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LIV

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MAGAZINE





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Calgary

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COVER: BLACK GOAT CASHMERE, PHOTOGRAPHED BY ANASTASIIA TRYHUB

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Redefining Luxury Living

From the Rockies to the Okanagan







The Canadian West rewards those who build with intention. Its landscapes demand it — the scale of the Rockies, the luminous stillness of the Okanagan, the urban ambition of Calgary each call for something more considered than the ordinary. Since 2009, Allison Grafton has answered that call through Rockwood Custom Homes, establishing a distinct model of luxury residential construction rooted in alignment, accountability, and design excellence.

Allison founded Rockwood with a clear understanding that the residential construction industry often asked clients to accept fragmentation and uncertainty as the norm. Rather than work within that model, she reimagined it, building a fully aligned, fully accountable approach where design, construction, and financial stewardship move together. The result is a more deliberate way of building, grounded in the belief that integrity should be standard, not exceptional.

Rockwood operates as a fully integrated business model from sourcing a lot, architectural design, interior design, construction, and furnishings all under one roof. That structure creates an experience where accountability and transparency is total, communication is continuous, and the final home reflects the life its owner intends to live.

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In Calgary, where Rockwood is headquartered, that philosophy has produced some of the most architecturally distinguished custom estates and legacy homes in the city. Whether crafting a bespoke single-family residence or executing a full-scale luxury renovation, Calgary projects are defined by design integrity, excellence in craftsmanship, and enduring value.

North along the Trans-Canada, Canmore occupies a category of its own. Among the last freehold land opportunities beyond the boundaries of Banff, it sits within one of the most coveted alpine communities in the world. Here, Rockwood is building within Mountain Tranquility at Silvertip Resort — an exclusive mountainside community of single-family residences and luxury villas, surrounded by wildlife corridors of the Canadian Rockies. Architecture echoes the rhythms of the landscape: natural materials, expansive glazing, sophisticated interior finishes. It is a place where the built environment and the natural world do not compete — they correspond.

Further west, Rockwood's presence in the Okanagan is defined by its portfolio of exceptional lakefront custom homes in the region. These are true legacy properties, shaped by design, setting, and permanence, delivered with the same precision it applies everywhere it builds.

"I grew up in Kelowna, and I know first-hand what a magnificent place it is to live and vacation. I launched Rockwood Okanagan in 2017, bringing a new standard of exceptional custom-built homes to the Okanagan area," says Grafton.



Rockwood is also building an exclusive community, The Benches, currently selling, featuring luxury walkout bungalows with expansive lake views and backing onto the Azhadi vineyard. The community reflects Rockwood's disciplined approach to planning and world-class design.

Across all regions, a defining element of the Rockwood model is an unwavering commitment to financial stewardship. Rockwood delivers with an unprecedented record of coming in on or under budget, and on time. This consistency is driven by a fully aligned internal team and a rigorous approach to cost management that protects both the investment and the integrity of the design. Grafton is clear on where that discipline originates:

"Our entire team from our labor crew to our designers, and from sales to construction, has a consistent financial mindset. We are fully aligned to protect every dollar, and are driven by cost monitoring, value maximization, and are all executed without compromise to fit, form, design, and overall luxury."

With more than 70 prestigious awards, including seven-time recognition at the Gold level of Canada's Best Managed Companies, the standard Rockwood holds itself to is one the industry continues to measure itself against.

At every stage of the process, the client is not a recipient of a product — they are a collaborator in its creation. The Rockwood team guides the process to ensure the home reflects present needs and future aspirations, with transparency and open dialogue that transforms what can be an overwhelming undertaking into something memorable.

Wherever you are in life — whether drawn to the energy of the city, the serenity of the mountains, or the warmth of the valley — there is a Rockwood home waiting to be built around you. The only question is which view you want to wake up to. **LIV**



