

BEHIND THE NUMBERS:
**THE REAL
TOM BRADY**

THE LAW ACCORDING TO
**RACHAEL
ROLLINS**

HOW TO
**SAIL LIKE A NEW
ENGLANDER**

+TOP
DENTISTS
2019

Boston

FOODIE ROAD TRIPS

FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE COAST,
10 GREAT NEW ENGLAND DINING DESTINATIONS

(Better fill 'er up!)

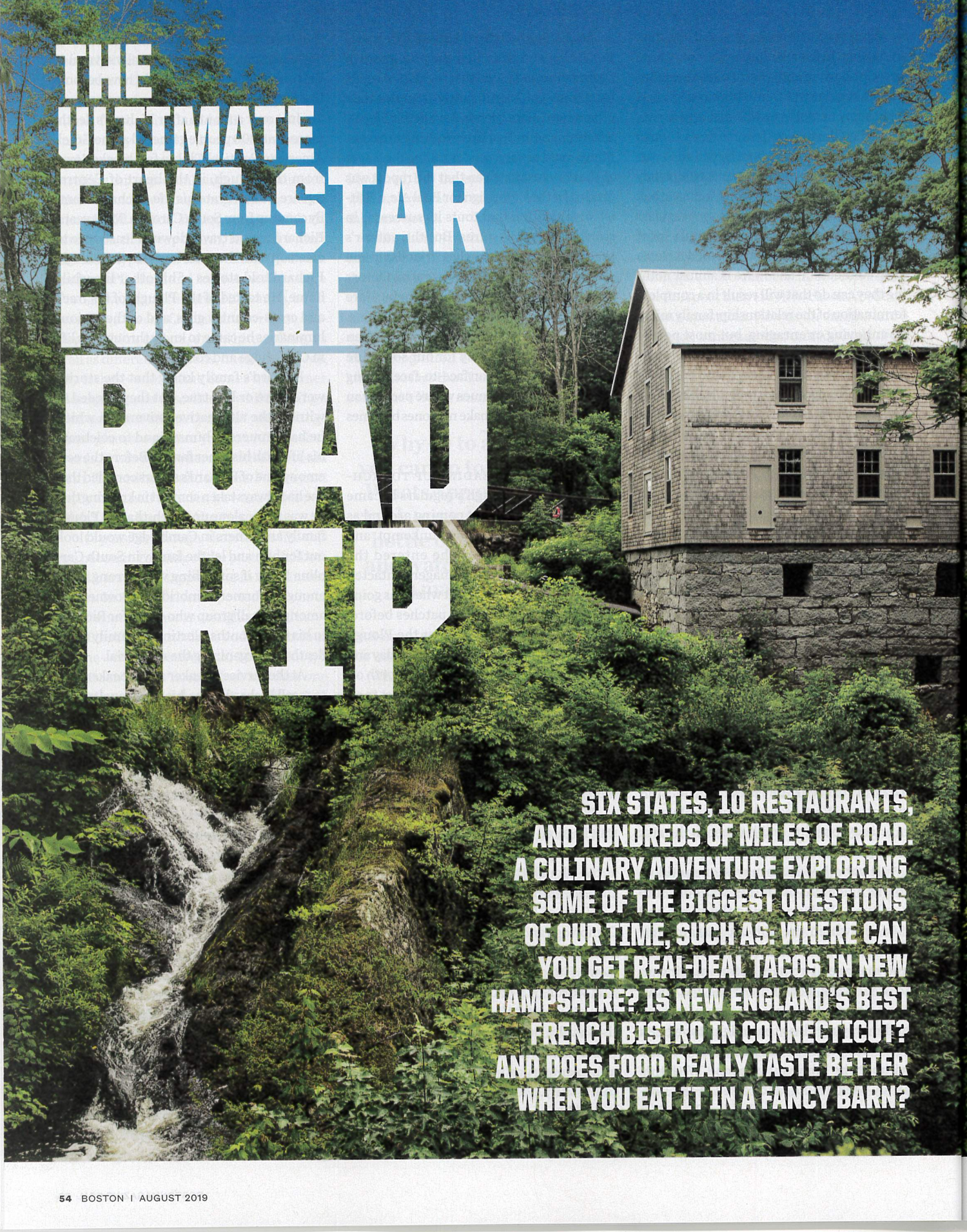
Five-star
farm dining at
the Gibbet
Hill Grill.



