



WRITTEN BY BREANNE TOEPPER PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF FARSAI

When Naja Hayward started her tea company, Naja Tea, she said it was a natural decision to make her line organic. She is very aware of what she puts into her body, and wanted a product that supported her values. She was raised being very conscious of her impact on the earth. Living eco-consciously is a lifestyle to her, not just a trend to follow. With Naja Tea, she wants to help make being eco-friendly chic. Some things she does to help the planet are riding her bike instead of driving her car, picking up trash someone left behind, and shopping at farmers markets instead of the mass-chain grocers. Check out najatea.com to see all the wonderful teas and gift baskets Naja has to offer. Soon she will be launching a new line of teas for women called Fern Tea. There are four teas in the line that support women's overall health and well-being.

FAVORITE LONG BEACH HOTSPOTS:

My new favorite restaurant is The Factory Gastrobar on Atlantic (they focus on local and organic food and have an excellent beer selection). My favorite music spot for a night out with the girls is Tantalum. Favorite night at the movies is at The Art Theater. Favorite date with my son is on the baseball field or Lakewood Batting Cages. I always score points with that one!

FAVORITE ECO-CONSCIOUS BRANDS AND DESIGNERS:

I recently met the founder of Hemp Elegance out of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Her clothes are sophisticated but cozy, and perfect for traveling. I like to call organic and natural clothes "yummy fashion".

ARE THERE ANY FASHION ITEMS YOU ARE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR?

I just returned from Italy and found a Dolman blouse that was stunningly gorgeous. I should have snatched it up when I had the opportunity!

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT LONG BEACH:

Long Beach is unexpected. Like my favorite loose leaf tea, it's bold, warm, exciting, and the longer you steep it, the more its nuances are brought to life and the more you experience its many wonderful complexities.

FAVORITE BLOG:

I'm a self-proclaimed foodie, but, more importantly, I care about where our food comes from and how people are affected by it — ethicurean.com is an excellent blog about "chewing the right thing".

WHAT IS YOUR GO-TO ITEM WHEN YOU FEEL YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WEAR?

There's a local designer, Wendy Manasse, who has a line of the most deliciously comfortable clothes called Quenchwear. Her line can be dressed up, dressed down, worn to work out, or worn for a night on the town. Perfect when you want to keep it simple but stylish.

YOUR IDEAL DATE OUTFIT?

Anything that helps me feel confident and flirty. A hint of sexy, a hint of sweet. Always comfortable. A great recipe for a fun night!

DO YOU HAVE ANY ECO-FRIENDLY FASHION ADVICE?

There's nothing like soft bamboo cotton against your skin. Eco-friendly fashion is sexy. It makes you feel good inside (knowing you're doing your part for the planet) and out. ■

Do you know someone with their own sense of style? Email us at style@longbeachmagazine.com and let us know.