

# A VERY BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS

Three chic women reveal their beauty tips, party prep and what's at the top of their wish lists



## Reena Hammer

The managing director of beauty and wellness destination Urban Retreat is thinking about bathing rituals and a pair of Manolo Blahniks

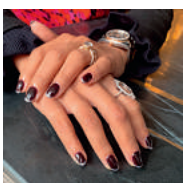
**Christmas isn't about pyjamas in our house.** I'll live in dresses by Self-Portrait, with flats for practicality, though I'll add a heel from Manolo Blahnik or Louboutin if we go out for lunch on Boxing Day. My husband just treated me to a Nikos Koulis ring that I've been obsessed with for the past five years. It'll be my party piece this season.

**This is when the glitter comes out to play.** Kryolan makes amazing metallic pigments that never fall or fade, and I'm obsessed

with nail art, usually an accent nail or glitter detail on a nude base, or a French manicure with bright tips. My hair's usually up in a bun, so I will wear it down with sparkling grips and slides. **It's so easy to burn out at this time of year.** I plan on locking myself away at Urban Retreat for a day in the lead-up.

At our flagship location, there's 12,000 square feet of beauty and wellbeing,

*A festive take on a French manicure.*



RUBY HAMMER  
BRUSH HOLDER,  
from £15

KRYOLAN  
PURE  
PIGMENTS  
METALLIC,  
£17.50



CND  
VINYLUX  
LONG WEAR  
POLISHES IN  
NEGLIGEE...

AND  
MERCURIAL,  
£11.95 EACH



SELF-  
PORTRAIT  
DRESS, £320



MANOLO BLAHNIK  
SATIN STILETTOS,  
£885

ODACITÉ  
CRYSTAL CONTOUR  
GUA SHA, £40



TOM FORD  
ORCHID  
SOLEIL, £83  
FOR 50ML



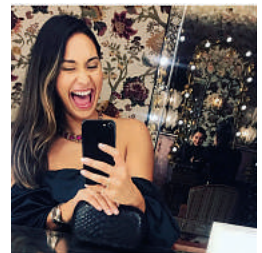
INTERVIEWS BY  
ALICE MANNING

from colonics to infrared saunas, meditation and intravenous drips. I've heard so many people rave about the health benefits of transformational breathing techniques and I'd love to try it ([urbanretreat.co.uk](http://urbanretreat.co.uk)).

**I try to take time out for self-care at home.** I pour a generous amount of Epsom salts into the bath for a long, hot soak; it's such a great muscle relaxant. When I am out of the bath, I apply a body oil by Aromatherapy Associates. My ultimate gift would be a retreat or spa trip, with no screen time, a full body MOT and lots of pampering.

**I'm a big believer in skin prep.** Weleda lip balm is the best for hydration and makes a great base for lipstick, and I use an Hourglass primer for an extra shot of moisture under my make-up. It sinks straight in and layers really well. At night, I massage my face with a crystal Gua Sha tool and a few drops of serum, to get my circulation going and prevent puffiness.

**If you're buying for me, you can't go wrong** with Tom Ford or Aromatherapy Associates. I'll be giving my girlfriends one of the pretty make-up brush holders designed by my talented mum, make-up artist Ruby Hammer.



AROMATHERAPY  
ASSOCIATES DEEP  
RELAX BATH &  
SHOWER OIL, £49

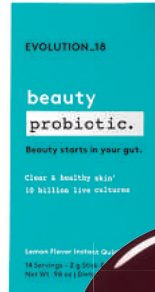
# Bobbi Brown

Jeans, jewels and at-home spinning sessions are essential for the iconic make-up artist and founder of new supplements range Evolution\_18

**I have more fun when I'm comfortable,** so the holidays are really casual; I usually wear jeans, a white James Perse T-shirt and a cosy cashmere jumper. I always choose flats over heels and have so many pairs of trainers, from New Balance and Asics to Stella McCartney. I rely on jewellery to add glamour and have some great pieces from J.Crew, Parisian designer Shourouk and New York jeweller Ted Muehling.

**My family is obsessed with food and fitness in equal measure.** We have many different religions and nationalities in our household, which means a lot of food and drink! I have a Peloton bike in my bedroom, so there's no excuse not to stay active, and I wear my Garmin watch to monitor my steps.

