

The
2011
**GENTLEMAN'S
GUIDE TO
ROMANCE**



FOREVERMARK



An **URBANDADDY** Publication

INTRODUCTION



For the gentleman of distinction, romance isn't effortless—it just appears to be.

After all, he knows that romance is about creating unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime moments. He also knows that if these moments are executed to perfection, they will live forever in the most precious parts of her memory. As will phrases like “How did he get it to snow in August?” and “I didn't know you could fit a string quartet in the back of a horse-drawn carriage.”

And “I do.”

In these moments, you're creating a grown-up fairy tale to go along with all the others she fell in love with as a little girl.

Problem is, he who approaches romance with anything less than tireless focus and methodical research may quickly find himself on the wrong end of that fairy tale.

Enter *The Gentleman's Guide to Romance*, a short, handpicked list of the nation's most picturesque restaurants, amorous accommodations and chivalrous gestures from which to gallantly select in creating memories of a lifetime.

And since even Prince Charming has to call in an audible now and again, we've armed you with a city-by-city rolodex of must-have contacts to plug into your phone. Consider them your “just in case” troop of Mr. Belvedere-esque butlers ready with a helicopter and a few thousand roses should the need arise.

You know her better than anyone else.

The Gentleman's Guide to Romance knows the rest...

EPICENTERS OF ROMANCE

You can find romance almost anywhere.

That said, when it comes to architecting unforgettable, take-her-breath-away romantic experiences, “almost anywhere” probably isn’t going to cut it. (Unless you only want to *almost* take her breath away.)

You’re creating a fairy tale. A perfect storm of amorous bliss. To really move her, a complex network of seismic love plates must ever-so-slightly shift beneath her feet.

The intensity of that shift isn’t so strong in, say, Fresno.

As such, we’ve identified nine “Epicenters of Romance.” Where aphrodisiac-tic fault lines run closest to the surface. Where chivalric resources are most plentiful. And where men of gallantry like yourself are supported (and indeed regaled) by the local romantic alliance of sommeliers, jewelers and poets.

Once you’ve chosen an Epicenter of Romance, it’s time to roll up your sleeves and focus on *details*. In the pages that follow, we present you with the most romantic experiences in each Epicenter.

Mediocrity will not do.

You don’t need generic, clichéd advice involving Barry White and boxes of chocolate. But you may very well need the cell phone number of a chocolatier in Chicago who can construct a resplendent fondue fountain in 24 hours (while keeping in mind that the love of your life is allergic to nuts).

Or you can take your chances in Fresno...

New NEW YORK

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO (INDOORS)

THE CELLAR TABLE AT HUDSON CLEARWATER

447 HUDSON ST, 212-989-3255

You might call this the finest catered safe house in all of Manhattan. Should you find yourself staring at a boarded-up 1970s storefront: perfect. From there, head around back and walk exactly 14 paces to an unmarked green door. Your private, impossibly romantic wine cellar table awaits.

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO (OUTDOORS)

THE PORCH SWING TABLE AT IMPERIAL NO. NINE

9 CROSBY ST, 212-389-0000

You've had plenty of romantic dinners together. But did any of them involve rocking ever-so-slightly on a double-sided cottage swing, surrounded by ficus trees? (She doesn't remember anything like that, either.) Bonus if she's a *Top Chef* fan, as she'll be enjoying chef Sam Talbot's seasonal menu featuring sustainable seafood on medium plates.

MOST ROMANTIC DISH MEANT TO BE SHARED

DIM SUM AT RED FARM

529 HUDSON ST, 212-792-9700

Perfect for the "other" night. You know, after the big thing but before the other big thing. She loves dim sum (and you love it when she feeds you dim sum), so open wide for chef Joe Ng's *Pac-Man*: curry and stuffed squid with mushrooms. Just avoid the communal table. It's reserved for the loveless.

MOST ROMANTIC DISH NOT MEANT TO BE SHARED

MINT LOVE LETTERS AT BABBO

110 WAVERLY PL, 212-777-0303

You're sharing everything else this weekend, so go ahead and get two orders of Mario Batali's signature dish: homemade sheets of pasta filled with mint, sweet peas and salty parmesan, tossed in a spicy lamb sausage tomato sauce. You can go back to sharing come dessert time.

MOST ROMANTIC HOTEL ROOM

ROOM 705 AT THE BOWERY HOTEL

335 BOWERY, 212-505-9100

Any doubts she has about your chivalric prowess will follow her out the bay windows of this spacious one-bedroom suite and drift away as she dips her toes into an outdoor jacuzzi overlooking the Manhattan skyline. It, along with the bed, accommodates two.

MOST ROMANTIC DATE OUT OF MANHATTAN

BLUE HILL AT STONE BARN

630 BEDFORD RD, 914-366-9600

As romantic jaunts go, you'd be hard-pressed to find one as quaint as Stone Barns, a sustainable, rustic Hudson Valley farm 30 miles north of the city. Menus are a welcome omission: instead, choose from over 100 ingredients, updated daily, containing the best offerings from local field and market..

Bonus Tip: Your relationship is all about the journey being just as unique and enjoyable as the destination, so we suggest renting a car from the Classic Car Club to get you there. Just mind your manners in the backseat.





YOUR FOREVERMARK DIAMOND JEWELER:

<http://www.forevermarkdiamond.com/us/where-buy>

YOUR PERSONAL DRIVER:

Uber
<http://www.uber.com>

YOUR TIE DELIVERY SERVICE:

Dandy 911
<http://fineanddandyshop.com/dandy9111.html>

YOUR PERSONAL BELLHOP:

Cubby
<http://www.gocubby.com>

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

Ovando
<http://www.ovandony.com>

BEST TAILOR:

Jeeves New York
<http://www.jeevesny.com>

BEST ON-CALL PERSONAL ASSISTANT:

Agent Anything
<http://www.agentanything.com>

BESPOKE CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Xocolatti
<http://xocolatti.com>

YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Hommage Atelier
<http://hommage.com/atelier>

DESSERT DELIVERY CO.:

Robicelli's
<http://robicellis.tumblr.com/privateorders>

MOST ROMANTIC DATE SPOT IN MANHATTAN

ROMERA AT THE DREAM DOWNTOWN

355 W 16TH ST, 212-929-5800

Enter through a small library stocked with books belonging to Spanish neurologist turned chef Miguel Sánchez Romera. Luckily, you're in no hurry, because dinner is spread over 11 courses, each paired with a glass of acqua gourmand (flavored water), which enhances each dish. As do the accompanying poetic descriptions of the food. It's like *Shakespeare in Love* meets, um, that indie film about a Spanish neurologist-chef...

BEST DATE SPOT WITH THE HIGHEST ALTITUDE

THE GLASS-ENCLOSED ROOFTOP BAR AT HOTEL AMERICANO

518 W 27TH ST, 212-216-0000

You're taking the relationship to the next level, so why not do so on the rooftop of Manhattan's most stylish new hotel. Set in a former parking garage, theAmericano is all about the best of both: industrial Manhattan veneer wrapped in warm Latin soul. (Oh, and in the winter, the rooftop outdoor pool transforms into a hot tub.)

BEST SECLUDED SPOT FOR SHARING A MOMENT

THE BACKYARD GARDEN AT DOMINIQUE ANSEL

189 SPRING ST, 212-219-2773

Crucial: scheduling secluded moments just for the two of you. In Manhattan, these can be hard to come by. Not so in this enclosed greenhouse turned sweet and savory Parisian pastry shop featuring cotton-soft cheesecake and industrial-strength lattes drawn by Daniel Boulud's pastry chef.

MOST ADVENTUROUS DATE

THE LATE SHOW AT SLEEP NO MORE

530 W 27TH ST

A one-of-a-kind show for a one-of-a-kind duo, *Sleep No More* is as magical and mysterious as, well, her affection for you. On select nights, the later show (11:30pm) has an after-party, which blurs all boundaries of reality and fiction.

BEST PLACE FOR PRIVATE DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION (IN A PUBLIC PLACE)

THE SECRET BASEMENT DEN AT ONEGIN

391 6TH AVE, 212-924-8001

If you were an oligarch or owner of the New Jersey Nets, this private cigar lounge is where you'd go when your usual palace just wasn't opulent-y, caviar-y or crazy-y enough. First dine upstairs on pike caviar and pork belly pâté while reading Pushkin stories, sketches and secret journals, which have been etched around the restaurant in goose-feather quill.

