



PRESS RELEASE | Schwaz, February 2019

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY! 7 HOTSPOTS IN EUROPE

Where will love take you? Preferably to one of Europe's hippest romantic hotspots! We looked for – and found – the 7 best locations for a memorable Valentine's Day! Check out our inspiring suggestions for extraordinary getaways with 'the one'!

For GOURMETS: Award-winning cuisine at the Rosengarten, Kirchberg/Kitzbühel, Tyrol, Austria

Gourmet guests float on cloud nine thanks to 6 Gault&Millau toques under one roof, unique in Austria. Romance and starry nights in exquisite exclusivity are guaranteed at the 5-star Relais & Châteaux Hotel Rosengarten in the heart of the Kitzbühel Alps. Only 7km from Kitzbühel, boutique chic, exceptional service and spectacular comfort combine to craft a hotspot for lovers (of great food). Ascending to foodie heaven is easy at the award-winning Restaurant *Simon Taxacher* – the top of Austria's culinary premier league – where lovers savour seven exquisite courses with corresponding wines. Those looking for a less formal vibe, enjoy a casual and delicious 5-course dinner at the 2-toque Bistro-Restaurant Rosengarten – where ALPINE ELEMENTS meet urbane Austrian sophistication. A long, romantic weekend for two: gourmet breakfast in bed, skiing in 2018's 'world's best ski area', exclusive SPA delights à deux... definitely a place for lighting up the senses!

Tip: The 3-night Valentine special! <https://bit.ly/2MRzEhL>

www.rosengarten-taxacher.com

Download photos: <https://bit.ly/1vv8jFL>

For PISTE FREAKS: Ski-in & Spa-out at the TOP Hotel Hochgurgl, Tyrol, Austria

Ski-in & spa-out at 2,150 Alpine metres above sea level in one of the world's 10 most attractive winter sports destinations? The TOP Hotel Hochgurgl in the Obergurgl-Hochgurgl ski area makes it possible. On arrival at the highest Relais & Châteaux 5-star superior hotel in the Alps, guests instinctively take deep, cobweb-shifting breaths of mountain air as they admire the 21 three-thousanders that surround them. It's so quick and easy to buckle up and get carving – straight from the hotel's doorstep. Romance flourishes with fresh oysters on the sun terrace, a Champagne toast – and endless skiing on 356km of slopes in the Tyrolean Ötztal Valley. Attractions include the TOP Mountain Star, a spectacular landmark at 3,080m altitude as well as a summit of gastronomic delight. The TOP Mountain Crosspoint is also highly recommended for chilling, admiring the view and indulging in a sundowner after a visit to its motorcycle museum – the highest in Europe. The TOP Hotel's 2,200sqm TOP Mountain SPA is simply superb – we love the outdoor pool with slope views! Dinner offers the finest Alpine cuisine – rated with 90 points by *Falstaff Gourmetclub* – and after dinner? A slow dance at the fireplace bar – what a day, what a night!

Tip: The TOP Valentine snow special for 2 or 3 nights! <https://bit.ly/2N7QsnT>

www.tophotelhochgurgl.com

Download photos: <https://bit.ly/2Sg5cE6>

For BON VIVEURS: Domaine La Butte aux Bois in Lanaken, Belgium's number one destination hotel

Flowers are the obvious choice, but forest, heathland, rivers, canals and lakes offer so much more... Hoge Kempen is one of Europe's most romantic national parks – and right on the doorstep of the Relais & Châteaux Hotel Domaine La Butte aux Bois. Belgium's sole 5-star superior hotel, award-winning gourmet hotspot and eco-chic spa retreat has been carved out of a historic country estate. The overall concept offers an exciting, unique and synergetic combination of style and luxury. On Valentine's Day 2019, the 2-Michelin-starred La Source tantalises taste buds with a superb dinner of the most romantic kind. A more easy-going approach is offered by Le Bistrot's candlelight, open fireplace and musical accompaniment – it's simply a question of passion and preference. On Saturday, 16 February the Domaine stages a Venetian Masked Ball featuring breathtaking costumes and masks lit by hundreds of candles and a touch of mystique. To conclude the Valentine's Day weekend, guests enjoy a relaxed and delicious Sunday brunch.

Tip: Valentine's special – 50% discount on an overnight stay on 14 or 17 February <https://bit.ly/2Hb92sJ>

www.labutteauxbois.be

Download photos: <https://bit.ly/2Cz8wgU>

For SPANATICS: Plunhof destination spa in Ridnaun, South Tyrol, Italy

Guests on a romantic break for two at the 4-star superior Plunhof are in for an extraordinary experience. The hotel's Spa Minera, Europe's only 'wellness above and below the surface' destination spa, was inspired by Ridnaun's centuries-old mining tradition – a ground-breaking concept, mirrored in the spa's stylish architecture. Guests make the most of the feel-good atmosphere in the saltwater whirlpool, saunas, steam room and infrared cabin, the shower temple and amazing relaxation areas where they can go to ground in a 'world of mining'. Award-winning Spa Minera was nominated for the GALA SPA AWARDS 2016 as well as being voted Best of Italy in the 2017 HEALTH & SPA AWARDS. Owned by the Volgger family of eight siblings and mother Paula, the hotel keeps setting new standards of spa – most recently with a spa extension completed in 2018: more than 4,000sqm of blissful wellbeing space – including the spectacular new Acqua Minera poolscape. A postcard idyll at a lofty 1,340 Alpine metres above sea level!

