

Date Idea: Christmas Movie Marathon



By Samantha Mucha

Getting cozy with your mate by the fire while watching ABC Family's '25 Days of Christmas' should be number one on your to-do date list this holiday season. Leave the freezing winter weather outside and kick back for an indoor weekend with your sweetheart.

Watching Christmas movies will not only put you and your lover in the holiday spirit, but the price is right – free. Throughout the month of December, there are a variety of holiday themed broadcasts on all of the national networks. The choice is yours, really. Of course, if you're lucky enough to

own a DVR, you won't have to choose. You can load up "Miracle on 34th Street," "8 Crazy Nights," and "A Christmas Story" and watch them whenever you please.

To make this into a romantic evening, pour some wine or brew up some hot cocoa. You can even go above and beyond by renting your man's favorite childhood Christmas films. If you are in the mood to get nostalgic, ask your partner's parents to share old home movies of your boyfriend on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Watching videos of him as a child can help spark good feelings and could be a Christmas tradition that you decide to continue in your relationship.

It's only getting colder. So, get the popcorn popping and throw on your best flannel pajamas. Cozy up with your holiday honey for the most relaxing moments you'll have for the entire holiday season.

What's your favorite Christmas movie? Share your top pick with our readers by commenting below.

**Date Idea: Wrap Gifts
Together**





By Samantha Mucha

The holiday season can be a stressful time with your partner, even though it should be full of joy and holiday cheer. To lessen your to-do list this December, and still have time for a date night, try something different with your sweetheart. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons, and tape. It's time to channel your inner Christmas Elf.

There's no doubt that wrapping gifts is a difficult task. It's an endeavor that should be left for the most skilled and nimble-fingered family members. Yet, nothing says "I support you, babe!" quite like helping out. Have your lover join you.

It may sound like you are just recruiting your man to do your chores while you sit back and relax, but that is not the case at all. It becomes less a of a task and more of a constructive activity when you two do it together. Have your significant other bring over their unwrapped gifts (but not yours, you don't want to ruin a good surprise) and the two of you can work together.

To make your Friday night even more entertaining turn gift-

wrapping into a game. Maybe your relationship could use a little competitive edge. Try timing yourselves to see who can make the best looking package in the quickest amount of time. The winner has to bake cookies for the not-so-perfect wrapper.

Putting on some holiday music while sitting by a warm fire is a romantic conclusion to this date. After your gifts are piled neatly under the tree, sit back and relax with your beau. As the night of gift-wrapping fun comes to a close, catch a Christmas movie on TV and drift off to sleep cuddled up in each others arms.

What unique date ideas do you have during the holidays? Share your ideas below.

12-12-12: Show Your Love & Support for the Victims of Hurricane Sandy





Here at CupidsPulse.com, we saw firsthand the true devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy. Our offices were located in the center of the storm, and we feel very fortunate that only a portion of our office was impacted. We were out of power for 13 days, but that is nothing compared to what so many other people faced – and are still facing. Many New Yorkers continue to experience distress: they have no place to live, their personal belongings are gone and they have no place to celebrate the holidays.

In hopes of helping these people rebuild their lives and their homes, a very special event takes place tonight: “12-12-12,” the biggest concert ever staged at Madison Square Garden, will begin at 7:30 p.m. EST and focus on the impact of Hurricane Sandy. The concert includes performers such as Bon Jovi, Eric Clapton, Alicia Keys, Kanye West, Billy Joel and The Rolling Stones. Additionally, stars including Leonardo DiCaprio, Jake Gyllenhaal, Adam Sandler, Kristen Stewart, Jessica Chastain and more will participate in the show to help the victims of the Superstorm.

Every single penny raised by the telethon will go to organizations serving the victims of Hurricane Sandy through

the Robin Hood Relief Fund, which provides money, material and know-how to local organizations that are serving those hit hardest by the storm. Moreover, Tommy Hilfiger has agreed to donate t-shirts as part of the merchandise offerings for "12-12-12."

If you can't be there in person, "12-12-12" will be distributed to nearly two billion people through television feeds, radio and online streaming. Given that the holiday season is all about love, be sure to tune in and show your support to the many New Yorkers still suffering.