BEST PLACE FOR PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

THE BATHROOM AT THE BOOM BOOM ROOM

848 WASHINGTON ST, 212-645-4646

Not many people sleep in New York, so keep that in mind when you're in the Boom Boom Room's bathrooms on the 18th floor of the Standard, which boast floor-to-ceiling windows near which you can embrace each other while staring out upon Manhattan. And while Manhattan stares in upon you...

LOS ANGELES



MOST ROMANTIC DISH MEANT TO BE SHARED

RIB EYE FOR TWO AT CAULFIELD'S

9360 WILSHIRE BLVD, 310-388-6860

Over your shoulder: large murals of Jack Kerouac, Dorothy Parker and J.D. Salinger. Over her shoulder: striped floors, white-painted brick and a sturdy mahogany bar. In front of you, to share: a perfectly cooked tomahawk rib eye for two. Consider this an ode to all the time you spend reading in bed together, eating steak.

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO (OUTDOORS)

PRIVATE TERRACE IN THE PENTHOUSE SUITE AT CHATEAU MARMONT

8221 SUNSET BLVD, 323-656-1010

It's been suggested that JFK, Sinatra and a half-dozen French presidents have had dinner for two on this terrace, possibly the most exclusive in all of California. Tonight, it's all yours (as is the bottle of champagne being popped by your personal steward and the shooting star you just saw drifting over LA's skyline).

MOST UNROMANTIC MEAL AT A ROMANTIC ESTABLISHMENT

FRIED CHICKEN DINNER AT BAR MARMONT

8221 SUNSET BLVD, 323-656-1010

Just because you're in one of LA's swankiest bars attached to LA's most iconic hotel doesn't mean you have to forego comfort food. In between eye-squintingly delicious bites of Southern-style buttermilk fried chicken with biscuits, mashed potatoes, gravy and kale, invite her to shift her glance upward to meet hundreds of faux butterflies on the ceiling.

MOST ROMANTIC COCKTAIL IN LA

THE MARRY ME HONEY AT NEXT DOOR LOUNGE

1154 N HIGHLAND AVE, HOLLYWOOD, 323-465-5505

Regardless of any "will you" questions you might have, go with the *Marry Me Honey*—a Bloody Mary infused with honey water, lemon juice, grapefruit juice and orange bitters. You'll be super-cozy on a leather couch inside what looks like an old speakeasy hidden in plain sight. A jazz musician will play a few songs to liven things up, and then go away so you can ask (or just drink) the big question.

MOST ROMANTIC HOTEL ROOM TO RENT OUT

ANY AT VILLA DELLE STELLE

6087 HAROLD WAY, 323-210-3476

At this under-the-radar, pocket-sized Hollywood boutique, each guest room (grand total: four) has a fully functional kitchen. With a bit of advance notice, room service can become in-room service: a private chef will step inside your quarters and prepare (almost) anything you desire.

MOST ROMANTIC DATE SPOT OUTSIDE OF LA

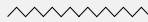
THE OLD PLACE CORNELL

29983 MULHOLLAND HWY, AGOURA HILLS, 818-706-9001

Founded by actor Tom Runyon (who bought and converted the run-down Hank's Country Store in Cornell in 1970), the Old Place looks something like a frontier saloon. If you're feeling the need for seclusion, the old Cornell post office (est. 1884), once used by the elder Runyon for poker games, now serves as a private dining room. It's about 45 minutes outside LA—that's by car, not horse.

LOS ANGELES

Continued



MOST ROMANTIC SPA TREATMENT

PRIVATE GARDEN MASSAGE IN ODACITÉ'S BACKYARD
1524 ABBOT KINNEY BLVD, 310-909-7277

Think of this as Venice's most private backyard, where you'll be met with a breezy, white-curtained oasis drenched in hydrangeas, tall grass and chirping birds. Reserved just for you. Prepare to be rubbed down with cinnamon, grapefruit and coffee oil.

BEST DATE TO MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE MR. & MRS. OBAMA

HELICOPTER RIDE, LIMO SERVICE AND DINNER FOR TWO
961 W ALONDRA BLVD, COMPTON, 310-618-1155

Two glasses of champagne await you in a private limousine, which will courier you to your transit upgrade: a private helicopter. Once onboard, enjoy a custom-made aerial tour of Los Angeles before touching down at the 94th Aero Squadron, an aviation-themed French bistro, where you'll enjoy a three-course dinner with complimentary wine. After you, Mr. and Mrs. President.

MOST ADVENTUROUS DATE

CANOPY ZIPLINE TOUR
6047 PARK DR, WRIGHTWOOD, 760-249-9990

Here's an opportunity to take her breath away, for real. If the Swiss Family Robinson set up a zipline course, it would look a lot like this: 300 acres full of bridges, platforms, rappels and no fewer than 10 ziplines. The highest is about halfway through the course, when you'll find yourself soaring 300 feet above a huge canyon. Then they start getting longer. And faster.

MOST ROMANTIC PLACE FOR DINNER AT 4AM

THE STANDARD 24/7 HOTEL DINER
550 S FLOWER ST, 213-892-8080

The pursuit of romantic perfection is a round-the-clock endeavor. As such, it's good to know you can hit up the Standard's diner 24/7, where they'll be serving up late-night comfort food to bleary-eyed beautiful people. If the wee hour is making it hard to pick between dinner and breakfast, the fried chicken and waffles make for a delicious compromise.

BEST PLACE FOR PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

THE ROOF GARDEN AT THE SOHO HOUSE WEST HOLLYWOOD
9200 W SUNSET BLVD, 310-432-9200

From time to time, you simply can't resist being publicly affectionate. You'd be hard-pressed to find a more suitable venue, amongst (sight-blocking) olive trees on the roof garden of West Hollywood's exclusive Soho House. Afterward, enjoy a stroll along the roof's perimeter and take in 360-degree views of the city. Just remember the city can see you, too.

BEST PLACE TO HOST A CELEBRATORY DINNER

THE GREYSTONE MANOR SUPPERCLUB
643 N LA CIENEGA BLVD, WEST HOLLYWOOD, 310-652-2012

Inside this vast, cavernous manor with velvet seating, towering gold columns and giant crystal bubble chandeliers, you and your gang will snack on platters of short rib grilled cheese and sip cucumber watermelon margaritas. Before long, old-Hollywood showgirls will appear—a perfect time to ask the love of your life, well, anything you want. But “May I have this dance?” is a good place to start.



The **SPEED DIAL**

YOUR FOREVERMARK DIAMOND JEWELER:

<http://www.forevermarkdiamond.com/us/where-buy>

YOUR PERSONAL DRIVER:

Pinpoint Pickup
<http://www.pinpointpickup.com>

YOUR PERSONAL BELLHOP:

Garde Robe
<http://www.garderoonline.com>

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

Designs by David
<http://www.designsbydavid.net>

BEST TAILOR:

Seang Tailors
310-446-1883

BESPOKE CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Compártés Chocolatier
<http://www.compartes.com>

YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Galvin Benjamin
<http://galvinbenjamin.com>

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF:

The Roving Stove
<http://www.therovingstove.com>

DESSERT DELIVERY CO.:

Crust Pie Delivery
<http://www.crustbystephaniejayne.com>

ON-CALL PRIVATE PIANIST:

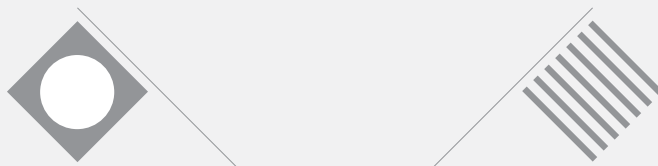
Vince Torbey
<http://pianistoncall.com>

ON-CALL STUNTMAN/DATING CONCIERGE:

The Heart Bandits
<http://www.theheartbandits.com>

YOUR PRIVATE SPA:

Odacité Garden Spa
<http://www.thedetoxmarket.com/pages/odacite-garden-spa>



WASHINGTON D.C.