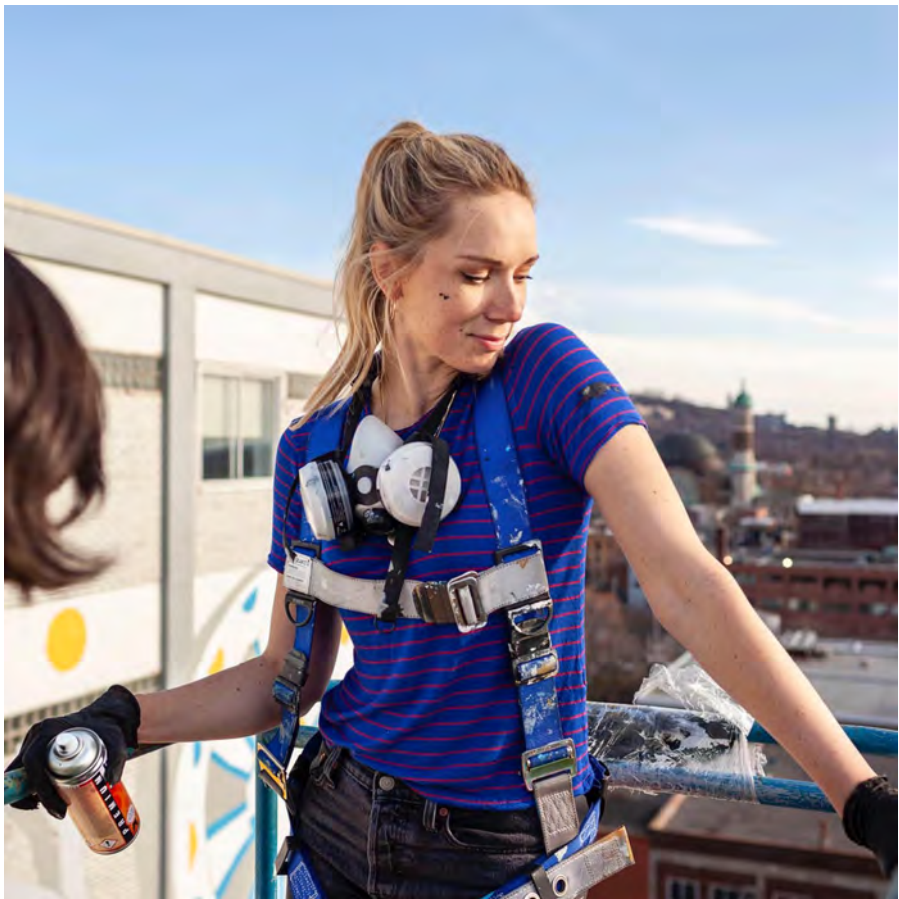
Worlds Painted Wide

From Folklore to the Calgary Skyline

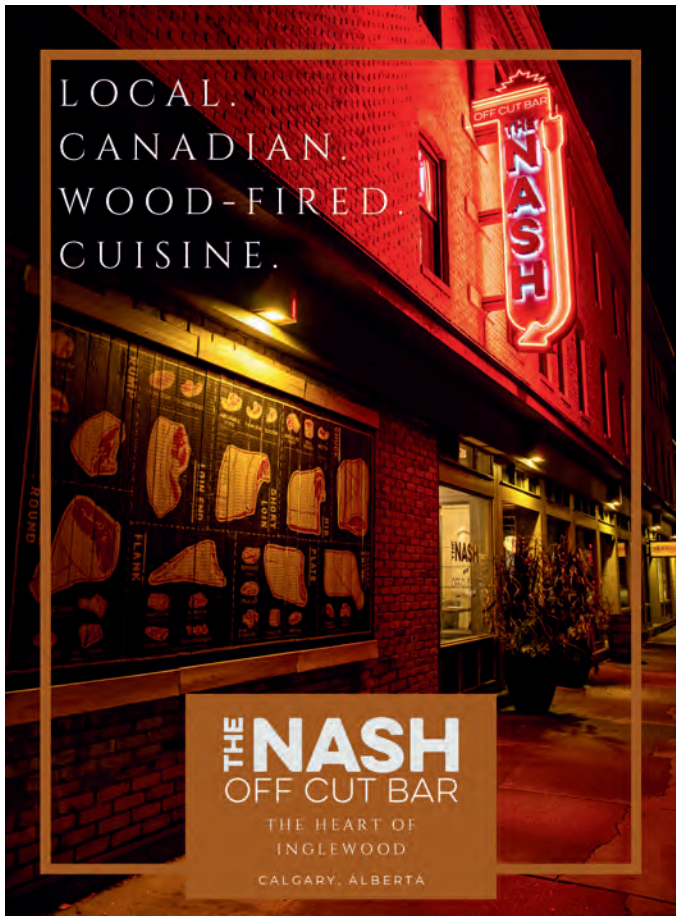
Walls, in her hands, become worlds — sprawling, luminous worlds drawn from Central Asian mythology, personal memory, and a visual language so distinct it has landed on the surfaces of Louis Vuitton, Lululemon, and Volkswagen alike.

Born in Kazakhstan and rooted in the kind of storytelling that gets passed down rather than published, Ola Volo carried those folkloric threads with her to Vancouver, where she graduated from Emily Carr University of Art + Design. What emerged was a practice that defies easy categorization: part muralism, part illustration, wholly its own. Her compositions layer human figures, animals, and architectural forms into ornate, colour-saturated narratives that shimmer with multicultural symbolism. Her characters do not stand still. They move, speak, and invite.





Calgary holds one of her most breathtaking expressions of that vision. Created for the 2020 Bump Festival “Into the Light” unfolds across an entire building facade — a rider, a celestial bird, intricate patterning that pulls the eye upward and inward at once. Photographed from above, the mural reveals its full scale: enormous, yet intimate in the way all of Volo’s work manages to be.



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Now, she brings that same storytelling sensibility indoors. Opening this September at Gibson Fine Art Gallery, “Blueprint for a Dream” marks a new chapter — one that translates the ambition of large-scale public art into a gallery context, where the work can be met slowly, up close, and on its own terms — and where the show invites visitors to step inside the mind of an artist whose imagination has always been too large for any single surface to hold. **LIV**



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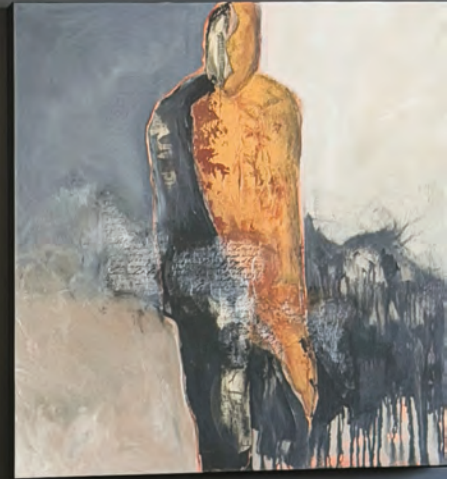
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Twenty-Five Years at the Table

Where Calgary's Roots Run Deep



"It always begins with the guest, how they feel the moment they arrive, and how that feeling carries through the entire experience."

The house has always known how to hold a story. Built in 1891 for A.E. Cross — cattleman, brewer, and one of the founding figures behind the very first Calgary Stampede — the Victorian farmhouse at 1240 8th Avenue S.E. has worn many lives gracefully. Today, it wears Rouge. And this year, it celebrates twenty-five of them.

When co-founders Paul Rogalski and Olivier Reynaud transformed the derelict heritage property into a dining destination in 2000, they were not simply opening a restaurant.

Olivier, originally from Provence, had arrived in Calgary just a year prior, bringing with him an instinct for hospitality shaped by European service culture.

Paul, a classically trained chef with deep Alberta roots, brought a restless culinary curiosity that would eventually take him beyond the kitchen altogether — most visibly through Wild Harvest, his award-nominated television series co-created with Les Stroud, in which foraged ingredients become refined, wilderness-inspired cuisine.

"When we first stepped into this house, we didn't see what it was, we saw what it could become. It wasn't about building a restaurant, it was about creating a place where the land, the seasons, and the people who shape them could all be felt on the plate," said Paul.



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Together, they built something that has grown and shifted alongside the city itself. What began with a decidedly French sensibility has evolved into something altogether more rooted: regional, garden-to-table, and increasingly foraged. Tucked behind the A.E. Cross House, the Rouge backyard garden spans several city lots in the heart of Inglewood and functions as the engine of the kitchen — herbs, vegetables, and flowers moving from soil to plate with a directness that shapes every service. The morning's harvest becomes the evening's signature dish. It is a living menu, never rushed, always in rhythm with the season. Olivier shares, "For me, it always begins with the guest, how they feel the moment they arrive, and how that feeling carries through the entire experience. The garden simply brings us closer to something honest. It keeps us grounded, and it keeps the experience genuine."

To mark the quarter-century milestone, Rouge has launched a 25th Anniversary Tasting Menu — a curated journey through the dishes and flavours that have defined the restaurant across its history. It is, in the best possible sense, an act of memory.



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To start, the Vegetable Pave arrives with the kind of quiet precision that makes vegetables feel like the main event, while the Velvet Celeriac Soup offers warmth and depth in equal measure. The Noble Farms Bison Tartare speaks directly to Alberta's culinary identity — bold, clean, and unapologetically of this place.

Among the mains, a Rabbit Saddle demonstrates the kitchen's classical confidence, the Seared Arctic Char its lightness of touch. For those seeking a plant-forward course, the Vegan Lentil Sausage arrives with the same care and craft as everything else on the pass.

To finish, a Chamomile Crème Brûlée closes the evening with something floral and unhurried — the kind of dessert that invites a second glass of wine.

For those who prefer to chart their own course through the evening, the À la Carte menu and the Bar & Cellar offer an equally considered experience — each selection shaped by the same seasonal philosophy, the same hands, and the same address.

Whether one arrives for a single glass beside the fireplace or lingers through a full tasting, Rouge rewards the unhurried guest.

That spirit of generosity extends well beyond the table. Collaborations with local beekeepers and florists, visits from culinary students, and a commitment to regenerative practices have long defined how Rouge engages with the world beyond its dining rooms. Since 2010, the annual Garden Party fundraiser has gathered the city around that shared belief — and continues to do so each year.

What remains, after twenty-five years, is something that cannot be designed or replicated: the particular warmth of a room that has earned its place.

Fireplaces. French doors giving way to a garden still fragrant from the afternoon. The knowledge that somewhere within these walls, the idea of the Calgary Stampede first took root.

To dine at Rouge is to sit inside a living piece of this city's story — and to become, however briefly, part of it. **LIV**

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Paris Meets the Prairies

Thirty Years of Sculptural Style

Some designers chase trends. Maria Curcic has spent thirty years setting them, one handcrafted hat at a time.

