

VITA

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HIGHLIGHTS

BEAUTY Pro tips on how to use skincare with SPF *safely*

FASHION Canada's top thrift-*fluencers* share their secondhand shopping secrets

WINE Six bottles for *seasonal sipping*



STYLE
Here Comes The Vintage Bride

CLARINS

NEW
TOTAL EYE LIFT
[RETINOL-LIKE TECHNOLOGY]

30 seconds
eye lift effect.*

CLARINS
PARIS

Total Eye Lift
[RETINOL-LIKE TECHNOLOGY]

Concentré zone regard
lift-redensifiant

Lift-replenishing
eye concentrate

NOW
REFILLABLE

HARUNGANA EXTRACT

x12
COLLAGEN
PRODUCTION**

*Self-evaluation, perceived by 111 women. ***In vitro* test on harungana extract.

Combo Deal

A dermatologist weighs in on the best way to use a face cream with sun protection

Words by Emily MacCulloch and Ingrid Williams, @t.zonebeauty

SAVING TIME AND MONEY? YES, PLEASE! From an effortless lip and cheek stain to a versatile body and hair oil, we love a multitasking beauty product. But when it comes to using a face cream with SPF you need to be a bit savvy with the application in order to get maximum benefits.

“Both moisturizer and sunscreen are non-negotiable elements in any skincare routine,” says Dr. Monica Li, dermatologist, founder of Vancouver Skin MD and clinical assistant professor at the department of dermatology and skin science at UBC. “You need a moisturizer to hydrate the skin, especially with cooler and drier weather, and sunscreen for UV protection all year round.”

With more moisturizer-SPF hybrids hitting shelves this season, if you’re looking to add one to your minimalist routine here are a few best practices to keep your skin healthy and hydrated.

NUMBERS GAME “In a combination product, the SPF component needs to be minimum 30 or higher and with broad-spectrum UVA and UVB protection,” says Li. “If you’re only using one and spending time outdoors, then reapplication is needed every 2 hours.”

MEASURING UP “At minimum, if the cream is being applied on the face and neck, a full two finger length (index and middle), or a teaspoon, of product is needed for adequate UV protection,” she says. And there’s no harm in using more if your skin is dry and needs more hydration.

TOUCHY SUBJECT(S) “If you have sensitive skin, you may want to use a separate moisturizer and sunscreen, as it may help distinguish if either formula is causing skin issues or intolerance,” recommends Li. Ingredients such as UV filters, fragrances or preservatives are common potential irritants for those with reactive skin. She also notes that mineral sunscreen filters, such as titanium dioxide and zinc oxide, tend to be a better fit for sensitive complexions. **V**



From Left Bioré UV Aqua Rich Glow Moisturizer, Clinique Dramatically Different Moisturizing Lotion+, Paula's Choice SPF 50 C5 Broad Spectrum Moisturizer

EDITOR'S DESK



A NOTE FROM NOA

September never fails to be a busy month, and this issue of *VITA* reflects that! We were writing, editing and designing down to the wire, all in an effort to bring you stories to make the transition back to school, work and any other type of routine a little lighter. From top thrifting tips to vintage wedding wear to autumn-worthy wine pairings and new beauty launches, I hope you enjoy.

Noa Nichol

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Collagen Comeback

Dior Beauty's new Pro-Collagen Shot and Eye Crème bring cutting-edge regenerative science to the most delicate—and revealing—area of your face

Words by
Noa Nichol

WHEN IT COMES TO THE FIRST SIGNS OF AGING, our eyes often tell the story before the rest of our face does. The skin here is thinner, more delicate, and—according to Dior's latest research—loses a third more collagen than the rest of the face. By the time we hit 75, eyelid collagen density can drop by half, leading to sagging, shadows and a look of fatigue that no concealer can fully erase.

For decades, Dior Capture has been at the forefront of anti-aging skincare, pioneering the use of mother cells in cosmetics. Now, the house is taking things a step further, turning to regenerative medicine for answers. The result is a scientific leap forward: two high-performance treatments dedicated entirely to the eye area—Pro-Collagen Shot and the new Eye Crème—both built around Dior Science's latest innovation, OX-C Treatment.

Developed in collaboration with Professor Knut Woltjen of Kyoto's CiRA (Center for iPS Cell Research and Application), Dior scientists discovered that, as we age, the respiration of our skin's mother cells slows by 40 per cent, reducing ATP production (the skin's energy currency) and triggering a dramatic 68 per cent drop in collagen I production. The OX-C Treatment, designed to boost oxygen transport within skin cells, reverses much of this decline—tripling type I collagen production in lab tests.

Pro-Collagen Shot takes that breakthrough a step further by introducing a new biotechnological collagen fragment, 27 times smaller than the marine collagen often found in cosmetics. This fragment, biomimetic in design, is recognized instantly by the skin's cells, encouraging them to produce four major types of collagen—types I, III, IV and VII—that collectively account for 90 per



Above: Serena Williams for Dior.
Left, Below: Charlize Theron for Dior.



cent of skin collagen. The result: a reinforced skin matrix, improved elasticity and visibly lifted eyelids.

The shot's gel texture, 97 per cent natural-origin, is applied with a patented cool-metal applicator inspired by precision medical tools. The experience is as sensorial as it is scientific, offering an instant tightening sensation and long-term structural benefits.

Where Pro-Collagen Shot targets lift and firmness, the Eye Crème focuses on radiance, hydration and fatigue-fighting power. Alongside the OX-C Treatment, Dior has introduced the Eye Network Complex—a blend of chaga mushroom extract to strengthen the vascular network and pure caffeine to boost microcirculation. This duo addresses the underlying causes of dark circles and puffiness, helping to fortify the skin's support system and reduce the leakage of oxygen and fluids that cause under-eye shadows.

