

12

SHOPPING
DAYS LEFT

WHAT TO BUY EXPENSIVE GIFTS

2015
HOLIDAY
GIFT GUIDE

One person's affordable luxury is another guy's chump change. Still, when it comes to splurges, gift giving is as good an excuse as any to break the bank.

— VANESSA McCRAY, BLADE STAFF WRITER

Trip of a lifetime

Check off a bucket list item with a trip to **Botswana**. The country claimed first place on Lonely Planet's list of top countries to visit in 2016. The travel guide heralds Botswana as "Africa's unsung success." An 11-day safari to Botswana and Zimbabwe is estimated to cost **\$3,860** to **\$4,310** per person on safaribookings.com, where users can compare tours.



Art patron

Celebrate and support the **Toledo Museum of Art** by becoming a member. The museum offers memberships to match various financial commitments, from **\$55** for an individual membership to **\$10,000** for the director's circle platinum level. For more information, visit toledomuseum.org.



Textiles

The vivid, geometric designs of vintage **Navajo rugs** may be mimicked by trendy retailers now, but the look is timeless. Invest in art for your feet or a favorite wall by choosing a rug from the **Shiprock Santa Fe** gallery in New Mexico. An 82-by-52-inch handspun wool textile is priced at **\$9,500**.

Future's so bright

Give shade this holiday with a pair of **Prada sunglasses**. An Italian-made, square-shaped style that comes in tortoise is sure to stun. **\$340** at Sunglass Hut.

Cruising

Pedal away on his-and-hers **Electra bicycles**. The Dutch-inspired styling, comfortable ride, and sharp looks will be the envy of the neighborhood. Check out the Amsterdam model, and be sure to buy a bell and a basket. A three-speed version retails online for **\$659.99** for ladies or gentlemen, but check Cycle Werks bike shop in Bowling Green and Whitehouse for deals or to order.



Look like a million bucks

The teenage girl in your life will love to trade up her drug-store cosmetics for one of Urban Decay's popular "**Naked**" eyeshadow palettes. Choose from the original Naked, with its 12 shades that range from palest creams to bronze and greys; or go with one of the brand's popular sequels. Find the palettes at Sephora for **\$54**.

Silver

Set the mood with a beautiful pair of polished **silver candlesticks**. Scour eBay for sterling options ranging in the thousands, or browse the cases at Maumee Antique Mall, where we spotted a pair of elegant, three-candle candelabras for **\$150**.

Classic scent

Give her a signature perfume in an iconic bottle. Find a variety of **Chanel No. 5** products at Macy's, including the crisply packaged perfume and body lotion gift set for **\$184**.



Dream house

The kids will always remember this Christmas when you pull out all the stops with a **custom-built tree house** or fort for the backyard. For inspiration, check out barbarabutler.com, where options range from a two-story fort for **\$9,900**, to treehouses and fanciful, whimsical, wonderful play cottages.

Easy listening

Trade in those cheap earbuds for the surround-sound, comfort, and cool of over-the-ear headphones. **Beats by Dr. Dre's Studio** version promises noise cancellation and a 20-hour rechargeable battery. Find them at Walmart in red, white, or black for **\$299.95**.

* Prices and availability subject to change.