MOST UNSUSPECTINGLY ROMANTIC INGREDIENT

TATER TOTS AT BOOTH 11 AT EQUINOX
818 CONNECTICUT AVE NW, 202-331-8118

You wouldn't expect your favorite childhood side dish to find its way into a night like this, but that's because you haven't yet enjoyed the *Black Angus Beef Strip Loin with Bleu Cheese Potato Tots* at Equinox. In addition to the tots, there are two other (slightly more intimate) reasons to return after-hours: booths 11 and 13 seductively secluded on the back side of the bar.

MOST UNASSUMING ROMANTIC DATE SPOT

THE BACK PATIO AT BOOKHILL BISTRO
1639 WISCONSIN AVE NW, 202-338-0001

A former gallery with 200-year-old floors, tiny dining rooms and a hidden back patio that will make her realize you really put a lot of thought into this romancing business. Afterward, head upstairs where you'll find a tiny bar along with a fireplace and tables that look out the big picture windows onto the street.

MOST ROMANTIC DISH MEANT TO BE SHARED

LOBSTER POT PIE AT BOURBON STEAK
2800 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW, 202-944-2026

Safe to say this isn't the pot pie she used to eat in front of the TV with Grandma. (Unless Grandma's den was, in fact, a leather-bound dining hall speckled with bronze chenille and designed by David Rockwell.) The dish—local root vegetables and succulent chunks of Maine lobster in a rich, potted pastry—is best shared with a spoon. (The lovers' fork.)

TABLE WITH THE BEST ODDS SHE'LL SAY YES

TABLE 28 AT MARCEL'S
2401 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW, 202-296-1166

In a room positively brimming with romantic tables, this one sets the standard: a round table elevated on its own little semicircular landing in a corner, partially enclosed by curtains. According to the waitstaff, table 28 is the site of many a marriage proposal, not one of which has returned a response in the negative. (Kind of like the Godfather on the day of his daughter's wedding.)

MOST UNIQUE TABLE FOR SHARING A MOMENT

THE BIRD CAGE AT MIE N YU
3125 M ST NW, 202-333-6122

You'll be perched comfortably at what appears to be a circular, suspended cocoon and what is, in fact, the most coveted table in DC. Glance down upon a high-end Asian melting pot of sorts and enjoy a six-course tasting menu while surrounded by lanterns, cushions and ancient oriental cookware. Consider it nesting... before you start nesting.

MOST ROMANTIC COCKTAIL

30-DEGREE MARTINI AT COLUMBIA
1021 7TH ST NW, 202-393-0336

Barman Derek Brown insists upon using a thermometer to ensure that every martini served is exactly 30 degrees. Considering the effort you've put into offering her the perfect romantic experience, it's nice to see the gentleman across the bar using scientific instruments to mix her the perfect martini.



YOUR FOREVERMARK DIAMOND JEWELER:

Fink's
<http://www.finks.com>

YOUR PERSONAL DRIVER:

Falcon Valet
<http://www.falconvalet.com>

YOUR EMERGENCY WINE DELIVERY GUY:

DC Wine Guy
<http://www.dcwineguy.com>

YOUR PERSONAL MASSEUSE:

Alleva
<http://allevamassage.com>

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

H.Bloom
<http://www.hbloom.com/Home/Shop>



WASHINGTON D.C.

Continued

MOST ROMANTIC HOTEL ROOM (ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE A SCANDALOUS POLITICIAN)

THE BULLETPROOF HOTEL ROOM AT THE FOUR SEASONS

2800 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW, 202-342-0444

She looks to you for love, support and, above all, safety. So the least you can do is ensure your hotel room is bulletproof. Usually reserved for visiting heads of state and the like, the Four Seasons' 4,000-square-foot Royal Suite has its own entrance and security cameras, a huge private terrace—and bulletproof glass.

MOST ROMANTIC-LOOKING COCKTAIL BAR IN DC

BAR ROUGE

1315 16TH ST NW, 202-232-8000

An evening at Bar Rouge is much like an evening in an early White Stripes photo shoot, only with a lot more rum. She'll get swept away by the sparkly red tile floor, black-and-white murals of Venus statues on the ceiling and wingback chairs of white faux leather. Head to the Dark Room, a kind of antechamber with red ceilings and upholstered walls, where you'll order up the *Taurus 38 Special*, a combination of cachaça, prosecco and blueberry-sage syrup made with herbs grown on the roof.

MOST IMPRESSIVE DATE SPOT IN DC

SAX

734 11TH ST NW, 202-737-0101

You'll push through the reclaimed church doors and enter an opulent palace of red velvet and gold leaf. Sample *Blue Crab & Gruyère Fondue* at the bar and sip one of 10 champagnes offered by the glass. Upstairs, past a mural that includes Monica Lewinsky riding a centaur with Bill Clinton's head (yes, really), are the best seats, which look directly at the glass-enclosed stage above the bar where a troupe of cabaret dancers provides continuous entertainment.

BEST SECLUDED SPOT FOR SHARING A MOMENT IN A PUBLIC SPOT

THE BACK ROW AT WEST END CINEMA

2301 M ST NW, 202-419-3456

Show up early for some cinematic pregaming (roast beef sandwiches, baklava, bubbly) before retreating to your cozy theater equipped with new-school sound and old-school 35mm projectors. Expect to see mostly first-run indies, documentaries and foreign films. Like *Vive L'Amour*.

MOST ADVENTUROUS OVERNIGHT DATE SPOT

THE UNDERNIGHTER CAVE TOUR AT ORGAN CAVE

242 ORGAN CAVE DR, RONCEVERTE, WV, 304-645-7600

You'll meet your cave-dwelling guide, grab a helmet, knee pads and gloves, and set off on *The Undernighter*, a sleeping-bag-required excursion that has you entering the cave at 5pm and coming out at 11am the next day. By which time it will be very evident who is the better yodeler.

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO

THE NEST AT PLUME

1200 16TH ST NW, 202-448-2300

The finest chivalric gestures, like an evening at Plume, require a jacket and tie. Your private table is hidden behind plush blue velvet curtains and illuminated by a century-old chandelier that once graced the lobby of the original Willard Hotel. Another conversation starter: the bookshelf that lines the curved wall of the nook is false, created from the spines of old leather books. (A nod to Thomas Jefferson's love of literature.)

BEST TAILOR:

Geoffrey Lewis

<http://www.geoffreylewisltd.com>

BESPOKE

CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Fleurir Hand Grown

Chocolates

<http://www.fleurirchocolates.com>

YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Charles Barber Shop

202-347-9515

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF:

Chef Paul Cooks

<http://www.chefpaulcooks.com>

YOUR DESSERT SHOP:

Fancy Cakes

<http://www.fancycakesbyleslie.com>

ON-CALL PRIVATE PIANIST/GUITARIST:

Rich Barry

<http://richbarry.com>

MIAMI



YOUR PERSONAL DRIVER:

RedCap
(drives your own car)
<http://myredcap.com>
Roam Rides
(Vespa rental service)
<http://www.roamrides.com>

YOUR PERSONAL MASSEUSE:

Bodies Kneaded
On-Site
<http://www.bodieskneaded.com/onSiteMass.html>

YOUR WINE DELIVERY SERVICE:

Liquor One
<http://www.liquorone.com>

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

Plant the Future
<http://www.plantthefuture.com>

MOST UNEXPECTED AND ROMANTIC WAY TO ENJOY THE BEACH

INTIMATE YACHT PARTY ON THE MSC YACHT

855-469-2582

You'll book the 71-room ship-within-a-ship for up to seven glorious days. This way you can have the pool and the two hot tubs and the lounge outfitted with gratis drinks and food and the fancy restaurant and 24-hour butler service all to yourself.

BEST TABLE FOR TWO AT A ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

THE GOLD CIRCULAR BANQUETTE IN THE CENTER DINING ROOM AT THE DUTCH

2201 COLLINS AVE, 305-938-3111

Think of this as Miami's version of a seafood bar/comfort food tavern that you'd find in New York's SoHo. Because that's exactly what this is. Try a lantern-lit table on the outdoor patio, with views of the hotel's garden. You'll want a few two-bite *Little Oyster Sandwiches*, a bottle of rosé and the 40-ounce dry-aged rib eye. Which is theoretically for two.