Light-reflecting natural-origin pearlescent particles deliver instant luminosity, while patented hyaluronic acids hydrate and plump. In clinical testing, the Eye Crème reduced dark circles

within a week—akin to the look of three extra hours of sleep—and improved radiance fivefold within four weeks.

To mark the launch, Dior has enlisted two women whose eyes have graced countless magazine covers: Charlize Theron, the enduring face of Dior Capture, and tennis legend Venus Williams. Photographed by Brigitte Lacombe in a stripped-back, minimalist setting, the campaign places all attention on their bright, lifted and unmistakably confident eyes—a visual testament to the promise of this next chapter in Dior's reverse aging story.

With Pro-Collagen Shot and Eye Crème, Dior isn't simply addressing the signs of aging around the eyes—it's rewriting the way we think about their cause and, more importantly, their reversal. The future of eye care, it seems, is here—and it's beautifully, powerfully scientific. The groundbreaking spirit of Dior Science is available to discover in person at the dedicated Skincare Alcove at the DIOR Beauty – Royalmount Boutique in Montreal, and online at Dior.ca. V

From Patio to Fireplace

Six bottles for seasonal sipping

AS THE DAYS GROW SHORTER AND EVENINGS COOLER, our glasses start to crave something versatile—drinks that shine at sun-soaked patio hangs but feel equally at home by the first fires of fall. From crisp rosés and iconic sheries to bold reds and even a botanical gin, here are six bottles that carry you seamlessly through the season.

01. MISSION HILL FAMILY ESTATE RESERVE MERITAGE 2021 Fresh off being crowned 2025 Winery of the Year, Mission Hill continues to set the bar for Canadian wine. Their Reserve Meritage blends Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Petit Verdot into a layered, Bordeaux-style red that tastes like Okanagan sunshine in a

glass. Expect blackberry, brambleberry and dark cherry, lifted by a subtle vanilla finish. Perfect with grilled meats on the deck—or a hearty stew by the fire.

02. LIQUIDITY ROSÉ OF PINOT NOIR 2024 From B.C.'s Okanagan Valley, Liquidity's rosé is crisp, expressive and food-friendly—a pink that pairs as easily with charcuterie under the sun as it does with roasted salmon at a cosy dinner table. Crafted from Pinot Noir, it offers bright berry fruit with a refined backbone, making it a year-round crowd pleaser.

03. HARVEY'S BRISTOL CREAM A true classic since 1882, Harvey's Bristol Cream Sherry is blended from finos, amontillados, olorosos and Pedro Ximénez for silky richness and mellow sweetness. Best enjoyed chilled over ice with a slice of orange, it's a refreshing patio sipper that also doubles as a fireside nightcap. Think of it as the ultimate season-spanning indulgence.

04. TORMARESCA CALAFURIA ROSATO 2024 Hailing from Italy's Salento coast, this

delicate rosé captures the essence of seaside living. With notes of pink grapefruit, pineapple, white peach and whispers of jasmine, it's vibrant and fresh yet laced with savory undertones. Sip it chilled during the last golden hours of summer, then let it transition to aperitivo status as you move indoors.

05. GLENDALOUGH WILD BOTANICAL GIN Not a wine, but a must-have for cocktail lovers, this Irish gin is distilled with foraged botanicals that capture the changing seasons. Its wild, herbaceous character makes a stunning G&T in the sun—and transforms beautifully into spiced cocktails come fall. Consider it your liquid passport from garden parties to cosy kitchens.

06. PETRICHOR CABERNET MERLOT Named after the earthy scent that lingers after rain, this Okanagan red blends Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot into a wine as grounding as its name. Expect black fruits, red berry lift and a supple structure. Open it on the patio alongside late-summer barbecues, then revisit it by the fire with braised meats as the air turns crisp.





Market Moves

Are retailers missing out on smaller Canadian cities?

Words by Sara Harowitz

WHEN IT CAME TIME for Skechers to open its first-ever Performance store—complete with half-courts to test out the brand’s basketball, pickleball and running kicks—it didn’t do so in a major retail hub like London, or New York, or Los Angeles or even Toronto. Instead, it chose Edmonton.

Of course, there is something to be said for the fact that West Edmonton Mall—where the store is located—is the second-largest shopping mall in North America (you haven’t lived until you’ve been to the water park). Still, it was a bold move.

Edmonton has a population of just 1.087 million; Canada’s retail centre of Toronto, meanwhile, has 3.026 million people, and is usually seen as the best fit for brands that want to make a splash in the country. But is that always the case? Perhaps there’s something to be said for the revenue potential in smaller Canadian cities. Perhaps Skechers is onto something.

“Toronto, and the GTA in general, still has by far the highest retail spend compared to other cities or areas in Canada,” says Graham Heuman, retail insights lead at retail consulting firm J.C. Williams Group, which has offices in Toronto and Saint John.

“I think it would be hard to argue it is not the retail capital of Canada, but that doesn’t necessarily mean that it is the best option for a retailer opening a store. Such density can also cause difficulties in differentiation.”

It makes sense: a bigger city offers more sales opportunities, but on the flip side, it also means much stiffer competition.

“Smaller cities can offer a larger market share for retailers as compared to larger cities, but it is a balance: 90 per cent of a \$1 million market is not as good as one per cent of a \$100 million market,” Heuman says.

“It really depends on the type of retailer and the overhead they can take on. The rent can be much higher in large cities, but the revenue can go hand-in-hand. The smaller cities, however, can also typically get more parking.”

For Edmonton-based fashion brand Poppy Barley, the original intention was to focus on ecommerce—but cofounder and co-CEO Justine Barber says that they quickly noticed customer demand for a physical store. Poppy Barley opened its first brick-and-mortar in its hometown in 2017, which tripled its revenue in the city.

“Having a fashion brand in Edmonton means that we are exceptionally embraced by Edmontonians, but we don’t have a lot of similar local companies to easily form business friendships and collaborations with,” says Barber. “One upside is that we get to recruit some exceptionally talented people who want to work in fashion and live in Edmonton; however, we also have a small talent pool to draw from. This includes adjacent businesses like models, product photographers and ecommerce specialists.”

