Love & Libations: The Sexy Side of Cognac





y: Yolanda Shoshana

During Valentine's Day season most people focus on Champagne. That's totally understandable because it's one sexy wine. I want to encourage you to try something other than sparkling wine. How about adding Cognac into your libation rotation? It's that time of year, February, also known as the month of love. Though at Cupid's Pulse we bring the love year-round.

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Cognac is produced in a very charming city of the same name in France. French is the language of lovers so think of it as the spirit of "love in a bottle".

For so long people have thought of Cognac as an older man's

drink, but it couldn't be further from the truth. The spirit has a vibrant history of being the libation of choice by kings, queens, and aristocrats. Now, most people think of rappers when they see Cognac. It's true than many famous singers/rappers love Cognac. However, it's also enjoyed by men and women around the world, especially in Japan and the US. Besides being known for luxury, it's rather seductive. It's easy to find it as an ingredient in cocktails at fancy hotel bars and even dive bars have gotten into serving classy Cognac drinks. People have caught on to how delightful and versatile Cognac can be.

Related Link: Love & Libations: Autumn + Red Wine = Love

Ready to get it in? Here are some celebrity-inspired suggestions:

Branson Cognac

Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson is always up to something. If he isn't posting leaks for his hit show, Power, he is trolling someone online. What you may not know about him is that he released a Cognac last year called Branson. If you go with the VSOP. it's meant to be used in a cocktail. If you really want to turn it up, get the XO. It's always a smooth move. When you get a whiff of citrus, tobacco, and honey, it starts the game of seduction.

50's s love life has been bumpy throughout the years. He may not be the person look to for love advice; however, Branson would be the perfect selection to use in a hot drink to have a cozy night with your partner.

Café Amore Cocktail

1 ounce Branson Cognac

1 ounce amaretto

6 ounces coffee

Whipped Cream (garnish)

Pour Cognac and amaretto into an Irish coffee glass. Fill with hot black coffee. Top with whipped cream.

Related Link: Love & Libations: The Love Of The Negroni

Conjure Cognac

When Conjure first came out it was a little rough around the edges. The spirit by Ludacris has stepped up its game. The tag line is "Conjure the Possibilities". Sounds fun, but you may want to proceed with caution since some have called Cognac, "baby-making juice." Or as Ludacris would put it, makes you a" lady in the streets, but a freak in the bed"

The aromas in this juice are cocoa, cedar, and hazelnut. Below is the recipe by Conjure for a sweet tea that would be perfect to pair with a romantic home-cooked dinner. It will get your senses going among other things.

Conjure Sweet Tea

4-5 mint sprigs

1 1/2 oz. Conjure

3/4 oz. freshly pressed lemon juice

1 oz. simple syrup

1 oz. iced tea

Fill glass with ingredients. Shake and strain over fresh ice

cubes. Garnish with a spring of mint.

For more Love & Libations date night ideas and <u>celebrity</u> <u>couple</u> predictions from Yolanda Shoshana, click <u>here</u>.

Think Outside of the Chocolate Box: Your Guide to an Adventurous Valentine's Day





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Valentine's Day calls to mind pictures of ornate flower arrangements, expensive gifts, and costly dinners all in an attempt to show your loved one how much you care. What if this Valentine's Day, instead of splurging on the latest tech gadgets, you planned a date that truly encompasses what the holiday is all about — romance AND quality time?

Think outside of the chocolate box this year, and give the gift of adventure by planning an unforgettable road trip.

First, rethink your view of a road trip, because I'm not talking about simply hopping in the car and booking a hotel. To make this experience truly unique, you're going to want to book an RV — a hotel and car in one — or grab your tent for a camping expedition. Except for the cost of gas, both RVing and camping can be less expensive than typical weekend getaways, can allow for greater freedom by packing up and going whenever you're ready, and they offer a front-row seat to Mother Nature's beauty — allowing you and your loved one time to truly sit back, relax, and return home feeling refreshed.

If you've never thought of an RV or camping experience as romantic, think again! This type of road trip, regardless of which you choose, shifts the focus from material items to experiences, bringing couples together. Not only do you act as a team to navigate the roads, ideally you're also unplugged from technology to allow for deeper connection. Plus, you're untethered to outside demands like check-out times, reservations, and tour schedules — the world is your oyster. Besides, what could be more romantic than snuggling under a warm blanket while you gaze at the stars? If you're ready to go off the grid for a romantic Valentine's Day, here are some tips to planning an unforgettable adventure:

Set the Mood

To make your Valentine's Day road trip adventure truly epic, set the stage and make sure everything about the trip says romance from the start:

- A romantic location can set the mood for the rest of your getaway. Start with booking a lake-front or beachside campground or RV park, and check to see if there's an adultonly section on the premises.
- This trip isn't only about romance, it's about adventure. Whether it's a visit to a national monument, going horseback riding, hiking a new area, or exploring that quaint seaside town near the campsite, build a lasting experience as a couple by doing or seeing something new.
- Just because you're in an RV doesn't mean that you can't pamper yourselves. Some RV parks offer massage and spa packages, check in advance to see if this is available. Or, bring the spa to you by packing your RV with amenities like good linens, comfy robes, plush slippers, massage oils, and champagne.
- The opposite of romance is watching your partner stare at their phone while you watch the sunrise. Put the phone down better yet, turn it off and reconnect with each other and the scenery around you. Instagram will be there when you return to civilization.

Date Night Ideas

You've set the mood by following the tips above, now it's time to plan some activities for your road trip. Try these intimate ideas:

- Make a 5-star dinner on the campfire. There's no shortage of campfire recipes available on the internet. Plus, cooking creates an effortless teamwork experience as you work together to make sure the steak doesn't burn.

- Sit back and enjoy the stars. Leaving city life behind has its perks. Grab a warm blanket and cuddle as you search for the Big Dipper or the star of Venus — the Goddess of Love.
- Watch the sunrise. There's something so peaceful about enjoying a warm cup of coffee amidst the stillness that comes just as the sun rises. The only thing that could make it better is when you take in this occasion with your loved one.
- Bring the wine tasting to you. You don't need to go on a winery tour to have a wine tasting event. Start with a theme, like Pinot Noir grapes, grab a few bottles on your way to the campsite, pick up some complimentary cheese and crackers, and voila! You've got yourself a wine tasting.
- Go on a scavenger hunt. Simply create a list of things you can find in your location and then get out there and find them! To make this event extra romantic, set a rule that you and your significant other must share a kiss each time an item is found.
- Get competitive with a game night. No matter how old you are, there's something about busting out your favorite board game and earning bragging rights through a friendly competition with the one you love.

At the end of the day, Valentine's Day allows an extra moment to show our partners just how much they enrich our lives. I say forget the chocolate and flowers — or bring them along — and gift an unforgettable adventure. Trust me, you'll both be glad for the experience.

To make the most of your Valentine's Day excursion, check out these additional <u>travel tips</u>.

Love & Libations: Valentine's Day Cocktails for February Date Nights





y <u>Yolanda Shoshana</u>

As soon as January 1st hit, the Valentine's Day decorations, chocolates, and teddy bears are out. Now that February is only a few weeks away, it's time to prep. February is known as the month of love. Besides Valentine's Day on the 14th, there are 27 other days to show love to your partner, friends, and, of course, yourself.

