

HEALTHY SEASONAL RECIPES

Sunset

TAKE IT OUTSIDE!

AL FRESCO DINNERS

SURF HOTELS

TINY HOUSEBOAT
LIVING



SICHUAN ON
THE GRILL

COCKTAILS
BY THE SEA

THE NEW
RANCH HOUSE

YELLOWSTONE
STYLE

*Dinner among the
trees at The Orchard
at Apple Lane*



On Savoring Summer

A cozy houseboat on a placid bay, a shaded ranch house with a pool surrounded with lush native plantings, a charming farmstand next to an orchard with pick-your-own fruit, a utopian seaside community perched between cliffs above the rolling Pacific and towering redwoods, coastal hotels where you can learn to surf by day and sip cocktails by the firepit at night, a Sichuan-spiced grilled feast for a weekend party. These are the summer dreams that are a reality in the West, and just some of the stories we've gathered in this issue dedicated to the pleasures of outdoor living.

If you haven't maximized your summer yet, consider this your guide to doing it right.

Now is the time to light that grill midweek for a smoke-tinged meal, take an evening run in the golden glow of the waning day, leave work early on Friday and head off on a last-minute road trip. For those with that mid-summer wanderlust, may I point you to one of my favorite features in the magazine? It's the Insider Guides at the back of the magazine, which we've been compiling for years that feature local experts throughout the West giving tips on how to curate a perfect trip to their hometowns. This month we've got the inside scoop from an Inn-fluencer (that's someone who documents cool new hotels) on the coastal gem of Tokeland, Washington, where you can whale-watch, kayak, feast on fresh local seafood, soak up that sea air, and book into a cute new hotel. If you've been eyeing Boise, a local chef will steer you right on all things food and beverage and more. And L.A.'s El Segundo continues to evolve as a destination full of culinary and cultural delights, and we've got a chef with a Michelin pedigree to set you straight on your foodie explorations.

As for that grand Western dream, we profile people and places that embody it in this issue, too. As a calming counterpoint to her glamorous life as a hairstylist to the stars in L.A., Ashley Streicher joined forces with a group of women to revive an orchard and farmstand in Northern California. And they made it one of the cutest darned spots to visit on your way to Tahoe. Designer Blythe Friedmann restored a tiny houseboat in Sausalito and turned it into a chic kid-friendly retreat for her and her new baby. The newly restored Sea Ranch Lodge is an exquisite example of ecologically-minded architecture and continues to express the utopian vision of the pioneering developers who established the iconic seaside community in the 1960s. In the culinary world, Jing Gao of Sichuan condiment powerhouse Fly By Jing and Stephanie Hjelmeseth have opened a charming superette in L.A. called Súa. Here they cook up a grilled feast featuring their excellent products. So take inspiration, get outside, and soak up these blissfully long days readymade for living your best life in the West.

—Hugh Garvey, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Savoring summer among the trees at The Orchard at Apple Lane in Auburn, California.

Sunset

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Drinking in the View

To visit the new Sea Ranch Lodge is to partake in an increasingly rare California dream. Join us on a tour of the pinnacle of mindful modernist development, and toast this architectural gem.

Story by HUGH GARVEY

Photographs by THOMAS J. STORY





It's a misty Saturday afternoon on the Northern California coast,

and a man stands on a bluff peering through the viewfinder of a large format camera on a wooden tripod, head draped with black cloth, lens trained on the rocky cliffs and the waves colliding with them as they have for millennia. This particularly photogenic outcropping of the far Western edge of the continent is at Sea Ranch, the groundbreaking residential experiment built in the mid-sixties that set the high bar for mindful land development. He's been there for hours as the century-plus old camera technology requires, documenting the ancient process of the push and pull of the waves, as if nobody has ever done such a thing, despite the dozen people up the hill shooting the exact same view with their smartphones. Sea Ranch will do that to you: make you see old things with new eyes.