For where to watch or listen, click [here](#).

Date Idea: Ice Sculpting Festival





By Samantha Mucha

Do you and your sweetheart enjoy looking at art, or even making your own pieces? If so, take date night to the next level this winter by visiting an ice sculpting festival. These events typically happen near ski resorts or state parks. Look online to find out if there is one near you. If you and your significant other want to travel and have the budget, make a weekend out of it. It's a breathtaking experience that you will want to see at least once in your lifetime.

The art of ice sculpting is incredible; talented artists are able to turn a block of ice into castles and mystical creatures of every sort, as well as hundreds of other one-of-a-kind designs. Talk about a romantic winter wonderland. Spending the day walking around one of these festivals can be exciting as a couple. Get up close and check out the intricate details of the masterpieces. Make sure to take your video camera to capture the day for folks back home.

When you're done being in awe of the fantastic artwork, find a

cozy spot for dinner. Since you will most likely be traveling, try a local restaurant in the area. On your drive home share your favorite pieces with your mate and compare your thoughts. If you and your beau plan to tie the knot one day, maybe you will stumble upon a design that can be incorporated into your own wedding theme.

Have you ever been to an ice sculpting festival? Tell us where it was and what you thought by commenting below.

Date Idea: Go Holiday Shopping Together



By Samantha Mucha

This holiday season get your shopping done early. Turn this chore into a date and take your sweetheart with you. Doing this tedious task will be exponentially more romantic if you accomplish it together.

Make a list for both of you and see what you can tackle as a team. Both of your mothers will love new pajama and slipper sets, and both of your fathers will both enjoy ties, all from the same department store. Map your route before you hit the mall to ensure you have the smoothest shopping experience. Keep the romance strong and keep the arguing to a minimum!

Since this will most likely be a full day event be sure to feed your man so that he doesn't become agitated and ruin the day. Make pit stops at Starbucks and the food court throughout the day. Don't worry about the calories because all of that walking and bag carrying will burn them off.

Try to get as much shopping done as possible. However, don't buy your partner's gift in front of him. Let it be a surprise. The plus side of shopping early together is seeing what catches your beau's eye. Stop by your significant other's favorite store and see what they drool over. At a later date sneak back to the mall and pick it up for them.

Don't let shopping all day become stressful. Take your lover by the hand, take on the mall while emptying your pockets for the sake of romance.

Date Idea: Rent a Cabin for the Weekend



By Samantha Mucha

Take advantage of the weekend and escape the chaos of holiday shopping by renting a nice, quiet, cozy, cabin in the middle of the woods. There's nothing more romantic than cozying up with your sweetheart as you sit alone by the fire in the wilderness?

Put the city noise and stress of the up-coming holidays behind you and escape. A cabin gives you the chance to live simply for a weekend and who better to enjoy the relaxation with than your lover.

If you do your research, you may be able to find a good deal.

Remember more than just retail stores go on sale during the holidays. Better yet, ask your friends for advice and see if they know anyone who has a cabin that they won't be using for the weekend.

If it's too costly for this time of year, invite another couple to join in the festivities for an added dose of fun.

Although it may not be as romantic as you originally planned it's often more entertaining to share the experience with close friends, especially when you are alone in the woods with nobody else around. It will also help cut down on costs.

If you're with another couple, you can play games together or have a spooky story night by the fire while you're roasting marshmallows. Go back to simpler times and play cards, and do other things you did as a child, this will allow your significant other to reminisce about the childhood that they may not have been around to share with you.

Have fun doing next to nothing and be sure to keep your mind away from the stress of going back home. Enjoy the company of your partner and the silence of the woods.

Have you ever rented a cabin or went camping? What did you think about the experience?

Date Idea: Go Black Friday Shopping





By Samantha Mucha

If you go out for this crazy, corporate holiday, then why not do it with your lover? This experience can be very frustrating when done alone, so why not take your favorite person along and make it a more enjoyable experience? Your partner could be the perfect addition and it will certainly be an interesting way to measure the strength of your relationship.

Black Friday begins a lot earlier than it ever used to in the past with merchants beginning on midnight or earlier on Thanksgiving eve. So, after your Thanksgiving dinner stay up and watch movies until it's time to go, and then hit the stores. End the early morning hours with breakfast and a nap.

