

# VIVANT





# BERMUDA

An aerial photograph of a tropical beach. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, with white foam from waves washing onto a wide, pink-sand beach. To the right, dark, jagged rocks protrude from the water and onto the shore. A small figure of a person is visible on the sand near the water's edge.

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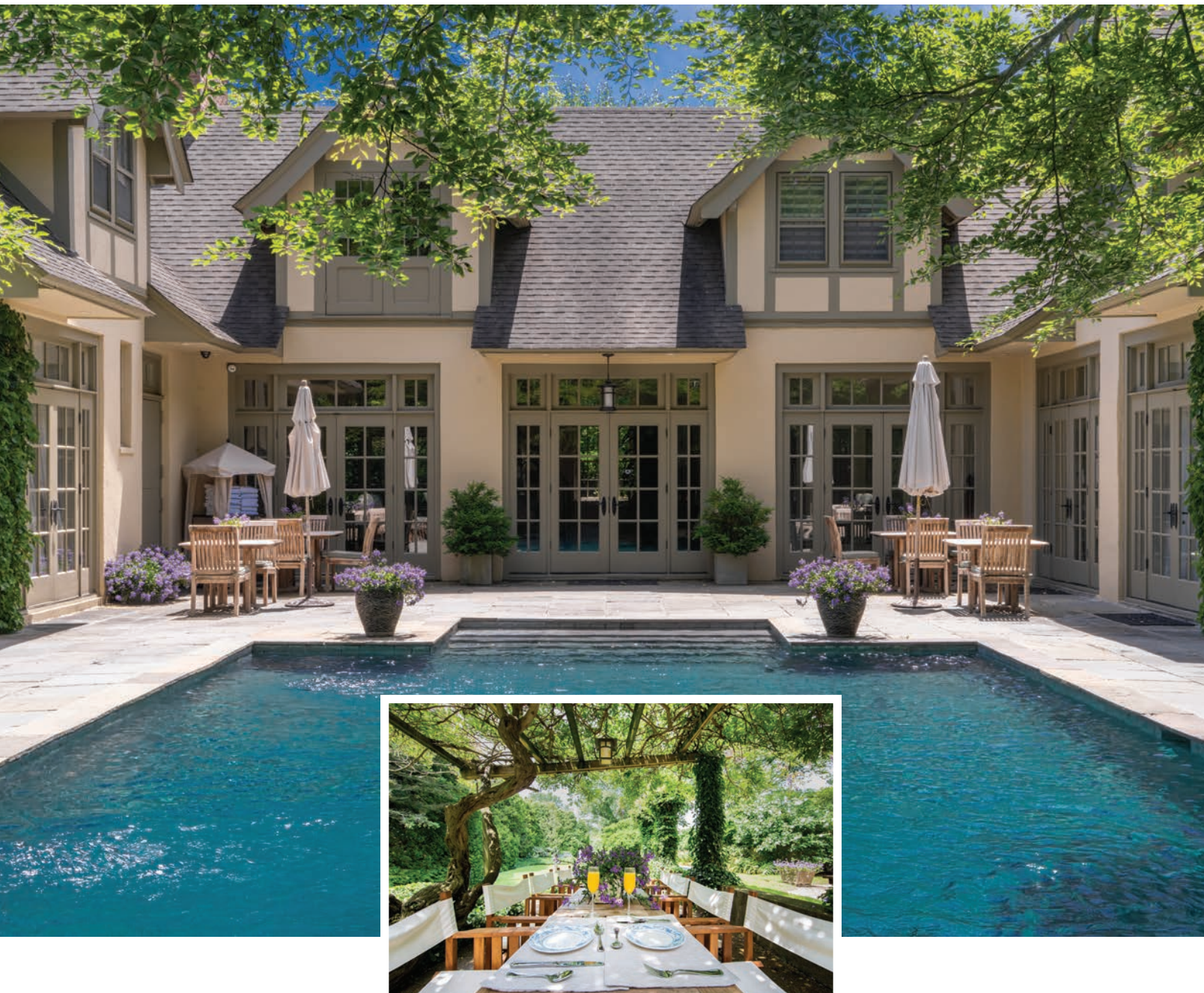
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# HardWear by Tiffany

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by New York, a city in flux.

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MINI DRESS



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# BARÉNIA



SKIN IS A SCENT





# EDITOR'S LETTER

Summer has a way of revealing our truest selves. The days grow longer, the evenings softer, and life seems to unfold with a little more ease—and perhaps a touch more wonder.

This season, **VIVANT** invites you to slip into that spirit of effortless beauty, curiosity, and connection. From the sun-drenched allure of coastal escapes to the quiet power of a thoughtfully curated home, every page of this issue celebrates the art of living well—and living fully.

Inside, you'll find stories that transport and inspire: a journey aboard The Britannic Explorer, Louis Vuitton's mesmerizing Escale au Pont-Neuf watch, and the legacy of The Hedges with Tom Whitaker. We explore the transformative design of Michelle Gerson's Bridgehampton retreat, as well as the rituals—both ancient and modern—that restore body and spirit, from the healing properties of aloe vera to sea-inspired therapies.

Our Summer List champions visionaries shaping the way we gather, indulge, and connect, including Chrome Horse Society's elevated tequila, FreshDirect's effortless approach to entertaining, the modern wellness of Sarah Wragge, and the MOJO band, whose music sets the scene for unforgettable celebrations.

You'll also discover breezy style in our Coastal Cool edit, the tactile pleasures of Lisa Sherry's summer picks, and the quietly luxurious escapes that invite you to linger, like Splendido on the Italian Riviera.

We spotlight those moments that linger long after the season fades—a gathering under a wisteria canopy, a glass of something chilled at golden hour, a spirited conversation that sparks a new perspective. Summer isn't simply a time of year. It's a feeling.

Wherever this issue finds you—poolside, tucked away in your favorite nook, or setting out on your next adventure—I hope it inspires you to embrace the sunlit stretch ahead with intention, delight, and a little bit of that inimitable **VIVANT** verve.

Cheers to a season of beauty and becoming.

With gratitude,

*Colleen*

Colleen Richmond

Editor-in-Chief, VIVANT Magazine



## I'M COVETING:

Scan to shop everything.

I'm loving this season!



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# NOTES





# 01

## THE TRAIN

### All Aboard: The Britannic Explorer Sets a New Standard in British Luxury

---

There's something deliciously romantic about rail travel—the kind that conjures up the glamour of silk-lined suitcases and the gentle clink of crystal as the countryside blurs by. With the debut of *The Britannic Explorer*, A Belmond Train set to roll out in summer 2025, Belmond once again reminds us that slow travel is anything but passé. Instead, it becomes a roving love letter to Britain, elegantly penned in polished wood, botanical cocktails, and a curated rhythm that says: this journey matters as much as the destination.

Rooted in the legacy of Belmond's rail mastery and steeped in the soul of its surroundings, the *Britannic Explorer* marks the first luxury sleeper train to traverse England and Wales. This isn't just a train—it's a movable salon, an intimate rolling soirée where every detail, from the tea selection to the tapestry of routes, is deeply intentional.

Set to depart from London on three-night journeys, the train winds through Cornwall's raw coastline, Wales' untamed national parks, and the poetic vastness of the Lake District. Think private garden tours, wild swims, gallery dinners, and dramatic views that shift with each passing

hour. Daytime excursions peel back the curtain on local culture, while evenings unfold inside the Observation Car's bar—a green-hued jewel inspired by Victorian apothecaries, with just the right hint of mischief in its cocktail list.

The interiors—dreamed up by the ever-elegant Albion Nord—offer up a masterclass in modern British restraint. Picture hues drawn from windswept moors and dewy gardens, layered with heritage motifs and quietly luxe textures. Each of the 18 cabins, including three Grand Suites, is a personal cocoon of understated indulgence. This is a world of silk, tweed, and serenity—not showy opulence but an effortless cool that whispers, not shouts.

Of course, no journey of this calibre would be complete without a culinary narrative, and here Belmond has enlisted none other than Simon Rogan—Michelin-starred mastermind and champion of the farm-to-fork philosophy. With a total of eight stars and a reverence for the land, Rogan's seasonal menus will shift according to each route. Think locally sourced, soulfully plated—each dish a snapshot of the region it represents. A Cornish crab tartlet with coastal herbs? Lake District lamb with foraged jus? Yes, please.















But it's more than fine dining—it's an edible map of Britain, and Rogan wants guests to taste not just the terroir, but the stories embedded in it. "For me, true luxury lies in humble ingredients grown with care," he says. "I want every guest to feel the connection between the landscape and the plate."

It's that very ethos—the seamless fusion of place and experience—that makes the *Britannic Explorer* feel so singular. From the artisan gins at the bar to the private dinner at Hauser & Wirth Somerset, every detail feels cinematic yet deeply grounded. This is not luxury for luxury's sake, but for the sake of immersion, perspective, and a touch of wonder.

With this launch, Belmond continues to polish its already glittering UK portfolio, joining the celebrated British Pullman, Royal Scotsman, and The Cadogan in a new chapter of British elegance. But the *Britannic Explorer* is something different—it's not just a train, but a philosophy on wheels. A quietly bold statement that travel can still be exquisite, meaningful, and very much worth savoring.

After all, in a world obsessed with arrival, the *Britannic Explorer* dares to make the journey unforgettable. And that is VIVANT-approved.

*Images courtesy of Belmond*









# 02

## THE BAG

### The Bag That Broke the Internet— Then Broke Hearts

**T**he Original Birkin—yes, *the* first-ever Birkin, sketched by Hermès CEO Jean-Louis Dumas mid-flight—landed under the hammer at Sotheby’s on July 10, 2025, during their ultra-chic *Fashion Icons* sale in Paris.

Legend has it: on a 1984 flight, Jane Birkin’s wicker basket exploded all over Dumas’s lap—style meet story-telling. “She sketched her dream bag on a sick-bag,” *Vogue* once reported, and voilà—the prototype was born. Born out of practicality, destined for legend.

Sotheby’s has teased the seven quirky traits that make this Birkin the real OG:

1. Built-in shoulder strap (never seen again on later Birkins)
2. Hybrid sizing: the depth of a 40, the width, and height of a 35
3. Gilded brass hardware, replaced later by plated versions
4. Closed metal rings, nodding to the sac HAC roots
5. Tiny bottom studs
6. Vintage Éclair zipper, Hermès now uses Riri
7. The clincher: “J.B.” stamped on the flap—initials worth more than gold

Bonus cheek: a nail clipper tacked onto the interior strap—because why not?

Originally Birkin’s daily companion for nine years, the bag was privately donated by Jane and first auctioned in 1994 to aid French AIDS charities. In 2000, collector Catherine Benier acquired it, and it has since toured the greatest museums—MoMA in New York, the V&A in London—and recently, Sotheby’s in New York and Hong Kong.

No public estimate was given for July 10, because they *can’t*. This is the unicorn of handbags: Sotheby’s has called it “a true unicorn in the world of fashion,” likening its aura to Princess Diana’s Black Sheep Sweater and Freddie Mercury’s crown. With past Himalaya Birkins fetching over \$500K, this prototype may rewrite the records. We can’t wait to follow up and see what this sold for and who claimed this ultimate fashion heirloom.

This isn’t just a Birkin. It’s *the* Birkin. Worn by Jane herself, adorned with initials and activism stickers, stitched into fashion DNA by necessity and daring. A gilded, stickered slice of history that carried her world.



Jane Birkin with her original birkin bag, 1996  
(image credit: Mike Daines/Shutterstock)







# 03

## THE WATCH

### Louis Vuitton Escale au Pont-Neuf: A Pocket-Sized Ode to Paris

---

When Louis Vuitton charts a journey in time, it does so with an elegance that borders on theatrical. The Escale au Pont-Neuf is not merely a pocket watch—it is a storybook in motion, a sculptural love letter to the city where the Maison began. With the right bank of the Seine as its muse and its headquarters at 2 Rue du Pont-Neuf as the focal point, Louis Vuitton brings the soul of Paris to life in a kaleidoscope of artistry, innovation, and movement.

This one-of-a-kind creation is the latest chapter in the Escales Autour du Monde collection and quite possibly



its most poetic. The dial is a scene: an autumn afternoon in Paris rendered with extraordinary craftsmanship. The iconic Pont-Neuf bridge stretches across the dial in miniature bas-relief, while the Samaritaine department store and a barge carrying Louis Vuitton trunks animate the narrative. At first glance, it is a still life—but with the slide of a discreet lever, the scene springs into motion.

Seven separate animations and thirteen moving elements bring the city to life. Sparrows hop, leaves swirl, water glistens, and a compass spins. It is horology elevated to performance art—mechanics choreographed with an almost balletic grace. Beneath the surface, the technical feat is just as impressive. At its heart is the



LFT AU14.03 caliber, a hand-wound movement with tourbillon, minute repeater, and automaton module. Composed of 561 components and over 630 beveled angles, the mechanism is assembled by a single master watchmaker and required more than 1,000 hours to complete.

As always, the Maison draws upon its unrivaled stable of artisans. The enamel work alone demands awe: the miniature painting of the Parisian sky, layered in up to 15 coats and fired up to 30 times, shifts from deep blue to translucent milk-white. Gold engraving, gem-setting, and sculptural micro-carving complete the tableau. Every element—the rippling water, fluttering flags, the tiny mascarons on the bridge—is handmade in painstaking detail. It is Paris, reimagined through the lens of time.

Even the bezel becomes part of the story. Sixty baguette-cut stones—sapphires, tsavorites, tourmalines, and topazes—trace the case like a



jeweled garland, mirroring the vibrancy of the dial's enamel palette. On the reverse, a second dial shows traditional timekeeping beneath a sapphire caseback, offering both utility and intimacy.

True to its heritage, Louis Vuitton has packaged this creation in an equally exquisite form: a saffron-yellow leather trunk crafted in the brand's ateliers, along with a white-gold chain inspired by the rails of the Pont-Neuf and a vintage-style Motor's Bag inspired by 1906 travel pouches. The presentation is as layered and thoughtful as the watch itself.

In a time when watches compete on speed, scale, or status, Louis Vuitton dares to create something slower, softer, and infinitely more enduring. The Escale au Pont-Neuf is not content to be admired from behind glass. It moves. It speaks. It enchants. And like the city that inspired it, it reminds us that true beauty lies in detail, devotion, and the delicate collision of memory and innovation.

*Images courtesy of Louis Vuitton*



# 04

## THE HOTEL

### From Nantucket Harborside to Aspen Mountain Hideaway

---

**F**rom the salt-tinged air of Nantucket to the crisp alpine breezes of Aspen, White Elephant has long mastered the art of storytelling through space. Now, in a move as deliberate as it is daring, the beloved New England brand is trading in its coastal breezes for mountain majesty, debuting White Elephant Aspen in late fall 2025.

For those who know the original, the essence is unmistakable. Born on the harborfront in Nantucket, White Elephant carved out its reputation with breezy elegance, soft coastal hues, and a certain wink of whimsy—think brass elephant knockers and rattan textures that felt both playful and refined. That heritage isn't lost in Aspen. If anything, it's reimagined. The new mountain retreat, designed by EMBARC, is a love letter to its past while boldly stepping into the future.

The 54-room boutique hotel, nestled in Aspen's West End, reflects a design ethos that is more curated than thematic. Imagine Roman clay walls washed in soft ivory tones, oil-rubbed bronze fixtures, leather headboards in shades of charcoal and forest green, and furniture that effortlessly bridges coastal charm and alpine cool. It's the kind of place where a Nantucket soul might feel entirely at ease after a day on Ajax.

Walk into the lobby—framed in curved glass and glowing like a lantern on Main Street—and the details begin to whisper their stories. Elephant trunk-inspired reception desks hint at the brand's storied past, while hand-painted lampshades and custom ceramic pieces lend texture and depth. Every corner is imbued with quiet intention.

Rooms vary from intimate retreats with mountain views to a showstopping 1,660-square-foot penthouse, complete with three bedrooms, a full kitchen, and a sprawling balcony made for star-gazing or après-ski prosecco. It's luxury without the ego: unfussy, generous, and rooted in the idea of living well.

Cultural cachet comes naturally here. More than 125 original artworks will grace the property, including rotating photography of the Maroon Bells and works from artists like Alex Katz and Orit Fuchs. White Elephant Aspen is also partnering with the Anderson Ranch Arts Center to offer gallery talks, installations, and family-friendly programming that position the hotel as a cultural fixture, not just a high-end lodge.

Dining will take cues from the sea with Lola 41, the brand's signature sushi and seafood restaurant, lending a saltwater note to this mountain story. It's a cheeky nod to the hotel's island origins—and exactly the kind of coastal-meets-crimson-pines twist that makes the White Elephant ethos so unforgettable.







For those seeking a more permanent pied-à-terre in Aspen, three private chalet residences are in development next door. Each boasts over 5,000 square feet of thoughtfully designed living space and full access to the hotel's concierge-style services, pool, outdoor hot tubs, ski lockers, and even courtesy cars. The chalets—like the hotel—are more than homes; they're heirlooms in the making.

White Elephant Aspen doesn't just bring luxury to the mountains. It brings legacy, with a lightness of touch that feels distinctly Vivant—a destination not trying to impress, but designed to be remembered.

*Images via White Elephant Resorts*

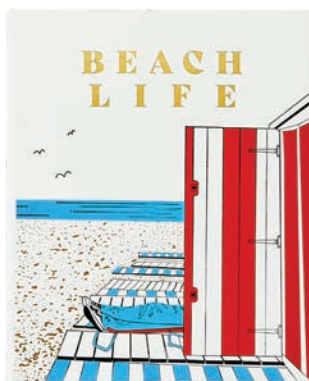


# EDITORS PICK



## "BEACH LIFE" BY STEFAN MAIWALD

Salt air, sun-drenched escapes, and the timeless allure of the shore—this beautifully bound book is a love letter to beach culture, blending stunning photography with stories of seaside legends, style, and iconic destinations.



## COASTAL COOL

A chic roundup of effortless essentials for sun-drenched days and salty breezes.

By Colleen Guilfoile Richmond

### LACE-TRIM LINEN SLIP DRESS

Intricate and '90s-inspired, this linen slip stuns with geometric lace trim and a sleek silhouette—lightweight, effortless, and made for warm-weather wanderings.

[www.jcrew.com](http://www.jcrew.com)

### CASEY TOP

Ride the wave in this hand-crocheted dream from Cara Cara. The Casey Top blends artisanal craftsmanship with playful summer energy—perfect for sun-kissed strolls and sunset cocktails.

