

## IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME



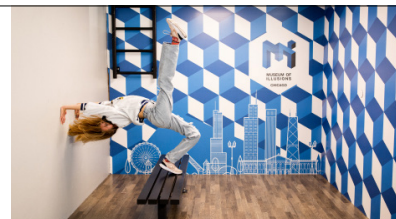
After opening several hit restaurants with Lettuce Entertain You, chef Doug Psaltis launches his most personal project yet, Andros Taverna. The modern Greek restaurant is a partnership with his wife, pastry chef Hsing Chen, in Logan Square, and the menu will be mostly vegetarian, focusing on hearth-cooked vegetables and salads, plus premium seafood like tender grilled octopus and whole fish cooked simply in the wood-burning oven. Terracotta bricks, extensive woodwork, and lush hanging greenery bring a touch of modern Greek architecture to the space, which also features an expansive garden patio with a greenhouse-style glass canopy. **2542 N Milwaukee Avenue, androstaverna.com**



## REACH FOR THE SKY

Starting this spring, Windy City visitors can stay in an icon. The historic Carbon & Carbide building, erected in 1929, was designated a Chicago landmark in 1996, and this year it's opening as a super luxe hotel: the Pendry. The unique Art Deco building, resembling a vintage green champagne bottle with gold leaf accents, will debut with all new interiors and modern amenities. The 364 guest rooms and suites offer sweeping views of the surrounding cityscape and are outfitted in a warm, minimalistic color palette with plush bedding and luxe Pendry x MiN bath amenities. On-site destinations include a signature fine-dining restaurant with indoor and outdoor seating, a moody lounge and cocktail bar with small plates and creative mixology, and a state-of-the-art 24/7 fitness center with cutting-edge Technogym equipment.

**230 N Michigan Avenue, pendry.com/chicago**



## FOOL ME ONCE

Chicago's newest museum specializes in deception and mirage, confounding your mind and perplexing your perceptions with 80 mind-bending exhibits of absurd and clever optical illusions. The Museum of Illusions is an Instagram paradise; it's photo friendly, yes, but also educational, explaining the math, psychology, and science behind how the human brain works to play tricks on us. Mirror infinity rooms, scale-distorting rooms, holograms, a vortex tunnel, and an anti-gravity room are just a few highlights. The concept began five years ago in Zagreb, Croatia, and New York, Dallas, and Kansas City already have similar museums. Fun for families and appealing for all ages.

**25 E Washington Street, chicagomuseumofillusions.us**



## FRENCH-CANADIAN FLAIR

Executive chef Ryan Brosseau is a year-round preservationist, and his menu is a love letter to Midwestern ingredients at Dear Margaret, named after his French-

Canadian grandma - mémé - who inspires his rustic-refined plates.

Brosseau grew up in southern Ontario, dubbed Canada's bread basket, making use of whole animals, canning and preserving to minimize food waste. That ethos of sustainable cooking can be seen in dishes like charred and smoked carrots with a medley of herbs, feta, and almond butter vinaigrette, hearty braised beef shank for two, and tourtière - a Canadian meat pie filled with mushrooms, potato, herbs, and pork. For dessert, there's the Canadian favorite Nanaimo bar, with a custard icing center and chocolate ganache top, just like grandma used to make. **2965 N Lincoln Avenue, dearmargaretti.com**

PHOTO BY NEIL BURGER

## FRIENDS FOR LIFE

After a short-lived opening last October, *The FRIENDS Experience: The One in Chicago* reopened this month honoring the popular TV show with 12 nostalgia-packed rooms featuring set recreations, from Monica's kitchen to the iconic FRIENDS fountain, with original props/costumes, a retail store, and more. Play foosball then doze off in the reclining chairs at Joey's apartment and contemplate the existential questions in life - would you rather go on a date with Jean-Claude Van Damme or run out of your own wedding? Who's the Ross to your Monica? You can even buy Joey's bedtime penguin pal Hugsy to take home as a souvenir. **540 N Michigan Avenue, friendstheexperience.com/chicago**

PHOTO BY JUSTIN BARBIN

