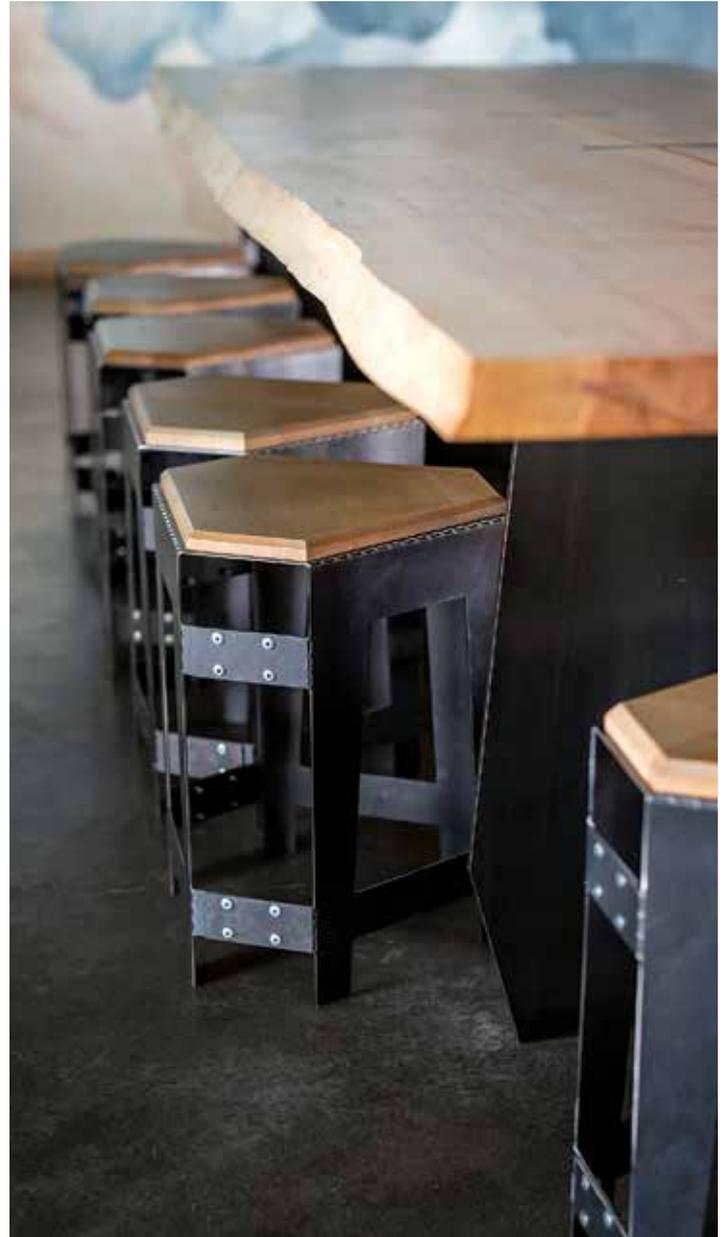


BOZEMAN'S
NORDIC BREW
WORKS TAPS INTO
A CLEAN-LINED
SCANDINAVIAN
AESTHETIC

WHAT'S ON TAP

STORY SUZANNE S. BROWN
PHOTOS AUDREY HALL

Natural light streams into the main dining room of Nordic Brew Works. Tables are topped in white marble; the clean-lined chairs are from Beaufrun.



When Matt Paine decided to create a brew pub in Bozeman, Montana, a town already saturated with them,

he threw out the standard way of thinking about this popular drinking-and-dining experience. He wasn't interested in dark beer, dark interiors and industrial design.

