



Making Life More Fun

Year-Round Romance

(NAPSA)—Today's busy Americans can still find time for romance—if they can remember. According to the second annual “Romance in America” Survey, nearly half (45 percent) have forgotten a significant date—a birthday, anniversary or Valentine’s Day—at least once. The battle of the sexes continues on what holiday is easiest to forget—one in three men (31 percent) say they have dropped the ball on Valentine’s Day, while one in three women (30 percent) have forgotten the special day they said, “I do.”

It turns out children are not the problem. Couples without children are nearly as likely to forget important dates (75 percent) as parents facing diapers, homework and school lunches (79 percent). If just remembering wasn't enough, many Americans want more than the traditional gifts like flowers and candy, as an expression of romance. As a matter of fact, a plurality (42 percent) feels that a romantic vacation is the best gift.

With such a large focus on holidays and special occasions, which often get lost on the calendar, couples are looking for more meaningful ways to bring out the romance in their everyday lives.



Rather than presenting that special someone with a bunch of roses and a guilty grin, here are a few easy, convenient and fun ways to make those special times together last a lot longer than flowers or a box of chocolates.

Pack your bags. Get away for the weekend with Doubletree Hotels' Sweet Romance Getaway package. Each hotel plays “romance concierge,” providing couples with a Sweet Romance Selections brochure—a guide to romantic hot spots and activities—helping to ensure every moment of the getaway is memorable. Other amenities include deluxe accommodations, early check-in and late checkout, a bottle of sparkling wine and breakfast in bed.

Play hooky. Everyone loves a day off. Arrange a surprise holiday for you and your sweetie to

spend the day enjoying one another's company doing the things you love. Take a leisurely drive or pack a lunch and share a picnic in the shade; either way you won't have to think about the office once.

Cuddle up. Restaurants can be loud and impersonal. Instead of going out, get a babysitter to take the kids out for an evening while you and your sweetheart create a warm and cozy environment at home. Snuggle up to a romantic movie and a bottle of your favorite wine or tasty dessert.

Star gaze. Mark your calendar during a full moon and take a romantic stroll with your beloved hand-in-hand under the stars. Enjoy the scenery overhead or simply spend the evening gazing into each other's eyes.

Look into the future. Get out that sunscreen and shovel for some much needed fun in the sun. Grab your sweetie and spend a day at the beach building a sandcastle that represents your dream home together.

To find out more about romantic getaways any time throughout the year, couples can visit www.doubletree.com/romance, or call 1-800-222-TREE.