

Hot this month Star Wars fashion, high-tech coffee, gargoyle makeovers, Mudtopia

American Airlines

American Way

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**GLORIOUS
LADIES OF
MARIACHI
THE MIAMI
YOU DON'T
KNOW
COUNTRY
MUSIC'S
IT GIRL
EXPLORING
THE OTHER
SIDE OF
DUBLIN**

**"WE'LL GET
THROUGH IT
STRONGER
THAN
WE WERE
BEFORE"**

**DAN RATHER
ON AMERICA'S
POLITICAL
CLIMATE**

A LEAGUE OF HIS OWN

*Jason Momoa's outsider spirit
brings Aquaman to life*



Hotels are growing against the grain

At many properties, farm-to-table means more than peas and carrots

IT'S BECOME COMMON FOR HOTELS to cultivate their own fruits, vegetables and herbs on-site, but many resorts are now growing unique and exotic edibles in order to wow guests in their eateries.

At Belize's Blancaneaux Lodge, the hotel's chef had such a hankering to feature asparagus—which isn't native to Central

America—in his Italian dishes that he trucked in dirt to grow it.

"The type of soil we have here will not allow anything to grow except native plants, such as pine and broadleaf shrubs," says general manager Bernie Matute.

Blancaneaux isn't alone. Here's a look at this fall's other unexpected hotel crops. —DERRIK J. LANG

Blancaneaux's high elevation makes it possible to grow many different types of veggies

New Zealand is getting dirty

At a festival in Rotorua, muddy puddles are all the rage

"First up, try not to eat the mud." That's wise advice from the organizers of New Zealand's inaugural Mudtopia Festival, scheduled to splatter from Dec. 1 to 3 in Rotorua, a three-hour drive southeast of Auckland. However, this messy new shindig isn't about common sense. Instead, it's a chance to roll, run, dive, dig and dance in the Southern Hemisphere's largest mud puddle: over 92,000 gallons of watery slop mixed with locally sourced mud powder. "Your skin is going to be super gorgeous after getting down and dirty at Mudtopia," promises festival co-director Sarah Lewis. Attendees won't have to go home caked in the squishy stuff. There will be freshwater showers on site.

mudtopia.com



Rangpur Limes
Fairmont
San Francisco, California
The hotel's citrus trees actually thrive in San Fran's foggy climate. This odd hybrid is a mandarin orange with a lemon.



French Breakfast Radishes
Crosby Street Hotel
New York, New York
These fresh veggies provide crunchiness for the hotel's breakfast sandwich.



Mexican Sour Gherkins
Woodstock Inn & Resort
Woodstock, Vermont
It might look like a baby watermelon, but these cool mini cucumbers are used to accent salads and cocktails.



European Pot Marigolds
Nita Lake Lodge
Whistler, British Columbia, Canada
This chic rustic lodge grows edible flowers to add yellow and gold color to soups and salads.



Carolina Reaper Peppers
Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort
Amelia Island, Florida
The resort's chef makes his own hot sauce thanks to these fiery peppers.



Monachine Beans
Cedarbrook Lodge
Sea Tac, Washington
This lodge grows several beans, including this uncommon Italian variety that translates to "little nuns" in Italian.