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That being said, here are three libations to help you show love next month:

Cocktails for February Date Nights

Related Link: Love & Libations: Sparkling Wine for Holiday
Date Nights

Gin & Dubonnet

Celebrate yourself and drink like a queen. Queen Elizabeth II has a Gin & Dubonnet every day at lunch. In fact, it's part of her four-cocktails-a-day routine. It's perfect to enjoy while having some "me time." There's a good chance that the Queen will sip on one of these at Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's celebrity wedding reception!

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 oz. gin
- 3/4 oz. Dubonnet Rouge
- Lemon or orange twist for garnish

Directions:

Add all the ingredients to a glass and fill with ice. Stir. Garnish with a lemon or orange twist. Sip as you are wearing your favorite tiara.

Chocolate Martini

A chocolate martini is an aphrodisiac in a glass. Believe it or not, two Hollywood legends created this cocktail: none other than Rock Hudson and Elizabeth Taylor. They invented it one evening when they lived across the street from each other while they filmed the movie, *Giant*.

The following recipe uses Sean "Diddy" Combs' Ciroc Vodka. Maybe he will make one for his long-time love Cassie — or she

will make one for him. After all, it's the perfect cocktail for lovers on a February <u>date night</u>.

Ingredients:

- 1/2 oz. Ciroc Vodka
- Dash of Madagascar vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 oz. Godiva Chocolate Liqueur
- 2 1/2 oz. half-and-half
- 1 oz. Kahlua
- Ice
- Shaved chocolate and/or fresh strawberries for garnish if desired

Directions:

Add all of the ingredients to a cocktail shaker and shake. Pour into a chilled cocktail glass that is rimmed with chocolate syrup. Garnish with dark chocolate and/or strawberries.

Related Link: Love & Libations: Autumn Date Nights Inspired by Celebrity Red Wines

Flirtini

February would not be complete without a Flirtini. Most people remember the Cosmo being a big part of *Sex and The City*, but the Fliritini was also in the mix. All it takes is three ingredients. Enjoy with your girl squad while binging on the show.

Ingredients:

- 1 oz. vodka
- 2 oz. champagne
- 2 oz. pineapple juice

Directions:

Combine vodka, champagne, and pineapple juice in a highball or collins glass filled with ice. If you are making it for a viewing soiree, multiply the recipe by six, and mix it up in a pitcher.

For more Love & Libations date night ideas and <u>celebrity</u> <u>couple</u> predictions from Yolanda Shoshana, click <u>here</u>.

Celebrity Style: Valentine's Day Date Night Outfits





y <u>Karley Kemble</u>

It may seem like Valentine's Day is far enough away, but it'll

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be here quicker than you expect! It's never too early to start planning your <u>date night</u> outfit. After all, Valentine's Day is the perfect excuse to get dressed up, look great, AND feel amazing. There are plenty of celebrities we can look to for some outfit inspo — so if you're looking for some <u>style advice</u>, look no further! Cupid's got you covered.

If you're a fan of <u>celebrity style</u>, you'll love these Valentine's Day outfit ideas!

1. Red, red, red: Red is a very timeless and festive choice. There are loads of different ways to incorporate red into your Valentine's Day outfit. You can make red the "main act" of your ensemble like Taylor Swift and wear a sexy cocktail dress or classic pea coat. If that's too daring for your taste, red makes an excellent accent color. Pair a nice pair of jeans and low-cut blouse with a bold red purse and matching pumps! Red lipstick is always a winner, too!

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Most Romantic Destinations In the</u> U.S.

2. Luxe lace: Lace is awesome because it automatically makes you feel glam! Celebrities like Diane Kruger and Penelope Cruz are big fans of lace on the red carpet. Whether you sport a lacy bodycon dress, flowy blouse, or sultry hi-slit skirt, you truly can't go wrong with anything lacy. Show some skin, but still maintain an aura of mystery! You'll be the apple of anyone's eye.

Related Link: <u>Valentine's Day Special: How to Have an Irresistible Online Dating Profile</u>

3. Always classic LBD: When in doubt, go with a little black dress! Everyone looks ah-mazing in black. (Seriously,

everyone!) As we all know, black is naturally slimming — so even if you're not feeling 100% confident in your body, a sexy black dress will help change your perspective. If you need a celebrity to look to for some inspiration, Kim Kardashian slays the little black dress every. single. time.

Related Link: Expert Dating Advice: 5 Signs He's Mr. Now and Not Mr. Right

- **4. Hearts:** While you may be thinking this idea is a tad juvenile, there are ways to be festive without feeling tacky! Throw on a blouse with tiny hearts all over, or even consider pairing your LBD with some heart hooped earrings. There are plenty of options out there, so find what works best for your personal style!
- 5. A sexy cami or slip dress: Camisoles and slips are no longer meant to be unseen from outside your (or your partner's) home! Camis and slip dresses have been all the rage of celebrity style Selena Gomez and Dakota Fanning have both worn slip dresses recently. You can dress up these pieces with a cute pair of heels, a velvet clutch, some simple hoops, or a bold leather jacket. Since this style is more on the casual side, you have free reign to dress it up as much as you'd like!

What are you planning on wearing for Valentine's Day? Leave us a comment and let us know!

5 Best Accessories to Wear

for Valentine's Day





y Rachel Sparks

We all want to look our best for our Valentine's Day <u>date</u> <u>night</u>, but we don't want to risk our outfit looking similar to the girl sitting two tables over. To make yourself standout in incredible <u>celebrity style</u>, don't forget about accessories! Bring the V-Day glam to your outfit with small pops of red and edgy bags!

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These five accessories will make you a standout for Valentine's Day!

1. Leather wrap bracelet: Wrap bracelets are trending, but they are an especially edgy way to dress up a classic red dress or something with softer edges. Wear it in bright red, soft pinks, or black for a classic Valentine's Day look with a rocker's attitude.

Related Link: Must-Do's for a Memorable Valentine's Day

- 2. Chains for everyone: Chains are everywhere. They have replaced the strap to your purse, have become bulkier necklaces, are added to your winter boots for some extra spunk. When choosing something sporting traditional Valentine's Day colors, add chains for a more modern look. Want some inspiration? We love Beyonce's use of chains everywhere!
- 3. Traditional sweetheart bags: Remember those chalky, heart-shaped candies in elementary school? Get inspiration from a sweet craving for your next clutch. Heart shaped, pastel colored clutches with cute sayings are the ultimate Valentine's Day-inspired accessory!

Related Link: <u>Valentine's Day Advice</u>: <u>Five Unconventional Date</u>
<u>Night Ideas</u>

- **4. Kissable lips:** Lips used to be the hottest thing back in the early 2000's. Nearly twenty years later, bringing the trend back is a vintage highlight of the Valentine's Day style! Whether it's a lip-patterned outfit or the bold lip purse that <u>Katy Perry</u> rocks, this trend will have your date thinking about your lips the whole night.
- 5. Don't forgot the heels: No outfit is complete without the right set of heels. You can never go wrong with a classic black, but for this V-Day, don't hesitate to show some skin. Go for straps or open-toed for a cute peek-a-boo to tease your date. If the shoes have bows or heart accents, even better! Small details are ultimately what make your outfit unforgettable.

