

OC METRO

DECEMBER 2012 OCMETRO.COM

Business. People. Life.

Now in his 7th year, a confident and collaborative **CHANCELLOR MICHAEL DRAKE** oversees UC Irvine, the top U.S. university under 50 years old.

OPEN HOUSE
OC'S GREENEST HOME WELCOMES YOU TO THE GREAT PARK

PAGE 26

THE MAGIC CUBE
LASER KEYBOARD PROJECTS ONTO ANY SURFACE

PAGE 20

LIVE OLD HOLLYWOOD LUXURY AT **MONTAGE BEVERLY HILLS**

PAGE 66

Ace on the Hill

With a love of sports and a passion for students, **CHANCELLOR MICHAEL DRAKE** leads UCI and stares down the fiscal challenges of 2013

PAGE 36

BEST & WORST OF 2012

PAGE 52



TRAVEL

Montage Beverly Hills

This urban oasis incorporates tropical stylings evocative of Old Hollywood.

You can tell a great deal about a hotel by the people you meet in its elevators, especially from what the people are wearing. For example, the first day I arrived at Montage Beverly Hills, I shared a ride with a meticulously well-dressed, bow tie-attired man who turned out to be the in-house fashion stylist, Joe Katz. The next day, I rode downstairs with an urbane young woman wearing a trendy to-die-for dress.

In the wealthiest areas of Southern California, what a person wears can speak volumes. From what I saw, those working in the fashion industry comprised a higher-than-normal percentage of the visitors at the Montage – which was really no surprise in trendy Beverly Hills.

While the hotel is located just a few steps from Prada, Luxuriator Sunglasses and Cartier, Montage Beverly Hills *itself* showcases current fashions in the world-famous city located at the corner of affluence and Rodeo Drive. The Montage has only been open three and a half years, so it offers the latest modern-day conveniences paired with great Old Hollywood character. (Most Beverly Hills hotels date back to the 1920s.)

Montage Beverly Hills is fabulous for both business and pleasure. It offers a relatively small number of rooms (201) so you can get to know your fellow guests and the staff. You might rub elbows while having martinis in the Parq Bar Lounge, relaxing at the swank city-living rooftop pool or

pouring your morning java from a polished coffee urn.

If you're traveling on business, the spacious, stylish rooms feature a number of appointments that will make your day easier. One example: push-button drapes. Who can be bothered with the cumbersome manual labor of opening and closing curtains when you have work to do? Even the lighting and TVs are all controlled with a master remote. It's lavishly engaging to be the Master Controller of all your in-room gadgetry.

The look of Montage Beverly Hills is sumptuous – sophisticated and extravagant with formal style, yet the ambiance is very comfortable and accessible.





Montage Beverly Hills
225 North Canon Drive
Beverly Hills; 866.757.3897

A visit to Montage's spa is essential. It's not just any spa – it's a two-floor, 20,000-square-foot land of rest and relaxation. The treatments are progressive, the design is decadent, and details (such as salts from the Dead Sea) are exotic. Spa Montage offers several wet treatments. For example, its Anointing Treatment is probably nothing you've ever experienced. Your anointing starts with rose oil, applied in a figure-8 pattern, which is reputed to balance the energy system over your chakras. Your therapist then gives a full-body massage, and the treatment ends with a "Vichy rain shower," composed of hot- and cold-water streams that travel up and down your spine to boost metabolism and detoxify your body. It results in physical nirvana and

the facts:

Montage's style is inspired by Spanish Colonial Revival architecture paired with the Mediterranean styling reminiscent of Old Hollywood and Beverly Hills.

at both Scarpetta and the Marquesa Ballroom, and the Twelve Days of Christmas.
montagebeverlyhills.com

mental enlightenment.

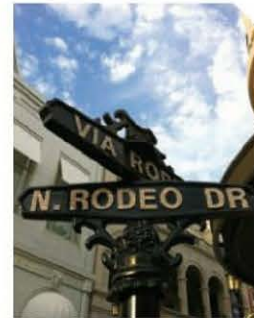
There really is so much to enjoy when staying at Montage Beverly Hills, and doing so during the holidays makes for a particularly charming experience. In addition to the world-renowned shopping of Rodeo Drive, enjoy dancing during the hotel's New Year's Eve Gala, the season's Artistry of Wine festivities, holiday dining

the must sees



CULINARY REWARDS

Dining at Montage is a divine and delicious culinary experience. Scarpetta Beverly Hills features seasonal Italian cuisine created by celebrity chef Scott Conant. The residential-style European kitchen is perfectly quaint for Sunday brunch. The Conservatory Grill, adjacent to the rooftop pool, offers spectacular views of the Hollywood Hills, along with fresh California cuisine in a garden atmosphere. And Parq Bar is a hot spot for afternoon tea or to enjoy live entertainment and a relaxing nightcap.



RODEO DRIVE

While in Beverly Hills, of course you must visit Rodeo Drive and its renowned shopping options. Check out the collections from Hermès, CHANEL, Valentino, Ermenegildo Zegna, Gucci and many others. The area is particularly attractive during the holidays, with fabulous window displays and creative décor that deck the halls and the boutiques' walls.