

# EPIC DATES

*Lost Angeles Edition*

## Your Complete Guide to 10 Epic Dates in Los Angeles

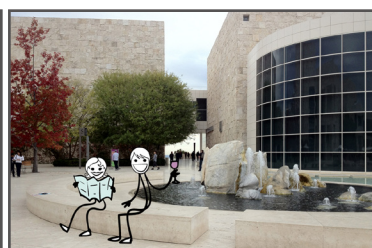
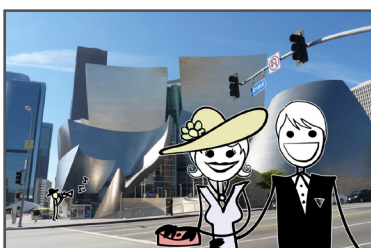
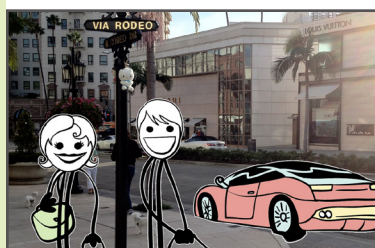
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starting with a  
hike to the  
Hollywood Sign!

TO: your date's name / FROM: your name

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[www.datevitation.com](http://www.datevitation.com)

*by Alex Karpman*

# EPIC DATES

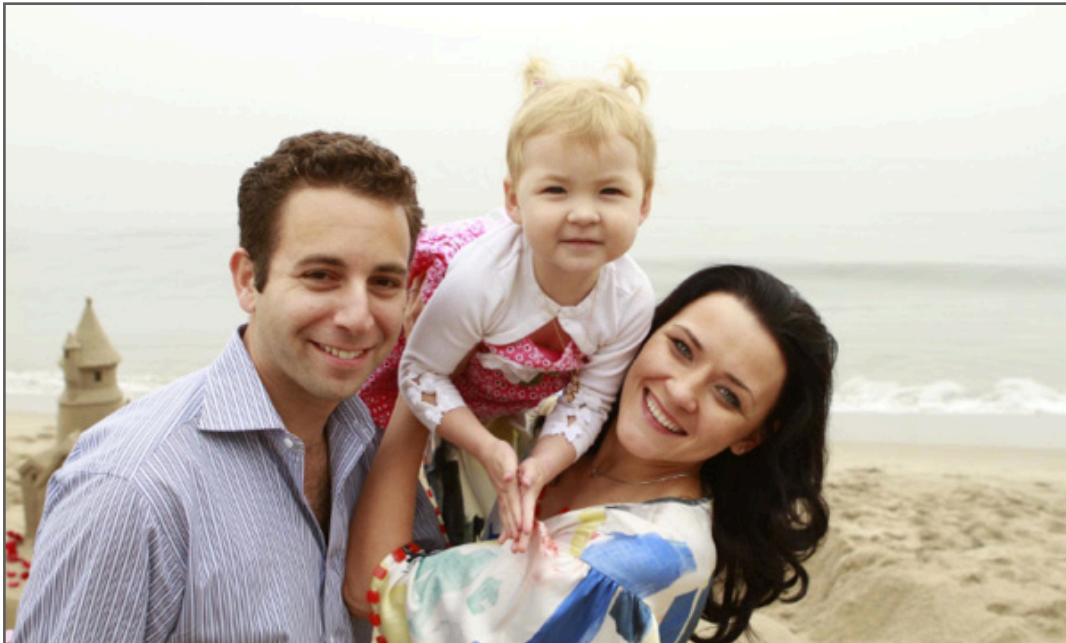
*Lost Angeles Edition*

**Your Complete Guide to 10 Epic Dates in Los Angeles**

**by Alex Karpman of Datevitation**

<http://datevitation.com>

**This book is dedicated to the loves of my life, Olga & Eva.  
You two are my everything and the inspiration for everything I do.**



The information contained in this guide is for informational purposes only, and includes information regarding third party venues and establishments ("Third Parties"). I do not assume responsibility or liability for any the actions of any Third Parties. My publication of information regarding Third Parties is simply a recommendation and an expression of my own opinion of Third Parties. Users of this guide are advised to do their own due diligence when it comes to planning dates and all information provided in the guide should be independently verified.