What must-have accessories do you wear for Valentine's Day

Vacation Destinations: Romantic Staycations for a Mid-Week Valentine's Day





y <u>Rachel Sparks</u>

Those of us who are currently in a relationship want to have the most romantic date night with our loved one for Valentine's Day. From year to year, V-Day is on the weekend 43% of the time, leaving a whopping 57% chance that the

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romantic <u>date night</u> you were planning falls on a weekday night, killing the mood. So you may not be able to go out or have a <u>romantic getaway</u>, but these mid-week staycation <u>date ideas</u> are sure to keep the romance alive for your Valentine's Day celebrations.

Try these vacation destinations in your hometown for a romantic Valentine's Day staycation!

1. Sunset cruise: Okay, this only works if you're near water. Even a river or lake will do! Most cities host sunset cruises with dinner included. It'll cost about as much as a romantic dinner out at the three-star restaurant you've been eyeing, with the added bonus of beautiful scenery.

Related Link: Relationship Advice: Plan a City Scavenger Hunt

- 2. Hot air balloon: The good news is that anywhere with clear air is likely to have a hot air balloon ride available! If you and your partner are feeling daring, enjoying V-Day dinner in a basket for two, literally, is incredibly romantic. If either of you is scared of heights, get ready for full-blown snuggles. Our suggestion: bring a bottle of wine or two to calm the nerves (if you're 21 and up!). Even the bravest of people will have a hard time grasping the idea that only a balloon is keeping you separated from the ground.
- 3. Disposable camera: Smartphones have made us take photography for granted. It's a lot more fun to grab a Polaroid or disposable camera and have a goofy photo shoot around town. Because you won't be able to delete any pictures taken, it'll be challenging to pose yourselves just right. Plus, the anticipation of seeing the photos developed will keep you excited and help you relive the fun of your date!

Related Link: Weekend Date Idea: Play All Day

- 4. DIY spa escape: Make it a true staycation, and turn your home into an all-inclusive spa resort. Small touches in your bathroom, like white lines and pops of wood, recreate that spa environment. Don't forget to include candles, scents, luscious pillows, and soft music. Take turns giving each other a full body massage, mani-pedis, and masks. Even if your S.O. seems a bit apprehensive about the spoilage, tell them how rewarding it feels to be pampered, and how much you want to express your love.
- **5. Thrift shop photo shoot:** For a goofy and light-hearted date night, go to your local thrift shop and pick out outfits for each other. Put on a photo shoot, and end the night with a picnic or a home-cooked meal.

How have you kept the romance of Valentine's Day alive when it falls mid-week, staycation style? Share your date ideas below!

Beauty Tips: Romantic Make-Up Looks for Valentine's Day





y Rachel Sparks

Valentine's Day is almost here, and we have the perfect celebrity beauty trends to make you look glamorous for your V-Day <u>date night</u>. Aside from the classic red lip, which is a nofail look for Valentine's Day, these <u>beauty tips</u> are inspired by celebrities to help make you feel like an A-lister.

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Try these beauty tips for a romantic look on Valentine's Day date night!

1. C-shape: Get inspired by Rita Ora's look. Use a light color, like apricot or peach, along your cheekbones in the shape of a C. Use the same color on your lids for a simple, glowing look.

Related Link: <u>Fashion Advice: Choose the Perfect Date Night</u>
Dress

2. Cleopatra style: Kohl lined eyes and bronze shadow. It's

such a classic, powerful look. Go bold on your eyes but keep the rest of your face clean and simple. Your date won't be able to stop staring into your eyes with this statement look!

3. Glitter red lips: Think Dorothy's slippers meets Valentine's Day. Naomi Campbell's has gone bold with a twist. Change the classic red lip for V-Day with a disco-worthy glittery shimmer. It may be messy, but get creative and have fun with where and how you leave your lip stain behind.

Related Link:_Dating Advice: Get the Look — Valentine's Day Romantic Curls

- 4. Red liner under the eye: Sure, the normal thing to do is to get rid of the red puffiness below your eyes. Still do that. If you're looking for a fun and easy way to bring the Valentine's Day spirit to your everyday makeup look, get gutsy and use red liner on your bottom lashes. Janelle Monáe keeps it classy with traditional wing liner and light lips.
- **5. Edgy pink:** Ok, so there's some of us that want to dress up without being overly girly. Go pink and go bold. Kristen Stewart, queen of edgy, unconventional makeup, uses a light pink along her temples, her cheeks, her lips, and her lids. All the same shade. It's definitely not a look for the faint of heart.

What are your favorite beauty tips for Valentine's Day? Share your styling advice below!

Parenting Advice: What to Do

If Your Teen Wants to Celebrate Valentine's Day





y <u>Rachel Sparks</u>

With Valentine's Day upon us, we can't help but worry about how our kids are feeling at school. Cyber bullying, daily stress, and the pressure of Valentine's love can be too much for teens to handle. While it may be easier to encourage them to stay home and avoid V-Day celebrations, you can't always tell your teen "no". Cupid has <u>parenting advice</u> to help you and your teen survive another stressful holiday.

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Help your teen rock Valentine's Day

with these parenting tips!

1. Enlist your teen's help: Valentine's Day is about love, but this is a great opportunity to teach your teen not all love is romantic. Giving to others, especially the down-trodden, can warm the heart on an otherwise cold day if you're alone. Teach your teen to give to others and make a date of it. You'll be giving your kid valuable love advice, helping them avoid loneliness, and you'll be brightening someone else's day.

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: How to Connect with Your Teenager</u>

2. Give passionate affirmation: Teens are prone to thinking about nothing but romantic love. The idea of romance places value on who they are, which is an unhealthy perspective of self. Not all love need be romantic, especially when selfworth is involved. Teach you teen about positive self-images with passionate affirmations. Even if they're alone this V-Day, they will have a lot more fun with friends if they feel love elsewhere.

Related Link: <u>Parenting Tips: 5 Holiday Activities to Do with</u> Your Child

3. Pampering: Guys or gals, your teen needs some pampering. Take them to a sports game or to get their nails done, but find a way to express your love for them in their language. As annoying as parents can be to teens, they still need our love to ground them on an otherwise stressful day. Have a date night with your teen or have fun getting them ready for their own!

What parenting advice do you have to make it through Valentine's Day? Share your tips below!

Date Idea: A New Kind of Valentine's Day Date





y <u>Marissa Donovan</u>

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. Cupid can help you plan out an unforgettable day!

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This year's holiday can be all about creating an original love

story.

It's okay to be single on Valentine's Day! Go out and hit the town with other single friends or family members. Splurge on yourself and get a haircut or a new outfit for the night. Celebrate the day by loving you for you!

Related Link: Dating Advice on How to Meet Someone for Valentine's Day

For those in a happy relationship, surprise your partner with a homemade gift! Your partner will appreciate the time and effort you took to make the gift. A framed photo or something that references one of your inside jokes as a couple will be more meaningful than flowers.

Related Link: Relationship Advice: "Don't You Dare Valentine Me"

It's all about creating lasting memories that you can smile about later. Whether you're single or in a relationship, make sure you're having a fabulous Valentine's Day!

Do you have any creative date ideas for Valentine's Day? Comment below, and share with our readers.

