



2016 BLACK BOOK

WORTH THE SPLURGE

WHETHER YOU'RE IN THE MARKET FOR A CHROME MANI OR HIGHLIGHTS THAT'LL CONVINCE CO-WORKERS YOU WERE BORN A BLONDE, THIS GUIDE TO BUZZY BEAUTY HUBS AROUND THE U.S. (TESTED BY A TEAM OF REPORTERS!) WILL PROVE INDISPENSABLE. DID WE MENTION YOU GET A DISCOUNT?

by KATHLEEN FIFIELD reported by GRACE LEE



FACIALS

BEVERLY HILLS

VANESSA HERNANDEZ SKIN CARE

9675 Brighton Way, #410; 310-849-4452.

For results-first-pamperingsecond skin-care treatments, book face time with the highly sought-after aesthetician Vanessa Hernandez. Inside a plastic surgeon's office, Hernandez gets out the bright lights to assess problem areas (some hyperpigmentation and a few fine lines on our tester) before beginning a custom one-hour skin treatment. A diamond-tipped wand blasts dull skin cells, while a gold-infused mask helps plump wrinkles. With her two locations in the L.A. area, Hernandez bounces between Beverly Hills and her new spot in Brentwood to meet the needs of her clients-not surprising since the post-service glow is positively addicting: Good thing a follow-up visit is included in the price.

REGULAR PRICE: \$375
INSTYLE DEAL: \$300

GREENWICH, CONN.

DREAM SPA & SALON

15I Greenwich Ave., 2nd Floor; 203-629-2525.

If the Fire and Ice facial featuring an acid peel from iS Clinical doesn't drive color back in your cheekbones, check your pulse. After a dose of acids, skin is treated to a



calming mask to resurface without causing major irritation. "My skin was rosy afterward," says our tester, "and no doubt cleaner, dewier, smoother, and tighter-looking."

REGULAR PRICE: \$200 INSTYLE DEAL: \$160

NEW YORK

SILVER MIRROR FACIAL BAR

862 Lexington Ave.; 646-861-0089.

The focus here is efficiency: You won't get a neck rubdown between face masks, but you'll score clean, decongested skin (a godsend in the exhaust-filled streets of Manhattan). The space offers treatments like an anti-acne facial with bacteria-busting blue LED and, our tester's pick, the 30-minute Mom-to-Be special. Soothed by the fact that it doesn't include controversial ingredients (retinol and benzoyl peroxide, for example, are typical no-no's while expecting), our tester relaxed under a fruit-enzyme exfoliation and hydrating vitamin B5 mask. After an antioxidant serum and a dose of pure oxygen, she left with a glow "that had previously eluded me during my pregnancy," she says. **REGULAR PRICE: \$90**

INSTYLE DEAL (use promo code INSTYLE when booking): \$72

THE SISLEY SPA AT THE CARLYLE 35 E. 76th St., 3rd Floor:

35 E. 76th St., 3rd Floor; 212-660-7560.

Whether you're a jet-lagged traveler or stressed-out local, this classic hotel spa delivers a high-end treatment guaranteed to relax you. Our tester nearly fell asleep on the table during the Sisley Phyto-Aromatic Lightening service, which she describes as more "massage in feel than

facial." Skipping extractions but going for several rounds of exfoliation and moisture, pros work with vitamin Crich Sisley Phyto-Blanc brightening products (toning lotion, serum, and mask) to quash dark spots and give tired skin extra wattage. The products, says our tester, were "calming, not abrasive."

abstract paintings.

Alexandra Wagner achieves a clean, minimalist vibe with calming blue-gray accents, low-

slung Danish-modern chairs, and her own

REGULAR PRICE: \$200
INSTYLE DEAL: \$160

SANTA MONICA

LILI MINENI NATURALLY ADVANCED SKINCARE

3118 Wilshire Blvd.; 310-991-9140.

If a highly skilled pro making your complexion her sole focus for two hours sounds like nirvana, sprint to this sunny studio run by a former Kate Somerville aesthetician. Without even a receptionist to interfere with your one-on-one connection, you'll first consult with owner Lili Mineni. After cleansing and exfoliation with an ultrasound machine, our tester experienced her favorite part of the Oxygen Face Spa facial: an oxygen spray infused with a concentrated vitamin C serum "to help reinforce the cell walls and smooth lines," Mineni says. The pro upstaged the cool finishing mist with a shoulder massage during the final hyaluronic-acid mask.

REGULAR PRICE: \$200
INSTYLE DEAL: \$160

LOS ANGELES

ALEXANDRA WAGNER SKINCARE

1636 Abbot Kinney Blvd.; 310-399-0123.

In this ultra-private retreat in Venice, Alexandra Wagner delivers results fusing nature with technology in her Oxygen facial: After assessing your needs, she gets to work cleansing, exfoliating, and hydrating with her exclusive White Tiger products, which contain ingredients like white turmeric and tiger grass plant stem cells. She sloughs dull cells and preps skin to receive super-hydrating, peptide-infused oxygen for the ultimate refresh. Her attention to detail and custom-blended masks. toners, and facial steams allow you to walk out makeup-free. REGULAR PRICE: \$205 with Alexandra Wagner

WEST PALM BEACH, FLA.

INSTYLE DEAL: \$164

TAMMY FENDER HOLISTIC SKIN CARE

711 North Flagler Dr.; 561-659-2229.

For a transcendent experience, look no further than Tammy Fender's cottage along the Intracoastal, Sipping tea inside the neutral-hued retreat, you'll choose three essential oils to incorporate into your treatment. Once you're wrapped in blankets, Fender begins a guided meditation to "make mind, body, and skin cells more receptive to treatment." Featuring her organic line of products, the Holistic facial includes a peel-off hydrating mask, vitamin-infused oxygen treatment, and shoulder massage. Ahh.

REGULAR PRICE: \$175
INSTYLE DEAL: \$140