ENTREE’S GIFT GUIDE FOR 2016

This is the season to mix, mingle, and gift! ENTREE’s Holiday 2016 Gift Guide includes top selling beauty stuff, kitchen tools, books, wines and favorites that go above and beyond with their clever designs and “out-of-the-box” giftability. Check family and friends off your holiday list with these great ideas for holiday gift giving that will be savored and appreciated just as much in the kitchen and at the festive dinner table as they are when presented as a holiday gift. What makes the holidays special? Family, heartwarming traditions and, of course, presents. Here are some of the best our clever elves have found:

FOR HIM AND HER:

Massage on demand: Soothe, the largest and fastest-growing on-demand massage and wellness company delivers a licensed, vetted, certified massage therapist to your home, office or hotel room, with as little as 60 minutes advance notice. Services include Swedish, Deep Tissue, Sports and Pre-Natal massage for individuals and couples, in treatment lengths of 60-90-120 minutes for a fixed fee—with no need to tip ($99-$139-$169). Their hours are 8 am – midnight daily. Book 24-7 via the iOS or Android app, sooth.com, or via the toll-free concierge number 800.960.7668. It’s consistently received 5 star reviews. Soothe will be available in 42 cities with over 6300 licensed massage therapists, including: Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay Area, New York, London, Atlanta, Austin, Baltimore, Boston, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Fort Worth, Ft. Lauderdale, Honolulu,
Houston, Indianapolis, Las Vegas, Long Island, Memphis, Miami, Minneapolis, Nashville, New Orleans, Newark/Northern New Jersey, Norfolk/Virginia Beach, Oklahoma City, Orlando, Philadelphia, Portland, Phoenix, San Diego, San Jose, Salt Lake City, Santa Barbara, Scottsdale, Seattle, St. Louis, Vancouver (British Columbia), and Washington D.C.

For happy and stylish feet: Samuel Hubbard shoes...insanely comfortable while ready for a day at the office. We like to think of them as the Un-Sneaker, or imagine a pair had a sneaker for a Mother and a dress shoe for a Father. Yes, a bit of an odd notion, but you will not find more stylish, more easy fitting shoes anywhere on the planet. Available in 30 colors for him and her, call (844) 482-4800 for a catalog or visit www.samuelhubbard.com. Samuel Hubbard has been making blissfully comfortable, fashionable shoes and happy feet since 1930.

FOR EVERYONE:

A gift subscription ENTREE Travel Newsletter, since 1981 the ultimate opinionated insider’s guide to upscale travel filled with global discoveries, tips, barbs, what-to-avoid and what-not-to-be missed. www.entreenews.com or call (805) 969-5848. $75 a year and gift wrapped cleverly.

Cariloha soft and comfortable men’s and women’s socks...made from eco-friendly bamboo viscose, organic cotton and a touch of nylon and spandex, they are feathery light, cool, clean and green. Cariloha’s bathmats are soft to the feet and thirsty...and even a baby can enjoy Cariloha’s heavenly softness: their fitted crib sheet is perfect for a baby's delicate skin...Cariloha’s renowned quality and signature bamboo blends complement mother and baby’s tender natural bond.

Marvel Avengers tee shirts for him and her from Del Sol...who—from child to Dad—doesn’t want to wear Spider-Man, Captain America or Captain Shield? We especially like the Superhero-inspired Marvel shirt designs that dramatically change colors outdoors with sunlight and then return to their original colors indoors without sunlight, and the crazy-soft solid tees fit nicely and are silky soft as a dove...www.delsol.com
Lovepop, a collection of fun, unique and insanely awesome popup cards for every occasion. They’ve got a wide variety of “home” cards that serve as a fun gift for new home owners, as well as realtors and interior designers. The cards are a fun conversation piece and are cool enough to double as decoration. www.lovepopcards.com

FOR HIM:

The Styled Man Box. Effortless style for just $33.99 a month. Every month they send a box chock-full of 4-6 men's fashion accessories, grooming essentials and gadgets. Their clever fashion curators personalize and package each box according to what they’ve been told about personal preferences in Your Style Profile. (Each box includes a Little Black Pouch—gift for her) and more. The company’s motto: “Change your look—change your life” makes a good deal of sense. With The Styled Man Box, you can enhance your style and upgrade your life with the best curated, monthly selection of fashion and grooming products from our passionate, knowledgeable and experienced style curators. www.thestyledmanbox.com

