

Romantic Wine
Country Getaway

The Rise of Boudoir
Photography

Amateur Hour in
Local Pornography

SAN DIEGO[®]

MAGAZINE

58 SEXY *things to do*

HOT DATES * SEX & POLITICS * BURLESQUE

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So Long, Sade.

We prefer this sultry song list, customized for us by the subtly sexy deejay DexDiego.

Artist: Troubleman featuring Nina Miranda

Song: "Paz"

Album: *Time Out of Mind*

Everything seems better when a Brazilian's involved (the people, not the procedure)—in this case, songstress Nina Miranda teaming with producer Mark Pritchard for a sultry slice of Brazilectro.

Artist: The Roots

Song: "One Shine"

Album: *Illadelph Halflife*

Jimmy Fallon funkateers and Philly's finest, The Roots, drop some serious urban splendor and announce that hip-hop instrumentals are the new classical music... only sexier.

Artist: King Kooba

Song: "Koobesq"

Album: *Nufoundfunk*

Haunting, suspenseful and sensual—like that boudoir scene with Natalie and Mila in *Black Swan*. Or maybe the scene is like the song?

Artist: Cassandra Wilson

Song: "You Move Me"

Album: *Love Jones* soundtrack

Wilson's amazing voice has always been a recipe for "sex-cess," and this slow and smoldering jazz ballad has what Dusty Springfield might call a "just a little lovin' early in the morning" vibe.

Artist: Jose James

Song: "Central Park West"

(unreleased track)

Album: None, but the artist has offered a free download from time to time.

An irresistibly nocturnal Coltrane interpretation with buttery-smooth vocals and warm instrumental accompaniment, which proves why James is among the best vocalists alive. Voyeuristic confession: I deliberately drop this track from time to time just to watch its effect on couples, and yes, it's highly effective.

Deejay DexDiego is among San Diego's most eclectic musical selectors and part of the Groove247.com deejay collective. Catch him spinning special events, year-round, at the Pearl Hotel and at fuarecords.com/artists.html.

DATES FOR DUDES WHO'D RATHER NOT

THE SELF-CONSCIOUS ROMANTIC: For the romantic gent who prefers avoiding the limelight, try the Cohns' newest creative collaboration, Bo-beau, a stone's throw away from a nice after-dinner stroll along Ocean Beach. After leading your lady friend through salvaged mid-17th-century French Colonial gates (imported from Egypt), you'll enter a dimly lit dining room



with the words to a French love song scattered across the wall. The mood lighting, interesting artifacts from Europe and ornate Mexican lamps ensure whatever bits of the French Mediterranean menu end up in your teeth won't be noticeable anyway. (Quit being paranoid; you look great.) The bar offers up specialty cocktails, and the extensive wine list has a retail section, so you can grab a bottle and take your date to the beach or someplace more intimate. Or just head home alone with the booze and completely overanalyze the date. cohnrestaurants.com/restaurants/bobeau.

THE LACKING CONVERSATIONALIST: For those intimidated into silence when facing the fairer sex, head to recently opened, literary-themed Craft & Commerce, where cozy communal seating and a bustling atmosphere will grant you strength in numbers. Any awkward silences can be disguised as eavesdropping attempts, and there's always the chance you'll sit next to someone genuinely interesting. If that plan fails, pretend to muse on the myriad quotes from the likes of David Foster Wallace and John Steinbeck scrawled on the walls of the dining room (though if she's well read, this may be dangerous). Then again, if her favorite book is *The Notebook*, you're golden. The menu is brief but conversation-worthy, full of shareable fare to make the meal a little more intimate. In addition to 25 taps, Craft & Commerce is the first West Coast establishment to adopt famed NYC mixologist Phil Ward's cocktail program, including punchbowls—which are recommended only for those looking to get really communal. First impressions are everything, therefore it's important to remember them. craft-commerce.com.

FOR THE GENT WHO WANTS TO WHISK HER AWAY, BUT NOT TOO FAR: The economy sucks, and Europe's expensive, but the good news is San Diego's full of hidden gems like Rancho Valencia. This 49-room boutique resort spread across 40 lush acres of Rancho Santa Fe has recently landed culinary heavyweight Eric Bauer as executive chef. It's the perfect place for a staycation or simply an adventurous dining experience that won't break the bank. After wending past mind-boggling mansions and getting turned around multiple times on a long, winding driveway, even if you weren't utterly lost you'd never know you were still in San Diego. When the weather permits, a fountain-centered courtyard provides a glorious alfresco atmosphere, while the lodge-style fireplace inside keeps things cozy and, ideally, romantic, if things begin to cool down. As a final saving grace, the place has horrible cell coverage, so as she continually checks her phone, take solace in the fact that her bailout plan is impossible to execute. ranchovalencia.com.

— KYLE HALL

Hall edits the daily guys' guide *Thrillist* in San Diego.

