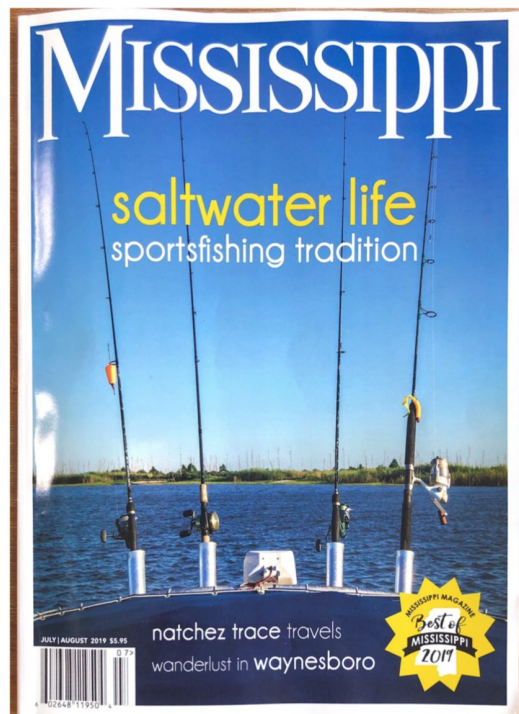


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## TRAVEL & ADVENTURE

### Noteworthy



## high cotton happening

The newest addition to Cleveland's downtown keeps progress growing in the right direction.

In the heart of the Delta lies a small town exploding with culture. Known as the birthplace of American music, the city of Cleveland is drawing tourists from around the globe. Home to the GRAMMY Museum, Mississippi, Delta State University, and a number of spectacular restaurants, Cleveland has become a popular destination. The town will soon attract even more attention, with this summer's grand opening of Cotton House Cleveland, a Tribute Portfolio Hotel.

Operated by MMI Hotel Group and a member of Marriott and the Southern Living Hotel Collection, Cotton House promises to be the perfect blend of old and new Mississippi. The hotel's facade appears to be an old brick structure, welcoming guests with a nod to the past. Inside Cotton House, warm furnishings and modern amenities create an elegant hotel that truly exudes the essence of the Delta.

writer MITCHELL WALTERS

"Cotton House's namesake was inspired by the property's location on the historic Cotton Row in downtown Cleveland," reflects Kaley Volkmann of Green Olive Media. "Located on the Mississippi Blues Trail, Cleveland and Cotton House evoke the celebratory spirit and the welcoming communal nature of the hardworking, hard-playing people and heritage of the area. The Cotton House name inspires these same feelings and values in its guests."

Cotton House will feature 85 beautifully curated rooms and suites, spacious indoor and outdoor event spaces, a Balance Fitness studio, and two full-service restaurants. Chef Cole Ellis, a Cleveland native and James Beard award semifinalist, will be bringing his adored Delta Meat Market to Cotton House, as well as a new eatery, Bar Fontaine. Delta Meat Market is a butcher shop and boutique purveyor of Southern foods. It will serve counter-style breakfast and

photographer JEFF MOORE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: Delta Meat Market will move its popular eatery to the Cotton House Hotel. Guests will appreciate the casual, yet elegant, styling of the guest rooms. At Bar Fontaine, delectable small plates like Shrimp Carpaccio will be offered. OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The rooftop patio at Bar Fontaine will provide guests a spot to visit, enjoy a meal, and watch downtown happenings. Additional dishes include the Polenta and Polpetta Alla Bologna.



lunch, as well as full-service dinner. Patrons can expect specialty meats, tasty muffaletta sandwiches, and fresh catfish. The upscale but welcoming Bar Fontaine is located in a beautiful rooftop space, seating up to 50 guests. Diners will have a perfect view of the Cleveland sunset.

"We are so excited about the growth of Delta Meat Market and to be moving into the new space. Folks can continue to expect the same feel and same hospitality at The Market with the addition of breakfast and dinner service," says Ellis. "At Bar Fontaine, we hope to expand palates and offer an interplay of cultures with homemade pasta, European-style small plates, and an expansive bourbon collection."

The Donelson Room, a spacious banquet hall, was once home to a storehouse. It features exposed beams, brick walls, and original warehouse windows. "You will find this sparkling gem hiding within Cotton House's rustic brick shell. With its historic industrial interiors and glamorous details, our ballroom is the ideal venue for weddings, celebrations, and grand events of all kinds," says Volkmann. Just outside the Donelson Room is The Lawn, a turfed area for outdoor events.

Cotton House will surely offer Southern hospitality with a twist. "Cotton House Cleveland is a cultural infusion of the people, arts, music, food, and drink of the Delta, and we look forward to welcoming a melting pot of travelers looking for a great time in the land of the blues," says general manager James McAfee. Cotton House is yet another reason to visit the thriving city of Cleveland. *M*



Cotton House  
215 Cotton Row, Cleveland  
CottonHouseCleveland.com

EVERYWHERE



@GREENOLIVEMEDIA · WEB: GREENOLIVEMEDIA.COM · INFO@GREENOLIVEMEDIA.COM

ATLANTA

165 OTTLEY DRIVE NE, STE 205  
ATLANTA, GA 30324  
404.815.9327

BIRMINGHAM

2100 SOUTHBRIDGE PKWY, STE 650  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209  
205.414.7523

NYC

23 WAVERLY PLACE, STE 5A  
NEW YORK, NY 10003  
917.268.5975

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