Poppy Barley, which now also has stores in Calgary and Vancouver, uses a

slow-and-steady expansion strategy.

“We have a growth model where we start with growing brand awareness to grow online sales, supported by wholesale accounts and Poppy Barley-hosted pop-ups (two-to-five-day shopping events where we fly a team and samples in) to grow in a new city before adding a retail location,” Barber explains.

“We do great business in our pop-ups in cities like Saskatoon, Regina and Winnipeg, and our pop-ups boost online sales.”

Despite its current focus on smaller cities, though, Barber says Poppy Barely does have plans to open eventually in Toronto. It is, after all, still Canada’s retail hub, and where many of the country’s success stories began—including jewelry brand Lisa Gozlan. The company opened its first store in Toronto’s swish Yorkville neighbourhood, followed by locations in Palm Beach, Vancouver and Mississauga.

“We prefer to test markets before establishing permanent stores,” shares co-founder Lisa Gozlan. “This approach involves analyzing customer data and social media feedback to identify potential retail locations. Through our own trunk shows and partnerships with major retailers like Holt Renfrew, we gain

valuable insights into customer preferences and high-traffic areas for potential expansion. After this, we take the time and research to know where to place the brand in new cities; brand association is everything, and location is always the most important decision.”

Vancouver fans of the brand may have noticed that its Kitsilano store opened rather quietly back in November. That, says Gozlan, was intentional.

“We prioritized opening in time for Black Friday and the holiday season to serve our customers during our busiest period,” she says. “Our initial plan was a spring opening, which would have allowed for better focus and settling in. We always try to put the customer first, so as much as an event is important, being able to service our customers faster remains top priority.”

Don’t worry, though: Gozlan says that events and activations at the brand’s West 4th location will pick up as time goes on. And at the end of the day, no matter what city you’re in, the best plan is an intentional one.

“Our goal has always been to expand within Toronto and Canada strategically,” says Gozlan, “without oversaturating the market.” ▾



“Density can *also* cause difficulties in differentiation”



The Beauty Bracket Awards—a new editorial benchmark—are now in motion

Announcing The Beauty { Bracket } Awards—curated by editors at VITA and The T-Zone, the awards spotlight the products you’ll reach for again and again—judged by those who’ve tried everything.

Less Noise. More Substance.
Coming November 2025.

THE PRE-LOVED

Four Canadian thrift influencers spill their top shopping secrets

Words by Alison McGill



HAILEY PORTER

THRIFTING SPECIALTY Home goods and wearables. I have a knack for finding great entertaining items, fanciful home décor, quality clothing and accessories. By not focusing on one category, I keep things fresh for my buyers who are a global community—the furthest I've shipped is to Italy and Australia.

ON THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF THRIFTING In the six years I've had my business, it's been incredible to observe the rise in the interest of thrifting. I love that the popularity of secondhand consumerism has directly influenced major trends and encouraged people to spend in their own communities.

FAVOURITE FINDS A glass hammer, which was so novel. One-of-a-kind porcelain chess pieces made to look like mice. A cowhide lined motorcycle jacket which I found on a \$10 rack—it

@NILLIONAIRECLUB

was a beautiful piece I sold for much more, but the buyer still felt like they were getting a bargain.

TOP THRIFTING TIP Create a list on your phone of the things you want. Some stores feel overwhelming, and a list keeps you on track. Always be kind and build a relationship with shop employees, and you will be sure to earn a bonus discount or two.



you can access so many unique pieces, aesthetics and price points. This generation is also one that has prioritized sustainability and doing better for the environment.

FAVOURITE FINDS About a year ago I found a Burberry coat and sold it—I was so excited to find such an incredible piece. I am holding on to a few special items I've yet to sell, including a pair of Givenchy loafers and Prada heels.

TOP THRIFTING TIP At the risk of sounding obvious, go often! Thrift store inventory changes over quite quickly—I try to pop into a few at least once a week. Also, join your local thrift store newsletter list to stay on top of sales and discount days.

SUSTAINABLE FASHION SHOULD BE AT THE FOREFRONT of our collective consciousness every day. We're seeing vintage fashion pop up everywhere in, well, pop culture, with celebrities including Zendaya, Olivia Rodrigo and Millie Bobby Brown regularly appearing on red carpets wearing iconic throwback 'fits (you know, from the archives). But the thrill of wearing treasures from the past is not a new phenomenon—it's something devout style thrifters have been on to for decades.

In recent years, a passion for pre-loved fashion and décor pieces has fuelled the rise of buzzy, social media-led businesses where stylish thrifters sell their finds. And, what often begins as a side hustle can morph into a lucrative full-time gig.

"Getting into reselling is a labour of love," says Katie Brennan, who has been selling thrifted finds since 2020. "Don't do it for the money, do it for the love of thrifting and sustainability. Success will follow. I started off small and sold items I truly loved instead of just looking at brand names."

We chatted with Brennan and three other style-savvy Canadian thrifters to get the tea on their top shopping strategies, their favourite pre-loved scores and best practices for turning your thrifting passion into a profitable business.



Katie Brennan

@THE.THRIFTERS.CLUB

THRIFTING SPECIALTY I create thoughtfully curated collections, which are released weekly. I painstakingly handpick every item and organize pieces into a cohesive theme so the items can be seamlessly styled together. I style everything I sell and model them on myself (or my mom) and post on Instagram. I provide multiple styling ideas to help envision how the piece might be incorporated into your wardrobe.

ON THE SECONDHAND STIGMA There is still a bit of a negative vibe out there surrounding shopping secondhand, but I'm slowly seeing a positive shift. It makes me so happy to see teenagers at the thrift stores. The impact of fast-fashion waste on the environment is detrimental. Of the 100 billion garments produced each year, 92 million tonnes end up in landfills; we desperately need everyone to start accepting pre-loved as a viable option.

