



## THE DELIGHTS OF ARTISANAL SOAPS

Raise the bar of your bathing experience

Move over, body wash: Bar soap is back. To navigate all the cool, fancy new ones on the market, we called Jon Bresler, founder and president of Lafco, who knows a thing or two about the subject. (His company has been making soap for 20 years and currently produces 38 varieties.) "Today, more people are realizing the sheer number of distinctive differences between artisanal and commercial soaps," he says. "Interest is now in product transparency and benefit, with naturally rich soaps that noticeably soften skin and create a rewarding ritual around daily cleansing." Some of the best ingredients you can look for in high-quality soap are oils—such as argan, almond, and olive—which are essential to healthy skin, as they carry high levels of omega fatty acids, he explains. We rounded up some that pass the test. For information on where to buy, see Shopping Directory.



#### Lafco Watermint & Neroli Moisture Rich Soap, \$12. Subtler than traditional

mint, water mint lends a slightly bracing element to this citrusblossom moisturizing soap with olive, palm, and almond oils.



Meow Meow Tweet Pink Rose Clay Soap, \$14. There's more to love than the cats wearing skincare masks on the packaging: the lightly floral fragrance of crushed rose petals, lavender, and geranium.



### Joanna Vargas Miracle Bar, \$25. This charcoal soap with olive oil, shea butter, and

coconut fatty acids acts like a vacuum for dirt, oil, and pore-clogging gunk.



L'Occitane Shea **Butter Extra-Gentle** Lavender Soap, \$14. This French staple combines omega fatty acids from super-hydrating shea hutter and a fresh



#### Beautycounter Citrus Mimosa Body Bar, \$20. With its crisp, wake you-up citrus aroma, this moisturizing soap with organic shea butter, marula oil, and mongongo oil is what you use for your disco bath.



#### Level Naturals Tea Tree + Activated Charcoal Soap, \$7. The added antibacterial tea tree oil in this detoxifying charcoal soap makes it perfect

for those prone to

body breakouts.

# In Praise

of High Water Ready to take a hot, relaxing bath to the next level? Cannabis Beauty Defined's Anti-Aging Therapeutic Soak uses cannabinoids, the seeds and stalks of the hemp plant (which contain low levels of THC-so you're not getting high, sorry), to moisturize the skin as you bathe. "The oil from cannabis seeds helps treat dry skin, eczema, and psoriasis-and even acne because it may decrease sebum production," says NYC dermatologist Dr. Joshua Zeichner. The product also contains vitamin E, a potent antioxidant that reduces inflammation, and vitamin B3, commonly used in skincare creams to brighten dark spots. Bonus: It has more of a light botanical scent than a bong smell. Soak, \$50.

Cannabis Beauty Defined Anti-Aging Therapeutic