

The DTLA Way

A DTLA DEVOTEE DIVULGES WHAT MAKES HIS NEIGHBORHOOD HIP, HAPPENING AND HIGHLY HABITABLE.

BY MATT STEWART

When David Lukan, 37, was looking for a home base for Marsico Lukan & Associates (527 W. Seventh St., sellingdtla.com), the agency he co-founded in November 2018 and partnered with real estate powerhouse Compass last February, the natural choice was Downtown LA. Lukan finds the

energy and evolution of the neighborhood a boon for both his business and his psyche. "[With] the year coming to an end, our annual sales volume figures are in, and Marsico Lukan & Associates is proud to remain the No. 1 top producing residential real estate team in DTLA," he says. "The

continued cultural and architectural renaissance that is taking place in DTLA means there is always something new to experience, be it a restaurant, bar, business, or new residential or commercial development." Here, Lukan shares his best and boldest DTLA spots.

01

"For casual fare, I find myself gravitating to **KazuNori** (421 S. Main St., 213.493.6956, handrollbar.com) because the food is fresh and the service is on point. I always order from the set menus that encompass a balanced assortment of hand rolls and usually pair that with their in-house dry sake."

02

"On the pricier side, Bestia's sister restaurant, **Bavel** (500 Mateo St., 213.232.4966, baveldtla.com), is a favorite. The amazing atmosphere coupled with the outstanding Middle Eastern fare makes it a perfect spot. Their oyster mushroom kebabs, grilled prawns, and hummus and baba ghanoush spreads are must-tries."

03

"DTLA's great bar scene makes choosing a favorite tough. However, as a whiskey fan, [I'd say] **Bar Jackalope** (515 W. Seventh St., 213.614.0736) is a top contender. The setting is intimate and relaxing, and the plethora of whiskeys available always make for an interesting and educational experience."

04

"Being a fan of contemporary art and outstanding architecture, I always enjoy a visit to **The Broad** (221 S. Grand Ave., thebroad.org). Their permanent collection is eclectic and is housed in a structure that is a piece of art in itself."

05

"To escape the hustle and bustle, I stroll through **Vista Hermosa Park** (100 N. Toluca St., mrca.ca.gov), a small park with postcardworthy views of DTLA, or sift through the thousands of books at **The Last Bookstore** (453 S. Spring St., shopthelastbookstore.com). It's a true DTLA staple."



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