



Little wonder

A historic Miami suburb is getting its creative juices flowing

Miami may be best known for its art deco architecture, beach glamour and pristine coastline, but it is one of the city's oldest neighbourhoods that is currently gaining momentum. Established in the late 1800s, Little River is a historic district that still exudes the close-knit qualities of an enduring community. Named after the river that cuts through the northern part of Miami and empties into Biscayne Bay, Little River is a scenic enclave that's peppered with historic low-rise buildings and the spacious industrial warehouses that characterise other popular areas such as Wynwood. While quieter than

the vibrant Little Haiti area that butts up against it, Little River's charm hasn't been lost on the growing artistic and creative community that has been lured into its midst. Not only does it count a stylish co-working space and food hall concept, an edgy fashion boutique and a plethora of galleries as tenants, it will soon house a tasting and training centre for the North Carolina label Counter Culture Coffee, and a local distillery for the Swedish vodka brand Our/Vodka in 2019. See our guide (right) to explore what Little River has to offer, away from the beaten path.

01. THE CITADEL FOOD HALL

Housed within a 1951 former bank, designed in the Miami Modern (MiMo) style, The Citadel food hall houses a heavy-hitting assortment of gastronomic delights, ranging from organic gelato and gourmet chocolate to elevated pizza, sushi and oysters.

02. MADE AT THE CITADEL

Also at The Citadel is co-working space Made, aimed at creative professionals. It prides itself on forging the same relationships that have kept the Little River community close, offering a recreation room, pool table and theatre, within a cosy, eclectic interior.

03. COUNTER CULTURE COFFEE TRAINING CENTER

Counter Culture Coffee brings its sustainably farmed and home-roasted brews to Miami with the opening of its training centre in the heart of Little River. Like the brand's other centres, this outpost will not only train baristas and serve as a base for its regional teams, but also conduct weekly coffee tastings and homebrew classes with the public.

04. TENOVERSIX

After almost a decade in service, the LA-based fashion store TenOverSix shuttered its doors on Melrose Avenue in 2017 to focus on opening its Miami outpost in Little River at the end of that year. The store occupies a low-profile industrial building, spanning 2,000 sq ft, and it is filled with a tasteful selection of independent and emerging designers. To coincide with Design Miami/Art Basel this month, the boutique will house an installation by Danish designer Monell Whiteley.

05. MIAMI IRONSIDE

This charming garden enclave features more than 60 boutiques, furniture showrooms, galleries, cafes and restaurants. Made from recycled and upcycled materials and peppered with rainbow eucalyptus trees, the photogenic compound is also home to the Miami outpost of Espasso gallery, which will celebrate the work of Brazilian designer Ricardo Fasanello during Design Miami.

06. LA NATURAL

Natural sourdough pizzeria La Natural will open its doors in March. Run by Andreina Matos and Javier Ramirez, La Natural will also serve a robust offering of natural, sulphite-free wines. Adorned with concrete floors, rattan fibres, raw wood and textured plaster walls, this elegantly rustic venue is primed to be Miami's next hotspot.

07. MCARTHUR DAIRY

Not only were generations of Miami natives raised on McArthur milk, the dairy processing plant is also an eye-catching example of MiMo architecture. It is currently still in use, and therefore not accessible to the public, but is an enduring architectural highlight of the locale.

08. BILL BRADY GALLERY

Having operated contemporary art spaces in New York's East Village and his native Kansas City, veteran gallerist Bill Brady opened his Little River space back in 2014 as a happy medium between both locales. This month, Brady stages a solo exhibition of new paintings by artist Austyn Weiner, who's based in LA but born in Miami.