

WHY I STAYCATION HERE

BROOKSTREET HOTEL

KANATA West of Ottawa's downtown core sits Kanata, an unassuming suburb that sidles up next to a greenbelt and houses the city's powerful high-tech sector. While it doesn't sound like the epicentre of excitement. Brookstreet Hotel adds some flair to the area. The luxe property houses Options Jazz Lounge, a sophisticated space that features live music seven nights a week. And outside, Brookstreet lends itself to golf lovers with two courses: The Marshes and MarchWood, the latter of which is a PGA-approved short course. 525 Legget Dr., www.brookstreet.ca —TP

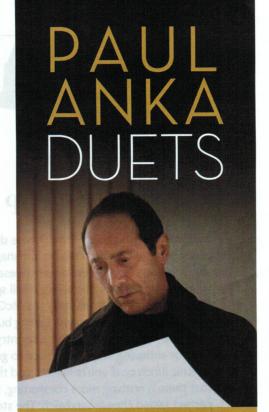
WHY I GARDEN HERE

RIDEAU WOODLAND RAMBLE

MERRICKVILLE On first visiting
Rideau Woodland Ramble (RWR),
I was staggered. The perfect
demonstration gardens, breathtaking collection of evergreens (a
passion these days) and enough
hostas for even a crazed gardener
made me want to pull up stakes
and move. RWR is about halfway
between Kingston and Ottawa, and

I know people who hire vans to pick up selections here. It is a collector's paradise, and owners Rob Caron and Dave Dunn are gracious and helpful. The superb online catalogue doesn't fool around: it gives detailed descriptions, sizes, prices and how to handle these treasures. 613-258-3797, www.rideauwoodlandramble. com —Marjorie Harris

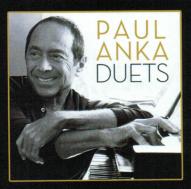




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