



Outdoor dining in Downtown Danville

DANVILLE: LADIES DAY OUT

Pamper, Primp, and Enjoy | by JAMIE MENAKER

Danville is diverse as it is small—a host of boutiques, eateries with outdoor patios for endless gabbing, lovely spots for pampering, and nightlife activities are a convenient hop, skip, and jump away. So grab your favorite girlfriends and prepare for a day meant just for you.

MORNING

Start the day off right and let the stress melt away at Kure Wellness Retreat (145 E. Prospect Ave., Ste. 202, www.kurewellnessretreat.com). This full-service spa offers massages, skin care, body care, and acupuncture. Make appointments for all the girls, and then relax post-treatment in the women's sauna or in your plush robes with a glass of chilled, fruit-infused water. Standouts include the La Stone massage with heated and cool stones, and the Organic Seasonal Facial. Once fully relaxed, head to the Danville Yoga Center (125A Town and Country Dr., www.danvilleyogacenter.com), where the motto is “It’s all Yoga,” for a class in their secluded yoga studio surrounded by lush trees. Or take a refreshing walk through Danville on the paved Iron Horse Trail (www.ebparks.org/parks/trails/iron_horse), formerly train tracks for the Standard Pacific Railroad.

MIDDAY

Settle in with your girlfriends on the patio in front of Rising Loafer Café and Bakery (340 Hartz Ave., www.danvillerisingloafer.com), home of some of the freshest and most authentic lunch fare around. All breads, including selections like Cinnamon Raisin and New York Rye, are made from scratch daily and are the base for fresh, healthy sandwiches either hot or cold. Soups and salads are also top-notch here, with produce straight from the growers. Stroll downtown Danville for some shopping therapy. Christina’s Fine Clothing (145 E. Prospect Ave., Ste. 103, (925) 362-8682); Flaunt (145 E. Prospect Ave., Ste. 101, www.shopflaunt.com), and Ella J (114 E. Prospect Ave., www.ellajboutique.com), all on chic Prospect Avenue, offer designer fashion for women. Prospect Avenue is also home to The Last Detail (124 E. Prospect Ave., (925) 820-4590), with unique accessories and prices you’ll find only in the Los Angeles Garment District, and Le Jardinnet (166 E. Prospect Ave., (925) 820-8333), a serene spot with a lovely, eclectic selection of French-inspired home décor. »

Danville Daycations > A Day with the Ladies



Christina's Fine Clothing



Tootsies



For more shopping, head to the Rose Garden shopping center for eco-friendly clothing and accessories from Olive Boutique (730 Camino Ramon, Ste. 130, www.shopoliveboutique.com) or high-end casual wear and dresses at Elisa Wen (730 Camino Ramon, Ste. 170, www.elisawen.com).

AFTERNOON

After all that shopping, make time for a snack and then some pampering. Nestled right next to Lunardi's Market is Gelato Classico (345 Railroad Ave., www.gelatoclassico.com), or as we like to say, 'ice cream for grownups.' This rich and creamy Italian ice cream is just the thing to refresh your palate. Soak up the sun outdoors and have fun people-watching. You have quite a few choices for primping and pampering. For manicures and pedicures, line your ladies up in plush massage chairs at the newly opened Bollinger Nail Salon (760 Camino Ramon, www.bollingernailsalon.com) or at oldie-but-goody favorite Pinkies (508 Sycamore Valley Rd. West, www.pinkiesnailsalons.com) with shabby chic décor and fun accessories to browse while waiting. Prepare for the evening with hair and makeup at one of Danville's favorite salons, Tribes (111 Town and Country Dr., Ste. G, www.tribesalon.com), where a vintage-inspired salon room for nails and makeup accompanies the industrial décor hair studio.

EVENING

Chow (455 Railroad Ave., www.chowfoodbar.com), known for its ginger cake dessert with pumpkin ice cream, is a great restaurant for a quick casual dinner—simple, fresh, really good food—before going out. For something new and different, schedule a pin up party at Original Sin (145 E. Prospect Ave., Ste. 100, www.originalsinundies.com, www.pinupparty.com). This vintage-inspired lingerie shop stays open for you after-hours, and their all-female staff will transform you and your girlfriends into retro pin up girls. Original Sin will supply the clothing, props, professional styling, champagne, and photography—you and your ladies bring the good time. If the Danville nightlife is more your scene, check out Happy Hour at Bridges restaurant (44 Church St., www.bridgesdanville.com), or grab a table next-door at The Vine at Bridges (480 Hartz Ave., www.thevineatbridges.com). The gentlemen behind the counter are pros at recommending wines based on your personal taste, and you can even order small plates and desserts straight from the kitchen at Bridges restaurant. Be sure to enjoy Wednesday evenings when you can build your own flight of wines to sample for \$15.



Bridges Restaurant