

TOP 10. Romantic GETAWAYS

A couples-only
escape to unexpected
dreamy destinations

By Katherine Diaz

Nothing richens relationships more than creating some special time to be together! Plan a dreamy getaway with the one you love to any of these top 10 romantic destinations. Each one includes suggestions about where to stay, which couples-only adventure to try, where to enjoy a candlelit dinner and many other idyllic ideas for two who are true.

1 Embassy Suites Niagara Falls, Fallsview Hotel in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

For any competition to determine the ultimate romantic destination, Niagara Falls is sure to be in the running. The Embassy Suites Niagara Falls – Fallsview Hotel sits just 100 yards from the water's edge and features four-diamond suites, each with a heart stopping, wall-to-wall view of the falls. If this is a really special getaway, you can arrange for your own personal fireworks display, right over Niagara Falls! With champagne delivered to your suite, rose petals strewn across your pillow and chocolate-covered strawberries placed bedside, no one will fault you if you don't leave your room at all! But if you do, this hotel sits in the center of the Fallsview Tourist District. Choose from a number of fun attractions, great shopping and fine restaurants.

Book an FA Hideaway: Embassy Suites Niagara Falls – Fallsview Hotel, 800.420.6980, EmbassySuitesNiagaraFalls.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: Tours of Niagara Falls, 888.488.2074, ToursOfNiagaraFalls.com

Add a Table for Two: The Keg Steakhouse & Bar, 905.374.5170, FallsviewRestaurant.com

Airport: Niagara District Airport (CYSN), 905.684.7447, NiagaraDistrictAirport.ca

2 - Audrie's Bed and Breakfast in Rapid City, South Dakota

You're staying in a log cabin, surrounded by thousands of acres of National Forest, at a bed and breakfast that caters only to couples. You may find plenty of reasons to never stick your nose outside (each has its own private hot tub, for example), but if you want some great adventures, this rugged romantic tryst into the Black Hills is predictably perfect. Wander hand-in-hand through creek-carved canyons, see iconic landmarks, like Mount Rushmore or the Crazy Horse monument, then close your eyes and smell the intoxicating fragrance of ponderosa pines. You may have to call in sick an extra few days just to get it all in!

Book an FA Hideaway: Audrie's Bed and Breakfast, 605.342.7788, AudriesBB.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: Explore America's national treasures with the Black Hills National Parks and Monuments Package, 800.487.3223, VisitRapidCity.com

Add a Table for Two: Circle B Ranch, 800.403.7358, Circle-B-Ranch.com

Airport: Rapid City Regional (RAP), 605.393.9924, RCGov.org



FA FACTOID

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Rapid City, S.D., gets more sunny days – 111 to be exact – than Miami (74 days) and Honolulu (90 days).



3 - Sundance Resort in Sundance, Utah

Leave it to Robert Redford to develop one of the most sought-after romantic spots in the country. His Sundance Resort integrates with the spectacular mountain environment, including rough-hewn wood, warm tones and Native American accents, and is especially environmentally friendly. If you'd like an alternative to the resort's buffet of opportunities and activities, take an art workshop at the Sundance Art Shack or wander the 40-mile, 7.5-hour, self-guided Art, American and Ancestors tour. Like you'll have trouble finding things to do at Sundance!

Book an FA Hideaway: Sundance Resort, 800.892.1600, SundanceResort.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: Art, Americana and Ancestors Itinerary tour, 801.851.2100, UtahValley.org

Add a Table for Two: Chef's Table, 801.235.9111, ChefsTable.net

Airport: Provo Municipal Airport (PVU), 801.852.6715, Provo.org/Airport_Plan.Main.html



4 - AKA Virginia Square in Arlington, Virginia

Staying at the AKA Virginia Square hotel is more like having an apartment in the city than staying in a hotel. Select a loft-style one, two and three-bedroom suite with open concrete ceilings, hardwood floors, granite countertops, full-size washer and dryer, a separate shower and soaking tub in all suites. Of course, Arlington, Va., is a stone's throw from the hundreds of sites and destinations in our nation's capital, making this romantic destination hard to beat as a memory maker!

