

RANCH & COAST

SAN DIEGO'S LUXURY LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2009

Weekend In
Rancho Santa Fe

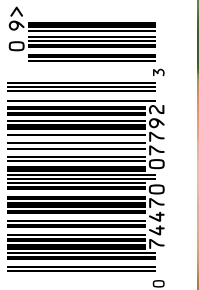
Fall Fashions

Mortgage
Market

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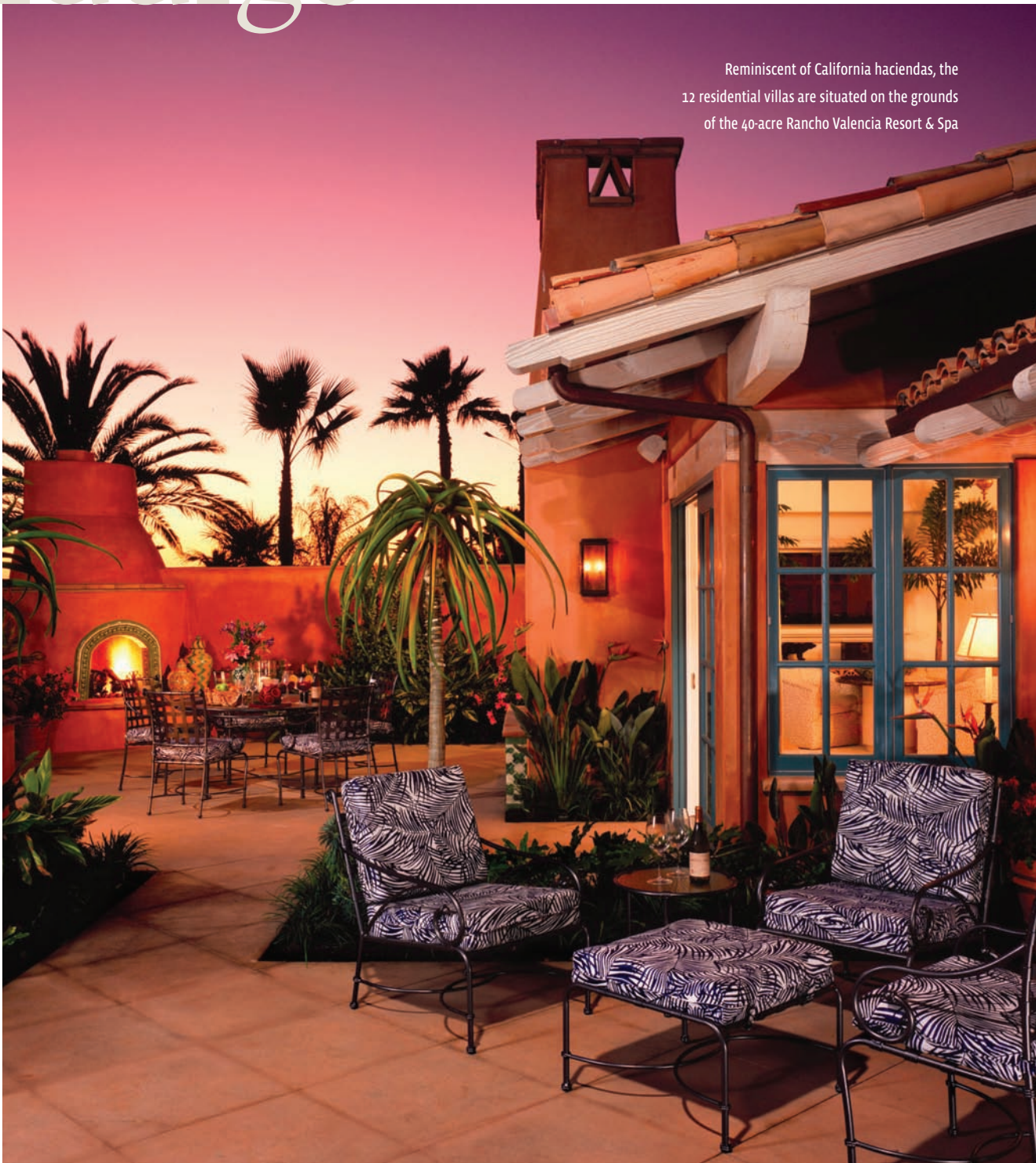
\$3.95US



indulge

(A TASTE OF THE FINER THINGS)

Reminiscent of California haciendas, the 12 residential villas are situated on the grounds of the 40-acre Rancho Valencia Resort & Spa



