Date Idea: Bet On It





By Hope Ankney and Kristin Mattern

Take a gamble on love this weekend and hit the strip with your man! Head out to a local casino and set the stakes high as you roll your way into your sweetie's heart. You'll be up all night with this weekend <u>date idea</u>.

Check out this date idea if you want a fun and competitive date that lasts all night!

Get glammed up for your cutie, jump in the car (or get extra fancy and rent a limo) and drive over to the nearest gambling spot. As you walk arm and arm onto the casino floor together, share the surge of excitement and anticipation for the night ahead. Sit at the same table and play against one another to encourage some friendly competition, or root your honey on as he plays a card game alone. See if lady luck is with you as you sit side-by-side and have a go at the slots.

Make this date a romantic weekend getaway and catch a flight to Vegas. You never know, you might just make it into some high roller suites! After some boozy kisses and some wins at blackjack, head out onto the strip to take in the sights. Catch one of the many shows, like Cirque du Soleil or David Copperfield, and then hit up the clubs. Dance the night away as you celebrate your winnings. Check out Vegas.com to discover places to stay, shows to see, where to eat and more – everything you need to make this casino getaway truly unforgettable.

Related Link: Date Idea: Enjoy a Secret Sunset

If you're on the East Coast, make Atlantic City your destination. Play roulette and poker, then head out for a stroll along the iconic boardwalk. Snuggle up on the beach with your babe if you want to wind down, or hit up one of the many nightclubs to keep the electric feel going. Not in a dancing mood? Atlantic City has tons of shopping – the perfect way to spend your winnings. Check out AtlanticCityNJ.com for more information.

Related Link: Date Idea: Finders Keepers

If you're not looking to spend big bucks, set up a casino date at home! Have a fun and flirty night in as the two of you play rummy for pennies, blackjack for that last piece of pizza and maybe even a game of strip poker. Get creative and wager what you'd both like to bet for: kisses, hugs or the next movie you watch. Make sure to have some munchies on hand to nosh on while you play. Drink your favorite microbrew with your dearest, or share some sparkling wine. When you're done gambling, throw on a casino-themed movie like Ocean's Eleven and just relax.

No one loses on this date - you can bet on it!

Ever take your loved one out to a casino for date night? Tell us all about it in the comments below!

Date Idea: Play Romantic Dating Games





By <u>Hope Ankney</u> and Gabriela Robles

This weekend, spend the night indoors with your love by

showing off your competitive side by organizing a few romantic dating games. This is a great <u>date idea</u> to share your best couple of friends too. So hurry over to an arcade and have a fun game night with your sweetheart!

Check out this date idea if you're up for a fun and competitive night with your partner!

Find a luxury bowling alley that's specifically set up for romantic dating games. Usually, these types of bowling alleys are done up in a glow-in-the-dark fashion and have a partylike environment that's extremely exciting. Most likely, there will be fun music, cocktails and tons of entertainment. Some luxury bowling alleys even have restaurants or grills attached to them as well as lounges, game rooms, cigar bars, and dance areas. This atmosphere will insure an amusing night that both you and your date will enjoy.

Related Link: Date Idea: Light Up Each Other's World

If an arcade is more your style, you can still enjoy a romantic dating game spot such as Dave and Busters. This popular spot has a restaurant that serves delicious appetizers, salads, entrees, and desserts – plenty of options. After you've eaten, you can head over to the games and get busy with your man. Show off your gaming skills behind the wheel by playing Daytona USA or impress your date with Super Shot. If you're in the mood to compete, play some QuadAir Hockey or try Dance Dance Revolution. The best part is that they have great deals. In fact, their Eat, Play, Win Combo is a surefire way to have a great evening that your wallet will love! Dave and Busters even have new games, so if you're addicted to Temple Run or Cut The Rope on your phone, try the arcade versions! Related Link: <u>Weekend Date Idea: Get Crafty</u>

Romantic dating games are about doing something fun and new with your significant other, so go in with an open mind and excited attitude. Who knows? You two might have such a good time that you'll head out to your local bowling alley or arcade each month. It's a great way to beat the chill and heat up your relationship.

What're some things that you do for your game nights? Share with us in the comments below.

Date Idea: Rent a Cabin in the Snow





By <u>Hope Ankney</u> and Gabriela Robles

Rent a cabin in the mountains with your partner and settle in for a comfy, romantic weekend together. Whether you're actually snowed in or just pretending to be, this <u>date idea</u> is a surefire way to light the flame together.

Check out this date idea if you're looking for something fun and romantic!

If you're on the East Coast, check out the Poconos Mountains for some snowboarding, skiing, horseback riding and snow tubing. Or try the Woodloch Resort for an all-inclusive package deal. If you're on the West Coast, take a trip to Breckenridge Ski Resort, where you can enjoy tons of activities such as rafting, sleigh rides, balloon tours, and many delicious restaurants.

Related Link: Date Idea: Get Your Relationship Off the Ground

Before you go, think about what you may need. Besides the cozy sweaters and warm slippers, remember to bring something fun for entertainment. A board game will bring out the playful side in you, so pack Cranium, Monopoly or Scrabble. As you and your honey get into the games, talk about which one is your favorite. Reminisce over old games you used to play or still do. Once you're done with your board games, uncork a bottle of wine and grab a deck of cards. Maybe your partner wants to learn how to play gin rummy, or perhaps you're both skilled poker players. If all goes well, you may have a new weekly tradition on your hands: game night!

Related Link: Date Idea: Run Outta Moonlight

Outdoor activities are also a great way to romanticize a trip. Before jumping in the car, research the town you're staying in and find exciting things to do during your time there. Exploring a new place together will make for great memories that you'll think about for years to come. Go hiking, wine tasting and — if the snow allows — sledding to bring you two closer. When you've had enough of the cold air, head inside, cuddle up together and talk about your experiences that day. Talk about what activities you want to conquer on your next mountain trip.