[caracarany.com](http://caracarany.com)

### CATANIA SKIRT

[caracarany.com](http://caracarany.com)



### CHLOÉ PLAGÉ TOTE

A seaside essential with Parisian polish. The Chloé Plagé Tote in cotton is equal parts effortless and elevated.

[www.chloe.com](http://www.chloe.com)



### RAFFIA MACRAME BUCKET HAT

Effortlessly chic, the Raffia Macrame Bucket Hat in Pecan from Zimmermann's Summer Swim 2025 Collection brings bohemian charm to sun-drenched days [www.zimmermann.com](http://www.zimmermann.com)

### TOHUM LUMIA THEIA NECKLACE

A natural shell finds new form in this handcrafted piece by Tohum—bold, modern, and rooted in Turkish coastal tradition. [tohumdesign.com](http://tohumdesign.com)



### BERNADETTE VERA STRAPLESS MINI DRESS

Effortlessly chic in blue-and-white striped cotton seersucker, this strapless mini features flattering ruching at the sides and a concealed side zip—fresh, feminine, and perfect with flats or sandals.

[www.net-a-porter.com](http://www.net-a-porter.com)



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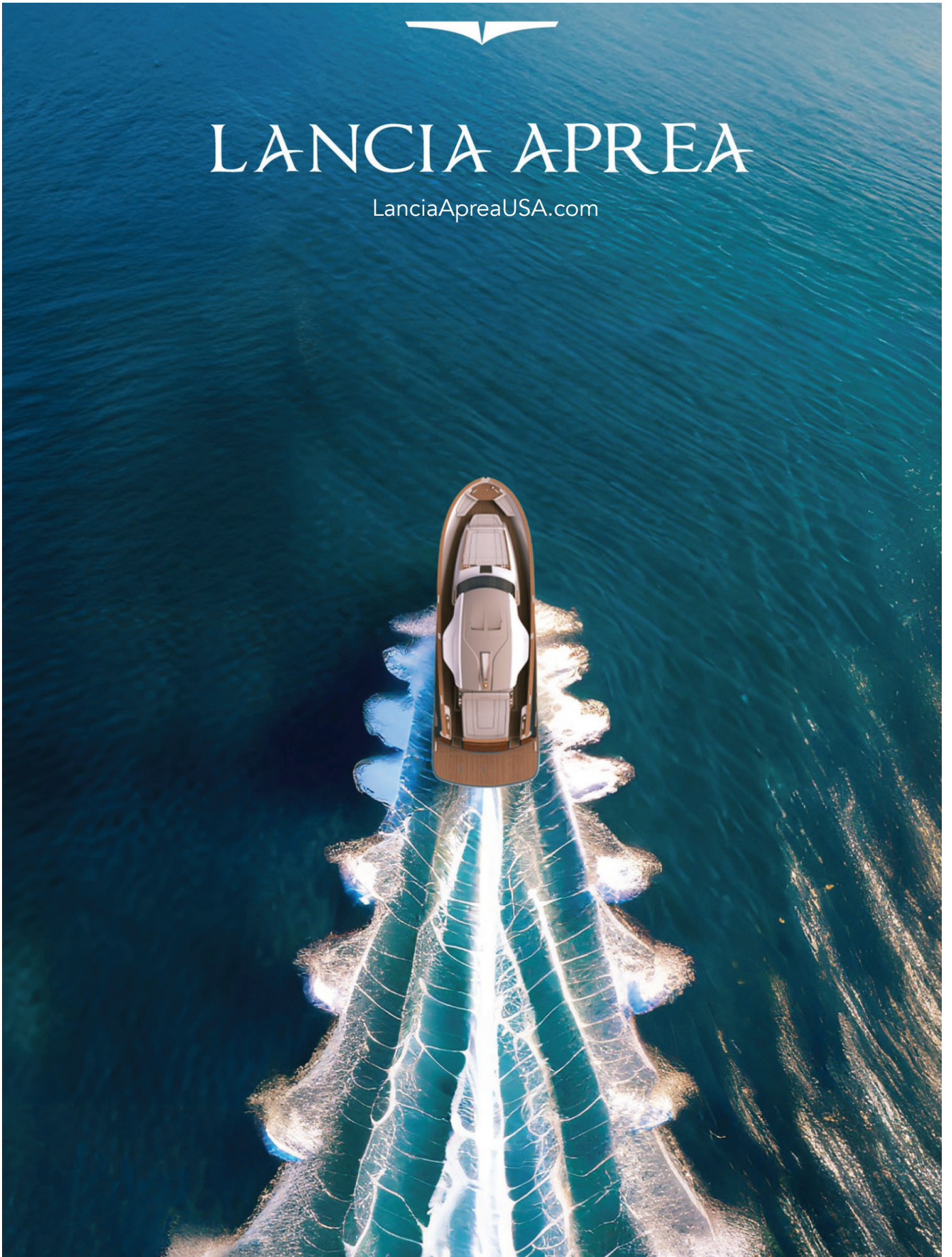
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## BAREFOOT & BESPOKE: LISA'S SUMMER PICKS

*Lisa Sherry's mantra? Live beautiful—but make it fun. These finds are for intentional living, with a wink.*

Guest Edit by Lisa Sherry of Lisa Sherry Interieurs  
lisasherryinterieurs.com

**BE ORIGINAL**  
Modern mixed media, collaged ephemera, and a neutral palette – from artist Michel VanDevender. One of a kind, quietly expressive.  
Michelvandevender.com



**LET'S PIVOT**  
A sculptural silhouette in an organic neutral, this swivel chair is a quiet statement—and a moving experience.  
Verellen.biz



**WATER'S EDGE**  
In a light nautical nod, chest drawer fronts are crafted in hand-woven synthetic rope. Perfect bedside or throughout the house.  
Palecek.com





**HERMÈS AVALON POOL TOWEL:**  
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## POOLSIDE ESSENTIALS FOR THE PERFECT VIVANT SUMMER

By Margot Richmond

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# *WELLNESS*









# THE *JUICE* IS WORTH THE SQUEEZE

*Why Aloe Vera Is the  
Wellness World's Green Gold*

By Viviane Ashcroft

**Y**ou've likely seen it before: perched innocently on a bathroom shelf, squeezed into a tube by your beach bag, or lounging in a terra-cotta pot by a sunlit window. But make no mistake—aloe vera is no wallflower. This glossy green goddess has gone from humble houseplant to It Girl of the health and beauty scene, and frankly, we're here for her glow-up.

## A PLANT WITH A PAST (AND A FUTURE)

Aloe vera's resumé reads like the skincare version of a royal pedigree: revered by Cleopatra, praised in ancient Chinese medicine, and now trending in TikTok routines and top-tier serums. But this isn't just nostalgia—it's science catching up with tradition.

Packed with over 75 active compounds (think vitamins A, C, and E; amino acids; enzymes; and an-

tioxidants), aloe is a multitasking marvel. Hydrating? Check. Anti-inflammatory? Absolutely. Antibacterial, antiviral, and age-defying? Now you're just showing off.

## BURN BABY, BURN... OR MAYBE DON'T

For decades, we've reached for aloe post-sunburn—an act that now feels a bit like showing up to the Met Gala in last season's sandals. Aloe has evolved, darling. Yes, it still soothes scorched skin (a role it performs with Oscar-worthy elegance), but the real tea is how it's owning the skincare space before damage is done.

Recent research suggests aloe vera's rind—yes, the part you usually toss—contains potent anti-aging compounds that help protect against UV damage before it strikes. Who knew the outer layer was the real overachiever?



## GEL, JUICE, OR STRAIGHT FROM THE LEAF?

Aloe is nothing if not versatile. Slather on the gel at night and wake up with skin so dewy you'll consider skipping your serum. Sip the juice (yes, the safe, purified kind) and enjoy a gut-health glow from the inside out. Blend it in smoothies, apply it to your scalp, even pat it under your eyes. Aloe doesn't discriminate—it just delivers.

Pro tip? Store it in the fridge. Nothing beats that icy-cool swipe of gel after a long day in the sun, a heated argument, or—let's be honest—scrolling Instagram too long.

## THE PLANT THAT GIVES ZERO DRAMA

We'll say it: Aloe vera might be the lowest-maintenance friend you'll ever have. Forget to water her for a week? She's fine. Give her too much sun? She thrives. And while some trends require a PhD in skincare to decode, aloe is blessedly uncomplicated. You cut. You scoop. You glow.

The Bottom Line: Get Yourself a Plant That Can Do Both

Aloe vera isn't just "good for you." It's that girl. Humble, hardworking, and just a little smug about how effortlessly she makes your skin look better. From runways to recipes to your own backyard garden, this succulent superstar proves once and for all that sometimes, nature really does know best.

Go ahead. Juice the trend.

## TOP 3 "HOW TO ALOE" LIKE A PRO

Because this isn't your grandma's sunburn remedy.

### 1. THE GLOW-UP MASK

Scoop the fresh gel from a leaf (or use a 100% pure product), mix with a dollop of honey and a squeeze of lemon, and apply to clean skin. Leave on for 15 minutes for a glow that whispers, "I sleep 8 hours and never doom scroll."

### 2. SIP YOUR SKIN HAPPY

Add 1–2 ounces of aloe vera juice (the food-grade, inner leaf kind!) to your morning smoothie or water. It supports digestion, soothes inflammation, and just might make your gut feel like it's at a wellness retreat in Tulum.

### 3. POST-SHAVE PEACEKEEPER

Ditch the drugstore lotion. Aloe vera gel is your skin's best friend after shaving—soothing, hydrating, and totally non-irritating. Bonus: no mystery ingredients you can't pronounce.



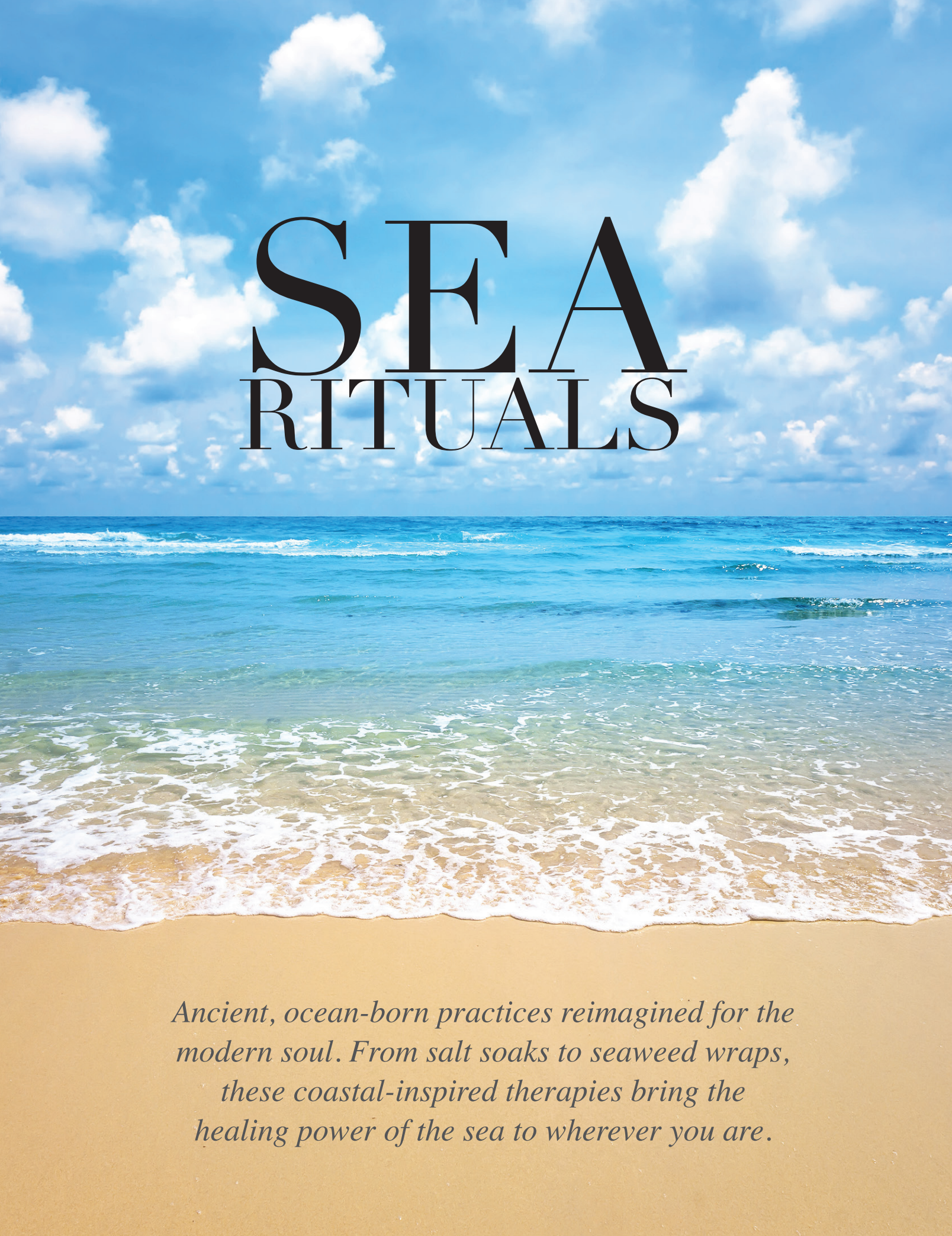
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# SEA RITUALS

*Ancient, ocean-born practices reimagined for the modern soul. From salt soaks to seaweed wraps, these coastal-inspired therapies bring the healing power of the sea to wherever you are.*



**T**here's a reason we run to the sea when we need to reset. Salt on our skin, sun on our shoulders, and that rhythmic lull of the tide—healing seems to happen on its own.

But what if we didn't have to wait for a beach weekend to feel that sense of release? What if we could bring those age-old, ocean-born rituals into everyday life?

At VIVANT, we've always believed in the transformative power of water—not the high-maintenance version with lemon slices and influencers, but the raw, sacred kind. Below, a collection of sea-inspired wellness rituals—rooted in nature, tried-and-true, and perfectly suited to your modern coastal (or landlocked) life.

## 1. SALT SOAKING

A simple bath becomes sacred with a handful of mineral-rich sea salt. Used since ancient times to cleanse and restore, a 20-minute soak in warm salt water can soothe muscles, reduce inflammation, and even balance your skin's pH. Add a few drops of eucalyptus or lavender oil, close your eyes, and imagine you're floating off the coast of Sardinia.

**VIVANT Tried & True:** Add Dead Sea salt, a splash of coconut milk, and dried seaweed for the full mermaid effect.

## 2. OCEAN-INSPIRED EXFOLIATION

Dry brushing may have its moment, but marine exfoliation is timeless. Crushed seashells, sea salt scrubs, and algae-based polishers work to gently slough off dead skin, stimulate circulation, and reveal a natural glow. Bonus: the minerals left behind nourish your skin long after you've rinsed off.

**VIVANT Approved Product Pick:** OSEA Salts of the Earth Body Scrub – gentle, luxe, and sustainably sourced.

## 3. SEAWEED BODY WRAPS

It may sound like something you'd order at Nobu, but seaweed wraps are a spa staple for a reason. Brimming with antioxidants, vitamins, and hydration-boosting polysaccharides, seaweed detoxifies the body while firming and nourishing the skin. It's nature's version of a tightening serum—minus the synthetic fillers.

If a full wrap feels ambitious at home, start with a DIY mask using powdered kelp and warm water. Apply, wrap in a towel, and let the minerals work their magic.

## 4. SALTWATER BREATHING

Also known as “blue mind meditation,” this practice involves mindful breathing near water, or imagining you are. Close your eyes, inhale slowly, and picture the rise and fall of waves. Studies show that ocean sounds reduce cortisol, enhance focus, and promote deep rest. No actual tide required.

**VIVANT Tip:** Stream real ocean waves or play a recording from a past beach trip to ground your breath in memory and rhythm.

## 5. HYDRATE LIKE A SAILOR'S SKIN DEPENDS ON IT

Salt and sun are dreamy—but dehydrating. One of the best sea-inspired rituals is replenishing hydration, inside and out. Think marine collagen, hyaluronic serums, and, of course, water rich in trace minerals.

**VIVANT Favorite:** Sakara Beauty Water Drops with rose and silica—elegant, effective, and perfectly Instagrammable.





## FOR THE FULL SEA-SPA EXPERIENCE

Want to level it up? Here are a few coastal sanctuaries—and a couple tucked just inland—where the sea takes center stage:

- **Spa Palmera, The Boca Raton** – Moroccan-inspired rituals infused with ocean botanicals.
- **OH! Spa at Ocean House, Watch Hill, RI** – Full marine immersion, sea stone massages, and salt scrubs with a view.
- **Shou Sugi Ban House, Water Mill, NY** – The Hamptons' most transformative spa retreat, offering sea-inspired therapies, Japanese soaking rituals, thermal circuits, and sound journeys—all nestled in minimalist, coastal serenity.
- **The Spa at Ballantyne, Charlotte, NC** – A refined Southern retreat offering sea salt stone massages and marine-infused body wraps just minutes from the Queen City.

- **The Spa at Hotel Bennett, Charleston, SC** – Elevated Lowcountry luxury with coastal-inspired treatments like sea algae detox wraps and mineral-rich facials.
- **Poseidon Spa at Perry Lane Hotel, Savannah, GA** – Named for the god of the sea and worthy of the title, this serene space features ocean-inspired body treatments and a signature gemstone massage.

## FINAL WAVE

Whether you're beachside in Nantucket or landlocked in your linen pajamas, the sea still calls. These rituals don't just mimic the ocean—they honor it. Because real wellness isn't found in fads. It's found in rhythm, in nature, and often, in salt.

So go ahead. Run a bath. Light a candle. Pour a glass of something chilled. Let the ritual begin.



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# HOME









# SALT AIR & SCULPTED SPACES

*A Modern Hamptons Hideaway*

By Colleen Guilfoile Richmond

Interiors by Michelle Gerson, photos by Brittany Ambridge,  
styling by Martin Bourne.



Summer living in the Hamptons has never looked so effortlessly chic.

Interior designer Michelle Gerson, known for her polished yet playful style, has reimagined a sprawling 6,300-square-foot beachfront home in Bridgehampton into the ultimate family retreat—equal parts modern sophistication and sun-soaked ease.

Originally a darker, more traditional space, the home needed a reset. Gerson's mission? To lighten the mood—literally and figuratively. With adult children in and out all summer long, the clients wanted a space that felt fresh, open, and ideal for hosting, without sacrificing comfort or personality.

"I wanted every room to feel happy, clean, and inviting," says Gerson. "This is a house made for barefoot mornings, long lunches, and late-night laughter."