Look to Menaji ClearShave for “water-free luxury.” The company has always been a pioneer in men’s grooming. Made in the U.S. with natural botanicals, Menaji is known best for its undetectable concealers for men. Their latest initiative is bringing awareness to consumers who care about water scarcity with their products that are effective and help save water such as the Power Hydrator and ClearShave 3-in-1 Formula. Coincidentally, as people became more aware of water scarcity, Menaji’s concerns for convenience also grew to include concerns for the environment, so executives created a shave product that allowed makeup artists to shave male actors on set without needing a single drop of water. From the inside out, the multifunctional shave product is designed to be a cut above regular shave gels that leak, are unsanitary, and in general create a mess inside a man’s Dopp kit. By using an Airless Pump Delivery system, Menaji ensures that a measured amount of product is delivered with every use, and keeps contaminants out, extending the life of the product. And because it is a clear gel, a man can shave his face, head and chest quickly and precisely. We especially like Menaji’s ClearShave 3-in-1 Formula shave gel in a travel size. www.menaji.com
Step up his shoe game with Paul Evans. We were loyal to John Lobb for shoes until we heard about Paul Evans shoes. We immediately purchased a pair (shipping and returns anywhere in the world are free) and can attest they are works of art. Designed in New York and handcrafted in Naples, Italy, they are sold directly to the consumer, avoiding excessive retail markups and without sacrificing quality. Paul Evans shoes are the ultimate solution for the smartly-dressed gentleman wanting to up his shoe game without cashing in his 401k. The creators of these shoes both worked in finance and realized that there were few options for shoes beyond the typical played-out styles at the usual department stores. They had traveled extensively through Europe and understood their shoe selection was very good and very diverse where as the American styles left much to be desired. After a years worth of industry research and sourcing in Portugal, Spain and Italy, they settled on their factory in Italy, a 3rd generation family-owned artisanal company who manufacture right outside of Naples and craft some of the nicer shoes in the world for some of the world’s most established luxury brands as well as smaller European, and in-house, brands. In 2013 they launched with three styles in one color each; now they have dozens of styles. They also make matching belts and bags, and sell a range of different socks, cotton and cashmere, and are currently working on things like matching wallets and even iPhone cases. Their shoes, what we’d call an attractive mix between English and Italian, are in high demand due to their high quality supple Italian calfskin leather, burnished to a mirror-like finish, soft leather lining and matching soles, exacting detailing, and superb fit. Paul Evans shoes are classics to keep and are sure to improve with age. Most things that are simple, elegant and tasteful do.

You cannot go to a store to buy Paul Evans shoes but go to www.paulevansny.com and you will see the wide range of Oxfords, dress shoes, loafers and boots they offer so, you can actually come into their shop in the West Village, 35 Christopher Street, so you can technically buy in a store, but only theirs. Best of all, you needn’t pay an arm and a leg for a pair of Paul Evans. They are priced between $350 and $400 and remind us of Berlutis that usually sell for $1,000 or more.
FOR HER:

Adoratherapy, wellness and yoga products formulated with therapeutic grade essential oils, gem essences and organic jojoba to create a positive, uplifting experience throughout the day or night. Several distinctive brands are crafted to enhance personal empowerment and emotional well-being. Among our favorites: Aphrodisia Mist for a passion boost and Smooth Seas for a stress-free boost. www.adoratherapy.com

Luxurious face masks from 7th Heaven, 100% natural and safe for all skin types. Just $1.99 per sachet, we recommend the Argan Oil Mud Mask to deeply cleanse, the Red Hot Earth Sauna Masque to de-stress and deep clean, the Black Seaweed Peel Off Mask to detox and cleanse, the Strawberry Souffle Mask for hydration and refreshment and the Tea Tree Oil Peel Off Mask for the T-zone and other problem areas. www.my7thheaven.com

Natural bath and body brand, JAQUA, known for its famous tagline “All Damsel, No Distress,” has a scrumptious line of head-to-toe bath and body treats including body butters, hand and shower creams, body polishes, lip glosses and more. Perfect for the holiday season, Jaqua's signature shower syrup in Buttercream Frosting is a lusciously thick and creamy body wash blended with Coconut Oil for deep hydration, Mango Extract for nourishment, and Avocado Oil to help soften and refine your skin’s texture. The Sulfate-Free Shower Syrup is perfect for every day cleansing and shaving as well! Your skin will be left feeling moisturized and refreshed throughout the day. Their Signature Fragrance hand cremes, especially Pink Champagne, Buttercream Frosting and Caramel Cappuccino are special favorites of ours. www.jaquabathandbody.com

