



***SCORE!**
A MAN'S GUIDE TO THE
BEST NEW CLOTHES
IN AMERICA & WHERE
TO FIND THEM

The Coolest Small Cities in America

Want a real break? Forget the hassle of getting in and out of America's metropolises—with their \$400 hotel rooms and mobbed tourist attractions. Instead, hit these *miniopolises*, where top-notch food comes straight from the farm and your third round is on the house. Here are nineteen reasons to downsize your next vacation

**GLEE
GONE
WILD!**

WE SHOW
YOU WHAT
HAPPENS
WHEN THE
TEACHERS
AREN'T
AROUND

**MUG
SHOTS**
THE
GREATEST
FACES
IN MOVIES

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**BURIED
ALIVE**
THE DESPERATE
ATTEMPT TO SAVE
33 MEN TRAPPED
UNDERGROUND

**KID
ROCK**
THE
COOLEST
SMALL
CITIES
**THE NEW
GOD OF
THE NBA**

→ Enter for a chance to win a \$5,000 wardrobe. See page 58 for details.

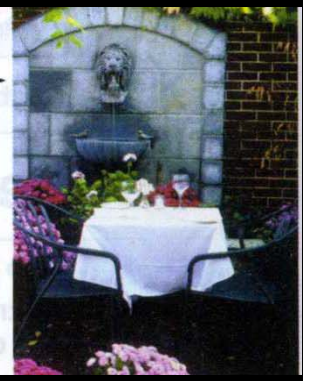
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**WORLD-CLASS,
SMALL-CITY
EATS**

Al Forno
Providence
alforno.com

—> There's a knee-jerk reaction to skip dessert when a restaurant makes you order it at the same time as your entrée. But you'd be making a mistake at Al Forno, even on the heels of baked lasagna with rib-eye meatballs, wood-roasted Robiola-stuffed veal cutlets, and some of the best (grilled) pizza in the country. Like most dishes, the crisp, buttery made-to-order tarts are *al forno*—from the oven that's spent thirty years feeding college kids with visiting parents, foodie pilgrims, and parties that look like a casting call for *The Sopranos*. Because while the food is locally, seasonally attuned, it remains, like the city of Providence itself, rustically and uncompromisingly Italian.—S.P.



No. 11

The most interesting city in New England sure ain't Boston.

Providence

• For years, Providence has been heralded as the arts-and-culture center of New England—in large part by developers who dreamed of replacing the resident artists with Boston yuppies. Thankfully, that dream is dead. Because what Providence lacks in fratty Irish bars, it makes up for with a vibrant art scene and the renegade character of a bastard son.

Nights out begin at AS220, a downtown restaurant, gallery, and art studio—before moving across the highway to West Side bars like the pleasantly divey E&O Tap or Julian's, the epicenter of Providence's scene, where paintings by local artists deck the walls and everyone knows—and likely plays in a band with—everyone else.

The next day, you'll find the same crowd recovering down the street over brunch at Nick's. While you're

waiting for a table, browse the shelves at Armageddon Shop, purveyor of Providence-made music and the city's iconic Technicolor silk-screened poster. The clerks may give you a funny look if you tell them you're "on vacation" in Providence; better to say you're just avoiding Boston.
—ALEXANDER PROVAN