First came the transformation of tone and texture. Out went the heavy brown floors, replaced with light, natural wood that set the stage for a breezy, coastal palette. Gerson made bold moves to maximize sunlight: swapping the front door for a steel-framed glass one, and updating bulky stair rails with sleek, nearly invisible glass.

The result? Airy elegance with just the right touch of edge.

The kitchen is a masterclass in contrast and cohesion. Gerson mixed oversized fluted lacquer uppers with washed oak lower cabinets, all crowned with veined Calacutta Gold marble that catches the light like seafoam. It's sophisticated, but not stiff—more "pour another rosé" than "don't touch that."

“

This is a house made for  
barefoot mornings, long  
lunches, and late-night  
laughter.

”





















Gerson didn't stop at surfaces. She turned her attention to the home's old-world fireplaces, replacing their weighty facades with organic, modern materials. The sitting room now boasts a clean travertine surround, while the family room stuns with fluted dolomite marble—a tactile centerpiece that's as sculptural as it is serene.

Throughout the home, Gerson added carefully chosen bursts of color—a vibrant artwork here, a standout chair there—to inject personality without disrupting the calm. "I believe in statement moments," she explains. "But they should be thoughtful, never forced."

#### The Ultimate Summer Plus-One: A Pool House Worth Posting

Just when you think the house has hit peak summer fantasy, Gerson adds a pool house-slash-guest retreat that feels like its own boutique resort. Designed for gathering, it's another nod to the home's core mission: to bring people together, beautifully.

Michelle Gerson's Bridgehampton project isn't just a renovation—it's a seasonal state of mind. Bright, functional, and deeply personal, the home is a glowing example of how design can elevate lifestyle without overpowering it.

Because when the ocean is your backyard and the family's all here, the vibe should be nothing short of spectacular.





“I believe in  
statement moments”







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# CULTURE



*John Singer Sargent's "Madame X (Madame Pierre Gautreau)" (1883-84, oil on canvas), the bewitching centerpiece of The Met's "Sargent and Paris" show. Courtesy The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Note that her right strap is less defined than the left. Sargent hastily repainted it to an upright position after the original fallen strap scandalized viewers.*

# American MONA LISA

By Georgette Gouveia

When John Singer Sargent unveiled *Madame X* at the 1884 Paris Salon, the reaction was swift and scandalous. Think red carpet wardrobe malfunction meets art world takedown—only this time, it was a jeweled strap that slipped and a reputation that shattered.

“It may be the best thing I’ve done,” Sargent mused when he finally sold the portrait to The Met in 1916—just months after *Madame X* herself passed away.

Visit The Met in Manhattan today and you’ll find the oil on canvas beckoning at the culmination of the museum’s “Sargent and Paris” exhibit. There she stands, gazing out over her ski nose and left shoulder, right arm resting on a table, her slim figure torqued in a velvet bodice with a sweetheart neckline and jeweled straps over a bell-shaped satin skirt. Her pale skin glows against the dark fabric, her left hand clutching a fan, a diamond crescent in her upswept hair.

*Madame X* (*Madame Pierre Gautreau*) has been many things to many people. As a symbol of chutzpah, failure, perseverance, and reinvention, it mirrors the country that claimed both subject and artist. Quite simply, it is America’s *Mona Lisa*.



Adolphe Giraudon's "Sargent in his Paris Studio" (circa 1885, photograph) with "Madame X." Sargent would keep and exhibit the painting until 1916 when he sold it to The Metropolitan Museum of Art, months after its subject died.







Much of the drama behind Sargent and Gautreau's grand misfire has already become art-world lore. The dazzlingly talented, well-traveled Sargent arrived in Paris at 18 to study under portrait maestro Carolus-Duran and train at the École des Beaux-Arts—just in time to befriend Claude Monet and brush shoulders with the early Impressionists.

But Sargent wasn't chasing avant-garde fame. He wanted prestige and commissions, and for that, the Salon was king. What he needed was a muse—a showstopper to launch him into the stratosphere.

*"It was less a portrait and more a provocation, and society pounced."*

Enter Virginie Amélie Avegno Gautreau—a woman seemingly plucked from the pages of an Edith Wharton novel. Born in New Orleans and raised in Paris after family tragedy, she married a wealthy banker 21 years her senior at just 19. But Amélie—always the main character—soon carved out her own identity in high society. With a flair for fashion, ghostly pale skin (thank you, arsenic-laced cosmetics), and a swirl of whispered affairs, she became a living ornament of the Belle Époque.

Sargent was, frankly, thirsty. "I am a man of prodigious talent," he boasted to a friend, hoping word would reach Gautreau.

Basically: *Have canvas, will flatter.*

Gautreau, though—bored by the reality of sitting for a portrait when she was busy with her daughter, mother, staff and social calendar—proved an elusive subject. Still, both persisted. She believed it would be a masterpiece.

She wasn't wrong. Just early.

The crowds came to gawk—and gasp. That infamous fallen strap practically screamed, *Oops, did I do that?* It was less a portrait and



John Singer Sargent's "Study for Madame X on a Couch" (1883-84), Harvard Art Museums. Some critics have suggested that in certain drawings the subject was interchangeable with another Sargent favorite, art student Albert de Belleruche.



John Singer Sargent's "Madame Gautreau (Madame X)," drawing, watercolor and graphite on white wove paper, Fogg Museum/Harvard Art Museums.

more a provocation, and society pounced. Gautreau's pallor and pose sparked outrage. Her mother wept. Gautreau begged Sargent to remove the painting. He refused. He did, however, repaint the offending strap into a more respectable position.

But as Valerie Steele of FIT reminds us, the strap wasn't doing the heavy lifting—literally. The dress's sculpted bodice did all the work. The fallen strap? Pure stagecraft. The real scandal was structural: a gown so daringly engineered it made undergarments obsolete.

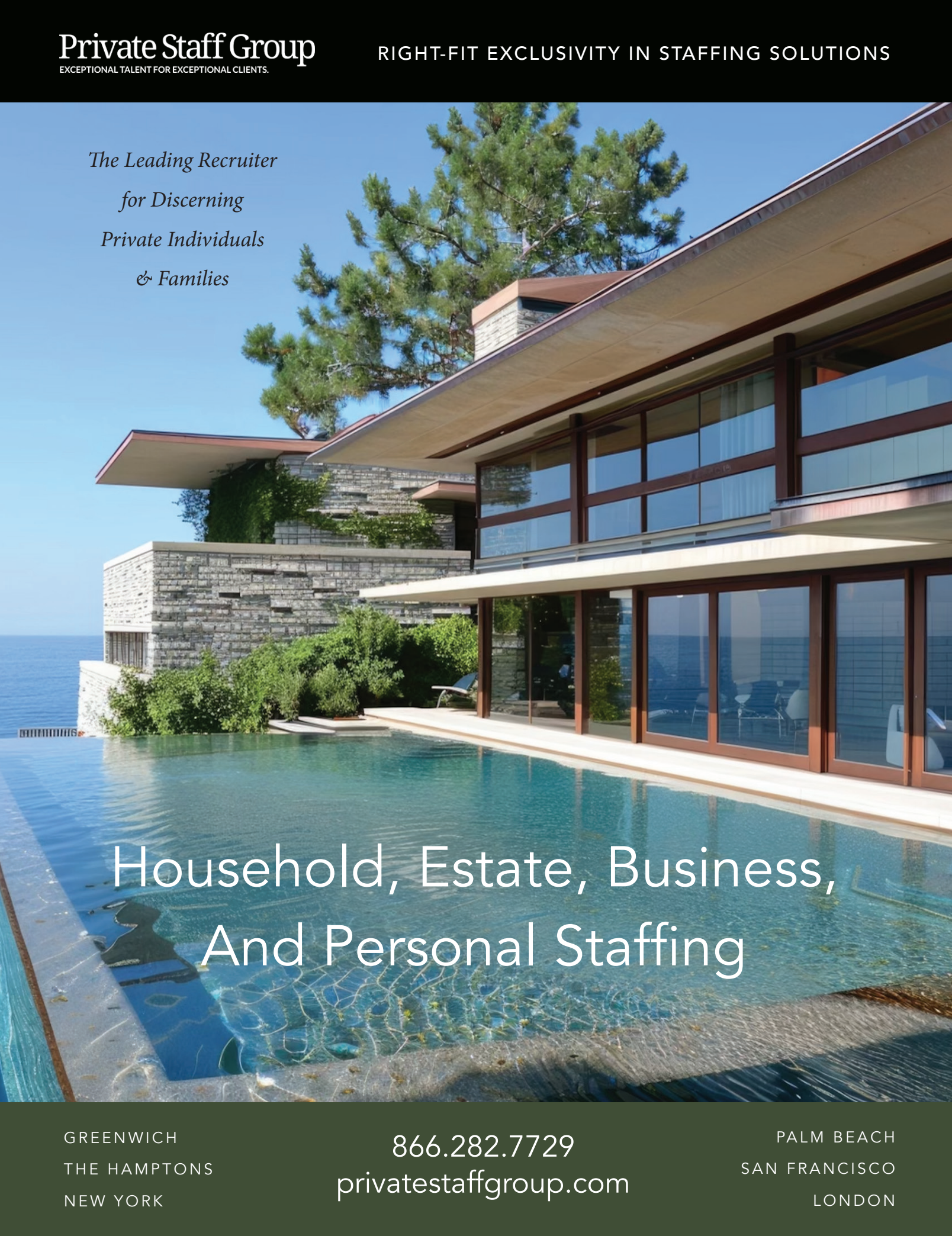
Gautreau wasn't your textbook beauty. Today's red carpet queens—Blanchett, Theron, Henson—have recreated the look with more symmetry, more sparkle. Even Nicole Kidman struck the pose for *Vogue*. But none matched Madame X's eerie allure or that thrilling sense of poised defiance. She wasn't just dressed to kill—she knew exactly the room she was walking into.

Sargent, bruised but unbowed, decamped to London the following year, where he became one of the most sought-after portraitists of his time. Gautreau? She kept posing, kept dazzling, and let the critics tire themselves out.

Sargent may have idealized her, but he captured something deeper: Gautreau's brazen delight in breaking the rules. That sideways glance? It's not demure. It's defiant. A century later, Madame X still whispers, *Let them talk.*



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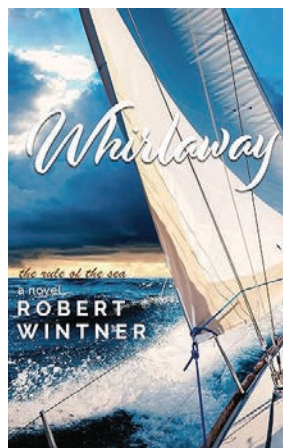
**CHARITY TRICKETT IS NOT  
SO GLAMOROUS: A NOVEL**  
BY CHRISTINE STRINGER

Hollywood, 1997. When Charity Trickett moves to LA to assist the director of the biggest blockbuster film of the year, she quickly realizes that

Hollywood isn't all red carpets and Rodeo Drive. But her determination to become a screenwriter and producer in this glamorous yet cutthroat industry cannot be stifled. Working harder than she ever has before, she impresses the top brass at Canopy Studios and inches herself closer to her dream. But her ambitions and tender heart are threatened by backstabbing coworkers, an evaporating bank account, love gone wrong, a mistake that could cost the studio hundreds of millions of dollars, and an FBI investigation that could land her in jail.

Surrounded by fame and money but unsure how to access either one, Charity's grit and kindness steer her toward devoted friends and hopeful artists. If she can manage to stay out of trouble, maybe she can change bad to good.

Here's what they're reading at  
**The Benjamin Royal Sonesta, NYC**



**WHIRLAWAY:**  
**THE RULE OF THE SEA**  
BY ROBERT WINTNER

*Whirlaway* is a mind and body adventure of the double-edge 80s, a time of growth beyond idealism and self-absorption of the 60s and 70s. Bolder reaching for the gold ring made success seem attainable. Many young folks enjoyed cocaine as a cultural stimulant for encouragement, confidence, and assurance

while it lasted. It cost a bit and a bit more but beat depression. The 80s also marked the beginning of the end for nature on Earth. The human population has been doubling since the 50s and has generated trash. The piles doubled, too, along with traffic and indiscriminate destruction. Free love or sex was still in, as pesky new diseases arrived. On the bright and risky side, the 80s held potential for those in need. A bold player could float a loan at a bank, of all places, with an application form. Most banks had loan apps that were easily submitted with personal tax returns. The P.O. had racks of blank tax returns. Naturally, the numbers had to make sense. That is no problem, with alignment available at friendly accounting services. Freebooting and fun-loving, 80s life was for the spirited, high lifers to down and outers, whoever could reach to grasp and bring the prize home!





Here's what they're reading at  
**The Marker Union Square, San Francisco**



**NAKED GIRL**  
BY JANNA BROOKE  
WALLACK

Growing up motherless in 1980s Miami Beach, Sienna and her little brother Siddhartha get by with their

charismatic and capricious father, Jackson Jones. When a small windfall relocates them to a condemned mansion on the water, the siblings are forbidden traditional schooling and left to live off the land. As Jackson uses their new home to create a communal cult, the siblings are forced to raise themselves in a carefree, chaotic oasis. Living amidst the vagrant seekers who take up residence in Jackson's utopia, Sienna and Siddhartha strive to protect their unconventional family. Janna Brooke Wallack writes with warmth, compassion and comic brilliance in *Naked Girl*, an enthralling debut novel brimming with the adventure, resilience, humor and heartbreak of growing up on the fringe of decency and longing for the unattainable comfort of home.

Here's what they're reading at  
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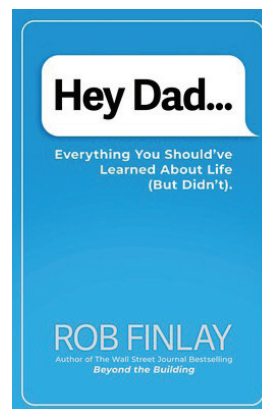
**THE RANCHER BEFORE  
STILETTOS**  
BY MARCIA WILLIAMS  
CROMER

*The Rancher in Stiletto* captivated readers across three novels featuring

Texas-born rancher Zaide Grace and her close-knit group of friends known as "the Dreamers." Fans of the series and new readers alike will delight in *The Rancher Before Stiletto*, a prequel that delves into the backstory of this enduring sisterhood centered around Zaide, the group's linchpin.

Discover the roots of fellowship, solidarity, controversy, and conflict as we follow this camaraderie and Zaide's journey from cowboy boots to mile-high heels. A move from Texas to New York City, plus a challenging job opportunity and a new best friend in corporate HR manager, Sasha Rollins, unites two women from different worlds who share much in common.

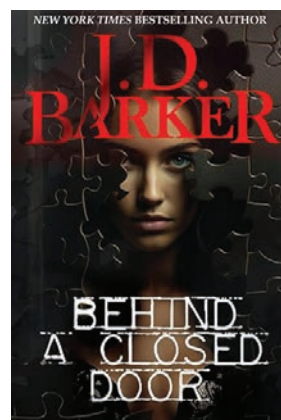
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**HEY DAD...:  
EVERYTHING YOU  
SHOULD'VE LEARNED  
ABOUT LIFE (BUT  
DIDN'T)**  
BY ROB FINLAY

Stepping into adulthood feels like taking a leap off a cliff—one that you are not quite prepared for. From figuring out how to land your first job to managing your finances, renting your first apartment, and not panicking when your car breaks down, "adulthood" can feel overwhelming. That's where *Hey Dad...* comes in. With expert advice on everything from job hunting and personal finance to launching your own business—plus real stories of triumphs and missteps—*Hey Dad...* is your ultimate guide for navigating the twists and turns of adulthood.

Here's what they're reading at  
**The Pierre New York, A Taj Hotel, NYC**



**BEHIND A CLOSED  
DOOR**  
BY JD BARKER

Would you kill a total stranger to save someone you love?

Sugar & Spice is the latest app craze taking the world by storm, but for Abby and Brendan Hollander, downloading it leads to a dangerous game of life and death. When the app assigns them a series of increasingly taboo tasks, they soon find themselves caught up in a twisted web of seduction and violence in this sexually charged dark thriller from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Fourth Monkey*—master of suspense, J.D. Barker.

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# INSIDE THE MIND OF GENE S. JONES

## *The Art of a Life Well Lived*

By Colleen Guilfoile Richmond

With a career spanning five decades, Gene S. Jones is one of those rare individuals whose life reads like a kaleidoscope of creativity, compassion,

formative guidance. “A phrase is merely a series of words until processed by the mind,” he says. “But combinations of words, wisely arranged, have the power to inspire and touch the heart.”

and purpose. From hosting over 2,500 live trivia game shows to serving as Associate Editor of the *Guinness Book of World Records*, Jones has worn many hats—literally and figuratively. Yet his most enduring role may be that of wisdom-seeker, someone devoted to unlocking the inner greatness in others through creativity, storytelling, and heart-centered living.

