

shop around

VISIT THESE UNDISCOVERED
SHOPPING MECCAS AND FIND ALL
YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS
IN ONE QUICK TRIP.



Seattle



Minneapolis



Philadelphia

Philadelphia

You'll find everything on your list in Philly's easy-to-navigate Center City district—and you won't pay tax on clothing, either. That's what we call brotherly love.

BY LAUREN MCCUTCHEON



FOR THE bachelor

Foster's Homeware (399 Market St., shopfosters.com, 215-925-0950)

Save your fratty male friends from bad décor and hook them up with faux-wood vinyl placemats (\$20) or geometric sheets and shams (from \$60)—it's all on display in the mock apartment set up inside the store.

FOR THE party host

Di Bruno Bros. (multiple locations, including 1730 Chestnut St., dibruno.com, 215-665-9220)

Feed the people who always feed you. Pick up a basket of olives, stuffed peppers, salami, pecorino-romano cheese and French brie from this bustling, 68-year-old Italian business—or call and have one shipped.

FOR THE jewelry collector
Halloween (1329 Pine St., 215-732-7711)

The beautiful heart-shape brooches (from \$20) and pearl drop earrings (from \$40) here are literally hidden gems—the unmarked stucco store is tucked away on a residential block. Look for the orange business card in the window.

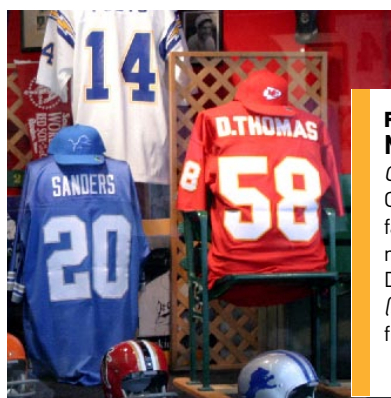
FOR old friends

Happily Ever After (1010 Pine St., happily.com, 215-627-5790)

Shop for your childhood faves—Golden Books (\$3), Madame Alexander dolls (from \$60), Barbie lunch boxes (\$15)—selected by owner Edward Ferry.

FOR Santa's helpers
AIA Bookstore & Design Center (117 S. 17th St., aiabookstore.com, 215-569-3188)

The basement of this architect's store turns into Christmas workshop come October. Browse thousands of cards, ornaments and trimmings—including hand-painted wooden ornaments depicting Independence Hall (\$26).



FOR THE sports fan

Mitchell & Ness (1318

Chestnut St., 267-765-0613)

Owned by a hard-core baseball fan, this century-old sporting memorabilia store sells gear like Dr. J's and Joe Montana's jerseys (\$260 and \$300) and pennants from the 1927 Yankees (\$20).

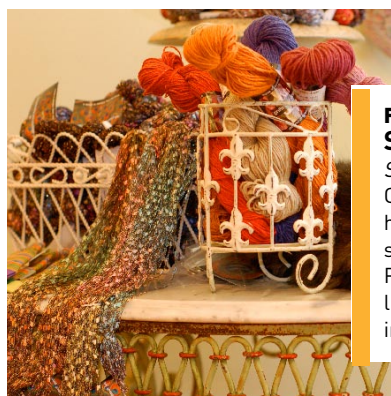


FOR THE tea drinker

Premium Steep (111 S.

18th St., premiumsteep.com; 215-568-2920)

The exotic loose-leaf teas from this tiny shop, like black tea with coconut (\$12 for 4 ounces), could convert even a coffee fanatic—and the prices aren't so steep.



FOR THE crafty one

Sophie's Yarns (713 S. Fourth St., 215-925-5648)

Choose from thousands of bright, hand-dyed yarns at this cheerful shop in the city's fabric district. Pick your favorite color—with any luck, your friend will knit the gift into a scarf for you.

Eat Sleep

→ **Osteria** (640 N. Broad St., 215-763-0920; pizza from \$15, entrées from \$24)

Grab a tomato and mozzarella thin-crust pizza, or try one of chef Marc Vetri's more creative toppings, like grilled octopus or a baked egg.

→ **Honey's Sit 'n Eat** (800 N. Fourth St., 215-925-1150; entrées from \$5)

Snag a gingham-covered stool at this cash-only diner and dig into some serious comfort food—Southern biscuits and gravy, huevos rancheros, jam-stuffed challah French toast and just-like-Mom-made green-bean casserole.

→ **The Penn's View Hotel** (14 N. Front St., pennviewhotel.com, 800-331-7634; doubles from \$180)

This swank hotel has a posh Italian wine bar right downstairs, and the location can't be beat.



Minneapolis

There's more to Minneapolis than the country's biggest mall—like tons of neighborhood boutiques selling unique goods. Take a cue from the locals: Bundle up and hit the streets.

BY ELIZABETH DEHN

Eat

Sleep

↳ **Lucia's To Go** (1428 W. 31st St., 612-825-9800; pastries from \$1) Chef-owner Lucia Watson uses local ingredients to create buttery French pastries and creamy frittatas. Settle in with a cup of house coffee.

↳ **Town Talk Diner** (2707 ½ E. Lake St., 612-722-1312; burgers from \$9.25) The three flirty guys who own this joint turn out grown-up diner food like frickles—battered house-made pickles—Kitchen Sink Burgers and garlic-parsley fries.