HipCity Sak, hands-free travel bags for girls-on-the-go (ages 4+) that help them carry their own small items. They come in fun colorful patterns inspire girls to express themselves through style. The bags sell for $24.99 and come with a belt. www.hipcitysak.com/
BOOKS MAKE GREAT PRESENTS:

CHURRASCO - Grilling The Brazilian Way by Churrasco Grill Master Evandro Caregnato, Publisher: Gibbs Smith, will help you create your own family traditions that can be passed down from generation to generation, just as they do in Brazil. Side dishes (many of them vegetarian) also play an important role in churrasco, and this book is loaded with fresh, easy, and delicious recipes that will complement and enhance the star of the show: The Meat, of course. You will discover new spice combinations, some secret barbecue techniques, and learn about some cuts of meat that you may not even be aware exist! No Brazilian barbecue would be complete without the country’s national drink: The Caipirinha made with lime, simple syrup and a good-quality cachaca, the potent a rum-like spirit made from pure cane sugar. The Caipirinha will surprise and delight your guests—and make you a true gaucho. Caregnato is Culinary Director of Texas De Brazil, the country’s top churrascaria steak house and in this book he shares the grilling traditions of Southern Brazil’s gauchos. In addition to practical grilling techniques and easy-to-succeed side-dish and dessert recipes, Chef Caregnato shares the rich history of Brazilian gauchos and his own family’s churrasco traditions. Discover how professional gauchos grill the Brazilian way, and then recreate the mouth-watering flavors in your own backyard (or kitchen).

GREATEST LANDSCAPES, $40, is an iconic collection of National Geographic’s photography of the world’s most beautiful locations that will immortalize the beauty of the great outdoors, showcasing evocative, and often unseen, images of extraordinary landscapes around the world. This stunning collection of photographs with a foreword by award-winning National Geographic contributor and photographer George Steinmetz will inspire and exhilarate. Only National Geographic and their brilliant team of photographers can capture the world like this. This book is a true art of art capturing haunting landscape images that will astonish and lift you.

UT FIRST, CHAMPAGNE: A Modern Guide to the World’s Favorite Wine by David White and photos by John Trinidad, Skyhorse Publishing. Champagne is in the midst of a renaissance—no longer to be unjustly neglected. Over the past decade, an increasing number of wine enthusiasts have discovered the joys of grower Champagne—wines made
by the farmers who grow the grapes. Thanks to a few key wine importers and America’s newfound obsession with knowing where food comes from, these shipments have been climbing steadily. In BUT FIRST, CHAMPAGNE, author David White details Champagne’s history along with that of its wines, explains how and why the market is changing, and profiles the region’s leading producers. This book is essential reading for wine enthusiasts, adventurous drinkers, foodies, sommeliers and drinks professionals. With a comprehensive yet accessible overview of the region, its history, and its leading producers, BUT FIRST, CHAMPAGNE will demystify Champagne for all.

F

SCOTT FITZGERALD’S TASTE OF FRANCE, recipes inspired by the cafes and bars of Fitzgerald’s Paris and the Riviera in the 1920s, Cico Books, Ryland Peters, by Carol Hilker, is a collection of over 60 recipes inspired by the talented and decadent foodie and boozer of his day. From Montparnasse to the sun-soaked French coast, this book celebrates some of the great traditions of French cookery. With such chapters as Drunk Before Noon, you can relive a bit of the Gatsby-like glamour and indulgence Fitzgerald and his expat pals once knew.

B

BUDDHA’S DIET by Tara Cottrell and Dan Zigmond, the ancient art of losing weight without losing your mind. An attainable path to weight-loss Nirvana. www.runningpress.com

A

RT DECO: Living with the Art Deco Style, published by Miller’s/Mitchell Beazley, $39.95, explores all the key collecting areas with chapters on furniture, glass, ceramics, sculpture, metalwork, silver and jewelry, prints and posters, rugs and textiles. With price codes and biographies of key makers and designers. A must have for anyone fascinated by this movement.

N

ational Geographic’s WILD BEAUTIFUL PLACES—Picture Perfect Journeys Around the Globe, tempting, unexpected and gorgeous destinations from the masters. From national parks and the Seven Wonders of the World to secluded, rarely-photographed sites, this is the complete package—a total of 50 incredible locations dramatically photographed accompanied by first-hand accounts from the photographers as
well as useful travel information that will turn wanderlust into reality. With a foreword by George Stone, editor-in-chief of National Geographic Travel and National Geographic Magazine.