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## INTRODUCTION

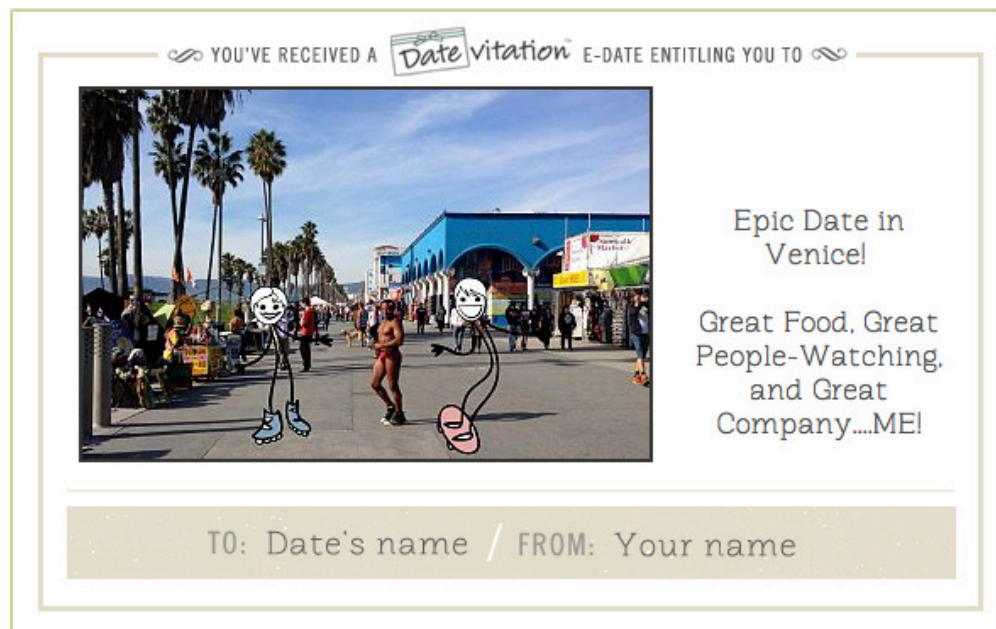
You've probably found your way to this eBook from my website Datevitation (<http://Datevitation.com>), or maybe you heard about it from friends and family. Regardless, I'm thrilled to have you!

I wrote this guide out of my own frustration that nothing exists like it on the bookshelves or the internet. Of course, if you google "Los Angeles date ideas" you'll find some suggestions of venues that would make great places for dates. But nobody has ever taken the time to really break it down for you. That's where I come in. In this book, you'll find guides to 10 epic dates in Los Angeles.

For those of you familiar with the city's geography, you know L.A. is incredibly spread out with many mini-cities within the larger city. It can take as long as an hour (or more with traffic) to travel from one part of the city to the next. That's why I designed each date to focus on a specific area in Los Angeles. As a result, in some of the smaller geographic areas (think *Santa Monica* and *Venice*), you can potentially park your car and do the entire date by foot. Even in some of the larger areas (*Downtown and Mid-City*), it'll never be more than a quick car ride to get to your next destination.

To ensure that your date turns out to be an epic one, I have provided the following for each area:

- (1) Detailed stop-by-stop itinerary to the very best that area has to offer.
- (2) A map and legend with all the contact information for each stop on your date.
- (3) Interesting facts and trivia about each area which you can use to impress your date.
- (4) A corresponding e-date (see example below) which you can use to invite your date.



For each e-Date, you'll be able to add your names at the bottom and customize the default text to the right of the illustration to create a custom invitation for your date. We charge \$12 per year for our e-date memberships (which let you send unlimited e-dates via email or Facebook), but the customizable L.A. e-Dates in this book are 100% FREE.

To all of Datevitation's subscribers, followers and friends out there, old and new, thank you for the gift of your support. I only hope this free guide can begin to repay you for all that you have done to spread the word about Datevitation in our first year. Now, go enjoy some Epic Dates!

## TWO THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND AS YOU READ THIS BOOK

1. **Room for Wiggle Room** - This eBook is a guide, and my purpose here is to do just that - guide you. The itineraries you'll find in the following pages are jam-packed, all-day dates. Don't feel like you have to hit every single stop on the itinerary. It would probably not be feasible to do so, even if you tried. I have done my best to provide time estimates for how long you'll approximately want to spend at each location, but these are just estimates. Just do what feels right to you on the date, and by all means, if you are enjoying a particular spot then stay longer and enjoy it!
2. **Epic Dates are Expensive** - Finally, these dates are epic dates for a reason. In each particular area, I tried to include only the best possible venues and dining options, and many of those options are not cheap. As a result, if you chose to go to every stop on the itinerary, it will definitely set you back a pretty penny. That said, these are EPIC dates, so it's not the kind of date you'll likely go on every weekend. Note that we have a ton of great free date ideas on our blog that you can use on a more everyday basis. For example check out our posts on [How To Have An Extraordinary Movie Night Date at Home](#) or [How To Put A Custom Fortune Into A Fortune Cookie](#) (a great trick for next time you bring in Chinese take-out). Finally, if you haven't already, make sure you sign up for our free video series on the 4 steps to finding true happiness in your relationship, which includes 9 step-by-step guides to awesome date ideas and romantic gestures. Get the series for free now at [LoveActionPlan.com](#).

