

September 1, 2009

## Chicago Chocolate Tours

presents a sweet newsletter



### Choc Stars!

Chicago Chocolate Tours founder Valerie Beck (left) with some Chicago Chocolate Tours team members: Kristy, Krista, CatieLeigh, Leah, Kelly, JoAnne, Kristi, Heidi. (Note the many open and mainly empty boxes of chocolate on our meeting table!)

Our team is on the grow: [www.chicagochocolatetours.com/help-wanted](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/help-wanted).

### Sweet Meets Chic

Chocolate and Fashion Tour this Friday - and More Sweet Dates to Save and Crave



Join us for a special girls' night out on our Chicago Chocolate Tours "Chocolate and Fashion Tour," in conjunction with [You Just Shop](#). We're celebrating two great things that go great together! We'll intersperse our visit to select chocolate shops with visits to select clothing and shoe boutiques, for VIP enjoyment at each stop including chocolate samples and clothing discounts, plus a sweet and chic goody bag.

**When:** Friday, September 4 (Labor Day weekend) at 5:30 pm.

**Where:** Meet at 900 N. Michigan Avenue (the Bloomingdale's building), inside by the ground-floor concierge desk. Chocolate stops are Sarah's Pastries and Candies, Teuscher Chocolates of Switzerland, and More Cupcakes. Boutique stops are Luca Luca, Akira, and Aritzia.

## Chicago Chocolate Tours

Take a guided walking and tasting tour of select chocolate shops, and enjoy the sweetest tour in town!  
[www.chicagochocolatetours.com](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com)

### In This Issue

Sweet Dates to Save and Crave: Chocolate and Fashion Tour September 4

Sweet News: Chicago Chocolate Tours in the Media

Sweet Friend and a Sweet Deal: Chocolate Lover of the Month, and Loyalty Club

Uplift Through Chocolate!



Celebrity sighting: Nate Berkus paused for a hello and a hug for a birthday girl on a recent Chicago Chocolate Tour.

We offer around a dozen public and private chocolate tours per week, on 3 routes. The tours are great for bachelorette parties, corporate outings, or just a fun day out with your mom, sister, or sweetie!

More scenes from Chicago Chocolate Tours:

Cost: The cost will be **\$50 per person**, and you can purchase tickets online at [www.chicagochocolatetours.com/buy](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/buy) or at 312-929-2939.

Bring: Donate an item of clothing to local women's shelter Sarah's Place by bringing the clothing with you to the start of the tour, and receive extra chocolate in your goody bag.

Whether you're getting ready for Fall or hanging onto Summer, come make Labor Day weekend sweet and chic!

[www.chicagochocolatetours.com/events](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/events).



And, please save these delicious dates:

Wednesday, September 16: Annual Women's Business Development Center **Women's Entrepreneurial Conference**.  
[www.wbdc.org](http://www.wbdc.org).

Friday, September 25: National Association of Women Business Owners **Prospective Member Breakfast**.  
[www.nawbochicago.org/events](http://www.nawbochicago.org/events).

Saturday, October 17: **Sweetest Day**. Make it even sweeter on a Chicago Chocolate Tour! Schedules are at [www.chicagochocolatetours.com/tours](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/tours).

Thursday, October 29 - Sunday, November 1: Chicago Chocolate Tours Travel Club visits the **New York Chocolate Show**.  
[www.chicagochocolatetours.com/events](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/events).



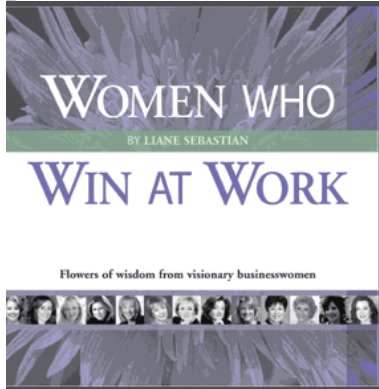
Sweet News

*Chicago Chocolate Tours in the Media*

We're grateful that the good chocolate word continues to spread!

## Chicago Tribune

We've had recent mentions in the **Chicago Tribune**, **TimeOut** and the **Defender** ([www.chicagochocolatetours.com/media](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/media)).



And, Chicago Chocolate Tours founder Valerie Beck is featured in the new book **Women Who Win at Work: Flowers of Wisdom from Visionary Businesswomen**, by Liane Sebastian (available in bookstores and online at amazon and Barnesandnoble.com, and at [www.prosperiapublishing.com](http://www.prosperiapublishing.com)).



[Chicago Chocolate Tours elevator speech](#)  
by [Chicago Chocolate Tours](#) ([videos](#))

**0:33**

You can see a **video** of Valerie as the winner of the Elevator Speech Contest held by the City of Chicago Treasurer's Office, at [www.chicagochocolatetours.com/video](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/video). It's 30 seconds of sweet!



Chicago Chocolate Tours supports  
CARE [www.care.org](http://www.care.org).



Meanwhile, on the social media front, have you become a Chicago Chocolate Tours fan on [facebook](http://www.facebook.com) ([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com))? You can also check out Valerie's blog at [www.chicagochocolatetours.com/blog](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/blog) for news on her recent and tasty trip to the chocolate shops of Boston.

Sweet Friend, and a Sweet Deal  
*Chocolate Lover of the Month: Laurie McDevitt*



*Laurie, kneeling, with daughter Olivia and sister Maureen*

Laurie has toured with us 4 times. Thank you, Laurie; we appreciate you! Here's what Laurie says:

### **Chocolate Lovers Club questionnaire**

Name: Laurie McDevitt

City/Town: Elmwood Park, IL

Favorite chocolate from a Chicago Chocolate Tour: gelato chocolate delight at Lavazza, More cupcake, and chocolate chip cookie from Little Branch Cafe.

Most unusual chocolate tried on a tour: At Panozzo's, the Italian stop on the South Loop route, we tried different kinds of chocolate with olives, fennel, or olive oil. (The sweet and salty on that tour was new to me!) Hannah's on the Downtown Loop route also has unique chocolate bars...bacon and chocolate!

How I heard about Chicago Chocolate Tours: My sister Maureen from California emailed me your link. She loves chocolate (more than me!) and she offered it up as something we could do together when she came to town. I have since not only gone on the tour with her, but with friends and co-workers. I think it is a great tour for any group.

Favorite route: South Loop, though all have opened my eyes to the unique neighborhoods, sections of Chicago that I would not have pictured or visualized myself. I now have a better idea of the parts of the city and it was a nonthreatening and entertaining education!!

Favorite chocolate fact: Chocolate comes from fruit!!



*Laurie and Valerie*

**Sweet Deal:**

Take another tour with us and receive \$5 off every ticket in your party.

Use code Chocolate Club at [www.chicagochocolatetours.com/buy](http://www.chicagochocolatetours.com/buy) or 312-929-2939, and we'll see you on a Chicago Chocolate Tour!