EVOLUTION\_18  
BEAUTY PROBIOTIC,  
£15, boots.com,  
from spring  
2020



BELLA FREUD  
PRETTY THINGS  
CASHMERE  
JUMPER, £410

BEAUTY PIE FOIL  
RUSH SHIMMER  
EYESHADOW  
TRIO, £17.93  
(members' price)

ESSIE NAIL POLISH  
IN BORDEAUX,  
£7.99

AUGUSTINUS  
BADERTHE  
CREAM, £205



NEW  
BALANCE  
TRAINERS,  
£75

**Fragrance instantly changes the way I feel.** I love the freshness of Chanel Cristalle, then I'll apply Chanel No.5 to take my mood from day to night.

**My seasonal beauty tip is to stay hydrated inside and out.** If you

do nothing else, drink lots of water and massage in a nourishing face oil every evening before bed.

**Sparkly eye colours are a fun update on my everyday black or brown.** Foundation is too

heavy for my skin these days, so I just use concealer where needed.

Then I line my eyes with kohl, apply lashings of mascara and I'm ready to go. I used to wear a lot of dark nail colours, but I've noticed some can look harsh in the colder winter months. I now go for brighter tones, and if I want to embrace something a bit deeper, I'll opt for a burgundy or plum.

**I truly believe that the healthier you are, the better you look and feel.** My new

brand launches in the UK in January, featuring supplements for hair, skin and general internal health, including a probiotic that dissolves on your tongue for a health hit on the go. De-Bloat is brilliant when you've been over-indulging.

**It sounds crazy, but the gift I'd really love** would be to have a professional stylist come and organise our garage, so it looks more like something from an interiors magazine! I'm buying all the special women in my life an Augustinus Bader moisturiser. I'm the biggest fan and use it religiously. It's expensive, but it really works, and you don't need anything else. What could be better than the gift of glowing skin?



Bobbi  
with her  
girls:  
Biggie  
and  
Pup Pup.



When Bobbi  
met Santa.



# Sali Hughes

The author, broadcaster and co-founder of Beauty Banks celebrates Christmas in a bright red lip and a cloud of Chanel. She is just as happy with corner-shop chocolate as a Gucci make-up bag



**I'm obsessed with Christmas;** it's my favourite time of year. I love the cooking,



shopping, wrapping and decorating – and it's the one time of year I get to relax with my husband, my two sons and our dog. I'll wear my Grenson Nanette boots for a walk on the beach, then at home, I'll change into a Ganni dress, or Bella Freud jumper and Hush leather skirt.

**Sensible colour themes are not the point of Christmas.** I like colour, kitsch and fun. We string fairy lights up the stairs and in all the fireplaces and, every year, I select two new baubles for the tree, from Paperchase or Liberty London. My oldest bauble is of Marilyn Monroe in a pink dress, which I've had for 27 years, and I have an Elvis one from Las Vegas.



**However tired I am, I always remove my make-up before bed.**

And I swear by Vita Liberata Body Blur Instant HD Skin Finish,

which is the greatest for giving your skin a healthy tint of colour – it's guaranteed to win you compliments.

**I feel the same way about scent as I do about decorations:** go big and bold or why bother? Chanel No.5 is my all-time favourite and I also love 31 Rue Cambon, which is equally as punchy. For something slightly less potent, I like Frédéric Malle L'eau d'Hiver. It's warm and cosy, like a cashmere blanket.

**I love a bright lip for Christmas.** I own hundreds of orange-red shades but NARS is an absolute must-have for colour pay-off and longevity. I also have a Charlotte Tilbury lip liner



CHARLOTTE TILBURY LIP CHEAT IN PILLOW TALK, £16



VITA LIBERATA BODY BLUR INSTANT HD SKIN FINISH, £29.95



GUCCI COSMETICS CASE, £260



GANNI DRESS, £400

CHANEL ULTRA RING, £3,340



GRENSON NANETTE BOOTS, £285



FRÉDÉRIC MALLE L'EAU D'HIVER, £155



NARS AUDACIOUS LIPSTICK IN LANA, £26



PRETTY ICONIC (Fourth Estate) by Sali Hughes



MAC PRO LONGWEAR PAINT POT IN GROUNDWORK, £16.50

in every handbag. I don't understand why anyone would wear lipstick without applying liner first. It prevents bleeding and makes the colour last longer.

**I play up lips or eyes, but never both.**

The trick I swear by is to layer cream eye colour under a powder one, to boost the intensity and make it last. MAC Paint Pot in Groundwork makes a great base, then I layer the taupe and mushroom tones from Natasha Denona's Camel Palette over the top. They have a glittery texture too, which is fun for party season.

**I would absolutely love to receive** a Chanel Ultra Ring (though I know I won't!) or a Gucci make-up bag but, to be honest, I love nothing more than a box of Ferrero Rocher chocolates and a personalised Photobox mug from my boys.

*Off-duty Sali with her elder son.*