AUGUST 2019 \$5.99



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THE ULTIMATE FIVE-STAR FOODIE ROAD TRIP

**SIX STATES, 10 RESTAURANTS,
AND HUNDREDS OF MILES OF ROAD.
A CULINARY ADVENTURE EXPLORING
SOME OF THE BIGGEST QUESTIONS
OF OUR TIME, SUCH AS: WHERE CAN
YOU GET REAL-DEAL TACOS IN NEW
HAMPSHIRE? IS NEW ENGLAND'S BEST
FRENCH BISTRO IN CONNECTICUT?
AND DOES FOOD REALLY TASTE BETTER
WHEN YOU EAT IT IN A FANCY BARN?**



**EDITED BY
SCOTT KEARNAN**

Left, the Lost Kitchen, a remote restaurant in a renovated Maine mill, may have the hardest-to-score reservation in New England; right, scenes from the region's top dining destinations.

OPPOSITE: GRETJA RYBUS; THIS PAGE: GRETJA RYBUS (TOP ROW), NICOLE FRANZEN (MIDDLE ROW), COURTESY PHOTOS (BOTTOM ROW)



RANSOM TAVERN

SOUTH WOODSTOCK, VERMONT

MILES FROM BOSTON: 145

► Filled with common-sense crunchy types who embrace progress—not to mention Bernie Sanders—I've occasionally referred to Vermont as "New England's Brooklyn." Now it has the pizza to prove it.

In this case, it's the fantastic artisanal pies at the wood-swathed Ransom Tavern inside the historical Kedron Valley Inn, recently renovated for \$2.5 million. The rumors that these Neapolitan-style slices now rank among the region's best are true, I think, as I scarf down a sliver loaded with prosciutto, fennel sausage, capicola, and arugula (from the inn's small but growing nearby farm, available for guest tours). In my other hand is an exceptional Cynar cocktail. In the corner, an indie-folk music trio, led by a strapping gent with a man bun, serenades a cool-looking crowd.

Heaven! And it's the vision of 29-year-old coproprietor Simran Johnston, who was born in South Woodstock (pop-

Left, the accommodations at Twin Farms and the new Suicide Six bike park; above, a Neapolitan-style pizza at Ransom Tavern.



ulation: 456) and spent three years running a *New York Times*-noted art gallery in—where else?—Brooklyn (population: 2.6 million). Hungry for the simple life again, she recently returned home to dramatically transform not only the inn's restaurant but also the neighboring South Woodstock Country Store, where lunch now includes avocado toast and shelves have sprouted CBD products. Johnston's father, a successful real estate developer, purchased these and other struggling properties in recent years to reenergize the hamlet where his family has lived for decades. The goal? Bring younger, hipper crowds to the state with America's third-highest median age.

Enter pizza, the ultimate people-pleaser. Johnston imported the oven from Italy and had the staff trained by nationally renowned Roberto Caporuscio, of New York City's Kesté; he's also U.S. president of the Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana (AVPN), which sets international

standards for the treasured style. The resulting crust, perfectly tender-cooked, bears toppings like ale-infused cheddar, grilled local apples, and drizzles of Vermont maple syrup. And those cocktails, which use beet greens and other farm finds for funky infusions? Stellar.

I could be in Brooklyn. I'm in Vermont. Even better. —S.K.
802-457-1473, kedronvalleyinn.com.

STAY

For quaintness, the Federal-style, 1828-built **Kedron Valley Inn** (starting at \$169 per night) can't be beat. But for all-inclusive luxury, discover **Twin Farms** (starting at \$1,500 per night). Half an hour north of Woodstock, the 300-acre estate includes freestanding cottages, fine dining, and activities such as croquet arranged by a dedicated concierge at your beck and call. 802-234-9999, twinfarms.com.

PLAY

Ransom Tavern names its spiciest pizza after **Suicide Six**, a nearby ski resort that just added a 6-mile mountain-biking park for the summer season to keep up with its famous trail network for downhill slope hounds. 802-457-6861, suicidesix.com.