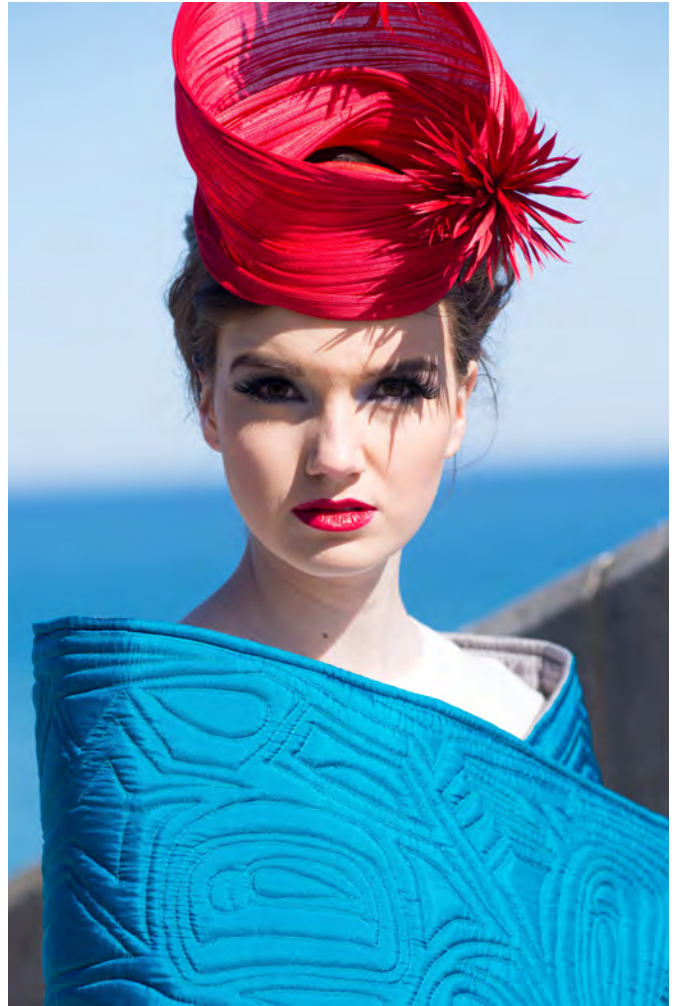
Born in Paris and shaped by a deep European reverence for craft, Maria arrived on the Canadian fashion scene in the early 1990s with a singular vision: that a hat is not an accessory. It is architecture. It is intention. It is the punctuation mark on an entire identity. High-end boutiques across Canada and the United States agreed, snapping up her designs fast enough that by 1994 she had opened Le Chapeau Rouge in Calgary — a shop that would quietly become one of the city's most beloved fashion destinations. Wholesale followed, with her creations landing in over fifteen stores across two countries.

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What makes this story remarkable is not just Maria's resumé — Interior Design from Mount Royal University, fine arts from ACAD, advanced study under Melbourne milliner Louise Macdonald — it is the fact that bespoke millinery has not just survived in Calgary. It has thrived. In a city more commonly associated with cowboy hats and harsh winters, there is a deeply devoted clientele who understands that the right hat transforms not just an outfit, but an entire occasion. Garden parties, weddings, cocktail events — Calgary's style crowd knows where to go when ordinary will not do.

Each piece Maria creates is handcrafted with the kind of precision that takes years to develop and cannot be replicated by a machine. Sculptural silhouettes. Feathers placed with purpose. Colour chosen not just for beauty but for narrative. You are not buying something off a rack. You are commissioning a small work of art.

And now, thirty years in, she is celebrating the way any true creative should: by showing up and sharing it.

On Sunday, May 24, Maria Curcic Millinery takes over Limitless Furniture at the Atlantic Avenue Art Block for a one-day-only Spring Hats Pop-Up: Art You Can Wear & Live With. Expect statement hats, casual hats, and everything in between, set against a backdrop of beautifully crafted furniture. Yes, this is exactly as good as it sounds. Come early, bring your people, and leave wearing something unforgettable. **LIV**



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Where the season shifts and the air carries just enough of a chill to warrant a layer, cashmere finds its most honest expression. Light without being insubstantial, refined without effort — these are the pieces that move through a morning at the harbour, an afternoon at the market, an evening when the light lingers longer than expected. One hundred percent Mongolian cashmere, cut for the way life actually unfolds.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
ANASTASIIA TRYHUB













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PHOTO BY ALI DOLATI, LUXIN STUDIO

Welcome to something we have been building toward with great care and genuine excitement. Prairie-born and raised in a small Central Alberta town, now rooted in Vancouver, I have lived both sides of this landscape — and guiding this edition feels like a full-circle return. It is from that place of genuine familiarity that I am so proud to introduce our inaugural Western Canadian edition.

This new edition joins our Vancouver, Vancouver Island, and Central Island community editions, bringing the same editorial dedication to a territory that stretches from the foothills and prairies to the extraordinary cities of Calgary and Edmonton. Everything in between matters just as much: the mountain towns, the valley communities, the stretches of this country that reward those who take the long way. And those luminous pockets of British Columbia that sit just beyond the Rockies belong in this conversation too — close enough to feel familiar, distinct enough to feel like discovery. No self-respecting Canadian has ever let a mountain range stand between them and somewhere worth exploring.

LIV is available bi-monthly at select elevated lifestyle retailers and hospitality venues — the boutiques, hotels, spas, and dining rooms where discerning people choose to savour their days, evenings, and late nights — upholding the same philosophy that has always guided us: these communities are rich with personality, possibility, and stories that deserve to be told well. We are honoured to tell them.

Helen Siwak

Editor-in-Chief, LIV Magazine

LIV

STYLE.TASTE.SPACE

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Spaces Transformed

Where Craft Meets the Way You Live



Homes are living things — they grow with us, absorb our routines, and quietly hold the shape of who we once were. At some point, the spaces that once felt exactly right begin to feel like they belong to a previous chapter: functional, familiar, but no longer a full reflection of the life being lived inside them.

Tastes deepen, priorities shift, and the desire to have a home genuinely mirror the person one has become grows into something impossible to ignore.

That pull toward something more personal, more refined, more considered — that is not a luxury impulse. That is vision. And for the homeowners who have brought that vision to Lara Kitchen and Bath, it is precisely where the most beautiful transformations begin.

Founded by Lawrence Mattar, whose career spans more than 25 years in stone manufacturing, design, and construction, Lara Kitchen and Bath was built on a philosophy as enduring as the materials it works with: that the desire to revamp, renovate, and revitalize a home is not an indulgence — it is an investment in the quality of daily life.

Every project is an act of discovery. A collaborative unfolding of possibility that moves from the first conversation all the way through to the moment a client walks through a completed space and recognizes, perhaps for the first time, exactly what their home was always capable of being.

“Every client comes to us with an imminent vision not yet fully realized. Through careful listening and thoughtful design, we uncover what they’re really seeking, then bring it to life in a way that feels personal and intentional. We interpret vision and help bring clarity to what they truly want, even when they can’t fully articulate it.” — Lawrence Mattar

What makes that journey feel different from the moment it begins is the people guiding it. Kayle McLennan manages sales, client relations, and project scheduling — the steady, reassuring presence that keeps communication clear and timelines intact from initial inquiry through to final installation. Interior designer Karin Chaya, IDT, brings a technology-informed sensibility to every project, merging analytical precision with a genuine, practiced feel for how spaces should function and how they should make you feel when you are inside them.

