

BEST OF THE WEST

WHAT WE'RE TRACKING THIS MONTH

The idea for *Surf Shack: Laid-Back Living by the Water* (Clarkson Potter; \$35) came to Nina Freudenberger after moving to Venice, California, from New York City and observing her neighbors' easy, evocative homes. Traveling from San Francisco's Outer Sunset and Malibu's Paradise Cove to Sayulita, Mexico, and even Australia and Japan, the SoCal interior designer profiles the coastal cabins, midcentury trailers, hilltop haciendas, and weathered fixer-uppers owned by surf-loving luminaries like TOMS founder Blake Mycoskie and artist rep Sofie Howard (whose outdoor shower is pictured here). "These are not flawless residences with unwaxed surfboards mounted on walls as decoration," Freudenberger writes. "If I learned nothing else on this adventure, it's this: Create a home around something you love doing, and it can't help but be beautiful."

BEST
BEACH
READ

WHERE SURFERS GO TO CHILL

BEST
WINERY
DESIGN



THE FAMILY TASTING ROOM

On 23 scenic acres in Washington's Columbia River Gorge area, the new Cor Cellars tasting room compels guests to linger for hours. And that was exactly what architect Jon Gentry had in mind. "We wanted visitors to feel at home," says Gentry, cofounder of Seattle's goCstudio. Off an existing barn, the modern L-shaped addition with a courtyard creates a respite from steady winds and frames grand views of Mt. Hood. Inside, it feels more akin to a living room, a vibe nurtured by owners Luke Bradford and Meg Gilbert Bradford. The couple can often be found by the hearth or nesting in the wraparound window seat with their 21-month-old daughter, Liv. "During the design process, Jon came into our house and looked at everything from art to books," says Meg. "When people enjoy our wines in the new space, it's a further reflection of our own terroir." \$10 tasting; corcellars.com; gocstudio.com. —Jess Chamberlain



THE BRADFORDS WITH DAUGHTER LIV IN THEIR LYLE, WASHINGTON, WINERY

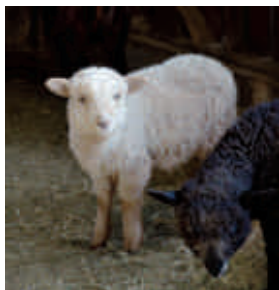
FROM TOP: KEVIN SCOTT, MICHAEL HANSON



BEST
MAKER

CREATURE COMFORTS

It all began with a single sheep that wandered over from a neighbor's flock to graze on Mary Pettis-Sarley's Napa Valley ranch. "I got her some friends and everything kind of happened from there," says Pettis-Sarley. "You open the door to the universe and it comes rushing in." Using the fibers she shears from her sheep, alpacas, llamas, and angora goats—and harvesting plants grown on her property, including indigo, for natural dyes—Pettis-Sarley produces exquisite knitting products under the name Twirl (twirl.yarn.com). Some wools, such as the fine baby alpaca, are still hand-spun on her own wheel; others are made at the family-run Mystic Pines Fiber Processing mill in Arizona. "I love every part of what I do," she explains—a deeply holistic view of the farm-to-needle process. From \$16/skein; available at toltyarnandwool.com. —Jessica Ritz



CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM: RIGHT: LISA CORSON, PAIGE GREEN (2)



BEST
GARDEN
LAMP

Modern mood lighting

Our favorite new outdoor dinner-party companion: Fermob's Balad, a wireless LED lantern that is versatile enough to sit on a table or hang from a stand. From \$108; wayfair.com.

Bread for the people

BEST
START-UP

Nine hundred loaves a week in his family's two-car garage. That was how former teacher Don Guerra (at right) launched Barriobread—a community-supported enterprise that helped put Tucson on the culinary map. After spending seven years delivering loaves in his minivan to lines of customers at farmers' markets and schools, Guerra opened his first storefront last November, a simple space with an Italian deck oven and wire racks displaying his goods. The 46-year-old Guerra crafts bread with a sense of place, using five Arizona-grown heritage grains such as khosaran and White Sonora wheat and relying on a slow-fermentation method of proofing dough. His menu, which includes rustic olive and cranberry walnut, sells out daily. The burgeoning Instagram star ([@barriobread](https://www.instagram.com/barriobread) has more than 20,000 followers), who cites his wife and two children as his biggest supporters, brings attention not only to ancient ingredients, but also to the local farms and mills with which he partners. "They're growing the grains," says Guerra, "and I'm showcasing them." barriobread.com. —Nikolas Wright





JESSICA KRAUS WITH SONS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) HAYES, LEON, ARLO, AND REX AND DOG JACK

FORTRESS OF COOL

BEST HIDEOUT

A backyard play space is the warm-weather antidote to a messy house. Just as the final school bell rang last summer, Southern California blogger Jessica Kraus (@houseinhabit) was working up a game plan to keep her four boys, ages 2 to 11, occupied for the season. “I figured an outdoor getaway would offer a distraction for them—and provide me with a little peace of mind,” she says. After combing through Pinterest for inspiration, Jessica turned to husband Mike, a foreman for the local pipefitter union, to bring her informal sketches to life. Mike crafted a modern fort using corrugated sheet metal for a roof and rot-resistant 4-by-4 white redwood fencing for walls, topped with a few coats of Thompson’s WaterSeal, all for about \$300. (The couple will sell DIY treehouse kits on Etsy, along with the tipis at right.) The boys’ reaction? “They love it,” says Jessica, who also encourages movie screenings (complete with popcorn) inside the retreat. Here, five accessories for a fun-filled backyard. —Chantal Lamers

HOT SEAT
Alseda banana-fiber stool, \$30; ikea.com.



BALANCING ACT
Modern teeter-totter, from \$290; thepaloma.co.



BULL’S-EYE
Bow and arrow, from \$23; twobrosbows.com.



UNDER COVER
Wood-and-canvas tipi by Mike and Jessica Kraus, from \$125; etsy.com/shop/inhabiteepes.



HANG TIGHT
Disc swing, \$60; theoriginaltreeswing.com.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: THOMAS J. STORY, JEFFERY CROSS (5)