AYERED DESSERTS published by Ryland Peters & Small, 60 delicious tired treats from tiramisu and pavlova to layer cakes and sweet pies from UK Master Chef Hannah Miles, a spectacular array of simple classics and more adventurous ideas.

THE MONSTER’S COOKBOOK published by Mitchell Beazley, everyday recipes for the living, dead and undead, the classic collection of 70 monstrously delicious recipes with ghoulish names and disgustingly appropriate illustrations.

John Szabo’s VOLCANIC WINES: Salt, Grit and Power, Jacqui Small LLP, takes a novel approach to the world of wine using volcanic soil and the overarching theme and link between a wide range of grapes and wine regions. A well-researched resource on the history, unique characteristics and wine styles and most celebrated producers in each volcanic region. Eloquent but accessible, playful prose.

LUXURY FOR THE HOME:

AFCO’s Penthouse/Champagne Home Fragrance Mist is clean and sparkling with notes of ginger grapefruit and raspberry; their Master Bedroom/Chamomile Lavender Home Fragrance Mist is a warm and enveloping mix of sweet and sprightly lavender that gives a sense of well being. Made with the finest essential oils and fragrance extracts, no dyes or propellants, delightfully nuanced—a burst of long-lasting, sophisticated natural fragrance. www.lafco.com/

Archipelago Botanicals’ natural soy candles, scented diffusers, natural fragrances, bath & body lotions, body scrubs, body wash, hand crèmes, hair care and more, made from premium essential oils and natural ingredients. www.shoparchipelago.com
FOR THE TRAVELER:

Traveling, whether for work or pleasure, seems to become more of a hassle every year. Long security lines at the airport, baggage fees and cramped leg room on the plane are all annoying irritants that we wish were not part of the travel experience, but nothing is worse than being trapped on a freezing cold airplane for hours with no blanket, sweater or socks. Because you have to take your shoes off in the security line, many women have resorted to wearing flip flops or shoes that can easily be slipped off like lace-less sneakers or flats. Which leaves their feet and toes exposed and frigid once the AC kicks on during takeoff, unless they know about the best travel accessory since the donut neck pillow—Keysocks. Key socks are ultra soft knee socks with a strategically placed keyhole cut out on the top of the foot so the socks are invisible when worn with sneakers, flats, even pumps. They keep legs toasty, eliminate painful rubbing and blisters than can be caused by wearing some shoes barefoot, and depending on your fashion preferences can be worn as a flashy statement piece. www.keysocks.com

Armour Charge by [FUSE] chicken, a beautifully crafted stainless 39 inch steel charging cable with lightning connector for iPhones, iPads, iPods, intricately woven, incredibly strong and flexible, fit for a king, www.fusechicken.com/products/armourcharge

Toba Remedies’ Sore Point Pain Relieving Muscle and Joint in a handy gel roll on. Toba also makes a noteworthy product called “EnRoute” for people who take long/stressful journeys. Get them on www.tobaremedies.com

Twist World Adaptor Duo, an ultra-compact, all-in-one piece global adaptor with in-built 17W hi-Power Dual USB charger that works in over 150 countries. Charges up to three devices simultaneously, www.oneadaptor.com
FOR THE GOURMET:

As 2017 is just around the corner, it’s time to start preparing those ‘New Year, New You’ pieces. However, the challenge with these articles is that it’s easy to say the same thing—work out, eat right, etc.—and unfortunately, that can start to seem a little old. Luckily, The Ranch is offering a new service The Ranch Daily, which not only enhances the concept of healthy eating, giving you a fresh spin on a recycled topic, but shows how to achieve these goals—making the idea of wellness less intimidating to those not fitness-minded. Inspired by years of results from The Ranch’s wellness programs and the desire to make eating healthy, delicious meals easy and accessible, The Ranch Daily delivers chef-prepared, plant-based and nutritionally balanced meals to Southern California homes. This new service allows all to start eating right, taking that first step on the journey to a healthier ‘new you’, while catering to customer’s schedule and taste preferences; making for the perfect addition to any New Year feast. www.theranchdaily.com