Today, Jones is focused less on the spotlight and more on shining a light for others. Through books like *Consolidated Wisdom and Modern Wisdom*, he channels decades of insight into practical, trans-



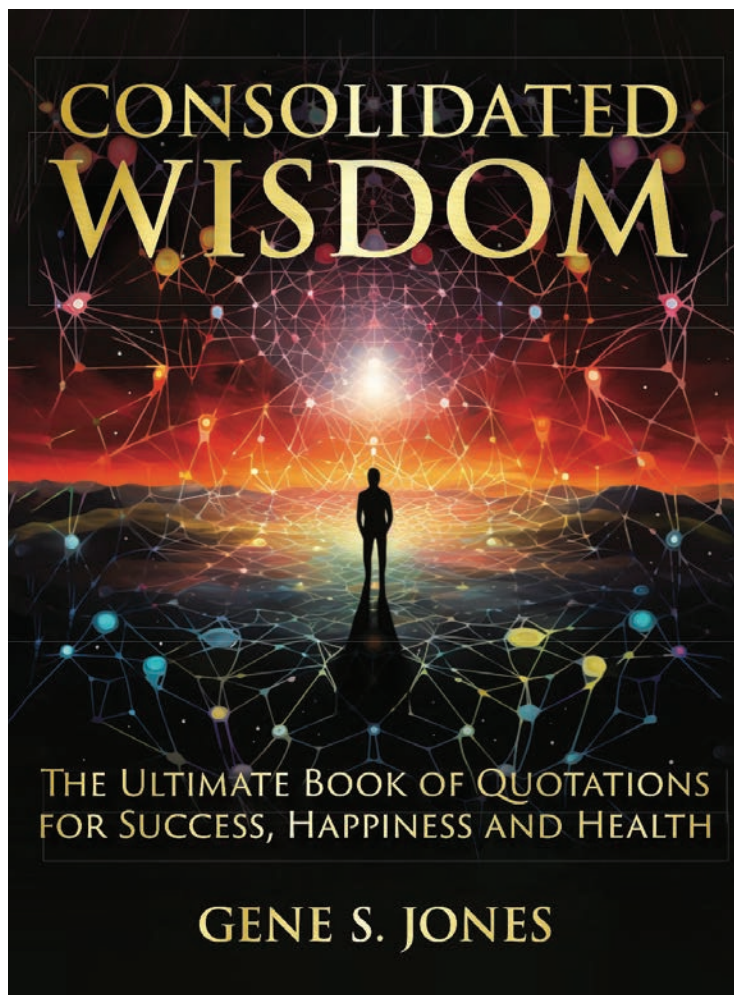
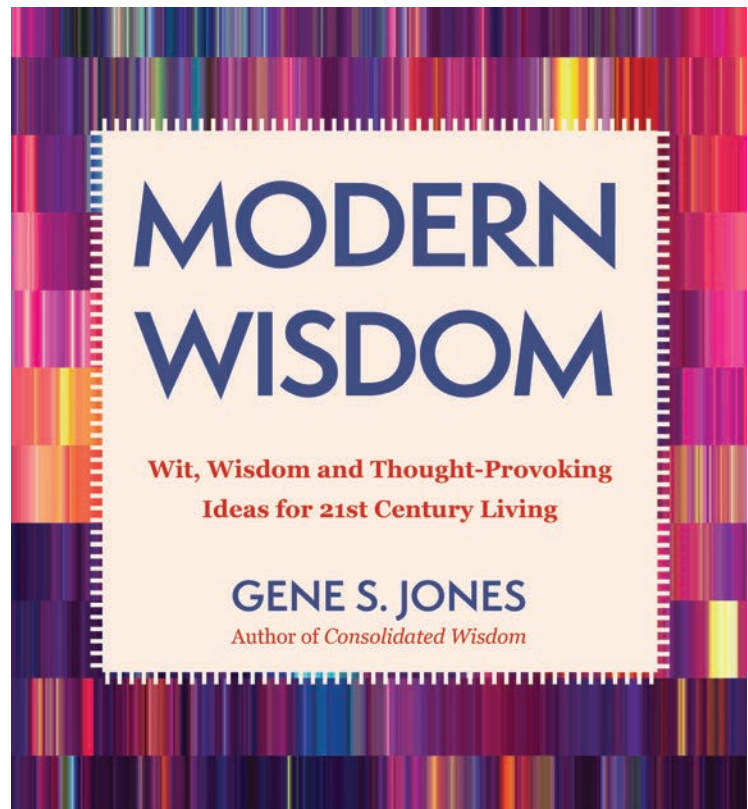
Jones didn't arrive at this path by accident. His evolution as an artist, teacher, and writer emerged organically from a life in motion. “I spent years experimenting with seemingly unrelated pursuits that slowly merged into my destiny,” he reflects. From his early days as a student radio host in Ann Arbor to fire-eating with a vaudeville troupe and emceeing conventions, each chapter taught him something new about the human spirit.

His approach to life—what he calls “living artfully”—is not reserved for artists alone.



For Jones, it's about practical creativity, intention, and joy. It's about viewing every interaction as a chance to contribute, whether that means gifting a stranger one of his books from the crate on the back seat of his car or helping a client find their voice through creative performance coaching. "The greatest gift of giving goes to the giver," he says.

A spiritual seeker, Jones integrates daily rituals like Sanskrit mantras, Qi Gong, and evening reflections into his routine, but he avoids rigid structure. "I write when the spirit moves me," he confesses. "But I trust my process. Somehow, everything gets done."



His most powerful message? Wisdom must be applied. Through his concept of a Personal Wisdom Code—a curated list of guiding phrases—Jones empowers others to face crossroads with clarity and conviction. "Fear is the biggest block to living fully," he notes. "But when we know who we are, we're better equipped to move forward."

From nationally acclaimed entertainer to intentional wisdom keeper, Gene S. Jones reminds us that a truly extraordinary life is one where every act—on stage or off—is infused with meaning, curiosity, and heart.

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*Each season, VIVANT magazine recognizes the icons - both established and emerging - who inspire us to elevate the everyday. A curated collection of brands, designers, destinations, and visionaries redefining luxury, shaping the way we live, travel, and dream.*

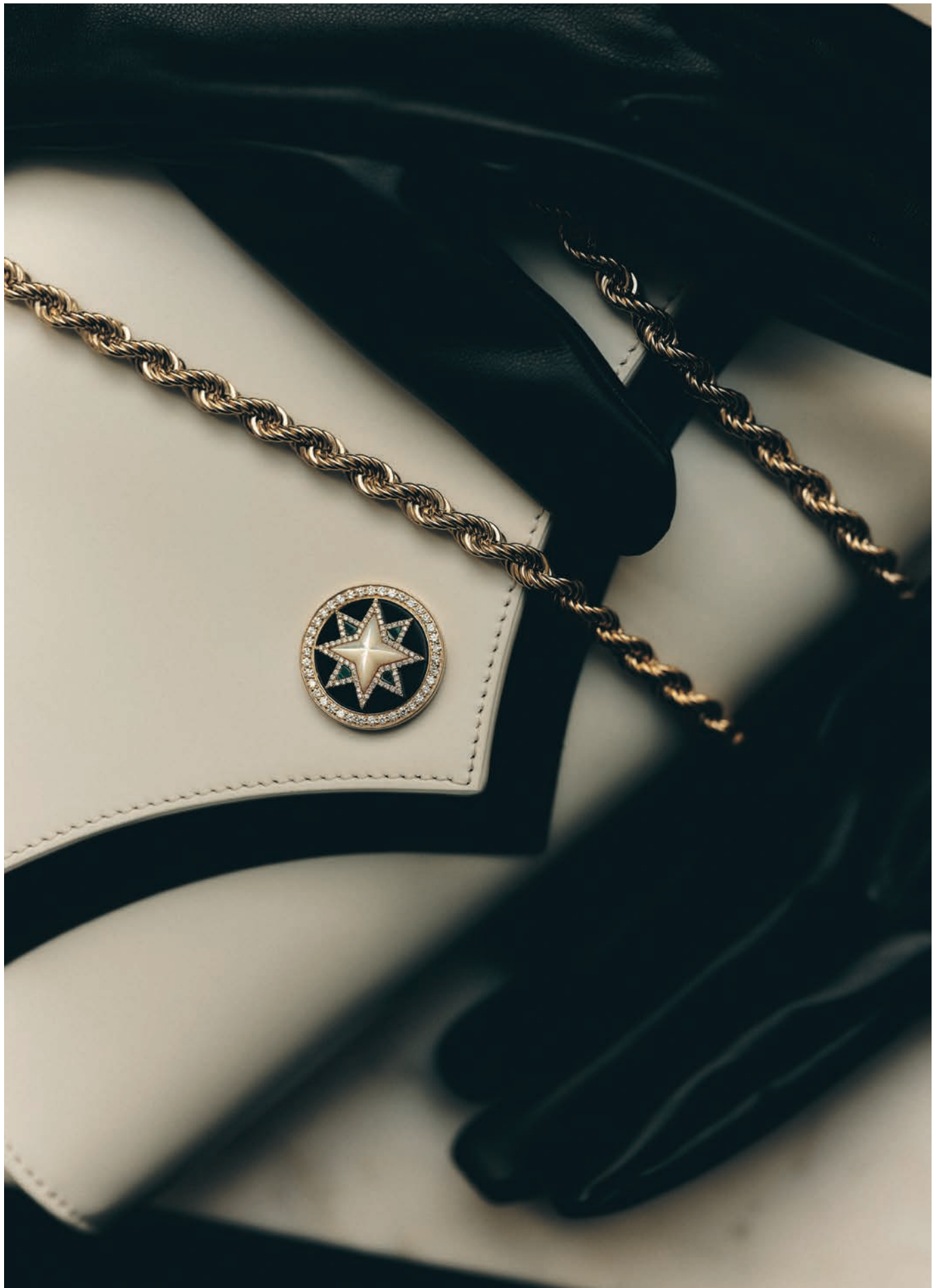
# 11 JULIET

*A New Constellation of Luxury*

by COLLEEN GUILFOILE RICHMOND images courtesy of 11 JULIET









In a world saturated with fast fashion and fleeting trends, 11 Juillet offers something refreshingly different: a return to intention. Founded by twin sisters Mary Kay Bowden and Kim Willson, the brand is a celebration of refinement anchored in memory, artistry, and a shared belief that luxury should feel both personal and enduring.

Named for their birthday—July 11th—11 Juillet is more than a date. It's a declaration of identity and a nod to the Parisian influences that shaped their vision. From the very first sketches, Mary Kay and Kim knew they wanted to create pieces that would live beyond a single season. Each handbag and jewel tells a story of discipline, elegance, and a devotion to details that can only come from founders who grew up side by side, dreaming big.

Their debut collections exemplify this ethos. Handbags—like the Clementine, Annabelle, and Mayfair—are crafted in Italy from supple, full-grain calfskin and finished with the brand's luminous emblem, the *Éclat de Joie*. This starburst, set with ethically sourced diamonds and stones such as malachite and mother-of-pearl, was designed as a universal symbol of optimism and radiance. More than decoration, this emblem is what truly sets 11 Juillet apart in the luxury space. Each medallion is crafted to the standards of fine jewelry, with some containing up to 17 carats of diamonds, and is fully detachable and transferable, allowing collectors to move their jewel from one bag to another as their collection evolves. It's a rare fusion of high jewelry and leatherwork, creating a personal signature that grows richer over time.

The same motif carries into their fine jewelry collection, where earrings and bracelets feel less like accessories and more like future heirlooms. For the founders, this blending of categories is intentional: an invitation to see fashion not as something disposable, but as a lifelong companion.

The same motif carries into their fine jewelry collection, where earrings and bracelets feel less like accessories and more like future heirlooms. The medallion itself is detachable and can migrate from bag to bag over time—a small but profound expression of the founders' belief that luxury should evolve with you.



"We've always been drawn to creating objects that hold emotional weight," Mary Kay shares.

Their approach has struck a chord with women who want pieces that balance sophistication with a subtle spark. Recently seen on Katie Holmes, Leslie Bibb, and Jenna Ortega, the brand has quietly become a favorite among those who value both statement and substance.

And while the aesthetic is unmistakably polished, 11 Juillet is driven by a deeper purpose: to prove that modern luxury can honor heritage, embrace ethical sourcing, and feel like an extension of one's personal story.

"We design for women who are curious, confident, and unafraid to invest in what feels authentic," Kim says. "That's the spirit of 11 Juillet."

For the founders, success isn't measured solely in sales or press mentions—it's measured in the relationships they build and the collections their clients create over time. In an industry often preoccupied with immediacy, 11 Juillet stands as an invitation to slow down, savor beautiful materials, and remember that true elegance is built to last.

"It's not about showing off—it's about celebrating a sense of self."

The Quiet  
POWER of  
ROBERTJAMES

*Handcrafted*

*in America,*

*Defined by Rarity:*

*Limited-Production*

*Heirlooms in Ethically*

*Sourced Exotic Skins*

By VIVIANE ASHCROFT Images courtesy of ROBERTJAMES





James Norton  
RobertJamesFounder/Designer

In a world of scream-worthy logos and luxury louder than a DJ at Surf Lodge, something quietly confident is turning heads—one exquisitely stitched handbag at a time. Meet RobertJames, the stealth-status label captivating the fashion set from Worth Avenue to Fifth Avenue with its mastery of understated glamour, ethical sourcing, and what we at VIVANT crown as a true icon of luxury.

If you've recently lunched at Sant Ambroeus in Southampton—extra limoncello, naturally—you may have

spotted it. That impossibly chic handbag with no logo in sight. Just soft, sculptural lines. Luxe exotic materials. And a kind of presence that doesn't beg for attention—it earns it.

While most heritage houses are shouting for clicks and chasing viral moments, RobertJames is doing the delicious opposite: crafting ultra-refined, small-batch pieces for women who already know they've arrived. No need to broadcast it. This is the era of “invisible luxury,” and RobertJames is holding court.







These are not bags for trend-chasers or status-seekers. They're for women who've graduated from the monogram marathon and now curate their closets (and lives) like a gallery—intentionally, quietly, beautifully.

Each RobertJames handbag is designed in-house and handcrafted by master artisans in the U.S. using ethically and legally sourced exotic skins—think American alligator, python, ostrich, and crocodile—sourced under strict CITES guidelines. Translation? Every piece supports sustainability, conservation, and a little thing we like to call peace of mind.

The color palette? A dream—warm taupes, rich cognacs, creamy neutrals, jet blacks, and bold hues like hot pink and metallic raspberry that walk the line between classic and unapologetic. The hardware glints with 24K gold or platinum plating. Interiors are lined in buttery-soft lambskin or suede. And the stitching? Don't even get us started—flawless doesn't begin to cover it.

They're the kind of bags you notice not because they're screaming for it, but because they're whispering luxury in a language only the stylishly fluent understand.

Founder and designer James Norton, a Sonoma County native, brings a design sensibility that's part architecture, part instinct, and all soul. His ethos?

Luxury should be intentional, timeless, and unapologetically personal.

Every bag is one-of-a-kind. No mass production, no seasonal gimmicks, no faux “drops.” Once it's gone, it's gone. That Wrenley tote you missed last fall? Still thinking about it? Exactly.

RobertJames isn't for everyone—and that's precisely the point. You won't find it plastered across a bus ad or name-dropped by every influencer on your feed. You'll find it on the arm of the woman who walks into a room and owns it—without ever raising her voice.

These aren't just handbags. They're legacy pieces, bold statements, and collectors' treasures made with conscience and conviction. RobertJames earns its place as an icon of luxury by delivering that rare trifecta: ethical sourcing, meticulous craftsmanship, and ultra-limited exclusivity—wrapped in a whisper, not a shout.

So the next time you're sipping poolside at Soho Beach House or gliding through Art Basel with a glass of something fabulous, take a closer look. That sculpted, logo-free stunner turning heads? It might just be a RobertJames.

And if you have to ask? Well—darling, if you know, you know.

*Explore the full collection at  
[robertjamesluxury.com](http://robertjamesluxury.com)*







VERTICAL CONSTRUCTION HAS COMMENCED



## SOUTH FLAGLER HOUSE

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# BROOKE, *UNBOTTLED*

*Brooke Shields is stepping into her power like never before, proving that confidence, vibrancy, and self-discovery don't come with an expiration date. With a haircare brand rooted in community, she's not just cheering on women 40+ — she's walking with them.*

By COLLEEN GUILFOILE RICHMAND Photography by BEN RITTER





*Photo by Thomas Loof*

**A**fter nearly 60 years in the spotlight, Brooke Shields carries herself with more clarity and confidence than ever—grounded in the bold truth that she has nothing left to prove. In our conversation about life, legacy, and the authenticity behind her haircare line, she offered a refreshingly honest perspective that beautifully reflects the VIVANT spirit.

“It’s not about reinventing ourselves or changing the model of who we are; it’s about revealing more of who we are,” Brooke shares. “I never thought I was broken or needed fixing. I was one thing, but I had more to show, and it was just a matter of tapping into it. That’s how I feel about women in this era of their lives. We have done so much, and then people go, ‘Oh, well, you’re done.’ For me, it’s like, no! I’m just beginning because there are so many things that I haven’t explored yet, not only as a woman, but as a person.”

One of her latest discoveries? A renewed understanding of what self-care truly means at this stage of life, inspiring the 2024 launch of Commence—a science-driven product line that redefines CARE for women over 40. It has since grown from three to six products, with the first offerings founded around Brooke’s vision to elevate scalp care to the same level as skincare.

Each product features the proprietary COMMENCE Complex™, developed by chemists and combining peptides, pre- and post-biotics, plant stem cells, and alfalfa sprout extract to promote hair growth, boost volume, and restore scalp health. Powered by the highest concentration of active ingredients on the market, the line delivers ethical, science-backed results.

“We’re a care brand,” Brooke adds. “Meaning, a woman has spent her whole life caring for others, and then she gets to this question of: ‘What kind of care can I take for myself?’ It’s my turn, and even if I have to do it myself, that’s a luxury. For me, I’ve kept my mother alive, I’ve kept the public hopefully engaged, and I’ve taken care of babies. I’m all of these different things to

everybody, and I often lose sight of myself. And it’s not anger; it’s an, ‘I now have the freedom and the finances to take care of myself.’”

Don’t mistake Commence for a typical celebrity brand. Brooke isn’t just the face; she’s the founder, CEO, and its fiercest believer. She affectionately calls the endeavor “the most precious and wonderfully pressured project” she’s ever taken on—from studying formulations alongside a team of chemists to visiting factories and gathering invaluable feedback from her community. The line is proudly US-formulated and filled, and almost entirely sustainable.

“This is my company, my money, my responsibility, and my legacy,” Brooke reiterates. “My whole life prior to this, I’ve represented other people who’ve slapped my face on something. The difference is that this is actually mine, and I know that difference because I’ve spent fifty plus years understanding it. Typically, a lot of things start with a brand or a product, and then the community follows. This began from the ‘Beginning is Now’ online community I started during the pandemic to have a discussion and learn what everyone was feeling in this over-40 era of their lives. Commence was built from, and for, that community.”

“It’s not about reinventing ourselves or changing the model of who we are; it’s about revealing more of who we are.”







Through shared stories and honest conversations, Brooke uncovered a missed opportunity in the market: addressing the biology of aging hair and scalp, and the unique needs of women over 40. The founder is open about her journey, admitting she never planned to become an entrepreneur or reenter the beauty industry after so many years—a responsibility she doesn't take lightly.

For the first time, she's creating from the inside out and it's making all the difference.

"I've always been a soldier for other people," Brooke shares. "It was the way I grew up and what my career was based on. This is the first foray I've made into something that is all mine. The way it began was from the very core place and point of being, which was a truth that I held, whether I was talking about depression or living with an alcoholic mother. They're not 'for me' stories; they're more like, 'Hey, this stuff happened and I need to talk about it, not because I'm an expert, but because I don't want to be alone.'"



And the conversation and connection haven't slowed. Feedback from the rapidly growing Commence community shows the products are transforming daily routines with real, visible results.

"Everything hinges on this for me, but it's only because the products actually work," Brooke says. "The feedback has been so positive that people come up to me in the airport and say, 'I'm obsessed with the Shine Enhancing Detangler,' or one of the other products. I love my daily routine because now my hair reminds me of what it used to look like. My daughter's roommate at college even 'steals' her Commence products. I'm like, 'We're not marketing to you guys!' But it really is just that good."

