

## **DATE BOOK** JODI COOK

Interior designer and Wisconsin native Jodi Cook brought a breath of fresh air to Denver's design scene when she launched Cook Design House in 2016; since then, she's lightened the mood in countless Colorado homes with a style that's as easygoing as Cook herself. "A luxury product is often defined as something that's rare and expensive," she says, "and we want to redefine it to mean beautiful yet livable." With that in mind, Cook infuses her projects with handmade and heirloom furnishings, natural materials, and fabrics and finishes that can stand up to kids, pets and lively gatherings. Her warmth and taste for all things timeless inspired Luxe to ask where she likes to spend time when she's not on the clock. Here, she shares a Denver day tour of the spots that speak to her style. cookdesignhouse.com

9 a.m. First stop: Vert Kitchen on South Pearl Street is a charming French bistro that's the perfect place to grab breakfast or brunch. Their Croque Monsieur is amazing! I like to add a fried egg and make it a Croque Madame.

11 a.m. Drive to nearby Cherry Creek North for some shopping-Bloom by Anuschka (top, left), one of my favorite spots, has a playful mix of stylish and cheeky home decor, but don't forget to check out their jewelry. I own a couple of pieces from Alex Fitz (a jewelry designer Bloom features). They also usually have a piece or two by Dallas-based painter and interior designer Kelly O'Neal, whose work I admire.

12 p.m. Grab lunch at True Food Kitchen, a health-focused restaurant in Cherry Creek North and one of my go-to spots, particularly if I'm doing a

cleanse. I love the earthy, organic vibe of the interiors, especially the wall of birch tree branches.

2 p.m. Head downtown to appreciate a bit of old Denver. On the way, drive through the Country Club Historic Neighborhood and ogle the gorgeous old homes. The architecture in this neighborhood makes it one of my favorites—I particularly love the Colonial and Tudor Revival-style homes.

4 p.m. Larimer Square is a go-to not only for shopping and dining but also because it's Denver's oldest block. It was saved from demolition in 1965 by developer and preservationist Dana Crawford and was named the city's first historic district in 1971. I always pop into Aillea, a "clean beauty" store (top, right), to pick up some of Maya Chia's The Super Couple Serum.

5 p.m. The last stop needs to be Union Station (center, right), which was originally built in 1881 and reopened in 2014 after redevelopment. The Beaux-Arts architecture is stunning and is best appreciated from the mezzanine level at the Cooper Lounge. Their cocktail list is out of this world and has something for everyone. My favorite is the Black Manhattan.

9 p.m. If it gets too late, you can stay at the Crawford Hotel at Union Station, or visit the nearby Hotel Teatro (right), a luxury boutique hotel and my favorite in town. I love the building, which is in the Renaissance Revival style and was built in 1911 to house the city's public transportation system. The current vibe inside is tailored and masculine, with a bit of an industrial/vintage vibe.



COURTESY HOTEL TEATRO AILLEA PHOTO:

TEATRO PH

ANUSCHKA.

