

Food, Family & Tradition

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No Heartbreak Hotel Here

February 04, 2010 - Elyse Glickman, Jewish Exponent Feature

Every couple deserves a change of scenery and together time (minus the jobs, housework and the kids). Valentine's Day is the perfect excuse to do just that, especially if an anniversary is months away.



Give them Liberty ... Hotel, in Boston

Given the short, sweet duration of Valentine's Day weekend, however, nothing can kill the mood more effectively than airport hassles, luggage surcharges and delays. For some people, the pressure of putting together the perfect weekend can take all the fun out of the experience, especially if something ends up not going according to plan.

What's lovely about Philadelphia, however, is that you're within driving distance of some of America's most exciting destinations. And at those spots, several hotels do most of the thinking and planning so that romantic couples can simply live in the moment and, if they choose, fall in love all over again.

If you love New York, for example, Apple Core Hotels, a group of five moderately priced properties situated in the heart of Manhattan, offer you and the apple of your eye the chance to celebrate Valentine's Day anytime throughout February with "Sweet Escape" packages www.applecorehotels.com/promotions/sweetescape/index.cfm.

Right out of the gate, you get a well-appointed guest room, a bottle of champagne and rose petals sprinkled upon arrival.

From there, you've got location, location, location -- with easy access to the city's museums, Central Park, shopping and theater (and a short cab ride to the famous Jewish Museum, one of the world's best).

For those whose tastes and romantic desires tend to be a little more upscale, Hotel Gansevoort www.hotelgansevoort.com is a dream come true. The ultra-trendy, chic and



full-service urban resort in New York City's now red-hot Meatpacking District has spun a "Valentine's Day Indulgence Escape Package."

The package, now to Feb. 21, includes early check-in time, plus an indulgent raft of amenities to warm the heart and stir the soul.

Speaking of the games people play, there are plenty of ways to win in Atlantic City -- and without hitting the casino. If it's winning his or her heart over anew, you can do just that at the elegant, sprawling Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa and the Water Club www.theborgata.com, which offers as many ways to double down and double up on Valentine's Day.

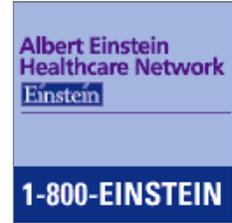
The "Sip, Shop & Smooch Package" includes lodging in a classic room at Borgata or a Club Room at the Water Club; champagne with chocolate strawberries; a \$50 credit for breakfast in bed, and a \$50 coupon to lingerie boutique La Perla or to the masculine Hugo Boss when a customer spends \$100 in either store.

While all is fair in love and romance among couples, the Borgata has not forgotten about those still single and sexy. The "Single and Fabulous" package offers a bit of decadence and a lot of extra-special amenities.

Boston offers a dignified and sophisticated way to celebrate. The Liberty Hotel (www.libertyhotel.com) was built in 1851 and served as the famed Charles Street Jail in its past life.

In this life, it exists for recreation and pleasure, especially with its proximity to Boston's Beacon Hill. During Valentine's Day weekend, the hotel offers packages for both kinds of lovers -- couples who want to explore the city's history, culture and nightlife; and couples who want to explore the great indoors in a room with a great view. u

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