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# EPIC DATE Venice



## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 1. Wake-up At Intelligentsia Coffee (~1 hr)** – Start your day sipping the best coffee on the Westside at Intelligentsia. Sure, it's pricier than Starbucks, but wouldn't you spend a few extra bucks for a professional barista to hand-drip your coffee right in front of you and your date? This place is a coffee snob's paradise!
- 2. Explore the "Coolest Block in America" (~1.5 hr)** – There is a reason why GQ named Abbot Kinney Boulevard [the coolest block in America](#). The street is littered with unique local boutiques where you'll see stuff you won't find anywhere else. We recommend checking out whatever shops float your fancy, but here are a few you shouldn't miss: (1) A&R - feels like a hybrid between an art gallery and a contemporary museum gift shop; (2) Waraku - here, you'll come to understand why shoe collectors spend hundred of dollars on limited-edition sneakers from Japan; and (3) Surfing Cowboys - famous for its vintage skate and surf gear and nautical-inspired furniture.
- 3. Delicious Brunch at Gjelina (~1.5 hr)** – Gjelina is a gastronome's heaven. For brunch, you can't go wrong with the Sunny Duck Egg and Duck Confit. To drink, try the Ginger Lime Pilsner cocktail (served during the day only). Do yourself a favor and make a reservation, or plan to wait. If you forget to make a reservation, then we suggest putting your name down and then checking out a few of the nearby shops.
- 4. Escape to Venice At A Fraction of the Price (~1.5 hr)** – What's the next best thing to going to Venice, Italy? Exploring the quaint canals, wooden bridges, and waterfront homes in our own Venice, CA. There's no better way to walk off brunch than with a romantic stroll down the charming paths of this upscale neighborhood.
- 5. Bizarro-Time at the world-famous Venice Boardwalk (~2.5 hr)** – At LA's epicenter of counter-culture, you'll enjoy some of the best people-watching in the country, perhaps the world.... bodybuilders at Muscle Beach, street ballers at the basketball courts, fortune tellers, tattoo artists, and marijuana doctors. If the freak show on the boardwalk is not enough for you, then there is an actual Freak Show at [909 Ocean Front Walk](#). For the \$5 entry fee, you see a mixture of living and preserved mutated animals and a live freak show with a sword swallower and other disturbing acts. Definitely worth the money if you and your date are into that kind of thing :)
- 6. Mellow out back at Abbot Kinney Blvd (~3 hr)** – You'll be exhausted both physically and emotionally from the carnival that is the Boardwalk. Enjoy the sunset on the beach, and then head back to Abbot Kinney Blvd to cap off your day with tasty tapas and refreshing sangria at Primitivo. Make sure to try the brussel sprouts, paella, tiger shrimps, diver scallops, and the cookies & cream for dessert. All delicious! If you are looking for something a little more low-key, you can always grab a bite from the gourmet food trucks you'll find along Abbot Kinney. Finally, if you can power out of the food coma, complete this magical day with a top-notch cocktail prepared by one of the expert mixologists at the Tasting Kitchen (our personal favorites are the *Braveheart* and *Crazy Horse*).

- 1. Intelligentsia Coffee**  
[1331 Abbot Kinney Blvd](#)  
Mon-Wed, Sun 6 am - 8 pm,  
Thu-Sat 6 am - 11 pm  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 2(a) A&R**  
[1121-1 Abbot Kinney Blvd](#)  
Mon-Sun 11 am - 7 pm  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 2(b) Waraku**  
[1225 Abbot Kinney Blvd](#)  
(310) 452-5300  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 2(c) Surfing Cowboys**  
[1624 Abbot Kinney Blvd](#)  
(310) 450-4891  
Mon 11 am - 5 pm,  
Tue-Sat 11 am - 7 pm,  
Sun 11 am - 6 pm  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 3. Gjelina**  
[1429 Abbot Kinney Blvd](#)  
(310) 450-1429  
Mon-Fri 11:30 am - 12 am,  
Sat-Sun 9 am - 12 am  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 4. Venice Canals**  
[Google Map](#)
- 5. Venice Boardwalk  
Freak Show**  
[909 Ocean Front Walk](#)  
\$5 entry fee
- 6(a) Primitivo**  
[1025 Abbot Kinney Blvd](#)  
(310) 396-5353  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 6(b) Tasting Kitchen**  
[1633 Abbot Kinney Blvd](#)  
(310) 392-6644  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)

1. Venice was founded by tobacco millionaire Abbot Kinney (the namesake of Abbot Kinney Blvd). He developed the once soggy marshland into a series of canals and oceanfront amusement park, which opened in 1905.
2. Kinney's park initially enjoyed great success, and over time became a full-blown theme park complete with an aquarium, multiple roller coasters, and gondola rides.
3. Due to corrupt local politics and competition from Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm, the park ultimately failed and the Venice area was neglected for so many decades that by the 1950's it became known as the "Slum by the Sea."
4. During the Great Depression, oil was discovered on the Venice Peninsula. Over 450 oil wells were built in the area, which remained operational through the 1970s.
5. Jim Morrison lived in Venice for two years where he met Ray Manzarek to form the nucleus of The Doors.
6. Venice Beach is often featured in movies and television shows, including prominent shots in *White Men Can't Jump*, *Californication*, and *L.A. Story*.
7. The Venice Family Clinic is the largest free clinic in the country.

If you are not averse to walking, we would recommend parking on one of the residential streets behind Intelligentsia on Abbot Kinney and just walking the entire itinerary above. Make sure to check street signs to avoid permit-only areas. If you walk the entire itinerary, total distance is approximately 2.5 miles and, you'll have all day to do it. Also, don't forget to call (or use [Opentable](#)) to make reservations at Gjelina and Primitivo to avoid long waits. Venice tends to be overcast in the morning, even during the summer, so we suggest starting the day at around 10am or 11am on Abbot Kinney Blvd, and then heading to the Canals and Boardwalk in the afternoon once the marine layer has hopefully burned off.