This weekend is about sharing new experiences together. Whether it's your first time in this quaint mountain town or just the first time you've gone snowshoeing, focus on stepping out of your comfort zone and testing your capabilities. After a delightful few days, you and your sweetheart will be glad you had a weekend away.

Have any suggestions for places to vacation? Share with us in the comments below.

Date Idea: Go to an Eat-In Bakery





By <u>Hope Ankney</u> and Gabriela Robles

If it's too cold to enjoy the great outdoors and you and your sweetheart are going a little stir crazy at home, make a trip to a local eat-in bakery. It'll be a much-needed break from your usual routine of dining out at your favorite cafe or sports bar. Plus, you'll be able to keep warm and indulge in some delicious treats at the same time.

Date Idea: When it's too cold
outside, eat-in bakeries are the

perfect spot for you and your significant other to enjoy each other's company outside the house.

Eat-in bakeries will usually seat you, and then a waitress comes to take your order. They typically offer various supplies of coffees, teas and hot chocolates, so you'll be able to have something to drink as you enjoy your sweet of choice. Think of tonight as a dessert date. Instead of a restaurant that smells like beer and fried food, you're in a place that holds the tempting aroma of pies and cookies. What could be a better way to spend a snowy winter night?

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Explore the Big Apple</u>

When you first arrive, take a careful look at the drink and dessert menus; seek out new treats that you think sound tempting and ultimately decide together what you'd like to order. Step outside of your comfort zone and order something that you've never had before. If you're really in the mood for some sweets, order a second small dessert that you already know you love. Relax with a cup of your favorite dessert-esque drink as you and your man chat about your weeks and take in the scent of the sugary bakery.

Related Link: Date Idea: Don't Let Fall Cool Your Dates Down

Consider trying a slice of Mississippi Mud pie with a macchiato or indulge in a piece of apple strudel with a nice, warm hot chocolate. If you're a chocolate lover, order some brownie or hazelnut cake pops along with a choco-banana frappe or a chocolate cream pie paired with a dirty chai.

After the desserts arrive, share the treats with each other. Or if you want to indulge in a more private setting, take them to go. Experience a great night filled with delicious pastries, scrumptious drinks, and your loving sweetheart!

What's your favorite dessert treat to share with your date? Tell us in the comments below.

Date Idea: Embrace a Rainy Day





By Bonnie Griffin

You had a perfect outdoor date planned for this weekend, but now it's supposed to rain. What are you going to do? Are you going to cancel date night and curl up under the covers? No way! Cupid has some great <u>date ideas</u> for when the rain runs you inside.

Check out these date night ideas for when your outdoor plans get rained out.

Take advantage of a rainy weekend by adapting and planning something fun with your significant other even though it may not have been your original idea. Cuddle up with your honey next to the fire and enjoy each other's company. Or, better yet, move all of your furniture and build a little fortress just like when you were a little kid and the rain kept you from going outside.

Related Link: Date Idea: Romance at a Resort

If you don't want to stay at home, then check out a flick you've been dying to see, whether that means going to the theater or watching it at home. A perfect rainy day movie to see is Woody Allen's recent movie *Midnight In Paris*. It centers around Paris being beautiful in the rain!

Related Link: Date Idea: Dance the Night Away

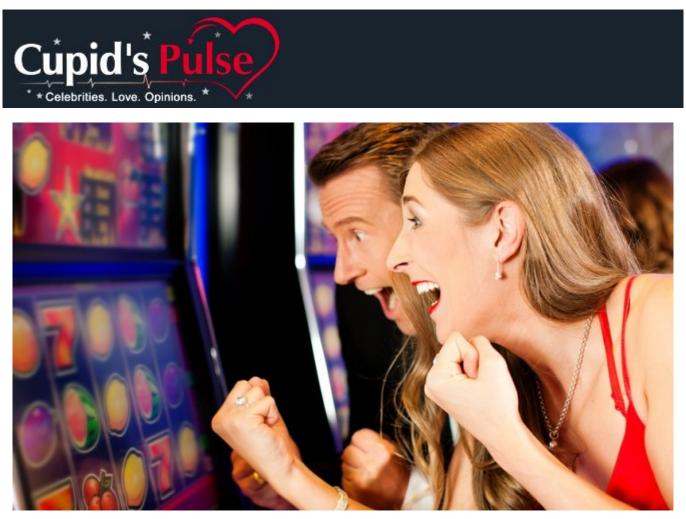
If you're not in the mood for seeing a movie and want something with a little competition, consider going bowling or to an arcade. Check out the "it" bowling destination for our favorite celebrities, Lucky Strikes. They have numerous locations throughout the U.S., and you never know which celebrities you may run into; <u>Justin Bieber</u> celebrated his album release party this past March at the New York City location. If you're not a bowler, then hit the arcade. Dave & Buster's has over 55 locations, so you're sure to find one near you for a game-filled night inside and out of the rain.

If you really want to get romantic, take a hint from The

Notebook, and recreate one of the heart-warming movie's key scenes. Kiss in the rain! Now that's one great way to make a seemingly bleak day look cheerful.

How do you and your significant other embrace a rainy day? Share your stories below!

Date Idea: Carve Your Way Into His Heart



By Emma L. Wells and Bonnie Griffin

This <u>date idea</u> begins at your local pumpkin patch, farmer's market, or supermarket where you and your significant other

can pick out the perfect pumpkins to decorate for Halloween. Don't buy only two pumpkins; grab a bunch of different sizes so you can make your very own pumpkin patch. To strengthen your relationship and love on this date idea, all you need are some pumpkins and a little creativity!

Get Creative With This Pumpkin-Themed Date Idea

This date idea is a little messy but really fun. You can attempt all sorts of themes with your jack-o-lanterns. Try making scary and happy faces. If you're really artistic, pull out all the stops and carve your pumpkins into someone's likeness, like a celebrity or maybe even your beau. If you don't feel like making faces, you can dress up your pumpkin in fun patterns instead. You don't have to be skilled with a knife to make them look great! Consider decorating them with a little glue and glitter or paint to make a glitzy jack-olantern. It doesn't matter how they turn out; the main thing is to give it your best shot and enjoy the time with your partner.

