



THE RED ROCKS

We spend so much time trying to get far away from home on our vacations, when we've got one of the most amazing natural wonders practically next door. To celebrate it, **Amara Hotel, Restaurant and Spa** in Sedona is offering a "Grand Canyon Adventure Package" from now until December 17, 2009, starting at \$685. The package includes two nights at Amara, breakfast for two each morning at

Hundred Rox restaurant, and a full-day **Grand Canyon tour for two by Red Stone Tours** (departs at 8:30 am and returns at 5:45 pm). A luxury minibus will transport you from the resort, up Oak Creek Canyon, to the Grand Canyon, where Red Stone takes over. Back at Amara, you'll enjoy the chic, modern vibe at the 100-room boutique resort that's nestled right in the heart of Sedona, up against a picturesque creek. Call **866.455.6610** or visit www.amararesort.com to book.



LIFE BUBBLES OVER

Sparkling wine can be such a conundrum. You either spend less than \$10 for a bottle to mix with OJ or over \$50 for something truly drinkable. **Francis Coppola's new 2007 Sofia Sparkling Blanc de Blancs** has been filling our glasses for weeks now – we can't get enough of the zesty lemon and honeysuckle flavors from this balanced blend of Pinot Blanc, Sauvignon Blanc, and Muscat. At about \$19, the festive wine is a crowd pleaser on its own, but if someone wants to mix in a little OJ, then you won't feel like they're ruining your bottle of Veuve. Plus, each bottle comes in pink cellophane packaging,

making it a stylish yet affordable, housewarming gift. Available at **Sportsman's Fine Wines & Spirits** (3205 E. Camelback Rd.; 623.572.WINE).

PRESERVATION NATION



All too often, you hear stories of when historic preservation efforts were overwhelmed by a greedy developer with big wrecking balls. But sometimes, the battle to save our past is won, and you can celebrate one of those victories next Friday, August 21, from 6-9pm to check out the restoration of the **1926 A.E. England Motor Car Company building** (424 N. Central Ave). Saved by the efforts of the City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Office and the Arizona Preservation Foundation, this building once provided the backdrop for Legendary prize fighter

Jack Dempsey and two Phoenix police officers for the photo you see here. For years it fell into disrepair, but now it's back, ready to show off its cleaned-off bricks and exposed wood beams. The event also celebrates the opening of **Fair Trade Café**, the first biz to open in the new A.E. building.