

## CHICAGO



## EAT

**SPICE OF LIFE**

Mexican gets a modern twist.

BY AMBER GIBSON

Cantina 1910, 5025 N. Clark St., Chicago  
773-506-1910 // [cantina-1910.com](http://cantina-1910.com)

By day, this bustling café is a favorite gathering spot. By night, guests arrive from near and far for some of the most innovative contemporary Mexican food in town. Weekend brunch is especially busy, with the kitchen churning out chili-spiced cinnamon rolls, fried chicken with churros, and *huevos en cazuela* — baked eggs in lava rock salsa.

Debuting this summer is the 1,400-square-foot rooftop garden, where the eatery employs a full-time farmer to grow produce, including a fierce lineup of hot peppers. An ambitious 70 percent of all Cantina 1910 ingredients is procured within a 200-mile radius year-round. That means pickling, smoking, vacuum-packing and canning foodstuffs like fermented red cabbage to top fish tacos and making marmalade from leftover citrus to use in a tequila daisy cocktail.

The drink program is as innovative as the food menu, including a mescal and *mole* old-fashioned and a hyper-local selection of craft beer. Local Mexican designers created murals for the exterior and behind the bar, and the tables were made by a neighborhood furniture shop. Come summer, the accordion windows open up to let in a delightful breeze.

# TOUR CHICAGO



## STAY

### PARISIAN PALACE

Enjoy Gatsby glory in the Gold Coast.

BY AMBER GIBSON

Waldorf Astoria Chicago, 11 E. Walton St., Chicago  
312-646-1300 // [waldorfastoriachicagohotel.com](http://waldorfastoriachicagohotel.com)

This 215-room property is one of the most stunning city offerings in the Waldorf Astoria portfolio. Designed by architect Lucien Lagrange, the 60-story tower features a private courtyard and feels more like a home than a hotel. That's no surprise considering there are 30 residential floors above the guest rooms. The modern, austere lobby is balanced by the warm, welcoming reception from the bellhops and your personal concierge.

With the push of a button, the cozy fireplace in your suite ignites. The marble bathroom, complete with Salvatore Ferragamo Tuscan Soul toiletries, is large enough to do yoga in. And your private terrace offers views of the most prestigious shopping scene in town — think Barneys, Hermès and Prada.

Bernard's Bar up on the second floor is the perfect place to grab a glass of Champagne or a classic Bronx cocktail while plotting the evening ahead. After a night out on the town, revive yourself with complimentary coffee service delivered to your door before heading to the award-winning spa for a detoxifying body treatment or massage. Suites and meeting spaces were just renovated this spring, and updates to the courtyard, restaurants and spa will wrap up later this year.

## SHOP

### TREASURE TROVE

A West Loop boutique knows no bounds.

BY AMBER GIBSON

Rider For Life, 1115 W. Lake St., Chicago  
312-243-0464 // [shoprider.us](http://shoprider.us)

Shopkeepers Lauren McGrady and Tom Gavin describe themselves as admirers, travelers and wanderers. It's with a treasure-hunting mindset that they curate Rider For Life's collection of art, furniture, personal-care products, men's and women's fashions, jewelry, and seemingly random but artfully arranged oddities.

Nibble on fresh-spun cotton candy and sip an exclusive Bow Truss coffee blend while you browse. Everything, including the chairs and light fixtures, is for sale in what feels like a Wes Anderson film set. Tarot cards sit next to sunglasses, and Afghani rugs hang near Native American dream catchers. A vintage gambling wheel is casually nestled amongst a display of men's shoes.

This is the only place in town where you'll find Portuguese JAK Shoes, makeup from Rituel de Fille, and jewelry designed by Gigi Clozeau and Selin Kent. Each item has a unique story, which McGrady and Gavin enthusiastically relay, lifting mere commodities to totem status. With a constant stream of new wares arriving at the shop daily, you're bound to find something beyond your wildest dreams.

