

vacation



Rancho Valencia's pool is the perfect place to soak in the beautiful California sun.



Mary Lynn and David enjoy a delicious lunch and an amazing view!

I watch 24 every week because I totally forget what happens

Could Mary Lynn's character, Chloe, ever be killed off? "It could happen any time," she says.

ONE FINE DAY

Taking a break from counterterrorism, 24 actress **Mary Lynn Rajskub** escapes L.A. for a romantic vacation at Rancho Valencia Resort and Spa

Mary Lynn Rajskub has a confession to make. Although she may be best known for her role as quirky computer whiz Chloe O'Brian on the Emmy-winning series *24*, the actress is definitely not a techie. "I told one guy that I really wasn't into computers, and his whole face just fell!" Mary Lynn (her last name is pronounced "RICE-cub"), who has also starred in such successful films as *Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde*, *Punch-Drunk Love* and *Little Miss Sunshine*, found a home at CTU when she joined the cast of *24* in its third season (now in its sixth season). "For me, *24* has been my steadiest job," says Mary Lynn. What will happen to Chloe this season? You'll just have to watch.

OK! caught up with Mary Lynn, 35, and her music-manager boyfriend, David Surnow, 36, while they enjoyed a weekend getaway at Rancho Valencia Resort and Spa. The two had a hot-stone massage, lounged by the pool and wandered the beautiful grounds, taking advantage of some much-needed alone time. Here, the couple opens up about how they met, and Mary Lynn reveals what it's like to be part of the most heart-pounding show on television.

Tell *OK!* about your weekend getaway to Rancho Valencia.

Mary Lynn: We had a great time. The grounds and gardens are so beautiful; I love the Spanish-hacienda style of the resort. It was very luxurious without being overdone — I loved that. They also had this pretty intense hamburger with cheese and caramelized onions.

You had a hot-stone massage. What was that like?

Mary Lynn: I got really into it! I didn't fall asleep, but I was in an alternate reality.

What do you do when you go out?

David: We like to eat a lot and are always trying different restaurants.

Mary Lynn: We're going to more art exhibits; we're super cultured! [laughs]

How long have you been dating?

Mary Lynn: About eight months. It's still pretty new. David is very sweet and he's very protective.

Are there any wedding bells in the future?

Mary Lynn: I don't know... I tend to get serious really fast, but we just want to take it slow. My family likes David, which is pretty exciting.

You must get recognized a lot from *24*.

Mary Lynn: I do. This past year has been weird. Sometimes, when you're really self-conscious, you don't want to leave your house, and when you finally do and you're messy, a stranger will come up to you and give you a hug!

Do people mispronounce "Rajskub" all the time?

Mary Lynn: All the time! It's Eastern European, and one of those names that people look at and screw up their face because they have no clue how to say it.



Step into my cabana! Mary Lynn heads for shade.

Do you and David get to travel a lot together?

Mary Lynn: Not really. It's hard to plan with my work schedule and his work schedule. Sometimes I don't work all week, sometimes I work every day.

How did you two meet?

David: Through my uncle. He's her boss!
Mary Lynn: His uncle came up to me and said, "I want to set you up with my nephew. I think you'd get along great."

When was the first time you felt that you had made it?

Mary Lynn: A couple of years ago when I bought a house, or when people started recognizing me on the street.

What else do you want to do that you haven't done yet?

Mary Lynn: I'd love to learn how to sing and dance on Broadway!

David: She sings all the time, and it's usually hilarious.

Did you think your role on *24* would last this long?

Mary Lynn: I thought I was going to get fired because my character was too weird, and I totally stuck out! I believed in Chloe, though. When she started to be on Jack's [Kiefer Sutherland's character] side, then people were like, "Oh, she's all right!" They realized that I wasn't totally crazy.

You have to wear the same outfit for every episode. How many of that one outfit do you have?

Mary Lynn: Sometimes my sweater stinks, and I can ask for a new one [laughs]. When I need a new one, it magically appears!

'I thought I was going to get fired because my character was weird'

Do you watch *24* when it airs?

Mary Lynn: I do. I watch it every week because I totally forget what happens and it's a surprise to see how they shot the other stuff that you read about [in the script].

Can you reveal any secrets from the upcoming season?

Mary Lynn: I can't! There's some crazy stuff going on — that's all I can say.

Do you feel differently about the show now that it has won an Emmy?

Mary Lynn: It was very different to be at the Emmys and to win. I got up on stage and just felt really happy. It was time for *24*, and I was totally excited for Kiefer as well.

Is it hard when cast members get killed off?

Mary Lynn: Well, it's really like that in acting anyway. You work on a movie, and then you're like, "Bye, I'll probably never see you again!"

Do you ever worry that Chloe will get killed off?

Mary Lynn: I do. I have some days when I have a false sense of security, like, "They can't kill her!" But it could happen any time.



INTERVIEW BY MARIA NEUMAN AND JACQUELINE NEISS
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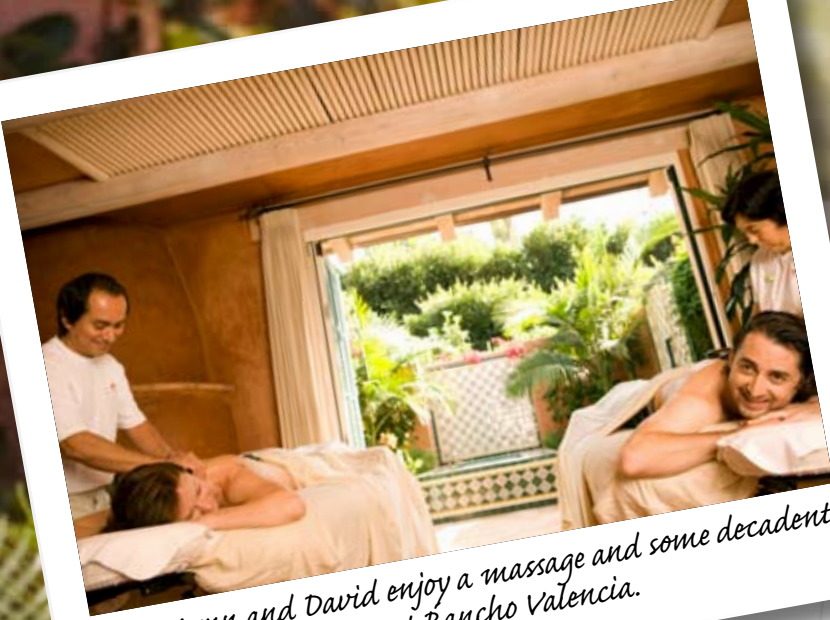
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24 AIRS THE FIRST PART OF ITS TWO-PART SERIES PREMIERE
ON JAN. 14 AT 8 P.M. ON FOX.



vacation



Mary Lynn and David enjoy a massage and some decadent couple time at The Spa at Rancho Valencia.



Bathing in a splendid natural setting is another relaxing option.



Mary Lynn trades in her CTU business attire for chic resort wear. "It's fun to dress up like a girl!"



Mary Lynn hails from Detroit but loves living in L.A. "I love discovering L.A. There are so many secret parts."