## INVITE YOUR DATE WITH THIS FREE E-DATE

YOU'VE RECEIVED A  E-DATE ENTITLING YOU TOAn EPIC DATE in  
Venice!Great Food, Great  
People-Watching,  
and Great  
Company....ME!

TO: your date's name / FROM: your name

Customize the names and text in the e-Date above  
and send for free via email or [facebook](#)[Click here to send](#)

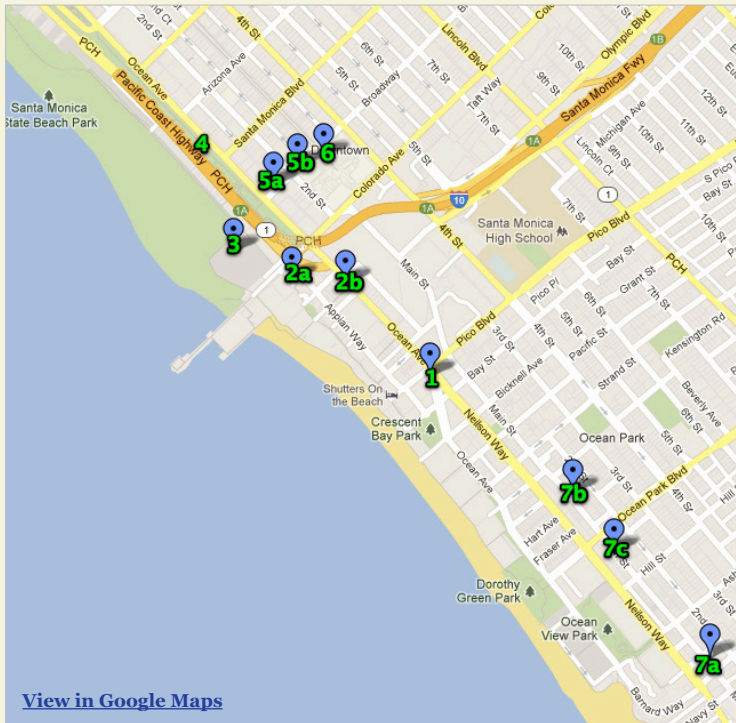
## EPIC DATE Santa Monica



### EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 1. Dining Al Fresco at Cha Cha Chicken Cafe (~ 1 hr)** – Don't let the "hole in the wall" atmosphere discourage you! You'll love their mouth-watering plantains, jerk chicken enchiladas, and "agua frescas" (mango and watermelon are our personal favorites). This is one of the few places in L.A. that is BYOB, so bring a bottle of champagne for agua frescas mimosas!
- 2. Active (or lazy) time at the Beach (~ 3 hr)** – You can walk off your brunch by heading down to the beach and enjoying a stroll along the Boardwalk. On the boardwalk, you'll also find places like Sea Mist Rentals to rent bikes or rollerblades if you really want to burn some calories. For a more unique (albeit more pricey) experience, rent a segway for an hour from Segway of Los Angeles. Once you and your date have picked out your mode of transport, just get on the boardwalk and head north towards Malibu or south towards Venice Beach. You can't go wrong either way! For a more relaxing option, go straight to the sand and enjoy a few hours soaking up the sun and a walk along the ocean.
- 3. Pretend You're Kids Again At The Santa Monica Pier (~ 1 hr)** – After some beach activities, head to the Santa Monica Pier for carnival games and a make-out session on the Ferris Wheel. Warning: This is a tourist trap and a complete zoo during the weekend with kids everywhere so if you prefer to stay off-the-beaten path, then this is definitely not the place for you.
- 4. Romance in the Park (~ 1 hr)** – Once you're done stuffing the life-size teddy bear you just won at the Pier in the trunk of your car, enjoy a nice romantic stroll along the walking paths of Palisades Park. Take a break on one of the benches overlooking the beach and Pier, and ask a passerby to snap a few photos of you and your date with the breathtaking Pacific Ocean in the background.
- 5. People-watching and Street Acts on 3rd Street (~ 1 hr)** – When you are ready for some more excitement, you can head over to the 3rd Street Promenade, Los Angeles' version of Barcelona's La Rambla. You won't want to spend too much time in this tourist trap, but it is worth checking out the scene and the talented (and not so talented) street performers. If you are craving a mid-afternoon snack, stop at Joe's Pizza for the best slice of pizza in LA. For drinks, head to Copa de Oro for one of the best happy hours in the city.
- 6. Discover one of LA's best-kept secrets (~ 1 hr)** – The 3rd Street Promenade dead ends at the all-new and beautifully designed Santa Monica Place, with some of the best shopping and dining L.A. has to offer. If you're into incredible wine, we would highly recommend Venokado in the "The Market" on the dining deck. This is a hidden gem, where you can enjoy a flight of 3 fantastic wines for \$12 on an outdoor patio. In Stop #7 below, we've offered a dinner option on nearby Main Street, but if you prefer to eat dinner at the Santa Monica Place, you can't go wrong with a healthy whole foods meal at True Food Kitchen on the first floor. The Sonoma Wine Garden on the dining deck is another fantastic dining option, especially if it is a nice evening outside.
- 7. Dinner & Drinks on Main Street (~ 2 hr)** – It is a short drive (or 20 minute walk) from Santa Monica Place to the ultra-romantic Via Veneto on Main Street, where you and your date will enjoy one of the best Italian meals of your lives. The filet mignon with porcini mushroom sauce, the quail pappardelle, the pasta fagioli, the grilled seafood salad -- our mouths water just thinking about it. If your date is up for it, head to Brick & Mortar or Basement for a cocktail to cap off this epic date in Santa Monica.

