



The
Information

THE INDEPENDENT

The essential guide to going out and staying in 23.01.2010

The 50 Best Beauty Buys



Film

Inside story:
A Prophet

Comedy

Luke Wright's
Petty Concerns

Theatre

Sheridan Smith
in Legally Blonde

Music

Midlake show
Courage live

Beauty buys

THE 50 BEST

From essential creams to the coolest cosmetics, stylist **Beth Dadswell** selects revitalising potions, luxury lotions and seductive scents



1 Guerlain
This beautiful lipstick compact, Rouge G de Guerlain (above), reproduces the air-releasing effect of antique powder cases. The white gold metal case reveals a mirror and a luxurious lipstick nestled within. The flattering shade of shell pink is called Beatrix and is enriched with mango butter, and there are 25 different shades. **Where** 01932 233887 **How much** £27

2 L'Oreal
If you're holidaying in warm climes this spring, sunscreen is sure to be on your shopping list, but don't forget about your hair. Coloured and porous hair can easily be damaged by prolonged exposure to the sun and harsh chemicals found in pools, so give it some UV protection with Tenei Smooth Essence (top left). **Where** 0845 6000 122 **How much** £16.25

3 Vaishaly
Sweet almond and organic olive oil combined with a splash of warm water make this cleansing balm (above right) a lovely way to wake up in the morning. Contained within an airless pump to prevent the need for synthetic preservatives, it effectively removes all traces of make-up and grime without stripping your skin of its natural oils. **Where** www.vaishaly.com **How much** £59

4 Jo Malone
If you are already panicking about what to buy the lady in your life this Valentine's Day, Jo Malone's romantic Red Roses Cologne (top centre) is a pretty safe bet. Unlike racy red underwear, this will suggest that you are a man of taste and style. While the packaging alone is enough to get most pulses racing. **Where** www.jomalone.co.uk **How much** £64

5 Ortgia
Aside from the lovely olive oil-infused body milk inside the bottle, this wins the award for most stylish packaging (top right). The sage-green and silver palm-tree design on the box suggest sultry evenings somewhere exotic, which is great place to transport yourself to, metaphorically speaking, while lingering in the bath. A real treat. **Where** www.ortgia-srl.com **How much** £30

COSMETICS
FRAGRANCES

HAIR
BODY

SKINCARE
GADGETS

THE 50 BEST
Next week
Men's grooming gear

6 Silk'n
Although expensive, this laser hair-removal device promises to get rid of unwanted body hair for ever. The laser zaps the hairs at the root, which prevents them from growing back, however it can take months to take effect so patience is required. **Where** www.silkn.co.uk **How much** £385

11 Neutrogena
Neutrogena's Norwegian Formula concentrated hand cream is dinky enough to be thrown into a work bag and light enough to be instantly absorbed. Apply liberally and often. **Where** 0845 6015789 **How much** £3.69

12 Estée Lauder
This shocking shade of Bungalow Pink nail lacquer is the latest to be launched in the Michael Kors Very Hollywood collaboration. The new make-up range features energetic colour combinations. **Where** Exclusively from Harvey Nichols (0207-2355 000) **How much** £12

16 WAM
If you like your hair to look naturally wavy or tousled rather than poker straight, attach this WAM diffuser to the hairdryer, and place your hair into the diffuser for natural waves. **Where** www.windlehair.com **How much** £15

17 Givenchy
The cute Le Prisme blush compact's four shades range from porcelain to dusky pink and will add a gentle flush or a rosy glow, depending on how much you apply and which colours you mix. **Where** 01932 233824 **How much** £27.50

7 Chanel
If you missed out on Chanel's big Christmas seller - the Shimmering Tweed highlighter, you will be pleased to know that this spring sees the launch of Empreinte de Chanel, which is just as covetable, with its CC logo and bouclé-look bronzing powders. **Where** Chanel (020-7493 3836) **How much** £42

13 Dermalogica
If your hair feels like it needs a little extra TLC, treat yourself to a bottle of Dermalogica's Silk Finish conditioner. It's not cheap but you will notice the difference in the texture of your hair after just a few washes. **Where** www.dermalogica.com **How much** £19.80

18 Ojon
The Restorative Hair Treatment contains Ojon oil extracted by hand from the tropical rainforests of Central America. The brand responsibly sources its ingredients. **Where** www.ojon.co.uk **How much** £38

19 Sisley
Sisley has created Supremya at Night cream, and although the cost will leave you feeling slightly faint, the results will leave your skin glowing. **Where** 020-7591 6380 **How much** £435