It's apparent Brooke carries deep gratitude for the many ways her career has shaped her life, and a mission to give back serves as the guiding light for everything she does. In the process, she says she's discovered an unexpected confidence

that's blossoming and opening doors to opportunities she never imagined.

"Commence, I think, reflects fifty plus years of living in the public eye, but then saying, 'I actually don't think that you know better than I do,'" Brooke adds. "This is such a source of confidence for me now, and it's one that I never had in my abilities, my talent, or my looks. Now I watch myself in this new role, and it's even making my acting better, because I'm not insecure in the same way I used to be my whole life. It just stems from being in this environment, which is so foreign to me—talking to VCs about cap tables, addressable markets, and margins—things that sound like grief to me, but I've learned them. Now I can walk into a room and be even more formidable, and I think that has greatly helped me with my life. There's so much more ahead; this is only the beginning!"

*Explore Commence at  
[www.shopcommence.com](http://www.shopcommence.com).*



### BROOKE'S VANITY FAVORITE 2-IN-1 INSTANT DRY SHAMPOO

Because who over the age of forty wants to hear the word dry? This award-winning bestseller is lightweight, multitasking, and refreshes hair and scalp instantly. It's boosted with quaternized hyaluronic acid to moisturize dry spots while delivering a clean, lifted, and voluminous finish.

"I put this instant shampoo in my hair every single night; I've never used a product more consistently in my life. I buy all my products myself...I'm my own customer, and that's how you know it works."

S

*Glow by  
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By COLLEEN GUILFOILE RICHMOND  
Photography by SARAH WRAGGE WELLNESS







**W**e've had our eye on Sarah Wragge for a while, and not just because her skin glows like it's been lit from within. From her early days transforming client lives with the SWW Method to now bottling up that signature vitality into products like Alkalize and Restore (a VIVANT favorite, by the way), Sarah has become a modern-day alchemist of wellness. Her sharp instincts, no-BS nutritional truths, and ability to turn wellness into a lifestyle (not a lecture) make her a natural addition to The VIVANT Summer List, our curated selection of changemakers who are defining what it means to live well now.

**Q: You once told us that helping people transform became addictive. Two years later, with a growing brand and product line, what's feeding your fire now?**

Watching my clients transform and feel better is still my greatest joy. But now, two years later, what really fuels me is witnessing how our community is living this lifestyle in real time. They're changing their approach to nutrition and achieving the results that create lifelong behavioral changes. It's not just about the quick fix or the cleanse anymore; it's about sustainable rituals, real education, and creating products that make feeling good accessible every single day.

What keeps me fired up is seeing our mission expand: parents teaching their kids how to nourish themselves, friends swapping recipes instead of complaints about feeling bloated, people choosing to feel good on purpose. That's everything to me.

At the end of the day, my mission is bigger than a brand; it's about changing the conversation around wellness and making it realistic, fun, and something people actually stick with for life.

Just the other day, a client tagged me in their Instagram story that was of a tupperware container with chicken breast inside. A simple proof point that they're learning how to eat healthier and they realize how much better they feel. It's these little moments and feedback along the way that keep me going, fueling our mission. At Sarah Wragge Wellness, we motivate and hold our clients accountable to make powerful choices and achieve their goals.

**Q: Let's talk about Alkalize and Restore. They've earned a permanent spot on our wellness shelves. What was the moment or need that made you say, "this is the next thing people really need in their lives"?**

I love this question because both Alkalize and Restore were born from exactly what I kept seeing over and over again in our community: we're depleted. Daily stress, busy schedules, travel, and even the healthiest foods don't always give us the nutrients and minerals our bodies need to thrive and help us feel our best.

One of the core pillars of Sarah Wragge Wellness has always been supporting a balanced nervous system and helping people feel their best from the inside out. Plus, we're all about focusing on what we put into our bodies versus what we take out. I wanted to create simple, effective, and delicious products to do just that.

Alkalize is that daily detoxifying boost, an easy, energizing greens powder that helps counteract acidity, eliminate toxins, and support digestion, so your body can work more efficiently every single day.

Restore is your nightly ritual; a sachet of essential electrolytes and minerals that brings your body back into balance and helps lull you into a calmer state. It's my answer to the constant go-go-go, a reminder to replenish what life takes out of you, so you wake up feeling recharged, restored, and ready to thrive.

**Q: Formulating products that actually work (and look chic on a shelf) is no small feat. What happens behind-the-scenes that surprises most people who don't realize what it takes to launch a wellness product line?**

I think what surprises most people is how much testing, tweaking, and real-life living goes into every single product. It's not enough for me that something looks beautiful on your shelf. It has to work and feel like a no-brainer in your daily routine.

Behind the scenes, I'm obsessing over ingredients, taste, texture, sustainability; all of the details that often go unnoticed but make all the difference between a product you try once and one you can't live without.





Honestly, I won't launch anything that I don't personally use and love. Every sachet, every blend has been in my kitchen, my purse, my carry-on bag; if it doesn't enhance my life or the way I feel, it doesn't make its way to you. That level of care and integrity is what I think people don't always see, but they definitely feel it when they use products from Sarah Wragge Wellness.

**Q: Your method is part ritual, part science, part intuitive magic. How do you stay grounded and inspired when your brand, and audience, are moving at lightning speed?**

It's such a good question, because the pace can be wild, but staying grounded is the non-negotiable that keeps everything going. For me, it comes back to practicing exactly what I preach: my morning and evening rituals, my non-negotiable meals, movement, breathwork; these are the anchors that keep me clear and connected no matter how fast things are moving around me.

“ At the end of the day, my mission is bigger than a brand; it's about changing the conversation around wellness and making it realistic, fun, and something people actually stick with for life.”

I also carve out time to disconnect and listen to my intuition; that's where the 'magic' happens. When I'm grounded in my own body and energy, I can tune in to what our community truly needs next, not just what the industry says is trending.

So it's really a balancing act between structure and flow; honoring the science, trusting my gut, and always making sure I'm living the lifestyle I'm encouraging others to consider. That alignment is what keeps me inspired, and keeps the Sarah Wragge Wellness method real and alive.

**Q: If this summer had a wellness soundtrack, what would be your top three essentials for staying vibrant, grounded, and just a little indulgent in all the right ways?**

I love this question. My summer wellness 'soundtrack' is always a mix of staying vibrant, grounded, and letting myself savor every little moment.

First, hydration is non-negotiable. I'm doubling down on minerals; Restore is in my bag wherever I go to keep my energy steady and my nervous system happy, especially in the heat.

Second, sunshine and movement. I crave running outside or a good weighted vest walk, time at the beach with my family and being barefoot in the grass; moving my body outside keeps me connected and calm.

And third, a little daily indulgence and lots of family time. As a mom of two, summer is all about making memories. We spend as much time as we can in the Hamptons, soaking in that easy, happy energy.

**Q: What's next for the SWW universe?  
Can we expect more products, more programs,  
or maybe a little something we  
didn't see coming?**

Sarah Wragge Wellness is expanding in the best ways and we have so much goodness coming your way!

First, yes to more products. Be sure to stay tuned!

On the program side, I'm beyond excited to share that the next iteration of The SWW Method kicks off in September. This is our signature 6-week program, our proprietary approach to nutrition that's all about what you put in your body, not what you take out.

We'll teach you how to burn fat, conquer cravings, and stay full and energized all day, with real-time tracking and unlimited support from me and my incredible team of coaches. This round is extra special. We've leveled up the experience so you can feel truly seen and supported every step of the way. Registration closes September 23rd.

At the end of the day, everything we're creating, from new products, new programs, to new tools, is about making it easier for our clients to simply feel better, every single day.

There are a few surprises in the works, so stay tuned. This next chapter is going to be SO good!

## SARAH'S SUMMER ESSENTIALS

We asked Sarah to share a few of her warm-weather non-negotiables. Here's what's currently on rotation:

- **SWW Restore:** Hydration and mineral balance on the go. I won't leave home without it.
- **Dry Brushing + Cold Showers:** It's like espresso for your skin.
- **Blood Sugar-Balanced Breakfast:** Think protein, healthy fats, and fiber. Your 3 PM self will thank you
- **Sun-But-Smart SPF:** Protect, but don't block your body's brilliance. I love a mineral-based formula such as Hydrasheer™ 100% Mineral Sunscreen SPF 30 by The Outset
- **Something Soulful:** Name a musical artist to list here: I am a sucker for "Old School" by Sam Smith



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# FRESHDIRECT GOES COASTAL

*A Gourmet Revolution  
from Greenwich to the Hamptons*

By COLLEEN GUILFOILE RICHMOND Photography by FRESHDIRECT





**O**n the East Coast, where elegance meets efficiency and taste is non-negotiable, FreshDirect has become a staple in the kitchens of those who expect more from their groceries. Whether it's the waterfront estates of Greenwich or a shingled hideaway in the Hamptons, this online grocer has mastered the art of delivering quality with convenience—and is now bringing its flavor-first philosophy offline.

## FROM DIGITAL PIONEER TO GOURMET GAME-CHANGER

Launched in 1999, FreshDirect was well ahead of its time—bypassing traditional supermarkets to bring chef-worthy ingredients straight to your doorstep. With a direct-to-source model that cuts out the middleman, FreshDirect taps into a curated network of farmers, fisheries, bakers, and butchers to offer impeccable freshness and flavor, all packed from its high-tech Bronx facility and delivered with precision.

Forget soggy greens and supermarket fatigue—FreshDirect brings you glossy heirloom tomatoes from upstate farms, buttery croissants that rival Parisian boulangeries, and sushi-grade tuna that might just outshine your favorite omakase spot.



## HAMPTONS, MEET YOUR MATCH

New this summer: FreshDirect on Main, the brand's first-ever physical store, opened in the heart of Southampton. Designed with a farmers-market-meets-chic-bodega aesthetic, this pop-up invites customers to browse seasonal produce, hand-selected cheeses, and local fare in person—perfect for East End weekends when you want to sip rosé and shop artisanal without a single click.

Beyond the baskets of peak-season peaches and the Instagram-worthy olive oil displays, the Hamptons outpost also hosts wine tastings, cooking demos, and kid-friendly activities—all underscoring the brand's deeper commitment to community and lifestyle. Consider it the natural evolution of a digital disruptor now playing host to the real-life rituals of summer.



## CURATED FOR THE COASTAL LIFE

Back in Fairfield County—where entertaining is an art form and your pantry is expected to perform—FreshDirect delivers the goods with a polished sense of purpose. Their offerings cater to every culinary moment, whether it's a lavish garden lunch in Westport, a spontaneous cocktail hour in Darien, or a serene Sunday roast in Southport. Think rotisserie chickens with house-made marinades, truffle mushroom risotto you didn't lift a finger for, and charcuterie so gorgeous it deserves its own tablescape.

And because no soirée is complete without a well-stocked bar, their virtual wine cellar offers rare finds, sommelier-approved vintages, and crowd-pleasers by the case.





## SUSTAINABLY SOURCED, ELEGANTLY DELIVERED

Luxury today also means responsibility, and FreshDirect takes this seriously. From recyclable packaging to partnerships with regenerative farms, their commitment to sustainability runs deep. It's luxury with a conscience—exactly the kind of brand alignment that speaks to modern households who care about both what they consume and how it's sourced.

FreshDirect earns its place on *THE VIVANT SUMMER LIST: ICONS OF LUXURY, INFLUENCE & IMPACT* for redefining what modern food culture looks like. They've turned grocery shopping into a curated experience, elevated daily dining with chef-level simplicity,

and done it all while supporting small producers and sustainable practices. In short, they've created a lifestyle brand that feeds both the palate and the planet.

FreshDirect doesn't just deliver food—it delivers lifestyle. It's the secret ingredient to pulling off an impromptu dinner party, the elegant fix for weeknight fatigue, and the ace up your sleeve when houseguests arrive early.

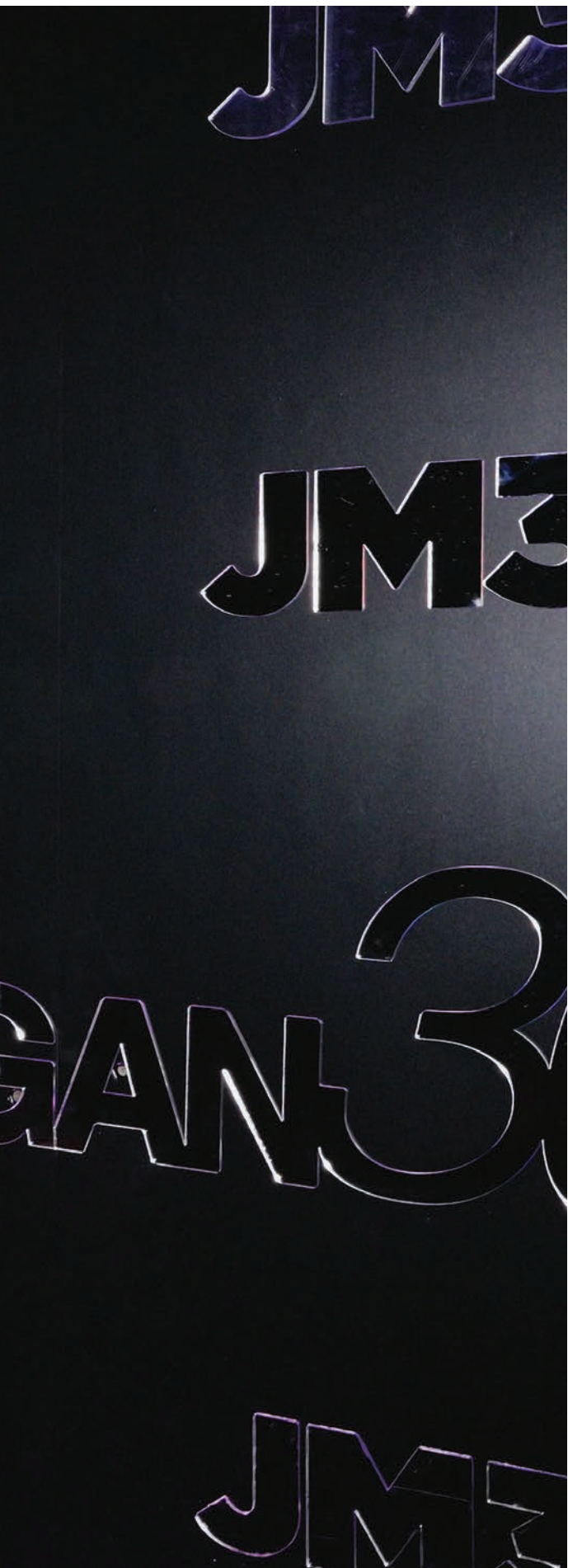
From market to manor, FreshDirect ensures your fridge is always filled, your meals are elevated, and your time is better spent actually enjoying the good life.

*Explore the full experience—and shop the Hamptons pop-up hours—at [FreshDirect.com](https://www.freshdirect.com).*









# HORSEPOWER & HERITAGE:

*Inside the world of  
Chrome Horse Society  
Tequila*

By COLLEEN GUILFOILE RICHMOND  
Photography by CHROME HORSE SOCIETY TEQUILA



**I**n an era where smoky gimmicks and filtered branding run rampant, *Chrome Horse Society Tequila* gallops in with radical elegance — unapologetically clean, meticulously crafted, and impossible to ignore. That’s precisely why it lands squarely on this year’s *VIVANT List* — our curated celebration of brands that don’t just play in the luxury space but shape it.

Crafted with just four ingredients — 100% Blue Weber

agave, champagne yeast, spring water, and a whisper of natural vanilla — Chrome Horse isn’t trying to keep up. It’s setting a new pace. “Luxury should never mean compromise,” says founder Jack Morgan, the visionary behind the brand’s chrome-glinting bottle and uncompromising ethos. “No artificial additives, no cane alcohol, no shortcuts. If we’re going to do tequila in a bold, elevated way, we’re going to do it right.”





“Every element was  
chosen to create balance  
fresh, clean, and  
unexpectedly elegant.”

That commitment to purity starts at the source. Morgan insists on highland-grown Blue Weber agave from Jalisco, prized for its slower maturation, higher sugar content, and naturally nuanced flavor. “Quality starts at the root — literally,” he says. “You can taste the care and elevation in every sip.”

Then comes the twist: champagne yeast. “That’s where the magic starts,” Morgan shares. “It gives Chrome Horse this bright, almost effervescent quality. It makes the agave *sing*.”

The touch of natural vanilla isn't there to sweeten — it's a detail, a whisper, softening the finish like cashmere over bare skin.

"Every element was chosen to create balance — fresh, clean, and unexpectedly elegant."

Unlike traditional production that relies on aggressive heat, Chrome Horse uses *infuser technology*, preserving the agave's fresh character while cutting down environmental impact. The result? A spirit that's cleaner, greener, and undeniably modern. "We wanted the vibrancy of the agave to come through," Morgan says. "Not get cooked out."

Triple distillation is the final flourish — a process of stripping away anything superfluous until what's left is pure, velvety, and precise. "That third pass is about refinement. It's what makes Chrome Horse taste like clarity."

Chrome Horse is more than a spirit. It's a universe. A shimmering, unapologetic world that fuses design, music, nightlife, fashion, and ritual. "From Mykonos beach clubs to NYC rooftops, we're curating moments that feel cinematic," Morgan explains. "The tequila is the heartbeat. But the lifestyle? That's the pulse."

The packaging alone is a power move: a sharp-lined, heavyweight chrome bottle that's part sculpture, part siren call. "I wanted it to feel like an object of desire — something you want to hold, display, photograph," says Morgan. "Elegant, rebellious, and impossible to ignore."

And Chrome Horse *shows up*, at Lil Nas X's single launch, LadyLand Festival, high-design parties, and candlelit lounges with just enough edge. "We don't attend events. We create moments," he says. "We bring back the lost art of having fun — real, unfiltered energy that makes people let loose."

His signature pour? On the rocks with a slice of orange. "It lets the spirit speak," Morgan says. But when the mood calls for a cocktail: "It's a skinny spicy margarita all the way."

Morgan is the rare founder who understands that building a brand means building a culture. "We're not here to follow trends," he says. "We're here to set a new standard." In an industry long tied to tradition, Chrome Horse feels like beautiful rebellion — respectful of the roots but unafraid to write its own rules. No fake folklore. No dusty hacienda clichés. Just a new kind of glam.

For **VIVANT**, which prizes elegance with edge and innovation that stirs the senses, Chrome Horse is exactly the kind of brand that belongs on the list — and at the table.

Welcome to the new rules. Jack Morgan wrote them in chrome.







