

Magazine

Santa Barbara

The ENDLESS SUMMER

HIP ROAD TRIP FROM
JALAMA TO RINCON

PLUS
SUMMER'S
PLAYLIST OF
SUN, FUN,
SAND +
SOLSTICE





What's the Buzz?

Beekeepers Richard Kline and Glenn Perry have a combined 40 years at their passion, and that matters when you sign up for the **OJAI VALLEY INN & SPA's** new Beekeeping Experience (\$150/person). The 90-minute tour takes you to their on-site apiary of six boxes, each packed with 25,000 bees. Once you're suited-up in protective gear, the boxes are opened and you are up close and personal with the insects—able to see pollen stored on their hind legs, watch them communicate with each other, and see how a honeycomb is formed. It's remarkable to stand in the middle of the swarm and hear the harmonious buzzing sound knowing you are safe.

The experience culminates in a tasting of 10 diverse honeys including sage, pine, avocado, and eucalyptus, giving you an understanding of unique flavors, sweetness levels, and viscosity. Plus you get a jar to take home. It's the bee's knees. 905 Country Club Rd., Ojai, 855-697-8780. MICHAEL CERVIN

OJAIRESORT.COM



Clockwise from top left: Learning about bees; the apiary at the **OJAI VALLEY INN & SPA**; a honey tasting.



Word to the Wise

Disappearing at an alarming rate, bees are the underappreciated essential component of the food chain, responsible for pollinating 30 percent of the world's crops. Now, these insects finally get the credit they deserve in professional beekeeper Susan Brackney's beautifully illustrated, fact-filled book, **PLAN BEE: EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE HARDEST-WORKING CREATURES ON THE PLANET** (\$13.95, TarcherPerigee, available at Chaucer's Bookstore, 805-682-6787, chaucersbooks.com), featured on Oprah's summer reading list. Brackney explains bees' pivotal role in our ecosystem, the inner workings of a hive, and more. HANNAH MILLER



Honey MADE

Handcrafted in an Ojai apothecary, **SWEET BEE MAGIC** (\$24.99) has been gaining popularity for its all-natural, organic ingredients that help to soothe, heal, and hydrate skin. "Our products are made in the traditional small-batch method only using the purest oils and honey products," says Medicine Mama's cofounder Jaclyn Steinmann. Built on the foundation of a "mother/daughter beauty company that started grassroots in the kitchen," founder Donna Steinmann also supports the community, aiding in local nonprofits and honeybee preservation. 805-646-2425. H.M.

MEDIENAMASAPOTHECARY.COM



Sip Tip

THE APIARY recently celebrated its two-year anniversary with a new dry wine-style mead (\$18/bottle). The tasting room has a rotating selection of cider and mead that are made from local honey and organic apples grown and fermented in-house. 4191 Carpinteria Ave., Carpinteria, 805-684-6216. H.M.