Related Link: <u>Top 10 Halloween Treats For Your Mate That Won't</u> <u>Ruin Their Waistline</u>

You two may have so much fun that you'll want to keep going! Spread your happiness around by buying smaller pumpkins and carving or decorating them to give as gifts to your friends and family. Place yours around your house, inside and out, to really get your home ready for Halloween.

Related Link: Best Celebrity Couple Costumes for Halloween

Carving pumpkins is also the perfect time for you and honey to discuss your Halloween costume ideas. Consider this dating advice and think about choosing a couples costume this year. Get into the spirit of this weekend date idea by munching on Halloween snacks and treats and putting on a Halloween playlist or movie to entertain and inspire you.

After you're done with the carving and clean-up, you can even try your hand at making delicious dried pumpkin seeds from the leftovers. You and your partner will have plenty to talk about - like your favorite Halloween memory – as you express your creative side!

Have you and your mate carved pumpkins together before? Tell us about it below!

Date Idea: Explore the Big Apple





By <u>Bonnie Griffin</u>

If you're searching for an adventurous <u>date idea</u>, you may want to consider spending the weekend in New York City. From museums to concerts to endless other attractions, you and your partner are sure to have the time of your life.

Check out this great date night idea if you're looking for a little adventure!

If you love movies and being outdoors, look into one of the many free outdoor concerts and films at the Lincoln Center. It's a classy vibe and an exciting way to enjoy New York City without spending a dime. You can even experience a live orchestra for free.

Related Link: Date Idea: Mid-Year Resolutions

While you're there, don't forget to take your mate to The Nuyorican Poetry Cafe, where you can indulge your artistic

side with poetry performances from brilliant spoken-word poets. Be delighted by literary events, theatre, performance, and music, all for an affordable price.

Related Link: Date Idea: Get Thrifty

Or better yet, a little shimmy could get you off your feet. New York City hosts its popular Summer Stage, where you and your man can enjoy free performances of talented dancers, who show off their flexible bodies. If you're interested in attending, don't forget to bring a blanket to spread on the ground, and possibly an umbrella to shield yourselves from the sun. You want to be as comfortable as possible at these kinds of events.

For a complete list of attractions, visit New York City's official guide for tourists. Once you plan out the perfect date in the city for your sweetheart, head over there. Take a bite out of the Big Apple and enjoy yourselves!

Have some of your own exciting New York events? Cupid would love to know. Spread the word! And if you want other themed date ideas, drop Cupid a comment below!

Date Idea: Don't Let Fall Cool Your Dates Down





By Bonnie Griffin

Fall is here, and what better way to get ready for the cool weather than by heading indoors for dinner and a movie? Try out a new <u>date idea</u> by heading to a recently opened restaurant in your town or trying a dish that you and your date can share. Not only are you creating memories, but you're getting ready for the holiday, which is all about giving thanks to one another.

Check out this date night idea and try out some new foods while you make some lasting memories.

To get current information on new restaurants coming to your area and for some great deals (who doesn't want to save money before the holidays?), check out websites like Bloomspot, Groupon and Living Social.

Related Link: Date Idea: Finders Keepers

If you'd rather stay in, become a chef in your own kitchen and start whipping up some fall-flavored creations. Bake a pumpkin pie for your sweetheart, or embrace the season by making it together. Whether you decide to cook a three-course meal or just dessert, finish the evening with a movie by the fire, which will put you in the mood to cuddle well into winter.

Related Link: Date Idea: One, Two, Walk in My Shoes

Do you and your special someone have a specific restaurant you love? Let us know by commenting below.







By Emma L. Wells and Bonnie Griffin

Is there anything more romantic than staying up all night to spend some quality alone time with your partner? Cupid has some <u>dating advice</u> to deepen your relationship and love by connecting under the light of the moon. For this <u>date idea</u>, you need nothing, but each other...and maybe a little caffeine!

Be Playful with This Romantic Date Idea

Staying up past your bedtime will make you both feel like kids again. And there's so much you can do together as you waste the night away! Use this time to talk and get to know each other even better. Consider playing a game like Would You Rather or Truth or Dare to get the conversation flowing. Or get out your old family photos and learn more about each other's childhoods.

Related Link: Date Idea: Spend an Intimate Night Indoors

If you're in a playful mood, you may want to play a card game

or pull out those board games from the back of your closet. You don't even have to follow the rules! Since you have all night, try combining two games and coming up with your own guidelines to create something new together. This weekend date idea should be light-hearted and fun. Make coffee, hot chocolate, or tea to keep those eyelids from drooping. And don't forget a midnight snack!

To make this date idea even more romantic, light candles around the house. Since the weather is nice this time of year, you can venture outside and star gaze while you snuggle together under a blanket. See how many constellations you can name — you can check your work with an app like SkyView. Don't forget to make a wish on any shootings stars you might see!

Related Link: Date Idea: Slumber Party

You'll be making memories you can cherish for years to come. Since the nighttime is often free of distractions (like work e-mails and texts to answers), your relationship and love will be stronger after taking this dating advice. Perhaps the moon will allow you to see your partner in a totally new light. This could be a story to tell your grandkids!

Have you ever stayed up all night with your honey? Share with us in the comments below!

Love Advice: Get Your Country On





By Emma L. Wells and Bonnie Griffin

Put on your cowboy boots, because this <u>date idea</u> will have y'all traveling to a dude ranch! You'll have a barrel of laughs as you ride horses, stop by the rodeo, and even learn to square dance.

