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24-carat chocolates

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Chocolates covered in gold leaf will be among the more unusual offerings from Harmony Sweets this Christmas.

The sweet company is distributing DeLafay Pralines, which are made with 24-carat edible gold leaf.

Harmony Sweet president Jane Roseen describes the luxury chocolates as a "unique taste experience".

The decadent chocolates combine the bittersweet taste of cocoa with the creaminess of the ganache and with the exotic metallic taste of gold.

"DeLafay Pralines are really a one-of-a-kind luxury confectionary," Ms Roseen declares.

Gold leaf is frequently used in cooking, especially to embellish cakes and pastries.

Harmony Sweets estimates that in India 12 tonnes of the precious metal are consumed each year, making the country the world's biggest gold consumer in more ways than one.

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