

Rancho Santa Fe Record – Putting the Romance Back Into Life Article

(Editors Note: Michelle Koert, a Solana Beach resident, aspires to help the ³romantically challenged² as a romance concierge. That's an event planning and travel service she started from scratch. She has appeared frequently on KUSI and Fox morning shows and in magazines and newspapers with romantic event planning suggestions and advice. For more information, call (877) 962-7796 or visit www.romanceconcierge.net.)

Putting the romance back into life
By Michelle Koert

If we all discovered we only had five minutes left to say all the things we wanted to say, every cell phone would be occupied by people calling other people to tell them that they loved them. - Christopher Morley.

This is the mission behind my business. We spend too much time working in our offices and not enough time with the ones we love...

I worked in the corporate Information Technology world for 10 years, and needed a change. I wanted to do something more fulfilling and rewarding with my life. I've always been a romantic at heart, so I decided to take my hobby skills of Gemology, G.G. & Travel Consulting, CTA, and start a business that was romance focused.

It's wonderful to be involved with working with couples that are about to embark on a special time in their life, whether it is a proposal, and engagement, or wedding.

I coined the moniker, ³romance concierge², and own the federal trademark. A romance concierge helps create one of a kind romantic memorable moments. We specialize in designing hot dates, engagement proposals, destination weddings, birthdays, or just because you love them occasions.

Personalization is really the key. You want to make it personal and unique to you as a couple. Think about where you had your first kiss, where did you first meet, what are your passions?

I've put together two lists of romantic suggestions. The first with some suggestions for ladies wanting to romance their guys, the second for guys wanting to get in good graces with their ladies.

Top 10 romantic things to do for your husband or boyfriend:

1. Get tickets for the whole family to his favorite sports team. Maybe a Padres baseball, or a Chargers football game!
2. Rent a Harley Davidson for the day & tour together to Julian for a hike and homemade apple pie.
3. Make a Picnic or have a BBQ for the whole family at the beach on La Jolla Coves. A great grassy picnic spot overlooking the cliffs and ocean is 600 Ocean Blvd. (at the end of Cuvier Street in La Jolla.)
4. Make him breakfast in bed. Include chocolate covered strawberries for an extra touch!

5. Gift Catalog for Guy Gear for guys who love gadget. Pre-paid catalog for men in which they can select their gift from a list of items everything from tackle boxes, weather forecasters, toolsets, binoculars, to digital cameras.
6. Romantic Getaway include a round of golf and a couple's massage for two. There are great golf/spa vacation packages in Palm Desert, Mexico, Las Vegas or San Francisco, that are also kid and pet friendly!
7. Rent an exotic car for the day, like a Ferrari or Lamborghini.
8. Dinner for Two Gift Certificate. San Diego Restaurant Recommendations; a. Addison Del Mar b. Oceanaire Gaslamp/Downtown c. Meritage Encinitas d. IVY Hotel Gaslamp/Downtown
9. Private Island Kayak Adventure - La Jolla Coves.
10. Gift card to his favorite electronics or home improvement store.

Romantic gift ideas for your wife or sweetheart:

1. Cuddle up & rent comedy movies to make her laugh. Make sure to buy popcorn, chocolate, and candy.
2. Send her homemade love coupons each day in the mail. For example ³This coupon entitles you to 1 free massage from yours truly.² Or ³This coupon is good for 1 free housecleaning session.²
3. Get up early and make her breakfast in bed.
4. Write love messages on the mirror in her bathroom before she wakes up.
5. Take her to a live music venue maybe a Jazz or Blues Club - Antholy is a wonderful and contemporary new live jazz supper club in San Diego.
6. Take her to a Ghiradelli Ice Cream & Soda Shop for the chocolate lovers.
7. Pamper her to a Spa Day and get her an aromatherapy massage, or a couples massage. Paradise Point in San Diego has an incredible one.
8. Rent a chocolate fondue fountain from your local catering company for an evening at your home. Dipping items, including cream puffs, strawberries, bisquati & pineapple - heaven!
9. Go rollerskating
10. Send her flowers exotic & multi colors including yellows!
11. Buy her a bundle of all of the latest trendy magazines Cosmo, InStyle, Oprah, etc.
12. Prepare a pampered princess at home night for just her. Draw a warm bath with rose petals, play her favorite music, have her favorite book, and candlelight with a note by the tub saying: ³This night is especially for you. I will be back in a couple of hours. Enjoy!)
13. Pack her a lunch every day for work for 1 week.
14. Buy her a Bonsai Tree the Japanese meaning is truth, essence & beauty tell her she symbolizes the same meaning heaven & earth in one.
15. Find a local photo booth (typically found at the mall), to take instant fun goofy pictures of both of you.
16. Write her a love letter, and leave it in her car, or in her wallet as a surprise.
17. Take her on a romantic weekend getaway for two. Recommendations; Los Angeles, Toronto, San Diego, Miami, Palm Desert, San Francisco, New York, Montreal, Vancouver.
18. Make her a picnic with her favorite wine & food, on the beach during sunset.

19. Take her to a Cirque du Soleil show if there is one in town or in Las Vegas.
20. Buy her a pair of colored gemstone earrings. Jade is said to cause a good mood.
21. Put toothpaste on her toothbrush and leave beside the sink before bedtime.
22. Cook dinner for her.