Pick Up New Skills with This Country-Themed Date Idea

For this date idea, you and your partner will head to a nearby dude ranch. They have a lot of fun weekend activities for you two to enjoy. Channel your inner cowgirl and boy as you're taught how to ride horses and use a lasso. You might even catch a rodeo. Whether you're horseback riding through mountain trails or hiking along a river, this is the perfect opportunity to connect with each other and with nature. Take this <u>dating advice</u> and make sure to snap lots of pictures so your friends and family can see how much fun you had.

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Get Thrifty</u>

Some dude ranches offer a variety of sports activities, including archery and horseshoes. Why not turn it into a fun competition? You can even rope in (pun intended!) another couple and make some new friends. Ranches that are near lakes or rivers will often have canoeing and fishing too. If it's a hot day, take advantage of these water activities and cool off!

Next, it's time to get your country music on. You'll be sure to wrangle his heart as you spin each other around the dance floor and learn to square dance. Your relationship and love will grow as you and your significant other try to keep up with the quick pace of the tunes. You two will impress your friends next time you pull out your new moves; you might even have a secret talent for it.

Related Link: Date Idea: Hunt for Love

Don't forget to dress the part too! Because these are mostly outdoor activities, you don't want to wear anything too nice. You'll be comfortable in jeans and boots or sneakers. If you plan on getting on a horse, make sure you're wearing long pants. Bring a cowboy hat if you have one!

You and your beau will have a blast on this countrythemed weekend date idea. Doing something outside your comfort zone will help you connect on a totally new level. Not to mention, you'll have plenty of great pictures and lots of happy memories together after the day is done!

Have you and your honey ever visited a dude ranch? Tell us below!

Date Idea: Honoring 9/11





By Emma L. Wells and Bonnie Griffin

Date ideas can't always be about romance, flowers, and fun. Some days, like September 11th, need to be spent in reflection and deference for spiritual renewal. The terrible events in American history on this day still have repercussions that reverberate in our society nearly 18 years later. September 11th is known as Patriot Day and is a national day of service. Cupid has some <u>dating advice</u> for a date night to mark this significant occasion.

Connect With Your Partner With This Volunteering Date Idea

The events of September 11, 2001 were undoubtedly damaging to our country in countless ways. On this day, pay homage by helping to fix some of the problems in your community. Visit your local homeless shelter or VA Hospital. Volunteer for a cause that matters to you, whether it be related to food, justice, education, the environment, or something else – as long as it's important to you. We can't change the events of past, but we can do something to better our future.

Related Link: Expert Dating Advice: 5 First Date Ideas to Get Past the Winter Blues

Take pride in your country by visiting a 9/11 or veteran's memorial. Some cities have museum exhibits, and many places host non-denominational memorial services you can attend. You can also support the troops by working with one of the many organizations that collect cards and packages to send to soldiers overseas. You may consider signing up as a volunteer for a disaster preparedness group, such as FEMA or the Red Cross. You and your partner can research and make an emergency plan together if you don't already have one.

Related Link: Expert Dating Advice: <u>Tired of Online Dating</u> <u>Sites? 3 Ways to Get Off As Quick As Possible</u>

Another way to follow this dating advice is to watch a 9/11 documentary or read a book about the tragic day with your sweetheart. Two acclaimed films you can check out are *The Second Day* and *Project Rebirth*. Consider picking up a historical book about the events leading up to and including Patriot Day. If you are looking for a shorter read, check out *A Time of Gifts* by the late Stephen Jay Gould, published just days after the Twin Towers were hit.

Related Link: Date Idea: Explore Love on a Road Trip

Participating in these date idea activities with your significant other will deepen your relationship and love. Connecting over issues you both believe in will draw you together and make your partnership stronger. Seeing your partner interact with a young child, sick patient, or the elderly will give you a better understanding of their values. Before volunteering, make sure you and significant other are on the same page and have similar goals and expectations for the day.

How will you honor 9/11? Tell us below.

Date Idea: Kidnap Him!





By Emma L. Wells and Bonnie Griffin

Of course, we don't mean that you should *actually* kidnap your sweetheart! But a faux kidnapping surprise is a great way to spice up your relationship and love. This <u>date idea</u> is about catching him off guard and showing off your spontaneous side.

Be Romantic and Exciting With This Spontaneous Date Idea

Surprise your significant other in the morning by telling him you're kidnapping him for the day. He'll love how genuine and carefree you are. Just remember to stealthily check his schedule ahead of time and make sure that he doesn't have something important planned.

For this date idea, you should have a whole day filled with surprises for him. For starters, whisk him out of bed and take him to a big pancake breakfast for the two of you. Don't tell him ahead of time where else you're going; it's for you to know and him to find out!

Related Link: Date Idea: Mid-Year Resolutions

With this relationship advice, you'll be visiting some of your favorite past date spots. Think back on your relationship and the places you fell in love, then head out to the places that have significance for you as a couple. You can go to where you first met, where you had your first date or kiss, and where you first told each other "I love you." It will be very romantic to recall all those special moments together.

Related Link: Date Idea: One, Two, Walk in My Shoes

To make this weekend date idea even more exciting, consider adding a treasure hunt component. After you kidnap him in the morning, give him a set of clues that you and him will follow throughout the day. It's a great chance to test your riddle skills! Give the day some variety by not just visiting places but doing activities too. Stop at locations where you can do a project or play a game together.

Related Link: <u>Relationship Advice: How to Approach Social</u> <u>Media Post-Breakup</u>

This date idea is great for seeing how far you've come as a couple as well as all of the possibilities you have for the future. After your spontaneous day, have a relaxed and romantic candlelight dinner waiting at home and end this date on the right note.

What kind of spontaneous date ideas have you planned? Tell us below!

Date Idea: Homemade Smoothies





By Sarah Batcheller and Mara Miller

It's hot outside, and you and your beau have exhausted every effort to bare the record-breaking heat. One thing you may not have tried, though, is a day inside blending together your favorite ingredients to concoct the perfect smoothies. All you need for this <u>date idea</u> is a blender and your favorite fruits. A day well-spent indoors this summer is just what the two of you need to wind down and cool off!