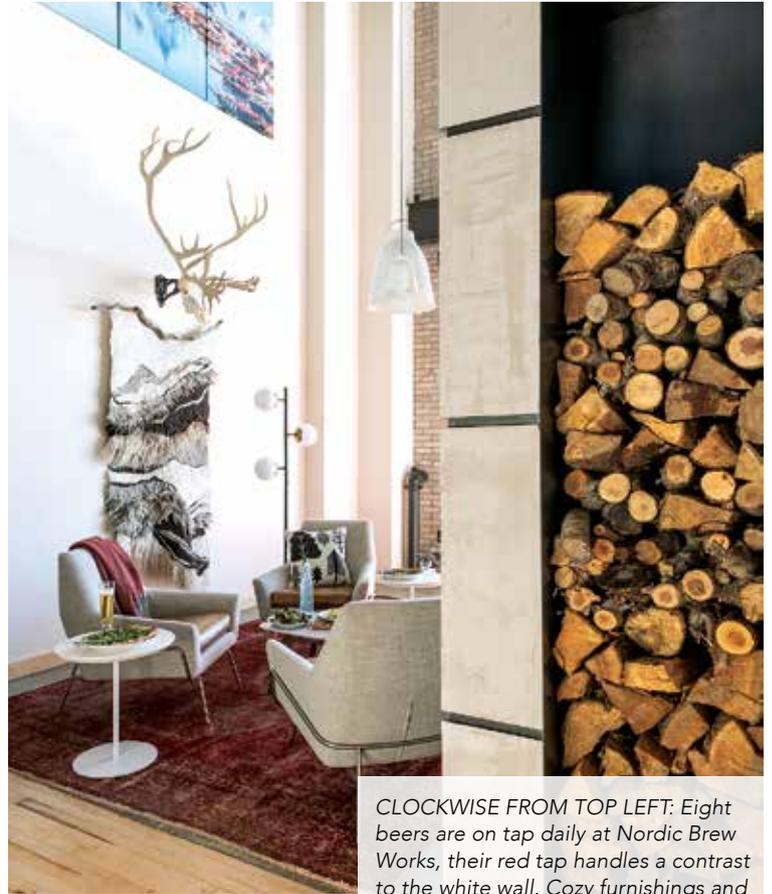
"We were missing a place for people who wanted something completely different," says Paine, who runs a real estate development and investment company. "Beers lighter in alcohol and style, like pilsners and lighter lagers. And we wanted the same thing with the interior. I'm a big fan of Scandinavian design and simplicity. I like clean lines, brighter colors, an optimistic feel with a lot of natural light."

They named the taproom and restaurant at the Market at Ferguson Farm, on Bozeman's west side, Nordic Brew Works because Paine reasoned that Bozeman isn't that much lower in latitude than Scandinavia. And the type

of activities enjoyed in both places—skiing and hockey in winter, fishing in the summer—give them more things in common.

From the lounge areas with modern furnishings on each side of a see-through fireplace near the entrance to a dreamy blue-and-white mural that covers the wall alongside a staircase leading from the main bar and restaurant to an upstairs dining loft, the space invites guests to explore and linger. Envi Interior Design Studio of Bozeman did both architecture and the interior of the restaurant and bar, which has become popular for its >>

ABOVE LEFT: A double-sided fireplace is the focal point of a lounge area for enjoying craft cocktails or beers with friends. The modern chairs and tables are from West Elm's commercial division. ABOVE RIGHT: Steel stools in the upstairs loft are from Bozeman's MFGR Designs.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Eight beers are on tap daily at Nordic Brew Works, their red tap handles a contrast to the white wall. Cozy furnishings and local art create a warm gathering spot. The two-story space is accented with bubble lighting by George Nelson. The century-old maple floor was reclaimed from Bozeman's Rialto Theater.



wood-fired oven pizza, grass-fed burgers, wine and cocktails, as well as its beer, crafted next door at Polar Brewing.

Envi's founder and principal Susie Hoffman, who has designed other brew pubs and restaurants, was inspired by photography of the Lofoten Islands off the coast of Norway, particularly the rich blues of the ocean, the red fishing cabins that dot the shoreline, clouds and snow. These elements were the springboard for the deep blue of the walls and metal trim, the white Caesarstone bar top and marble table tops, plus the red accents on dining chairs and the beer tap handles. Scandinavian-inspired furnishings and lighting followed suit, including iconic white bubble lights from George Nelson.

Warming up the space is the maple floor, reclaimed from the Rialto Theater in Bozeman, and maple treads on the distinctive laser-cut steel staircase. "The steel can be raw and exposed, but elegant," says Pete Costanti of MFGR De-

signs, a Bozeman multidisciplinary design firm that crafted the staircase as well as shelving, metalwork, stools and even menu holders for the project. "It's a clean, modern, re-thought space," Costanti says of Nordic. "Like the design for the floating shelves at the bar. It's all about being light and delicate."

Paine says Nordic Brew Works has helped cement the Market at Ferguson Farm as a shopping and entertainment hub. "People tell us they now have a place to swing by on their way home from work or after fishing the Gallatin all day. Or they'll ride their bike, fill up a growler and go home to watch a movie." ○

BELOW LEFT: Laser-cut steel accents the side of the staircase created by MFGR Designs; the storage bin holds wood for Nordic's pizza oven. BELOW RIGHT: A cloud-like mural covers the wall that leads to the upstairs dining room.

nordicbrewworks.com

