

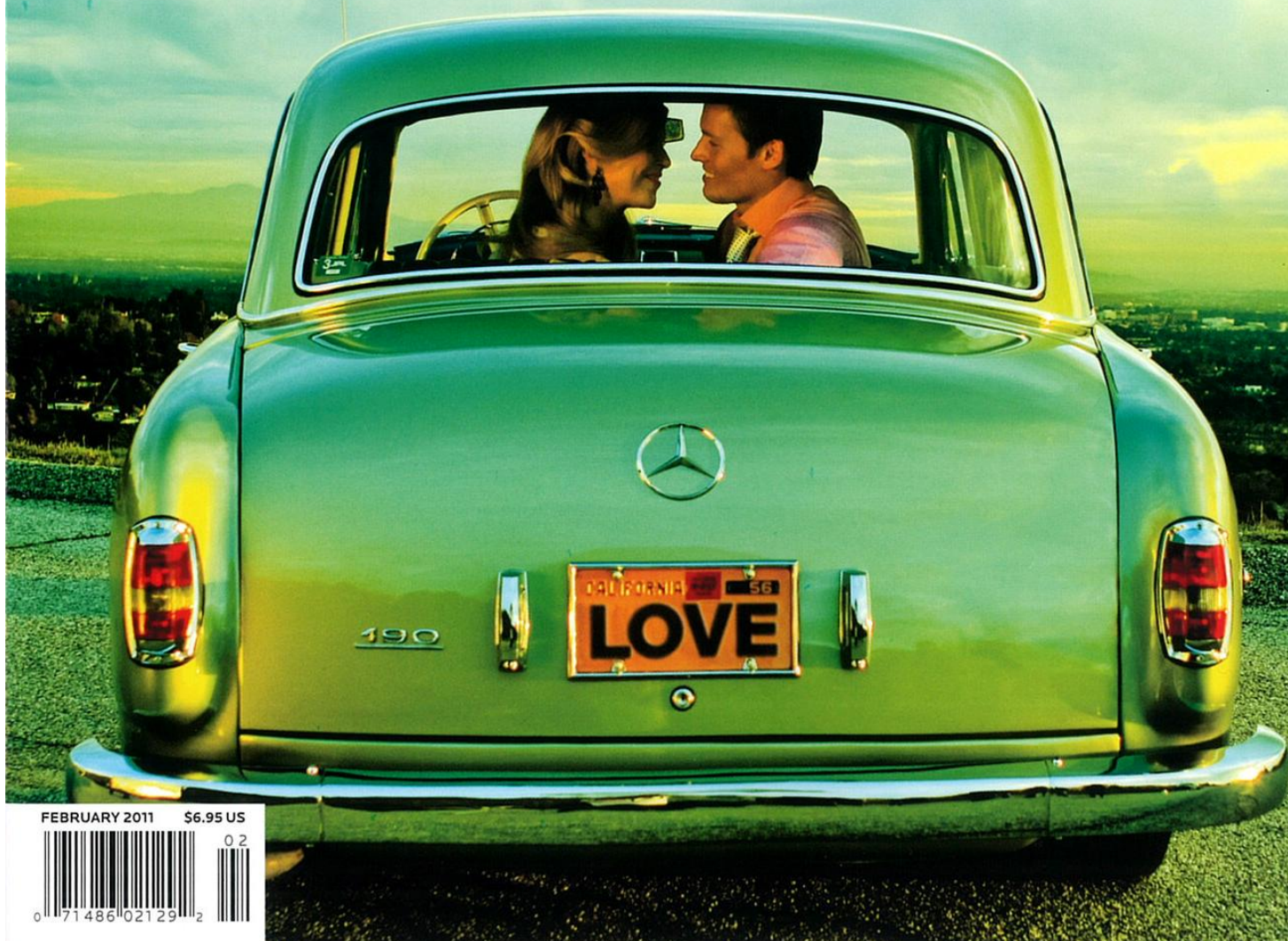
2011 TOP DENTISTS

pasadena

THE ART OF
romance

WHERE TO FIND LOVE AND HOW TO KEEP IT

- + ON-LINE DATING DOS AND DON'TS
- + PICKUPS, PRENUPS, PICNICS AND MORE!
- + BEYOND THE BAR: WHERE TO MEET SINGLES



FEBRUARY 2011 \$6.95 US



0 71486 02129 2



A PERFECT MATCH. One of Rancho Valencia's 18 impeccable tennis courts (left) and a secluded outdoor bath (right) at one of the resort's luxury three-bedroom Villas, modeled after early California haciendas.



Courting Away

A couples' retreat for swingers // STORY BY JUDY TSUEI

"WHA-POP," "WHA-POP," "WHA-POP." WALKING AMIDST THE LUSH AND TRANQUIL GARDENS OF RANCHO VALENCIA, THE SOUND OF VOLLEYS CROSSING THE NET GENTLY REMINDS YOU THAT "RELAXATION" IS DEFINED A BIT DIFFERENTLY AT THIS SAN DIEGO RESORT. AS I MEANDER ALONG PERFECTLY MANICURED PATHWAYS, LUXURIOUS HUES OF EXOTIC FLOWERS BECKON ME TO PAUSE AND ENJOY THE MOMENT—THAT IS, UNTIL OUR SPRIGHTLY FITNESS LEADER NANCY COMES CHARGING AHEAD, CHEERFULLY ENCOURAGING US TO PICK UP OUR PACE. I BREATHE

in the Southern California air a bit more deeply, swing my arms for extra momentum, and move my legs quickly ahead.

