

R For Romance



Spa-ing is the new fine dining. Head to a romantic spa destination this Valentine's Day for a very different date

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Whether it's Valentine's Day, popping the question or a honeymoon; whatever the romantic occasion, a pamper-perfect spa is the place to head to. Here are some of the world's best romantic spa destinations for those travelling Cupid class.



THE DORCHESTER SPA, LONDON

The Valentine season peppering you up or the London weather giving you the blues; whatever your reason, this spa is truly for every season! A glamorous boutique spa with nine treatment rooms (two of which are for couples), this is the place to go for a sure-fire V-day beauty boost rather than a full day of spa lounging, as there are no thermal facilities. The bijou Spatisserie is an adorable place to meet a girlfriend for lunch or an afternoon cake. The feel is very Golden Age movie star glam – and you'll come out of your treatment looking every inch the A-list ready to charm your knight in shining beauty armor!

LUCKNAM PARK, WILTSHIRE

If you are the type whom the countryside beckons, look no further. Surprise the one you love with an indulgent escape in the most romantic setting of Lucknam Park Hotel and Spa, a classic English country house near the beautiful city of Bath, just 90 minutes from London. Romance is never far from wellbeing. So the hotel combines the two in the most blissful ways, allowing couples to indulge in their Winter Indulgence offer, specifically designed for V-day celebrations. There is pink champagne and a red rose in your room on arrival, a three course dinner in the Michelin starred restaurant, The Park, on one evening and an a la carte dinner for two in the contemporary and stylish Brasserie, on the other. You can also enjoy a delicious Wiltshire cream tea for two. Recuperate in the afternoons with treatments in the newly-revamped spa set inside the house's walled gardens. Don't miss the Anne Semonin Herbal Pumice Oil Body Experience and the Soothing Remedy Facial.



ATLANTIS, THE PALM, DUBAI

Create a memorable experience with your loved one this Valentine's Day at Atlantis, The Palm. Celebrate love with a variety of offerings – from a romantic dinner at Ossiano with mesmerizing views of the Ambassador Lagoon, to a private and intimate dinner in the comfort of your room. If you are planning a little rest and relaxation with your loved one, ShuiQi Spa & Fitness at Atlantis is offering The Couples Indulgence Signature Treatment comprising of three hours of pure luxury in the Royal Spa Suite. The suite offers a lounge area, which flows into beautifully-appointed treatment rooms, a private terrace and an oval jetted pedestal tub. The Couples Indulgence Signature Treatment is a gift to the senses, which incorporates a cleansing ceremony with a combination of different massage techniques joined with the power of aromatherapy oils and the healing of Hawaiian Lomi Lomi with traditional Chinese acupressure techniques. A perfect spalicious V-day!





ONE&ONLY, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

So you are an adventureholic and want to pop the question in the most unusual way! One&Only Cape Town offers you plenty of choices to make her say, 'I do!' From the decadence of a Champagne sunset cruise on the hotel's private yacht, to a private proposal at The One, the resort's exclusive penthouse, a Spa Couples Suite package, a private table for two at the outdoor Yoga Pavilion, a romantic turndown including Champagne and the cutest 'Word Scramble' cupcake surprise where individually lettered sweet bakes unveil the very important question. One&Only, Cape Town will ensure you enjoy this magical moment of a lifetime.

LANDMARK MANDARIN ORIENTAL, HONG KONG

Love is in the air all this month and you are probably wondering where to whisk her away for a romantic celebration. The Landmark Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong is the perfect answer for a romantic escape. The Valentine's Romance Package at the hotel includes chocolates, a romantic dinner for two at Michelin-starred restaurant, Amber, and the chance to win a stay at the newly-opened Mandarin Oriental, Paris. Additional add-ons to complete this romantic interlude include Champagne, luxurious spa indulgences and a spectacular helicopter ride over Hong Kong's famed Victoria Harbour – all of which can be arranged at an additional cost.



CHI: THE SPA, SHANGRI-LA'S BARR AL JISSAH RESORT & SPA, MUSCAT, OMAN

If your hectic schedule prevents you from going someplace far, jet off to The Spa, Shangri-La's Barr Al Jissah Resort & Spa, Muscat, Oman and rekindle your romance. Earthy tones and an aromatic ambience make for an Arabian Nights' romance like no other. Here, opulent spa villas are used as treatment rooms, complete with spacious relaxation areas that include a private garden patio and a garden rain shower. Guests can enjoy the experience of the unique CHI Water Oasis, featuring a vitality hydro pool, herbal steam room, tundra and tropical showers, as well as an ice fountain.