FAVOURITE FINDS A mint condition, 1960s Roncetti navy metal-studded jacket I found and sold. I also recently thrifted an '80s Chanel bouclé tweed skirt—my jaw dropped when I found it!

TOP THRIFTING TIP Have patience. Thrifting is all about luck and timing. You must shop frequently and take your time combing through the racks. Find out when your local store restocks and plan to visit then.

MADELYN KRIESE

THRIFTING SPECIALTY My clients love my custom style bundles. I will try to find whatever is on your inspiration board. My audience also loves my rapid-fire "Thrift With Me" vlogs, and my "Trying Every Thrift Store in Toronto So You Don't Have To" series, which has become something of an underground city guide.

ON THE MINDFULNESS OF THRIFT SHOPPING With micro-trends, people are desperate to create a personalised style and find pieces that are going to last more than two months before the next 'core' hits. Thrifting prompts us to want timeless, long-lasting pieces. We need to re-use items we already have on this planet.

FAVOURITE FINDS An Allude cashmere sweater, Louboutin shoes and Chanel loafers, which sell new for \$1,500 and I paid \$20 for. In a time when existing is

@BACKROAD_BUNDLES

more expensive than ever, thrifting provides incredible pinch-me moments.

TOP THRIFTING TIP Trust your taste and stay true to your eye. If you want to be a reseller, remember: clients aren't just purchasing clothing, they are investing in your vision. The moment you begin chasing what you think might sell rather than what genuinely excites you is when your authenticity disappears.



Kelsey Dech

@NAURATHRIFT

THRIFTING SPECIALTY It shifts from season to season, but my customers always seem to love the purses and shoes I source.

ON HOW THRIFTING SHAPES PERSONAL STYLE Gen Z really values individuality and thrifting very much encourages celebrating that. With thrifted finds

Back-to-School, Sorted: Walmart's Stylish & Stress-Free Picks

With back-to-school upon us, we've cracked the formula for a stress-free, stylish return to class. From first-days outfits and fresh notebooks to cool lunchbox gear and easy-to-miss essentials, these Walmart essentials help tick off all the boxes of a BTS checklist. Packed with endless options and wallet-friendly prices, check out our top picks for back-to-school/back-to-dorm below. [Walmart.ca](https://www.walmart.ca)

1. BIC EXTRA SMOOTH PASTEL MECHANICAL PENCILS WITH ERASERS, \$7.98 Write smooth, dark and smudge-free with BIC. Perfect for school, these 0.7 mm pencils never need sharpening—just click and write. This 24-pack with pastel barrels keeps you stocked all year, complete with clean-erasing erasers and handy clips for on-the-go convenience.

2. JETSTREAM INSULATED LUNCH BAG, \$7.88 Make lunchtime fresh and fun with the Jetstream Insulated Lunch Bag. Its roomy main compartment fits meals, snacks and drinks, while the insulated lining keeps food cool. Easy for little hands to carry and clean, it comes in six bright colours kids will love bringing to school every day.

3. REEBOK PAIGE BACKPACK, \$30 Meet your new go-to carryall: the Paige Backpack. Lightweight, durable and water-resistant, it's perfect for school or weekend adventures. With exterior zip and mesh pockets, a roomy main compartment, and a handy coin pocket, it keeps all essentials organized and ready to go.

4. SODASTREAM TERRA SPARKLING WATER MAKER, \$99.98 Stay bubbly all semester; turn tap water into fresh, fizzy drinks in seconds with a sleek, space-saving design and cordless convenience. With the Quick Connect CO₂ system and a 1L dishwasher-safe bottle, it's the stylish, eco-friendly way to stay hydrated between classes.

5. MAINSTAYS CHUG BOTTLE, \$19.88 Keep your cool at school with these 24-oz pink, BPA-free bottles that keep drinks cold for hours—ideal for lunchtime, long classes or field trips. With leak-proof lids, a sweat-proof design and easy portability, they're a back-to-school essential for staying hydrated in style.

6. BLACK+DECKER 12 CUP PROGRAMMABLE COFFEE MAKER IN STAINLESS STEEL, \$59.98 Fuel late-night study sessions with this programmable coffeemaker! Vortex water flow ensures max flavour, while Sneak-A-Cup tech lets you grab a cup before brewing is done. With a keep-warm freshness timer, brew strength



selector and sleek stainless-steel design, it's your ticket to A+ caffeine convenience.

7. BOUCLAIR PINK CANVAS BEAN BAG, \$79.98 Turn your dorm into the ultimate hangout with this soft, cosy and effortlessly stylish bean bag that's perfect for study breaks or just kicking back between classes. With its modern design and large flange, it adds a comfy pop to any campus space.

8. STRAWBERRY CUSHION, \$21.97 Brighten up your dorm with this pillow—it's the perfect mix of comfort and personality. Super soft and extra cosy, it's great for lounging on your bed or study chair. Made with durable fabric and 100 per cent recycled polyester filling, it adds a fun pop of charm to your campus space.

9. ONN. 7 IN. TABLET 32 GB POWERED BY ANDROID 14, \$78.98 Ace your semester with this portable study buddy and entertainment hub. With a crisp IPS touchscreen, Android 14 (Go edition) and up to 10 hours of battery life, it's perfect for note-taking, streaming or research. Lightweight yet powerful, it's dorm-friendly tech you can take anywhere.

10. HOMETRENDS SOLID COLOUR FUR BED REST, \$24.97 Make your dorm the cosiest spot on campus with the hometrends Solid Colour Fur Bed Rest. Perfect for propping up during late-night study marathons, streaming sessions or weekend reading, it features ultra-soft faux fur, plush fill and great back support—all wrapped in chic style for your home-away-from-home.

