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Joya Candle review

May 4, 2009 | By: tyna



I was in college when I first discovered the joy of a great candle. At the time, being able to buy some nice smelling votives at the local drugstore was cause for celebration. Since then, I've become a bit of a connoisseur. There are many parts - appearance, scent, burning time and evenness, and a lack of smoke - that add to the sum quality of a candle. Today, we're happy to introduce our readers to **Joya**, a collective

making high quality, handmade candles in Brooklyn, New York. A special "Thanks!" to everyone at **Team Joya** for sharing their amazing candles with our review team. We squealed with delight upon seeing the **Chocolate Brown** round glass candles (Bittersweet Cacao Bean & Fig with traces of fruit, herb and caramel) and the **Coral Sunset Peony** raw wax pillars (Lush Peony accented with Citrus & Garden Greens).

The company was founded in 2003 by Frederick Bouchardy and named Joya (Spanish for jewel) for the "unique, crystalline natural wax blend used for the brand's premiere candle collection." Before we talk about the other merits of the line, I have to comment on the singular beauty of these candles. The candles have a sparkly, crystal-like surface (imagine packed sugar) that catches and reflects light and draws the eye right to the candle. According to Joya, that texture "is a natural result of the temperature at which it is poured." Ok, I don't know anything about the pouring temperature of wax, but I do know a pretty and distinctive candle when I see it!

On to the biggie: the scent. You will be bowled over by rich and layered scents that subtly fills your room. Joya was formed after a year spent researching different waxes and fragrance oils. Beyond our samples, pick from such exotic choices as Celadon (Ginger & Rosewood), Turquoise (Water Lilly & Quince) and Azure Blue (Chamomile & Neroli). The all-natural scents are comprised of essential oils and palm oil kernels for a smooth and rich aroma. You will never have to fear chemical, plastic smells or headaches when burning a Joya candle. I was a lucky tester of the glass encased Chocolate Brown candle and I am still marveling at the soft, yummy, chocolaty scent that envelops my room during (and long after) burning.

Additionally, every one of these handmade candles are made from natural, vegetable based wax, which is a "100% natural food-grade renewable resource. Unlike candles made of typical paraffin wax, Joya is completely free of petroleum products and additives" which equals an eco-friendly candle with an even, long burn with little to no drips. All candles contain a cotton wick, and "the natural stearic acid in (the) candles creates a stunning white flame that, if used correctly (always trim your wicks!), won't produce smoke." I thought I was imagining the extra bright flame of my Chocolate Brown candle, but now I know the reason for the great flame (and lack of smoke)!

As you can see, Joya's Cacao Bean & Fig more than met my "must have requirements" in a candle. Wrap all of that in elegant packaging (the gift boxed glass candles and pillars are simple and sweet) for a truly outstanding candle that will quickly become your favorites to gift to others or keep for yourself. **Review Team:** did your Joya candle meet your high standards? Don't forget to tell us which scent you received!

★★★★★ (8 votes, average: 4.38 out of 5)

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