Shopping with your partner allows you to test your relationship to see how well you two work as a team under the pressure of all the great deals. As well as, see how well you know each other. Find out if your partner cracks under sleep deprivation or if he knows your family well enough to help you select the perfect gifts for them.

To add more pressure to Black Friday, make a competition with

your beau. Whoever completes the most shopping and gets the best deals for their purchases wins! The loser has to make breakfast, or doesn't get to nap until after they give the winner a foot massage.

Be sure to map out your route, and scan online to find the best deals before heading out at the crack of dawn. A smart game plan will give you an edge over your sweetheart (and everyone else standing in line to buy that new flat screen television for \$99.99) and of course it will make the whole experience run a lot smoother.

How do you spend Black Friday? Let us know below.

Date Idea: Document The Romance With A Flash





By Steven Zangrillo

Even for the strictest of mathematical minds, creating art is one of the most rewarding experiences. Making photo memories with your soul mate distinguishes you as a couple and supplies physical proof that you are meant to be together.

Pick a location for the shots, be it the nearest park, museum or beach. If there's a place of value to the both of you – the place where you met, a place you love to visit together – head there first. Start snapping away pictures, capturing images and new memories one click at a time.

There are many easy-to-use photo-editing programs available online. You can download them through the Mac App Store, Amazon, or purchase them at your local Software store. Once you load you upload your photos, you and your partner can hang out and edit them together. There is even new social media, like Instagram and Hipstamatic, that let's you edit straight from your phone or tablet. You'll be learning a new skill as a couple. Learning together is an incredibly important component to growing closer with your mate.

So, start snapping away. Let your creative minds take care of the rest.

What has been the most unique and creative photo capturing location for you and your honey? Let us know below.

Date Idea: Take An Autumn Stroll



By Samantha Mucha

Now that the leaves have changed colors and the intense summer heat has died down, take a walk hand-in-hand with your lover. This Friday night head out together and chat about your

tedious workweek. Relieve the stress and unwind as you stroll through your neighborhood park in the crisp autumn air. Romance doesn't have to be intense and fiery, so take this time to let go and let yourselves be present with one another.

Going for a leisurely walk has plenty of perks. You get to catch up with your sweetheart, swapping stories you didn't get a chance to share before your morning commute, or late dinner.

It's also the perfect way to squeeze in a little exercise that you may be skipping over now that it's getting chillier outside.

The best part about this date idea is that it's free! You and your partner can enjoy bike trails, paths, parks and walk along the waterfront for absolutely nothing. The bigger the park the better, the more free space you get to enjoy. If you are in New York, Central Park may be exactly what you're looking for to leisurely get away. If your mind is set on something a little less crowded, then check out the High Line for a cozier, more scenic route.

If you are not near New York or any city in general, casually stroll through your neighborhood, or a hiking trail near your home. The walk you take doesn't have to be complicated; it's all about spending valuable time with your sweetheart and getting to know them even better.

The less of a plan you have the better. Start walking and talking and see where you end up, you just may find a new special spot. Throw on your jacket, grab your lover and head on out.

What date ideas do you have planned for November? Tell us below.

Date Idea: Hang Out At a Haunted House



By Steven Zangrillo

Don't let the kids fool you: Halloween is a time for grown-ups, too. Even though adults approach this day differently, there is no excuse for us to restrict our inner child to dormancy. Don't let yourself and your sweetheart yawn yourselves into a stupor at another monotonous Halloween cocktail party. Readjust your weekend plans for some scary, romantic excitement. Grab your honey and head to the nearest Haunted House.

Haunted Houses, mind you, are more than just a bunch of scary rooms. There are hired actors to guide you along the journey to provide an experience that is sure to bring you into a horrifying, almost-too-real adventure. Rural areas are known to feature haunted hayrides, forest walks, or even creepy farm houses. Those couples who are closer to urban areas will be pleased to find huge, multiple floor walk-up living nightmares. Take to Google and search out the best-reviewed offerings in your area. Wear something comfortable, because if this Haunted House is worth the trip, you two will be snuggling – or clinging – to each other.

