#### ENCHANTED ROCK

"Hiking over E-Rock makes me feel like an astronaut exploring the surface of a planet, one so small that you can see its curved horizon no matter where you stand. If you stay on its surface long enough, the rock will revolve away from the sun and into darkness. At night, you can hear its wildlife chirps, squeaks, hoots, and croaks."

– E. DAN KLEPPER –

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### **Nine-River Day**

It's hard to beat the summertime satisfaction of swimming in a pristine Hill Country river. On the summer solstice, we set out for a nine-river day.

Story by MATT JOYCE

### **44** 10 Epic Summer Travel Adventures

Zipline above Palo Duro Canyon, scuba in a Piney Woods lagoon, take a hike with views of the Chihuahuan Desert and the Chisos Mountains, and more. We've got your bucket list to ensure a stellar summer.

Story by CLAYTON MAXWELL

## **56** 8 Great Quirky Stays

Break free from chain hotels this summer and escape to one of these eight distinctive locales—wake up in a Hill Country treehouse, wander the grounds of a historic fortress, or take an evening dip in a hot tub in the shadow of the Chinati Mountains.

Story by E. DAN KLEPPER, KATHRYN JONES, and JANE KELLOGG MURRAY



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## DRINK + EAT + COOK

# Back in The Saddle

Wet your whistle at The Saddle Club in Alpine

story by Melissa Gaskill

**Bartenders and chefs** brainstorm regularly to come up with new drinks and dishes. This refresher—made with tequila, velvet falernum, citrus juices, and a habanero shrub—is called the Texas Hellfire.

