

KELLY LYNCH'S HIGH SIERRA HIDEAWAY



Kelly Lynch in Lone Pine

InStyle

Celebrity + Lifestyle + Beauty

**The Coolest
Jewelry Now**

**Skin-Baring
Summer Styles**

Travel Like a Star
10 Things to Know
Before You Go

At Home With:


Michael Keaton
in Los Angeles

Josie Natori
in Paris

Travis Tritt on
His Wedding Day

Julia turns 30
a new look —
a new attitude

JULY 1997 07>



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\$2.95 U.S.

wisebuys

Going for a sharp-looking table? Choose from classic patterns or fashion-forward

flatware designs, sensible stainless or sumptuous sterling

All prices are for five-piece place settings:
 1. Object Pointus stainless by Philippe Starck for Sasaki, \$150 (212-686-5080). 2. Sterling-silver Chain Link, Ralph Lauren Home Collection, \$2,200 (212-606-2100). 3. Méandre by Versace for Rosenthal,

silver plate, \$495 (800-274-3374, code 44).

4. Robert A.M. Stern's Sienna stainless, \$75, for Sasaki. 5. Elsa Peretti's Padova sterling for Tiffany & Co., \$515 (800-526-0649).

6. Calvin Klein Home's stainless Mercer, \$60 (800-294-7978). 7. Wallis stainless by Vicente Wolf for Sasaki, \$100.

Utensils? Cutlery? Forget it—there's not nearly enough glamour in those terms for the flatware that's out there now. Think of the fashionable table as the little black dress, and flatware as the accessory. Classic sterling silver and silver plate are being redefined by the chic new patterns created by fashion designers, now that Gianni Versace, Calvin Klein and Ralph Lauren are dressing the table. And, everyday stainless steel has gone from bland to unforgettable with designer Philippe Starck's slim, dramatic forms and architect Robert

A.M. Stern's sturdy eating tools incised with house shapes. You use your flatware every day, so whether it's sterling silver, stainless or silver plate, take the time to choose something you'll want to keep looking at—and even pass along. Here's the dish on all you'll need to keep your table hopping. —Nancy Angiello

cutting edge

low to high bamboo—the look for less and the luxurious real deal



Stainless steel with solid wood handles, by Savoie Vivre International; \$50 for five-piece place setting (212-684-6065)

Real bamboo-handled stainless, Bergdorf Goodman private label; \$155 for five-piece set (800-218-4918)

Towle's Mandarin sterling-silver pattern is made to order; \$350 for four-piece set, through select retailers (617-568-1300)

Sterling silver takes the shape of bamboo for this Tiffany & Co. exclusive pattern; \$415 for four-piece set (800-526-0649)

Buccellati's Tahiti, in bamboo and sterling silver: pure extravagance at \$2,658 for five-piece dinner setting (800-223-7885)

before you buy

The good stuff will last you a lifetime—and then some. Be picky. Ask questions. Don't rush.

■ **Sterling silver:** Look for the “sterling” stamp on the back of each piece and get a guarantee. Quality silver is patterned on both the front and back of the pieces. Be sure the pattern is distinct and finely wrought.

■ **Silver plate:** Weight is key—more silver plating equals higher quality. Places that take the most wear and tear (the back of the spoon and the fork tines) should be strengthened with an extra layer of silver, called overlay.

■ **Stainless steel:** The best is 18/8 and 18/10 (18 percent chromium for strength, 8 or 10 percent nickel for shine).

taking care

sterling and silver plate *Treat it with respect, but not kid gloves. The more you use your silver, the better it will look. The patina—the soft luster that happens when minuscule scratches merge for an all-over glow—keeps tarnish at bay.*

storage *Always store in a dry place—silver chests and silver cloths*

Christian Lacroix's Passe-mentre silver-plated serving tool, \$175 (800-799-6886)

(pacific cloth) keep silver sulfate- and tarnish-free.
washing *Never put hollow-handled knives in the dishwasher—jarring can loosen the thin band of silver connecting the handle to the blade. Avoid prolonged soaking: Minerals in water can attack finish.*
drying *Always by hand. Droplets of water can cause black spots on silver.*

never mix, never worry *Stainless and silver shouldn't mingle in the dishwasher since they cause each other to pit and stain—it's a chemical reaction.*



classic patterns

STYLE & HISTORY

COST PER SETTING

Pearls The distinctive feature is a rim of tiny silver pearls, or beads, that dresses up plain, classic patterns. The design first appeared in 18th-century England and France.

Christoffle's silver-plated **Perles**, \$260, also available in sterling, \$650 (800-799-6886)



Art Nouveau Swirly, swoony and romantic, this type of pattern reflects the art nouveau movement that flowered in the 1890s. Tiffany & Co.'s elaborate version set the trend in 1880.

Gorham's **Golden Swirl** in stainless steel with electroplated 24-kt gold swirl, \$85 (800-635-3669)



Kings Dating to 18th-century Europe, and 1834 in America, this ornate style—interpreted by many makers—features the anthemion motif, an intricate, spreading floral cluster.

New Kings in sterling, \$400, Ralph Lauren Home Collection for Reed & Barton (212-606-2100)



Shell Also known as Shell and Thread (a grooved or raised thread runs around the edge) this pattern dates back to the reign of King George III in England.

Oneida's **Heirloom** Stainless Collection features **Classic Shell**, \$75 (800-877-6667)



Pistol The pistol-shaped grip, which is used for the knife handle only, goes back to 1800s England. Today it is seen in numerous versions, from starkly smooth to embellished.

Lenox's stainless version of the classic is **Monticello** Thomas Jefferson, \$69 (800-635-3669)



the scoop on trends

Creativity and color are waking up the table. Flatware meets fashion in funky fabric looks such as Sabre's summery houndstooth, sweet gingham, and red, blue or green toile patterns. Handles are hot in pastels, deep brights and eye-popping shades—Mepra's new resin colors include lime and orange (also, matching chargers and barware). And art is imitating life: twigs in bronze, plastic handles that look like tortoiseshell, mother-of-pearl, marble or multicolored granite. Artisan's wares, like Dary Rees's wire-wrapped and bejeweled stainless espresso spoon set, are perfect as housewarming or hostess gifts. Go wild.

Above, left to right: Glass-gemmed espresso spoons by Dary Rees, set of four, \$36 (305-655-1975); Houndstooth five-piece place setting by Sabre in red, green, blue or yellow, \$62 at Marel Gifts (516-466-3118); Vance Kitira's bronze twig five-piece place setting with natural cotton napkin, \$39 (800-646-6360); five-piece stainless and resin set in 21 colors, by Mepra, \$42 at Squisito (303-331-8080).