Book an FA Hideaway: AKA Virginia Square, 888.AKA.0310, HotelAKA.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: See an art exhibit at the Arlington Arts Center, 703.248.6800, ArlingtonArtsCenter.org

Add a Table for Two: Me Jana, 703.465.4440, Me-Jana.com

Airport: Ronald Reagan Washington National (DCA), 703.417.8000, MetWashAirports.com/National



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There are almost 200 public parks and playgrounds, 86 miles of biking and jogging trails, 14 community centers, nine live stage theaters and eight libraries in Arlington for visitors to enjoy.



5 - Wine Valley Inn & Cottages in Solvang, California

This place is cool! Stroll through the private gardens and koi ponds on the way to your cottage. Grab some bottles of local wine for your own in-room tasting or visit more than 40 acclaimed wineries, no more than a few minutes away and within walking distance. After the movie Sideways, the Dutch village of Solvang with its 150 unique shops has continued to peg the romantic destination meter for couples across the nation. Great wine, great romance.

Book an FA Hideaway: Wine Valley Inn & Cottages, 800.824.6444, WineValleyInn.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: Wine tasting Zaca Mesa Winery & Vineyard, 805.688.9339, ZacaMesa.com

Add a Table for Two: Hadsten House Restaurant, 800.457.5373, HadstenHouse.com (1 block from Wine Valley Inn)

Airport: Santa Ynez Valley Airport (IZA), 805.688.8390, SantaYnezAirport.com



6 - The Westin St. Francis in San Francisco, California

Stoke those burning romantic embers at the Westin St. Francis in San Francisco. With the iconic backdrop of the Golden Gate Bridge, Union Square and iconic cable cars, this historic hotel is not only famous for its luxurious accommodations – but also for its food. Ever since 1904, when St. Francis' then-chef Victor Hirtzler helped put San Francisco on the culinary world stage with his creative and tantalizing dishes, the St. Francis continues its high standards of epicurean excellence with the addition of Michelin two-star chef Michael Mina's restaurant. Set in the stunning, historic lobby, Michael Mina Restaurant showcases spectacular American cuisine highlighting seasonal fare and San Fran's specialty dish—seafood. The innovative menu includes succulent crab, ahi tuna tartar and lobster pot pie—all celebrating the wonderful flavors of the San Francisco Bay.

Book an FA Hideaway: The Westin St. Francis, 800.WESTIN.1, WestinStFrancis.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: Biking on Golden Gate Bridge, 415.455.2000, GoldenGateBridge.org

Add a Table for Two: Fish & Farm, 415.474.FISH, FishAndFarmSF.com

Airport: Metropolitan Oakland International (OAK), 510.563.3300, FlyOakland.com

7 - Hilton Garden Inn Tri-Cities / Kennewick & Courtyard Marriott Richland in the Tri-Cities Area, Washington

Sometimes, the rhumb line of resplendent romance runs through an entire area, not just a single destination. Such is the case of the Tri-Cities area in Washington state. Comprising of the towns of Kennewick, Pasco and Richland, the region forms the Columbia Valley, where the Snake, Yakima and Columbia Rivers come together. The area's biggest romantic draw is its local premium wines, all grown at the heart of Washington's Wine Country – the Tri-Cities area. With more than 160 wineries within a 60-mile radius, the area has recently received nods from wine aficionados as the latest trend-setting wine region in the U.S. Remember to stop by at 360 Degrees Cellars, a destination vacation spot renowned in the Columbia Valley as having some of the most breathtaking panoramic views of the greater Tri-Cities area.