Hot Shops

Vancouver's latest and greatest retailers

Words by Noa Nichol

ORRIN SPA Downtown Vancouver's luxury spa scene has a fresh new name—and an even deeper sense of serenity. Formerly known as CHI, The Spa at the Shangri-La, the space has been reimagined as Orrin, part of the newly rebranded Hyatt hotel on Alberni Street. While the walls may look familiar, the experience inside has evolved into something uniquely attuned to the rhythm of the West Coast. Guided by light, grounded in stillness and inspired by nature's ebb and flow, Orrin offers treatments that unfold entirely at your pace. Each service is shaped by breath, energy and intention, creating a restorative journey that feels personal and unhurried. The Orrin Healing Treatment—a standout on the menu—delivers exactly what its name promises: a release of tension, a reconnection to self and a reminder to pause amid the city's bustle. This is more than just a spa visit; it's a sanctuary in the sky where the hum of Vancouver fades into the background and balance quietly returns. *1128 W. Georgia St., 5th Floor. Hyatt.com*



ATACZ Vancouver's sustainable bag brand has officially landed in the physical retail world with its first-ever storefront at CF Richmond Centre. Known for its clean, minimalist designs and knit construction from recycled plastic bottles, ATACZ has built a loyal online following since 2023—and now shoppers can experience its eco-conscious craftsmanship in person. The 1,800-square-foot space blends bold pops of the brand's signature orange with recycled and repurposed materials, from plywood displays to denim tabletops and foam-cushioned benches. It's a tactile nod to ATACZ's zero-waste mission,



which has already transformed more than 15,750 PET bottles into functional, fashion-forward accessories. Alongside best-sellers like the origami-inspired Twist bag and versatile Odelia tote, the store offers something special for in-person visitors: the Birthday Twist collection. Available exclusively in-store, this limited-edition series features 12 Pantone shades—one for each month—paired with custom illustrated labels. Whether you're a Sun Orange August or a deep December hue, it's a personal, playful take on sustainable style. *Unit 1510A, 6551 Number 3 Rd., Richmond. Atacz.com*



ARITZIA GUILDFORD Guildford Town Centre just scored a major style upgrade with the grand opening of Aritzia's newly expanded boutique—now the largest in Canada. This isn't just a shopping trip; it's a full-on Everyday Luxury experience, complete with the province's very first A-OK Cafe. And here's the scoop (literally): this is the only A-OK in the country serving up ice cream alongside its gourmet lineup of espresso, micro-ground teas and locally baked treats. The boutique's interiors are as covetable as the clothes: think 20th-century European furniture, curated artwork and an atelier space bathed in perfect, state-of-the-art lighting. Plush lounges invite you to take a break from browsing the brand's exclusive labels like Wilfred, Babaton, Tna, The Super Puff and Sunday Best, while world-class Style Advisors are on hand to help you nail the perfect fit. From the playlists to the pocket placement on your new favourite pants, every detail here is intentional—the kind of thoughtful design Aritzia has been perfecting since 1984. Whether you come for the fashion, the ice cream or just a perfectly crafted cappuccino, Guildford's Aritzia is officially the hottest hangout in town. *10355 152 St., Surrey. Aritzia.com*

AETHERHAUS The West End just got a steamy new addition—and a seriously cool one, too. AetherHaus, across from English Bay, blends ancient sauna and cold plunge traditions with a modern, hospitality-first approach. Inspired by German Aufguss (aromatic steam rituals) and Russian Banya, this purpose-built communal cold plunge studio offers 90-minute semi-guided and free-flow sessions designed to restore mind and body. Guests can choose from yin-inspired stretches, sound-immersive meditations, breathwork, stillness practices or bracing cold plunges under expert guidance. Every element is intentionally curated to immerse guests in the moment, from a strict phone-free policy to sensory touches like eucalyptus-scented cold towels and frozen grapes at select sessions. The Himalayan salt sauna, tea lounge and aromatic rituals create a space that is equal parts restorative and inspiring, while Guides

circulate heat and scent using infused water with organic flowers or trees, adding a ceremonial feel. Whether you come for stillness, connection, or a jolt of icy invigoration, this is wellness reimagined—a space to arrive exactly as you are and leave feeling deeply renewed. *1768 Davie St. Aetherhaus.ca*



dine.

shop.

visit.



ARC'TERYX Arc'teryx has officially landed on Robson Street with a stunning new flagship that blends cutting-edge design with deep West Coast roots. The two-level space is more than a retail store—it's an interactive hub for outdoor inspiration. A highlight is the massive map of Southwestern B.C.'s trails, which lights up based on activity type, inviting visitors to discover their next adventure right from the shop floor. Inside, every detail reflects Arc'teryx's dedication to precision and performance, from the sleek, functional displays to curated showcases of the brand's most pinnacle products. The Athlete Celebration Window shines a spotlight on local talent, honouring the incredible athletes who embody the brand's spirit. Whether you're in the market for your next adventure kit or just want to soak up the energy of Vancouver's outdoor culture, this new Arc'teryx flagship is a must-visit. Think of it as basecamp, reimagined—right in the heart of the city. *1001 Robson St. Arcteryx.com*

Iconic outdoor shopping in Vancouver.



#onRobson



Choosing to wear something old on your wedding day is extremely on-trend

Words by
Alison McGill

WHEN NICOLA PELTZ BECKHAM AND BROOKLYN PELTZ BECKHAM RENEWED THEIR WEDDING VOWS THIS SUMMER the fashion-loving bride decided to make a vintage wedding dress the star of her bridal look. When the couple tied the knot in 2022, Peltz Beckham wore a wardrobe of bespoke designs created by Valentino with the star being a minimalist column gown complete with a dramatic train which felt heavily '90s inspired. Second time around, Peltz Beckham went even more retro with her wedding vibe choosing a singular, romantic ballgown—her mother Claudia's 1985 wedding dress.

Wearing vintage is currently the biggest trend in bridal style. In an age where hyper-personalized details are the most important part of every wedding day, choosing to wear vintage is one of the most beautiful ways to make your day truly bespoke.