Located on 40 lush acres within San Diego California's prestigious Rancho Santa Fe neighborhood, Rancho Valencia is an exclusive destination of both private residences and vacation getaways. For those who love being active as much as being pampered, consider this resort a perfect indulgence in healthy living.

Let the Tennis Pros Show You How to Swing

As we saunter in the mid-morning sun towards the 18 pristine courts all lined by flourishing

greenery, it becomes clear why *Tennis Magazine* ranks Rancho Valencia the #1 Tennis Resort in the country—the setting and staff are both incredible.

"Good morning!" Pro Shop Manager, Eduardo Sanchez greets us jovially. He fits us for rackets, chatting in such a welcome manner that by the time we meet our coach, we feel as though we've found a longtime friend.

Because guests can participate in private, semi-private or video lessons from a staff of eight U.S. P.T.A. tennis pros, we sign up for a lesson with Robin White, former top-ten ranked player and two-time Grand Slam Doubles Champion. Though initially, any balls lobbed in my direction

meant they were flung back haphazardly beyond the court, Robin's upbeat coaching helped me rein in my swing in just moments.

Stretch Your Way to the Spa

If world-class tennis weren't enough to get your heart pumping, try giving the state-of-the-art fitness facility a go. In addition to free weights and machines, guests can take part in any of the numerous yoga, spin, and Pilates classes.

And, rather than limit yourself to exercising indoors, Rancho Valencia encourages exploration of the entire property, which can mean a stimulating speed-walking route or for truly eager exercise enthusiasts, hop on a mountain bike and see where it takes you.

After stretching from head-to-toe, we float over to the Spa to receive pampering of the best kind. The only work to do here was to choose between an aqua massage, Vichy hydrotherapy, and traditional bodywork, then retire to one of the treatment rooms where we were treated with fresh ingredients, pure essential oils, and most importantly, caring hands.

From Siesta in Your Suite to Vacation Villas

The accommodations at Rancho Valencia are worth writing home about unless, of course, you



pasadena
MAGAZINE



Celebrates the

**2011
Top Dentists**
*with a special complimentary
reception in their honor*

*Join us for a delicious variety
of cheeses from around the
world, accompanied by
a flavorful variety of wines
from Hall Winery in Napa*

**THE CHEESE STORE
OF PASADENA**
140 South Lake Ave.,
Pasadena, CA 91101
6:30pm – 8:30pm | Thursday,
February 3rd, 2011

To RSVP please email
rsvp@pasadenarose.com
or call 626.744.0954 x317
*This is a private event,
invite only*



CLASSICALLY CALIFORNIA. The luxurious Rancho Valencia Resort sits on 40 sprawling acres of private lush grounds and features an indoor/outdoor dining experience that is a hallmark of the SoCal lifestyle.

already call it home. An Auberge Resort property, Rancho Valencia features villas available for purchase as vacation homes. Villa Owners receive unlimited access to all spa and fitness center facilities, membership with the tennis club, preferred rates at the restaurant, special privileges at several private golf clubs around Rancho Santa Fe, as well as a host of on-demand concierge services. Luckily, for those interested in just a weekend getaway, a broad array of these same five-star amenities is still available.

Visitors can stay in uniquely designed Rancho Valencia villas that resemble early California haciendas or luxurious suites spanning 950-1,150 square feet. And, with such extensive active experiences from yoga and Pilates to mountain biking and tennis, you may almost feel compelled to relax the moment you walk through the door (especially when a plush robe, hot tub bath, and cozy fireplace are ready and waiting). And, for truly celebratory events, visitors can rent The Hacienda, a 5,000 square foot adobe home complete with outdoor pool and patio that defines elite accommodations.

“O” for Organic, “Oh!” for Delight

Executive Chef Eric Bauer has been in the restaurant business for 13 years. Luckily, that’s moved him to create a locally inspired menu at The Rancho Valencia Restaurant, recipient of Wine Spectator Award of Excellence, and named “One of the Top 100 Hotel Restaurants” by Zagat Survey.

With open-beamed ceilings and windows that open to California breezes, the Restaurant



creates an inviting atmosphere for you to lounge all day, enjoying market-fresh vegetables, free-range meat, and seafood from the San Diego surf. Dubbed “Coastal Ranch” cuisine, Bauer delights the palate with eats that satisfy everyone from vegans and vegetarians to committed carnivores. Best of all, much of this fare is available with 24-hour room service.

While located in San Diego, the Rancho Valencia property actually resembles more of a blend between tropical and desert living that genuinely feels like a faraway escape, right in Southern California’s backyard. With such diverse activities available from day-to-night and a dedicated concierge service to make your trip memorable, the best part of this vacation is the freedom to create it to be exactly what you’d like—even if that’s lounging by your pool all day. ☺