

For Immediate Release:

CONTACT:

Victoria Breglio
(978) 468-8925

victoria.breglio@mullen.com

Kristen Raymakers
(978) 468-8943

kristen.raymakers@mullen.com

MASSACHUSETTS HEATS UP FOR ROMANCE IN FEBRUARY

Couples will warm up to a variety of unique events, inns and activities across the state

January 14, 2008 (Massachusetts) – With Valentine’s Day quickly approaching, love is in the air and Massachusetts is just the place to take your sweetheart for the perfect romantic getaway. From quaint and elegant B&Bs, to spas specializing in couples’ pampering, to wine and chocolate festivals, areas across Massachusetts are going above and beyond to set the scene for romance.

Following is a sampling of options for romantic activities and getaways across the Commonwealth that would make Cupid proud:

For the Chocolate Lover

If you really want to impress your Valentine this year, take him or her to one of these events guaranteed to make any sweet-tooth smile.

5th Annual American Heritage Chocolate Celebration – February 9

Just in time for Valentine’s Day, Historic Deerfield will be celebrating American Heritage Chocolate®, a re-creation of colonial American chocolate produced by the Historic Division of Mars, Inc. Grab your sweetheart and participate in chocolate tastings, demonstrations, lectures, and a hands-on opportunity to create a special Valentine.

Deerfield

413-775-7214

www.historic-deerfield.com

The Langham Hotel’s Deluxe Chocolate Bar

Spend a Saturday afternoon indulging your sinful side at The Langham Hotel’s unique Chocolate Bar. This season, the theme of the buffet is “Air, Fire, Water & Earth: The Elements of Nature.” This all-you-can-enjoy buffet of more than 125 chocolate desserts includes chocolate mousses, made-to-order chocolate crêpes, homemade ice cream, milk chocolate passion fruit tarts, delicate truffles, chocolate fondue and more.

The Langham Hotel, Boston

617-956-8751

boston.langhamhotels.com/dining/restaurants_boston.htm#Chocolate

5th Annual Salem’s So Sweet Chocolate & Ice Sculpture Festival - February 9-14

In celebration of romance, many of Salem’s finest restaurants will feature special chocolate offerings on their menus, including desserts, special chocolate flavored teas, cocktails and inventive sauces. A Chocolate and Wine Tasting will take place at Old Town Hall on February 9. Salem

www.salem-chamber.org/salemsosweet.htm

For the Wine Lover

Nothing says romance better than toasting the one you love with a great glass of wine. Massachusetts is home to a variety of wine sipping occasions this time of year.

Boston Wine Festival – January 11–April 4

The Boston Harbor Hotel will host a wine-and-food-pairing series during themed dinners including the “Battle of the Cabernets,” “Meritage Madness,” and “Super Tuscans.” Distinguished guests include Master of Wine, Clive Coates, and Richard Elia, publisher of the Quarterly Review of Wines. Chef Daniel Bruce, the wine festival’s guide, will create a variety of dishes skillfully paired with each event’s selections.

Meritage at the Boston Harbor Hotel, Boston
617-330-9355

www.bostonwinefestival.net

Coastal Wine Trail

Take your sweetheart on a tour of The Coastal Wine Trail, which stretches from the Cape and the Islands through Southeastern Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Visit five wineries along the trail that concentrate on white and sparkling wines. Many Bed and Breakfasts are situated between the wineries if you wish to stretch your tour over several days.

Cape Cod and Southeastern MA

coastalwinetrail.com/index.html

For the Pampered Paramours

Romance abounds throughout the year at the many Bed and Breakfast inns throughout Massachusetts. Here are just a few examples of great Valentine’s Day packages that include spa pampering for two.

Stonehedge Inn & Spa

This European-style luxury inn and spa features suites with Jacuzzis and fireplaces, a world-renowned wine cellar, full-service spa and gourmet cuisine. The inn offers two getaway packages for lovers:

- **The Spa Getaway** includes a one-night stay, breakfast and dinner for two, and two 50-minute private spa treatments of choice.
- **The Romance Under The Stars Getaway** includes a one-night stay, breakfast and dinner for two in the privacy of your suite, champagne, a dozen red roses and two 50-minute private spa treatments of choice.