Celebrity News: Justin Bieber Was Sad and Single on Valentine's Day





y <u>Delaney Gilbride</u>

In <u>latest celebrity news</u>, it looks like <u>Justin Bieber</u> needed some company on Valentine's Day. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, the 22-year old singer/songwriter posted a pair of videos on Instagram admitting that he did not have someone special to share the day with claiming, "All I ever wanted was a Valentine. Now I don't even have a Valentine." This recently blue-Bieber's Valentine's Day confession comes after the news that his ex-girlfriend <u>Selena Gomez</u>, 24, is now dating The Weeknd, 26. This new <u>celebrity couple</u> had Bieber's emotions running wild during an Instagram Live Video as he confessed to fans that his favorite song at the moment was "Starboy by The Weeknd." This was followed by a burst of laughter just so all of his Beliebers knew he was joking; he and Gomez were dating on and off again from 2011 to 2014.

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This <u>celebrity news</u> has a lot of Beliebers running to the rescue. What are some ways to put yourself out there when you are single?

Cupid's Advice:

Even famous celebrities like Justin Bieber get into a dating rut every once in a while. It has us wondering, what are some ways to get yourself out out of it? Cupid's here with some dating advice:

1. Be confident: There is *nothing* sexier than being confident. There's something about being confident that makes people gravitate towards you. When you're confident you're never trying to be something that you're not, and people truly admire that quality.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity News: Kourtney Kardashian & Justin</u>
<u>Bieber Hang at Club After Fling</u>

2. Go out for a night on the town: If Netflix has been your boyfriend every Friday night for a while now, it's time to take a break. In order to "put yourself out there" you actually have to get your butt off the couch and go out! Put on some red lip stick, link up with your girls, and show the guys at the bar what they've been missing out on.

Related Link: New Celebrity Couple: Why Selena Gomez & The Weeknd Went Public With Their Relationship So Soon

3. Don't be idle: If you keep waiting for "Mr. Right" to show up at your doorstep, chances are it might not work out that way. Don't be afraid to go up to people and introduce yourself rather than wait for others to do that for you. Taking the initiative is extremely attractive, and it will go a long way!

Are you sick of being single? Comment below with some ways to get yourself out there!

Celebrity Couple News: Bindi Irwin Shares Sweet Valentine's Day Photo with Chandler Powell





y <u>Mallory McDonald</u>

In recent <u>celebrity couple news</u>, Bindi Irwin shared some

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romance in the form of a Valentine's Day photo with her boyfriend Chandler Powell. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, "The 18-year-old Aussie took to Instagram to share an image of her snuggling up to her longtime beau, 20, with a beautiful backdrop of mountains and lakes in her home country." The photo was captioned, "Valentine's Day. A day to celebrate love and happiness. (And an excuse to give endless amounts of hugs!)," she wrote. "This picture captures my forever Valentine @chandlerpowell, in gorgeous #Australia." These two couldn't seem more in love and happy to be together this Valentine's Day!

This celebrity couple got into the Valentine's Day spirit! What are some ways to celebrate your love on a daily basis instead of just VDay?

Cupid's Advice:

Valentine's Day is a great opportunity to show your significant other how much they mean to me, but here are some other ways to do this on a daily basis:

1. I love you: If you are at the place in your relationship that you are in love, remind them at least once a day of your feelings by saying these three magical words.

Related Link: Celebrity Couple: Bindi Irwin & BF Chandler
Powell Get Away to Hawaii

2. Compliments: Something that you and your partner can do to improve your relationship and show your appreciation is by giving each other compliments daily about the things you like.

Related Link: Make The People In Your Life Feel Special This Valentine's Day With An Edible Arrangement

3. No phones: When you and your partner are spending time together either at dinner while watching TV, or any alone time, try to put the phones away. It will allow you to focus on each other and really appreciate being together.

How do you make your significant other feel special daily? Comment below!

Dating Advice: Movies to Get You In the Mood for Valentine's Day





y <u>Katie Gray</u>

Cupid strikes! Now that it is officially February, we are in the month of love. That means that Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Bring on all of the chocolate and champagne! While we make plans with our significant others, families and friends, celebrity couples are doing the same. There's no better way to get into the Valentine's Day spirit, than by watching your favorite celebrity relationship and love stories on screen. In preparation for Valentine's Day, fall in love with these films!

In this <u>dating advice</u>, Cupid has compiled six movies to get you in the mood for Valentine's Day:

1. Valentine's Day: The title says it all! The 2010 box office hit film, Valentine's Day, revolves around a group of people as they deal with their love struggles and strengths on Valentine's Day. This commercially successful movie was directed by legendary romantic-comedy filmmaker, Garry Marshall. The ensemble cast included: Jessica Alba, Bradley Cooper, Jessica Biel, Patrick Dempsey, Julia Roberts, Jamie Foxx, Jennifer Garner, George Lopez, Emma Roberts, and many more. Taylor Swift even made her film debut and her song "Today Was A Fairytale" is in it!

Related Link: <u>Top 10 Most Romantic Movie Locations</u>

2. Pretty Woman: It's always a good time to watch the 1990 hit romantic-comedy, Pretty Woman. However; it's especially essential to view it during the Valentine's Day season. The film stars Julia Roberts and Richard Gere, and is directed by Garry Marshall. It depicts a love story between a Hollywood hooker, Vivian, and Edward, a wealthy businessman. She is hired to be his escort for several social outings, and they

end up having a deep connection and develop a loving relationship.

3. Dirty Dancing: Now I've had the time of my life! Dirty Dancing, is one of the most successful films of all time. In 2009 it had grossed over \$214 million dollars worldwide. The romantic dance drama, stars Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey. It takes place in the summer of 1963 at a resort in the Catskill Mountains, and follows the stories of the guests and employees.

Related Link: World's Wealthiest Celebrity Couples

- 4. When Harry Met Sally: The 1987 romantic comedy, When Harry Met Sally, has become a cultural hit. The film stars Meg Ryan and Billy Crystal. It's about the path of the main characters, Harry and Sally, on their adventure to New York City. The film became wildly popular and is full of humor, perfect for Valentine's Day vibes.
- **5.** Breakfast At Tiffany's: What better film to watch for Valentine's Day, than the classic film, Breakfast At Tiffany's? It won two Academy Awards and has been critically acclaimed. Audrey Hepburn, Tiffany & Co, and New York, is all you need to feel the love. This 1961 film, is based on the book by Truman Capote.
- **6. Sleepless in Seattle:** Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan dazzle in the romantic comedy, *Sleepless in Seattle*. This 1993 romantic movie, has garnered critical and commercial success, grossing over \$220 million. This touching and heartfelt movie will have you feeling lots of love. Most importantly, it provides viewers with hope that true love is out there and soulmates are real. It gives the perfect vibes for Valentine's Day.

What are your favorite movies to get you in the mood for Valentine's Day? Comment below!

Make The People In Your Life Feel Special This Valentine's Day With An Edible Arrangement





his post was sponsored by Edible Arrangment

By <u>Mallory McDonald</u>

Valentine's Day is right around the corner, and deciding what to get the people closest to you can be difficult. Whether it is your significant other, your friend, family member or

T

coworker, finding something they will really appreciate, but that won't break the bank isn't out of reach. You may be sick of giving the same gifts for Valentine's Day year after year — the flowers, chocolates, teddy bears and jewelry can seem repetitive and unoriginal. This year, you may be celebrating the holiday the night before, on Valentine's Day or over the weekend, which can make it challenging to decide on a gift that works for everyone's timing and plans. Well, look no further! We have the perfect gift to accommodate everyone's schedules and that can make anyone feel special this Valentine's Day.

