

KATE FLAHERTY

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THE MERCHANDISE MART'S KATE FLAHERTY DIVULGES ON CALORIE-WORTHY DESSERTS AND SHOWROOMS THAT EXCITE.



1

THE BIG CHILL

In November, the go-to destination for foodies, oenophiles and design aficionados is LuxeHome's Chill. This annual blowout culinary event has attracted chefs like Andrew Zimmerman, Ryan Pitts and Jason McLeod. Don't miss the private VIP wine tasting. What's not to love about succulent short ribs washed down with a silky Brunello? luxehome.com

2

SWEET SPOT

Coco Pazzo is a hot spot at lunchtime. You'll often see Mayor Rahm Emanuel and former Mayor Daley dining there, and it's popular with the design crowd, as well. Executive chef Chris Macchio serves the most delicious risotto. After lunch, indulge your sweet tooth with the panna cotta, which is worth the calories. cocopazzo.chicago.com

3

WATER WORLD

For a quick getaway, I head to the Kohler Waters Spa. It's close enough to Chicago, but far enough from my busy life in the city. Get the H2O Inspiration Signature Treatment... 75 minutes of pure heaven, and a very refreshing and invigorating treatment. I stay at The American Club, which is home to the spa. americanclubresort.com

4

COOK OFF

You may think that only a VP at the Mart could get excited about an appliance showroom, but I promise you that the Sub-Zero and Wolf space at the Mart is a turn-on. The space is tricked out with integrated refrigerators, dual-fuel ranges and cooktops that'll get your inner chef aroused. Don't miss Chef Craig Bell's cooking demos. subzero-wolf.com/showroom/chicago

