

Gifts for Valentine's Day...



Sweets for the Sweet

◀ Love is in bloom at Godiva Chocolatier this Valentine's Day. In the spirit of romance, Godiva unveils decadent gift offerings adorned with, and inspired by, lovely hearts, flowers and gems. These tempting treats are sure to cast a spell on anyone's heart.

Godiva favorites, "Valentino" the Bear and the Heart Goody Bag, return for the most romantic day of the year. The soft, fluffy "Valentino" the Bear plush has golden angel wings and a 6-piece Mini Paper Heart (\$24.50) treat, while the Heart Goody Bag offers 32-pieces of delicious milk decadence (\$15).

This year, Godiva presents its first Valentine's Day Heart Lollipop (\$5.50). The solid milk chocolate heart pop is perfect for adding that extra touch to any Valentine's Day gift.

All Valentine's Day gift boxes are available in Godiva boutiques, finer department stores, and specialty shops, as well as through the company's toll-free number (1-800-9-GODIVA) and at www.GODIVA.com.

▶ This line of artisan chocolates is made in Minneapolis, but the beauty of the web is they can be at your doorstep.

B.T. McElrath Chocolatier, Inc.'s Valentine's Day Collection includes a new, textured, deep chocolate brown gift box wrapped in a beautiful, multi-colored ribbon.

Inside are nine different handcrafted truffles, an assortment that has won national awards, including the Outstanding Confection award at the Fancy Food Show. In addition, three special Valentine's chocolates will be available in single-flavor packages:

Champagne Truffles—A champagne ganache center is surrounded with a thick blanket of pure 60% cacao dark chocolate and the truffle is then sprinkled with chocolate confetti; Passion Hearts, featuring passion fruit mousse centers covered in thin layers of white and dark chocolate and then colored a beautiful red; Love Notes Truffles, dense, creamy chocolates that have multiple conversation heart sayings printed in colored cocoa butter on top of luxurious 60% cacao dark chocolate truffles.

Each of the B.T. McElrath Valentine specialty items is available in a five- or six-piece box for a suggested price of \$10.75. The gift assortments are available in 9- or 15-piece boxes for \$20 and \$33. They can also be purchased online at www.btmcelrath.com.



For a Special Lady

Raindrops keep falling on my head! Rainy days brighten up with a whimsical umbrella. Each adorable design is compact enough to fit in a purse or briefcase. Designed in France by Laurent Mouveau.

These and other unique gifts are from online retailer NYCitylimit. They call theirs a "collection of products for the hip, urban, design obsessed customer. It is an intelligent collection for a discerning customer. All products are carefully selected by a team of master trend spotters." We call 'em cute!

YCTLT sells all kinds of cute, unique, gifty items for your loved one from luggage tags, business card holders, wallets, purses, mugs, key chains, plates and clocks. Bigger items include garden tables and chairs, gardening tools, doormats, desk supplies, things for kids and personal grooming accessories. This umbrella sells for \$30. Shop the collection at www.nycitylimit.com.



The Gift of Pampering

LUSH, the British brand of handmade cosmetics is putting their distinctive beauty mark on Florida. Lush made its debut at Macy's in Westland Mall late last year.

LUSH and Macy's were to open "stores" within the cosmetic department areas of 23 additional Macy's locations by the end of 2008.

LUSH products are 100% vegetarian, 74% vegan, 65% preservative-free, 58% free of wasteful packaging, and are never tested on animals.

They also make wonderful Valentine's Day gifts!

The French Kiss Bubble Bar (\$8.75 for 3.5 oz.) is a lavender bath that helps you perfect the art of relaxation. The fragrances of lavender, rosemary and thyme bring to mind a relaxing nap in the French countryside with the thick, white bubbles standing in for billowing clouds in a clear blue sky.

Heart-shaped Tisty Tosty is probably the first (and possibly only) fizzing bath time love spell. The perfume is Turkish rose absolute, one of the most precious substances in the world, plus fragrant powdered orris root made from the Florentine iris. Seven rosebuds release the spell. Bathe and fall in love. (\$5.80 for 3.1 oz)

LUSH Fresh Handmade Cosmetics can be found in over 588 locations worldwide with 40 LUSH locations across Canada and 68 in the U.S, online at www.lushusa.com or by calling 1.888.733.LUSH. The nearest store is in Fort Myers at 4125 Cleveland Ave., and also at International Plaza, Tampa Brandon Town Center.