Book an FA Hideaway: Hilton Garden Inn Tri-Cities/Kennewick, 509.735.4600, HiltonGardenInn.com; and Courtyard Marriott Richland, 509.942.9401, RichlandMarriott.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: Private wine tasting at 360 Degrees Cellars, 509.783.3601, ThreeSixtyCellars.com

Add a Table for Two: Bin No. 20 Steak and Seafood Restaurant and Wine Bar, 509.547.0701, Bin20.com

Airports: Tri-Cities (PSC), 509.547.6352, PortOfPasco.org; Richland (RLD), 509.375.3060, WSDOT.WA.gov; and Vista Field (S98), 509.586.1186, PortOfKennewick.org

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The Tri-Cities area's mild weather, combined with its rich volcanic soils and controlled irrigation, produce near-perfect conditions for the Columbia Valley's premium wine grapes.



FA FACTOID

San Francisco has a colorful past, growing from a small village to a major city nearly overnight as a result of the 1849 Gold Rush.

8 - The Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, Colorado

The Broadmoor itself is a one-of-a-kind American attraction. If you're not in love when you go there, you surely will be when you leave! This classic resort is located on 3,000 lush acres under the shadow of Cheyenne Mountain and offers an award-winning spa, fitness center, two swimming pools, three outdoor hot tubs, one lap pool, 54 holes of championship golf, six tennis courts with camps run by Hall-of-Fame member Dennis Ralston, children's programs, 24-hour room service, valet parking and 25 specialty retail shops. The hotel offers a variety of romantic getaway prices, including deep discounts when you upgrade to a suite!

Book an FA Hideaway: The Broadmoor, 866.837.9520, Broadmoor.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: Sight-seeing via the Pike's Peak Cog Railway, 719.685.5401, CogRailway.com

Add a Table for Two: Briarhurst Manor Estate, 877.685.1448, Briarhurst.com

Airport: Colorado Springs Airport (COS), 719.550.1900, SpringsGov.com/AirportIndex.asp





9 - The Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada

No place in the northern hemisphere is more iconic as an ultimate romantic destination than The Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise on the banks of Lake Louise in Alberta, Canada. For more than 100 years, this ultra luxury hotel has attracted dignitaries, skiers, hikers, fishermen – and lovers. Now a part of the Fairmont Hotel organization, this is – perhaps – one of the most romantic places on Earth. You should not be surprised, then, to find out that the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise offers special accommodations for the passionate with Mountain Romance packages that include things like wine, chocolate and a bath treat. Like this place needs any help!

Book an FA Hideaway: The Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, 866.540.4413, Fairmont.com/LakeLouise

Add an Amorous Adventure: Sleigh rides with Brewster Lake Louise Stables, 800.691.5085, BrewsterAdventures.com

Add a Table for Two: The Bison Restaurant & Lounge, 403.762.5550, TheBison.ca

Airport: Calgary International (CYIC), 877.254.7427, YYC.com



10 - Hotel Hana-Maui in Hana, Maui, Hawaii

You might even ignore the complimentary champagne and chocolate in your room as you sit quietly and watch the mist roll in from the sea. If you can't find romance here, you may just be out of luck. Hana is the last undeveloped area in Hawaii, providing a complete escape for couples looking to enhance or rekindle a romance. A haven for celebrities, such as Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson and Woody Harrelson, Hana is the ultimate Hawaiian paradise, with lush greenery, waterfalls and tropical fruit trees dangling their exotic wares to anyone who passes by. For romantic dining with stunning views, head to Ka'uiki, a restaurant located off the lobby in the Hotel Hana-Maui that serves up a delectable fusion of Pacific Island and Hawaiian regional cuisine.

Book an FA Hideaway: Hotel Hana-Maui and Honua Spa, 808.248.8211, HotelHanaMaui.com

Add an Amorous Adventure: Hiking at Haleakala National Park, 808.572.4400, NPS.gov/Hale

Add a Table for Two: Ka'uiki, 800.321.4262, HotelHanaMaui.com

Airport: Hana (PHHN), 808.838.8701, www6.hawaii.gov

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The legendary road to Hana is only 52 miles from Kahului, but the drive takes anywhere from two to four hours to complete because of its 600 hairpin curves and 54 narrow, one-lane bridges.