Home Sweet Home Own a piece of Rancho Valencia luxury — The Villas at Rancho Valencia Resort offers residential interests in 12 spacious luxury chateaus complete with custom furnishings, hand-painted tiles, and private garden patios. In addition to a private entry court, private heated plunge pool, indoor and outdoor fireplaces, and a patio grill, owners also have access to all of the resort facilities including elegant dining venues, 18 tennis courts, an acclaimed luxury spa, fitness facility, three swimming pools, 12,000 square feet of meeting and function spaces, and acres of landscaped grounds upon which to hike, bike, and relax. (866/996-6442, www.villasranchovalencia.com) JANE SHIOMI

A Weekend In Rancho Santa Fe



The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe

Continuing on our weekend adventures in S.D.'s cherished neighborhoods, we head to Rancho Santa Fe to explore a community rich in both history and amenities.

A town synonymous with the word "luxury," Rancho Santa Fe's lodging options are no exception. Celebrating 50 years under the direction of the Royce family, The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe is a historic Spanish-style property designed by architect Lilian Rice on 23 pristine acres of rolling hills set in the heart of the community.

If you prefer something more secluded, Rancho Valencia Resort & Spa, currently celebrating its 20th anniversary, is nestled within a private canyon on 40 acres of lush landscaping, and offers 49 richly appointed suites with cathedral ceilings.

Or consider unwinding at the boutique hotel at Morgan Run Club & Resort. Starting September 15, the property is offering an Autumn Escape package including daily breakfast for two and a daily \$25 resort credit.

Friday:

Enjoy a romantic date night dinner in the village. Under the direction of owner Owen Perry, Delicias Restaurant is a community staple, serving gourmet California cuisine for over 19 years. Nearby, Mille Fleurs' quaint outdoor courtyard with its twinkling lights is the perfect setting in which to enjoy the culinary delights of Martin Woesle, head chef for over 20 years. Stick around to enjoy entertainment by piano man Randy Beecher. If you've got good pipes, you may even be invited to join in. ☞



The Country Friends



Cielo Village



Mille Fleurs



Firenze



Wild Animal Park



Knorr Candle Factory

☞ Saturday:

Adventure seekers should head out early to Caffé Positano, whose selection of pastries and stuffed croissants are perfect for a meal on the run. There's no time to waste when the Wild Animal Park is a short 18 miles away from the Ranch, offering specialty tours with the animals. And don't forget about Flightline, an exhilarating, zipline experience that sends you soaring over exotic animals and open exhibits. After Labor Day the park returns to its fall hours of 9am-5pm daily.

On the way back, refuel at Hernandez Hideaway, offering Mexican fare along the edge of Lake Hodges. You won't find anything fancy here, but it's a local landmark worth checking out.

If exotic animals and flying high aren't your thing, try a leisurely morning horseback ride through the unique landscape of the Ranch.

Shopping opportunities abound. The heart of the Ranch offers McNally Company Antiques,

Daniela Boutique, Jakki's Closet, The Country Friends consignment shop, and more. Nearby Del Rayo Village houses La Lace, Le Dimora, Timmons Galleries, and Embellishments; and Rancho Santa Fe Plaza offers something for everyone with Mister B, Butterbrodt Design, Seaside Home, Childish Couture, Icons, and more. On the southwest edge of the town lies Bella Castilla, a home furnishings and accessory heaven; and Knorr Candle Factory with its myriad beeswax candles.

For a sweet treat, stop into Thyme In The Ranch, a repeat readers' favorite for its to-die-for baked goods and desserts.

Take time to unwind with a spa treatment at your resort. Or consider Browtique, which offers eyebrow shaping, facials, and more.

Post bliss, enjoy world-class dining at your hotel, or head to Firenze Trattoria in Rancho Santa Fe Plaza, which has offered delectable Italian cuisine for over 15 years with daily not-to-be-missed specials. Pantry on Paseo Delicias offers American

comfort food classics, while Decanter in Cielo Village boasts an ever-changing menu of unique wines paired with organic small plates. If you're craving sushi, Samurai Restaurant in nearby Solana Beach is top-notch.

Sunday:

Outdoorsy types should rise early to hit the tennis court or fairways before the temperature heats up.

If you stay September 11-13, head over to the village park for A Finer Art Affaire (for more details turn back to page 36).

Stock up on the best organic produce at Chino Farm, open from 10am-1pm on Sundays.

And if you are looking to add to your family, consider a visit to Helen Woodward Animal Center, which just might house your new furry best friend. Kennels are open from 11am-6pm daily.

For a directory of contact info for featured destinations, please visit www.ranchandcoast.com.

MIA STEFANKO & RINA VAN ORDEN



Rancho Valencia



Timmons Galleries



Horse trails