In time for the holiday season, Little Acre Gourmet Foods’ unique Bourbon & Berry Cranberry Sauce is now available to customers nationwide at www.littleacregourmet.com/collections. Perfect for the Thanksgiving or Christmas table, the sauce’s smooth southern bourbon and tart cranberries combine for a bold depth of flavor. Especially delicious with roast turkey or as a glaze for grilled chicken, Bourbon & Berry Cranberry Sauce can also be used as a jam or preserve and to jazz up leftovers. Produced in small batches in Meredith, New Hampshire, every Little Acre Gourmet Foods product is handcrafted by the husband and wife team of Trina and Bill Ahrens. The pair uses ingredients that are natural and gluten-free to make their flavor combinations. There are no artificial colors or flavors and all Little Acre condiments are vegetarian-friendly. Little Acre’s Bourbon & Berry Cranberry Sauce is available for $7 per 7.5oz jar. Little Acre products also come in handsome gift boxes, ideal as stocking stuffers or holiday gifts for foodies. Little Acre Gourmet products are available nationwide at www.littleacregourmet.com/collections.

ExtraGONZO premium infused culinary oils. Unique blends give the robust flavor of olive oil, while the more neutral grapeseed oil brightens flavors. A special infusion process lets the flavors shine through in a bright, crisp, pleasing way. Try the Jalapeño Lime, Roasted Garlic or Meyer Lemon, all zesty flavor adventures that can stand on
their own, brightening the taste of your favorite foods while delivering high antioxidants and Vitamin E, which helps boost immunity, protect against the development of heart disease and helps maintain good cellular health. These oils are an easy way to improve your diet by replacing solid fats with magical olive oil blends. With extravaGONZO premium culinary oil, you’ll get even more healthful benefits PLUS the pure, clean taste that will rock your next meal. www.extravagonzofoods.com

The perfect companion for any occasion is California based Gaslamp Popcorn’s new fusion flavor, Malibu Mix, which combines the company’s signature Sea Salt and Olive Oil, White Cheddar and Kettle Corn flavors. This popcorn combination Mix puts the beach in reach no matter where you are and offers a gluten-free, anytime snack experience for those craving a way to escape the daily grind for a few moments. Malibu Mix popcorn is ideal for consumers looking for a light, flavorful and delicious snack that delivers a sweet, salty and savory treat containing half the calories typically found in traditional popcorn mixes. Gaslamp Popcorn’s signature Sea Salt and Olive Oil, White Cheddar and sweet and salty Kettle Corn make a delightfully flavor-packed snack. Each batch is made with non-GMO corn that stands on the promise of being gluten-free, no exceptions. Only 50 calories per serving. Hold the phone—we just tasted their Cinnamon Caramel popcorn, dipped in caramel excellence by experts—we are fanatical over it. Imagine brown sugar, cinnamon, caramel and just a pinch of salt and you can begin to fanaticize over this delicacy. At major retailers. www.gaslightpopcorn.com

E lite Wild Tuna in handy 3 ounce pouches. Great for athletes, kids and pregnant women with the lowest mercury of any brand. Sustainably caught, sashimi grade, no additives or fillers, full of nutrients and flavor. www.safecatch.com

Connoisseur or passionate foodie, if you love smoked salmon, you’re going to love smoked salmon from the Santa Barbara Smokehouse. Traditionally smoked, sustainably harvested, it is simply the best in the world and was lauded by the New York Times Syndicate that way. The company, under the direction of CEO Tim Brown has perfected the art of preserving the heritage of traditional techniques and together with a state of the art facility brings to market pure excellence. Brown was born on the Scottish English border in the city of Carlisle and at the age of 15 years old
began practicing the art of traditional salmon smoking. Preserving the authentic heritage of this dying craft has become his all-consuming passion. He has dedicated his life to the preservation of historic techniques and little known family recipes which had been handed down through generations of skillful craftsmen. Unlike high volume manufacturers who typically burn wood chips on hot plates, Brown’s smokehouse burns full logs of oak, applewood and other select woods in an open fire kiln, as it was historically done in Scotland. Santa Barbara Smokehouse is one of the few remaining smokehouses in the world that employ this traditional method of smoking. Brown’s plant is a modern state-of-the-art masterpiece. Built in 2004, from the initial renderings to the placement of the final brick, the 15,000 square foot facility was crafted for one purpose: to produce the highest quality smoked salmon utilizing traditional, artisanal methods. The region’s perfect climate is conducive to the most sustainable salmon smoking practices in the industry. Despite its rustic exterior and mission-style architecture, the Smokehouse is a state-of-the-art facility engineered for optimal workflow efficiency and uncompromising food safety. Adhering to a firm commitment to sustainability, only locally sourced logs from fallen trees are burned. No trees are ever cut down to supply wood to the Smokehouse. With an emphasis on tradition and craft rather than mass production, Brown and his team proudly produce a very delicate but distinctive tasting smoked salmon that cannot be achieved using conventional modern smoking methods. Their smoked salmon represents the highest level of quality, taste and texture and we are proud and honored that the world’s premier hotels (among them Bellagio in Las Vegas), airlines, finest restaurants, exclusive resorts and famous celebrities use and enjoy Santa Barbara Smokehouse products. Visit www.sbsmokehouse.com.