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO AT A NON-ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

WINDOW SEAT NEAR THE KITCHEN AT GIGI'S

3470 N MIAMI AVE, 305-573-1520

Grab the window seat near the kitchen and spy on head chef Jeff McInnis (of *Top Chef* season 5) as he prepares your *Gigi Buns*: two Asian sliders stuffed with roasted pork, pulled chicken or shiitake mushrooms. Best part? The place doesn't close until 2am on weekdays and 5am on Fridays and Saturdays. Because romance works late.

MOST ROMANTIC HOTEL ROOM TO RENT OUT

A PRIVATE BEACH BUNGALOW AT THE BREAKERS

1 S COUNTRY RD, 561-655-6611

The bungalows are like normal poolside cabanas, if they were designed by Bruce Wayne. Think wi-fi, couch, flat-screen, wet bar, mini-fridge, full bathroom and an open-sky shower. While away a few hours in and around the Relaxation Pool and summon up lunch or a beverage via your very own bungalow concierge.

BEST PLACE FOR A CELEBRATORY DINNER WITH EXTENDED FAMILY

TABLE 40 AT INDIGO AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL MIAMI

100 CHOPIN PLZ, 305-577-1000

Make a beeline for a set of nondescript swinging doors that lead straight to the kitchen. You'll start off with a glass of sommelier-picked wine and watch as cooks prepare dishes all around you. Then head back to a small, soundproof room where you'll be served by an army of tuxedoed waiters. So you might consider wearing something other than a tuxedo.

MIAMI

Continued...

BEST TAILOR:

Alex Ladino
<http://www.alexladino.com/home>

BESPOKE CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Emanuel Andr en
<http://www.emanuelandren.com>

YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Sloane Square Barbers & Shoppe
<http://www.sloanesq.com>

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF:

Jeannetti's Catering
305-668-6060

DESSERT DELIVERY CO.:

Sweetcakes Edibles
786-228-7944
<http://www.sweetcakesedibles.com>

ON-CALL PRIVATE PIANIST:

Thom Carr
<http://www.miamitalentmag.com/emag/story/thom-carr>

MOST ROMANTIC DISH(ES) MEANT TO BE SHARED

DIM SUM MENU AT HAKKASAN

4441 COLLINS AVE, 786-276-1388

Feed each other luscious dumplings served in bamboo steamers. As you ponder the next batch to order, share/sip a pair of Hakkasan's carefully crafted cocktails and take in one of Miami's hippest melting pots of young lovers and Chinese families—all of whom, like you, know when they've stumbled upon the real thing.

MOST ROMANTIC COUPLES ACTIVITY

MOONLIGHT MASSAGE AT THE BREAKERS

1 S COUNTRY RD, 561-655-6611

The moon will never look the same again—well, at least not this relaxing. Your 90-minute joint massage begins at sunset and continues as the full moon patiently rises above the horizon and illuminates the evening sky. Bask (don't howl) in the moonlight for as long as you want—the Breakers' Oceanfront Sanctuary is your Oceanfront Sanctuary. Well, at least until the sun comes out.

MOST ROMANTIC DINNER DATE SPOT

TRUFFLE TASTING DINNER MENU AT TUDOR HOUSE

1111 COLLINS AVE, 305-534-8455

You might find yourselves walking with a bit of Rat Pack swagger as you glide into the shiny terrazzo-floored space. Find a stingray-leather banquette to your liking. (Deano always romanced in booths closest to the exit, for a number of reasons.) You'll share vintage cocktails and feed each other a host of truffle-based dishes including, of course, *Chocolate Truffle Beignets*.

MOST NON-PRECIOUS BUT SECLUDED SPOT FOR SHARING A MOMENT

THE HIDDEN VIP POOL AT THE W SOUTH BEACH

2201 COLLINS AVE, 305-938-3000

While you've had carte blanche here for quite some time, the VIP pool is now open to all guests of the hotel who want to reserve the spot for the day. And yes—you can have magnums of champagne and mahi-mahi tacos brought in. Just contact the concierge to reserve the hotel's backyard for some much-deserved covert frolicking.

BEST TABLE FOR TWO FOR POPPING THE QUESTION

TABLE 32 AT BLUE DOOR FISH

1685 COLLINS AVE, 305-674-6400

The white-curtained dining room at the Delano is still one of the most romantic spots in the city. Be forewarned: you both will be on display at this two-top, flanked by a massive silver candelabra. It's a fitting backdrop for that epic seafood tower you've got planned. And there's a hotel room within arm's reach.



DALLAS

MOST ROMANTIC HOTEL ROOM TO RENT FOR A CITY STAYCATION

THE PRESIDENTIAL SUITE AT THE OMNI DALLAS HOTEL
555 S LAMAR ST, 214-744-6664

Tickle the ivories on your grand piano, take in the views of the city from your private furnished patio and fall asleep in front of your see-through fireplace before choosing which of your two king-size bedrooms feels right tonight. Remember, if you start feeling cramped in your 3,000-square-foot suite, the rooftop terrace offers an infinity pool, a long white bar and a direct line of sight into downtown skyscrapers.

MOST ROMANTIC COCKTAIL SERVICE PUNCH BOWL SERVICE AT THE CEDARS SOCIAL

1326 S LAMAR ST, 214-928-7700

Picture Greg Brady's bachelor pad—orange suede chairs, wood paneling on the walls and, of course, mind-blowing libations. But the main event is the punch bowl service—meant to serve six but can accommodate two—featuring ingredients from local herb guru Tom Spicer's garden and delivered with a ladle in fine china. Because nothing says romance like sipping cocktails from a Wimbledon trophy.

MOST ADVENTUROUS DATE OPTION HANG GLIDING AT KITE ENTERPRISES

972-390-9090

Imagine a scooter zipping around in a field. No, you're not riding it—you're strapped to a kite that's attached to the scooter and flying about 60 feet in the air. While there's a distant chance a windstorm might come out of nowhere and carry you both to Lubbock, there are currently no open-container laws governing hang gliders, so BYOB and enjoy the ride.

BEST SPA FOR TWO WITH THE CHEESIEST NAME

THE COWBOY & COWGIRL COUPLES MASSAGE AT MOKARA SPA

1300 HOUSTON ST, FORT WORTH, 817-350-4123

We agree, they could have picked a better name. But that won't matter once you and the woman you love settle into blissful relaxation thanks to volcanic basalt stones releasing tension in your muscles, soothing away aches and pains. Safe to say you two have never been more comfortable together.

MOST ROMANTIC DINNER FOR TWO SMALL PLATES AT VIKTOR TANGOS

3001 N HENDERSON AVE, 214-252-8595

Because a romantic dinner for two doesn't have to be a stuffy one, Viktor Tangos serves up comfort food to share (like chicken and waffles). The lights are quite low and the wall of your cozy booth is quite high—a perfect moment for her to stumble upon a very special present hidden in a waffle, perhaps.

HOTTEST TABLE FOR TWO TABLE 75 AT HIBISCUS

2927 N HENDERSON AVE, 214-827-2927

Dinner by candlelight: good. Dinner by firelight: better. So you'll want to ask for this table—it's the closest booth to the fireplace.

DALLAS *Continued*

BEST MENU TO FIND BOTH OF YOUR FAVORITE DISHES

SUSHI OR STEAK AT MR MESERO

4444 MCKINNEY AVE, 469-955-6426

She's been craving sushi, but you're in more of a Tex-Mex mood. As you know, when it comes to love there is a time for compromise and a time for giving her exactly what she wants. Mr Mesero's menu allows you to do both: While she satisfies her raw-fish fascination, you'll be smothering a barbacoa taco in guacamole.

BEST OUTDOOR TABLE FOR SHARING A COOL MOMENT

TABLE 109 AT THE KATY TRAIL ICE HOUSE

3136B ROUTH ST, 214-468-0600

You'll want to time this just right: shade begins at noon and ends promptly at 2:04pm. Keeping you cool are two umbrellas and a fan spitting gentle mist beneath thick tree branches covering the beer garden. And a pair of frozen margaritas, chilling you from the inside out.

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO IN A PRIVATE ROOM

THE CHEF'S TABLE AT ABACUS

4511 MCKINNEY AVE, 214-559-3111

Most nights, this table's reserved for parties of eight. But as you know, this isn't most nights. So you'll have the Iron Chef's table all to yourselves. And it never hurts to have an Iron Chef as your wingman. Especially when lobster shooters are involved.