Check out Cupid's best relationship advice for beating the summer heat

with this date idea!

Smoothies are fantastic because they're an easy and delicious homemade treat. Whether you have a sweet tooth or you're a health nut, there are dozens of smoothie recipes out there for you. The Food Network has listed fifty of their own, and you're bound to find more as you search. You can stick to traditional strawberry banana, or you can try your hand at more unique recipes. SimplyArtisanal.com has some very fun ideas that are sure to "wow" your lover like vanilla fig and Don't peach fuzzv navel. be shv about blending different recipes; the whole point is to stay in and try something new!

Related Link: Mexican Cooking Classes: Spice Up Date Night

Half the fun of this weekend date idea is in the preparation. Pick out your favorite recipes; make a list of everything you'll need; and hit the grocery store. It doesn't matter if you're on a budget or willing to splurge — you can find something that fits your desires. If the two of you want to challenge each other, split up at the grocery store and pick out your favorite ingredients. Follow this relationship advice and surprise your partner's taste buds with your creation!

Related Link: Frugal Foodies: How to Save on Dining Out

You and your partner can even have a contest to see who can come up with the best recipe. For added fun, create categories like "most original", "best tasting", or "most disgusting." Then, the date will be more about the time you're spending together and less about the actual smoothies (not that we're against that). If you're turning the smoothie-making into a day-long event, you'll want to remember to make small portions each time so that you can both try them all!

What is the best smoothie recipe you've ever made? Tell us in

Date Idea: A Day at Sea





By Sarah Batcheller and Mara Miller

Embrace the other elements with your cutie and spend a day exploring the ocean. This weekend date idea can include so many different activities at sea, including jet skiing, scuba diving or snorkeling, and sailing. Being out in the vast water and so far away from dry land will allow you two to really indulge in some alone time. Consider this relationship and love advice and make a day out of conquering the great, blue sea!

Get ready for this ocean-inspired date idea!

Jet skiing is a fantastic option because it's highly accessible. There are tons of companies on every beach. Once you've found one that matches your budget, make an appointment. After you arrive, the instructors will have you sign a waiver and take a short safety course. Then, you can strap on your life jacket and head to the shore, where they'll help you enter the water. If you want to compete with your lover, you can rent two jet skis or if you want to get cozy, rent one to share. Either way, you'll be able to venture further out into the ocean than you have ever before.

Related Link: Date Idea: Beach and Beyond

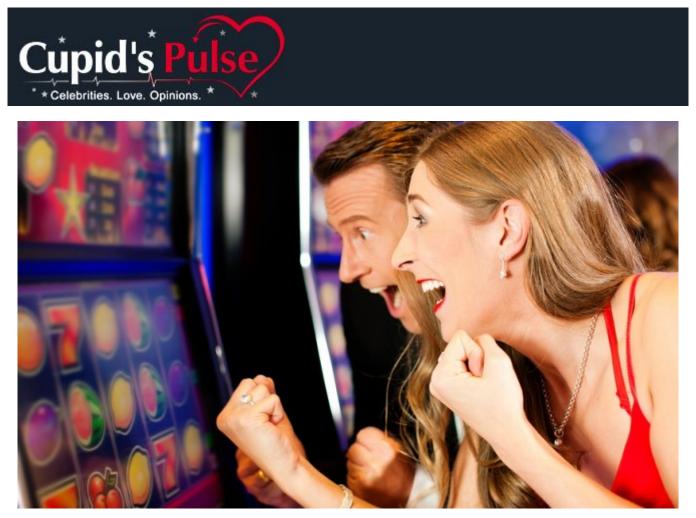
In order to partake in deep-sea scuba diving, you have to take lessons and be licensed. This is always an exciting date idea, but if you're just going out for a day at the beach, you may want to opt for some snorkeling instead. You can purchase snorkeling equipment at many sporting goods or department stores, and from there, all you'll need is your ability to swim! Underneath the pier is a great place to snorkel, as a lot of sea critters gather there. You can also bring your snorkel right offshore where you'd normally swim and take a gander at what's lurking around your feet.

Related Link: Date Idea: Bring the Beach to You

If you or a friend owns a sailboat, then use this weekend date idea to spend the day lounging on the deck with your sweetie. You can even make it a couples date and invite your best friends. Boating is not only exciting, but it provides an escape from everything back on solid land. Pack some food and drinks, and you'll be able to stay out there all day!

What's your favorite way to explore the ocean? Tell us about it in the comments below!

Date Idea: Enjoy a Secret Sunset



By Sarah Batcheller and Mara Miller

When we think of iconic images of romance, we often visualize the sunset. The soft glow of the sun going down and blanketing us in darkness makes us want to cuddle up close to the one we love. If you want to plan an unforgettable summer date night and show how much you love your partner without having to spend a dime, just follow this <u>dating advice</u> and find a peaceful spot to enjoy the sunset together.

Enjoy a beautiful sunset on this summer date night!

For this weekend date idea, finding a place to watch the sunset gives you the option of staying close to home or traveling to a more unfamiliar place. After all, who doesn't love a good road trip to the beach? Wherever you decide to go, you may enjoy the melody of crickets, the twinkle of fireflies, or the sound of the waves washing away all your worries. At the end of the day (literally), you're there to enjoy the mystifying view of your side of the world turning away from the sun. We can already envision the silhouette of that perfect kiss with your love!

Related Link: Date Idea: Dance the Night Away

Since darkness will impede on your ability to see during your date night, bring along some things that will ignite your other senses. Pack a picnic and enjoy a delicious dinner for two with no interruptions. This also gives you the opportunity to create some homemade masterpieces together before you head to your special spot. Bring speakers to play your favorite music while you dance the night away. To make the occasion even more special, create a playlist of songs that you've dedicated to your one true love. If you're able to, light a bonfire and cuddle up in its warmth. If a little ambiance is all your looking for, bring along some tea light candles to set the mood.