"Today there is so much repetitiveness in bridal because of social media," says Olivia Ivey Bannock, an Los Angeles-based stylist whose focus is brides. "Vintage fashion gives your wedding a true moment of differentiation. If you are a fashion girlie and appreciate a moment, vintage is a perfect wedding choice."

Bannock, who is also the CEO of Olivet—a line of fashionable garment bags—says finding dream vintage looks for her clients sparks joy because it's a personal passion of hers. For her own wedding a few years ago, she incorporated several vintage elements into her looks including antique hair pins and a vintage veil to wear with her new season Oscar de la Renta ceremony gown. For the afterparty she changed into a '80s moire dress with rhinestone detailing. She did some creative alterations to transform it into an ultra-chic mini.



Lauren Kyle McDavid,
photographed by Pablo Laguna.

Most of Bannock's brides come to her with a mood board requesting specific designers and eras. From there, she starts the process of treasure hunting, checking in with trusted vintage retailers to see what's available and if they are able to source what she's looking for. Having a dress made in the image of a designer original is also a popular option in the event a style match can't be found.

One of Bannock's clients who recently made a huge impact with her standout wedding fashion is Lauren Kyle McDavid, wife of Edmonton Oilers captain Connor McDavid. On her wedding day last summer, McDavid wore five incredible dresses which were an otherworldly mix of vintage and contemporary looks. For her ceremony, she chose a glamorous Vivienne Westwood Couture custom creation. The supporting stars of the bridal fashion show included a 2007 Ralph Lauren dress with a plunging cowl neckline which McDavid wore to her rehearsal dinner; and an extremely rare Chloé by Stella McCartney blue mini dress, which was worn by Kate Moss on the runway during the fashion house's Spring/Summer 1998 presentation.

"With Lauren, she knew what she wanted with her looks," Bannock says. "She loved vintage Ralph Lauren because it was one of her mother's favourite designers. With the Chloé dress, we looked around the world for it, and a few weeks before the wedding had not sourced it yet, so we had a replica made. Two weeks before the wedding, the dress miraculously surfaced at a vintage store in New York. Lauren wore the original for the first part of the after party then changed into the gown, we had made so we could preserve the original."

If you are looking to secure a vintage wedding dress, know that shopping can require a different level of dedication and patience because pieces are typically snapped up quickly. Cher Thorton is the owner of Toronto's Vintage Bride

boutique and says she typically stocks upwards of 300 dresses which date from the early 1900s through the year 2000. She shares since making vintage wedding dresses the focus of her business in 2017 the demand for gowns has exploded because not only do her customers want to wear something unique, but they also love the sustainable angle, too.

"Right now, dresses from the '90s and Y2K are trending," Thorton says. "We currently have a lot of great designers from the bridal canon including Priscilla of Boston, and William Cahill who was one of the biggest American bridal designers from the 1950s through the '70s. We have also recently had amazing couture pieces from houses like Dior and YSL. Those dresses sell fast."

Because sizing can be a bit fussy with vintage pieces, Thorton likes to see brides in person, and reports she has had many travel distances to secure their dress. She says every gown stocked in her boutique is cared for by her vintage-savvy team who take care of fabric restoration and any repairs to ensure dresses are restored to their original grandeur. These glow up details are built into the price tag for a dress and customization is also available.

"A lot of times older dresses are quite modest, and clients want to modernize them—sleeve removal is very popular," Thorton explains. "Any excess fabric we have we keep and have amassed and incredible textile library which we dip into for alternations when we need to."

When it comes to cost, a vintage wedding dress is typically more affordable than a new gown. "Pieces are typically reasonably priced, and you can expect a small mark up at vintage retailers to cover their curation costs," Bannock says. "I consider vintage fashion to be a beautiful investment because not only are wearing something that's not only super rare, but a piece of history." V

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LIFT

Clarins' new Total Eye Lift is a 30-second game-changer

Words by Noa Nichol

OFF

IF THE EYES ARE THE WINDOW TO THE SOUL, then tired eyes are often the first to betray us. Long nights, early mornings, the constant glow of screens and the steady hum of daily stress all leave their mark on the delicate eye contour. It's the thinnest skin on the face, just half a millimetre thick, and the very first place to show fine lines, loss of firmness and fatigue. Now, Clarins is stepping in with a small red bottle that carries a bold promise: a lifted, smoother, fresher look in as little as 30 seconds.

Launched just last month across Canada, Clarins' new Total Eye Lift (\$118 for 15ml; \$94 for the refill) is set to become a beauty essential for anyone looking to restore vitality to one of the most expressive parts of the face. Sleekly packaged in a refillable aluminum bottle, the treatment is designed to deliver both immediate and long-term results while keeping sustainability in mind.

At the heart of this powerful formula is organic harungana extract, a plant-based alternative to retinol that has been earning attention across the skincare world. Known as "nature's retinol," it helps boost collagen, improve skin density, and smooth away wrinkles without the irritation or sensitivity often linked to vitamin A derivatives. Safe for daily use and suitable even for delicate skin, harungana lays the foundation for a treatment that is both highly effective and highly tolerable.

Clarins has paired it with another breakthrough: activated red jania extract, a biotech marine ingredient cultivated

under controlled conditions to maximize its firming power. The synergy between these two botanicals is formidable, visibly lifting, brightening, and smoothing the eye area with continued use. To this, Clarins has added plant caffeine to depuff, horse chestnut escin to stimulate circulation and reduce dark circles, and shea butter to comfort and nourish the skin. The result is a formula that doesn't just refresh—it transforms.

The clinical results speak for themselves. In consumer testing, women reported seeing a lifted effect in just 30 seconds, with noticeably smoother skin after three hours and visibly reduced wrinkles and firmer texture after 30 days. It's the rare product that manages to deliver instant gratification and still build toward long-term transformation. While it certainly works as a quick pick-me-up before a big meeting or evening out, it's designed as an everyday powerhouse, steadily restoring radiance and resilience over time.

