

PRONTO



small bites from Italy



WHAT TO EAT: VOSGES COLLEZIONE ITALIANO

Chocolatier Katrina Markoff infuses her truffles with spices, flowers and herbs; her mission is to introduce us to "the many cultures of the world's people through the medium of chocolate." Markoff's Italian Collection—her "ode to Italy"—features sixteen truffles filled with classic Italian ingredients, including Tuscan fennel pollen, olive oil and Sicilian sea salt. Be sure to sample the "Rooster": taleggio cheese, organic walnuts, vanilla beans and bittersweet chocolate. \$56 for sixteen truffles, www.vosgeschocolate.com



HOW TO RELAX: ARALDO BED

This isn't just a bed; it's an heirloom. In 1885, Lorenzo Caporali opened his small iron workshop in Santa Mama, Tuscany, where he fashioned tools and utensils. The company later expanded to include furniture and artwork. It's now owned by Lorenzo's great-grandson Andrea, who modeled the panels on his Araldo bed after "the grating that separates priest from confessant in a Catholic confessional." Today, the company's master craftsmen sculpt, weld and forge metal by hand just as Lorenzo did over a century ago. A bed is a person's most intimate piece of furniture; appropriately, the Araldo bed is made on an intimate scale. \$8,678, www.tuscanhills.com



WHAT TO LEAN ON: FORNASETTI PILLOWS

Behold opera soprano Lina Cavalieri, the muse of artist Piero Fornasetti. A renowned painter, sculptor, engraver and designer, Fornasetti adorned thousands of items—most famously, dinner plates—with her features. "What inspired me to create more than five hundred variations of the face of this woman?" the artist once asked himself. "I don't know. I began to make them and I never stopped." After Fornasetti's death in 1988, his son inherited the firm and expanded his mantle; Cavalieri can now be found on everything from umbrellas to ties to (our favorite) pillows. \$150 each, 888-FIORI-28—COLBY BRIN