The hired actors for these productions are an absolute riot. In some Haunted Houses, you might find yourself in a room full of vampires trying to seduce you and your man. You'll make it out alive, and maybe even a little flattered!

Where is the scariest haunted house you've ever been to? Let us know below.

Date Idea: Coffee House Cider and Pumpkin Pie





By Steven Zangrillo

Sometimes you and your babe need to have a sweet snack, and it doesn't really matter in what form. It was once described to me as "the need to pour a bag of sugar in a bowl and eat it." Since it's culturally reprehensible to eat like that on a date, you may want to take your loved one for some hot apple cider and pumpkin pie instead.

A low-key, cozy coffee house setting will do this idea justice. You could go to Starbucks any day. Instead, try to find a place that's off the beaten path. A fun fact about this type of date is that it is also cost effective. Cider and pie can be cozy and romantic while costing less than a mere \$20 dollars.

Don't be shy. Cuddle close to each other and share a slice of pumpkin pie, carrot cake, or whatever your tastes call for. Many of these coffee shops have love seats and couches. You can kick back and relax, sipping gently as the quirky, coffee house world buzzes around you. If you're lucky, they will have booked some acoustic entertainment for the night. Do you two

have a “song?” Request it secretly, if you can. Watch your sweetheart get all giddy when it starts to play.

Overall, this is the kind of date that is light on your wallet and heavy on the good vibes. Dig in.

Tell us about your last date at a coffee house by sharing your feedback below.

Date Idea: Seasonal Ale-House Excursion



By Steven Zangrillo

The first weekend in October whips in on the back of those brisk Fall gusts, blowing leaves past you and your partner as you stroll down a block of your favorite city. Where are you two lovebirds headed? The nearest Ale House, of course. October is the time of year when the best micro-breweries from around the country release their Autumn-themed lagers and ales. It's about time you two pulled up a stool and enjoyed a frosty brew together.

The last decade has yielded a bountiful assortment of new specialty breweries, taking American beer and morphing it from a pale swill into a flavor culture with an intricate identity. Try a multitude of options and compare them with your significant other. You can even consult your server about the best beer and food pairings. There's nothing wrong with learning something new together, right? You can choose from pumpkin spice, fresh hop, or the various Oktoberfest varieties.

The best part of all, of course, is the opportunity for you two to relax together on your date. Some of the best conversations start with a smile, a laugh, and a clink of the glass.

You might call it just "going for a beer," but relationships are rooted in friendship. This kind of excursion can strengthen your foundation and leave you with great conversation that will create memories for years to come.

What is your favorite type of Ale? Send us your thoughts in the comment section below.

Grand Opening: New Rooftop Garden at 'Sleep No More,' Gallow Green



By Royal Young

Mystery, voyeurism and delicious macabre make up Gallow Green. The restaurant sprawls over a roof on 27th street and almost the Hudson, near the McKittrick Hotel. [Lori Bizzoco](#), founder of CupidsPulse.com, and I stumble into Gallow Green's grand opening after having wandered through the haunting mazes of Sleep No More, wearing white masks and witnessing ghostly dances through blue lit woods, listening to old music cranked from a far away gramophone as silent actors slowly danced.

We're high from the show and booze, consumed in the smoky lounge of the McKittrick where a busty woman with a red rose in her dark hair sang jazz. The restaurant feels like it is from a different, more elegant time, the 1920's or '30s. Yet we are surrounded by glittering modern Manhattan. The Empire State Building shines over our shoulders as we're guided to a wood table under beams hung with tattered, thick white lace. Our server looks like a beautiful nurse at an insane asylum.

"Try everything!" She urges us.

We settle for a tall beer list along with pulled brisket toast with tomato jam, horseradish and aioli, smoked pork meatballs, potted peekytoe crab a deeply buttery spread with toast tips, sliced summer tomatoes, avocado and brisket jerky. Everything is delicious. Small golden lights, and green plants decorate Gallow Green, rusting railway tracks and loose stones lay in the middle of the restaurant. With a live swing band playing, it does feel like we are on a beautifully decrepit old train, munching decadent morsels in the dining car.