## MAP & LEGEND



[View in Google Maps](#)

**1. Cha Cha Chicken Cafe**  
[1906 Ocean Ave](#); (310) 581-1684  
 Mon-Fri 11 am - 10 pm,  
 Sat-Sun 10 am - 10 pm  
[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

**2(a) Sea Mist Rentals**  
[1619 Ocean Front Walk](#)  
 (310) 395-7076  
[Yelp Reviews](#)

**2(b) Segway of Los Angeles**  
[1660 Ocean Ave](#)  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)

**3. Santa Monica Pier**  
[Google Map](#)

**4. Palisades Park**  
[Google Map](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

**5(a) Joe's Pizza**  
[111 Broadway](#); (310) 395-9222  
 Mon-Wed 10 am - 12 am,  
 Thu 10 am - 1 am  
 Fri-Sat 10 am - 3 am  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)

**5(b) Copa de Oro**  
[217 Broadway](#); (310) 576-3030  
 Mon-Wed 5:30 pm - 12 am,  
 Thu-Sat 5:30 pm - 2 am  
[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

**6. Santa Monica Place**  
[395 Santa Monica Pl](#)  
 (310) 394-5451  
 Mon-Thu 10 am - 9 pm,  
 Fri-Sat 10 am - 10 pm,  
 Sun 9 am - 8 pm  
[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

**7(a) Via Veneto**  
[3009 Main St](#); (310) 399-1843  
[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

**7(b) Brick & Mortar**  
[2435 Main St](#); (310) 450-3434  
 Mon-Wed 11 am - 12 am,  
 Thu-Fri 11 am - 1 am,  
 Sat 10 am - 1 am, Sun 10 am - 12 am  
[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

**7(c) Basement**  
[2640 Main St](#); (310) 396-2469  
 Mon-Sun 5 pm - 2 am  
[Yelp Reviews](#)

## SHARE THESE INTERESTING FACTS WITH YOUR DATE

1. Santa Monica is named after Saint Monica of Hippo. Legend has it that on her feast day, May 4, 1769, Spanish Soldiers were refreshing themselves at a spring (at what is now believed to be Wilshire and Sawtelle) when one of the soldiers remarked that the waters of the springs reminded him of the tears that Saint Monica had shed for her straying son, Augustine, before his conversion. The City founders heard this story, and named the city Santa Monica after the Saint.
2. The Santa Monica Pier was built in 1909 and its carousel has been named a National Historic Landmark.
3. In recent years, Santa Monica has been at the heart of the city's start-up and tech scene, positioning Los Angeles as a contender to Silicon Valley and earning the moniker "Silicon Beach."
4. The band "Linkin Park" was named after Lincoln Park in Santa Monica.
5. While working at MGM studios, Tennessee Williams lived in a hotel on Ocean Avenue in the 1940s. At that location, he wrote *The Glass Menagerie*.
6. In 1994, the city transformed an old rail stop, Bergamot Station, into a collection of art galleries that has become a center of art exhibition and retailing with over 600,000 visitors each year.

### Golden Nugget Tip

First, don't forget to bring towels if you plan on heading down to the sand (beach chairs, a cooler, and portable speakers would also be great if you plan on spending significant time on the beach). Second, parking in Santa Monica for extended periods of time can be a pain and expensive. If you don't want to deal with the headache of moving your car around, we suggest parking at the Pier in the morning and paying the \$8-15 flat-fee for all-day parking. Make sure to ask the parking attendant what time they lock up the lot. If you are ever going to be in Santa Monica for 4 hours or less (not for you if you plan to do the whole itinerary above), then your best bet is to valet at the Santa Monica Place. Valet parking is FREE for the first 4 hours with validation from any of the sit-down restaurants on the dining deck!

## INVITE YOUR DATE WITH THIS FREE E-DATE

YOU'VE RECEIVED A **Date** vitation™ E-DATE ENTITLING YOU TO



An Epic Date in  
Santa Monica.

