

# Celebrate Love and Travel with Diamonds

Written by Christina Tetreault

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By Kelly Potts

Love is in the air, and there is no better spot to celebrate than a place decorated with Diamonds.

With more than 70 AAA Four and Five Diamond properties sprinkled across the state, there are plenty of options to pull out all the stops and have an unforgettable Valentine's Day.

In honor of the romance, AAA Travel experts have pulled together a sampling of special offerings for the weekend:

## [Sheraton Grand Phoenix](#)

Love is in the air at the AAA Four Diamond Sheraton Grand Phoenix. Its exclusive Valentine's Day package includes breakfast for two in-room dining, chocolates and sparkling wine and a 4 p.m. late check-out. Experience the romantic District American Kitchen and Wine Bar with the Valentine's Day dinner. Dinner costs \$58 per person and includes a complimentary glass of champagne and a red rose. The menu includes options such as Red Chile Duck Pot Pie with duck confit, smoked red chile gray and organic root vegetables and Oregonzola Beef Ribeye with grilled beef ribeye, Oregonzola cheese crumbles, bacon balsamic glaze, whipped Yukon gold potatoes and roasted asparagus. For room reservations, call 866-716-8134. For dinner reservations; call 602-814-5400.

## [Hotel Valley Ho](#)

This Valentine's Day, head down to AAA Four Diamond Hotel Valley Ho for a weekend of romance, a candlelit dinner and special spa treatments. ZuZu, located in Hotel Valley Ho, is offering twice the chance for romance, with dinner from 3 to 11 p.m. Feb. 13 and 3 to 10 p.m. Feb. 14. Order off the seasonal dinner menu or choose from Valentine's specials, including Slow Roasted Beef Tenderloin with crispy blue crab, Yukon gold mashed potatoes, local Tuscan kale and yuzu hollandaise (\$34); a Strawberry Trifle for Two with strawberry compote, vanilla sponge cake, crème anglaise, fresh berries and sweet cream (\$12); and a bottle of Veuve Clicquot Vintage 2004 Rosé Champagne for \$85. Hotel Valley Ho also is offering exclusive room rates and spa deals throughout the weekend. For more information or reservations for ZuZu and VH Spa, call 877-671-1770 or go to [HotelValleyHo.com](http://HotelValleyHo.com).

## [CORE Kitchen & Wine Bar](#)

Skip dinner and go straight for dessert at AAA Four Diamond CORE Kitchen & Wine Bar north of Tucson. Executive Pastry Chef Daniel Mangione will unveil The Red Velvet Chocolate Lounge at the AAA Five Diamond Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain. This tasty dessert display will feature a selection of over 20 different chocolate desserts, cookies, snacks and macaroons as well as a live chocolate action station. Entry includes a glass of champagne to accompany the array of decadent deserts. The Red Velvet Chocolate Lounge will start at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 14. The cost is \$28 per person. Reservations are not required. For more information, call 520-572-3401.

## [The Phoenician](#)

The Phoenician, a AAA Five Diamond resort, celebrates Valentine's Day with an exquisite selection of enhanced offerings and timeless traditions – all in the name of love. Start things off with an exceptional Valentine's weekend tea experience, served Feb. 13 to 15 in the Lobby Tea Court. In addition to freshly baked scones with Devonshire cream and finger sandwiches, the enhanced Afternoon Tea menu will also feature assorted chocolate desserts, including chocolate-covered strawberries, chocolate mousse cake and chocolate raspberry tarts; as well as a delectable chocolate strawberry tea blend. Full Tea is \$67 per person, while the Grand Royale Tea, which includes unlimited Perrier-Jouët Sparkling Grand Brut Champagne, is \$72 per person. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 480-423-2530. The celebration continues with that special someone at the Thirsty Camel Lounge on Saturday, where guests, visitors and local residents can enjoy an evening of exceptional taste and elegance. A signature Champagne Bar will feature Schramsberg, Veuve Clicquot and Dom Pérignon, available for purchase by the glass or bottle. Complementing these offerings will be a classic Valentine's Day menu, including a sushi bar and select appetizers, such as Mediterranean Mussels, Black Truffle Fondue and Smoked Beef Carpaccio. For a complete list of Valentine's Day happenings and dining options, call 480-941-8200.

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