

[BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR]

Good Eats

Two appealing new restaurants in the Golden Triangle are polar opposites.

In downtown Beaumont, dress up for a special night out at **Hearsay**, a sleek gastro lounge pouring craft cocktails and plating upscale dishes like Wagyu meatballs and scallops à la pistache. The stylish setting pairs a crystal-laden chandelier and artisan lighting with exposed brick.

In nearby Port Neches, family-friendly **Pour Neches** is an open-air, riverfront restaurant with a laid-back island vibe. Diners dress down—think shorts and T-shirts—and just have fun. The eclectic menu features buckets of beer, salads, burgers, and pizza, alongside Korean dishes like double-fried wings and short ribs (chef-owner Min Dai is Korean). There's a kids' play area and pickleball courts, too.

» DON NICHOLS



[SAN ANTONIO]

First Course

The **World Heritage Center**, a new interpretive center in south San Antonio, serves as a welcoming front door to visitors exploring the city's five historic missions, which are collectively a UNESCO World Heritage Site. "Our historian likes to say, 'This is an appetizer; we want you to go have dinner at the site,'" says Colleen Swain, director of the World Heritage Office, which manages the center.

Housed in a compact building, the center catches the eye with an edging that wraps around the exterior in a pattern inspired by the missions' frescoes. Inside, exhibits highlight the vibrant past and present culture of the area's Indigenous, Spanish, Mexican, and German communities. You'll also find a timeline about the missions, two digital screens showcasing various artifacts, and a story booth where you can hear from people whose lives and family histories are connected to the missions.

Throughout the year, the center will host free events like lectures, drum circles, and children's programming. Next door at Mission Marquee Plaza, enjoy free community movies from May to November.

» CYNTHIA J. DRAKE