Related Link: <u>10 Great Date Ideas Under \$50</u>

The good thing about the sunset is that it happens every day, so if spontaneity is your way of life, you can grab your babe and go catch the view any day you please. This date idea requires no planning or research – all you need is the desire to have a magical night. You could even make it into a tradition: It can be your way of commemorating the start of summer or a weekly date until it gets too chilly. Maybe you'll even fall asleep and wake up for the sunrise! Whatever you decide, Mother Nature's wheels will always be turning.

Where is your favorite spot to enjoy the sunset? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Idea: See Sparks Fly





By Sarah Batcheller and Mara Miller

"See sparks fly" isn't just an old idiom or part of a Taylor Swift song — we're talking about the Fourth of July! What else turns up the heat more than celebrating our country's independence? If you think you see fireworks every time you kiss your loved one or look into their eyes, then how about turning that dreamlike state into reality and finding the best fireworks in town for tomorrow's special holiday? Watching fireworks bursting is invigorating, so use this weekend <u>date</u> <u>idea</u> to share it with the person who makes you feel most alive!

Indulge in this Fourth of July date idea!

The Travel Channel determined the best fireworks displays in the country, so if your city landed a spot on this list, grab a blanket and head out to see the show. Many flock to the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., to celebrate our country's big day, and if you wanted to get especially festive on this date idea, you could book a Potomac River cruise. Even if your city isn't on this list, we all love to cuddle up with our boo, so wherever you go, you're bound to feel the magic. If your heart so desires a road trip to make the day even more monumental, just be sure to plan everything in advance.

Related Link: Celebrity Couples Who Love Fourth of July

You'll want to arrive at the fireworks location ahead of time to claim a good spot. After all, there aren't many people who stay home on this glorious day! That being said, choose a quiet area where there will be less hustle and bustle – it's not like you won't be able to see the fireworks! Just make sure a monument or skyscraper isn't blocking your view, and you'll be good to go. Because you're arriving early, remember this dating advice and pack properly as well. Bring insect repellent, water, snacks, and games to keep you entertained.

Related Link: <u>5 Creative Fourth of July Proposals</u>

If you're the after-party type, there's sure to be plenty to do when the fireworks are over. If you want to get really

festive, dress up in your best red, white, and blue outfits and find a bar that really speaks to your wilder side. Rooftop spots are especially popular since everyone's eyes are looking toward the sky already. This is a day for everyone to celebrate, so let loose with the one who makes every day as romantic as it can be!

What is your favorite thing to do with your partner on the Fourth of July? Share your best dating advice in the comments below!

Love Advice: Old-Fashioned Summer Fun





By <u>Sarah Batcheller</u> and Mara Miller

When you were a kid, there was nothing like summertime: no school for two months, water balloon fights, the classic Slip 'N Slide, and frequent pool days. Just because you're older now doesn't mean you and your boo can't enjoy some throwback fun! Follow this <u>dating advice</u> to enjoy all the summer activities you reveled in as a child.

Check out this fun summertime date idea!

Water balloon fights are an excellent activity for a big group, so get your honey to grab his friends while you invite yours and initiate a water war on this weekend date idea. Pinterest has tons of ideas for planning an epic water fight, so all you need is a good-sized backyard and the will to clean up all the balloon scraps when you're done! Water balloon fights are the perfect opportunity for the two of you to be extra flirty as well. Take advantage of the constant surprise attacks and your sexy, soaking wet man! **Related Link:** <u>Relationship Advice: Should You Elope?</u>

Slip 'N Slides may have been the token summer toy in the 90's, but they're still for sale. All kinds of Slip 'N Slides can be found on Amazon. They make a great gift, so you can surprise your lover with one and then put it to good use. Chances are, you'll start reminiscing about the fun times you had playing on a Slip 'N Slide as a kid, which will make for an especially romantic date. Don't fret if it's rainy outside: The Slip 'N Slide is fun in the mud too!

Related Link: Date Idea: Spend an Intimate Night Indoors

Let your inner child come out to play when you follow this love advice and visit your neighborhood pool. Sunbathing is fun, but laying there in silence next to your partner isn't as exciting as a splash fight or ordering ice cream cones from the snack bar. Indulge in all the things you would've enjoyed when you were younger, and you'll both be overcome with giggles — which we all know is *the* way to bond. If you want to spend the entire day at the pool, pack a picnic, books, and water guns. You'll never have a moment to be bored!

What were your favorite childhood summer activities? Tell us in the comments below!

Dating Advice: Plan a City Scavenger Hunt





By Amanda Boyer and Mara Miller

If you're looking for a fun and active date idea, head into the city for a new adventure! Instead of doing the same old thing — shopping followed by dinner and a movie — change it up. A scavenger hunt is a perfect way to get to know your hometown even more. To turn this <u>relationship advice</u> into a competition, invite your friends and their partners to join you.

Follow This Dating Advice to Plan a Scavenger Hunt!

Look online for lists of items to search for during your scavenger hunt. Sites like Pinterest have great ideas that are catered to specific cities. If you want to get even more creative, you can combine different lists and make your own. You could even focus on a specific theme, like cultural activities or historical spots.

Related Link: Dating Advice: 5 Online Dating Tips to Start the

New Year Right

On the day of the event, assign certain items from the list to each couple. For this weekend date idea, distribute the lists and make sure each couple has a camera to document their finds. To give you and your partner an advantage, make sure you have a GPS and map. To be even more prepared, bring extra batteries for your camera and portable chargers for your phones in case of emergencies. Be sure to pick a place and time to meet up in a few hours too!

Related Link: Dating Advice: How to Make Summer Love Last

During your time in the city, don't just complete everything on your list; create memories too. Stop and take pictures together at fun areas around town. Hold hands and reminisce about your relationship and love. Once the hunt is over and you've met back up with your friends, share your findings over dinner and drinks.