Both homeowners navigating the renovation process for the first time and the interior designers who frequently collaborate alongside them will find in this team something increasingly rare: people who listen as carefully as they build, and who treat a client’s vision with the same seriousness that the client does.

That confidence is further grounded in the partnerships Lara has cultivated. As an authorized Cosentino dealer, the studio offers access to three of the world’s most respected surface lines — Silestone, Dekton, and Sensa — materials that sit at the convergence of natural beauty and advanced engineering. Heat-resistant, stain-resistant, and available across a broad and breathtaking spectrum of colours and textures, these are surfaces designed to age with grace and perform without compromise.

For homeowners who want to know they are working with a studio that sources from the very best, this relationship offers something beyond product selection. It offers proof.

“Cosentino is the global benchmark for surface qualities, that is why we chose Cosentino, we refuse to compromise on what goes into a finished space,” Mattar explains.



The kitchen is, for most homeowners, where the conversation begins — and it is easy to understand why. Few rooms carry more emotional weight or more daily significance. Lara approaches kitchen design with a deep conviction that these spaces deserve to be extraordinary: custom cabinetry built for lasting performance and offered in an extensive range of finishes and colours, paired with Cosentino stone surfaces that bring both drama and durability to every countertop and surface plane. Premium appliances, ambient lighting, flooring, and plumbing are woven together into a unified vision, with specialist partners ensuring that no finishing detail — however small — is ever treated as secondary.

What makes the process especially compelling is the ability to visualize the complete transformation before it becomes reality. Lara’s designers produce detailed 3D renderings that invite clients to walk through their future kitchen, compare finishes, explore layouts, and arrive at construction day with genuine excitement rather than uncertainty.

Design service fees are credited toward the overall project upon completion — a gesture that speaks to the kind of studio Lara is, one where the client’s confidence matters as much as the finished result.



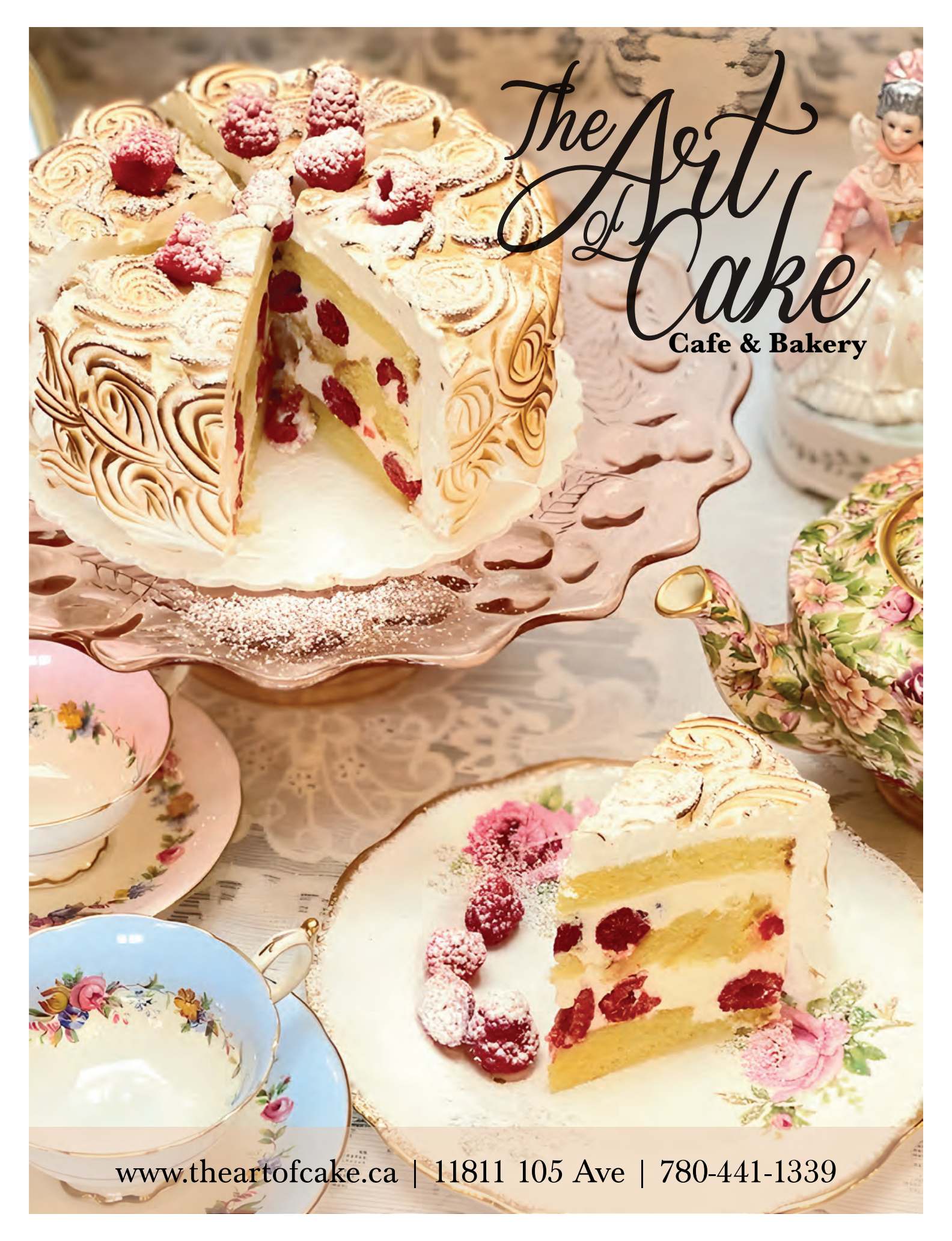
Living spaces receive that same devoted, imaginative attention. These are the rooms where daily life truly unfolds — where mornings begin slowly, where guests settle in, where the particular rhythm of a household makes itself known.

Lara treats them accordingly, designing environments where striking stone feature walls and fireplace surrounds become the focal points around which everything else is beautifully composed. Bespoke built-in cabinetry keeps life organized without sacrificing elegance, while curated lighting and layered finishes create the kind of depth and warmth that transforms a room from simply attractive to genuinely alive.

For those whose vision extends beyond the interior, Lara brings the same design rigour to exterior spaces, with Dekton anchoring outdoor environments that endure every season in remarkable style.

For Mattar, the measure of success is deeply personal: “When clients trust us with their space, they’re trusting us with their everyday experience. Our responsibility is to create a space that feels comfortable, personal, and entirely their own.”

Your home has always had the potential to be something extraordinary. Lara Kitchen and Bath exists to help you realize it — one beautifully considered surface at a time. **LIV**



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When the Plate Becomes Personal

The Private World of Chef Sheridan McLaren



Some culinary careers begin in professional kitchens. Sheridan McLaren's began somewhere far more formative — beside his grandmother Evelyn, a master chef who owned her own restaurant and catering business in Tofield, Alberta. It was there, as a curious child sneaking bacon off the grill and peeling what felt like an endless supply of onions, that McLaren first understood what food could do. Not just nourish, but transform.