Clarins also knows that application is part of the experience. To enhance the effects of Total Eye Lift, the brand worked with renowned facialist Marie Depoulain to develop a simple, three-step at-home draining application method. By using the index and middle fingers to gently lift and drain around the eyes, tension is released and microcirculation is stimulated, amplifying the lift effect. The entire process takes less than a minute but leaves the eyes looking more open, awake, and youthful—proof that skincare can be both effective and indulgent.



A lifted, refreshed look in just 30 seconds—

no filter required



Beyond its performance, the new formula also underscores Clarins' long-standing commitment to sustainability. The aluminum bottle is fully refillable, cutting environmental impact by 73 per cent with each refill. The transparent cartridges allow you to see exactly how much product is left, so you'll never be caught off guard mid-routine. It's a thoughtful touch that makes luxury feel not only

responsible but practical too, blending elegance with eco-consciousness.

For anyone battling fine lines, crow's feet, under-eye bags, or simply the all-too-familiar signs of a late night, this little red bottle may be the ultimate reset. Consider it a beauty essential that doesn't just disguise fatigue but actively works to erase it, leaving eyes luminous and refreshed. No filter required. ▽

3 Things to Know About Clarins Total Eye Lift

RESULTS IN A FLASH

See a lifted, refreshed look in just 30 seconds, smoother skin in three hours, and visibly reduced wrinkles after 30 days.

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Organic harungana, a natural retinol alternative, teams up with activated red jania to firm, smooth, and depuff—all while being gentle on sensitive skin.

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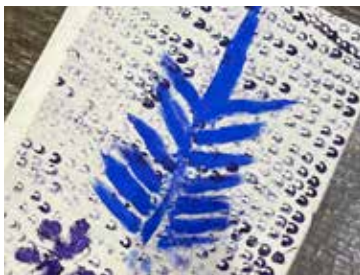
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HAWAII FIVE STARS

Words by Noa Nichol

UPON BOARDING THE AIRPORT SHUTTLE that would take us to our rental car, the driver advised, “When Kīlauea erupts, you’ll want to head straight over to Crater Rim Drive.” To evacuate, we presumed. “No,” he said, “to see it!” Hence, our Hawaiian adventure began: 10 days, two islands, unparalleled fun. Here are the details. *Gohawaii.com*



Island of Hawaii

STAY For travellers seeking sun-drenched beaches and laid-back luxury, Hawaii Island’s Kohala Coast delivers—and two standout resorts make the most of it. The Fairmont Orchid offers a lush 32-acre oceanfront escape where elegance meets authentic Hawaiian hospitality. With its pristine white-sand lagoon perfect for snorkelling and paddleboarding, unwind with fun and sun passes that include access to kayaks, boogie boards and more. Cultural activities, from hula lessons to canoe excursions to coconut-frond weaving, add meaningful immersion to every stay. Just down the coast, The Westin Hapuna Beach Resort brings contemporary Hawaiian style to one of the island’s most beloved stretches of sand. Part of the Mauna Kea Resort complex, this expansive property offers access to the Arnold Palmer-designed Hapuna Golf Course, two pools (including an adults-only infinity pool) and a state-of-the-art Westin Workout Center with a CrossFit Studio. Between indulgent spa treatments and fresh island cuisine, it’s a serene blend of wellness, adventure and beachfront bliss. *Fairmont.com | Marriott.com*

SPA At the Fairmont Orchid’s award-winning Spa Without Walls, treatments unfold in open-air haies tucked among orchids, lily ponds and streams, or in private oceanfront cabanas where the sound of the waves sets the rhythm for your breath. We tried the Hiwa Hiwa, a 60-minute signature Rainforest Essence journey that blends a traditional lomilomi massage with a Hawaiian māmaki mud wrap for the lower legs and feet. With light-to-medium pressure and the sweet scent of island botanicals, the experience felt like being wrapped in Hawaii’s mana—its life force energy—leaving both body and mind deeply soothed. Just down the Kohala Coast, The Hapuna Spa by Mandara at The Westin Hapuna Beach Resort draws inspiration from both Balinese and Hawaiian traditions. Here, we indulged in the Tropical Hawaiian Body Scrub, a rejuvenating 60-minute ritual that uses Hawaii’s natural ingredients to exfoliate and revive the skin. The treatment ends with a lush application of tropical body lotion, sealing in moisture and leaving skin silky, radiant and island-fresh.

SEE Hawaii’s Big Island is a paradise for explorers, offering a blend of natural wonders,

cultural treasures and unforgettable adventures. Water babies, be sure to pick up a fun and sun pass from the Fairmont Orchid, which grants access to kayaks, paddle boards, snorkel gear and more for endless ocean play. For a dose of history, head to Hulihe’e Palace in Kailua-Kona, once home to Hawaiian royalty, or journey inland to Waimea, where paniolo (cowboy) heritage is rife. Animal lovers can meet bottlenose dolphins up close at Dolphin Quest Hawaii, known for its education and conservation work, and nature takes centre stage at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, where Kīlauea and Maunaloa create a dramatic, ever-changing landscape of craters, lava tubes and steam vents. Plan for a full day and expect traffic if eruptions are active. End your trip with a bucket-list experience: a Night Manta Ray Snorkel with Anelakai Adventures. Paddling a traditional Hawaiian double-hull canoe under the stars to watch graceful manta rays glide beneath you is the perfect Big Island finale.