Have you ever planned a scavenger hunt with your love? Tell us your best relationship advice below!

Date Idea: Rain, Rain, Come Out and Play





By Amanda Boyer and Mara Miller

Sure, it's tempting to snuggle up and stay in bed all day when April showers roll around. Instead of having a lazy, moviefilled afternoon, follow this <u>relationship advice</u>: Grab your rain jacket and colorful rubber boots, and head outside with your loved one to have fun *without* the sun. You can take a stroll to your favorite coffee shop and then warm up with a hot chocolate.

Check out this rainy day date idea!

To really embrace the rain, create a water park in your backyard. Put your bathing suit on, set-up a Slip N Slide, and turn those sprinklers on. If you don't have any water toys available, play an old-fashioned game of tag. During this weekend date idea, be careful not to slip on the wet grass and muddy ground! If you really want to get messy, add body paint to the equation and have a color war as the rain and sprinklers splash you and your beau. See who ends up with the most colors on their tie-dyed skin. **Related Link:** <u>Kim Kardashian Hopes the Rain Doesn't Ruin Her</u> <u>Wedding</u>

If you prefer not to get so dirty, consider this love advice and go for a swim instead. Walk to your neighborhood pool, and take turns doing your craziest jumps off of the diving board. Pool & Spa Outdoors has a lot of games ideas that you can do with your honey as the rain comes down! Plus, the setting will be so romantic that you can't help but sneak in a smooch or two. Stay safe, and head back inside at the first sign of lightning or thunder.

Related Link: Date Idea: Be a Sweetheart

You can document your rainy day date by taking pictures. Newer iPhone and Android models are now waterproofed so you don't have to worry about ruining your phone. You can print out your favorite photo and frame it for your living room. It'll be a constant reminder of this fun-filled date — and the next time that you're faced with a rainy day, you won't even *want* to stay indoors!

Cupid wants to know: How do you and your honey embrace a rainy day? Share your comments below.

Date Idea: Build a Fort





By Amanda Boyer and Mara Miller

If it's too rainy for outdoor camping or if you're just not the nature-loving type, you can still enjoy a day in a fort, thanks to this weekend <u>date idea</u>! It's time to bring back some childhood memories and create an indoor hideaway for you and your honey.

Indulge in this date idea, and built a fort!

First, make sure you have an area large enough to build your fort. Try the basement or family room and make sure there aren't huge pieces of furniture that may impede your progress. After all, you won't want to be crammed in a small space and be uncomfortable! If available, you could make your tent on a screened-in porch or patio for a little bit of fresh air.

Related Link: Rent a Cabin in the Snow

After you select your location for this date idea, gather the items you need to build your hideaway. Using chairs and

tables, you can create a sturdy base to structure your masterpiece around. For the cover of your fort, use sheets and blankets. Grab some chip clips from the kitchen to keep them secured to the chairs and tables. You may even need weights to hold them in place. Now, take a step back and admire your handy work!

Related Link: Go Camping or Glamping

To continue following this dating advice, fill the inside with blankets and pillows. If there's enough room, add a blow-up mattress too. To give your secret spot a romantic feel, you can spray your favorite perfume and add some rose petals as a finishing touch. Stay away from candles, though, since your sheets could potentially fall at any time.

Finally, you need to grab the essentials to keep you entertained throughout the day: snacks, your iPad, a deck of cards, your favorite book, magazines, etc. Leave your phone in another room and just focus on your relationship. Enjoy bonding with your partner and relaxing in your new spot.

Have you ever made a secret hideaway with your love? Share your relationship advice below!

Date Idea: Garage Sale





By Ann Luther and Mara Miller

This weekend, embrace the traditional activity of spring cleaning and host a garage sale together. For this date idea, advertise throughout your community to get rid of all of the clutter in your homes to make way for the new memories you'll create together. Throwing away, giving away, or selling the items that made up your past says to your partner that you're ready for your future as a couple. It's tough to let go, but you're not using all that old stuff for a reason and if this task seems impossible, you can always hire a <u>home cleaning</u> <u>service</u> to help!

Do Some Spring Cleaning With This Weekend Date Idea

Cleaning out your closet can be fun too! Put on a fashion show before you get rid of out of date clothing. You and your beau can laugh at all of those oh-so-wrong statements you made. You can also give your partner a look into the life you lived before you met him, which is another special thing to share. If you're thinking of moving in together, follow this <u>expert</u> <u>dating advice</u>: Make a list of all the essentials you both have at your respective residences. You won't need two things like vacuums, brooms, dust pans, dish drying racks, tool boxes, shower curtains, and sets of pots and pans. Keep the best of everything (just like you do in your relationship!), be rid of the rest, and make enough money to go to a fancy restaurant after the garage sale is over.

Related Link: Date Idea: Redecorate

This weekend date idea allows you to soak up the magnificent weather by getting out and plastering your town with flyers about your garage sale. You might make a competition out of it: See who can post flyers down either side of the block faster. Post a picture of the winner and the flyer on social media to advertise your sale and to show off your happy relationship to your friends and family. To further your sale's exposure, Garagesalestracker.com is a great forum to inform the surrounding areas that you'll be open for business.

Related Link: Date Idea: Personal Spring Cleaning

On the afternoon of the sale, bring out some speakers and a bottle of wine to make the long day more bearable. The fun atmosphere will bring more people to your lawn, and you can dance with your man in between transactions. Whatever you don't sell, you can donate to Goodwill, The Salvation Army, or another charitable organization. Thanks to this love advice, when the day is done, you'll have more space, more money, and more fun memories.

Have you ever gotten rid of junk to make space for your partner? Share your stories below.

Date Idea: Bookworms





By Ann Luther and Mara Miller

This weekend, get lost in the romantic words of others and embrace the tender sentiments of the great writers with your great relationship and love. With this date idea, you and your partner can get out and explore your favorite authors, your city, and your passion for one another.