Don't let Valentine's Day shopping scare you. This year, gift your loved ones with a customized Edible Arrangment!

Significant Other

The number one person you want to impress on Valentine's Day is your significant other. Every year, this day comes around and expectations of the perfect romantic day are set high. Gifting your significant other with an Edible Arrangement is not only unique, but is something that will make your partner realize how special they are to you. The bouquets are overflowing with vibrantly colored delicious fruits, and every time your partner goes to bite into another piece, it is you that they will be thinking about. Especially if you are shopping for your boyfriend, it can be extremely hard to find Valentine's gifts for a guy. Edible Arrangements are the perfect romantic Valentine's Day gift idea for both boyfriends and girlfriends!

Parents

With every holiday, gifting something to your parents can be

challenging. However, on such a romantic day, it can be hard to decide what to get your parents. A simple card normally works, but to really thank them for all they have done for you, an edible arrangement the a perfect way of showing your appreciation. Parents love the healthier option, and you can handcraft the note that comes with the arrangement to shower them with gratitude and appreciation. Who wouldn't want chocolate covered strawberries and a bouquet full of delicious fruit?

Friends

Your friends are the people who stand by you no matter what and support you through the good and the bad times. To thank them or to support some of your single friends out there, gift them with an Edible Arrangement with an added bonus. This year, you can add extra indulgence to your gift with the New Edible® Signature Chocolate Box. Featuring recipes designed by master chocolatier Jacques Torres, these premium melt-in-your-mouth chocolates are available in six incredible flavors: hazelnut crunch, caramel, raspberry, orange, pineapple and passion fruit. These chocolates truly melt in your mouth and have such a rich flavor that will make anyone thankful to call you a friend!

Co-Workers

Sometimes, it can be easy to forget about gifting your coworkers, especially on a holiday like Valentine's Day that is centered around love. But, these are the people you spend a large portion of your time with and who can make your life a real joy or a real struggle. If you have one particular coworker who really makes your life better, send them an Edible Arrangement and make their holiday that much better. Or, if you work in an office, you can always get an Edible Arrangement to put in the break room to let those people you are around every day know you appreciate them and the work they do. Nothing can get you through a work day better than a

sugar rush, especially when the sugar is from fresh fruits that are so juicy and full of flavor you can't resist, but go back for more!

Not only are Edible Arrangements the perfect Valentines Day gift, but they are also the perfect treat for you and your girlfriends to sit on the couch together for a *Bachelor* viewing party! Don't wait until the last minute to buy your Edible Arrangement! Visit ediblearrangements.com and order yours today! But, if you happen to forget and are scrambling to get your loved ones a gift, they do offer same day delivery!

Celebrate this weekend and save BIG! Order now for pickup or delivery through Monday, Feb. 13 for \$10 off when you spend \$39+. Use code: SAVE3966.

Relationship Advice: 5 Benefits To Being Single On Valentine's Day





y Katie Gray

Valentine's Day is a celebration of love, but that doesn't mean you have to be in an intimate relationship to embrace and celebrate. Relationships and love are great, but don't be upset if you haven't found the love of your life yet and find yourself single on this V-Day. Look forward to the fact that this means that your Prince Charming is on the way, and think about the future romantic relationship you will have. Many celebrity couples and celebrities who are dating around (nothing serious) are celebrating in a variety of ways, so look to them for <u>dating advice</u> on your situation. Being single isn't a bad thing! In reality, Valentine's Day is just like any other time of the year, so you shouldn't be feeling down. Instead, channel your energy into giving love and light to the people in your life who you truly care about. All of your family and friends in your life are your true Valentines!

В

Relationship Advice: Cupid has the

5 benefits to being single on Valentine's Day:

1. No pressure: If you don't have the hassle of making reservations, you can do whatever your heart desires, and you don't have to buy anyone gifts if you don't want too. Simply put, you don't have to stress or deal with anything; it's all on your own terms.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity News: Check Out Rebel Wilson's Video</u>
<u>Valentine's Day Message To Justin Bieber</u>

2. Time for your loved ones: Why spend Valentine's Day with some date you don't want to really be with or mope around at home alone when you can spend the holiday with your loved ones! This is the perfect day to remind your family and friends how much you love them and enjoy their company. Just because you're not in a romantic relationship on Valentine's Day, doesn't mean you're alone! Always remember that.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity News: Kourtney Kardashian Says She's</u>
Not A Dating Person

- 3. Personal reflection: While there is no pressure or stress when you're single on Valentine's Day, you also have the added bonus of being able to reflect and evaluate your life. Figure out what your goals and passions are and come up with a map on how to achieve them. Determine what type of relationship you would like in the future and what qualities and traits you are seeking. Most of all, just focus on your own personal reflection in terms of love, career and life.
- 4. More chances to find your true soul mate: Anything can happen anywhere at any time. Valentine's Day and the future is just another chance for you to find your real soul mate. Don't feel pessimistic on Valentine's Day, feel optimistic that you have something to look forward too!

5. It's all about YOU: Being single on Valentine's Day comes with the perk of making it all about you! Buy yourself something nice, and eat whatever you want. Do whatever activity makes you happy and surround yourself with all of the things and people you love. This could be taking a bubble bath, eating chocolate, reading a book or enjoying your favorite meal.

What are the benefits you have had being single on Valentine's Day? Share your stories with us below.

Relationship Advice: How to Make This Valentine's Day Special for Your Loved One





y Amy Osmond Cook for Divorce Support Center

In 1653, a Mughal emperor shared with the world a token of his tragic yet enduring love for his favorite wife Muntaz Mahal, who died during childbirth. Today, the emperor and his wife have all but blended into the annals of ancient history, but the symbol of his love remains as the gleaming white marble 42-acre structure known as the Taj Mahal. While most public expressions of affection don't end up being a timeless wonder, many of today's celebrities make their mark in different and extravagant ways. As a relationship expert, I wanted to give you some unique ideas to celebrate Valentine's Day. Here's some relationship advice on how to say "I love you" to the special person in your life, like these celebrity couples.

Relationship Advice: Making Valentine's Day Special Like The Hollywood Stars

1. Share a little bit of nature. I'm not talking about cut

flowers or baskets of posies. With a little bit of creativity, you can find a bit of nature that symbolizes the unique relationship and love you share. For example, Angelina Jolie purchased an olive tree to give to her husband, Brad Pitt. Angie may have spent \$18,500 on this olive tree, but you can find something just as special but much more affordable. Aloe Vera plants, palms, fruit trees, and flowering plants are excellent alternatives to cut flowers. Also, some companies manufacture innovative bouquets made out of alternative materials that last forever and offer unique scents. Ecoflower.com designs arrangements using environmentally friendly and recycled materials like wood, paper, recycled jewelry among other things, and they will provide any scent you like such as raspberry, musk or lemon.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Couples and Their Most Extravagant Valentine's Day Gifts</u>

2. Share a wardrobe indulgence. For Jessica Simpson, that meant getting a \$15,000 Birkin bag from her husband, Eric Johnson. For the rest of us, receiving a smart jacket, a silk scarf, a sparkling bracelet, or snazzy boots can generate the same feeling of confidence at one-third of the price. I recall a young newlywed presented his wife with a necklace made of aquamarine. It wasn't the most valuable of gems, but the color reminded him of his wife's eyes.

