

**TOMB RAIDERS** Genghis Khan took a treasure to the grave. We try to find it.

**NO BIG DEAL** Why small businesses are micro-outsourcing

**BOSTON ~~FEA~~ EAT PARTY** We go overboard in our quest for great food

AMERICAN AIRLINES - AMERICAN EAGLE

# AMERICAN CAMMAY

JUNE 15, 2007

TRENDS FOR THE MODERN TRAVELER

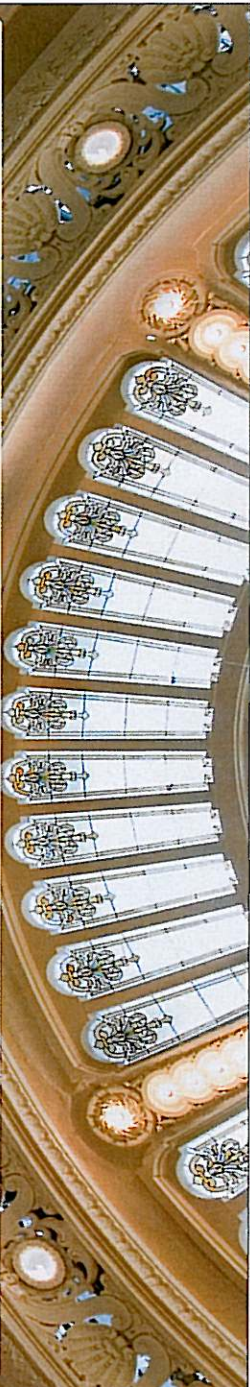
**BEACHES,  
BISCUITS,  
AND BEAUTY**  
Jaime Pressly's  
North Carolina  
Has It All

Pick Jim Shahin's vacation spot  
and you might win 100,000  
Advantage Miles!  
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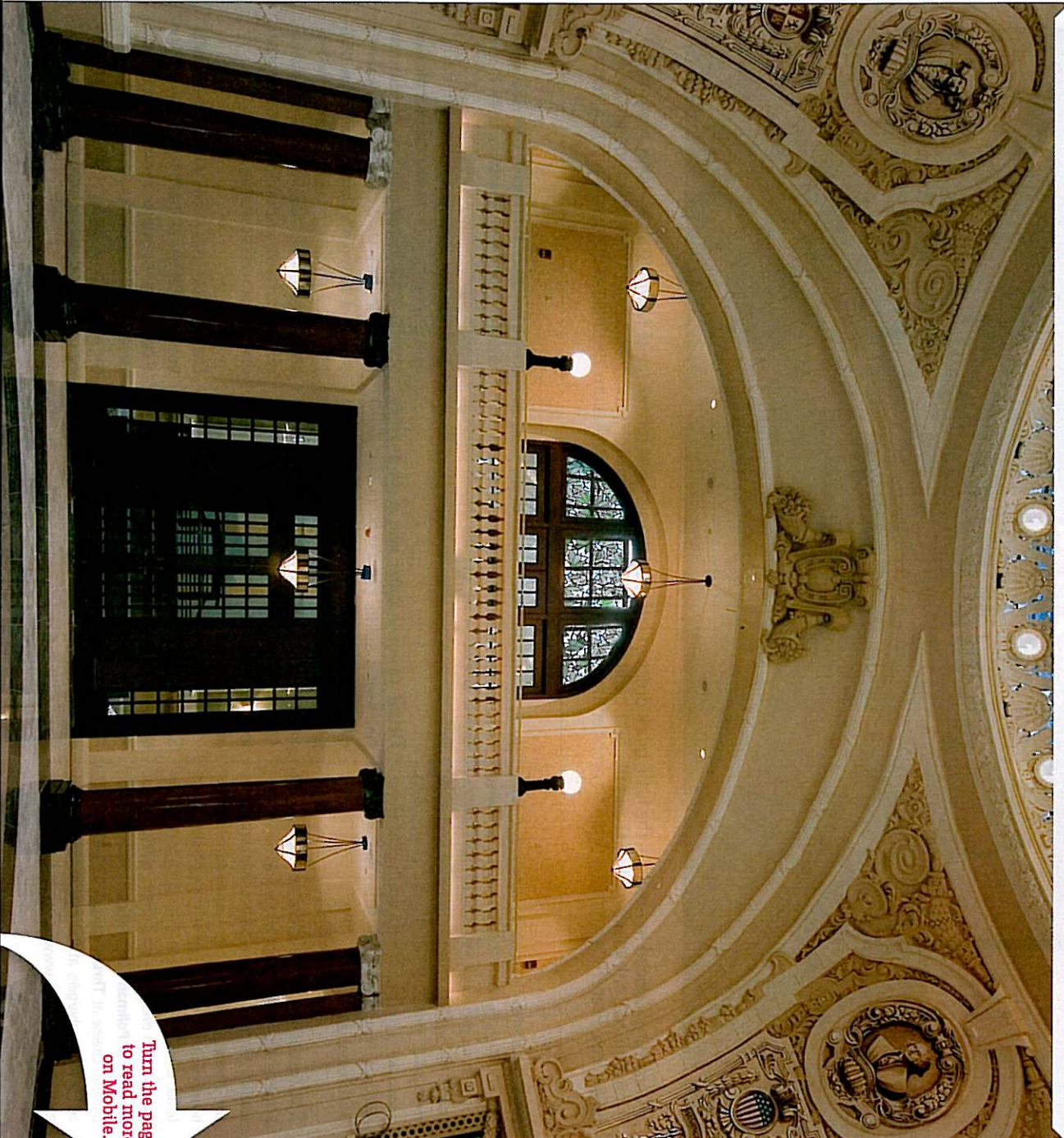




