

# LABRIDES

Fall • Winter 2007

ECO-FRIENDLY  
WEDDINGS

BRIDAL BEAUTY  
GUIDE  
**2007**

Honeymoon  
in ITALY

**BROOKE  
NEVIN**





## tea for two

For newlyweds, taking time to relax over a steaming cup of tea can become a renewing and romantic daily ritual. To enhance the experience, it's essential to have the freshest and most flavorful tea and to serve it in a stylish tea set, such as The Tear Drop Tea Set from American designer Peter Hewitt's Tea Fortè product line. A tasteful blend of Eastern and Western teapot styles, the set is made from porcelain and stainless steel, and includes a teapot, creamer, sugar server, two cups and two tea trays. Packaged in an eye-catching green gift box, the set is \$65. Having a passion for the "art of tea," as well as a reverence for the Asian tea ceremony, Hewitt also includes in his award-winning collection whole leaf tea blends in patented pyramid silken infusers, serving and tea trays, Café Cups and modern tea sets. Tea Fortè items are available at Origins in Pasadena, Marie et Cie in Valley Village and at [www.teaforte.com](http://www.teaforte.com) or call (800) 721-1149 for more information.

## a wine lover's paradise

For sweethearts who share an appreciation of fine wine, Addison, the three-star California-Mediterranean restaurant at the Grand Del Mar in North San Diego, has started the "Perfect Wines for Your Perfect Match" program, designed for wine-loving couples. The day-long program, customized by head sommelier Jesse Rodriguez, starts with a tour of the restaurant's 10,000-bottle wine vault, including bottles from around the world. During the tour, Rodriguez will share valuable advice on purchasing wines for your own collection. After the tour, wine-loving lovers enter a session with a boutique winemaker to taste and discuss new wines. Then, the day wraps up with a six-course meal, including food-and-wine pairings by Rodriguez and Executive Chef William Bradley. The "Perfect Wines for Your Perfect Match" program is \$500 per couple; call (858) 314-1900 for a reservation. Addison, The Grand Del Mar, 5200 Grand Del Mar Way, San Diego; [www.thegrandedelmar.com](http://www.thegrandedelmar.com).



## chocolate: buy the scoop, cut or piece

When the stress of the big day just gets too much, brides can pay a visit to the Chocolatebox in La Cañada. After all, since chocolate releases endorphins in the body (nature's own opiate), this decadent sweets shop must truly be the happiest place on earth. Not only will chocolate-seeking brides be able to peruse a selection of handmade artisan chocolates from Belgium (think wedding favors), but the charming chocolate boutique also offers a European-style dessert cafe and a gelateria with gelato made in Verona, Italy. Sip a steaming cup of hot chocolate (prepared from shaved chocolate, no less), dig into a creamy gelato made with 100 percent organic milk and then pop a rich, hand-rolled truffle into your mouth, and you'll quickly forget about your overloaded guest list or your demanding mother-in-law. Other popular confections, such as signature ganaches, French-style pralines, cream-filled chocolates and spice-infused chocolate bars, can be boxed to order. Gift boxes of the sublime chocolates are available, including the three-tiered Treasure Box. Certain to make any chocolate lover's heart melt, the \$95 box contains about 50 milk, dark and white chocolates accented with nuts, swirls, coffee beans and gold dust. Chocolates can be purchased by phone [(818)790-7918], online ([www.chocolateboxcafe.com](http://www.chocolateboxcafe.com)) or at 714 Foothill Blvd. in La Cañada.

