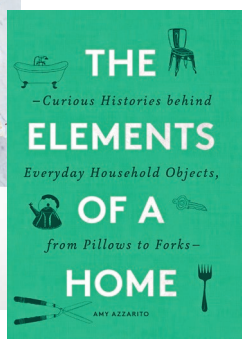
At **Zero George** hotel, chef and two-time *Chopped* champ Vinson Petrillo teaches intimate groups techniques used in his seasonal menu—poaching, smoking, dry-freezing—and preps a three-course meal for attendees. **Mondays, Saturdays, and select Sundays; \$150**, zerogeorge.com.

Sundance, Utah

Film isn't the only artistic game in this town. Sign up for a workshop at the **Sundance Mountain Resort**, and learn to throw a pot, bind a leather journal, or make a bracelet with semiprecious stones. **Daily; from \$95**, sundanceresort.com.



Dinner in French
MY RECIPES BY WAY OF FRANCE
Melissa Clark



| ON OUR BOOKSHELF |

Like Julia Child, *New York Times* columnist Melissa Clark fell in love with food in the land of butter and pastries. **Dinner in French** (Clarkson Potter) adapts her childhood-vacation memories into modern, weeknight-friendly dishes; one-and-done ratatouille sheet-pan chicken is just the start. Did you know that the first chandeliers were forged not in France but in Constantinople—or that the all-American Windsor chair was originally commissioned for Windsor Castle's gardens by King George III? Design historian Amy Azzarito collects 63 domestic objects' origin stories in the whimsically illustrated **The Elements of a Home** (Chronicle). Plantswomen, unite! Jennifer Jewell, host of the public-radio show and podcast *Cultivating Place*, profiles horticultural leaders the world over in **The Earth in Her Hands** (Timber Press). Icons include Midori Shintani, head gardener at Japan's famed Tokachi Millennium Forest; and Ira Wallace, co-owner of Virginia's Southern Exposure Seed Exchange.