# UpFront



## A Weekend in ... **Mobile**, Alabama



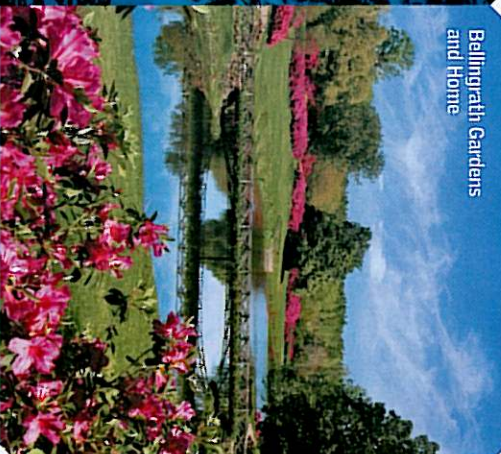
Turn the page  
to read more  
on Mobile.



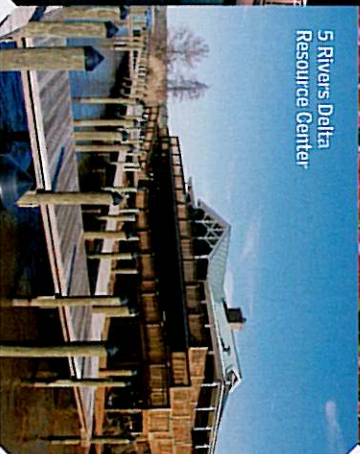
Mobile Museum of Art



Bellingrath Gardens and Home



5 Rivers Delta Resource Center



Mobile (pronounced mo-beel) is the little black dress of cities by the sea. The birthplace of Mardi Gras in North America (New Orleans, eat your heart out) and the first capital of the Louisiana Territory, this city delights in its mélange of savory influences: French personality, Spanish architecture, and a well-mannered antebellum elegance all its own. — BECCA HENSLEY

**Stay** Located in the newly revitalized downtown and just steps from the water, the **Battle House** (pictured on previous page) is a veritable celebration of the past. Its redo has managed to upgrade the hotel to modern standards while incorporating a painstaking replication of the details of its former grandeur. From \$149, (251) 415-3086, [www.rsabattlehouse.com](http://www.rsabattlehouse.com).

**Eat** The cuisine of Mobile stems from its six flags of influence and from its home by the bay. For quintessentially Mobillian fare, try historic **Wintzell's Oyster House** (251-432-4605, [www.wintzellsoysterhouse.com](http://www.wintzellsoysterhouse.com)); we recommend the West Indies Salad (crab, onions, vinegar, and oil) and oysters (which are served in every way imaginable). Indulge in rich brownies at **Pollman's Bake Shop** (251-342-8546), pimiento cheese at **Three Georges** (251-433-1689), and giant hamburgers at **Callaghan's Irish Social Club** (251-433-9374, [www.callaghansirishsocialclub](http://www.callaghansirishsocialclub)).

.com). Modern Mobile's creative cuisine rocks at **Nola** (251-433-0377, [www.nolamobile.com](http://www.nolamobile.com)), in the historic district — we love the chicken awash in pesto, tomatoes, and olives *à la* nola.

**Drink** Lounge on leather sofas at chic **Martinis Fine Food & Spirits** (251-433-9920), and swizzle their specialty: the Elvis Presley Martini, a key-lime-pie-flavored libation rimmed with graham-cracker crumbs. Dive aficionados will love **Hayley's** (251-433-4970), a local hangout with the best jukebox in town and with a popular sweet-apple-flavored shot called Old Friend.

**Shop** Mobile's Antiques at the Loop abounds with high-end treasures for bargain prices. **Plantation Antique Galleries** (604 Bel Air Boulevard, 251-666-7185) is also a sure bet. Across the bay, spend an afternoon combing the shops in Fairhope, a charming village with a nostalgic Main Street. Finally, take

home a box of coveted Heavenly Hash made by the nuns of the **Visitation Monastery** (251-473-2321, [www.visitationmonasterymobile.org](http://www.visitationmonasterymobile.org)).

**See** Stroll through the **Mobile Carnival Museum** (251-431-9334, [www.mobilecarnivalmuseum.com](http://www.mobilecarnivalmuseum.com)) for an education in Mardi Gras, wander the beautiful grounds of **Bellingrath Gardens and Home** (251-973-2217, [www.bellingrath.org](http://www.bellingrath.org)), and enjoy the **Mobile Museum of Art** (251-208-5200, [www.mobilemuseumofart.com](http://www.mobilemuseumofart.com)), which is known for its exquisite contemporary crafts collection.

**Do** Explore Mobile's natural side at **5 Rivers Delta Resource Center** (251-625-0814, [www.outdooralabama.com](http://www.outdooralabama.com)), an outdoor recreation and resource center that offers numerous activities. Kayak and canoe enthusiasts can take off from a floating dock to explore 250,000 acres of waterways, wetlands, and delta landscapes.