100 yards inland is the Sea Ranch Lodge, the newly renovated hotel and restaurant and community space that serves visitors and residents of Sea Ranch. The parking lot is filled with Teslas and Range Rovers and funky Tacomas. The guest rooms have been exquisitely refreshed by Bay Area designer Nicole Hollis, with a soothing aesthetic that picks up pieces of mid-century design, natural forms, arts and crafts, Japanese and Scandinavian minimalism, and sets you right: graphic pillows, a Malm fireplace to make things cozy, paper lanterns, smart woodworking, and a timeless rustic California cool vibe. Outside, landscaping by design firm Terremoto subtly incorporates reclaimed local timber and native plantings into the common spaces, creating serene nooks for gazing out at the ocean, across the meadows, or up at the stars.

If you're not familiar with the Sea Ranch, here's the capsule history: Above the rocky bluffs of northernmost coastal Sonoma County on gently sloping meadows that butt up against redwood groves is this 3500 acre utopian housing experiment. Originally built in the 1960s by a group of forward-thinking architects commissioned



The iconic wood-clad, shed-roof buildings at Ses Ranch have inspired architects ever since they were built in the 1960s. Native plant landscaping by Terremoto elegantly supports the naturalist vision of the development.



The restaurant at Sea Ranch Lodge is recessive and minimalist, thereby letting the landscape and view just outside provide maximum impact.



by developer Al Boeke, Sea Ranch remains one of the most iconic residential developments in the history of modernist architecture. The mandate was to design a community that was graceful and serene and offered restorative immersion in nature while also respecting the nature on which it was nested. The master planner was Lawrence Halprin, legendary landscape architect who was also responsible for such iconic Western projects at the 1962 Seattle World's Fair, Ghirardelli Square in San Francisco, and the approach to Yosemite Falls in Yosemite National Park. Sea Ranch anticipated many design and architectural modes we take for granted these days: angled shed roofs, the exterior wood cladding that cycles and re-emerges as a "trend" every 7 years, clerestory windows placed perfectly to grab light and frame views while preserving privacy. Helvetica as a





Del Mar

This drink gets its backbone from aromatic gin and a zippy grapefruit shrub.

- 2 oz. gin
- 2 oz. grapefruit-honey and thyme shrub, see below
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. lemon juice
- 2 dashes orange bitters

Combine all ingredients and shake well with ice. Strain into a Nick & Nora glass. Garnish with orange twist.

Grapefruit-Honey and Thyme Shrub

Herby and tangy. Play with different vinegars to subtly adjust the acidity and flavor profile.

- 12 oz. grapefruit juice
- 3 sprigs of thyme
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups honey
- 1 cup (or more) vinegar (such as red wine, apple cider, or unseasoned rice)

In a 2-quart saucepan, combine the fruit, honey, vinegar, and thyme. Bring it to a boil over medium heat. Lower the heat and let simmer for 5 minutes. Strain and cool.

Sorcerer Wood

Smoky mezcal and an herby, fruity shrub make for a bracing and refreshing cocktail.

- 1 oz. mezcal
- 1 oz. blanco tequila
- 2 oz. cranberry-rosemary shrub, see right
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. lime juice

Combine all ingredients and shake well with ice. Strain into rocks glass filled with ice. Garnish with rosemary sprig & lime wheel.

Cranberry-Rosemary Shrub

A tangy concoction that you can use in cocktails or mix with soda.

- 12 oz. whole cranberries
- 3 Sprigs of Rosemary
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups granulated sugar
- 1 Tbsp. black peppercorns
- 1 cup (or more) vinegar (such as red wine, apple cider, or unseasoned rice)
- 1 cinnamon stick

In a 2-quart saucepan, combine the fruit, sugar, vinegar, rosemary, and black peppercorn. Bring it to a boil over medium heat. Add the cinnamon stick. Lower the heat and let simmer for 5 minutes. Strain and cool.

North Star Close

Spirit-forward and deeply spiced, this cocktail nods toward the coming of autumn.

- 2 oz. bourbon
- 1 oz. Amaro Nonino
- 1 oz. spiced apple shrub, see below
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. lemon juice
- 2 dashes old fashioned

Combine ingredients and shake well with ice. Strain over a large ice cube into a bucket glass. Garnish with luxardo cherry.

Spiced Apple Shrub

Apple and cinnamon is a classic combination in this autumnal shrub.

