

ultimate insider's guide to miami

FLORIDA

TRAVEL+LIFE

52 perfect weekends

MAKE PLANS WITH OUR YEAR OF UNFORGETTABLE ESCAPES

HAIL TO THE CHEF P. 21

daniel boulud does florida

SWING TIME P. 17

can't-miss golf holes



floridatravellife.com

FEBRUARY 2011 U.S. \$4.99



Get the FREE app at <http://gettag.mobi>



THEN SCAN HERE TO WATCH FT+L TV NOW! see p. 8 for more info



chocolate rendezvous

YOU CAN NEVER INDULGE IN TOO MUCH CHOCOLATE

1 | TAMPA From an out-of-the-way jewel box of a shop in Largo, just west of Tampa, chocolatier William Dean Brown creates Jackson Pollock truffles: exotic dark chocolates filled with surprises like lemon lavender, sea-salt caramel, grapefruit tarragon and this winter's flavor, butternut squash with coconut cream. A dot-com refugee who made his first chocolates after watching way too many food TV shows, Brown opened **William Dean Chocolates** (williamdean.chocolates.com), a showplace of sorts to complement his online business. To confirm just how tasty his chocolates are, consider this: France's Valrhona makes a custom couverture for him. Average box: \$22.

2 | FORT MYERS Florida's first celebrity chocolatier, **Norman Love**, expands from his first salon in **Fort Myers** to a splashy Euro space in **Naples**, where he's added pastries and coffee to the mix. Black is Love's newest shade—five very dark chocolates of prestige single origins from Madagascar to Ecuador, designed to be sipped or melt in your mouth. Don't miss his dark jalapeño. Find them at both Norman Love Confections (normanlove.confections.com) locations. Average box: \$22.

3 | ROSEMARY BEACH Rosemary Beach has a rare marriage of Spain's beloved chocolaterias and tapas bars in **La Crema** (lacrematapas.com). Folks stop by for small-plate lamb chops, but chocolate's a big draw—either Spanish cocoa with churros or molten chocolate cake baked in a mug. Owners Kevin and Kim Neel say the big seller combines sweet and savory—dark chocolate wrapped around thick, salty applewood bacon. Average serving: \$6.

4 | KEY WEST Most decadent is **Better Than Sex** (betterthansexkeywest.com), a veritable bordello in **Key West** for chocoholics with a passion for the candy of love. The menu is tarted up and dipped in chocolate. Signature drinks like Kelly's Klimax are chocolate rim jobs—cabernet in a dipped glass—except for the Caramel Over Me for those who have had their fill of chocolate. Is that possible? Average serving: \$12. —CHRIS SHERMAN

