

CHICAGO

KIMPTON MEETS LULULEMON



Guests at the Kimpton Gray Hotel look dependably sleek and stylish, outfitted as they are in the latest Lululemon gear for their morning run or yoga class. The luxury boutique hotel's ongoing partnership with the Canada-based athletic apparel retailer means that both men and women can choose from a selection of outfits right from the front desk, saving precious luggage space (although each outfit is also available to purchase and take home). Concierge Bobby Gonzalez recommends booking a session at Bottom Line Yoga, Room to Breathe, or Bikram Yoga, all within walking distance of the Kimpton Gray. **122 West Monroe Street, grayhotelchicago.com**



LOOKING UP!

March is a metrological merry-go-round for Windy City denizens, but when temps first hit 60°F, our thoughts turn to matters rooftop and intoxicating. Cerise, The Virgin Hotel's rooftop bar, is dramatically situated on the 26th floor and features cocktails, sake, wine, and beer, along with *izakaya* (a type of informal Japanese pub)-inspired bite-sized plates like sashimi and veggie spring rolls. Oversized circular couches make for a playful vibe and the people watching is dependably diverse and fascinating. **203 N Wabash, virginhotels.com/chicago/dine-and-drink/cerise**

GREEN BEAUTY ON THE GOLD COAST



Spring clean your skin the natural way with products and treatments at Elina Organics, a hidden gem tucked away on busy Walton Street in the Gold Coast area. There, cosmetic chemist and celebrity aesthetician Elina Fedotova makes all of her own skincare products, including organic makeup with pearl powder and probiotics. It's hard to believe a natural non-invasive face lift using micro-currents and natural peptides can be this effective. Fedotova also performs face cupping, micro needling, and FotoFacial IPL, tailoring each regimen to achieve best results. New treatments for spring include upper arm rejuvenation and an organic wild mushroom facial that's especially beneficial for aging and sensitive complexions. **100 East Walton Street, Suite 600E, elinaorganics.com**

PICTURE PERFECT



The largest picture frame store in the country has a cool new River North showroom in the heart of Chicago's Design District. Founded in 1978, Artists Frame Service also has its own 40,000-square-foot manufacturing facility on the city's West Side, allowing unparalleled control over consistency and craftsmanship. Because, whether for a work of art or family photo, a perfectly designed perimeter makes all the difference. Its selection of more than 1,500 mouldings from around the world includes bespoke wooden frames, water gilded with gold or white gold. The range of choices can be overwhelming, but a knowledgeable staff (most with art degrees) is there to help. The new River North location also features rotating collections of locally-curated art. **433 North Wells Street and 1867 North Clybourn Avenue, artistsframe.com**

Chicago's had a slew of high-end sushi restaurants open recently, but Yūgen takes Japanese fine dining in a new direction, with a tasting menu evoking an avant-garde *kaiseki* (multi-course) approach. Begin with a medley of sakizuke one-bite canapés, followed by miso soup, chawanmushi with foie gras ganache, seasonal sashimi, and shabu-shabu wagyu. The austere dining room remains almost identical to when this space was home to Grace (one of just two Chicago restaurants to hold three Michelin stars in recent years), but a new and young team is running the kitchen, helmed by Executive Chef Mari Katsumara. The front lounge is walk-in only, serving à la carte daily specials, including champagne Fridays when vintage pours are paired with Japanese fried chicken karaage. It's still early days, but this ambitious new eatery is off to a dazzling start. **652 West Randolph Street, yugenchicago.com**

JAPANESE GEM

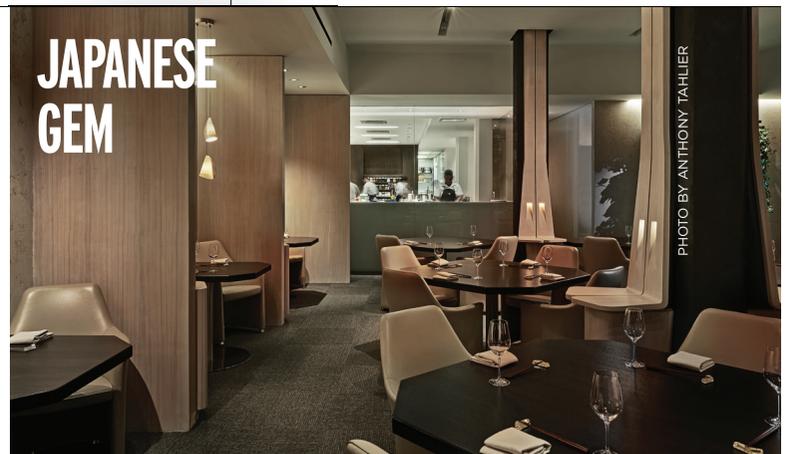


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