↳ **The Westin Minneapolis** (88 S. Sixth St., starwoodhotels.com/westin, 612-333-4006; doubles from \$129) Admire the lobby's original 1940s spiral staircase and chandelier, or hide in your mod room and plug in your iPod. The hotel, housed in the historic Farmers & Mechanics Bank building, is connected to many stores and restaurants by the skyway system—seven miles of heated walkways.

FOR THE hip baby Pacifier (310 E. Hennepin Ave. pacifieronline.com, 612-623-8123)

Husband and wife Jon and Quyen Witthuhn couldn't find a hip baby gift anywhere in town, so they decided to sell their own. Scoop up a "My Mom Rocks" onesie (\$20) or "My Dad's a Geek" tee (\$22). For the future Sienna Miller: baby leg warmers (\$13).



FOR THE pen pal Letterbox

(2741 Hennepin Ave. South, letterboxcreative.com, 612-870-4529) Kimberley Yurkiewicz and Zach Barocas fell in love through letters, and now they own this bright paper shop. Browse their stylish collection of fine letterpress stationery and inexpensive writing sets (\$20).



FOR THE green friend Re Gifts

(1832 E. 42nd St., re-gifts.com, 612-276-0105) Everything here is made from recycled, reclaimed, organic and natural materials, including beautiful and affordable candles, glassware and jewelry, like a quirky typewriter key pendant necklace (\$21).



FOR THE pampered pooch Bone Adventure

(multiple locations, including 312 E. Hennepin Ave., boneadventure.com, 612-378-0211) Dogs will dig the fancy biscuits and big, soft toys from this posh pet store. Pimp your favorite pooch with a monogrammed collar tag.

FOR THE caffeine junkie Coffee & Tea Ltd.

(Two locations, including 2730 West 43rd St., coffeeandtealtd.com, 612-920-6344) Jim Cone roasts his own beans in this closet-size coffee shop. His Five-Star French Roast (\$14.79 per pound), a rich brew, is a sure bet.

FOR THE little bookworm Wild Rumpus

(2720 W. 43rd St., wildrumpusbooks.com, 612-920-5005) Here you'll find Daniel the cat and Amelia the chinchilla, and we aren't talking about book characters—they're live animals and store mascots. Don't miss the \$1 recycled books in back.

FOR THE mountain man Midwest Mountaineering

(309 Cedar Ave. S., midwestmtn.com, 612-339-3433) Wander the creaky wood floors for outdoor equipment, then head upstairs to the discount floor, Thrifty Outfitters: You might score a cheap down jacket.

FOR THE friend who has everything Patina (multiple locations including 1009 Franklin Ave., patinastores.com, 612-872-0880)

The store is reminiscent of a Parisian flea market, selling treasures like vintage-inspired dish towels (from \$12) and beaded jewelry (from \$10). Make it your last stop and scoop up something for the stragglers on your list.



Seattle

Everyone seems oddly immune to holiday stress here—this city stays mellow year-round, despite all the caffeine. As you shop, take in views of Mount Rainier, and drop into a café: There's one on every corner.

BY SALLY FARHAT



FOR THE **sweet tooth**

Chocolate Box (108 Pine St., 206-443-3900)

Put together a gift set (from \$40) from some of Seattle's top chocolatiers—and treat yourself to a cup of hot chocolate (\$2.25) while you're at it.



FOR THE **classy kid**

Clover (5335 Ballard Ave. N.W., clovertoy.com, 206-782-0715)

You won't find video games here—just wooden trains, blocks and WonderChess (\$20): After a winning move, you remove a prize from the chess piece—just remember to insert the goodies before you play.

FOR THE retro gal
Diva Dollz (624 First Ave., 206-652-2299)

A couple who left New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina opened this vintage-inspired shop. Treat your old-fashioned friend to a custom-made hat (from \$65).

FOR THE teenybopper
The Powder Room (multiple locations including 4536 University Way N.E., 206-632-8886)

Give the tween in your life a miniskirt, most under \$50. Or please daughter and mother with a cute \$13 headband.

FOR THE mom-to-be
Bump: Urban Maternity Wear (920 N.E. 64th St., bumptobaby.net, 206-522-2867)

Pregnancy doesn't mean the end of great style. Give a red plaid coat (\$182) from this exposed-brick store.

FOR THE big eater
Beecher's Handmade Cheese (1600 Pike Place; beechershandmadecheese.com, 206-956-1964)

Buy a tin bucket filled with three pounds of cheese, crackers and a knife (\$50) at this cool Pike Place store.



FOR THE clotheshorse
Rue (611 Stewart St., rueseattle.com, 206-264-0788)

Scoop up gorgeous frocks like a purple, ruffled cocktail dress imported from London (\$223), or more casual cotton numbers for around \$100.



FOR yourself
Swee Swee Paperie & Studio (4218 S.W. Alaska St., 206-937-7933)

You're done shopping. Now hand everything over to the pros, who'll wrap it all for free—once you buy the paper.

Eat
Sleep

↔ **Purple Café and Wine Bar** (1225 Fourth Ave., 206-829-2280; entrées from \$17)

Try dates stuffed with blue cheese and admire the 20-foot wine rack.

↔ **Santorini Pizza & Pasta** (11001 35th Ave. N.E., 206-440-8499; pizza from \$10)

Order the pizza topped with feta, chicken and pesto at this bustling restaurant.

↔ **Hotel Deca** (4507 Brooklyn Ave. N.E., 206-634-2000, hoteldeca.com; doubles from \$169)

This art-deco hotel is a block away from great shopping on University Way.