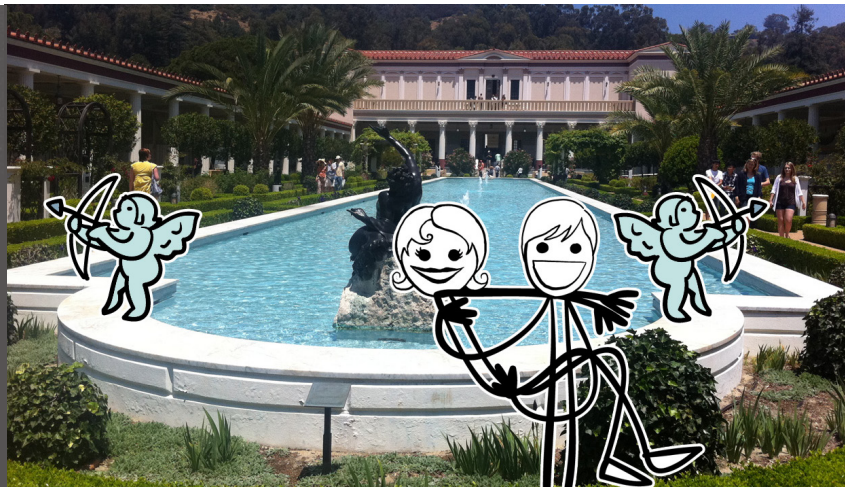
Mimosa Brunch,  
Beach Time,  
Wine Tasting,  
and more!

TO: Date's name / FROM: Your name

Customize the names and text in the e-Date above  
and send for free via email or [facebook](#)

**Click here to send**

## EPIC DATE Malibu



### EPIC DATE ITINERARY

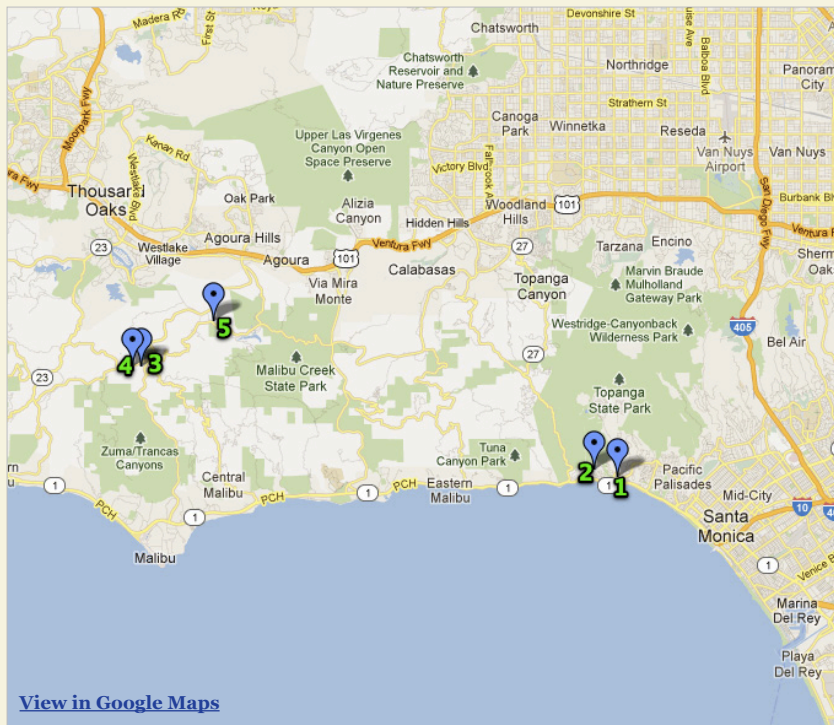
**WARNING:** This may very well be the most romantic day ever put together.

- 1. Beginning The Day With Peaceful Serenity (~ 1 hr)** – Start your date at the most serene and peaceful setting in all of Los Angeles, the Self-Realization Fellowship. You and your date will enjoy a romantic stroll of the grounds, which includes beautiful gardens and a natural spring-fed lake with swans and koi. The Shrine was dedicated by Paramahansa Yogananda in 1950, and still has a very active schedule with meditation services and classes. You'll leave grateful for the wonder of life and excited for the romantic day in store.