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MOJO



*The  
Soundtrack of  
Summer*

MOJO

MOJO photographed at Sasha's Barn  
House in Greenwich, CT @Sashas-  
barnhouse by Katia Vincent  
@katiavincent8, @musikreviews.  
Styling by Nancy Carr for J. Hilburn  
@nancy.carr\_stylist

**Y**ou're on stage, guitar tuned and in hand, the scent of gardenias and caviar in the air, and the crowd is swaying. You glance up—and is that Bill Murray? Yes, yes it is. Is he... smiling? He is. He claps.

Others follow. You exhale. The party continues.

Welcome to the world of MOJO, where unexpected icons and elegant soirées collide. It's not unusual for the likes of Jerry Seinfeld, Jimmy Fallon, or Paul McCartney to make a surprise appearance when MOJO is in the room. And sometimes, they do more than just show up—they join in. That's the magic. One minute you're performing for a crowd of tastemakers, the next you're sharing a mic with a late-night legend. It's all part of the setlist.

MOJO is more than a band. It's a sensibility. It's knowing how to lift a room without overtaking it, how to tap into the emotional current of a moment with elegance and flair. At the recent MOJO Annual Event Planner Luncheon, held at the exquisite Delamar Greenwich Harbor, that sensibility was on full display. A crowd of top-tier planners, hoteliers, and premium clients gathered for what felt more like a salon than a showcase. The featured guest? Best-selling author Meryl Gordon, who brought to life the dazzling world of Perle Mesta, America's original hostess with the most-ess—pre-Martha, pre-Goop, pre-hashtag. After the talk, MOJO played a curated set that had guests sipping rosé and dreaming of soirées to come.

Because when it comes to luxury hospitality, music isn't just ambiance—it's infrastructure.

You start to understand this when you follow MOJO through a season. Let's start with New Year's Eve in Anguilla—the kind of dreamy island affair where Michael Jordan's yacht floats just offshore and the McCartney family slips into a beachside dinner like it's nothing. At Straw Hat, a legendary Anguillian beach club, MOJO welcomed 2025 in true VIVANT fashion: elegantly, playfully, and just a little cheeky. Legend has it that the nearby villa was once the scene of Brad and Jen's infamous breakup. No comment, but the music certainly healed something in the air that night.

From the Caribbean to Connecticut, MOJO's weekends are packed. While most hosts spend the summer thinking about one or two unforgettable events, MOJO's calendar includes multiple performances a weekend—from rooftop receptions to garden galas. Each one different. Each one personal. And at the heart of it all? Music that feels just right.

That's why, for seven seasons running, MOJO has held court at the Greenwich Polo Club, providing the musical heartbeat of the Player's Lounge—a shaded VIP enclave with chic bartenders from Cup Bearer, bold fashion statements, and families nibbling caviar off paper plates. The scene? Effortless and elevated. The soundtrack? Pure MOJO.







So what makes MOJO so different? It's not just the talent, though there's plenty of that. It's the taste. Like choosing wine, hiring live music is an art form. Sure, a \$24 bottle might shine at a restaurant, but pour it at home and suddenly the nuances (or lack thereof) show. So it is with music. In an intimate setting, you hear everything—tone, timing, intention. MOJO's repertoire evolves every year, expanding with fresh hits, timeless classics, and forgotten gems, while quietly retiring songs that no longer serve the mood. Every choice is intentional. Every note, curated.

And yet, behind the smoothness, there's substance. Mo—yes, there is a real “Mo” at the heart of MOJO—carries a story few know. After losing his mother at 15 and navigating the foster system, he was taken in by a series of strangers-turned-mentors who believed in him. Music was not only a connection to his talented mother, it became his way through the pain —his

anchor, his offering, his joy.

That quiet resilience threads through every performance. It's what makes MOJO more than just the soundtrack of luxury—it's the soul of it. Underneath the glamour and polish is someone who understands the power of showing up, connecting, and elevating a moment not for applause, but for meaning.

As you plan your next unforgettable gathering, think about the story you want to tell—not just with flowers and lighting, but with feeling. Music that understands the assignment. That's MOJO.

They're not just a band. They're a mood, a memory-maker, and the reason a good event becomes legendary. And that's exactly why MOJO is on this year's VIVANT List—where influence, impact, and impeccable taste take center stage.

MOJO: best. party. ever. @mojogreenwich

# HOUSE

*Where legacy, design, and global sensibility converge  
under the visionary care of Antonella Bertello at  
The Baker House 1650.*

*of*

By

COLLEEN GUILFOILE RICHMOND

Photography courtesy of

THE BAKER HOUSE

# *INFLUENCE*







In a region where prestigious addresses are as common as heirloom hydrangeas, The Baker House 1650 stands alone—equal parts storybook manor and social cornerstone.

Tucked into the lush, historic enclave of East Hampton Village, this exquisitely restored estate is more than a luxury inn. It is, quite literally, the house that taste built.

Originally constructed in the 17th century, the property has been reimagined with reverence, transformed into a beacon of elevated hospitality and cultural influence under the stewardship of Antonella Bertello—a woman whose own story reads like a transatlantic novel of style, vision, and passion.

Born in Peru, and also of Italian nationality, raised in Peru, Key Biscayne, FL and Costa Rica, and educated in Boston, Antonella Bertello brings an international sensibility and refined aesthetic to everything she touches. After a successful career in real estate spanning a few continents and in which she is still actively involved, she decided to add something far more personal—buying The Baker House 1650 in 2004 with a dream of creating a destination where timeless architecture, gracious service, and artistic sensibility would converge.

And converge they have.







Under Antonella's meticulous care, The Baker House 1650 has become one of the most iconic and sought-after addresses in the Hamptons, not just for its visual splendor, but for the world it represents: heritage, discretion, beauty, and influence. With only seven individually styled rooms and suites, the inn retains a sense of intimacy that is both rare and revered—each detail reflecting her commitment to understated elegance and soulful luxury.

Antonella is not a behind-the-scenes hotelier. She is the curator of the experience. From personally selecting the art and antiques that fill each room to hosting cultural events and philanthropic gatherings, her presence is palpable. She has hosted writers, editors, designers, CEOs, and change-makers—not just as guests, but as part of a wider cultural conversation that The Baker House quietly cultivates. Among the most beloved recurring moments are her signature “A Taste of Peru” dinners—held the third Saturday of each month—where the main house is transformed, tastefully and lovingly, into a Peruvian culinary celebration. Guests also gather for Afternoon Tea on the first and third Sunday of each month, served with elegant Morris & Co. china, or enjoy “Aperitivo,” a sunset cocktail hour with a Spanish mixologist who blends her artistry into every pour.

While other properties chase trends, The Baker House defines them. It has been the setting for intimate fashion showcases, charitable garden luncheons, literary salons, and private wellness retreats. In 2025, it again serves as the backdrop for VIVANT's Summer List event, an invitation-only summer gathering of thought leaders, creatives, and luxury pioneers, because nowhere else captures the same balance of refinement, warmth, and magnetic influence.

The on-site amenities are equally remarkable: a subterranean spa with a heated lap pool, a eucalyptus steam room, an aromatherapy sauna, an air tub, and restorative treatments that rival top urban wellness centers. The gardens feel like an English dream—wisteria-draped pergolas, manicured hedges, and tucked-away seating areas perfect for morning meditations or twilight wine.

Yet it's not just the beauty of the place, but the soul behind it, that makes The Baker House worthy of its place on This List by VIVANT. Antonella Bertello's commitment to craft, culture, and community has quietly turned a historic inn into a living, breathing legacy. Her story is proof that passion drives purpose—and that purpose, when executed with grace, becomes timeless.







Tucked behind the main estate, the original carriage house adds another layer of charm and history to the property. Beautifully restored and updated with modern comforts, the carriage house serves as an exclusive retreat for guests seeking additional privacy or longer stays. With its own unique design touches and retaining as many features of the original carriage house—large multi-pane French doors where barn doors once were, Dutch doors where horses used to live, hay doors beautifully restored, blue stone floors painted black, and very high ceilings—it mirrors the spirit of the main house while offering a serene, self-contained experience. It's the kind of hidden gem that feels like a secret shared only among the inn's inner circle, making it a favorite for returning guests, extended visits, and VIP weekend escapes.

In East Hampton, where flash is fleeting and influence is often performative, The Baker House 1650 endures. It is where whispered conversations spark global ideas. Where design and hospitality are elevated to an art form. And where every stay is less about checking in, and more about coming home.







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# *ESCAPE*









# SPLENDIDO, *REIMAGINED*

## *The Return of a Riviera Icon*

By Viviane Ashcroft

**P**erched high above Portofino, with cinematic views over the cerulean curve of the Ligurian coast, the legendary *Splendido* has officially emerged from its glamorous cocoon—and what a metamorphosis it is. After an extensive renovation by the design darlings at Martin Brudnizki Design Studio, this former 16th-century Benedictine monastery has shed none of its Dolce Vita charm and instead has embraced a new chapter of Riviera reverie.

Gone is the faded grandeur of years past—though fret not, the pastel façade and seductive scent of bougainvillea remain. What greets you now is a masterclass in Italian elegance: think botanical frescoes, Genoese marble, and

bespoke pieces sourced from artisan ateliers stretching from Venice to Florence. This is not your typical seaside redo. This is Splendido, reborn.

Evenings begin—and often end—at Baratta Sedici, the new social epicenter of the property. With its glowing white onyx bar, terracotta tones, and hand-painted vines trailing up whitewashed walls, it's the kind of place where glamour floats effortlessly between cocktails. The La Vela is the star here—a sultry mix of Portofino Gin and Campari—and pairs delightfully with murmured gossip and golden sunsets. If you're feeling bold, try the U Chef, an herbal-meets-spice marvel that lets horseradish and tomato take a spirited twirl.





























Culinary pleasures continue at La Terrazza and the Splendido Grill, where Executive Chef Corrado Corti has spent more than two decades perfecting the art of Ligurian dining. Tables spill out beneath draped wisteria, and the menus lean into seasonality and regional elegance. It's the kind of place where time slows to the rhythm of hand-rolled pasta and well-poured Barolos.

And for those who believe beauty is a lifestyle, not just a look, Splendido now boasts Italy's first permanent Dior Spa. Nestled discreetly in the lush Portofino Natural Park, this sanctuary blends haute skincare with the hush of nature. Four treatment rooms, a quiet rooftop retreat, and al fresco rituals in the Jardin des Rêves provide everything one needs to restore post-flight, post-party, or post-prosecco. Add in a saltwater pool with views straight out of a Fellini film, a hillside tennis court, and personal training on demand, and suddenly you're living your wellness fantasy—in Dior, no less.

The guest rooms are as romantic as a whispered secret. Each is layered with Ligurian charm: handcrafted ceramics, traditional Chiavari rattan, and antique furnishings sourced from estate sales

and lovingly revived in Genoese style. But it's the Baronessa Suite that captures hearts. Feminine and theatrical, with blush-pink touches, floral motifs, and a private garden entrance leading directly to the panoramic pool—it's as if the spirit of a glamorous contessa had left her diary open for guests to read.

And then, just beyond the main hotel, comes the pièce de résistance: Villa Beatrice. This private palazzo rises like a dream over the Gulf of Tigullio. A former family residence, now exquisitely reimaged, it's the sort of place where one hosts candlelit dinners barefoot, dances on tiled terraces, and wakes to the sound of the sea just beyond the arched Gothic windows. With frescoed ceilings, Art Nouveau flourishes, and Belmond's signature touch, it's not so much a villa as a siren song for summer.

In a world that rushes endlessly forward, Splendido invites us to slow down, sip something sublime, and remember the power of a place that has seen it all—and still manages to take our breath away. Portofino hasn't just gotten its crown jewel back. It's been polished, perfected, and put back on its rightful throne.

*Images courtesy of Belmond*

*Vivant Approved: With elegant exuberance and a wink toward the past,  
Splendido is officially our Summer Escape of the Year.*

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# *TASTE*



# HEXHAM TO *HAMPTONS*:

## *How One Chef's Culinary Passport is Redefining Elegant Comfort*

From biscuits and bluegrass to gazpacho with a twist, this globetrotting chef has cooked his way across continents—and into our hearts (and bellies).

By Colleen Guilfoile Richmond







What happens when a well-traveled Brit with a refined palate lands in the land of cornbread and collard greens? Apparently, magic. And possibly the best shrimp and grits this side of the Mason-Dixon.

Chef Tom Whiteker's culinary journey began in the UK and wound through the vineyards of Europe, the spice markets of South America, and eventually into the sultry arms of Southern hospitality. "There's comfort in food—no matter where you are," he says. From vinegary BBQ and buttery biscuits to blue-

grass-filled nights under string lights, the South sunk its teeth in deep. "It felt nostalgic, even though I didn't grow up with it. That's the magic of food—it makes you feel like you belong."

So what exactly makes a meal feel... elevated? According to Chef Whiteker, it's not about white tablecloths and hushed dining rooms. It's about light hitting the glass just right, a playlist that feels like a warm hug, and service that reads your mind before your wineglass is even half-empty. "The food is only one part of the experience," he insists. "Elegance is how it all flows—effortlessly."









While many chefs cling to a signature dish like a security blanket, Chef Whiteker is more of a culinary free spirit. “I’d rather keep exploring,” he says. Still, his gazpacho—a chilled Spanish classic with riffs ranging from watermelon to cantaloupe—is a fan favorite. “It’s clean, fresh, and deceptively simple. And let’s be honest—who doesn’t love a good cold soup when it’s 90 degrees and you’re in linen?”

Ask him what ingredient keeps him up at night, and his answer is charmingly British: “Courgette.” Known stateside as zucchini, the humble summer squash is both his muse and his mystery. “In the right hands, it’s beautiful. In the wrong ones, bland and soggy. It demands respect.” (And apparently, truffle confit.)

While he’s all about innovation, Chef Whiteker is no culinary anarchist. “You start with tradition. You honor it. Then you ask, ‘how far can I push this without losing its soul?’” He knows when to go bold—and when to serve up a dish that tastes like a memory.

Every great chef has their origin story. His began at Charley’s in Newcastle under the tutelage of a brilliant French mentor with a résumé dripping in Michelin stars. “He changed my life,” he says, eyes glinting. “I lost my dad young, and Jerome stepped in

at the perfect time.” It was at his side that Chef Whiteker learned the language of food—discipline, passion, precision.

And speaking of unforgettable experiences, he still gushes about a 16-course meal at Thomas Keller’s *Per Se*. “The food was divine, but the service? That’s what stayed with me. Warm, American, welcoming. The next day’s Michelin-starred meal? Technically perfect, but cold. Soulless. It taught me everything about hospitality.”

Now at the helm of Swifty’s in East Hampton, he is dishing out sun-drenched seasonal menus with produce from nearby farms, local cheeses, and just the right touch of whimsy. Think grilled peaches, heirloom tomatoes, and summer squash galore. “It’s Americana, but elevated. Like if a farmstand and a French bistro had a very chic baby.”

His advice? Be obsessed. “Show up early. Stay late. Help everyone. Read when you’re off the clock. Dream up dishes. And don’t just plate it—explain it. If you’re not in love with it, you’re in the wrong kitchen.”

Atmosphere. Ambiance. Aroma. Music. A bit of candlelight. A lot of heart. That’s the recipe. “The goal,” he says, “is to create a moment so complete, the guest doesn’t have to think. Just enjoy.”



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## SKYLINE, SASHIMI, & PURE SENSATION: FAHRENHEIT ROLLS OUT A NEW ERA OF ELEVATED DINING

By Taylor Freeze

Charlotte's culinary scene just got a stunning new dimension, and it's 21 stories high. Fahrenheit, long synonymous with breathtaking views and Chef Rocco Whalen's innovative American cuisine, has officially unveiled its highly anticipated sushi program, promising a bold new chapter in rooftop indulgence. And trust us, this isn't just sushi; it's an experience curated for the senses.

Under the masterful direction of Chef Dave Feimster, Fahrenheit's new sushi concept is already garnering rave reviews. Expect meticulously handcrafted fresh rolls that are as visually stunning as they are delicious. This is sushi crafted with precision, passion,



and an inventive spirit that perfectly matches the restaurant's dynamic energy.

But the experience doesn't stop at the exquisite bites. Fahrenheit's renowned cocktail program has been elevated to meet this new culinary standard. Imagine sipping a signature sake cocktail, expertly crafted in partnership with local friends at Brown Forman, as the Charlotte sunset paints the sky.

So, if you're ready for your next rooftop moment—one that seamlessly blends sushi, sake, skyline, and unparalleled style—Fahrenheit is calling. It's a new era of elevated dining, and it's waiting for you.

Photo Credit : Blake Pope



## LOVESHACKFANCY IS BRINGING ITS WHIMSICAL CHARM TO CHARLOTTE!



Get ready, Charlotte! LoveShackFancy, the beloved New York-based brand, is bringing its enchanting world to Phillips Place with an exclusive four-month pop-up experience.

This summer, step into a whimsical wonderland featuring everything from their signature romantic dresses and chic accessories to exquisite jewelry, adorable children's clothing, and beautifully curated home décor. LoveShackFancy perfectly blends vintage-inspired charm with modern sophistication, making it a must-visit destination for anyone looking to add a touch of magic to their wardrobe and home.

You can find the LoveShackFancy pop-up boutique at 6822 Phillips Place Court, Suite G, conveniently located across from Peter Millar.

We're so excited to welcome LoveShackFancy to Phillips Place! Be sure to follow @loveshackfancy.charlotte for more updates and sneak peeks. We can't wait to see you there!



## ORO ASCENDS: BALLANTYNE'S NEW PINNACLE OF LUXURY LIVING

Ballantyne's skyline is getting a serious glow-up, and at its very peak sits ORO, the jaw-dropping residential tower that's about to redefine luxury living in South Charlotte. This isn't just another building; it's an elevated lifestyle experience, where sophisticated design dances perfectly with amenities that are anything but ordinary.

Ready to live high? Soaring 26 stories, ORO is a beacon of modern elegance, packing in 356 meticulously designed residences—from chic studios to penthouses that'll make your jaw drop. Every single detail here is curated for comfort and sophistication. We're talking a sanctuary where work, play, and chill-out time all magically converge.

But ORO is way more than just gorgeous apartments. It's the beating heart of the "Ballantyne Reimagined" project, putting residents right smack dab in the middle



of "The Bowl at Ballantyne™."

That means you're literally steps away from an exploding

culinary scene, dynamic entertainment, and lush green spaces. Your new favorite coffee shop? Probably just around the corner.

ORO is where luxury gets a dose of location, offering a fresh, fun perspective on urban living in Charlotte. Get ready to experience Ballantyne from a whole new height – where every detail is designed for an undeniably exceptional life.