SAVOUR From fine dining to flip-flop casual, Hawaii’s Big Island serves up flavours as vibrant as its sunsets. It starts at the resorts; Fairmont’s Orchid Court serves a lavish breakfast buffet with made-to-order omelets, fresh pastries and tropical fruit. For lunch, Hale Kai delivers island favourites like fish tacos, lobster fried rice and avocado toast, served poolside under grass umbrellas. At the Westin’s Binchōtan Bar & Grill, traditional robatayaki grilling infuses wagyu beef, fresh seafood and seasonal vegetables with irresistible smoky depth—best enjoyed family-style on the terrace or with a craft cocktail at the bar. For a cultural feast, it’s back to the Fairmont for the Hawai’iloa Lū’au, which pairs a buffet of Hawaiian classics—kalua pig, tropical fruits, island-inspired sides—with an enchanting hula performance set against the historic Kalāhuipua’a backdrop. Beyond the resorts, Mauka Bar and Grill blends American classics with Filipino flair and golf course views. Lava Lava Beach Club serves up beachfront bites on Anaeho’omalū Bay, while the Lagoon Grill at Hilton Waikoloa Village keeps it casual with burgers, sandwiches and tropical cocktails. And don’t miss Merriman’s, a pioneer of Hawaii regional cuisine, or a sweet stop at Punalu’u Bake Shop for island-famous treats.

Oahu

STAY For half a century, Turtle Bay has been a cherished escape for generations of families and friends drawn to Oahu’s wild, windward North Shore. Originally opened in 1972, the resort is synonymous with the natural beauty, big-wave surf and relaxed spirit of the island’s coast. Now, as Turtle Bay enters a new chapter, The Ritz-Carlton has arrived to elevate the experience with its signature style, refinement and world-class hospitality. Perched on 1,300 acres of unspoiled coastline, resort guests can expect sweeping ocean views from nearly every room and suite, along with thoughtful design details that honour Hawaiian culture—from traditional woods and artwork to immersive experiences (horseback rides, turtle tours and fish painting) that connect you with the land and sea. *Ritzcarlton.com*

SPA Step into a deeper state of relaxation with the lomilomi massage at Nalu Spa at The Ritz-Carlton, a soulful healing experience rooted in traditional Hawaiian wellness practices. More than just a massage, lomilomi is an ancient Polynesian technique passed down through generations, blending rhythmic touch with intention to restore balance between body, mind and spirit. The treatment starts with a personalized intention—whether it’s healing, emotional release or deep relaxation—creating a focused energy that guides the treatment. Using long, flowing strokes that mimic the ocean’s waves, the massage works to release tension, improve circulation and reconnect you with your inner calm.

SEE From sacred lands to surf towns, Oahu offers an endless blend of history, beauty and family-friendly fun. Start with a visit to Kualoa Ranch, a 4,000-acre private nature reserve rich in cultural significance and cinematic landscapes. Ride horses through valleys, zipline over lush canopies or tour filming locations of iconic movies like *Jumanji*—all while supporting sustainable tourism and Hawaiian stewardship. For a slower-paced day, head to Hale’iwa, the North Shore’s artistic and culinary

hub. Browse boutique shops, refuel with shrimp from a roadside food truck and cool down with shave ice as surfers head out to Waimea Bay and Sunset Beach. Every Wednesday, Waimea Valley welcomes families for Keiki Wednesday—complete with lei-making, cultural workshops, ukulele lessons and waterfall swims, while in Honolulu, Cirque du Soleil’s ‘Auana dazzles with a theatrical ode to the islands, blending hula, acrobatics and music inside the Outrigger Waikiki. History buffs can visit the Pearl Harbor National Memorial, the Bishop Museum or Queen Emma Summer Palace for an immersive look into Hawaii’s past. Whatever you do, end your day in Waikiki with a walk through Kapiolani Park, home to the Honolulu Zoo and live concerts—all in the shadow of one of Hawaii’s most iconic geological features, Diamond Head.

SAVOUR Start your North Shore morning in style with breakfast at The Ritz-Carlton Club Lounge at Turtle Bay. Reserved for Club-level guests, this elevated dining experience delivers five daily gourmet presentations, beginning with a serene breakfast spread featuring tropical fruits, island-inspired dishes and locally roasted coffee. With sweeping ocean views and a private concierge on hand, it’s a relaxed, refined way to ease into your island day. After breakfast, head to nearby Kuilima Farm, 468 acres of thriving agricultural land where visitors can pick up fresh exotic fruits from charming farm stands. The farm’s mission—rooted in the Hawaiian value of “kuilima,” or “holding hands with the land”—is all about reconnecting to nature, supporting local growers and nourishing both body and community. Before heading back to the beach, cool off with a refreshing treat from Kula Shave Ice North Shore, also located at the farm. Don’t miss the signature Kula Rainbow (blueberry, strawberry, mango over vanilla ice cream), the Tropical Vibes (mango and liliko’i with coconut condensed milk) or Poi in Sai—a bold blend of soursop shave ice over fresh poi with haupia cream and liliko’i butter. *Kuilimafarm.com*

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Soufflé Yarn Sweater

SOFT ENOUGH FOR SENSITIVE SKIN BUT DURABLE ENOUGH FOR PLAYGROUND ADVENTURES, the Soufflé Yarn Sweater is made from UNIQLO's signature airy knit. It's cosy without being heavy, with a non-irritating texture that keeps kids comfortable all day long. Parents will love how easily it layers, and kids will love how it feels—like a warm hug on a cool morning. **\$34.90**

PuffTech
Washable Vest



SCHOOL DROP-OFFS IN THE DRIZZLE? Weekend soccer games in the chill? The PuffTech Washable Vest has you covered. Lightweight yet warm, it's finished with a water-repellent coating to handle light rain and is machine washable (a parent's dream). Layer it over a sweater or hoodie, and you've got a transitional piece that works from September through spring. **\$49.90**



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DENIM THAT MOVES AS FAST AS THEY DO. These pants feature a relaxed fit, elastic waistband and drawstring, so outfit changes are quick and stress-free. They look like jeans but feel like sweats, making them the ideal everyday pant for kids who want to play hard without feeling restricted. For parents, they're a no-brainer: easy to style, easy to wash and easy to love. **\$29.90**



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