

# SHOPPING WITH BONNIE

Just as Bonnie Kaplan used to produce national television talk shows, so does she now produce experiences for people who want to shop in ways they never have before. In an exclusive arrangement with Chicago's Peninsula hotel, Kaplan founded **ShopParty**, a service in which she produces "your shopping fantasy," as she describes her one-woman business. Kaplan confers first via e-mail or phone with a prospective customer to find out what kind of shopping

desires she harbors, then plots out a citywide itinerary (which might also include certain suburbs). Kaplan is even able to orchestrate visits to otherwise private designer showrooms and artists' studios. But no matter what the stop, she has secured exclusive discounts for the client. A ShopParty day involves Kaplan's meeting you at the Peninsula in a limousine or town car and leading you on a tour of Chicago that can last from three to eight hours.



Bonnie Kaplan is your shopping guide for the day.



A favorite ShopParty stop: Jayson Home & Garden, at 1885 North Clybourn Avenue.

And most of the places visited are one-of-a-kind retail destinations. While coursing some of the city's most intriguing and unexpected streets—North Clybourn Avenue, North Southport Avenue, Jefferson Street, North Clark Street, among others—Kaplan is not only able to fulfill your deepest retail wishes but also talks to you as a newly met friend

Gem-toned clutches (\$42 each) at M<sup>2</sup> Boutique, at 3527 North Southport Avenue.



who understands that what a person likes to buy says much about what inspires her in life. A three-hour tour for up to three people costs \$1,250, which includes the car, the driver and treats prepared by the hotel. Booked exclusively through the Peninsula; open to hotel guests and the general public. 312-573-6695; peninsula.com; shopparty.tv.

D.M.