I hate sweet things, so for dessert we decide to go with the Gallow Green Punch. Our nurse brings over a massive gold bowl and fills it with Absinthe. She heroically lights matches in the wind, until one catches and the liquor is in flames. It burns out blue into the night. She adds Delord Blanche White Armagnac, Lemon Shrub, Apollinaris Water and ice cubes the size of fists. We drink until it's done. The night is all about escape.

Event Discount: Single in

Stiletto in NYC!



Are you always looking for love and coming up empty-handed? Do you feel like the man of your dreams is just beyond your reach? Are you getting discouraged trying to navigate the dating scene without any help? If so, Single in Stiletto is the event for you! Hear from a renowned panel of dating experts that will empower, inspire and motivate you in your search for Mr. Right.

This one-day event takes place in New York City on October 6, 2012 with speaking sessions and panels from noon to 6 p.m. EST. Afterwards, enjoy a happy hour of free cocktails sponsored by Balls Vodka as well as goody bags provided by Babeland. Plus, win raffle prizes such as a date-coaching session with a matchmaker, dating books and more!

Speakers include:

- Bill Collins, Movie Director and Producer
- Dr. Ian Smith, Best-Selling Author
- [Lori Bizzoco](#), Executive Editor and Founder of CupidsPulse.com
- Nando Rodriguez, Dating and Relationship Coach
- Thomas Edwards, Jr., Professional Wingman
- And more!

The last time that Single in Stiletto's hosted this event it was SOLD OUT. So don't wait – get your tickets today! If you sign up now, you'll be able to buy them at the discounted rate of \$25 (full price: \$80). Use the exclusive CupidsPulse.com discount code LCP12 to receive this deal.

Date: Saturday, October 6, 2012

Location: 1115 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10010

Speaking Sessions: 12:00 noon – 6:00 p.m.

Happy Hour: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

We hope to see you there!

Zoe Saldana's Laid-Back Style





By Ann Csincsak, Vintage Sweet & Chic

The fast rising star of the new hit film '*The Words*,' Zoe Saldana, gets a top-tier award for her easy laid-back style. She always dresses to impress, even in her everyday denim. She takes a t-shirt and makes it special with eye-catching accessories and flawless makeup. If you're looking for a great weekend outfit to wear on a daytime date or out to a lunch at your local farmer's market, take a look at Zoe before heading out the door.



1. Knitted Blue Cardigan (ROMWE.com), \$22.95

2. Bacio 61 Estatto, \$160

3. Waverly Cory Satchel, \$295

4. Grey and White Striped Tee (sheinside.com), \$33

5. J Brand Maria High-Rise (actual), \$220



1. J. Crew Basic White Tee, \$25

2. J Brand Skinny Leg Jeans (actual), \$175

3. Asos Tassel Crossbody Bag, \$26

4. Rocker Bracelet Set (shoplately.com), \$16

No matter what your style, remember to stay true to yourself and you will always look amazing! Follow the trends, but don't be afraid to change them and step out on your own, just like Zoe.

PLUS: TOWNE & REESE GIVEAWAY!



GIVEAWAY ALERT: This week, we are featuring a fabulous look for any style from Towne and Reese, a favorite jewelry brand of Emily Maynard, our most recent [Bachelorette](#). Emily was spotted wearing Towne and Reese in almost every episode this season – and now, you can wear it too!

Towne and Reese will be giving away two of my favorite pieces: the Harlow Necklace in Gold (above) and the Elena Mint Ring (below), both worn by Emily during the show.

TO ENTER: “Like” the [Towne and Reese Facebook Page](#) and leave a comment saying that you are there for the #giveaway.



Date Idea: Giddy Up at the Rodeo

Cupid's Pulse
★ Celebrities. Love. Opinions. ★



By Ché Blackwood

Put on a pair of Daisy Dukes, tie a cute flannel shirt above your belly-button and giddy-on up to a rodeo this weekend with your love. Whether you're looking forward to the clowns, the bulls or just an excuse to be outside, you won't ever forget a fresh outdoorsy day with cowboys (and your sweetie.)

Start the day off with a delicious BBQ. Make pulled pork sandwiches and ribs with your honey, both ensuring you'll stay full while sticking within a western theme. Or, buy lunch at the rodeo, taking the opportunity to strike up conversation with the workers and other visitors. You may be surprised to hear the traveling life of the food vendor, or intrigued by the mother of one of the riders.

