

Forbes

Top Fine Chocolate Brands

BY: KATIE KELLY BELL

A box of chocolates is an easy and terrific gift for the chocolate lover, but not all chocolates are created equally, so one must choose wisely. I cultivated a taste for the good stuff early in life during our family trips to Ireland every summer. It was there that I discovered a shocking truth: American candy was inferior to European candy. I'd stash bags of Cadbury's Dairy Milks into my luggage and open them later at the school lunch table where my poor, unknowing peers were absent-mindedly wolfing down Reese's Cups and Snickers.

Today's chocolatiers have elevated the art of chocolate into something even more magical. It is my belief, after years of anecdotal testing, that one really good piece of chocolate, preferably dark, is more satisfying than any full size candy bar—European or American.

As a service to true chocolate lovers I tasted over 100 truffles for this story—and went to 10 extra cycling classes as a result. All of this was done in the line of duty so you, dear reader, can shop with confidence.

Delysia Chocolatier—

I loved the dense truffle texture in these chocolates, making each one a significant bite. Try the gold medal-winning jalapeño tequila truffle for something totally unique.