BEST HOTEL POOL FOR A CELEBRATORY COCKTAIL

POOLSIDE AT HOTEL ZAZA

2332 LEONARD ST, 800-597-8399

What better way to celebrate than with a pair of expertly muddled mojitos in hand, floating in a pristine oasis before sun-drying on plush chaise lounges dressed in woven fabric. Don't mind the guy who just swan dived his way into the deep end. Tony Romo always gets like that after a win.

MOST ROMANTIC WEEKEND GETAWAY

THE GREYSTONE CASTLE

65756 INTERSTATE 20, MINGUS, 254-672-5927

If Mel Gibson had shot *Braveheart* in Texas for some reason, he'd have done it here. You'll sip fine wine and feast on fresh duck in the dining hall before retiring to the courtyard to trade tales from the prairie and sip scotch. Or just take up in the tower and look out as the sun sets over the hills. Hey, someone has to guard this place.

BEST SECLUDED SPOT FOR SHARING A MOMENT AT A HIGH ALTITUDE

RENTING A ZEPPELIN AT AIRSHIP VENTURES

650-969-8100

This is one of two zeppelins in the world flying commercially today—at 246 feet, it's a little longer than your standard Boeing 747. (But with a little more leg room.) As the zeppelin lifts off, you and your date will want to settle into the back seats for panoramic views of Cowtown's skyline. After around 90 minutes of floating, you'll start your descent and the flight attendant will pop a celebratory bottle of champagne.



YOUR FOREVERMARK DIAMOND

JEWELER: Bachendorf's

<http://www.bachendorfs.com>

The SPEED DIAL

YOUR PERSONAL DRIVER:

Dallas Pedicabs
<http://www.dallaspedicabs.com>

YOUR EMERGENCY SEVEN-DAY SUIT:

Pockets Menswear
http://www.pocketsmenswear.com/pockets/dept.asp?s_id=0&dept_id=250

YOUR PERSONAL MASSEUSE:

Your Body's ReTreat
<http://www.yourbodysretreat.com/On-Site-Outcall-Massage.html>

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

Grange Hall
<http://www.urbanflowergrangehall.com>

BEST TAILOR:

Harry's Tailor Shop
<http://harrystailorshop.net/news>

BESPOKE CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Chocolate Secrets
<http://www.chocolatesecrets.net/ChocolateSecrets/Default.aspx>

YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Robs Chop Shop
<http://robschopshop.com>

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF:

Roaming Gourmet
<http://www.roaminggourmetdallas.com>

DESSERT DELIVERY CO.:

Tiff's Treats
<http://www.cookieelivery.com/dallas>

ON-CALL PRIVATE PIANIST/HARPIST:

Margaret Atkinson
<http://www.4harpmusic.com/aboutus.htm>

ATLANTA



YOUR FOREVERMARK DIAMOND JEWELER:

Brown & Co.
<http://www.brownjewelers.com>

YOUR PERSONAL DRIVER:

Corporate Limo
<http://www.atlantacorporatelimo.com/about.html>

YOUR EMERGENCY WINE DELIVERY SERVICE:

Vineyard Wine Market
<http://www.thevineyardwinemarket.com>

YOUR PERSONAL MASSEUSE:

Atlanta Serenity Massage
<http://www.atlantaserenity.com>

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

Petals A Florist
<http://www.petalsaflorest.com>

BEST TAILOR:

A Sartorial Splendor with Sid Mashburn
404-563-7926

(WHAT FEELS LIKE) THE HOTTEST TABLE FOR TWO

TABLE 50 AT ATLANTA GRILL IN THE RITZ-CARLTON

181 PEACHTREE ST NE, 404-221-6550

Table 50 is a secluded little nook where you'll sink into the red leather banquette, summon some bubbly and draw the privacy curtains for a long evening of... nobody else's business. If things go well behind the curtain, we hear they also have a few rooms at the Ritz.

(WHAT ACTUALLY IS) THE HOTTEST TABLE FOR TWO

TABLE 32 AT ANTICA POSTA

519 E PACES FERRY RD NE, 404-262-7112

This Tuscan spot was once a Buckhead home, so expect to find some remnants of its former life throughout the dining room—like a roaring fireplace with a two-top situated directly in front of it. Every table here demands seduction; this one just catches the most heat.

MOST ROMANTIC LUNCH OPTION

LUNCH AND BOCCE IN THE COURTYARD AT EMPIRE STATE SOUTH

999 PEACHTREE ST NE, 404-541-1105

Find yourself transported to a world of dark hardwoods, antique light fixtures and plush brown leather banquettes. From there, decamp to the main dining room for some North Carolina catfish with bacon vinaigrette, scarlet turnips and pumpkin Carolina rice before casually strolling outside for a pickup bocce game in the courtyard.

MOST ROMANTIC COCKTAILS

TANTRA ESPRESSO SHOTS AT TANTRA

2285 PEACHTREE RD NE, 404-228-7963

Suede banquettes, dramatic chandeliers presiding over beaded curtains and ancient tantric symbols discreetly embedded around every corner. Choose one of six *Tantric Espressos* like the *Italian Amante*, a shot of espresso graciously finished with another shot of sambuca and topped with alcohol-infused whipped cream.

MOST ROMANTIC OVERNIGHT SPOT IN A SECLUDED AREA

RENT OUT THE RIVER RETREAT CABIN

834 INDIAN CAVE RD, ELLIJAY, 404-791-4388

There are three kayaks at your disposal, a huge projection screen for flick-catching and a hot tub hovering over the Cartecay River. And yes, a heated indoor pool. Take that, every other cabin everywhere.

MOST ROMANTIC PRIVATE TABLE WORTH SMOOTH-TALKING YOUR WAY INTO RESERVING

THE WINE ROOM AT CANOE

4199 PACES FERRY RD NW, 770-432-2663

You may or may not be aware of this room's existence. But if you ask nicely, the dark, brick-on-brick expanse can be yours (and yours alone) for the evening. Not to mention the private server. Being this close to Canoe's secret stockpile of wine should all but answer that question for you.

ATLANTA *Continued*

BESPOKE CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Nudo Italia
<http://nudo-italia.com>
Askinosie Chocolate
<http://www.askinosie.com>

YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Selden Beylouni Salon
<http://seldenbeylouni.com>

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF:

Chef on Request
<http://www.chefonrequest.com>

DESSERT DELIVERY CO.:

Morelli's Ice Cream
Delivery
<http://www.morellisicecream.com>

ON-CALL PRIVATE PIANIST:

Kurt Scobie
<http://www.kurtscobie.com>

BEST STAYCATION HOTEL ROOM TO RENT OUT

PENTHOUSE 1 AT THE GEORGIAN TERRACE

659 PEACHTREE ST NE, 404-897-1991

Two levels, two bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, 2,491 square feet and... the two of you. The upper level features a master and guest bedroom with adjacent bathrooms, dressing areas and walk-in closets while the main level has a living room, dining room and full kitchen with a Sub-Zero fridge. Aphrodisiacs are heat sensitive, after all...

MOST ADVENTUROUS DATE OPTION

THERMAL PARAGLIDING AT ATLANTA PARAGLIDING ENTERPRISES

1480 BOLD SPRINGS CHURCH RD, CARNESVILLE, 404-931-3793

Because thrill-seeking is a lot more thrilling when you can hold hands with the person you love, surprise her with a "thermal flight," during which you'll paraglide up to 6,000 feet by riding a warm wave of rising air. (Resist the urge to sing "Wind Beneath My Wings" upon descent.)

MOST INTENSE PRE-DATE ACTIVITY

METAL YOGA CLASS IN AN ART GALLERY

636 N HIGHLAND AVE NE, 404-254-4127

Love is all about compromise. The yin and the yang. The best of both. To that end, in this 75-minute class she can help you lengthen your half-moon pose while you help her decipher those Black Sabbath lyrics. Namaste, Ozzy.

MOST ROMANTIC DATE SPOT WITH THE HIGHEST ALTITUDE

THE SKY LOUNGE AT THE GLENN HOTEL

110 MARIETTA ST NW, 404-521-2250

When it comes to love, perspective is key. So guide her to the roof of the Glenn Hotel, where you'll sip fruit cocktails and hold each other close while taking in breathtaking views of greater Atlanta.

