

# BRENDA MCNEILL

## *Art of Leisure*<sup>SM</sup>

“Just a little pick me up please.... that is all I need today. As many of you know, chocolate is a slight passion of mine.” Here, I share a few favorite spots, books and movies for or about fresh, handmade chocolate. I have included special stops from Wine Country to Silicon Valley for friends and clients to enjoy.

## *Chocolate spots*

### Sonoma:

- Wine Country Chocolates [www.winecountrychocolates.com](http://www.winecountrychocolates.com)  
Chocolate bark with cherries and rocky road are a local favorite, so convenient just off the Sonoma Plaza with many flavors to taste

### Napa:

- Woodhouse Chocolate [www.woodhousechocolate.com](http://www.woodhousechocolate.com)  
Everything is wonderful at this lovely shop which ships around the USA. Located on Main Street in Saint Helena, it is quite popular with the wine country connoisseurs

### San Francisco:

- Recchiuti Gourmet Chocolates [www.recchiuti.com](http://www.recchiuti.com)  
Chocolate truffles and the holiday specialty items are favorites, the Ferry Building location is always busy and fun
- Teuscher Chocolate [www.teucherswisschocolate-sf.com](http://www.teucherswisschocolate-sf.com)  
Chocolate covered caramels and champagne truffles are divine, although not made locally, it is shipped in fresh weekly and a beautiful neighborhood shop

### Palo Alto:

- Timothy Adams Chocolates [www.timothyadamschocolates.com](http://www.timothyadamschocolates.com)  
The Venezuelan truffle and the 99% Triple X truffles are incredible. Their motto is super simple and delicious and it is!

### Good Reads on Chocolate:

- Hershey: Milton S. Hershey's Extraordinary Life of Wealth, Empire, and Utopian Dreams  
Michael D'Antonio
- The True History of Chocolate  
Sophie D Coe & Michael D. Coe

### Old Movie:

- Chocolat  
Drama/Romance, 2000 British-American film

### Time:

- About 3:30 to 4:00 pm in the afternoon it is truly chocolate time, add the warmth of a strong cup of fresh black tea in the cooler months or iced tea in the summer and the world is perfect again

*Local*

*Authentic*

*Sonoma*