- 12 oz. apple juice
- 1 Cinnamon Stick
- 1 Piece of grated ginger
- Peel of One Large Orange
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups brown sugar
- 1 cup (or more) vinegar (such as red wine, apple cider, or unseasoned rice)

In a 2-quart saucepan, combine the fruit, brown sugar, vinegar, and ginger. Bring it to a boil over medium heat. Add Orange Peel. Lower the heat and let simmer for 5 minutes. Strain and cool.



go-to font for its unpretentious, functional, and handsome clarity. Oversized colorful supergraphic logos to add color and visual interest when needed before Instagram-worthy was a concept. There were condos but mostly homes built in clusters around vast meadows planted with native flora, pine hedgerows to separate each mini community, a lodge where residents could pick up their mail, an airstrip, and a 9-hole golf course at the northern end. Today there are some 1800 houses at Sea Ranch, but given the scale and design of the development, you'd never know. "To live lightly on the land," was the stated ethos, and it remains to this day.

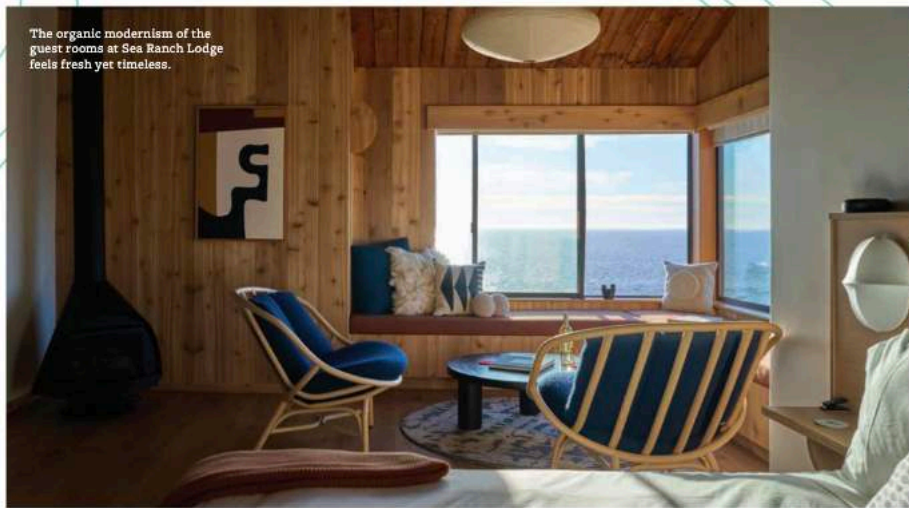
There are architectural gems you can tour from the outside and admire theoretically, but the best are immersive almost living spaces that envelop you with their purpose: the sweeping titanium curves of Disney Hall's roof visually expressing the swell of the music within, for example. With the revival of the Lodge, the Sea Ranch is one such grand work of art you can inhabit, if only for a weekend. But what a weekend it will be: mornings of sipping coffee on the deck, watching the waves crash on the rocks below and sheep grazing the meadows, long ambles on the 40 miles of trails where you'll pass seal rookeries, piney hedgerows bent by the winds, hawks whorling overhead, redwood forests in the distance, and a community with simple but striking wooden homes patinated by sun, sea, and time. It's an immersive architectural experience that every design lover should add to their bucket list.

It must be said it takes a pioneer to know one: *Sunset* and Sea Ranch go way back: From the '60s onward, dozens of advertisements promised Westerners the peace of a stay at the Lodge. Over the decades, we honored various homes for their forward-thinking ingenuity: living roofs that cooled the home; decks that smartly blocked the wind while perfectly framing views. And now today we re-invite our readers to partake in the magic of the place. There's a feeling you get at Sea Ranch. Or is it a sense memory? A collection of things heard,





The organic modernism of the guest rooms at Sea Ranch Lodge feels fresh yet timeless.



seen, smelled, and remembered. It's salty, misty, the roar of the waves. It's green, rocky, slicked with moss, mottled with barnacles, smelling of rot and promise. It's the California

dream without a surfboard or a soundtrack. It's primitive and organic and just a coastal drive away. And if you can get away immediately, take a tour with us on the following pages

and mix up one of these lovely cocktails they serve to Sea Ranchers and architecturally-minded seekers who find their way to the bar at the Sea Ranch Lodge. ☼