Photos from <https://www.oroballantyne.com/>



## HARAZ COFFEE HOUSE BREWS UP EXPANSION



Haraz Coffee House, the beloved Yemeni-style cafe that first captivated Charlotte with its rich, distinctive flavors, has opened its newest location in the lower South End neighborhood. This highly anticipated spot is located at the South & Hollis apartments.

After its December 2023 debut in Plaza Midwood, Haraz Coffee House quickly became a local sensation, with lines stretching out the door as Charlotte residents embraced the unique taste of Yemeni coffee. Now, responding to overwhelming demand, owners Abdullah Saleh and his brothers are bringing their authentic cultural experience to a new, larger space.

The new Lower South End cafe, spanning an impressive 3,100 square feet, will be more than twice the size of the

original Central Avenue location, offering significantly more seating for patrons to relax, socialize, and enjoy, highlighting the shop's role as a vibrant community hub.

Haraz Coffee House is celebrated not just for its exceptional coffee, but also for its welcoming atmosphere that encourages interaction and connection. From the top-selling Pistachio Latte to the traditional Adeni/Karak Chai, each beverage is crafted to transport customers to the heart of Yemeni coffee culture. [harazcoffeehouse.com](http://harazcoffeehouse.com)

## STEP INSIDE CHARLESTON'S NEWEST GEM: MADISON MAISON

Charleston, with its charming historic streets and lively vibe, just got a sparkling new addition. Say hello to **Madison Maison**, the city's latest must-visit spot for Champagne and caviar lovers.

Created by Kenner Group Hospitality, this elegant lounge on Calhoun Street blends the sleek sophistication of New York with timeless French charm, promising an experience unlike any other. When you walk into Madison Maison, you'll feel like you've stepped back in time to a glamorous party from a classic movie. Every detail, from the comfy seating to the soft lighting, is designed to create a feeling of pure luxury. It's more than just a bar; it's a place to unwind and enjoy the finer things in life.



At the heart of Madison Maison's appeal is its fantastic selection of Champagnes. You can explore everything from famous labels to exciting new finds, or sip on an incredible craft cocktail made with top-shelf spirits and fresh ingredients. To complete the experience, they offer small bites and exclusive RG Caviar, a true indulgence that pairs perfectly with a glass of bubbly.

Photograph credit: Madison Maison

## PARISIAN CHIC ARRIVES: SÉZANE NOW OPEN!



Bonjour, Charleston! Get ready to embrace that effortless "je ne sais quoi" style, because the beloved French fashion house **Sézane** has officially opened its doors at 222 King Street.

Born in Paris in 2013, Sézane was founded on a simple idea: offer all women high-quality, perfectly cut pieces at fair prices. They do this

by cutting out the middlemen, allowing them to invest in top-notch quality, avoid overproduction, and keep prices accessible year-round.

Every season, Sézane unveils a new collection inspired by Paris and its chic inhabitants. These beautiful designs are crafted in the world's finest ateliers using carefully sourced and sustainable materials. Sézane is a B Corp certified company, committed to environmental responsibility and ethical practices.

Sézane is quickly becoming a Charleston favorite, offering a unique shopping experience filled with timeless pieces that will become cherished staples in your wardrobe.

Photos received from Sézane website.



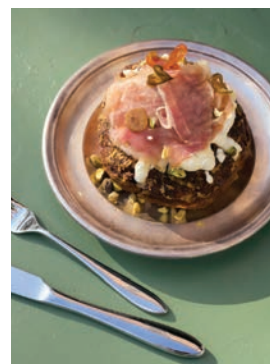


## MERCI: CHARLESTON'S HOTTEST NEW PARISIAN ESCAPE JUST OPENED



Charleston's culinary scene just leveled up. **Merci**, the highly anticipated Parisian-inspired bistro from The Drifter's dynamic duo, Michael and Courtney Zentner, officially swung open its doors on March 22nd. Tucked into 28 Pitt Street in charming Harleston Village, this intimate spot offers an exclusive, refined, and playfully chic take on European dining.

With only 26 coveted seats, Merci guarantees an unparalleled, personal experience. Chef Michael Zentner, celebrated for his pedigree at Charleston Grill, now crafts a menu that's a brilliant "argument between your French and Italian grandmothers." Expect showstoppers like ricotta gnudi and a decadent beef Wellington for two, all served on unique pewter pieces. The menu? It's a living, breathing entity, shifting with the seasons to ensure every visit is a fresh revelation.



Courtney Zentner's design vision, brought to life with Helen Rice, transformed an 1820s bodega into a captivating haven. Think custom cabinetry, vintage art, and antique silver—a harmonious blend of historic charm and approachable sophistication.

Ready to snag a seat? Merci is open Wednesday through Saturday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations are essential and drop at [mercichs.com](http://mercichs.com) each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. for the following week. Don't miss your chance to step into Charleston's newest European gem.

Photos by Lindsey Shorter Photography

## STEEPED IN HISTORY: OLIVER PLUFF & CO.

Charleston, get ready to discover your new favorite sips! **Oliver Pluff & Co.**, the beloved veteran-owned company known for its historically inspired beverages, has officially opened its first store front on John Street in Charleston.

While you won't be able to grab a coffee to-go, this new shop is a treasure trove for fans of thoughtfully sourced teas, coffees, and even cacao. You'll find all their best-selling packaged blends, including popular choices like Colonial Bohea, English Breakfast, Early Grey, and their delightful Summer Toddy mixes. Coffee lovers, rejoice! Their Early American coffee will also be on offer.

But the real treat? The John Street store will feature exclusive, high-end rotating teas, special curated gifts, and unique accessories you won't find anywhere else. It's the perfect place to explore new flavors or find that special something for the tea or coffee connoisseur in your life. [oliverpluff.com](http://oliverpluff.com)

Photos from Oliver Pluff & Co



## SCANDINAVIAN SERENITY ARRIVES IN WESTPORT



Nestled in the heart of downtown Westport, Eleish Van Breems Home has arrived at 177 Main Street, transforming the former Remarkable Book Shop into a serene sanctuary of Scandinavian elegance. This latest flagship seamlessly blends the brand's signature live-light palette with soulful design—from Gustavian-era antiques and sleek Swedish-made furniture to a curated boutique of artisan home wares. The space honors the founders' enduring Scandinavian heritage and decades-long passion for Nordic craft, delivering an immersive experience that feels part gallery, part living room, evoking the Stockholm ateliers that inspired its creation.

## LUXURY ATHLEISURE DEBUTS IN GREENWICH

Beyond Yoga has launched its first permanent East Coast flagship at 197 Greenwich Avenue—a sleek, 2,760-square-foot boutique and the brand's largest standalone location to date. Designed with six curated shop-in-shop zones, the space offers an elevated lifestyle experience, featuring women's, men's, and maternity activewear tailored to the wellness-forward Greenwich community.

With natural light pouring in through a preserved historic window, the boutique pairs clean lines with warm textures to create an inviting, modern retreat. Outside, dedicated patio space will host fitness classes and community gatherings as part of the brand's new "Club Beyond" initiative, merging movement, connection, and luxury retail in one inspired setting.





## DELAMAR'S COASTAL LUXE DEBUTS IN WESTPORT

Opening its doors this summer at 1595 Post Road East, Delamar Westport marks the brand's elegant expansion into the heart of Connecticut's arts-rich coastline. The boutique hotel offers 86 beautifully appointed guest rooms—including three show-stopping Siriano Suites designed by famed couturier-turned-interior designer Christian Siriano—nestled around an opulent lobby, indoor pool, fitness center, and versatile meeting spaces. Onsite Mediterranean eatery Dandelion, complete with outdoor bar and lounge, promises a sun-soaked culinary escape, while the property's warm design and dog-friendly vibe reflect the convivial spirit of the community. More than just a stay, Delamar Westport delivers a refined sensory experience, as if couture had been reimagined for coastal hospitality.



## SWIFTY'S MAKES A STYLISH RETURN TO THE NORTHEAST

After saying farewell to its iconic Upper East Side location and enjoying a sun-soaked revival in Palm Beach, Swifty's is back—this time at the charming Hedges Inn in East Hampton. Nestled just across from the town's picturesque pond, the celebrated eatery is poised to become the culinary heart of this historic property. The move marks a homecoming for Swifty's, whose loyal following has eagerly awaited its return to the Northeast. With both indoor and outdoor dining, the new location blends Swifty's signature elegance with the timeless allure of the Hamptons.



## A GLAMOROUS NEW ARRIVAL: MARY LOU'S MONTAUK DEBUTS IN THE HAMPTONS



This summer, Montauk welcomes a captivating new addition to its vibrant scene: Mary Lou's Montauk. After making waves this past winter season in Palm Beach, the much-buzzed-about hospitality concept is heading north, bringing its signature sophistication and style to the East End. Nestled in the heart of Montauk, the new outpost exudes effortless elegance—offering refined coastal cuisine in a setting that perfectly captures the relaxed glamour of Hamptons summer nights. With a full-service restaurant at its core, Mary Lou's Montauk promises to be the season's most talked-about destination. [maryloumstk.com](http://maryloumstk.com)



## DOLCE VITA BRINGS EFFORTLESS CHIC TO SOUTHAMPTON THIS SUMMER

This summer, Southampton's retail scene gets a stylish new addition with the arrival of Dolce Vita's latest store. Known for its fashion-forward footwear and accessories, the brand has chosen the heart of Southampton Village for its seasonal outpost. The boutique offers a curated selection of Dolce Vita's signature designs, providing both locals and visitors with a taste of the brand's effortless chic.



With its minimalist aesthetic and laid-back Hamptons vibe, the store is a must-visit destination for summer 2025. [dolcevita.com](http://dolcevita.com)

## TOM BRADY'S CARDVAULT HEADS TO THE HAMPTONS THIS SUMMER



NFL icon and legendary Patriots quarterback Tom Brady is bringing his high-end sports collectibles brand, CardVault by Tom Brady, to the heart of East Hampton just in time for the summer season. CardVault is set to offer a meticulously curated selection of sports cards, trading cards, and rare memorabilia. To mark the occasion, the grand opening took place on May 22, with appearances from Brady himself alongside the CardVault co-founders. [cardvaultbytombdady.com](http://cardvaultbytombdady.com)

## BILLIE'S

Nantucket just got a little bolder. Billie's is the island's newest summer arrival—and she's not shy. Taking over the former Dune space on Broad Street, this steakhouse-meets-martini-lounge is bringing unapologetic glamour and big-city energy to the cobblestones. Think gem-toned velvet, moody lighting, leather booths, and a downstairs martini bar that's open late enough to make your after-dinner plans worth dressing up for. The menu? As indulgent as the scene. Picture towering seafood platters, a 42-ounce porterhouse topped with lobster tail, and caviar service that knows how to have fun. Helmed by Chef Steve Rhee (formerly of Kiki on the River), Billie's isn't just a restaurant—it's a moment. It's where old-school supper club charm meets modern island cool, and it's already staking its claim as the go-to for those who like their steak rare and their martinis dirty. [billiesnantucket.com](http://billiesnantucket.com)



## BEACHSIDE HOTEL REOPENING



Nestled just off Jetties Beach, the freshly reimagined Beachside Hotel is back this summer—and it's serving major retro-coastal vibes. This 1960s gem has been transformed into a playground for all ages, drenched in “endless summer” charm inspired by The Sandlot. Terracotta, sea-foam green, cream, and dark woods flow through the airy lounges and lush court-yards, creating a design-forward, laid-back elegance. At the heart of it all is a sparkling pool deck complete with loungers, arcade games, fire pits, and a Swim Club slinging wood-fired pizza and beachy cocktails. There's even a kids' club with daily creative workshops. Equal parts nostalgic and new, Beachside is the kind of place you check into for convenience, and never want to leave thanks to its breezy, barefoot luxury. [thebeachside.com](http://thebeachside.com)

## MARISSA

Marissa Collections has officially landed on Nantucket—and it's bringing decades of style savvy to the island. Opening this summer at 1 Cambridge Street, the beloved family-owned luxury boutique debuts its seasonal “Marissa Cottage,” a light-filled, impeccably designed space by Harry Heissmann that captures the brand's signature sophistication with a breezy, Nantucket twist. Known for personalized service and a sharp editorial eye, the boutique will spotlight exclusive ready-to-wear and accessories from Brunello Cucinelli, Oscar de la Renta, Agua by Agua Bendita, Catherine Regehr, Gianvito Rossi, and more. With curated activations planned throughout the season—from designer trunk shows to holistic beauty moments—the pop-up promises to be more than a store; it's a summer-long style destination for both loyal clients and new tastemakers alike. [marissacollections.com](http://marissacollections.com)



marissa  
COLLECTIONS  
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## JAMES PERSE LANDS IN PALM BEACH

James Perse has opened the doors to its newest boutique at The Royal Poinciana Plaza in Palm Beach, marking a refined new chapter for the California-based lifestyle brand. The 1,700-square-foot space offers a full selection of men's and women's ready-to-wear, alongside the brand's coveted home collection—effortless, minimalist, and deeply rooted in West Coast cool.

Designed with signature restraint, the store evokes a sense of calm through a palette of teak, plaster, European oak, and white travertine. It's more than a retail space; it's an immersive design experience where fashion and interiors meet in understated harmony.

The Palm Beach location is just the beginning, as James Perse sets its sights on an international expansion with upcoming stores in Paris, Abu Dhabi, St. Barth's, and beyond—bringing laid-back luxury to the world stage.

[www.JamesPerse.com](http://www.JamesPerse.com)



PALM BEACH

## SUN, SAND & MICHELIN STARS



The Palm Beaches' culinary star is on the rise. At the Florida 2025 MICHELIN Guide ceremony held in Orlando, nine local restaurants were recognized for excellence, including one in West Palm Beach that earned the prestigious one-star rating, a symbol of "high-quality cooking" worth a special stop. The MICHELIN Bib Gourmand list, which highlights outstanding value, featured aioli (West Palm Beach) and Palm Beach Meats (West Palm Beach). Meanwhile, the MICHELIN Recommended category showcased standout establishments across the region: būccan (Palm Beach), Coolinary (Palm Beach Gardens), The Parched Pig (Palm Beach Gardens), Moody Tongue Sushi (West Palm Beach), Nicholson Muir Distinguished Meats (Boynton Beach), Stage Kitchen & Bar (Palm Beach Gardens), and The Butcher's Club (Palm Beach Gardens). These honors

affirm what locals have long known—the Palm Beaches aren't just a destination for sunshine and shopping, but a thriving culinary hub where innovation, quality, and flavor take center stage.

## THE FUTURE OF WELLNESS, CURATED

This November, West Palm Beach plays host to Eudēmonia—a high-touch, high-impact wellness summit designed for those who live with intention. From November 13–16, 2025, the city transforms into a playground of possibility, welcoming an extraordinary lineup of visionaries—think Andrew Huberman, Ph.D., Mark Hyman, M.D., Dan Buettner, and Gabby Bernstein—for four days of transformative talks, curated experiences, and next-level wellbeing. Rooted in the Greek concept of "a life well lived," Eudēmonia is built around five pillars of modern flourishing: movement, nourishment, mental clarity, restoration, and connection. Expect daily workouts, high-performance treatments, biometric testing through Function Health's cutting-edge Basecamp, and hands-on brand activations—all designed to meet you where you are and elevate you from there. This is not a retreat. It's a reset—VIVANT-style. Learn more at [www.eudemiasummit.com](http://www.eudemiasummit.com)



## HAMPTONS HEAT INDEX:

# Where to SLEEP, SIP, AND BE SEEN IN 2025

By Norah Lawlor

*From chic stays to buzzy bites, discover the must-know addresses turning heads in the Hamptons this season.*



### SOUTHAMPTON INN, SOUTHAMPTON

The enchanting and beloved Southampton Inn continues to delight its guests. The classically charming hotel in a prime Southampton village location has 90 guest rooms featuring inviting decor that mirror the coastal charm of the region. Returning guests as well as first-timers will love the new lighting, carpeting and custom-made furniture throughout the inn. The guest rooms sport Matouk linens, Tempur-Pedic® beds, and complimentary Wi-Fi that provide the comforts of home. The grounds cover several acres of manicured lawns and gardens, with amenities that everyone can enjoy, including a 50-foot heated outdoor pool, an all-weather tennis and pickleball court, croquet and volleyball, and one of the East End's favorite eateries - Claude's Restaurant.

Enjoy a complimentary, seasonal shuttle that takes guests, beach chairs and umbrellas to Coopers Beach, barely a mile from the room to the sands. While you walk, jog or bicycle through the historic streets of Southampton, make the best summer experience possible by experiencing the shopping and conveniently located cultural sites.

91 Hill Street, Southampton, New York

T: 631-283-6500

[www.southamptoninn.com](http://www.southamptoninn.com)

### CLAUDE'S RESTAURANT, SOUTHAMPTON

**Claude's Restaurant** at the Southampton Inn is launching the Hamptons season with a new food and beverage team and a new all-American menu. The restaurant is open daily from 7:00 am to 9:00pm for breakfast, brunch, lunch and dinner. Enjoying Lunch outdoors by the pool or at their patio is a great way to catch up with friends and family and make the most of the summer weather. The ballroom, private event spaces and lawns continue to offer idyllic and practical spaces for wedding, corporate groups and family functions.

91 Hill Street, Southampton, NY 11968

T: 631.283.6500

[www.southamptoninn.com](http://www.southamptoninn.com)





*Southampton Inn*



*Wainscott Main Wine & Spirits*



*Claude's Restaurant*





## UNION BURGER BAR, SOUTHAMPTON

Union Burger Bar led by Ian Duke, Chris Cappiello and Chef Scott Kampf offers a modern take on classic American comfort food with gourmet burgers, hand-cut fries, crazy shakes such as the **Cookie Monster** for kids and boozy shakes for the adults. Some of the most popular menu items include the **“Double Truffle Smash Burger”**, the **CBD** (A quarter pound black angus beef burger, American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle chips, UBB special sauce and a crispy onion ring), and the **Coop Classic Chicken Sandwich** (Crispy fried chicken breast, sriracha garlic mayo, bread & butter pickles). Featuring premium ingredients, a lively atmosphere, and seasonal specials, it's a must-visit dining destination in the Hamptons.

40 Bowden Square, Southampton NY 11968

T: 631.377.3500

[www.unionburgerbar.com](http://www.unionburgerbar.com)

## LITTLE CHARLI, EAST HAMPTON

Fresh from the West Village to East Hampton for their second summer season, **Little Charli** is a roman-style pizza which features fresh, authentic ingredients with a New York twist served straight from a wood-burning oven.