Tip: The Spa Minera for Two treatment! Treat yourself to a short wellness break: <https://bit.ly/2SCav01>

www.plunhof.it/en

Download photos: <https://bit.ly/1NIBb4P>

For THE YOUNG & YOUNG AT HEART: Alpine & urban at the ALPENrose in Kufstein, Tyrol, Austria

For a rosy Valentine's Day at the foot of the medieval Kufstein Fortress there's nothing like a stroll through the town's narrow, historic streets, lined with traditional Tyrolean houses. The world-famous Riedel glassworks attracts scores of visitors who get to choose from a wide array of wine-specific glasses ranging from Champagne and Merlot to Grüner Veltliner. True romantics may even have a glass specially hand-blown for their one true love. Then it's time to raise a glass to love back at Kufstein's 4-star Alpenrose hotel. The atmosphere is as young and fresh as the team. The food is bold, creative and award-winning. Sophisticated, Alpine and full of pizzazz, many of the raw materials for the hotel's gourmet cuisine – such as beef, goose, eggs, honey, vegetables, fruits and herbs – are sourced from the family's 11-hectare Lindhof farm. True to the principle that only the best will do for their guests, the Alpenrose offers a romantic 5-course meal for two, accompanied by exquisite wines. The perfect lovers' getaway.

Tip: A tour of the Riedel factory offers an inside look at the glass-making process as well as an exhibition, a multimedia show and Riedel glass tastings! Time for two: <https://bit.ly/2DeNDcS>

<https://alpenrose-kufstein.at/en/4-stars-hotel/>

Download photos:

For GRANDES DAMES: Bienvenue at the Dollenberg, Black Forest, Germany

Their Black Forest cake is unbeatable – as is the romantic Black Forest setting! Staying at the 5-star superior Relais & Châteaux Dollenberg is an immersive experience of the region's natural world. Luxurious and restful, the hotel is set in a 70,000sqm park featuring stunning works of art and sculptures. 10km of footpaths offer plenty of opportunities for walking hand-in-hand, taking in panoramic views of the Black Forest and maybe even pausing at the hotel's own chapel to pop the question! The 5,000sqm DOLLINA Spa & Health is one of Germany's top three spas, and stars precious mineral water from the famous medicinal spring at Bad Peterstal-Griesbach. Cleopatra and Romance are private wellness suites that offer cocooning at its most dreamy with canopied waterbeds. For the food of love, the *Le Pavillon* award-winning restaurant is one of Germany's supreme gourmet hotspots. Chef Martin Herrmann certainly deserves his two Michelin stars – the food is out of this world! After dinner, happy couples retire to the exclusive bar for a nightcap and a dance to the live music.

Tip: The hotel's winter week for gourmands holiday includes a wine appreciation event, a kitchen party, torchlit and winter hikes, mountain hut magic and much more. Sophisticated outdoorsy holidays for romantic bon-viveurs: <https://bit.ly/2WHv3TQ>

www.dollenberg.de

Download photos:

For WINTER SPORTS FANS: A winter wonderland at the Sporthotel Alpenblick in Zell am See, Austria

Winter has spread her snow-white finery across SalzburgerLand's glaciers, mountains and lakes making it the perfect region for couples who love ski togetherness. The Kitzsteinhorn glacier ski area (3,203m above sea level) offers 5 freeride lines, 3 snow parks and Austria's largest superpipe. The picture-book views of up to 30 three-thousanders in the Schmittenhöhe ski area – where guests also find the world's longest fun slope – are simply stunning! The Skimovie downhill run adds a thrill to any liaison – as do night skiing and the Zell am See Snownight show on 13 February! One destination, 1,000 winter sports opportunities for outdoor-active hearts: cross-country skiing (including a glacier trail), ski touring, tobogganing, snowshoeing, winter hiking are all options around Lake Zell... and afterwards, return to the warm welcome of the 4-star Sporthotel Alpenblick for more romance, more luxury. Romantic moments are up for grabs in the private spa suite and the spa's 1,300sqm of wellness fun offers an indoor-outdoor pool area with panoramic mountain views, a sauna and steam room area, generous relaxation areas, gym and a raft of services for skiers and winter sports enthusiasts.

Tip: Sunny Skiing & Spa – 3 nights including half board plus a wellness voucher! <https://bit.ly/2RI8IY6>

www.alpenblick.at

Download photos: <https://bit.ly/2Wk1AiO>

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