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WALK THE LINE

Overlooking both Lady Bird Lake and downtown, Austin’s newest hotel, The Line, is a lesson in marrying the old with the new.

By Kristine Ramirez

Austin has a shiny new hot spot, and whether you’re an overnight guest or just stopping in for coffee, it’s worth exploring. The Line, housed in the iconic white stucco and glass building that once was The Crest Inn and a Radisson, keeps an almost metaphorical address. One side overlooks South Congress and most of what brought the city to its hipster status, while the north side is home to Sixth Street and the Texas Capitol, areas with distinctly different flavors.

The Line’s multimillion-dollar renovation feels like it’s trying to meet somewhere in the middle. It’s no doubt a happy place. The lobby is ground zero for hobnobbing in open spaces dotted with colorful chairs and sinuous sofas, plants in brass bullet-shaped hanging planters and every trendsetter’s favorite coffeehouse, Alfred, out of Los Angeles, serving Stumptown. It’s all very Instagrammable. We suggest requesting a room on the southwest side of the hotel with views of Lady Bird Lake and overlooking the serene tiled pool. The Line’s restaurant, Arlo Grey, is led by Kristen Kish, the winner of Top Chef season 10. (A more casual burger spot that will serve the public as well as pool guests arrives later this year.) There’s more to come in 2019. The east wing of the property will be home to mostly suites as well as P6, a sure-to-be-buzzy rooftop lounge on the sixth floor of the parking garage. Until then, it’s a short three-hour drive, but a world away from Dallas. What are you waiting for? III E. Cesar Chavez, thelinehotel.com/austin