**Note:** Before you visit, check the hours in the Legend below to ensure the grounds are open.

- 2. Time Machine Travel to Ancient Rome (~ 2.5 hr)** – More than just a museum, the Getty Villa is a reproduction of a Roman villa buried during the famous eruption of Mount Vesuvius and thought to be the home of Julius Caesar's father-in-law. In addition to the breathtaking grounds and gardens, the Villa houses Getty's world-class antiquity collection. The Villa is widely considered the most romantic spot in all of Los Angeles, and deservedly so. Admission is free (parking is \$15) though you are required to book and print tickets in advance. Ticket bookings can be made through the [Getty's website](#), and same-day tickets are often available but we recommend you book in advance for the weekends.
- 3. From Ancient Rome to Rustic Chic (~ 2 hr)** - From the Getty Villa, you'll enjoy a romantic drive along the historic Pacific Coast Highway before heading up Kanan Dume Road towards Calamigos Ranch, one of the most idyllic properties you'll ever visit. The Malibu Cafe sits in the middle of the ranch. Ask to be seated at a table on the expansive lawn, where you'll enjoy a measure of privacy you won't find at any other restaurant in L.A. The Cafe's wine selection is first-rate, and the food is fantastic too (Olga and I enjoyed the perfectly prepared brussel sprouts and grilled artichoke). But what makes the Ranch truly unique is its enchanting ambiance, from chandeliers hanging on trees to the free billiard tables and paddle boats on the lake. At this point, you've already hit the Romantic Trifecta, and the day isn't even over yet.
- 4. Wine Tasting in Malibu (~ 1.5 hr)** – As the saying goes, time flies when you are having fun. With the first 3 stops on this itinerary, we'd be surprised if you can make it over to Malibu Wines Winery for last call at 5:30pm (check their website for extended hours during the summer). However, we had to include it on our itinerary as an honorable mention in the event you get an early start on your day and can make it. If you do, you and your date will enjoy a flight of 4 generously poured wines (starting at just \$12 per flight) surrounded by mountains and vineyards with live music to boot.
- 5. Old school charm at the Old Place (~ 2 hr)** – This restaurant is as charming as it gets. First opened in 1970, the Old Place is now run by Morgan Runyon, son of the original owner. There is no pretense or velvet ropes here. The staff will treat you like old friends. Don't miss the steamed clams, sirloin steak (a great value at \$19), skoodel (an off-the-menu mushroom and noodle dish served in a skillet), and the cookie on a skillet for dessert. Old Place is very small and popular so we highly recommend you make a reservation. Before dinner (or if you find yourself waiting for a table), check out the Cornell Winery Tasting Room next door for a tasting and pick up a bottle of wine to have with dinner. It's only a \$5 corkage fee for wines bought at the Cornell Winery.

## MAP & LEGEND



### 1. Self-Realization Fellowship

[17190 Sunset Blvd](#); (323) 661-8006

Tue-Sat 9 am - 4:30 pm

Sun 12 pm - 4:30 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 2. Getty Villa

[17985 Pacific Coast Hwy](#); (310) 440-7300

Mon, Wed-Sun 10 am - 5 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 3. Malibu Cafe

[327 Latigo Canyon Rd](#); (818) 540-2400

Thu-Sat 12 pm - 10 pm

Sun 10 am - 10 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 4. Malibu Wines Winery

[31740 Mulholland Hwy](#); (818) 865-0605

Mon-Sun 11 am - 6 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 5. Old Place

[29983 Mulholland Hwy](#); (818) 706-9001

Mon, Thu-Sat 4 pm - 11 pm

Sat 9 am - 4 pm

Sun 9 am - 11 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

## SHARE THESE INTERESTING FACTS WITH YOUR DATE

1. The first Spaniard to explore Malibu was Juan Cabrillo, who set sail from Navidad, Mexico in June 1542. From October 10-13, 1542, he anchored in the small bay of Malibu Lagoon, claiming the landfall for the King of Spain and naming it "Pueblo de las Canoas" (Town of the Canoes) because of the many impressive Chumash canoes which came to his ships to greet him.
2. Most of Malibu's land was privately held by the Rindge family until 1929, when the state won a court case that allowed construction of what is now known as the Pacific Coast Highway to begin in Malibu.
3. The geologically unstable terrain and seasonal dry Santa Ana winds create a recipe for natural disasters in Malibu, most notably wildfires and mudslides. The 1993 Malibu Fire burned nearly 19,000 acres, destroyed 739 homes and forced terrified residents of the famed Malibu Colony to take refuge in the nearby lagoon.
4. Products that are named after Malibu but not made there include, among others: Chevrolet Malibu, Malibu Barbie, Piper Malibu, Malibu Grand Prix, and Malibu Rum.
5. In the Cohen Brothers' 1998 cult classic *The Big Lebowski*, the Malibu Police Chief describes the community as follows: "We've got a nice, quiet beach community here, and I aim to keep it nice and quiet."
6. The Getty Villa houses over 44,000 Greek, Roman, and Etruscan artifacts from 6500 B.C to A.D. 600.

### Golden Nugget Tip

On Saturdays at 1pm, the Getty Villa has a "[Tea by the Sea](#)" experience, inspired by the herbs, vegetables, and fruits that grow in the Villa's authentically recreated first-century Roman gardens. For \$36pp, you'll enjoy delicious teas and a Mediterranean-inspired menu of savory panini, sweet scones and tea breads, and gourmet cakes and tarts. You'll need to make reservations in advance, and if you do the "Tea by the Sea" you would simply skip the Malibu Cafe (#3) above. This is worth-considering, especially if your date is a tea connoisseur. Note that the Self Realization Fellowship is closed on Mondays and does not open until noon on Sundays. On all other days, it opens at 9:30am.

## INVITE YOUR DATE WITH THIS FREE E-DATE

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An Epic Date in  
Malibu.

