

INLAND LIVING

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The Power of Passion

5 WOMEN WE ADMIRE

Love chocolate?
Take the tour
Spa delights
Spring menus

ALSO

Inside the Mayfair

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Andi Campognone-Couwenberg



ALL THINGS CHOCOLATE

In search of the world's most luxurious
flavor right here in the I.E.

By SUZANNE SPROUL

WHEN IT COMES TO FLAVORS, chocolate seems to always take the cake — and candy and ice cream and pretty much every other dessert. Americans love chocolate. We like to eat it, drink it and basically luxuriate in its existence.

Although most prefer to consume it, there are other ways to celebrate its exalted status in the world. Some of those ways are completely non-caloric.

Who knew that the Inland Empire is a hotbed of chocolate? Three long-time and extremely popular chocolatiers — A-Kline, Logan's and Halgren's — call the place home. They produce hundreds of pounds of the good stuff every year. Spaggi's in Upland serves a sought-after martini, a chef at the Magic Lamp Inn can whip up a delicious confectioner's dream cup filled with mousse, and Don Timo Mexican restaurants offer a complex but delightful molé.

But there's more to do with chocolate than just devour it. Kelly's Spa at The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa in Riverside provides pampering beyond the expected (see story on Page 36). Dale Gose thinks there is no sweeter dog than her chocolate Labrador, and then there are the Chocolate Mountains. More about those later.

Here's a magical tour of the Inland Empire that embraces anything and everything chocolate.



Pampering THE SKIN IS IN

By LUANNE J. HUNT

WHILE MOM MAY APPRECIATE a box of candy or a lovely spring bouquet for Mother's Day, there are other options. For one, consider buying her a gift certificate to a day spa, where she may enjoy a massage, body wrap or another relaxing treatment.

Kelly's Spa

Through this summer, guests may enjoy two unique spa treatments: the chocolate truffle body wrap and the chocolate pedicure.

The body wrap is designed to provide a beauty skin experience featuring ultra-hydrating properties found in cocoa, macadamia nut oil, almond oil, ginseng and vitamins E and C. While guests enjoy the treatment that warms and conditions winter's

dry skin, they'll be treated to a relaxing scalp massage. A hot towel cleanses the skin, and that's followed by a body massage using organic champagne oil.

Enjoy for 50 minutes (\$120) or 80 minutes (\$170).

The pedicure begins with a warm foot soak with fresh rose petals. Feet then are covered with a vitamin-rich Cranberry Kiss exfoliant followed with a warm chocolate truffle masque. Nails are groomed and then an organic champagne oil leg and foot massage follows. Topping it all off, guests are served pink champagne and freshly made chocolate truffles. It lasts for 50 minutes (\$65).

"Chocolate used in this combination is rich in antioxidants and helps provide a total mind/body experience," said Diana Rosure, spa director. "Both treatments are the complete 'ta-da.'"

The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa
3649 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside
800-440-5910, www.kellysspa.com

Essentials Day Spa and Salon

For less than \$100, treat Mom to an array of luxurious spa services at Essentials Day Spa and Salon inside the Doubletree Hotel in Claremont.

Everything from massages to facials to waxing and nail treatments are offered. A popular service is the spa pedicure, which costs \$50 and features an exfoliating scrub, followed by aromatherapy oil and a paraffin dip.

Mother's Day is a big occasion, says manager Terri Brooks.

"A lot of moms and daughters come in together to celebrate," she said. "We have champagne and chocolates for everyone, and even a full lunch served poolside."

Along with single spa services, the salon also offers several unique packages, including a makeup and photography session, plus full- and half-days of beauty (consisting of a European facial, one-hour body massage, express manicure and

pedicure, shampoo/blow dry, makeup touch-up and a healthy lunch).

For those who want to go all out, Brooks suggests the Spa Combe package. It's an ultimate spa experience that includes a European facial, herbal hibernation body wrap, one-hour full body massage, manicure, spa pedicure, shampoo/blow dry and scalp massage, makeup touch-up, and lunch.

Essentials Day Spa and Salon also offers services for men and carries a large selection of beauty products, including many that are environmentally safe.

555 W. Foothill Blvd., Claremont
909-624-7886, www.essentialdayspa.com

Cielo Mio Spa and Salon

Located in Claremont's Village Square, Cielo Mio Spa and Salon prides itself on being a retreat from the harsh sun and a place for relaxation and rejuvenation. Specialties include a Swedish massage,