That early sense of wonder never left him. Sheridan went on to graduate from NAIT's culinary program, working across Edmonton's fine dining scene at establishments including Ruth's Chris, Jack's Grill, and the Northern Bear Golf Course. Still driven to deepen his understanding of what ends up on the plate, he returned to school — this time to SAIT — to study nutrition and food science. The combination of professional culinary training and nutritional expertise would become the foundation of everything that followed.

His credentials extend beyond the kitchen. A published author in partnership with Company's Coming and Lone Pine Publishing, Sheridan co-wrote "Healthy Family Recipes" and "400 Calorie Mains," both distributed across Canada. The books reflect a belief he has carried throughout his career: that healthy food does not require compromise, in flavour or in joy.



“Food is what drives us,” Sheridan says. “It provides us with energy, health, satiety, enjoyment, and for people like me, excitement. What and how we eat has a direct influence on our day to day life — so let’s make it fun, healthy, attainable, and taste damn good.”

Now coming on two decades as a private chef serving Edmonton and the surrounding area, Chef Sheridan and his team bring the experience directly to you. If you are imagining a long table of close friends, a milestone birthday surrounded by family, or an evening that calls for something genuinely memorable, his dinner party service was built for exactly that. A multi-course menu is designed around your tastes, your dietary needs, and the mood of the occasion. You are consulted, considered, and catered to — in the most literal sense. The team arrives fully equipped, cooks in your kitchen, plates each course with care, and leaves without a trace. You simply sit down and let the evening unfold.

When the occasion calls for something more relaxed, Chef Sheridan’s appetizer party service offers that same quality in a format that moves with your guests. A thoughtfully curated spread of hot and cold hors d’oeuvres and canapés arrives fresh and continuous throughout the event, allowing your gathering to breathe — people mingling, glasses raised, no one anchored to a seat. The informality is deliberate, but the craftsmanship behind every bite is anything but.

Beyond private dining, Sheridan extends his nutritional expertise to a select handful of Edmonton’s most demanding professionals and athletes.

His meal preparation service is built around performance and precision — wholesome, carefully considered food designed to fuel at the highest level. Among those he counts as clients is NHL star Connor McDavid, a detail that speaks not only to the calibre of Sheridan’s cooking, but to the trust placed in him by those for whom what they eat is inseparable from how they perform.

What anchors every experience — whether a celebratory dinner, a casual gathering, or a week of performance meals — is an unwavering standard when it comes to ingredients. “I let my ingredients do the work,” Sheridan has said. “I’m all about fresh and vibrant with a special respect from my ingredients. I am against the cheap shortcuts, powders, and concentrates. The food we eat speaks for itself. Give it the chance to shine and with a little bit of love it will.” Sourced from local shops, trusted markets, and his own garden when the season permits, what lands on your plate carries a story he is proud to tell.

That same care and connection to the land carries into The Barrel, Sheridan’s newest venture in Ardrossan, Alberta. A barn and loft-style retreat set among mature spruce trees and moments from Elk Island National Park and Blackfoot hiking trails, it is the kind of place you arrive at and immediately exhale. Available for weekend escapes, private retreats, and bespoke culinary events, The Barrel is an extension of everything Sheridan values — the Northern Albertan landscape, genuine hospitality, and the belief that the best experiences happen when good food and good surroundings come together.

It is, in every sense, an invitation. One worth accepting. **LIV**



Where Design Becomes a Way of Living

Some spaces simply look beautiful. Others change the way you move through your days — the way you reach for a glass, sink into a chair, or pause at a doorway and feel, without quite being able to articulate why, that everything is exactly right. Katie Stephenson has built an entire practice around that second kind of space.

Founded in Edmonton and sought after well beyond it, Stephenson House is a full-service interior design firm, atelier of custom furnishings and fixtures, and curated shop of homewares. It is, at its core, a studio defined by a singular conviction: that true luxury is measured not by price, but by quality, originality, and the deliberate choices that shape a home into a life.

Katie came to this work through a life richly lived. A dual citizen of Canada and Great Britain, she has spent years travelling the world — not as a tourist, but as a collector of perspectives. Along the way, she cultivated relationships with sought-after antique dealers and craftsmen across multiple continents, building a network that now quietly underpins some of the most distinctive interiors in the country. Her education at the prestigious New York School of Interior Design formalized what her instincts already understood: that a room, at its finest, is an elevated extension of the person who inhabits it.



That philosophy is woven into every service Stephenson House offers. Architectural Interiors projects begin at the level of sketches and floor plans, with Katie and her team collaborating closely alongside architects and builders to ensure the design vision is realized at every scale. No detail is incidental. Every finish, material, and surface is hand-chosen for both enduring craftsmanship and modern livability — grounded always in the client's values, personal style, and the way they actually live.

For those seeking a more comprehensive transformation, the studio's concierge-level interior design service balances form and function with a precision informed by decades of collective experience. The result is never merely aesthetic. It is emotive. Inviting. The kind of home that does not simply impress visitors, but genuinely sustains the people who live there.

Then there is The List — a personalized design intensive that addresses the smaller, often-neglected corners of a home that quietly erode one's quality of life. It is a service that reflects something important about Stephenson House: the understanding that luxury is not reserved for grand gestures, and that the details matter precisely because they accumulate.

Featured in Homes & Gardens, Architectural Digest, Forbes, and Edify, the studio has earned its place among an exclusive group of design firms worldwide. Yet the work remains deeply personal. Each year, an intentionally limited number of clients are taken on — ensuring that every project receives the full weight of the studio's attention, from the monogram on the towels to the considered curation of every room.

For those who understand that how you live is as important as where you live, Stephenson House is not simply a design firm. It is the difference between a house and a home worth returning to. **LIV**





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Small Cakes, Big Pleasure:

A Love Letter to the Modern Cupcake

The cupcake has never needed reinvention, yet somehow, it continues to evolve. This palm-held confection carries a kind of emotional shorthand — a return to childhood celebrations, bakery windows, and the quiet thrill of choosing something just for oneself. At Flirt Cupcakes, that feeling is not only preserved, it is elevated.

Inside the shop, the atmosphere is immediate and inviting. Colour leads the experience — vibrant swirls of frosting, jewel-toned toppings, and rows of meticulously crafted cupcakes that feel as much like a curated display as they do a menu. The energy is warm, playful, and unmistakably joyful. It is the kind of space where decisions feel deliciously difficult.

The ritual begins at the counter. Eyes scan from classic vanilla to inventive seasonal creations, from rich chocolate bases to lighter, fruit-forward options. Each cupcake presents itself with quiet confidence, distinct in flavour, personality, and finish. The dilemma is real. One feels insufficient. Two feels reasonable. A six-pack begins to feel like the correct answer.



This is where founders Michelle LeMoignan and Brianna Vallet have built something far more meaningful than a bakery. They have created an environment where indulgence is not only accepted, but celebrated. Known for their allergen-friendly approach — no eggs, no nuts — the menu extends a thoughtful invitation to a wider audience, with vegan and gluten-friendly options that ensure no one is excluded from the experience. There is no hesitation here, no sense of restraint. Sugar is not the enemy. It is the point.

Each bite delivers on the promise — soft, balanced cake beneath a generous crown of frosting that never overwhelms, but instead completes. The textures, the sweetness, the visual delight all come together in a moment that feels both nostalgic and entirely present.