Tyngsboro

888-649-2474

www.stonehedgeinnandspa.com

Brewster by the Sea Inn and Spa

This intimate Cape Cod inn features four beautiful Old World rooms located in the Farmhouse originally built around 1846. Their outdoor hot tub is a perfect place for couples to star gaze. The inn’s most romantic packages are:

- **The Romantic Spa Getaway** includes a two-night stay, relaxing couples massage in the fireside spa room, breakfast each morning and a turndown service with truffles and sherry, a bouquet of roses and chocolate dipped strawberries with a bottle of complimentary champagne.
- **The Foodies Bliss on Cape Cod Package** includes a two-night stay with breakfast each morning, turndown service with truffles, chocolate covered strawberries with champagne and dinner for two at a nearby Northern Italian restaurant.

Brewster

800-892-3910

www.brewsterbythesea.com

Cranwell Resort, Spa and Golf Club

Located in the heart of the Berkshire mountains, Cranwell's majestic setting is ideal for a peaceful and romantic escape to the country. Set on 380 lush acres, the Gilded Age Mansion is the idyllic place to set the scene for romance as couples can savor the spa experience together.

- **The Romance and Relaxation Package** includes a one-night stay, full country buffet breakfast for two, two 50-minute Swedish massages, a romantic candlelight dinner for two in the historic mansion, and champagne and chocolate-dipped strawberries upon arrival.

Lenox
800-272-6935
www.cranwell.com

For the Literary Duo

For the couple seeking to embrace not only each other but also some of Massachusetts' great literary traditions, these inns offer some history along with romance.

Emerson Inn by the Sea

As Cape Ann's only historic grand hotel, the Emerson Inn promises to inspire the kind of romance reminiscent of America's best poets. Let Ralph Waldo Emerson inspire your romantic getaway this Valentine's Day:

- **The Valentine's Day Package** includes an ocean view room, many of which feature an enclosed balcony, spa tub and fireplace, chocolate-covered strawberries, a bottle of sparkling wine, and a four-course dinner for two overlooking Sandy Bay.

Rockport
978-546-6321
www.emersoninnbythesea.com

Hawthorne Hotel

The beautifully restored, Federal-style hotel is named for author Nathaniel Hawthorne, who spent his childhood and wrote *The Scarlet Letter* in Salem. Located in the Salem Common Historic District, the hotel is within walking distance of numerous historic sites and attractions.

- **The Sweetheart Package** includes a one-night stay, dinner for two in Nathaniel's Restaurant, sparkling wine & chocolate covered strawberries delivered to your room after dinner.

Salem
978-744-4080
www.hawthornehotel.com

For the Couple on the Go...

Some romantics prefer an active itinerary to get the blood flowing and the heart pumping. Here are a few ideas for couples who like to try new adventures.

Ice Skating on the Frog Pond

Get dizzy with romance by twirling under the stars at the Frog Pond skating rink on Boston Common, America's oldest public park. Located just minutes from Charles Street, Downtown Crossing, Back Bay and Faneuil Hall Marketplace, you can easily grab a bite to eat at one of Boston's finest restaurants or window shop along Newbury Street when you're done.

Open from November to mid-March

Boston

www.bostoncommonfrogpond.org

Consuming Passion: Fragonard's Allegories of Love

Jean-Honoré Fragonard is best known as a painter of playful genre subjects, garden landscapes, and fantasy portraits. In his later career, Fragonard turned to the subject of romantic love and created a series of dramatic reflections on the subject of romantic allegories. This exhibition explores these mysteries and evocative works in a variety of themes.

Now through January 21

The Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, Williamstown

413-458-2303

www.clarkart.edu

Sightsee in Style on Martha's Vineyard

Sip champagne and smooch in the backseat of a classic Rolls Royce or stretch limo while touring Martha's Vineyard with Vineyard Limousines. For the more adventurous, ask for the 4-wheel drive Suburban and visit out-of-the-way secluded locations.

Martha's Vineyard

508-693-3996

www.vineyardlimousine.com/index.php

The Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism (MOTT) is the state agency dedicated to promoting Massachusetts as a leisure-travel destination in order to stimulate the Massachusetts economy by generating state and local tax revenues, creating jobs, and supporting the growth of travel-related businesses. MOTT serves as a leader in the tourism industry, bringing together the public and private sectors to promote Massachusetts as a leisure-travel destination. Tourism is an integral part of the state's economy generating over \$13.1 billion in travel-related expenditures and \$833.3 million in state and local taxes. The industry supports 125,200 in-state jobs.

###