

DATE BOOK

CLAIRE SEIZOVIC

It's safe to say Claire Seizovic knows a bit about Tucson. The New York City transplant currently holds five hyper-local—and super-cool—jobs in the area: She is the head of design and communications at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson; the assistant designer at graphic design studio Saywells Design Company; the digital design coordinator for the deliciously wanderlust-y *Territory* magazine; and creative director at Cultivate Tucson. But her main gig, she says, is as a “design and brand strategist for creatives and small business owners.” Helping emerging, artisan-minded businesses find their voices is more than a job for Seizovic; it's a passion. “Tucson is such a growing and culturally vibrant city,” she says. So, it's no surprise that Seizovic, along with fellow Tucson creative Kristin Tovar, saw an opportunity to harness the city's rampant talent and provide young businesses with a platform for growth, exposure and collaboration. Together they formed Cultivate Tucson: a collective that creates pop-up events and markets to introduce makers and small-business owners in a face-to-face, collaborative—and often stylish—setting. “Our goal is to create a community gathering space and a festive celebration of all things Tucson,” says Seizovic. “We believe that authentic connections and relationships are essential for personal and community growth. It's about collective empowerment, initiative and community.” Here, the multitasking creative shares her favorite maker-friendly haunts in Tucson. claire-seizovic.com

8:30 a.m. Stop for coffee at Exo Roast Co. for the most delicious pour-over in town. I'm a fan of the African coffees. Learn about coffee roasting, and hear about Exo's relationships with regional Mexican coffee farms from Doug, one of the owners.

9 a.m. Make your way down to 5 Points Market & Restaurant for brunch. Stop by Bon Boutique afterward to peruse stationery from Shinola, goods by John Derian, and an array of Bolivian frazadas and beautifully wrapped mini cacti.

11 a.m. Drop by Le Cave's Bakery if you're up for a snack. Order the original glazed donut. Fun fact: It's vegan!

11:30 a.m. Head over to Desert Vintage, my favorite place for curated vintage clothing. Chat with the owners Salima and Roberto if they're around.

12:30 p.m. Grab lunch at Time Market. Order the kale salad with red peppers and the shiitake pizza. Take a raspberry hand pie for the road.

1:30 p.m. Go downtown for a quick trip to the Museum of Contemporary Art

Tucson. The museum resides in Tucson's old fire station and is the perfect backdrop for cutting-edge contemporary art.

2:30 p.m. Mission San Xavier del Bac is beautiful and only a quick 20-minute trip outside of town. Whenever I go, I feel transported to Europe, thanks to its Baroque interiors and striking, bright-white façade.

4 p.m. For happy hour, The Coronet has innovative and beautiful cocktails, and the most delicious Moroccan-French snacks and desserts.

5 p.m. Stop by Mast to pick up locally made, refined and edgy wares by Mellow, Tasha and Sofie. It's a great showing of support for local Tucson makers.

6 p.m. End your day with an alfresco dinner at Agustin Kitchen. I love its oysters and gnocchi.

7:30 p.m. After dinner, visit Tap & Bottle to choose from more than 20 craft beers and over seven wines on tap. Tap & Bottle is one of my absolute favorite places to unwind with friends after a long day.



DATE BOOK PORTRAIT: MUSA LOHMEYER; DATE BOOK PHOTOS, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BRACHILL DESIGN; KRISTIN TOVAR; ATHENE KUNIG; BRITTANY PERA