MOST ROMANTIC WEEKEND GETAWAY

PRIVATE VINEYARD COTTAGE AT THE MONTALUCE WINERY & ESTATES

501 HIGHTOWER CHURCH RD, DAHLONEGA, 706-867-4060

You'll transport her to Tuscany in the Cottage Vigna Vista, nestled on a hillside overlooking Montaluce's east vineyard. There's a full kitchen complete with Wolf range, Sub-Zero refrigerator/freezer, wine chiller and microwave, though your better bet is to ask for a corner table at Le Vigne, the property's quaint French bistro.





TABLE WITH THE BEST ODDS SHE'LL SAY YES

THE WINE ROOM AT ZED451

739 N CLARK ST, 312-266-6691

Some guys propose on the jumbotron at Soldier Field. You're looking for a slightly more controlled environment. Zed451's private wine room has a solid track record—three years, three yeses. Regardless of her answer, remember you have a tremendous amount of wine within arm's reach.

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO INDOORS

THE KITCHEN TABLE AT GIRL & THE GOAT

809 W RANDOLPH ST, 312-492-6262

Everything about this dark, sexy, smoldering den is luscious. Be sure to grab one of the two romantic deuces in the open kitchen so you can watch Chicago's *Top Chef* winner Stephanie Izard prepare braised meats, wood-fired oysters and the house specialty: *Crispy Pig Faces*. Don't worry, it's more romantic than crispy.

ROMANTIC OVERNIGHT JUST OUTSIDE THE CITY

THE FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT PALMER HOUSE

227 ORCHARD HILLS DR, ANN ARBOR, MI, 734-414-0811

You'll roll down a private drive situated on two acres of pristine woodland and stroll up to the mid-century, three-bedroom house you have all to yourselves. The place has all the thoughtful details you demand from an architectural genius: cypress wood everywhere, a sunken living room and, of course, complimentary organic tea. There's even a second building, complete with a working fireplace, in case you have visitors. (Or in case you don't.)

SIMPLY PUT: THE BEST RESTAURANT IN CHICAGO

INVENTINE MENU AT ALINEA

1723 N HALSTED ST, 312-867-0110

Not only is it the best in Chicago, but Alinea was ranked the sixth-best restaurant *in the world* by *Restaurant* magazine. Still, romance is nothing without playfulness, which is one of the reasons chef Grant Achatz invites his guests to "play with their food" by mixing and matching ingredients. He also invites them to patiently enjoy the four-hour culinary (and sensory) journey. Luckily, you two are in absolutely no hurry..

MOST ROMANTIC COCKTAIL

THE TRUFFLE COCKTAIL AT AVIARY

955 W FULTON MARKET, 312-226-0868

Most people here order cocktails after spying an irresistible concoction sitting on the next table (*The Blueberry*, for example, which arrives in a carafe stuffed with a mélange of fruit and flower petals). That said, once-in-a-lifetime moments call for once-in-a-lifetime drinks, so cue up two *Truffles*, made with Périgord black truffles, Campari and vermouth.

BEST SECLUDED SPOT FOR PUBLICLY DISPLAYING AFFECTION

THE VODKA VAULT AT TZAR ULTRA LOUNGE

215 W ONTARIO ST, 312- 255-8927

Welcome to a fantasyland of chilled vodka, fur-lined ceilings and kaleidoscopic electric floors. Arrange some quality time in the vodka vault, a clear glass chamber cooled to 27 degrees, in full view of the room (good thing you'll be swaddled in faux fur coats).

YOUR FOREVERMARK DIAMOND JEWELER:

<http://www.forevermarkdiamond.com/us/where-buy>

PERSONAL DRIVER:

Uber
<https://www.uber.com>

YOUR EMERGENCY CUFFLINK SERVICE:

Have Links Will Travel
<http://www.traceymayer.com>

YOUR PERSONAL MASSEUSE:

Hired Hands
<http://www.hiredhandsmassage.net>



ONTINUED

BEST TAILOR:

Nikiforos Tailoring and Alterations
<http://chicagotailor.com>

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

Scarlet Petal
<http://www.scarletpetal.com/index.shtml>

BESPOKE CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Vosges Haut-Chocolat
<http://www.vosgeschocolate.com>

YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Mimi's Onsite Barbers (come to you)
773-875-6958

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF:

Meez Meals
<https://www.meezmeals.com>

DESSERT DELIVERY CO.:

The Baked Escape
<http://www.thebakedescape.com>

ON-CALL PRIVATE PIANIST:

Chris Martin
<http://cmartinmusic.com>

BEST CELEBRATORY DATE SPOT

POPS FOR CHAMPAGNE

601 N STATE ST, 312-266-7677

Unless you're a St. Louis Cardinal, we're guessing it's been a while since champagne served as the centerpiece of an evening. If you two are feeling particularly celebratory, head to Pops and choose from an unrivaled champagne list (now at nearly 200 selections), as well as a complete bar selection, live music and a seasonal menu of champagne-friendly, meant-to-be-shared dishes.

MOST UNIQUE AQUATIC DATE IDEA

RENTING OUT THE ACOUSTIC ROOM AT THE KOHLER WATERS SPA

775 VILLAGE CENTER DR, BURR RIDGE, 630-323-7674

Fully terryclothed and fresh from a caviar facial, you'll both be escorted to the private Acoustic Room, where your bath awaits. As you dip in, colored lights swirl, relaxing music takes hold of you—and then you feel it. Your entire body is being kneaded from the inside out via the power of sound waves traveling through water. It's like a million dolphins are thinking only about you two.

MOST SECLUDED TABLE FOR SHARING A PRIVATE MOMENT

TABLE 505 AT OLD TOWN SOCIAL

455 W NORTH AVE, 312-266-2277

If you need maximum privacy, Old Town Social has two two-person booths that let you pull the curtain closed, giving you all the intimacy of an old-fashioned photo booth. Without any of the incriminating evidence. And nothing says romance like a platter of housemade sausage and good beer behind a red velvet curtain.

BEST WAY TO SHARE A ROMANTIC MOMENT WHILE IN TRANSIT

BLUESKY ON-DEMAND TAXI AND PRIVATE PLANE SERVICE

877-359-2511

Think of this as a carriage ride around the city—only now your driver is a licensed airline pilot, and the horse is a four-person Cirrus SR22-G3. The pilot will take any flight path you want: zoom over your house, over the lake, over that special message you've spelled out in millions of rose petals in Grant Park...

BEST HIDDEN SPOT FOR A LATE-NIGHT ROMANTIC COCKTAIL

ULTRA, THE LOUNGE UNDER LAKE POINT TOWER

580 E ILLINOIS ST, 312-955-0719

Relax on the patio with the house's trademark cocktail (*The Rio*) and snack (almond-stuffed, bacon-wrapped dates). Inside you'll find all the accoutrements usually reserved for River North clubs: LED lights and a DJ creating just the right amount of ambience to dance, if you want. Or not, if you want.

MOST ROMANTIC BREAKFAST DISH TO SHARE

THE CAVIAR OMELET AT PRASINO

1846 W DIVISION ST, 312-878-1212

Panoramic windows offer a commanding view of Division Street from your snug table for two. That said, everything you love is seated right in front of you. Her. And a caviar-topped Maine lobster omelet.

San FRANCISCO

MOST ROMANTIC COCKTAIL SPOT

THE BURRITT ROOM

417 STOCKTON ST, 415-400-0500

It actually looks like it could be one of the sets from *The Maltese Falcon*—and that's before you've taken your pick from the 18-deep cocktail list, including the *Shibuya Scramble*, a Tokyo-inspired punch with gin, elderflower and green tea. Take it to one of the two-seater nooks by the window—your HQ for the night. Or at least until you retire to the red velvet sofas.



YOUR FOREVERMARK DIAMOND JEWELER:

<http://www.forevermarkdiamond.com/us/where-buy>

WHERE TO GO FOR ROMANTIC AND INTELLECTUAL COCKTAILS

TWO SISTERS BAR AND BOOKS

579 HAYES ST, 415-863-3655

A Victorian library with plenty of romantic nooks (and cocktails) to choose from. Low lighting, dark wood bookshelves, hundreds of hardcover books—the kind of joint where you'll want to toss on a velvet robe, light up a pipe, and channel F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald over a couple of Old Fashioneds.