After the show, make sure to take a chance to pet the horses or see the bulls close up. You and your beau will have the chance to learn more about these animals we so rarely get to see, while also making one unforgettable memory together. Whether you love it or decide to never visit again, a rodeo date is not only a guaranteed fun time, but it will leave you

with something to talk about for years to come.

What's the most unique date you've ever been on? Confess to us in the comments below!

Katy Perry's Baby Doll Beauty



By Ann Csincsak, Vintage Sweet & Chic

Katy Perry is definitely a California girl at heart. Born and raised in Santa Barbara, her beach bum looks have morphed into a style that is fun, sophisticated and edgy. In the latest issue of *ELLE*, Katy admits that she can't be the bubblegum queen forever, but with five hit singles from her first album, she is certainly entitled to ride the wave for a while. While

her stage outfits are nothing less than over the top, her street attire has an entirely different vibe. We often see her carrying Chanel purses, sporting Alice and Olivia tops and rocking Marc Jacobs flats – proving that she is no stranger to awesome style.

Her first look is a great representation of her style: playful and young but with an edge.

1. Alice and Olivia (actual), SOLD OUT. Club L Top (pictured above), \$29

2. Forever 21 Studs, \$3.95

3. ELF Studio Gloss, \$3 MUST HAVE!

4. Milly Black Suede Flats, \$56

5. Alice and Olivia Floral Capri (actual), \$195

Her second look shows off more of her girly side. This look is great for a dinner date with that special someone. Men love women in a dress – it shows off their curves and their feminine side.

1. Wheels & Doll Baby Belted Floral Tea Party holiday Dress (actual), \$28

2. Debanhams.com Pale Pink Cardigan, \$50

3. Christian Louboutin Burgundy Heels, \$170 DEAL from www.heels-1st.com, COLOR STYLE WATCH

4. Marc Jacobs Grey “Murray” bag, \$395

5. Butter Polish ‘Sloan Ranger’, \$14.00 COLOR STYLE WATCH

Take cues from this pop star and never be afraid to change your look. Explore different styles and always try to remember to set the trends rather than follow them, just like Katy.

PLUS: POPCHIPS GIVEAWAY!

This weeks GIVEAWAY is from Popchips' newest investor and spokeswoman Katy Perry! Courtesy of Popchips, we are doing a fantastic giveaway: Popchips will be delivering, right to your door, a month free supply of Popchips.

TO ENTER: Go to Twitter and tell @anncsincksak (that's me!) and @popchipsCO who your three favorite designers are, along with the hashtag **#katypops** (in honor of Popchips partnership with Katy herself!). We will pick a winner from Twitter once the contest is completed, and you will receive your shipment ASAP.



Date Idea: Have a Dinner Date at Three Different Venues





By Ché Blackwood

Spoil you and your partner this weekend by indulging in an untraditional three course meal, at three different restaurants. After a long workweek and a definite lack of quality time together, bond with your lover while experiencing the cuisine and atmosphere of the best restaurants your town has to offer. Plus, with a constant change in scenery, you're more likely to stumble across a few memory-worthy moments.

If you're a reserved couple, scope out your local eatery scene and plan out the night in advance. For instance, try that new tapas bar for a drink and an appetizer, head to a swanky steakhouse for dinner and then jet by a quaint coffee house for desert. By planning your night ahead, you won't waste time deciding on venues before you go. Plus, you'll have the luxury of making reservations, ensuring your night goes according to plan.

For more carefree lovers, make a goal to stop in the first restaurant you see. You may end up having ice cream to start, sandwiches for dinner and a glass of wine for desert. Wherever

you end up, be sure to learn about the restaurant by savoring the house specialties and home crafted drafts.

If running from spot to spot sounds too hectic, or if you're craving a night at home, simply order in from three different places. Lay out an ever changing spread on your coffee table, grab Casablanca and cuddle with your sweetie. There's no wrong way to indulge!

Do you and your sweetie dinner-hop? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Volunteer Your Time Together





By Ché Blackwood

It's good to get creative and thoughtful with the way you and your loved one spend time together. After all, there's more to a relationship than dinner and a movie. So, forget arguing over whether you should see the newest romance flick, or the latest blockbuster action movie. Instead, share your love with others by involving yourself in volunteer work.