20 Miller Harris
Un Petit Rien is a lighter version of L'Air de Rien and perfectly suited to spring. Notes of neroli, oak moss, and musk are clear and fresh, and appear to float on your skin rather than envelop it. **Where** www.millerharris.com **How much** £60

8 Redken
Improve the look of limp, lifeless hair with Redken's Instant Bodifier. The pump-action dispenser delivers a lightweight volumiser to the hair without leaving it feeling gunky or stiff. No more helmet-head jokes at your expense either. **Where** www.redken.co.uk **How much** £14.25

9 Dermalogica
If you have congested skin but don't have ages to spend on your daily skincare regime, Dermalogica's Daily Microfoliant is a great product. The powdery granules turn to a paste when mixed with water, and cleanse and exfoliate your skin in seconds. **Where** www.dermalogica.com **How much** £33.50

14 Crème de la Mer
This Eye Concentrate is particularly great if you are worried about fine lines and crow's-feet. Comes with a silver-tipped applicator that helps to cool puffy, tired skin. **Where** www.cremedelamer.co.uk **How much** £123

15 Alberta Ferretti
Italian fashion designer Alberta Ferretti has finally created her first perfume, and very lovely it is too. Freesia, bergamot and sweet pea inject sparkle, while patchouli and amber give this a warm glow. **Where** www.selfridges.co.uk **How much** £35

10 Tom Ford
Grey Vetiver is the most gorgeous new unisex scent to hit the stores for a long time. Tom Ford has hit exactly the right note with this subtle, sophisticated combination of grapefruit, sage, nutmeg and the star performer, vetiver. **Where** www.tomford.com **How much** £50

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21 Laura Mercier

Those of you have blemish-free complexions will find the Laura Mercier Tinted Moisturiser invaluable. The coverage is sheer enough to look entirely natural but adds a touch of colour to winter skin, while the sun protection factor 20 continues to protect it. **Where** www.selfridges.co.uk **How much** £32



22 Fekkai

Frederic Fekkai's 3-Minute Mask has been created for colour-treated hair and gives immediate results. Softer, tamer, shinier hair and if used twice a week, it also helps to prolong your colour and prevent fading. **Where** www.harrods.com **How much** £28



23 Natura Bisse

Apply a thin layer of Glyco Peel to thoroughly cleansed skin twice a week for six weeks and you will really notice the difference. It removes the top layer of dead skin cells, evens out your skin tone and dramatically increases hydration. **Where** www.harrods.com **How much** £160



24 Clinique

If you have dry skin, your post-bath moisturising routine could be eating into your valuable lie-in time. So why not try this Deep Comfort Body Wash by Clinique instead? It works up into a creamy lather, leaves your skin feeling clean, hydrated and soft. **Where** www.clinique.co.uk **How much** £13



25 Braun

If you like the immediacy of shaving but don't like the instant regrowth, you should try the Braun Silk-épil Xpress epilator. You can use it in the bath or on dry skin, and unlike waxing, it is even effective on shorter hairs. **Where** www.braun.com **How much** £99.99



26 Matrix Biolage

Products that are stocked exclusively in hair and beauty salons tend to have a much higher concentration of ingredients that make them more effective. The Delicate Care shampoo contains certified organic argan and olive oil. **Where** www.matrixhaircare.co.uk **How much** £9.95



27 Origins

This moisturiser is called Starting Over, and is perfect for younger skin just starting to show the first signs of ageing. It is easily absorbed and smells delicious due to the mimosa, which also helps the skin to boost its own collagen production. **Where** www.origins.co.uk **How much** £34



28 Johnsons

The Johnsons Classic lipcare balm has been my "must have" beauty product this winter and will continue to be this spring too. It smells of marshmallows, leaves your lips moisturised and soft and doesn't leave a huge dent in your bank balance either. **Where** www.boots.com **How much** £1.59



29 Revlon

Revlon's Matte Powder Blush is will make a huge difference to sallow skin if used sparingly, and this particular shade, Perfectly Peach, is good for darker or tanned skins. Invest in a decent brush and dust a small amount onto the apple of your cheeks. **Where** www.boots.com **How much** £7.49



30 Jo Hansford

This Colour Care Volumising shampoo will add a little va-va-voom to your usual blow dry. It smells of citrus, which helps to wake you up in the morning, and contains brazil nut and sunflower extracts to nourish and add shine. **Where** www.harveynichols.com **How much** £14



26 Lancôme

The new La Touche Pro concealer is perfect for spot cover-ups, brightening under eyes and generally smoothing out imperfections, and contains two variations of the same shade making it ideal for the summer. **Where** www.boots.com **How much** £22.50