Related Link: Valentine's Day Special: How To Have An Irresistible Online Dating Profile for Valentine's Day

3. Share an experience. Angelina Jolie bought Brad Pitt flying lessons. Of course, she threw in the helicopter for good measure. Beyonce found a million-dollar token to share with husband, Jay-Z, when she presented him with a Grand Sport, reportedly one of the top performing and most expensive cars on the market. For you, a shared experience may be a hike to a cherished location, or a picnic in a secluded spot. Most people will tell you the things are nice, but sometimes it's

the thought behind the gift that counts the most. A friend who lived by an Olympic training site bought her husband a ride on the bobsled track used in the 2002 Winter Olympics. It was an experience he will never forget.

Related Link: Celebrity News: Check Out Rebel Wilson's Video Valentine's Day Message to Justin Bieber

With Valentine's Day approaching, it seems the extravagant gifts is what makes the news. The relationship advice to remember is that Valentine's Day doesn't have an audience nor does it need a giant price tag. It's an opportunity for you to share a moment, a knowing exchange, a personal connection that is meaningful for the two people that matter the most—you and your loved one.

For more information about and articles by our Hope After Divorce relationship experts, click here.

What has been your most meaningful Valentine's Day experience? Comment below!

Celebrity News: Check Out Rebel Wilson's Video Valentine's Day Message to Justin Bieber





y Marc Malkin via <u>E! News</u>

New <u>celebrity couple</u> alert! Okay, maybe not, but Rebel Wilson is going after <u>Justin Bieber</u> in <u>latest celebrity news</u>. When the two recently met at the opening of <u>Jennifer Lopez's</u> Las Vegas show, the "Boyfriend" singer promised to hang with the Aussie funny lady. But it never happened. According to <u>E.Online.com</u>, "Perhaps the sparks will fly now with Wilson's very special Valentine's Day video message for the Biebs."

В

"Happy Valentine's Day, Justin," Wilson says in the video, shot at last night's How to Be Single premiere in New York City. "I'll be thinking about you. Not in like a weird way or anything. Just

like in a fun way."

Related Link: <u>Justin Bieber Dating Selena Gomez 'Full-On Back Together' Again!</u>

Wilson continued, saying, "You are like the most eligible pop star out there right now and I'll just put this out there, I am the most eligible female Australian living in America and does international hit feature films right now and who is in the age bracket of 25 to 35," she said. "So just consider that."

Wilson ended the vid with a sweet wink of her eye, while cooing, "I think we're a good match."

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Exes Jennifer Lopez and Casper Smart</u>
Caught Kissing

So, Justin, if you're reading this, please give Rebel a call. We think you're a good match, too.

How to Be Single is in theaters on Feb. 12.

Happy Valentine's Day, everyone!

What are your thoughts on Rebel's Valentine's message? Sound off below.

Celebrity Couples and Their Most Extravagant Valentine's

Day Gifts





Page 1 of 15



Kim Kardashian West and Kanye West
If diamonds were a meter of love, West's love for the reality
TV star is off the charts. The rapper bought his wife a 73,000
dollar Panthere De Cartier cuff embellished with diamonds and
emeralds. Photo: Flynet UK/FameFlynet Pictures

Lady Gaga Celebrates Celebrity Engagement to Taylor Kinney





y Maggie Manfredi

Let's see that ring! According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, Lady Gaga and Taylor Kinney are officially celebrating their celebrity engagement, and you don't have to look far for the proof. Lady Gaga is sporting a Lorraine Schwartz, heart-shaped diamond ring. The celebrity couple shared a picture of the gorgeous ring on Instagram, and Gaga captioned it,"He gave me his heart on Valentine's Day, and I said YES!" This celebrity couple met during Gaga's music video "You & I" in 2011.

В

For her celebrity engagement, Lady Gaga received a gigantic heart-shaped diamond ring. What are some ways to find out what type of ring your love prefers prior to a proposal?

Cupid's Advice:

Getting the ring right can be a tricky task! Not everyone has the eclectic taste of Lady Gaga, but Cupid has some tips on how to find the right ring for your love:

1. Ask around: It is a daunting task to find the ring that is supposed to symbolize your forever together. Reaching out to family and friends is an easy way to try to get the scoop on the style or look your love is looking for; but fair warning, if you want to keep it a secret, make that very clear!

Related Link: <u>Lady Gaga Says Boyfriend Taylor Kinney is a</u> Weirdo Like Her

2. Pinterest page: In this day and time, you can find out a lot about a person from their social media accounts. If you want to start somewhere, Pinterest may be a decent bet. People often times have boards dedicated to their special day, so get scrolling.

Related Link: Lady Gaga and Taylor Kinney Split

3. Straight to the source: If you aren't worry about the surprise of it or you can ask in a casual way, do it. Talk about your hopes and dreams, and then maybe sneak in the possibility of engagement. A ring will no doubt be brought into the conversation with ease.

What do you think of the diamond ring on Lady GaGa's finger? Share your comments below!

Famous Couple Cameron Diaz &

Benji Madden Valentine's Double Date with Nicole Richie & Joel Madden





y <u>Rebecca White</u>

Now that Valentine's Day weekend is over, we're all wondering what our favorite married celebrity couples have been up to. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, famous couples Cameron Diaz and Benji Madden double dated with Nicole Richie and Joel Madden on cupid's day. The foursome went out to dinner around 9 p.m. and stayed at the restaurant for three hours, just laughing and bonding.

What are some benefits to double dating like famous couples Cameron & Benji and Nicole & Joel?

Cupid's Advice:

These famous couples have found that double dating is exciting and fun, even with a sibling and their loved one. If you want some dating and relationship advice, try double dating as a way to enhance your romance:

1. You see your partner from a different perspective: When you and your loved one are out in social situations, different aspects of your personalities emerge, allowing you to see your partner from a new perspective.

Related Link: Cameron Diaz & Benji Madden Display PDA Following Celebrity Wedding and Honeymoon

2. You dress up more than you usually would: Dressing up more than usual can really help your relationship and love life. By putting in that extra effort when it comes to your appearance, you and your partner will have a newfound attraction for each other, keeping your romance interesting.

Related Link: <u>Matchmaker Nicole Richie: "I Set Up Cameron Diaz</u> and Benji Madden"

3. It reminds you of the reason you chose each other: By going out with another couple, whether you enjoy the experience or not, you and your honey will probably feel the same way about how the evening went. These reflections can reinforce why you chose each other, whether it's because you both realized you hate double dating, or you both like the same food and have the same sense of humor.

What do you think are some benefits to double dating? Comment

Relationship Advice: How to Keep the Spark in Your Relationship After Valentine's Day





y Molly Jacob and Jennifer Ross

Now that the beautiful romance of Valentine's Day has passed, you may think it's time to return to ordinary life. Even

though it's technically no longer the season of relationships and love, that doesn't mean your love ends! For the rest of the year, spread your love continuously, especially in your relationship. Not sure how to do that?

Cupid has some relationship advice for how to keep the spark in your relationship all year long!

