

# For Brenda & Chris

MONTANA IS THE PAWS THAT REFRESHES



Highland Park residents Brenda and Chris Lynch run Mutt Lynch Winery in California

We fly out on Friday night to Montana. The Resort at Paws Up picks you up in a car. You come in along the Blackfoot River. It's spectacularly beautiful with amazing canyons.

When you get to the resort — which is 37,000 acres, including a national park — you get a golf cart. You have your own homes; you're in your own cowboy cabin. But it's luxurious — the hot tub is ready to go for you.

We head to Tank (the resort bar) and get some food off the bar menu. They create amazing concoctions, like a

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martini with huckleberry syrup. We're very much into the farm and table movement. Paws pours local whiskeys and bourbons at the bars.

We then head back to the room and enjoy the fireplace. There's no cell reception; when you stop your golf cart, there is no noise. We can sit on our patio and count the stars — there are millions of them.

On Saturday morning we have huckleberry pancakes at Trough (a resort restaurant). I dream about huckleberry pancakes. After that, some of our favorite outdoor activities are fly fishing, horseback riding, and more. We'll have dinner at Pomp on Saturday night. You can get from their own cow a filet mignon with some root vegetables from a local farm. Big hunks of meat — it's cowboy country.

Sunday is usually a spa day after more huckleberry pancakes. We do sightseeing up and down the Blackfoot River. And then lunch in Missoula, at a brew pub that makes its own beer.

Our reserves are empty when we get there — but by the time we get home, they're quite full. ■

PHOTOGRAPHY BY J.GEIL

*Brenda and Chris Lynch, as told to David Sweet*