Enjoy Books About Love With This Literary Date Idea

Take a walk to your local bookstore with your beau, a stack of Post-it notes, and a pen. Write notes of love, encouragement, or dating advice until your hands cramp up. While you're writing, exchange ideas with each other — you might learn something new about your man's perspective on adoration. Then, hide these notes in your favorite books about love for a future reader to find later. You might even sneak into the teen section of the store and place them in books for the next generation of lovers.

While the pair of you are scanning the rows, try to find a romantic novel that neither of you has read yet. A few of the best so far in 2019 include: *Meet Cute* by Helena Hunting, *Verity* by Colleen Hoover, and *The Kiss Thief* by L.J. Shen. This will keep the date going long after the day is done. You might buy one copy and read it to each other, or you can buy two copies to read separately with the other person in mind. Whichever you choose, you'll have something new to talk about and share.

Related Link: Date Idea: Plan A Walk Around Town

Few things go better with reading than coffee. Delocator.net is a fabulously easy way to find independently owned and run businesses in your area. Once you've settled into your seats in an intimate coffee shop, pull out a book of sweet love poems. Grab your darling's hand and read those poems aloud. Your honey will love to hear all of those romantic notions straight from your lips! You can check this list of the top 10 love poem books before you go and choose a few that speak to you.

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Write A Book</u>

If you'd prefer to stay in, you don't have to leave the comfort of your home for this date idea! You can make a pot of coffee or tea, and while it brews, hide love notes in every room for your partner to find. Then, the two of you can cuddle up on the couch with your mugs and poems and start the readings. It would be a perfect way to heat up a rainy day.

Sometimes, we get too afraid to let all of the emotion in the books we read to take over our own relationships and love. This weekend, let go of all apprehension and have fun with romance!

Have you ever been on a bookstore date? Share your stories below.

Date Idea: Plant Some Roots





By Ann Luther and Mara Miller

Spring has sprung! Flowers are blooming everywhere — and so are your feelings for your partner. Take advantage of this beautiful season with this weekend date idea. You can plant seeds in the ground *and* each other's hearts!

Plant a Garden for This Weekend Date Idea

Go for a drive with the windows down and hunt the neighborhood for inspiration for your garden to follow this <u>relationship</u> <u>advice</u>. You can check out the lawn of other residents, hanging baskets in front of local storefronts, and the wild vegetation peeking out everywhere you turn. You might even try going to a nearby park and taking a stroll. The park will be full of blossoming flowers, native grasses, and intricate landscaping. Before you leave, stop and pick up a dandelion, make a wish for you and your lovebird, and blow!

Related Link: First Date Outfit Ideas: Outdoor Festivals

On this date idea, you can pick out plants based on their meanings and what you want your garden to convey. Jasmine signifies eternal love, and agrimony flowers stand for thankfulness. Coriander is a sign of lust, while sweet peas smell fantastic and symbolize gratitude. Oxeye daisies are lovely representations of patience. With a little research and the right intentions, you can create a garden that ushers in much more than beauty into your lives.

Once you and your beau are fully inspired, learn which plants grow best in your area. Provenwinner.com is a great resource for area-determinant gardening. Then, it's off to the local gardening store for you two! Stock up on all the supplies you'll need— like shovels, gloves, potting soil, and, of course, whatever seeds or plants you picked out. Be sure to pick up some pretty pots to add a bit of color to your front porch too!

Related Link: <u>10 End-of-Summer Date Ideas</u>

If none of the pots fit your fancy, purchase normal clay pots and make a quick trip to the craft store for some acrylic paint and a few paint brushes on the way home. Get to gardening, but before you start on the potted plants, take your paint and brushes and decorate the pots! You can paint hearts or design something more abstract. It doesn't have to be precise; it just has to be colorful. On the bottom of the pots, paint the date to make sure you'll never forget.

Take your time today. Enjoy the sun, the breeze, and your relationship and love. Winter felt like it lasted forever, and summer will be here in no time, so bask in the beautiful weather of the spring. As the seasons roll on, you'll have your sweet garden to remind you of this weekend date idea.

Have you ever planned a gardening date? Share your stories below!

Date Idea: Explore Love on a Road Trip





By <u>Sarah Batcheller</u> and <u>Mara Miller</u>

After a stressful week, you just want to unwind and spend quality time with your partner. So pack a light bag, jump in the car, and head out on a road trip! Taking to the open road is bound to be an experience to remember; it's a great way to spend quality time together and explore your relationship and love. It shouldn't take too much planning, but in order to enjoy your journey, there are a few things you need to keep in mind.

Road Trip Your Way to a Stronger Relationship and Love

The first step is to choose a few destinations. For this date idea, you and your partner should select places not too far or too close to home. One great idea is to visit a popular city in your state or a neighboring state. If you don't have any preferences, ask friends who have been on road trips. It's always a great idea to get dating advice and personal recommendations from your loved ones — that way, you can also get information on the best places to eat, lodge, and just have a good time!

Related Link: Bring the Beach to You

Deciding where to go has a lot to do with you and your boo's personalities. If you're music junkies, you might want to hit up Nashville, Tennessee. Or maybe you're history buffs, and you want to see the marvelous Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Your chosen spot depends on the kind of romance you want to stir up as well. You may want to pick a place that's known for its party scene or somewhere with a beautiful, breathtakinglysilent landscape.

Once the destination has been chosen, it's time to get your suitcase out. Several items you should take with you on this weekend date idea are music you both enjoy, a GPS or map, books, snacks, drinks, a first aid kit, some clothes (be sure to check the weather!), and cash or credit card.

Related Link: Rent a Cabin for the Weekend

In order to enjoy the road trip and make the most of your relationship and love, give yourself sufficient time to check out your destination spot as well as places you pass through. Take pictures and keep receipts as souvenirs. With these tips and the right planning, you'll be ready to take another road trip next weekend!

Do you have any suggestions about road tripping with your sweetheart? Share with our readers by commenting below.