A great way to spend your time together is by cuddling up with those who are less fortunate, and the animal shelter is the perfect way to start. Innocent pets that have been abandoned and abused need loving too. Maybe you and your significant other will both fall in love with these furry friends, and decide to adopt one of them. Regardless, you can spend time with one another by helping out some lonely animals in need. The shelter is always open to visitors.

If you enjoy spending time in the kitchen, why not share your cooking skills with the less fortunate at a food bank or homeless shelter. It will make you and your sweetheart think twice about the food we take for granted. Serving people who are less fortunate will help to put a smile on their face.

Life, as in dating, should be about the simple things. If you don't have time to volunteer right now, grab your calendar and do some planning. All you need to do is find a little time to help those around you.

Have some good volunteer experiences? Let us know in the comments below.

Mix Up Your Dating Life With Match.com



By: [Lori Bizzoco](#)

Last Friday, SingleEdition and [Match.com](#) hosted the "Mix Up

Your Dating Life” event in NYC. There, Match.com representatives taught us how to find local singles, and – if you look closely enough – your perfect match. As a Match.com marriage success story, I was thrilled to attend.



Stir Events by Match.com

Match.com’s new Stir events are the perfect opportunity to find singles living in your area, bridging the gap between online dating and a more organic, face-to-face approach to finding love. Each Stir event is customized through group matching algorithms in terms of age, gender and interests so that singles will be attending events with like singles.

As the world’s largest dating site, Match.com isn’t just throwing these live singles events – they’re doing it on a massive scale. This month alone, they’re throwing 189 events in more than 62 markets! Match.com has found so much success in their Stir events that they are expanding nationwide, planning to host 200 events each month by September.

Stir events range from large scale happy hours at local bars and venues, to more intimate, interest-based events such as cooking classes, wine and tequila tastings, dance lessons, bowling nights, rock climbing, and more! The happy hour events are free and open to both registered and subscribed Match.com members, while the interest-based events are only free for Match.com subscribers.

If you’re a Match.com member, you can learn about and sign up for these events via Match.com under the “Events” header on

the site.

We'll be heading to our closest Stir event soon, so be sure to check back for a review from us!

Disclosure: This review is sponsored by Single Edition and Match.com. All opinions expressed here are strictly my own.

Giveaway: Reese Witherspoon's Sexy Sophisticated Style



This post is sponsored by Bliss Spa Products.

By Ann Csincsak

Since we first watched her in *Legally Blonde*, Reese Witherspoon has caught our eye with her simple style. Although her style is quite different from the flashy California-girl look of her character, Elle Woods, she still knows how to turn heads with her bold outfits.

This first look I love because it shows her sophisticated yet girly personality. She is right on trend with her floral print top and dark washed jeans and dresses it up with some gold jewelry and a fabulous clutch.

- 1. Modcloth.com Run and Hydrangea Top, \$34.95**
- 2. Luck Brand Sofia Skinny Jeans, \$99**
- 3. RayBan Original Wayfarer Glasses, \$149 MUST HAVE!**
- 4. BCBG Tess Foldover Clutch, \$83**
- 5. Kendra Scott Drew Bangles, \$120 SPLURGE!**

The second look is the ideal date look. A cute, feminine skirt, simple top and accessories are all you need to look and feel sexy and confident. Men love when women wear dresses, and this one is a great option if you want to dress to impress. Keep your accessories neutral with your hair in an easy-to-manage style if you're hoping to catch his eye.

- 1. Nicoli Beige Handbag, \$138**
- 2. Rachel Zoe Beau, \$188**
- 3. H&M Navy Tank, \$7.95**
- 4. J. Crew Postage Stamp Mini, \$98**
- 5. Tory Burch Colorblock Glasses, \$148**

Whether this blonde starlet is dolled up for a movie premiere or spending the day with her husband and children, she always looks stunning. Take some tips from Reese's effortless style and look put together for any occasion without seeming like you tried too hard.

For lots of these great style and accessories, check out Vintage Sweet and Chic.