MOST ROMANTIC DISH FOR TWO

ONE-HOUR ROASTED CHICKEN FOR TWO AT ZUNI

1658 MARKET ST, 415-552-2522

Lose all of those thoughts you have about chicken not being an aphrodisiac. Incidentally, this one takes an *hour* from order to table—because it's being made just for you and the lady by chef Judy Rodgers, who's been perfecting the dish over the last two decades.

MOST OVER-THE-TOP HOTEL ROOM TO RENT

THE ORIENTAL SUITE AT THE MANDARIN ORIENTAL

222 SANSOME ST, 800-622-0404

Opulence is bliss, as is the 2,000-square-foot Oriental Suite, with two floors, two king bedrooms and a sweeping private terrace that overlooks the apex of the Transamerica Pyramid. Consider this your own little Forbidden Village (with a view of the Golden Gate Bridge).

WHERE TO GO FOR ROMANTIC AND ARTSY COCKTAILS

HEART

1270 VALENCIA ST, 415-285-1200

Here's where you can finally celebrate your shared love of Picasso and pinot noir. When you walk in, your eyes will be drawn to the 18-foot walls adorned with jutting wine bottles along with endless shelves of vino.

MOST ROMANTIC DATE SPOT WITH A HIGH ALTITUDE

THE STARLIGHT ROOM AT THE DRAKE HOTEL

450 POWELL ST, 415-395-8595

Ride the elevator to the 21st floor and cozy up in a plush red booth where you can take in 360-degree views and sunset cocktails overlooking Union Square. The Starlight Room, like you two, is reminiscent of classy, post-Prohibition art deco glamour. She's always said you reminded her of the Chrysler Building.

MUST-GO-TO DINNER SPOT FOR A ROMANTIC EXPERIENCE

THE FRENCH LAUNDRY
6640 WASHINGTON ST, YOUNTVILLE,
707-944-2380

If you were planning a romantic dinner a hundred years ago and happened to work in a French steam laundry, this is where you'd have it. These days, you also get the benefit of eating at one of the best restaurants in the country, three Michelin stars and all. Built in 1890, the rustic two-story stone house is surrounded by a country garden planted with vintage roses, perennials and seasonal herbs.

San FRANCISCO

CONTINUED

The SPEED DIAL

YOUR PERSONAL DRIVER:

Taxi Magic
<http://taximagic.com>

YOUR CUSTOM SHIRT DELIVERY SERVICE:

J. Hilburn
<http://www.jhilburn.com>

YOUR PERSONAL MASSEUSE:

Deep Massage & Bodywork
<http://www.deepmassage.com>

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

Podesta Baldocchi
<http://www.podestabaldocchi.com/Scripts/default.asp>

BEST TAILOR:

San Francisco Tailors
415-392-6611

BESPOKE CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Recchiuti
<http://www.recchiuti.com/index.html>

YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Attention to Detail Barber Gallery
<http://www.atdbarbergallery.com>

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF:

At the Dinner Table
<http://www.atthedinnertable.com>

DESSERT DELIVERY CO.:

Mission Minis
<http://missionminis.com>

ON-CALL PRIVATE PIANIST:

Harry Likas
<http://www.thejazzduo.com/piano>

MOST ROMANTIC WEEKEND OVERNIGHT OPTION

PRIVATE TREEHOUSE AT THE POST RANCH INN
47900 HWY 1, BIG SUR, 888-524-4787

You'll be escorted to your private treehouse room built on stilts nine feet off the forest floor (it's safe to say you're not afraid of heights). As you can predict, you'll have access to gratis snacks, beverages and wine. And finally, two hour-long massages should round things out nicely.

MOST ROMANTIC HOTEL AMENITY/NECESSITY

THE IN-ROOM MIXOLOGIST AT CAVALLO POINT
601 MURRAY CIR, SAUSALITO, 415-339-4700

Once you've settled into your room, request a personal in-room bartender, specify your drink of choice and wait as he preps the best of Farley Bar on your tray. And just like that, breakfast in bed has competition.

MOST ADVENTUROUS DATE

HELI-SKIING IN TAHOE IN A PRIVATE HELI-SKI
530-581-1767

This flight-savvy outfit out of Alaska will give the two of you direct access to 100,000 backcountry acres (covering territory that's four times all of Tahoe combined), which means you'll be attempting uncharted runs in remote, never-been-skied bowls, peaks and mountainsides from Donner to Sierra Buttes. Hot chocolate is optional.

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO

TABLE 14 AT TWENTY FIVE LUSK
25 LUSK ST, 415-495-5875

The allure of a historic smokehouse and meat-processing facility should not be underestimated as a romantic locale. Well, not this one at least. Start with a few Manhattans in one of the subterranean cocktail nooks tucked behind the bar. Then head upstairs to table 14, a long leather booth overlooking the glowing fire orbs where you and she can sit side-by-side or face-to-face—better yet, make it a course-by-course decision.

BOSTON



MOST ROMANTIC DATE SPOT TO GET IN THE MOOD

OYSTERS AND ABSINTHE COCKTAILS AT ISLAND CREEK OYSTER BAR

500 COMMONWEALTH AVE, 617-532-5300

Besides endless Island Creek oysters, there's a rotating list of oysters from 18 different farms on both coasts. Of course, all seafood goes down better with absinthe, the key ingredient in the *Wildwood Cocktail* (alongside rye and cinnamon). As long as you have each other, the world is your oyster/extraordinarily intoxicating absinthe cocktail.

BEST HOTEL ROOM FOR WRITING A FAIRY TALE

THE DYNASTY SUITE AT THE MANDARIN ORIENTAL

776 BOYLSTON ST, 617-531-0888

Certain things make fairy tales a little easier to create. Like the opulent, 2,600-square-foot dynasty suite at the Mandarin Oriental, complete with a working fireplace, a wood-paneled study and a large marble bathroom with its own spa bathtub. Magic slippers optional.

MOST UNASSUMING BUT DELICIOUS DATE SPOT

UMAMI

1704 BEACON ST, BROOKLINE, 617-879-9100

Start at the seven-seat mahogany bar with some sautéed shiitake mushrooms and a jug of 7 *Swordsmen Sake*, produced in one of the oldest breweries in Japan. You'll finish on the front patio where her three great loves—Asian food, Washington Square and you—await.

RESTAURANT THAT HAS THE BEST VIEWS OF THE HARBOR WHILE STAYING WARM INSIDE

40-FOOT WINDOWS AT ALMA NOVE

22 SHIPYARD DR, HINGHAM, 781-749-3353

So say you've spent a lazy day along the South Shore and realize it's not so much a Clam Box night as a pancetta-wrapped pork tenderloin and wood-grilled Spanish prawns night. You'll want to glide over here, tie up your luxury schooner and warm up next to the exposed fire pit with a few beers. Brought to you by chef Paul Wahlberg (older brother of Donnie and Mark), Alma has killer floor-to-ceiling views of the cove inside and a highly loungeable patio outside.

BEST ROMANTIC HOTEL EXPERIENCE

PRESIDENTIAL SUITE AT THE CHARLES HOTEL

1 BENNETT ST, CAMBRIDGE, 617-864-1200

Sometimes romance calls for presidential treatment, which is exactly what she'll receive in the flagship suite at the Charles Hotel. Before settling into your custom-made, California king-size, four-poster maple bed, share a relaxing, therapeutic shower (with eight jets) and pop complimentary champagne as you take in panoramic views of the Boston skyline. Repeat in the morning.

MOST ROMANTIC TABLE FOR TWO

THE CORNER TABLE AT CARMEN

33 NORTH ST, 617-742-6421

This corner nook has the best views looking out at the other diners, comes stocked with comfy pillows and is literally next door to Paul Revere's original house. Little-known fact: Revolutionary War heroes' homes are ferocious aphrodisiacs.