44 Three Mile Harbor Road, East Hampton, New York

T: 631.604.8181

[www.littlecharli.com/little-charli-east-hampton](http://www.littlecharli.com/little-charli-east-hampton)

## SOUTHAMPTON SOCIAL CLUB

This summer marks a milestone for **Southampton Social Club** as it celebrates 15 vibrant seasons at the heart of the Hamptons' social scene. To honor the occasion, the iconic venue is reimagining its celebrated Supper Club concept with a bold focus on Experiential Dining. Guests can expect an immersive evening from the moment they arrive—with DJ sets and surprise entertainment woven into the dining experience. Led by Ian Duke, Chris Cappiello and at the helm of the newly revamped kitchen is veteran Chef Scott Kampf, who returns with a dynamic team and a menu designed to excite both loyal patrons and first-time visitors alike.

Adding fresh flair to the 2025 summer season, Southampton Social Club introduces an all-new sushi menu curated by acclaimed Sushi Chef Jay Zhang, known for his precision, artistry, and globally inspired flavor profiles. Complementing the elevated cuisine is a cutting-edge cocktail program, promising inventive, visually stunning sips that are as memorable as the atmosphere.

256 Elm Street, Southampton, New York

T: 631.287.1400

[www.southamptonsocialclub.com](http://www.southamptonsocialclub.com)

The Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons (ARF) is kicking off a summer full of celebrations after marking fifty incredible years of saving lives. Following **Pet Celebration Day** and the all-new **Rescues & Rosé** event The summer's centerpiece, the **Bow Wow Meow Ball** is set for August 16th and promises an unforgettable evening dedicated to helping animals find their forever homes. Lastly, leash up for the beloved **Stroll to the Sea Dog Walk** on October 11th. Join ARF all season long to make a difference - learn more at [www.arfhamptons.org](http://www.arfhamptons.org).

## Hamptons Summer Songbook

Enjoy a summer of Cabaret produced by Donna Rubin and Josh Gladstone – **Hamptons Summer Songbook by The Sea** - live at LTV Studios. The line-up this season includes **Marilyn Maye** (July 5th), Lee Roy Reams (July 11th), Liz Callaway (July 19th), Eric Comstock & Barbara Fasano (July 26th), Steve Ross, Karen Murphy and Maria Abous (Aug 3rd), KT Sullivan, Mark Nadler, Natalie Douglas and Marta Sanders (Aug 16th), Craig Rubano (Aug 23rd) and Mary, Maggy and Marta Moipei (Aug 30th). For tickets and further details please visit [www.ltvch.org/hamptons-summer-songbook-by-the-sea](http://www.ltvch.org/hamptons-summer-songbook-by-the-sea).

## The Southampton Animal Shelter Foundation

to host their “Sweet 16th” Annual Unconditional Love Gala on **Saturday, July 19th**. As a 501c3 non-profit, and the only open admission shelter in Easter Long Island, The SASF relies on generosity of donors and volunteers to care for homeless animals in the local community with the goal of placing them in loving “forever homes.” Hosted by Hannah Berner and Des Bishop, this year's honorees include Allison Eastwood, Chevy and Jayni Chase and special presenter Christie Brinkley. [www.southamptonanimalshelter.com](http://www.southamptonanimalshelter.com).

## Hamptons Polo

**Ken and Maria Fishel** have the invite list to be on this summer and will be hosting Hamptons polo – the equestrian sport of Kings at their Bridgehampton estate. Ken & Maria's exclusive pre-polo VIP reception will honor leading charities - the Center for Family Services Palm Beach County Old Bags Luncheon and ARF Hamptons on Saturday, **July 19th** and **July 26th, 2025** – with a toast to these great causes courtesy of **BIATCH Tequila**.

Meet some of the feathered and furry friends being cared for by the 25th Anniversary **Evelyn Alexander Wildlife Rescue Center GetWild! Gala** and enjoy an evening knowing that your donation makes a difference to the lives of the injured and orphaned wildlife that inhabit this region on Friday, **August 1st, 2025** at the Southampton Arts Center honoring Zelda Penzel. A special auction item at this year's Gala will be a painting by renowned artist Hunt Slonem. [www.wildliferescuecenter.org](http://www.wildliferescuecenter.org)





Union Burger Bar



NYC Second Chance Rescue



Southampton Social Club



Jean Shafiroff – Southampton Animal Shelter Foundation (board member)



Evelyn Alexander Wildlife Rescue Center



*RAND Luxury Hamptons Concours*



*Set Point Tennis, East Hampton*



*Sue Hrib of BIATCH® Tequila*



*Hamptons Summer  
Songbook*

*Alexander by Design*



*Ken & Maria Fishel who host Polo  
at their Bridgehampton Estate*



### Annual Hamptons Concours

Bradford Rand and his team at **RAND Luxury** will be hosting their invitation-only **Annual Hamptons Concours** event on Saturday, **August 2nd, 2025** bringing together \$100m of classic and contemporary cars with a special emphasis on the Ferrari and Porsche marques in Bridgehampton, Benefitting the Southampton Animal Shelter Foundation. Some of the event sponsors include Remy Martin Louis XIII, Peroni, Apollo Jets, Morgan Stanley and Long Island Sports Cars. [www.randluxury.com](http://www.randluxury.com)

**Northwell Health's Katz Institute for Women's Health** is holding its Summer Hamptons Evening on Saturday, August 9th in Water Mill, NY. The event will be hosted by presenting sponsors Victoria Moran-Furman, Eric Moran, Iris and Saul Katz, and Larry Scott, with Good Day New York's Rosanna Scotto serving as emcee. Funds raised will support the Institute. The evening celebration will include dinner under the tent by Lawrence Scott Events, an impactful program and a special musical performance. [give.northwell.edu/events/summer-hamptons-evening](http://give.northwell.edu/events/summer-hamptons-evening)

**The Silverstein Dream Foundation** annual Hamptons Garden Gala to benefit the **Diabetes Research Institute Foundation** on Saturday, **August 9th, 2025**, at the beautiful home of Co-Hosts Patricia & Roger Silverstein and follows their Memorial Day weekend reception. Patricia is a Life and Business Coach and Founder of Coaching X Humanity and the President of the Silverstein Dream Foundation, an organization with a unique mission to support diabetes research and address chronic conditions associated with diabetes and its inflammatory effects. The event will feature a cocktail reception; a delicious, seated dinner; silent and live auctions; entertainment; dancing under the stars; and more. [www.silversteindreamfoundation.com](http://www.silversteindreamfoundation.com)

**NYC Second Chance Rescue** will host its **4th Annual Hamptons Benefit** on **August 8th, 2025**, at a private estate in Bridgehampton. This year's benefit will pay tribute to animal advocates and a special musical performance by Robin Thicke. The event supports NYC Second Chance Rescue's mission to save the most vulnerable animals—particularly large breed dogs and those in urgent need of life-saving medical care. [www.nycsecondchancerescue.org](http://www.nycsecondchancerescue.org)

**Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation** Join (SWCRF) at their signature fundraising event at The Clubhouse in East Hampton this summer: The **4th Annual Kids Cancel Cancer** event on August 12th. This unique event, spearheaded by four teenagers, raises crucial money for pediatric cancer research while attendees enjoy an evening of miniature golf, arcade games, great food and more. Learn more at [www.waxmancancer.org/events](http://www.waxmancancer.org/events)

Michael Milken's **Prostate Cancer Foundation** will be hosting their annual Hamptons Gala on Saturday **August 23rd, 2025** as the social centerpiece of their **PCF Pro-Am Tennis Tournament** which is being held over the weekend at private estates in the Hamptons. The PCF Foundation [www.pcf.org](http://www.pcf.org)

### Marina St. Barth – Get the Look for Summer Chic

Marina St. Barth infuses the Hamptons with the relaxed elegance of Saint Barthélemy. Nestled in Southampton and East Hampton, the boutique offers thoughtfully curated resort wear from global designers. Each piece blends effortless style with quiet luxury, perfect for sun-drenched days and coastal evenings. More than fashion, Marina offers a refined escape at her Hamptons and Florida boutiques — inviting you to express your individuality with timeless pieces that feel as beautiful as they look. [www.marina-stbarth.com](http://www.marina-stbarth.com)

### Alexander by Design – The Bag for the Summer

This summer, meet your new favorite accessory: the versatile bag by Carole Alexander, founder and designer of Alexander By Design. **The Hamptons Tote** is designed for sunny days and weekend getaways, this roomy carryall is as practical as it is polished. With a structured shape, rich textures, and smart compartments, it keeps everything in place—whether heading to the beach or the office. The tote is also available in three other designs – **The Provence**, **Palm Beach** and the **Market**. [www.alexanderbydesign.com](http://www.alexanderbydesign.com)

### BIATCH Tequila – Lets toast the Summer!

**BIATCH Rosa Blanco Premium** and **BIATCH Reposado Premium** are grown, harvested, distilled and bottled in El Arenal, Jalisco, Mexico, the birthplace of the world's tequila using 100% Blue Weber Agave. Not only is BIATCH run by women, led by entrepreneur “Aunt Sue” Hrib but the tequila itself is made in a family-owned distillery run by women. [www.BIATCH.com](http://www.BIATCH.com)

### Set Point Tennis East Hampton – Serve in Style

Set Point Tennis remains the go-to for tennis enthusiasts, along with its recently opened sister location in Palm Beach, Florida. **Set Point Tennis** offers a curated selection of top-of-the-line Tennis Racquets, Sneakers, and Apparel and Accessories for Men, Women and Children. Set Point Tennis also provides In-store teaching professionals to take your game to the next level - offering private and semi-private lessons, and hitting sessions. [www.setpointeast.com](http://www.setpointeast.com)

### MarieBelle Chocolates – The Perfect Hosting Gift

Woman-owned MarieBelle New York is a world-renowned luxury chocolate company. The fine art edibles are hand-made at their factory in Brooklyn NY with retail locations throughout New York City and Japan. The flagship store in New York's famous Soho District offers chocolate lovers a sumptuous shopping experience. Whether it is the Signature artisanal ganache, lavish truffles and bars, or their custom chocolates with personalized art – the name MarieBelle is synonymous with everything that is refined, beautifully designed and decadent. [www.mariebelle.com](http://www.mariebelle.com)

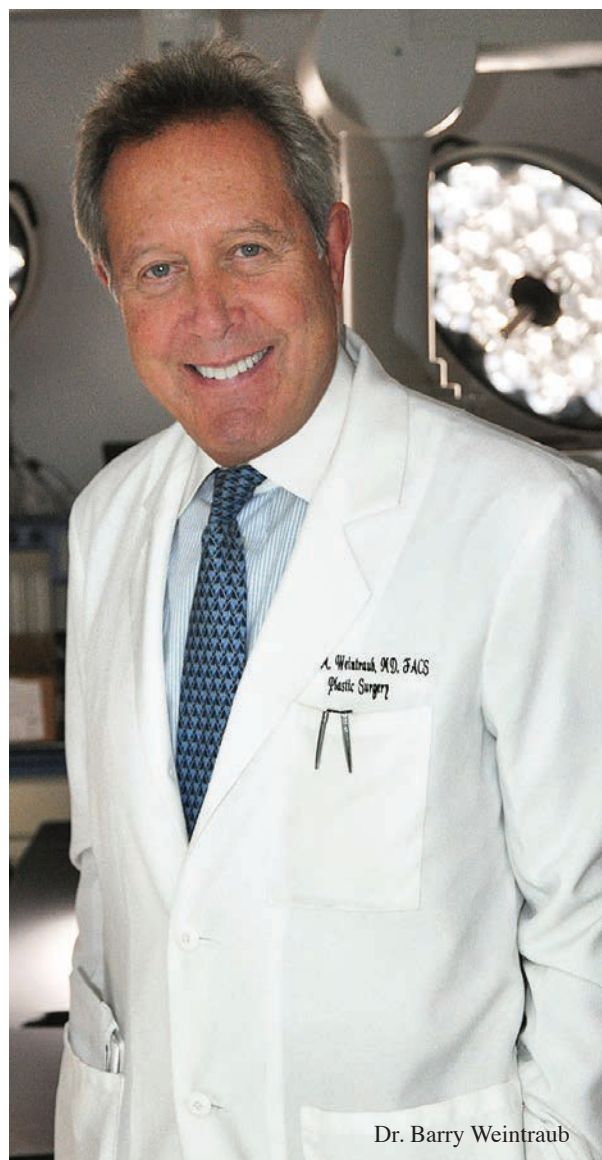
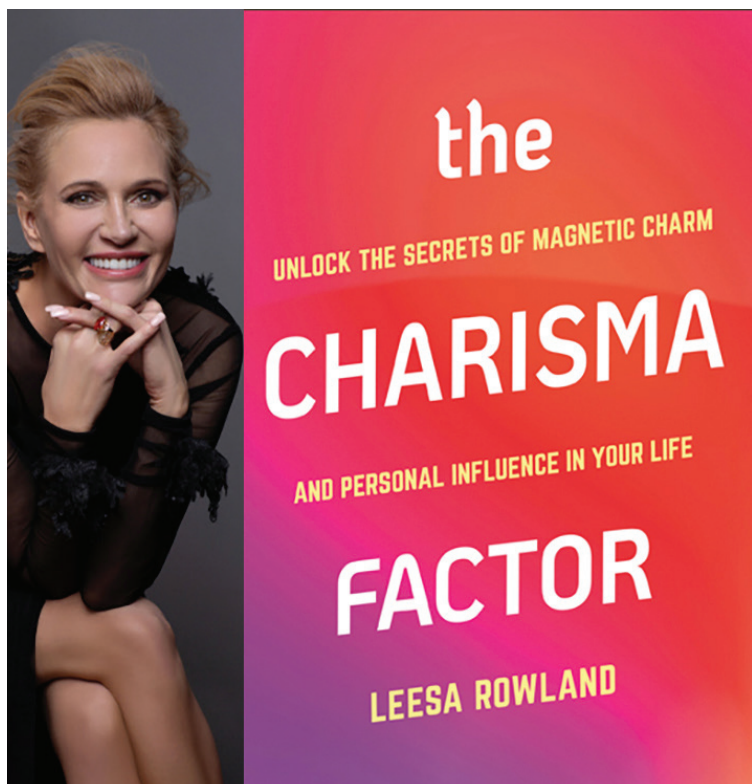
### The Charisma Factor – Summer Reading

Between all the hot happenings it will be nice to relax with some beach reading in the Hamptons. This Summer, embrace your individuality, discover your authenticity, and empower yourself like never before with *The Charisma Factor: Unlock the Secrets of Magnetic*

*Charm and Personal Influence in Your Life*, the latest book from actress, philanthropist and author Leesa Rowland. *The Charisma Factor* is a follow up to Leesa's best-selling self-help/motivational book *Discovering the It Factor within You: Developing Your Charismatic Personality*. *The Charisma Factor* is available now in stores nationwide and from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### Dr. Barry Weintraub – Hamptons House calls are the 'new school' experience

Dr. Barry Weintraub, internationally acclaimed for his mastery of rhinoplasty and facelifting surgery, makes Hamptons house calls for select postop patients. With decades of experience and numerous awards, he is celebrated for his artistry and ability to achieve results that appear sophisticated and effortless. With locations in Manhattan and East Hampton, he prides himself on this attention to patients, as his Hamptons house calls allow for surgical recovery in the comfortable environment of the East End. [www.drbarryweintraub.com](http://www.drbarryweintraub.com)



Dr. Barry Weintraub







## SIP HAPPENS IN WAINSCOTT

Where wine is personal, and summer tastes better.

In a town where luxury is expected and good taste is a given, Wainscott Main Wine & Spirits manages to stand out by making the wine experience deeply personal. Nestled along Montauk Highway, this sommelier-led gem is more than a wine shop—it's a destination for the curious, the connoisseur, and everyone in between.

At Wainscott Main, the philosophy is refreshingly focused: don't carry everything—just the right things. That means every bottle lining the shelves has been hand-picked by a seasoned team with an eye for provenance, sustainability, and quality. Whether it's a biodynamic Burgundy or a bright, beach-ready rosé, there's a story behind every selection—and a reason it made the cut and this summer's VIVANT List.

Beyond the bottle, Wainscott Main is redefining what wine retail can be. Regular tastings and intimate workshops offer a front-row seat to the world of wine, while bespoke cellar consultation services make collecting approachable and artful. Whether you're just starting to explore or seeking out that elusive grower Champagne, the team delivers knowledge without pretension—and plenty of East End charm.



Photo Credit: WMW&S

This summer, Wainscott Main is your go-to for expertly chosen pours and spirited conversation. Stop by for a taste, stay for the experience, and let your next favorite bottle find you.

354 Montauk Highway,  
Wainscott, NY  
@wainscottmain  
wainscottmain.com  
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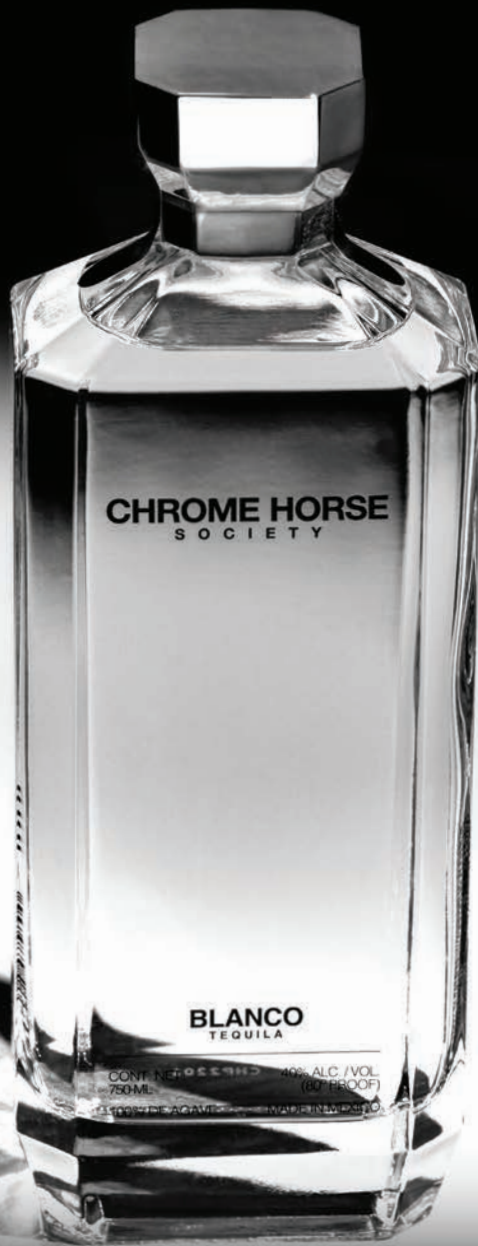
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