

6 Hands-on Food Experiences You Can Have (Safely) This Fall

Get away from the house and learn some tasty new culinary skills at the same time — safely.

By Susan B. Barnes October 21, 2020



We're all in just about the same place — tired of being stuck in the house amidst a pandemic, ready to go out and find some since of normalcy, but perhaps not quite ready to go too far from home to warrant spending the night away.

To find just the right blend to satiate wanderlust with a sense of security, we searched across the country to find a handful of chef-led events this fall that will expand your culinary horizons without needing to venture too far from home. These events are open to the public and do not require overnight stays.

Whispering Angel Culinary Garden



Earlier this fall, the Inn at Hastings Park in Lexington, Massachusetts reopened as a culinary destination with its new Whispering Angel Culinary Garden series. The garden's intimate setting — between the inn's main building and the restored barn — sets the perfect stage for Chef Owner Trisha Pérez Kennealy to showcase her culinary expertise with up to 12 guests around a large, wood farm table.

Over the course of each class, Chef Trisha, who studied at Le Cordon Blue in London, will share her passion for teaching others during interactive cooking lessons and meals inspired by Whispering Angel. Guests will also have the opportunity to pick through the garden's beds of herbs, root vegetables, edible flowers, and a microorchard, depending upon what's in season.

The garden series' initial seasonal lunch menu features Corn Chowder and a Brussels Sprout Grilled Cheese, Roasted Vegetable Salad with Olive Oil Poached Halibut, and an Apple Spoon Cake for dessert. Dinner features Sun-Dried Tomato and Eggplant Pizzettes, Persillade Baby Lamb Chops with Roasted Fingerling Potatoes or Roasted Vegetable Salad with Olive Oil Poached Halibut, and Caramel Apple Tartlets with Pecan Streusel for dessert. Each tasting menu is paired with select Whispering Angel rosés.

The Whispering Angel Culinary Garden can be booked individually, or for private "quarantine pods" of up to 12 people.