PLUS: BLISS SPA PRODUCTS GIVEAWAY

This week, we are doing an amazing GIVEAWAY from Bliss Spa Products, one of my favorite product lines. The giveaway includes a ton of Bliss Spa products and a tote bag to keep them all together.

All you have to do is follow @BlissSpa on Twitter and tweet them, saying you're there for the #giveaway!

Date Idea: Get Fishy



By Ché Blackwood

Take advantage of the weather this weekend by getting slippery

with your cutie and go fishing. Regardless of how you feel about spending the day with a few worms, strap on some sneakers and a bikini top and take on Mother Nature with your beau. By sitting on a dock, buying some bait and maybe even grabbing a beer or two, you and your sweetie can make memories while being adventurous!

If possible, rent a boat and go out to sea. Other than the fish, you may be lucky enough to see even rarer marine life. Plus, with the sun beating down on you and the blue water reflecting back up, you'll be sure to catch a golden tan. Make a game out of it by seeing who can catch the biggest fish of all. If it's legal, take some home and make a delicious dinner for your love with what you two caught. Not only is it healthy, but you'll bond over the satisfaction that comes from catching and cooking your own meal.

Get extra outdoorsy by going camping or renting a cabin with your honey. Disconnect from the world and take a few days to relax beside a lake, or in the mountains, with the one person that matters most. Even if camping or fishing isn't your thing, the quality time will be more than worth it. Plus, an outdoor vacation means you'll have the rare opportunity to sit under the stars together, a great romantic ending to a fun and fish-filled day.

Do you and your honey go fishing? What's your favorite way to spend the day outside? Tell us in the comments below.

Blake Lively's High-Fashion

Style



By Ann Csincsak, Vintage Sweet & Chic

Blake Lively has given us something to gossip about for years, between her hit drama TV show on the CW and her high-fashion style. Whether she is hitting the streets of NYC as Serena from *Gossip Girl*, or grabbing a coffee at The Grove in LA, she always looks show-stopping. Her style is high fashion with a mix of sexy sophistication. She shows ladies in their 20s how to take their wardrobe up a notch. With a new major movie at the box office, *Savage*, she is a star we can't take our eyes off.

1. Suno Wide Leg Pants, \$420 SPLURGE!

2. H & M Tank, \$7.95

3. Fendi Peekaboo Bag, \$695 Actual, SPLURGE!

4.BDG Classic Belt Urban Outfitters, \$29.95

5.Forever21 Romantic Lace Floppy Hat, \$12.80

The next look is for all the city girls who are looking to stay with this summer's Maxi trend – while making it look effortless, of course! Some people have a hard time thinking of a long skirt as casual, but Lively shows us that you can be casual and bold with the addition of strong summer colors. Keep this look simple by mixing material like the python bag with a bold-red color, but leave your top and accessories neutral.

1.Rag and Bone Feather Red Skirt (Barney's), \$395 SPLURGE!

2.H &M Basic Tank, \$7.95

3.Towne and Reese Ellie Marie Bracelets, \$45

4.Koret Handbag Python, \$278

You don't have to spend a lot to look fabulous on a weekend away or on date at a super-chic restaurant. Look to this blonde bombshell for fashion inspiration and wear head-turning colors with a variety of accessories to leave a lasting impression.

Date Idea: Let Your Love Fly





By Amanda Martin

Relax this weekend by flying a kite in the beautiful outdoors with your honey. It's an inexpensive way to do something laid back while still being romantic.

Kites should be flown in an open, breezy area, making the beach the perfect location. Find out if there are any kite clubs nearby. Flying with other people will allow you as a couple to admire these embellishments that are said to have originated in China. Don't worry about your beginner abilities or keeping up with the more serious people around you; just have a good time.

You can buy a single-line kite for less than \$10, or if you're looking for a challenge, you can get a dual-line stunt kite for \$20. It'll be fun to help one another make the tricky figure 8 shapes.

Once you've become tired of flying, set up an intimate picnic lunch in a shady area. Quench your thirst with freshly squeezed lemonade and indulge in homemade sandwiches. Afterwards, take a walk together and admire the beautiful

scenery.

This fun and relaxing day with your other half will help you remind each other of how special your time is together. Maybe you can even talk about your future.

How do you relax with your honey? Let us know in the comments below.