

# EXPLORE



## **BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**

Fall brings crisp air and colorful leaves to Baton Rouge—which also means LSU and Southern University tailgates and football seasons are in full swing! Get out and enjoy one of the outdoor concerts like Live After Five, dare yourself to enter The 13th Gate Haunted House, or enjoy the friendly Halloween Parade! Go to [visitbatonrouge.com](http://visitbatonrouge.com) to plan your trip.



## **Sandestin, Florida**

Known as the "Best Beer Fest on the Emerald Coast," the 10th Annual Baytowne Wharf Beer Festival (October 13 and 14) will feature more than 40 on-site craft brewers, 200 domestic and international craft beers, seminars, samplings, and live music. Beer novices to beer lovers will be able to sample delicious options, including specialty, seasonal, and not-yet-released beers. The Baytowne Beer Festival is a "pitcher perfect" reason for a getaway! Get your tickets at [baytownewharfbeerfestival.com](http://baytownewharfbeerfestival.com)



## **Pensacola Beach, Florida**

On September 16, Pensacola Beach will be a feast for the eyes and the appetite during the 10th Annual Taste of the Beach! This wildly popular festival features 23 coastal restaurants and celebrity chefs showcasing their signature dishes. Savor fresh Gulf Coast seafood and Southern delicacies, and enjoy live cooking demonstrations, sample tastings, live entertainment, and kid-friendly fun. Find out more at [tasteofpensacolabeach.com/event-info](http://tasteofpensacolabeach.com/event-info)



## **Atlanta, Georgia**

Atlanta Decorative Arts Center (ADAC) celebrates design as only the South can—with presentations, book signings, panel discussions, and parties with top design talents and magazine editors. All are welcome to DISCOVER ADAC on September 26-28, where the world of design is effortlessly unique and utterly essential. Get the details at [adacatlanta.com/discover-adac](http://adacatlanta.com/discover-adac)



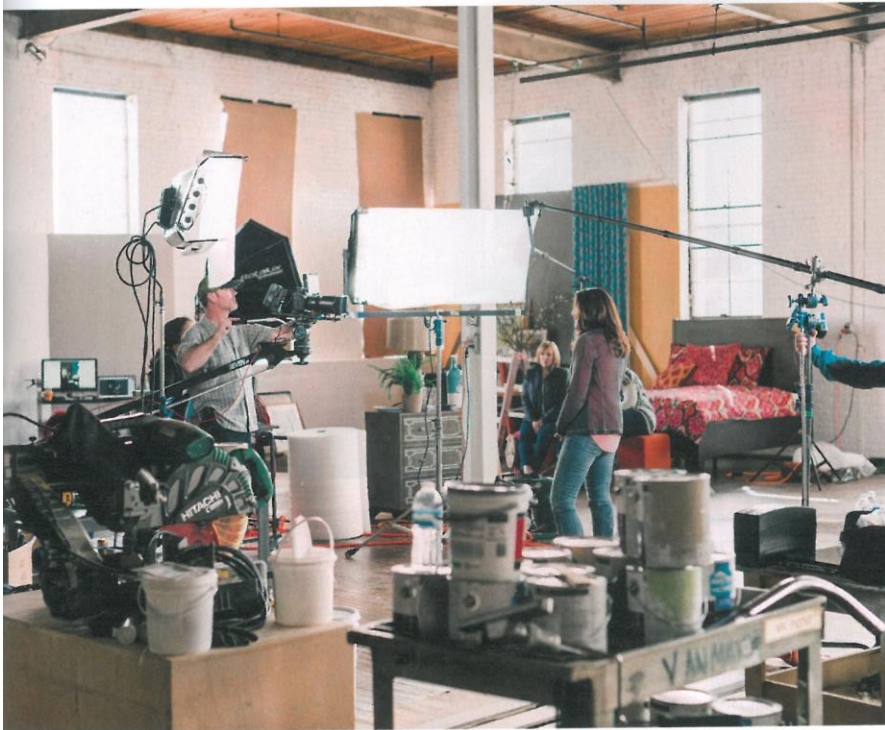
## **Birmingham, Alabama**

Birmingham is a star in the realm of chef-owned dining rooms, serving up innovation along with world-influenced new Southern cuisine. Foodies around the world are hard-pressed to narrow down their choices on a weekend visit, but you really can't go wrong! Visit [birminghamal.org](http://birminghamal.org) for an expansive list to reference as you plan your Foodie Weekend.

# EYE ON DESIGN

WITH BRIAN PATRICK FLYNN





**AS HE IS TAKING IN ALL THE NATURE AROUND HIM, HE SEES MOUNTAINS, SKIES, AND GLACIERS IN SHERWIN WILLIAMS COLOR**



**B**rian Patrick Flynn is a television producer turned interior designer who is known for designing HGTV's Dream Home and Urban Oasis. These are luxury homes given away by HGTV each year. Flynn not only designs the homes, he's also the executive producer, set designer, writer, and prop stylist for the projects. He has a team composed of the best in the industry, and you can see perfected style with each space he works on.

Describing his style, Flynn says, "I can do traditional or transitional; I can do country, pop, or mid-century; I can do modern or contemporary; or I can do muted and understated." Only chances are you'll never see anything understated—color is used even in places that may never see the light of day. He layers patterns, pillows, art, and photos. There's nothing minimal happening in his work. Sure, he may go to the mountains each weekend to relax and enjoy nature, but even there he's recently added an outdoor kitchen and shower



space to his escape. Everything Flynn touches turns to magic and ends up a production. On any given day he could have 10 to 25 people in the background creating the perfect set, filming, or taking photos.

Each of Flynn's projects starts by meeting with the architect or general contractor. After that comes the fun, creative part. Flynn sources samples from the Atlanta Decorative Arts Center (ADAC) and America's Mart, taking them to the project during different times of day to see how the light will come into the space.

Flynn is always on his Instagram Story showing his viewers exactly what is going on: talking to contractors about moving walls or explaining how to hang a light fixture. He might even ask his viewers which tile to use in a powder room or talk about how something is not working and what he plans to do to fix it.





Flynn is always incorporating colors from the natural habitats around his spaces to make them feel like homes. Creating spaces that are magazine worthy but practical is where he finds balance.

Following his Instagram story is akin to watching a Brian Patrick Flynn reality TV show. He's usually traveling from the North Georgia mountains to the big city of Atlanta or wherever HGTV has him for the next dream home—including Iceland. Yes, I said Iceland. He and his partner, Hollis, just bought a home in Reykjavik and, you guessed it, it was featured on HGTV's House Hunters. I love to watch him travel. As he is taking in all the nature around him, he sees mountains, skies, and glaciers in Sherwin Williams color. You might even get a laugh out of his elementary school memories. This guy has character, charm, and style.

WORDS BY **LUCY FARMER**

PHOTOS COURTESY OF **BRIAN PATRICK FLYNN**