Beyond the daily ritual, the offering expands into celebration. Custom cakes and bespoke designs for weddings and events transform the same joyful sensibility into centrepieces that mark life's most meaningful occasions. What begins as a simple choice at the counter can easily evolve into something far more personal — a shared experience, a statement, a memory.

There is something quietly luxurious about allowing oneself this experience. Not extravagant, not excessive, but intentional. A pause in the day marked by flavour, colour, and choice.

The cupcake, in its simplest form, has always been about joy. In this setting, it becomes something more — a small, perfect indulgence that reminds us that pleasure, when done well, is worth savouring. **LIV**



A Windermere Home

Defined by Views, Finish, and Flow



Backed by water and built for the way people actually live, this 311 square metre walkout two-storey in Windermere offers the full package: unobstructed pond views, triple-car garage parking, and a floor plan that transitions effortlessly from daily routine to elevated entertaining.

From the street, the home announces itself with bold red and charcoal exterior detailing, stacked stone accents, and a sweeping driveway that underscores its scale. Step inside and the double-height foyer sets the tone immediately - a sculptural staircase with rich wood railings, a cascading chandelier, and a sight line that draws the eye straight through to the living spaces beyond.

The main floor is anchored by an open-concept layout where oversized windows pull in both natural light and waterfront views. The kitchen is the centrepiece: dual islands, double sinks, a generous walk-in pantry, and in-floor heating that speaks to the considered finish work found throughout. Whether the space is hosting a dinner party or a quiet morning coffee, it performs equally well.

Upstairs, the primary suite occupies its own corner of the home, complete with a private balcony overlooking the pond, a spa-calibre ensuite, and a walk-in closet designed for serious storage. A bonus room with wet bar, two additional bedrooms, and upper-floor laundry round out the level with both comfort and practicality in mind.

*Windermere
offers a floor plan
that transitions
effortlessly from
daily routine
to elevated
entertaining.*



The walkout level extends the home's livability further still with heated epoxy floors, a steam shower, a bedroom, and flexible living space that adapts to whatever the moment calls for.

Positioned within one of Edmonton's most livable communities, 3438 West Landing places its residents minutes from top-rated schools, scenic walking paths, and the full retail and dining offerings of the Currents of Windermere. Scale, setting, and substance — this home delivers all three without compromise.

Representing this exceptional property is Sara Kalke, a licensed REALTOR® and proud Edmonton native with RE/MAX. Consistently ranking among the top agents in the city since 2017, Sara has guided over 100 clients annually through the complexities of relocation — bringing local expertise, strategic insight, and a genuine understanding of what it means to find the right home in the right community. **LIV**

The background of the cover is a close-up photograph of a light-colored, textured fabric, identified as Black Goat Cashmere. A dark, textured rectangular box is centered in the upper half of the page. Inside this box, the word "LIV" is written in a large, gold, serif font. Below it, the words "STYLE.TASTE.SPACE" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Below the dark box, the words "British Columbia" are written in a large, elegant, gold script font.

LIV

STYLE.TASTE.SPACE

British Columbia

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Forget the Drive

British Columbia Is Closer Than You Think



Travel is no longer shaped by road conditions, mountain passes, or the hours between Calgary and the coast.

For anyone who has ever stared down the Trans-Canada and thought twice, British Columbia has always existed on the other side of something, a drive through mountain passes, a wait at the ferry dock, a journey that takes long enough to make you reconsider the plan. With Airble, you open the app and all of that falls away. Travel is no longer shaped by road conditions, mountain passes, or the hours between Calgary and the coast. It is shaped by curiosity, altitude, and the confidence that comes from choosing experiences few others ever reach.

The moment you lift off, the Rockies shift from a border into a backdrop. Coastlines soften into sweeping curves, forests roll endlessly beneath you, and mountain ranges rise with quiet drama. Distance becomes something to savour rather than endure. The journey itself becomes part of the reward, setting the tone long before you arrive.

Along Vancouver Island's wild west coast, Airble carries you toward the Calvin Falls Surfing experience, where the landscape feels intentionally untouched. A tide-timed hike winds through coastal forest before opening onto a wide sandy beach framed by driftwood and open sky. Waves arrive uninterrupted, one after another, while fresh water flows nearby and a fire crackles as the sun dips low. There are no crowds here, no noise, and no competition for your wave, only the steady rhythm of the Pacific and the rare luxury of space.

Farther north, Muncho Lake appears like a secret revealed from the air. The Cassiar Mountains rise in layered ridges, their scale both humbling and deeply calming. You land near the Frog River Cabin, where the pace of life shifts immediately. Days unfold through fly fishing, canoeing across pristine water, and hiking high mountain valleys. Evenings lead you to a hidden wild hot spring, steam rising as dusk settles in, while wildlife moves through the landscape as naturally as the changing light.



Closer to Whistler, Airble reframes familiar terrain through its Volcano and Ice Cave Adventure. A helicopter lifts you toward Mount Meager, gliding above ancient volcanic formations before descending into glacial caverns of luminous blue. Inside the ice caves, vaulted ceilings and crystalline tunnels create a sense of wonder that feels almost unreal. The experience concludes with elevated alpine dining catered by the award-winning Barefoot Bistro, grounding the adventure in warmth, flavour, and shared conversation.

For moments that call for romance rather than adrenaline, Airble offers the Backcountry Heli-Proposal, an experience designed to feel as cinematic as the question itself. Departing from SKY Hangar or the Vancouver Harbour Heliport, you fly toward the Coast Mountains, passing waterfalls, alpine lakes, and untouched wilderness below. The helicopter touches down in a secluded backcountry location, where you step out to stroll a mountain peak or the shore of a hidden alpine lake or river. Upon return, your pilot presents a celebratory bottle of champagne, followed by a signature romance gift box complete with champagne flutes and a Photographer Upgrade to ensure the moment is beautifully documented.



And when indulgence calls for something truly special, Airble elevates the experience through a curated private jet journey to Kelowna for an exclusive lakeside wine tasting at FRIND Winery, Canada's only winery with direct lake access. The day unfolds with effortless precision, moving seamlessly from private jet to chauffeured lakeside drive, where vineyard views, waterfront scenery, and moments of unhurried discovery set the tone. At the winery, your group enjoys a premium tasting in a private lakeview setting, lingering over wines, strolling the beachfront, and soaking in the beauty of Okanagan Lake before returning home, satisfied and unhurried, with the sense of having escaped without ever feeling rushed.

Airble's specialty tours span an extraordinary range, from a BC Backcountry Beer Tasting Heli-Tour for under \$500 per person to a Premier Fly-in Fishing experience reaching \$102,060, creating space for spontaneous adventures, milestone celebrations, and once-in-a-lifetime vacations alike.

This is what changes when transportation becomes part of the experience. You already understand the pull of wild country. Airble simply removes the last barrier between here and somewhere extraordinary. You explore regions that rarely make the itinerary, support remote operators and fly-in communities, and travel with intention. With Airble, British Columbia opens itself fully, inviting you to cross the mountains on your own terms, and arrive somewhere worth the journey. **LIV**



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Wine Country Worth Seeking Out

Four Okanagan Estates to Know





The Okanagan has a way of rewriting your relationship with time. The light softens differently here, the air carries something sweet and unhurried, and a glass of wine — held up against the backdrop of vine-covered hillsides and shimmering lake — feels like the most reasonable thing in the world. If you have been considering a proper wine country excursion, consider this your persuasive nudge.