27 Mark Hill

Ridding ourselves of the dreaded "frizz" has become big business of late. Ultimately, you will have to see which products suit your hair, but Mark Hill's De Frizz rehydrating shine conditioner is definitely one of the best. **Where** www.boots.com **How much** £4.99



28 La Prairie

Life Threads Gold combines cinnamon peel, ylang-ylang, myrrh and incense. The bottle is wrapped with gold-coloured thread and the scent even manages to smell expensive. **Where** from selected House of Fraser stores (0844 800 3752) **How much** £72



29 Elemis

There aren't many nicer things than a long soak in a hot bath on a chilly winter's night. This vitamin-rich Skin Nourishing Milk Bath contains extract of Japanese camellia oil and oat extract to leave your body smelling divine. **Where** www.debenhams.com **How much** £39.84



30 MAC

Why not try enhancing your eyebrows with this brilliant Dirty Blonde eyebrow pencil from MAC? The pencil is quite hard, and if you use short, soft strokes to fill in the gaps you will be amazed at how natural it looks. **Where** www.macosmetics.co.uk **How much** £10.50



41 Nivea

Nivea Q10 has been outselling its competitors since it was launched in the UK in 1998 and this new version is likely to be just as popular. The Anti-Wrinkle Day Care moisturiser now comes with extra UV protection. **Where** www.boots.com **How much** £9.99



42 Lolita Lempicka

Perfume bottle aficionados will love Si Lolita. The spicy scent, which is a combination of pink pepper, corn, sweet pea and amber is contained in a swirly gold bottle topped with a jaunty ribbon tied at the neck. **Where** www.houseoffraser.co.uk **How much** £46



43 Boots

The gorgeous dusky pink vintage-style packaging of this Patchouli & Lavender body cream suggests that this is from an exclusive boutique brand. In fact, it is from Boots' Original Beauty Formula range. **Where** www.boots.com **How much** £5.49



44 Shavata

Although you never knew it, these diminutive heart-shaped tweezers are actually an essential piece of gadgetry and should be kept in your bag at all times. **Where** www.shavata.co.uk **How much** £18



45 Giorgio Armani

Steer clear of fake tans in the winter and concentrate on finding your perfect foundation match instead. Then, to add some extra luminosity, mix in a little of this Fluid Sheer instead. Gives a subtle golden glow. **Where** www.selfridges.com **How much** £32



31 Tri-Aktiline

This Instant Deep Wrinkle Filler works by sitting on the surface of the skin and literally filling in the creases, making it appear smoother and more radiant. Genius. **Where** www.boots.com **How much** £27.99



32 Acqua di Parma

Acqua di Parma Colonia's unisex fragrance is characterised by its crisp citrus top notes, spicy aromatic middle notes and woody base. It is also available in a beautifully packaged hat box. **Where** www.spacenk.co.uk **How much** £43



33 The Body Shop

Love Etc Body Butter will undoubtedly appeal to teenage girls with its girly packaging and heady fragrance, so if you are looking for a gift for the girl who has everything, it's perfect. **Where** 01903 844554 **How much** £12.50



34 Champneys

Champneys' Luxury Hand Centre includes a bubble massage bath, 12 attachments designed to shape, file and dry your nails as well as a hoof stick. Sounds like the perfect night in to me. **Where** www.champneys.com **How much** £44.99



35 Bobbi Brown

Bobbi's Extreme Party mascara is great for slipping into your purse for late-night touch-ups. The black mascara lengthens lashes without clogging them, as well as adding definition. **Where** www.bobbibrown.co.uk **How much** £17.50



46 Philip Kingsley

Simply apply Philip Kingsley's Elasticizer to the mid-lengths and ends of your hair before shampooing, leave on for up to 20 minutes then wash and condition as usual. **Where** www.philipkingsley.com **How much** £25



47 Neals Yard Remedies

The inexpensive Frankincense Hydrating cream is light enough to use every day. It is full of plant oils and herbal extracts to strengthen and protect your skin. **Where** www.nealsyardremedies.com **How much** £23



48 Paul & Joe

Bleu is an ideal first perfume for a teenage girl. Jasmine, rose, magnolia and vanilla make it light but suitably powdery when it settles, putting it firmly into the oriental category of perfumes. **Where** www.beautybay.com **How much** £38



49 Clarins

Clarins has created a new Foot Beauty Treatment cream to pamper sore feet and tired toes, which also contains essential oils and powders to reduce perspiration. **Where** www.clarins.co.uk **How much** £19



50 RMK

Eyelash curlers really are a revelation the first time you use them. They instantly make your eyes look bigger and more dramatic as well as opening them up by curling your lashes outwards. **Where** www.selfridges.co.uk **How much** £10