TO MAKE SOMEONE (OR YOURSELF) MORE BEAUTIFUL:

Dr. Fedorenko True Organic™ BUG STICK™, SUN STICK™, and SKIN STICK™, a perfect stocking stuffer. Created by Naturopath and Clinical Herbalist Julia Fedorenko-Bitton and her mother and partner Dermatologist Dr. Larissa Fedorenko, M.D. and handcrafted in Sag Harbor, New York, Dr. Fedorenko True Organic skin care line includes BUG STICK, a certified organic, chemical-free and DEET-free formula to repel ticks and mosquitoes; SUN STICK, an organic, chemical-free sunscreen; and SKIN STICK, an organic, chemical-free and fragrance-free moisturizer to rescue rough skin on elbows, hands, and knees. All Dr. Fedorenko True Organic
skin care products are 100% natural, with certified organic butters and essential oils, no synthetic fragrances or colors, no chemicals or DEET, paraben and phthalate free, dairy and soy free, and gluten free. Dr. Fedorenko True Organic products can be found in specialty shops in the Hamptons, New York City and Miami Beach, and online at www.drfedorenko.com. Full size products are $19 and travel size are $11.

We dread those extra minutes—maybe even hours—of battling with the razor in the shower, only resulting in left over stubble and small cuts down your legs. Instead of pushing off this tedious task and hiding behind long pants, have your best shave yet with essentials from Art Naturals, Surya Brasil, Lavido and MY SKIN. Exfoliate: with Art Naturals Arabica Coffee Scrub. By exfoliating first, the hair roots will open up for a closer shave. Made with dead sea salts, kona coffee, shea butter and sweet almond oils, the Arabica Coffee Scrub provides a deep exfoliation while ridding skin of bacteria and harmful chemicals. $18, available online via www.artnaturals.com.

Perfecting the art of shaving: Surya Brasil Sapien Women Shave Gel or their moisturizing Shave Cream for Men – experience your best shave yet with this vegan, organic and all natural shaving gel that protects your skin while shaving. Made with exotic organic Amazonian ingredients like cupuacu butter, pracaxi oil and macadamia oil will prevent drying and protect sensitive skin. Aloe vera juice and vegetable glycerin will promote intense hydration. $20.39, available online via www.suryabrasilproducts.com.

Moisturize with Lavido Thera-Intensive Body Cream: Nourish and keep skin silky smooth with this highly intensive body moisturizer that relieves dry, irritated skin while protecting against environmental factors. The Thera-Intensive Body Cream is clinically tested to reduce redness – perfect for after shaving. $45, available online via www.lavido.com.

Pamper your skin with MY SKIN Roll-On Liquid Treatment: This easy-to-use roll-on method is made with organic tea tree oil and fine black and white willow bark extract for ingrown hairs, razor bumps and inflammation. Apply this relieving liquid treatment twice a day until clear. $15.99, available online via www.gomyskin.com.
FOR THE WINE CELLAR:

The holidays will be fine, as long as there’s wine:

Serralunga D’Alba Barolo D.O.C. from Fontanafredda, a noble wine from a noble vineyard, aged one year in barriques and two years in oak casks for a garnet-red vino that has a clear-cut, intense nose of spices, vanilla, withered roses and underbrush. The taste is dry but soft, full-bodied, velvety and well-balanced, Made to age gracefully.

Little Black Dress wines, the perfect fit for every palate, especially their Pinot Noir. Ideal match for chicken, veal and lamb.

Luna Nuda Pinot Grigio from the Castelfeder Winery, at $14.99, a rewarding light green and straw yellow Italian wine, rich in fruit aromas with a very pleasant mineral aftertaste. Dry and smooth.

