

Southbound

SPECTACULAR STAYS

AN UNDERWATER HOTEL, A HISTORIC CASTLE,
A TREETOP RETREAT + 13 MORE



**BEYOND
BEALE
STREET**
DISCOVER THE
REAL MEMPHIS

**APALACHICOLA'S
SEA CHANGE**
FORGING A FUTURE
WITHOUT OYSTERS

**SMALL TOWN,
BIG CULTURE**
SURPRISES ABOUND
IN OXFORD



EXTRAORDINARY ESCAPES

YOU DON'T THINK INSIDE THE BOX. WHY SLEEP IN ONE? THE SOUTH IS FULL OF UNEXPECTED ACCOMMODATIONS, FROM A NINETEENTH-CENTURY CASTLE TO A HOBBIT HUT TO THE TREE HOUSE OF YOUR DREAMS. COME ALONG AS WE INTRODUCE YOU TO SIXTEEN OFFERINGS THAT ARE ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY.

By **DANA FORD**

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Illustrations by **MUTI STUDIO**



Get the low-down on this sky-high vacation home. ➔



SLEEP WITH THE FISHES

Jules' Undersea Lodge | Key Largo, Florida

This lodge has all the typical amenities you'd expect from an inn: comfy beds, hot showers, and a well-stocked kitchen. But there's one big difference: It's twenty-one feet below the water's surface. To reach Jules' Undersea Lodge in the protected mangrove lagoon at Key Largo Undersea Park, you must be a certified scuba diver or take a course upon arrival. The lodge has a wet room, where you leave your gear, a common room, and two private bedrooms with big windows that afford guests views of the marine life outside. Pizza (yes, pizza!) delivery is included. It arrives piping hot, safely encased in a waterproof box. jul.com



PYRAMID SCHEME

Big Cypress Lodge | Memphis, Tennessee

Can't decide between a campsite and a hotel? Head to Big Cypress Lodge, which offers the best of both. Located inside the Pyramid, a former arena that's now the site of the world's largest Bass Pro Shops superstore, the lodge is something of an indoor terrarium. Tree house rooms are tucked among hundred-foot cypress trees overlooking alligator ponds. You may also opt to stay in a vintage duck-hunting cabin, a fly-fishing lodge, or the impressive Governor's Suite, which includes a wraparound indoor balcony with captivating views of the swamp below. big-cypress.com/lodging



LEFT: BIG CYPRESS LODGE; ABOVE: GDECD