Gray Monk Estate Winery

Few estates carry the kind of history that makes a place feel like it belongs to the valley rather than just existing within it. Founded in 1972 by George and Trudy Heiss, the estate was among the first to help establish British Columbia's estate winery program — a milestone that changed the province's wine story entirely. They introduced Pinot Gris to BC and championed cool-climate varietals that are now deeply woven into the Okanagan's identity.

The estate sits along a hillside above Okanagan Lake, and the view from the tasting room is the kind that earns its own caption. Current winemaker Jen Oishi, who grew up in the valley and returned to lead the winemaking program in 2020, brings both personal history and scientific rigour to wines that are clean, fresh, and distinctly of this place. Whether you opt for a seated estate tasting, a cellar tour, or lunch at The Lookout Restaurant, the experience rewards those who show up curious.

O'Rourke Family Estate

The drive alone tells you something is different. A long, pine-lined driveway opens onto an estate that stretches across 121 hectares of vineyards, orchards, and raw mountain terrain above Okanagan Lake. Designed by San Francisco architect Howard Backen, the property is an architectural conversation between glass, stone, and warm wood — built to feel like an extension of the land itself rather than something placed upon it.

What O'Rourke offers is genuinely difficult to categorize. There is the wine, of course — 44.5 hectares of meticulously cultivated vines producing an impressive portfolio under head winemaker Stephanie Stanley, including Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. There is the Row 188 restaurant, where culinary evenings pair estate wines with seasonal menus in an intimate setting. There is the amphitheatre, the underground cave system with its French oak barrels, and the option to stay overnight in the Georgie Award-winning Log Home or the Cottage in the Vines. General Manager Ian Scromeda puts it plainly: "O'Rourke Family Estate is so much more than a winery. It's an art and music venue, it's a cultural centre, it's a global destination." He is not exaggerating.



Sandhill Winery

Not every great Okanagan wine experience happens surrounded by vines. Located in the heart of downtown Kelowna, this is a space where polished concrete meets warm wood beams and the energy feels unmistakably urban — refined without being stiff, and that balance is rather the point.

The winery traces its lineage to Calona Wines, established in 1932 and recognized as BC's original and oldest continuing winery, yet what exists today feels entirely current. Signature tastings move through a carefully curated flight, from crisp whites through expressive rosé and into structured reds. Portfolio tastings go deeper, exploring terroir and the relationship between land and grape. The space also transforms into a genuinely social destination in the evenings, with live music on select nights and a barrel room that hosts immersive tasting experiences of its own. It suits both seasoned enthusiasts and newcomers with equal ease.



Mission Hill Family Estate

Equal parts winery and cultural landmark, this estate is as much a destination for the arts as it is for the glass. Architectural grandeur sets the tone from arrival, and the layers of discovery within only deepen from there. The Chagall Room, revealed through towering 7.3-metre wooden doors, houses a monumental tapestry by master weaver Yvette Cauquil Prince and a Yamaha Grand Piano once owned by David Foster, signed by more than sixty legendary performers. Yet, tucked within its stone passages lies an unexpected destination: The Boutique. More than a retail space, it is a curated world where craftsmanship, heritage, and beauty come together, reshaped each year through the thoughtful vision of David Amos. His work transforms what could be a traditional gift shop into a sensory journey that encourages guests to pause, explore, and experience the estate in an entirely new way.

A Simpler Way to Experience It All

For those who would rather arrive and be guided, Carpe Diem Tours offers exactly that. Founded by Kelowna local Sanela Sehovac, the company curates journeys across the valley's most celebrated wine regions — from the West Side Wine Trail to Summerland's Bottleneck Drive and beyond. The experience is intentionally seamless, leaving you free to focus on the glass in hand and the company beside you.

The Okanagan asks little of you beyond a willingness to slow down. By the time the sun begins its descent behind the western ridgeline, painting the lake in shades of copper and rose, you will understand why people return here year after year. The vineyards deepen in colour, the air cools just enough to notice, and the last pour of the day somehow tastes better than all the others. It is that quality of an Okanagan evening — unhurried, warm, and quietly luminous — that lingers well beyond the drive home. These four estates, and one very well-organized tour company, make arriving at that moment remarkably easy to do. **LIV**



When the Rockies Are Behind You, the Coast Calls

Ten storeys of elegant, wood-and-steel construction spiral upward toward a summit that opens onto one of the most expansive panoramic views on Vancouver Island: Finlayson Arm stretching below, Mt. Baker rising in the distance, the Saanich Peninsula and the scattered islands of two nations laid out in every direction.



Summer on Vancouver Island has a way of revealing something new each season — something worth planning around. Victoria, the Gulf Islands, the long unhurried pace of the coast: it is a trip that rewards the crossing every time. This summer, one experience is earning its place at the top of the itinerary: the Malahat SkyWalk, a destination that earns that word — destination — with full conviction.

Located a short 35-minute drive north of downtown Victoria on the traditional lands of the Malahat Nation, the SkyWalk is not easily categorized. It is part natural wonder, part architectural achievement, and entirely unlike anything available on the prairies. Families from across the country are discovering that it offers something increasingly rare: a shared experience that lands differently for every age in the group.