Pinot Noir from Dutton Ranch, Emerald ridge vineyard, Green Valley of Russian river valley...Concentrated blackberry fruit, supple tannins and elegant balance. From Dutton-Goldfield Winery who also make the exceptional 2014 Dutton Ranch—Rued Vineyard Chardonnay, Russian River Valley, with energetic lemon oil on the nose, and accents of guava, kumquat and young pineapple. This signature barrel blend sings of fresh ginger and high-toned spice. Structured and rich, it has great solidity and concentration which means lushness and complexity. $55 a bottle and well worth it. www.duttongoldfield.com

Zonin1821 Dress Code Prosecco from Italy, $16.90, Grey, White or Black, each blended for a unique, seductive sparkling wine tasting profile.

Be Bordô Sauvignon Blanc (Le Crisp White), Merlot (Le Fruity Red), and Cabernet Sauvignon (Le Deep Red), elegant, modern and affordable ($11.95) Bordeaux wines.
panther Creek 2014 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir, Winemaker’s Cuvee, a blend of rich, complex and structured Pinot Noirs. Young but repays with aging. www.panthercreekcellars.com

Folie a Deux 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley, a pure expression of a well-balanced Sonoma Bordeaux-style blend. Rich color, soft, plush tannins, medium body, balanced mouthfeel and excellent aging potential.

From Idaho, of all places: Clearwater Canyon Cellars’s 2012 Carménère, their Umiker Vineyard Merlot, and 2012 Esate Syrah and 2012 Renaissance Red. From Colter’s Creek: 2013 Koos Koos Kia Red, full of bright fruits, pumpkin spices, cream soda and a whip of leather on the nose.

Undurraga 100% Cabernet Sauvignon from the Central Valley Chile—intense ruby red with well defined varietal fruits on the nose; the palate shows ripe berry flavors and good balance, www.undurraga.cl, an elite vineyard established in 1885.

Our imported wine of the year: Château Lassègue, a St. Emilion. A powerful and lush expression of the right bank, Lassègue fruit is sourced from the foothills as opposed to the hillside and is an elegantly styled wine known for its big, tannic, full-bodied and concentrated, with a lot of structure, freshness and depth. The fruit is ripe, with a center of black cherries, licorice and espresso bean. Give these wines at least 5 years to come together. http://www.chateau-lassegue.com/en


2014 A to Z Oregon Pinot Noir opens with strawberries, cherries, blueberries, raspberries, even cranberries, developing to violets, red currants, pipe tobacco, iron and wet stone. Great juicy concentration and depth.
2014 Merlot from Liberty School in the Central Coast of California, ruby-black and full of bright blackberry and blueberry, notes of Rainier cherry alongside lavender, clove and a kiss of vanilla. Their 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon is a classic vintage with aromas of black currant and crushed blueberry, undertones of charred sandalwood, black peppercorn, eucalyptus and a dash of cinnamon. Velvety, balanced with acidity and a long finish.

Apothic Inferno 2014, a must-have new limited release red blend aged in whiskey barrels. Inspired by the whiskey-making techniques of barrel-aging, Apothic Inferno is aged in white oak, bringing wine and whiskey enthusiasts alike a new way to experience wine. It's wine with a whiskey soul, a blending of red and dark fruits with layers of maple and spice which give way to a long, clean finish. For a limited time only, this masterful red blend is available on shelves where fine wine is sold, nationwide. www.apothic.com

Bisol Crede Valdobbiadene Spumante Superiore Brut, $25, one of Italy’s finest Proseccos, brilliantly yellow-gold, brimming with wild flowers, persistent bubbles and balanced intensity. Fittingly soft.

Champagne Charles Heidsieck Brut Réserve, $65, a deep gold with aromas of freshly baked brioche and the richness of roasted coffee beans while on the palate touches of praline an, amber and vanilla. Blended with great care using 40% reserve wines from the Charles Heidsieck cellar which are an average of 10 years old, adding depth and complexity.

Sophisticated Bollinger Champagne. Since 1829, Bollinger has been producing great champagnes with a powerful, sophisticated and complex style. Their Special Cuvée exhibits the Bollinger style: density and subtlety. Special Cuvée is the result of delicate blending between harvest grapes and a majority of reserve wines, part of which have been aged in magnums for 5 to 15 years. Their La Grande Année 2005 is Bollinger’s interpretation of an exceptional year, a prestige champagne produced only when the harvest reaches a perfect balance. Our favorite is Bollinger
Rosé, fresh as a rose, balanced as a Bollinger, demonstrating unique blending and red-winemaking skills: a true alchemy, a very technical wine. www.champagne-bollinger.com

AND WHEN YOU NEED A SPIRITED DRINK:

