OUT & ABOUT
WHERE TO GO, WHAT TO SEE, AND HOW TO STEP INTO THE SUNSHINE

ON THE ROAD

DOWN SOUTH
With its grand antebellum architecture and Spanish moss-shaded streets, Savannah, Georgia’s oldest city, is a timeless charmer. But a chic hotel-and-food scene is making it a modern getaway. Grab a pulled-pork-and-pepper-relish sandwich at the Grey Market’s convivial lunch counter (right), then start exploring.

STAY at the Alda hotel for quick access to the riverfront and downtown—that’s if you can pull yourself away from its cozy-cool décor and cabana-flanked rooftop pool.

SHOP boutique-lined Broughton Street. Duck into the Paris Market and Brocante to get lost among artfully curated antique chandeliers, leather goods, and jewelry.

STROLL through historic downtown with a bourbon-peach Savannah smash from the hotel (it’s legal to sip on the go), then picnic under the grand southern live oaks at Forsyth Park.

WHY NOT?

Make Like Monet
Brush up on your drawing and painting skills en plein air.

Chicago
Students at the Chicago Botanic Garden set up easels near tranquil water-scapes, including the Great Basin and the North Lake, and practice capturing their sparkles in brush-strokes.
chicagobotanic.org

Austin, Texas
Dabble in new mediums—vibrant alcohol inks on ceramics, acrylic paint on birch wood—while taking in bucolic views of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center’s gardens and woodlands.
wildflower.org

Bronx, New York
Blooming magnolia trees make stunning figure models at the New York Botanical Garden’s class on spring foliage.
ybg.org

Memphis, Tennessee
Observe turtles, koi, and other wildlife at the Memphis Botanic Garden. Then render their portraits in a quick sketch or watercolor class.
memphisbotanicgarden.com

SECRET SOURCE

Makr
“Every detail in this studio’s leather-and-canvas accessory line feels carefully considered. My weekender bag is hardware-free, keeps my essentials organized, and has survived years of travel.”
—Living art director James Makowski
Sling tote, in Natural Canvas and Tan, $220, makr.com

ON OUR BOOKSHELF

My Mexico City Kitchen (Lorenza Jones Books) holds the key to Gabriela Camara’s extra-creamy guacamole. The chef-owner of the famed Distrito Federal spot Contramar adds a splash of olive oil to “enhance the silky texture of the avocado.” Delicious Metropolitana (Chronicle) pairs painter Wayne Thiebaud’s iconic confections with cityscapes in similar shades; in his eyes, Sacramento, California’s pink skies and blue hills look sweet enough to eat. A recliner-loving divorcee spontaneously adopts a border-colie mix he calls Layla—like the song—and a revived sense of adventure in Mary Miller’s witty Biloxi (Liveright). In short order, he’s off on a screwball, ultimately sweet quest to make up for lost time.