1. Express your feelings: One of the best parts about this day of love is when you take the time to tell your partner how you really feel. Who says you can't do so all year long? While your significant other of course knows that you love him or her, sometimes we all need a little validation. Just by saying, "I love you," in the most unexpected moments, such as when they're eating dinner or brushing their teeth, has a lot of meaning.

Related Link: Expert Dating Advice: Valentine's Day Tips

- 2. Send love notes: Valentine's Day cards are wonderful ways of expressing your feelings about relationships and love on paper, so why not keep those going throughout the year? Just slip a note somewhere sure to be noticed later by your sweetheart. Many card stores have all sorts of blank cards or customizable stationary for you to send your message. If you can't write like the greeting card writers can, don't fret! You can steal great quotes from your favorite songwriter or poet, as long as you give credit where credit is due.
- 3. Go on romantic dates: Think about how much fun you had sharing a lovely meal with your significant other out on the town on the 14th and plan something like that again. You might have spent a pretty penny this Valentine's Day, but don't think you have to do so on every date. Think a quiet afternoon at a cafe or lunch at your partner's favorite pizza joint. The

key here is to appreciating each other in public and sharing a delicious meal, too.

Related Link: <u>5 Celebrity Couples Who Celebrate Valentine's</u>
Day in Style

- 4. Make an appointment: We often get so caught up in our busy lives that we take alone time with our loved one for granted. Just how Valentine's Day is a day of the year that you devote to your partner, create a specific time each day that you plan to spend with him or her. This can be a time that you talk about your day, discuss your relationship and love, or just do something together, such as make dinner. This sacred, alone time can strengthen the intimacy in your relationship.
- 5. Seek advice: If your Valentine's Day date was a complete flop, don't let that stop you and your partner from fighting to keep the love alive. Sometimes life's hardships can distract you from focusing on the love and goodness in your relationship. Seek advice from other couples that have stayed together and passed the test of time. They are full of valuable relationship advice about keeping the spark in your relationship, even after years of being together.

How do you keep the spark in your relationship after Valentine's Day? Share with us below.

Dating Advice on How to Meet Someone for Valentine's Day





y April Davis

With Valentine's around the corner, you may feel a lot of pressure to find the person who's right for you. Relationships and love are something that few people put much effort and energy into finding.

Many think that if you just sit back, then it will just happen when it happens. The problem is that it won't happen while you're sitting on the couch. Here's some dating advice you can use to meet your

Valentine.

1. First thing's first — Get rid of the idea that Valentine's day is the deadline.

It can be a checkpoint, but not a deadline. It's a process to find the person you can spend the rest of your life with and there are steps involved. It's not like buying a car where you can go to the dealer and give your preferences on features, color, etc. Remember it will take some time and effort to meet the one for you and there are a billion possible matches for you, but it can be a lot of fun in the meantime if you're open-minded.

2. Wear red.

When you're out and about at social gatherings or just any given day at work or the grocery store, take advantage of the Winter seasonal colors and wear red. This will attract attention to yourself and it's sexy. Also, research has shown that people are more attracted to both women AND men who wear red.

3. Get out and be seen.

Your future King or Queen isn't going to find you in front of your TV at home. Get online and find all the singles events, happy hours, business networking events, nonprofit fundraisers, etc. and get them on your calendar. This dating advice can save you a lot of worry, so be proactive. These places are full of professionals and many of them are going to be single. The places you go to meet people don't all have to be singles events. When you are at these events don't forget to smile and try out your refined conversation skills. One trick to open the door for conversation at an event, go up to someone you'd like to meet, have a drink in your hand, and say, "Cheers". Most anyone will respond positively.

4. Learn how to make a connection with someone while in conversation.

This really is a skill set and not everyone knows how to do it. One thing you can do to start improving in this area is to initiate conversations with anyone you meet. Don't wait to only talk with people you're attracted to or want to date. It's smarter to be friendly and practice connecting with anyone you meet.

If you're in the elevator, smile, say hello, and make a comment to the other person sharing it with you. Maybe you can notice something about their bag, hair, or what they're wearing. Throw out a compliment to the person working behind the counter. Ask your server at a restaurant a question such as, "Where are you from?" These are all ways to start a conversation and will help you to build your confidence when it's time for you to chat it up with someone you are interested in.

5. Make a list of things you've always wanted to do, and do it.

If your New Year's resolution is to get in shape, then get in the gym. Or maybe you've always wanted to try rock climbing. There are several groups out there that will provide lessons and get you started. How great would it be to meet someone there who you already know you have something in common with? Love advice: Don't forget to wear red \square

While Valentine's Day can feel annoying when you're single, it's a reminder to us that relationships play an important role in our lives. By following these couple of tips, you're being proactive in your future and finding the person who is right for you. Then next year you may even be spending Valentine's with your new partner.

April Davis, founder of Cupid's Cronies is sharing some of her tips for meeting someone this Valentine's Day. With offices throughout the U.S., Cupid's Cronies is bringing a lot of love to people through her various services from having a wing woman or wingman alongside them, an online dating assistance or simply just good ol' fashioned dating coach.

Exclusive Celebrity Interview: Antonio Sabato Jr. Shares His Best Relationship and Love Advice for Valentine's Day





y Rebecca White

Do you ever wonder what married celebrity couples do for Valentine's Day, especially if they're apart due to work obligations? Well, we got the inside scoop from one of our favorite stars! In an exclusive celebrity interview, Antonio Sabato Jr. shares that his relationship and love life is better than ever and discusses what he'll do for his wife this weekend.

Antonio Sabato Jr. Talks Valentine's Day Plans in Exclusive Celebrity Interview

In honor of the romantic holiday, the former *Dancing with the Stars* contestant learned how to cook for his wife Cheryl Moana Marie Nunes on *Flip My Food* with Chef Jeff Henderson. Although the actor won't be home for the special day, he plans to use the skills he acquired on the show when he returns and has "some surprises going to the house for her."

Related Link: <u>5 Celebrity Couples Who Celebrate Valentine's</u>
Day in Style

When the reality TV star learned what Chef Jeff wanted to make for the famous couple, he couldn't resist the invitation to go on his show. "Everything was delicious, and the dessert was incredible," Sabato raves. "He makes everything taste amazing. I don't ever eat salmon, and the way he made it was amazing. I love his food, his recipes, and his show."

The actor not only learned how to cook the perfect meal for his wife, but he also took home some new cooking skills that he didn't have before. The Fix It & Finish It host shares that you need to "take your time; be careful not to overcook your ingredients; and put passion behind your food."

Reality TV Star Shares His Best Relationship and Love Advice

If you are still unsure of how to spend your Valentine's Day and what to give your significant other, consider this dating advice to save your relationship and love life. "Knowing what your significant other likes and what is special to her is the way to have a great Valentine's Day," the former model says. "Know her favorite restaurant, her favorite food, her favorite flower, or her favorite movie. Then, surprise her and be a gentleman about it."

Related Link: 'DWTS' Star Antonio Sabato Jr. on Dancing with His Wife: "It Will Be So Special For Us Both"

Or you can impress your partner on the dance floor this weekend. The actor may even showcase his dancing skills. "I get to dance with my wife all the time and have had many dances with her since the end of *DWTS*," he reveals in our exclusive celebrity interview. "I always take my time with her to heart."

