



# Valentine's Delights



## How To Heat Up A Heart At Home

(NAPSA)—With people regarding their homes as more of a “cocoon” than ever these days, the challenge this Valentine’s Day is how to ensure a romantic evening with your loved one without stepping out the door except to buy a few essentials.



### Cocktail for two.

Certain tried-and-true mood enhancers may be more important than ever. Few things, for instance, say romance like the warm, soft glow of candlelight. And the smell of fresh roses—or, if you want to get really inventive, flower petals strewn strategically throughout the house—only heighten the senses.

Then there’s dinner. Three words, experts advise, unless you’ve been spending hours watching the Food Network: *keep it simple*.

The light pasta dish suggested below, by chef Jim White of Casa Vieja in New Mexico, is not only easy to make, but it’s light enough to leave room for a truly decadent dessert.

### Shrimp Valentine

- 3 Tbs butter
- 1 Tbs chopped garlic
- ½ cup Napa Saki Saké
- 2 Tbs lime juice
- 1 pinch thyme
- ¼ tsp salt
- 2 Tbs chopped cilantro
- ½ cup gorgonzola cheese
- 16-20 shrimp, peeled and cleaned
- 1 Tbs cornstarch and 1 tsp saké to moisten

Heat butter and add garlic. Sauté until garlic aroma is present. Add shrimp. Sauté until pink, but slightly undercooked. Remove shrimp from pan. Add all other ingredients except cornstarch mixture and cheese. Bring mixture to boil. Add cornstarch mixture to thicken. Add shrimp and toss with 3 cups of pasta. Toss in cheese just before serving.

But wait, something’s still missing.

That’s right, the perfect cocktail.

Unlike Champagne—which, let’s face it, may be classic, but it’s also *way overdone*—mixologists have come up with something called (appropriately enough) “Love Potion #9.”

An exotic and even sexy cocktail, it owes its conception to the makers of Mezzaluna vodka, one of the world’s first, super-premium Italian vodkas, and Napa Saki Saké. And it basically combines the romanticism of Italy with the sultriness of the Orient.

Here’s how to mix one up yourself:

### Love Potion # 9

- 2 oz Mezzaluna Vodka
- 2 oz Napa Saki Saké
- 3 oz strawberry punch

In a shaker filled with ice, add all the ingredients and shake vigorously for about 20 seconds. Strain into a martini glass, garnish with a succulent strawberry and enjoy.

For more information and other exciting food and cocktail recipes, visit [www.lipsimport.com](http://www.lipsimport.com).