THE SPA AT THE HOTEL HERSHEY, HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA

The street lamps are kisses oversized replicas of the famous foil-covered variety. Oh, and – take a deep breath – the whole town smells like chocolate!!! With its manicured gardens, fountains and reflecting pools, Hotel Hershey is a delicious center for a romantic resort. Its European-style spa is the ground zero for indulgence.

The signature treatment

It's patented, no less – says it all: a whipped cocoa bath. Or say, for instance, that you or your partner has been less than delectable lately; you can book a chocolate fondue wrap for two. It consists of body-brushing, applications of warmed moor mud with cocoa essence, and Vichy shower rinses. Voilà – sweeties again!

The spa's locale is provincial, but the ambiance and treatments are disarmingly exotic. A Moroccan-inspired lounge evokes the interior of a harem tent. The Noche Azul soak (a calming bath containing Cuba's national flower, 'la mariposa blanca', or white butterfly jasmine) and the mojito sugar scrub (an exfoliating tropical body experience), transport couples, if only in spirit, to the paradise called Cuba.



TRISARA, PHUKET

Trisara simply oozes romance and is definitely the best romantic resort in Phuket. Who can resist the stunning sunset views from these private pool villas set into a verdant tropical hillside, the attention to detail and the lushness of a huge soft bed with sensual music in the background? Cupid's victims can choose from among the 33 pool villas and 12 villa homes, all of which face the Andaman Sea, and many are on the resort's private beach. In-villa dining ensures privacy and if you choose to dine out at this top-end resort, the atmosphere is one of complete discretion. Trisara makes love easy.



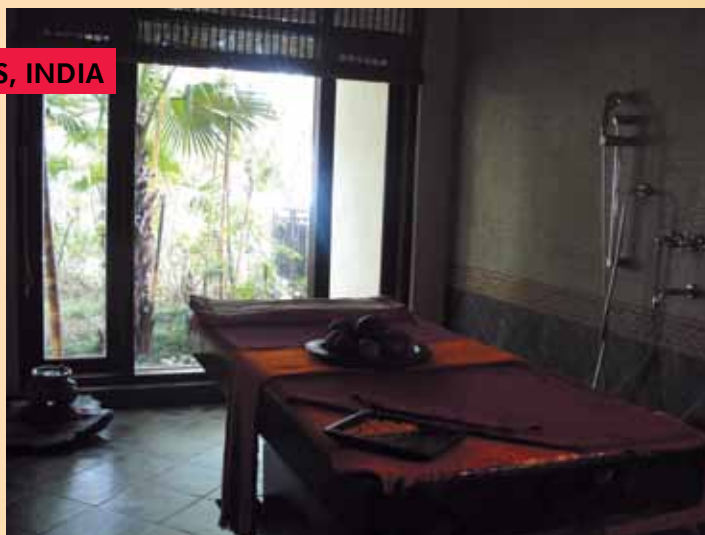


**METROPOLE ESPA,
HÔTEL METROPOLE MONTE-CARLO, MONACO**

If you are looking for a fairy tale V-day celebration, look no further. Check into Hotel Metropole Monte Carlo. The hotel's exclusive urban spa, Metropole ESPA, offers a spot of perfect tranquility in the midst of Monte-Carlo's hustle and bustle. Its flagship 'Heat Experience' treatment is among the draws that will keep you cozy and cuddled up in the arms of your Valentine.

ANANDA IN THE HIMALAYAS, INDIA

That time of the year is here again, when your Valentine is probably dropping broad hints for you to pick up the gauntlet and plan a trip for two, somewhere far, exotic and most importantly, where romance is literally in the air. Together, heal your mind and body at one of the world's best modern Ayurvedic spas, Ananda in the Himalayas. With 2,400 sq metres of spa facilities and 80 treatments blending Ayurveda with Western therapies, this destination spa is the place to spend Cupid's day. Get a romantic body massage, relax your mind with yoga, meditation, unwind in the steam room and lounge by the pool – all surrounded by a picturesque Himalayan view. Don't miss the Himalayan Experience massages, facials, body scrubs and masks using indigenous ingredients such as ginger and rose. Indulge and get pampered!



MYRAH SPA, MUMBAI



If you're bored with the usual dinner out on Valentine's Day, try getting pampered at a luxury spa instead. Myrah Spa makes the perfect romantic getaway for Valentine's Day. Be spoilt for choice and treat your sweetheart to their Cupid-approved spa packages. Indulge in a romantic flower bath in your own sunken bathtub or Jacuzzi, or get a sensual partner massage. Scented candles, aromatic oils, orchids, wine and tranquil music – all of which create an unforgettable setting. Perfect for relaxation, rejuvenation and indulgence!