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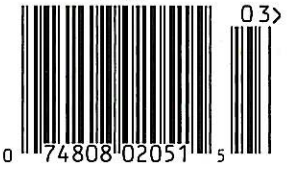
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MARCH 2013
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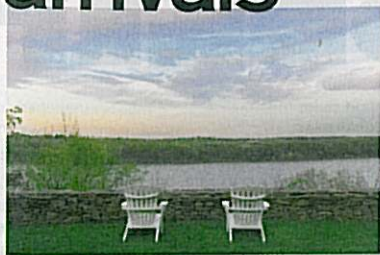
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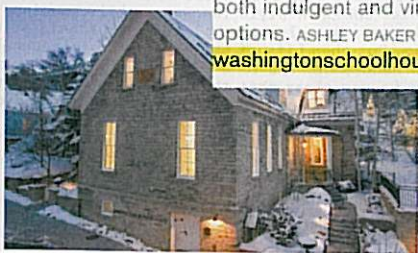


buttermilk falls inn & spa

milton, new york

Just a short drive from New York City is a 75-acre plot of self-contained paradise. Nestled on the banks of the Hudson River, Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa boasts bucolic charm of Eden-like proportions, with a historic inn and eco-spa that handle rusticism and modernity with equal aplomb. When they're not exploring the eponymous waterfall, visitors can hike, swim, hunt, kayak, or even visit neighboring Hudson Valley vineyards—but the real luxury of Buttermilk Falls is in the staycation. The inn, which was built in 1764, offers 10 Wi-Fi-friendly rooms and a number of waterfront boutique lodges, such as the majestic Riverknoll House (and its panoramic views, which could comatose a Norwegian). The spa features a renewable-powered sauna and a full line of relaxation treatments (like facials and massages) that use all-organic body products crafted from nature's lushest offerings, many of them grown on the estate's own Millstone Farm. Patrons can walk through these idyllic gardens (also home to llamas, alpacas, and peacocks), which produce organic vegetables, herbs, and eggs for the on-site restaurant, Henry's Farm to Table. Here, executive chef Paul Kelly offers an array of gastronomic delights that accentuate simplicity while nodding at the establishment's preternatural elegance: whether it's eggs scrambled with local goat cheese or the home-grown lavender in the pound cake, the fare is rustic but refined. Which, for those who itch for nature but still cling to urban sophistication, is a perfect combination. MOLLY BEAUCHEMIN

buttermilkfallsinn.com



washington school house hotel

park city, utah

The main reason we dream of returning to a hotel should not be an oatmeal chocolate-chip cookie, but the ones served at the Washington School House in Park City are just that epic. This painstakingly restored property, originally built in 1889 and renovated into an ultra-luxe 12-bedroom hideaway in late 2011, is tucked behind this ski town's main drag. The creative design will have you at hello, but the spoils continue throughout your stay. The linens: absurdly soft. The beds: better than your own. The bathrooms: Prepare to be spoiled. The hotel's personal driver and ski concierge are at your disposal to tool you around town or usher you to the slopes (hauling your gear straight to the lift). But if you'd prefer to stay in, put in some laps at the heated pool or snuggle up with a book (and a plate of cookies) in the downstairs library. It's OK to ask for seconds. And should you later consume a few too many at the ski-in High West Distillery and Saloon, located just down the block, feel free to sleep in and rehabilitate yourself with one of the chef's breakfast specials, which change daily and complement a full menu of both indulgent and virtuous options. ASHLEY BAKER

washingtonschoolhouse.com



la tapera

mendoza,
argentina

The scene opens with a sweeping view of the Andes, bathed in luminous, pre-dusk light. Long shadows stretch across the Uco Valley and creep up onto the vast fields of perfectly aligned grapevines that stretch well into the horizon. Tucked behind a traditional Argentinian farmhouse is your very own private villa, complete with yoga lessons, a polo field (horses included), sheep (and the dogs that herd them), a swimming pool, and a friendly maid who insists on feeding guests delicious slabs of charred beef cooked on the patio's oversized asado. Located in the heart of one of the most exceptional wine regions in the world, one might assume that this place is for Brangelina-types only, but, incredibly, this destination is a coach-class traveler's dream come true. Welcome to La Tapera, a family-built villa just outside the tourist-infested city of Mendoza. It accommodates only eight guests at a time, but then again—would you really want to share it?

PAUL KELL

lataperamendoza.com.ar