We like the venerable gin brand, TuB Gin and their new, limited edition, seasonal micro-batches of “Hoppy Plum.” Launched in 2008, TuB came from the minds of a few gin loving folks in Philadelphia. It is distilled by the award-winning, small batch engineers of Peach Street Distillers in Palisade, Colorado. This new limited edition flavor is the latest collaboration—it starts with the original citrus-forward gin made with locally picked high desert juniper berries, is married with Palisade plums in the Palisade Plum Eau De Vie and is macerated with Palisade Chinook Hops, for a softly spiced smooth spirit. The forward flavor of Eau De Vie is of particular note, as Peach Street Distillers was the first distillery in the country to include it in their gin. This series of special edition flavors will continue to highlight the quirky and mysterious story of the TuB brand and take advantage of the crisp, regional ingredients used for all of Peach Street Distillers’ spirits, a trend that we continue to see in the spirits industry: stocking at-home bars with unique, local flavors and high designed bottles. Eccentric and smooth as silk, with mysterious rare ingredients, blended with respect. You may never taste this limited release formulation again. www.peach-streetdistillers.com

Chivas Regal 12 Year Old world-famous Scotch blend with a nose of that is a creamy, aromatic melange of vanilla custard, hints of aniseed, lemon curd and butter toffee. Wood shavings and dried banana chips develop with just a hint of cassis. On the palate, more of those banana chips showing through on the palate, this time there’s a creamy hit of barley malt too, pepped up with a little allspice. Notes of ground walnut and caramel. The finish is light spice and black pepper on the tail. Lingering notes of cereal sweetness. Overall a spicy, beautifully balanced blend. Lots going on here.

Balblair Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky, vintage 2003, natural golden amber color, non chill-filtered from the masters who started in 1790. Imagine toffee, butterscotch and vanilla notes plus notes of oranges, honey and spice, sweet yet spicy, a superbly well-balanced dram.
Old Pulteney Single Malt Scotch Whisky, Navigator, matured in selected bourbon and sherry casks, handcrafted for smoothness, complexity and coastal character. Honeycomb in color, sweet and crisp aroma with layers of tangy apples and dried fruit and a full-bodied taste that delivers honey, cocoa and oranges, easing gently into a long-lasting spicy finish.

Old Pulteney Single Malt Scotch Whisky, The Maritime Malt, aged 12 years, deep amber in color, dry with a hint of salt air on the nose, dry and medium-bodied, smooth and redolent of honey and cream. A sweet, long-lasting finish. From the most northerly distillery on the Scottish mainland, these folks have been making unashamedly excellent scotch since 1826.

Ancnoc Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky, Cutter Limited Edition, from Knockdhu Distillery, established in 1894, and known for its pure clear water, barley and peat. Cutter is pale yellow, fruity with ripe peaches and a touch of oak. The taste is more ashy with slight apple-core bitterness, leather and spicy vanilla. Then comes the pink grapefruit and peaty notes.

Havana Club Añejo Clásico Puerto Rican Rum, dark and flawless, a rum that conjures up the period in Cuba before the Castro revolution. A perfect complement to the existing Havana Club Añejo Blanco offering, the Havana Club Añejo Reserva is double-aged in oak barrels, a perfect example of the exceptional smoothness of Cuban blended rums, combining a powerful taste with a light aroma. It can be sipped and savored, a miracle of complexity and extreme smoothness.

FOR THE BATH:

Valentina’s Naturals Mineral Bath Salts with essential oils of lavender, cedarwood and sweet orange blended with natural sea salts. Nothing synthentic, no preservatives, never tested on animals. www.valentinanasnaturals.com
Konjac Facial Sponge Set, from www.artnaturals.com, 100% natural, vegan, eco-friendly and chemical-free, perfect for deep cleaning and delivering a glowing complexion. artnaturals Bath Bombs are organic and moisturizing. With a burst of nature they energize, cleanse, relax, detox and more. Soak in them for minutes, feel fit for hours. www.artnaturals.com

FOR THE KITCHEN:

Quality and durable pepper mills and salt grinders from Trudeau, known for over a century for products of innovative design. Trudeau stands for nothing less than perfection. Their mills are built to the highest standards of excellence with the finest materials for both professional and home chefs. For the finest array of kitchen utensils, glassware and other must-have gadgets, check out www.trudeaucorp.com

Many merry holiday wishes and the happiest new year’s greetings to one and all from all of us at ENTREE.