

## Smells Like: Luxurious Cashmere

### Very Estée, £40, Estée Lauder

On a crisp winter's day, there is nothing better than wrapping up in cashmere socks, woolen mittens and a scarf so abundant, it's actually a blanket, and setting off on a long, brisk walk. It's the adult version of being swaddled up like a baby. And my god, it feels good. So imagine for

a moment, the essence of cashmere, bottled. That's what the latest olfactory offering from Estée Lauder promises: cashmere notes, jasmine and rose, then suddenly – *bang* – the woodiness adds an edge as rich musk lingers on the skin. It makes us feel a bit like Elizabeth Hurley in a cashmere rollneck on Christmas Day.



## Smells Like: Roaring Log Fires

### Volutes, £50, Diptyque

I didn't grow up anywhere near a real log fire, so I never spent my childhood evenings curled up listening to the crackling embers. But just one spritz of this smoke-infused scent makes me feel as though I did, evoking a visceral false memory in the magical way that only scent can. After the

smokiness of the tobacco notes disperses, aromatic iris and honeyed sweetness uncoil before making way for hints of wood, incense and musk. It's genuinely Christmas in a bottle. Not just any old Christmas, of course – this is the red-ribboned perfection of a *Miracle On 34th Street* Christmas. A true delight.

## Smells Like: Roasted Chestnuts

### Castaña, £65, Cloon Keen Atelier

Take that nutty scent that clings to your woolly Christmas jumper when you've been sitting too close to the roasted chestnuts hearth all night, marry it with the slightly masculine note of creamy cardamom and the richness of tonka, jasmine and Haitian vetiver, and you have this

expertly blended olfactory confection. Inspired by perfumer Delphine Thierry's childhood memories of the aroma of roasted chestnuts in Andalucía, the wood-fired richness lingers and then, in the dry down, cascades into a gentle burnt-ness that catches the back of your throat – but in a good way. 