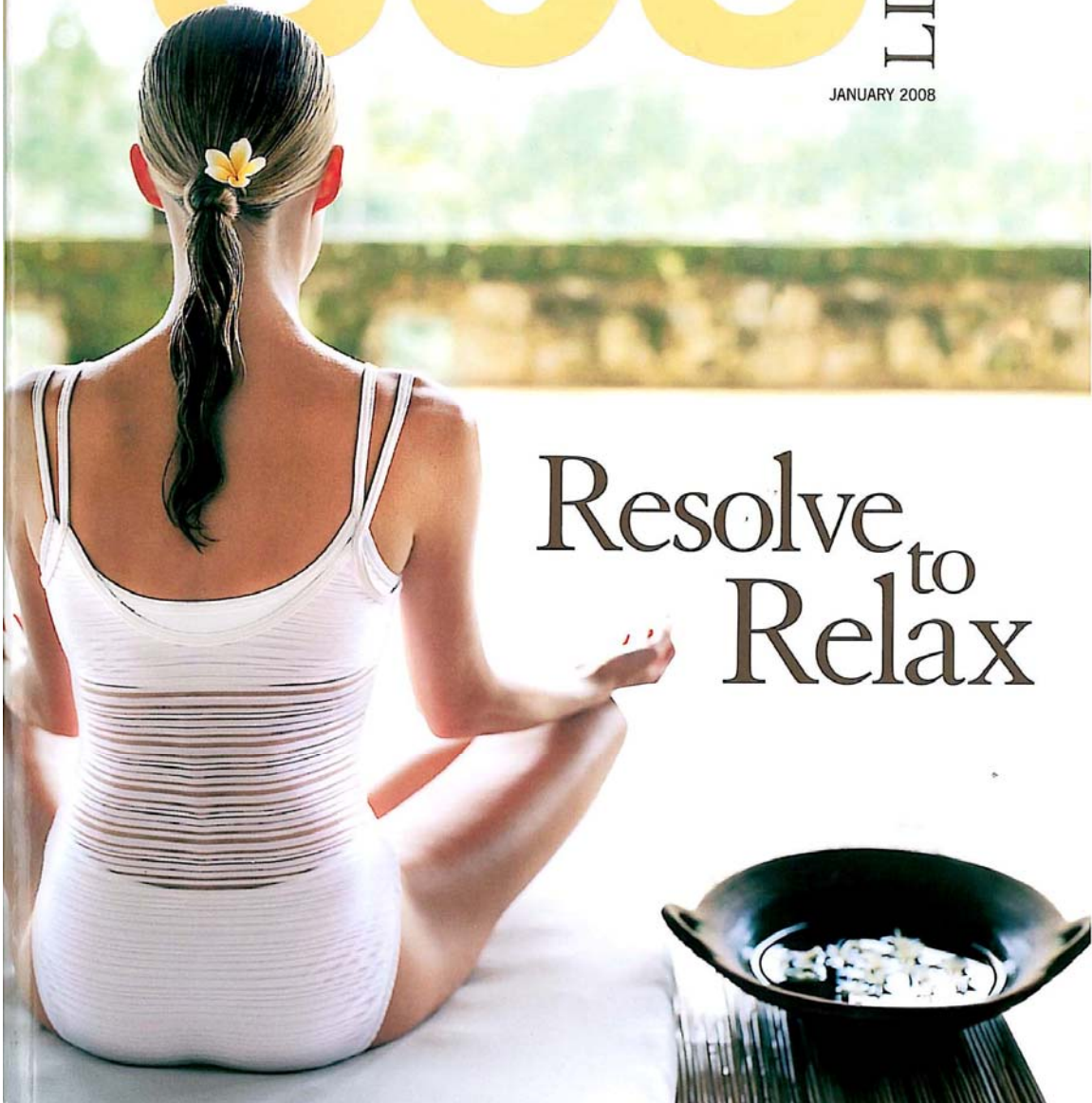


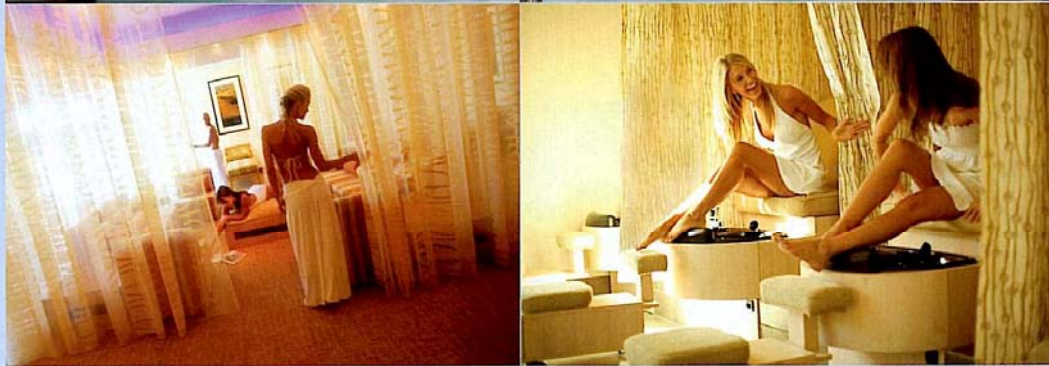
HOME DINING RECREATION TRAVEL COMMUNITY HEALTH SHOPPING

# 805 LIVING

JANUARY 2008



## Resolve to Relax




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## *Desert Springs* PALM DESERT

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One of the area's biggest and best-known resorts, Desert Springs is legendary not only for its mega size (the 450-acre property boasts 884 rooms, five swimming pools, and 23 acres of lakes and lagoons), but for being one of the first to open a full-service spa. In 1987 it was almost a groundbreaking idea. But 20 years later, it was showing its age.

Now, after the resort's \$35 million face-lift, which also included spiffing up the hotel entrance and adding an alluring lobby lounge, a new 38,000-square-foot spa has risen from the desert sands. Desert Springs can again claim to be one of Southern California's largest and grandest spas.

While the rest of the resort is famous for a playful, oasis-like, tropical feel (complete with pink flamingos, parrots, cockatoos, ducks, swans, and even boat rides), the spa stands apart in a quiet cactus garden. Inside, soft green, rust, and sand tones mirror the environment, with pebbled wall panels and wavy wood accents. In a spa of this size, you'd expect it all, and you'll find it—hot tubs, steam rooms, hammams (steam that does not get as hot as traditional

steam rooms), and saunas. A sunny bistro serves healthful fare, and a peaceful lap pool is reserved for spa guests.

Over the past two decades, the resort has had ample time to figure out what spa-goers seek. So you'll find thoughtful touches, such as private dressing rooms for those who'd rather not bare all in public, swimsuit spinners, and showers with both ceiling-mounted showerheads and multiple wall spigots, depending on whether you want to wash your hair or not. In addition to separate lounges for women and men, a coed relaxation room invites lingering.

Several treatments incorporate ingredients of the desert. The date scrub, for example, will remind you of a yummy date shake. Speaking of treats ... if you bring a date or spouse, sign up for a couple's massage. You get a private two-room treatment suite with an oversized whirlpool tub, plus enough alone time together to enjoy it, along with champagne and truffles.

*For more information call 888-538-9459 or visit [www.desertspringsresort.com](http://www.desertspringsresort.com).*