If you're still in a bind, use this celebrity couple's favorite date night as your inspiration. Sabato divulges that they like to go to a theater where "you can order food and drinks during the movie in reclined seating and just have an amazing time." Sounds like a good date to us!

You can keep up with Antonio Sabato Jr. on Twitter @antoniosabatojr and his website, www.antoniosabatojronline.com/

Relationships and Love Are Overrated





While "Virginia is for Lovers," Valentine's Day is all about celebrating your lover. However, relationships and love are overrated. Don't stress out if you are among the more than half of the single population in the U.S. that will be celebrating this romantic holiday solo, because you are not alone. According to a report on Bloomberg.com, you are one of the 124.6 million single Americans that will not be contributing to the \$13.19 billion annual spend on roses, candy, candlelit dinners and stuffed cupids. Take this dating advice, and put love on hold, if not only for the amount of money you can save!

The average consumer spends \$116.21 on Valentine's Day, so pocket the cash and follow these sexy, single and ready to mingle tips that could potentially leave you with Cupid's arrow piercing your heart or a bunch of mental memories of another night on the town where you have the time of your life and can still keep searching for that relationship and love.

Here are the 5 Ways to throw a Singles Party that Rocks:

1. Invitees: It is all about the singles. Invite single friends only and each person needs to bring a new single friend. Make sure there are an equal number of guys and gals

to mix up the fun. So where do you find these singletons? Your social network — Invite people in your social circle on Facebook or maybe you have common friends but you don't know them. Now, is your chance to branch out and invite them.

- 2. Décor: Forget about pink and red. A little played out isn't it? Well this year try turquoise and orange. Let's think a little bit more about that décor. A star is defined as a bright point of light in the sky or a five-sided drawing that is meant to resemble the points of light in the sky. So you can have star shaped sugar cookies green with vanilla icing packaged up as a parting gift. Or, do the whole party around the opposites of what people think. For example, Not roses…Rather thistle- Not chocolate…Bring out the steak.
- **3. Playlist of music:** Just forget all those love songs and bring out the real fun jams! Such as "All the Single Ladies."
- **4. Food** / **Beverages:** Keep it fun and flowing. The opposite of chocolate is vanilla so why not add some vanilla touches. And, make sure the food is fun Gourmet Grilled Cheese sandwiches are easy to make and always a big hit.
- **5. Invitation:** And, don't forget about the invite. How about setting the theme in advance by sending the party goer a puzzle piece and they then have to find the person that has the other piece of the puzzle.

They say, 'the grass is always greener on the other side' which seems to be more accurate on Valentine's Day than any other holiday. As you throw yourself into the perfect singles soiree, think about all your couple friends in a relationship and love eating overpriced dinners because technically love is in the air. Follow these fun pointers and next Valentine's Day, you may just find yourself on the other side of the fence receiving a dozen of the 196 million red roses produced to show how much you are loved!

<u>Brian Worley</u> is the co-founder of Your-Bash and TV's favorite

event planner and LA's man about town. Worley is known for his over the top and memorable style and has been the voice of everything from E!'s Party Monsters Cabo, to WE TV's Platinum Weddings, to The Style Channel's Big Party Plan Off. From American Idol Parties, to the Oscar Pre-Show and Grammy After Party, Worley says the key is to NOT go with tradition.

5 Celebrity Couples Who Celebrate Valentine's Day in Style





While flowers and chocolates are nice, in Hollywood, Valentine's Day is usually done a little different. Although there are many ways to show your love, check out how some of our favorite celebrity couples are doing it! Celebrity love is definitely in the air this season, and there's no better way to show it than with extravagant gestures. If you need some romance inspiration, check out the five famous couples below:

Celebrity Couples Who Celebrate the Day of Love in Style

1. Kim Kardashian and Kanye West: Kimye has gone overboard with V-Day celebrations in the past few years. Last Valentine's Day, Kim received 1,000 roses from Kanye, which she showed off on her Instagram account. West also has shown his love to Kardashian with some serious bling. In 2013, the rapper gave his sweetheart a \$73,000 bracelet from Cartier's Panthere Collection. The stunning bracelet featured a diamond-encrusted panther motif with emerald eyes and an onyx nose, completed with a black cuff and a white-gold trim.

Although Kardashian loves her bling, she admits that Valentine's Day presents don't have to include a huge price tag to be special. In a interview with *Gotham*, Kardashian said, "Valentine's Day is all about showing the people around you how much you love them, so the gifts that come from the heart are always the most special. One year, Mason [Kourtney Kardashian's son] gave me the most adorable Valentine's Day card that he made himself, and it is still one of the best gifts I've ever received."

Related Link: Love Advice: 3 Signs He's the Right Guy to Be Your Valentine

2. Lauren Conrad and William Tell: Conrad and Tell, one of our favorite celebrity love stories, will be celebrating their

third anniversary this Valentine's Day. The celebrity couple were introduced to each other by mutual friends on the day of love in 2012 and have been lovey-dovey ever since. Last year, Conrad showed her love to her then-fiancé on Instagram by posting an adorable engagement photo with the caption, "Happy Anniversary to my favorite Valentine. I love you dearly xo." This is their first Valentine's Day as a married couple, so we're excited to see what this day of love and joy brings them!

3. Kate Middleton and Prince William: Valentine's Day isn't always about spending the time with your lover. In 2013, Kate Middleton and Prince William celebrated the day of love in style by doing something they love: helping others! The Duchess Of Cambridge visited Northolt High School, a London high school, and officially opened the school's ICAP Art Room after receiving a lovely floral arrangement. Middleton has been a patron of the art room since 2012. William spent Valentine's Day morning in Datchet, Berkshire with Prince Harry, delivering sandbags to communities affected by flooding

This wasn't the first Valentine's Day the royal couple has spent apart! In 2012, William was on a tour of duty in the Falklands during the 14th of February, but he still managed to send her a card and flowers despite his being 7,000 miles away.

Related Link: <u>5 Valentine's Day Celebrity Engagements</u>

4. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie: This power couple has shown their celebrity love on Valentine's Day by celebrating with some laughter. In 2013, Pitt gave his lover vegan, glutenfree, sugar-free mints for Valentine's Day, a loving joke since he's always teasing Jolie that she has bad breath. Although he could easily buy her something fancy (which we assume he did along with the gag gift), this gift shows the couple's unique, playful side, which is always in style!

The couple doesn't always make a joke about the holiday, though! In 2010, Jolie gifted Pitt with a 200-year-old olive tree worth \$30,000. The tree was planted at their French home, the Chateau Miraval, where it joined an olive grove, vineyard, and more.

5. Jay-Z and Beyonce: Is anyone surprised that this "Drunk in Love" couple would celebrate the Day of Love in anything less than amazing style? Last Valentine's Day, Jay-Z bought his wife a \$2,300 Tacori bracelet. The bracelet's intertwined gold and silver design is said to represent their union, and it can only be unlocked by a private key. Jay-Z reportedly gave Bey her gift a few days earlier than the 14th because she was so eager to receive it.

Last year wasn't the only year the rapper surprised his wife with an extravagant gift. In 2009, Jay-Z bought Beyoncé a platinum cell phone worth \$24,000 for Valentine's Day. We can't wait to see how this superstar celebrity couple celebrates V-Day this year.

How do you plan on celebrating Valentine's Day in style? Let us know in the comments below!