The **SPEED DIAL**

YOUR PERSONAL DRIVER:

Boston Private Car
<http://www.limo-123.com>

YOUR EMERGENCY TIE DELIVERY SERVICE:

Sir Jack's
<http://www.sirjacks.com>

YOUR PERSONAL MASSEUSE:

Boston Mobile Massage
<http://www.bostonmobilemassage.com>

BEST TAILOR:

Tony Tong the Tailor
617-338-2254

BESPOKE CHOCOLATE SHOP:

Taza Chocolate
<http://www.tazachocolate.com>

YOUR FOREVERMARK DIAMOND JEWELER:

Lux Bond & Green

<http://www.lbgreen.com>

BOSTON

Continued



BEST DINNER DISH FOR TWO IN A ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

THE DUET DU BOEUF AT CLIO

370A COMMONWEALTH AVE, 617-536-7200

Hard to pass up any menu item containing the word "duet" tonight, especially when the twosome involves root-beer-braised cheek. (It's slightly easier to pass up menu items containing the word "piballes," or baby glass eels.)

BEST WAY TO GET OUT OF DODGE TO MARTHA'S VINEYARD

PRIVATE JET ON DEMAND FROM STRATOS JET CHARTER SERVICES

888-478-7286

You just got word that the Clintons have extended an invitation to you and the lady for celebratory champagne on their Edgartown widow's walk... tonight. When the ferry just won't do, Stratos Jet Charters will. You can choose from over 5,000 aircrafts (including Lears, Hawklers, Falcons, Challengers and Gulfstreams) that will get you there in minutes.

MOST PRIVATE TABLE FOR TWO WITH THE BEST VIEW

THE LIGHTHOUSE AT NEWBURYPORT

61 1/2 WATER ST, NEWBURYPORT, 800-727-2326

If privacy is paramount tonight, don't take any chances. Unless the fog rolls in and the *Queen Mary's* skipper loses his way, you'll have the Lighthouse at Newburyport all to yourselves. Enjoy panoramic views and the satisfaction that one of the most romantic nights of your life is also a charitable one: proceeds go to the Lighthouse Preservation Society. And your relationship has always been about preserving lighthouses.

MOST HIDDEN PLACE TO RELAX TOGETHER OUTSIDE OF BOSTON PROPER

THE TREE SPA AT HIDDEN POND

354 GOOSE ROCKS RD, KENNEBUNKPORT, MAINE, 207-967-9050

Waiting for you are three 10-by-12 treehouses turned rustic spa huts, suspended 20 feet above the earth and connected to the cliff by sturdy catwalks. And while you're getting kneaded and worked over during your massage (go ahead, go deep-tissue), you should know the lavender- and mint-based products being used on you were grown right on the farm at the resort. Fresh lavender is the key to any fine massage.

BEST SPOT FOR A ROMANTIC GROUP DINNER

FONDUE AT MASS AVE TAVERN

94 MASSACHUSETTS AVE, 617-927-4900

You and your crew will grab a massive wood table and get to work on Kobe beef sliders and chicken, rabbit and chorizo paella. Ask for a spot by the 12-foot fire pit. The tables seat eight, which is key when you're ordering rounds of cheese fondue with tenderloin skewers and truffled mac and cheese in triplicate. As if there's another way to order them.

MOST ROMANTIC ROOM TO RENT FOR A WEEKEND GETAWAY

ROOM 311 AT CHEBEAGUE ISLAND INN

61 SOUTH RD, CHEBEAGUE ISLAND, MAINE, 207-846-5155

For some reason, the views on this private island off the coast of Maine seem... more exclusive. Yours includes Norman Mailer's former house, a golf course and the glassy waters of Casco Bay. You'll grab one of the free bikes for a ride around the island and then play a round of bocce on the lawn at sunset. Or do anything on the lawn at sunset.

BEST FLOWER DELIVERY:

Rouvalis Flowers & Gardens

<http://rouvalisflowers.com>



YOUR HIDDEN GROOMING ENCLAVE:

Barbershop Lounge

<http://www.barbershoplounge.com>

YOUR PERSONAL CHEF:

Olives & Herbs

<http://www.olivesandherbs.com>

DESSERT DELIVERY CO.:

Ice Cream Pizza

Delivery

<https://www.emackandbolios.com>

Isabelle's Curly Cakes

<http://www.izzyscurlycakes.com>

YOUR GO-TO SHOE SHINE GUY:

Calvin Mills Old

Fashioned Shoe

Shine

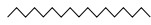
500 Boylston St

ON-CALL PRIVATE PIANIST:

Bruce Lewis

<http://www.pianobybruce.com>

Guide to BUYING A DIAMOND



You're not just buying a piece of jewelry. You're making a promise. You're hand-selecting a unique, inimitable miracle of nature to serve as a lifelong symbol of your love and devotion.

You're buying a diamond.

Here's what you need to know...

THE 4 C'S ARE DISTINCTIONS THAT GIVE A DIAMOND ITS UNIQUE PERSONALITY AND ARE USED TO FORM THE BASIS FOR ITS VALUATION. HOWEVER, WHILE EVERY DIAMOND CAN BE DESCRIBED BY ITS PARTICULAR COMBINATION OF THE 4 C'S, ITS EXCEPTIONAL BEAUTY IS MUCH MORE THAN A LIST OF CHARACTERISTICS.



CUT

refers to the shape of the diamond. Round, princess, oval, marquise, pear and emerald are some of the most familiar. The cut is also the factor most involved in the sparkle of a polished diamond. To maximize sparkle, a diamond must be cut to very specific parameters of angle and dimension with a strict attention to the polished finish of the diamond. *You're looking for "Very Good" to "Excellent" cut standards.*

CARAT

is a measurement of weight. One carat (1 ct) equals 0.20 grams and is divided into 100 points (a half-carat diamond can be described as a "50-point diamond"). *You're looking for 0.14 carat or larger.*

CLARITY

measures the diamond's purity and refers to how free a diamond is from tiny blemishes and inclusions. *You're looking for clarity ratings from "Flawless" to "SI2."*

COLOR

refers to the tint of the diamond (which can span all the colors of the rainbow). Generally, the rarest diamonds exhibit no color at all. Polished diamonds are graded for minute variations in depth of color, from colorless to light yellow and light brown. This is universally known as the D (exceptional white) to Z (tinted color) color scale. *You're looking for grades ranging from D to L.*

COMMON DIAMOND SHAPES:

EMERALD

OVAL

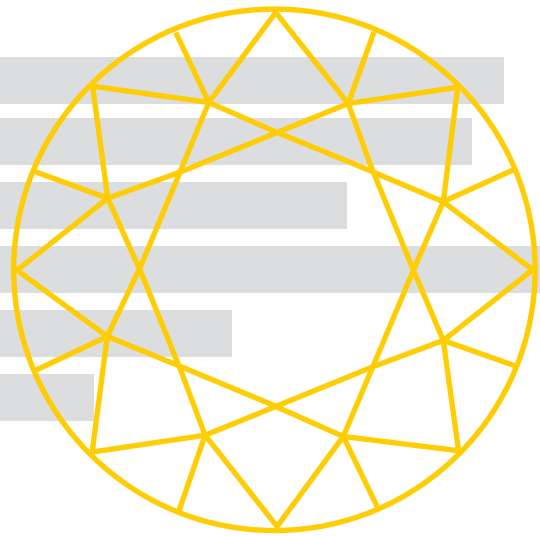
PRINCESS

CUSHION

ASSCHER

HEART

RADIANT



MOST POPULAR SHAPE:

ROUND

The
**FOREVERMARK
GRADING REPORT**

provides an accurate assessment of the exceptional qualities of your Forevermark diamond so you can be confident when buying. You're looking for strict grading standards to establish and validate the unique characteristics and special quality of each diamond.

Every polished Forevermark diamond is evaluated by diamond experts as well as machines, and only once their provenance and quality is confirmed will they receive the **unique inscription number and icon**. Your signature is your promise. Forevermark's inscription is their promise to you that the diamond you choose is:

Beautiful
BEAUTIFUL:

Forevermark diamonds are genuine, untreated and natural, their beauty unleashed by master craftsmen using skill and artistry passed down through generations.

Rare
RARE:

Less than 1% of the world's diamonds are eligible to become a Forevermark diamond.

Responsibly Sourced
RESPONSIBLY SOURCED:

Forevermark diamonds benefit the people, communities and countries from which they originate, which means that you can be proud to give and wear them forever. Which is the whole point, after all.