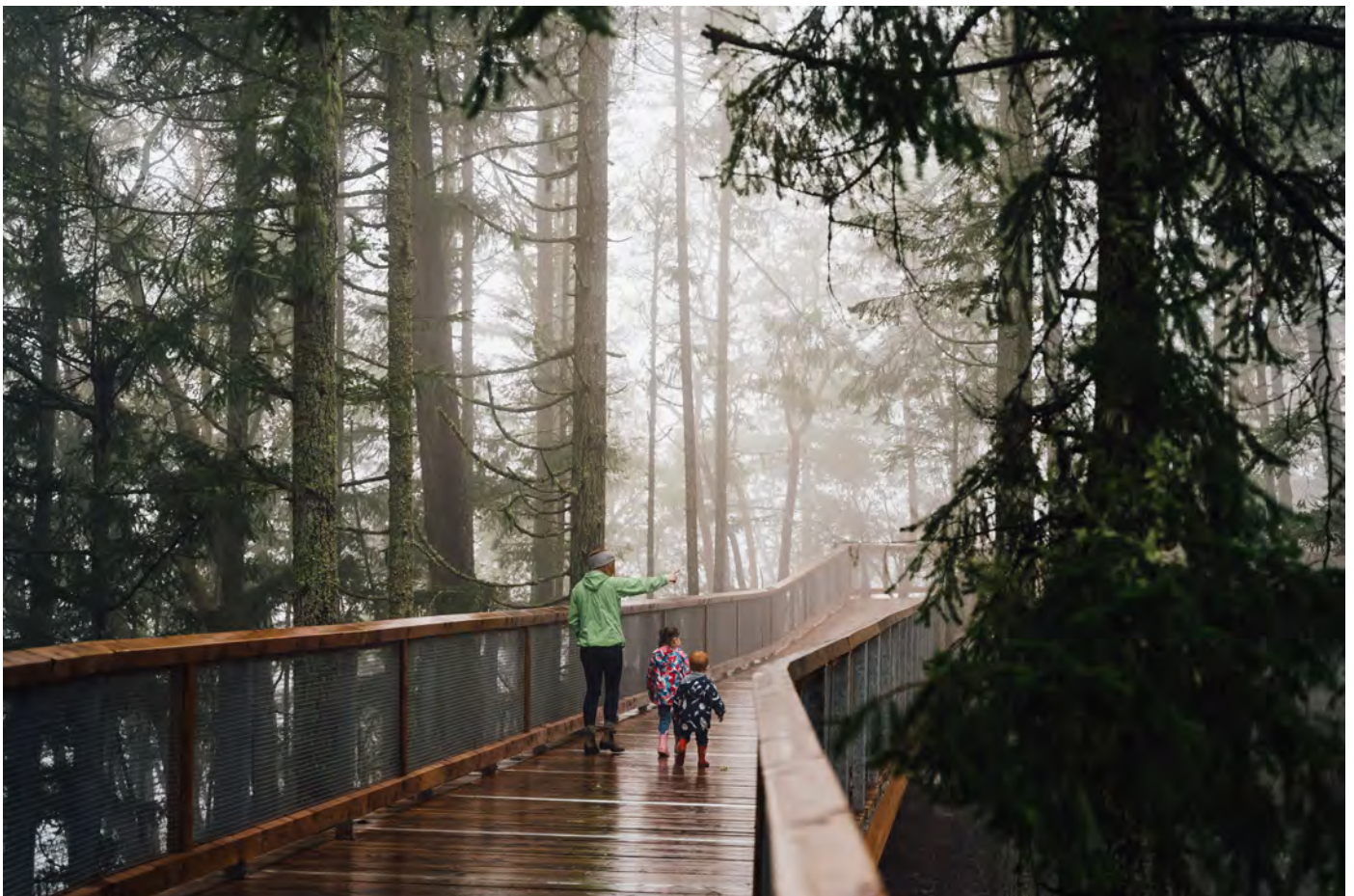
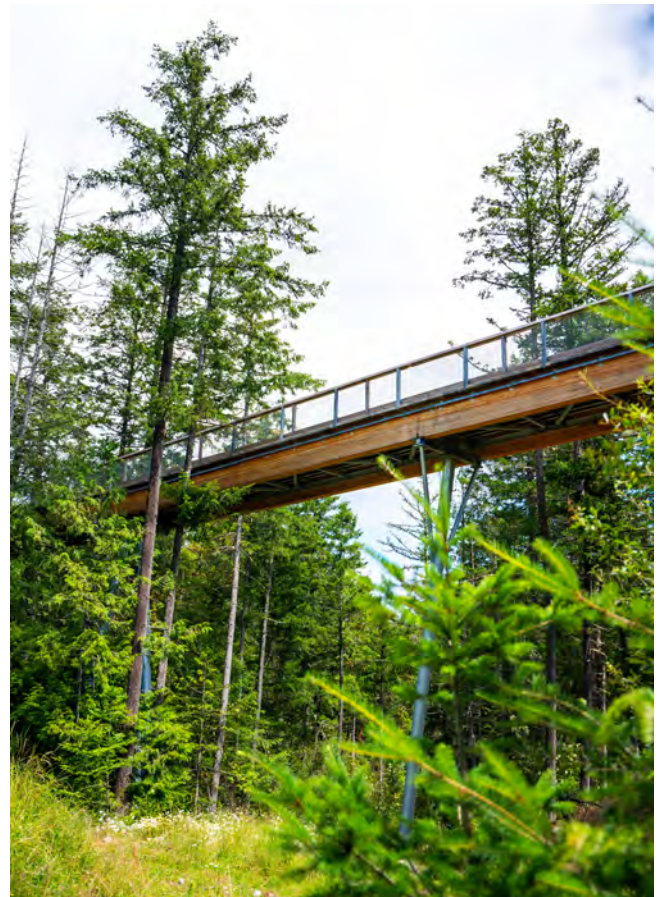
The journey begins on Luke's Lane, an 800-metre gravel path winding through a coastal rainforest thick with *Arbutus* and Douglas Fir. The air is different here — cooler, richer, carrying the faint green scent of moss and cedar. Driftwood sculptures by Vancouver Island artist Tanya Bub line the path, her creatures half-mythic and entirely at home among the roots and stones.

From there, the TreeWalk lifts visitors twenty metres above the forest floor along an elevated boardwalk that threads through the canopy. Light breaks through the branches in long, shifting ribbons. Below, ferns unfurl. Above, the treetops sway. For children accustomed to the wide-open scale of the Prairie landscape, the sensation of being held inside a living forest — above it, and within it simultaneously — is a revelation.

At the centre of it all rises the Spiral Tower, designed by Whistler-based architect Brent Murdoch and built from glue-laminated Douglas Fir sourced just six kilometres away. Ten storeys of elegant, wood-and-steel construction spiral upward toward a summit that opens onto one of the most expansive panoramic views on Vancouver Island: Finlayson Arm stretching below, Mt. Baker rising in the distance, the Saanich Peninsula and the scattered islands of two nations laid out in every direction. On a clear summer day, it is the kind of view that stays with you.

For those who want to push further, the SkyWeb offers a vertigo-inducing perspective straight through the heart of the tower — a daring net suspended above the forest that younger visitors tend to love and adults approach with considerably more deliberation. The descent, via the legendary 20-metre Sizzler Slide, settles the matter entirely: whatever hesitation remained disappears somewhere on the way down.

This is a place built with accessibility and intention in mind, designed so that visitors of varying mobility — strollers included — can move through the full experience together. No one is left at the bottom waiting. That, perhaps more than the views or the architecture, is what makes the Malahat SkyWalk such a natural fit for families making the summer journey west. The coast has always rewarded those who come looking. This is simply one of its finest offers. **LIV**



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Exceptional Okanagan Lakefront living in this beautifully designed 4 bed, 5 bath home built in 2019 within gated Cliffshore Estates. Offering 75 ft of waterfront, this property is built for effortless lake life and summer entertaining. A deluxe dock features steel piles, composite decking, boat lift, and Sea-Doo lifts, with deep water access, private hot tub, and expansive outdoor patio with firepit and BBQ area overlooking the lake. Inside offers a stunning primary suite with lakeview deck, plus open-concept lower level with walkout living and additional ensuite bedrooms for guests. Minutes to Ellison Provincial Park, trails, and Vernon amenities.

MLS 10383432 | \$2,750,000



9707 DELCLIFFE ROAD, VERNON, BC

Rare Okanagan lakeshore opportunity offering turnkey, furnished estate living with 70 ft of swimmable red sand beach, shared dock, and private buoy. This 4 bed, 3 bath home is designed for easy living with level entry and gentle access to the water. The bright main level features vaulted ceilings, walls of windows, open kitchen and dining, gas fireplace, covered lakeview deck, and primary suite with ensuite and walk-in closet. The walkout lower level offers a family room with mini kitchen, 3 additional bedrooms, and direct access to the patio and beach. Located in coveted Delcliffe Road, minutes to Ellison Provincial Park and trails.

MLS 10382802 | \$2,200,000



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A woman with long, wavy brown hair is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is wearing a dark blue button-down cardigan with light-colored stitching and a beige shawl draped over her shoulders. The background is a blurred beach scene with water and mountains in the distance.

black goat

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