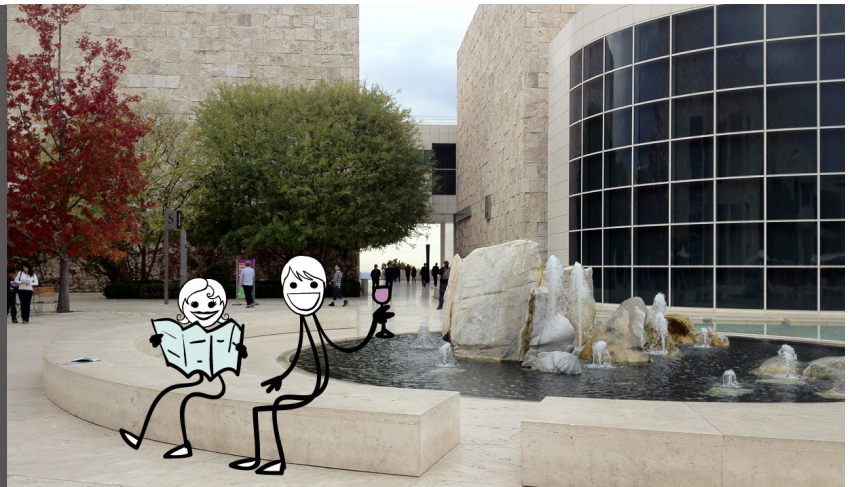
Get ready for the  
most romantic  
date of your life.

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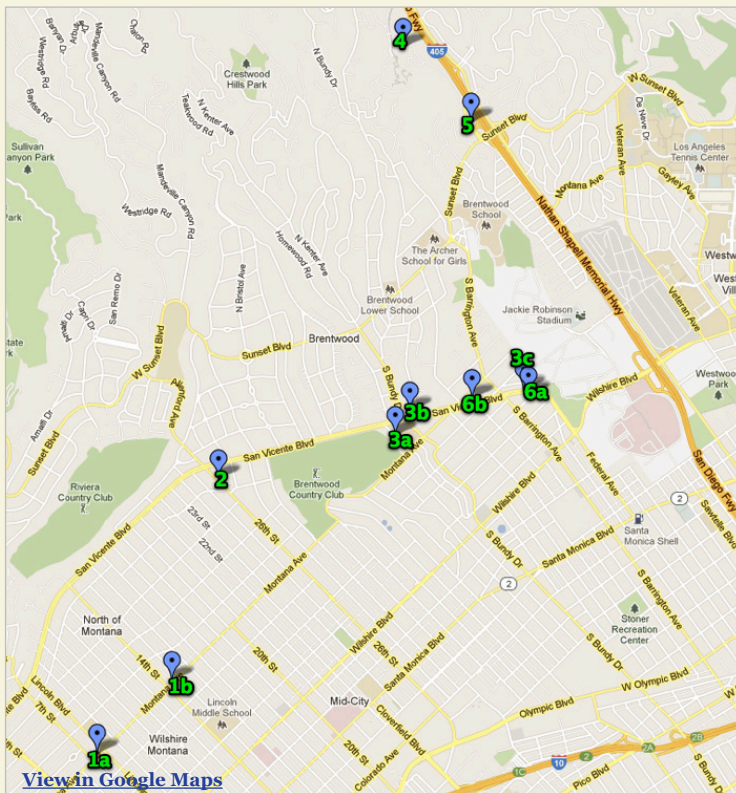
# EPIC DATE Brentwood



## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

1. **Brunch & Stroll on Montana Ave (~ 1.5 hr)** – Start your day with brunch and a stroll along one of LA's best walking streets, Montana Ave (from 7th to 17th St.). You can find so many gems along this charming, tree-lined street but our recommendation is to start with a cup of Joe and some people-watching sitting outside at Peets Coffee & Tea followed by fresh-squeezed juice and a delicious brunch at Blue Plate.
2. **A dose of little-town charm (~ 1 hr)** – Explore the Brentwood Country Mart, housed in a red-board structure that evokes early American and English country marketplaces with shops and stalls arranged around a central courtyard. The most delicious homemade ice cream you've ever tasted is at the Sweet Rose Creamery, which uses only the finest organic ingredients and makes all of its toppings, cones, and sauces from scratch daily.
3. **Explore "Main Street" & Prep Your Picnic (~ 1.5 hr)** – From the Country Mart, it's just a few minutes drive (or a 15 minute walk) to the "Main Street" of Brentwood, San Vicente. Enjoy a nice walk down the coral-tree lined street, and pick up some goodies for the picnic you'll have later in the day at the Getty Center. If it's a Sunday, you can get fresh organic fruit and veggies from Brentwood's delightful Farmer's Market. We'd also recommend creating your own sandwiches to-go at the Vicente Foods deli counter. If you need a quick caffeine fix or want to rest your legs from all that walking, enjoy a coffee and pastry on the outdoor patio of Coral Tree Cafe.
4. **Enjoy the best views in LA, oh and world-class art too (~ 3 hr)** – With your picnic-basket now packed with goodies, you're ready to enjoy the afternoon at the Getty Center. Admission is free. You just need to pay for parking (\$15) and then enjoy the tram ride up to the museum, which arguably houses LA's finest art collection and certainly its finest views. When you arrive, stake out a spot on the Center's expansive and beautifully manicured lawn to enjoy a picnic and cuddling session on the blanket you remembered to pack. When you're ready for some culture, check in your bag and enjoy the museum's masterpieces from the likes of Van Gogh, Renoir, & Monet.
5. **More views & lounging at the Angelino Hotel (~ 1 hr)** – Just minutes from the Getty Center (right off the 405 at Sunset Blvd), you can't miss the circular Angelino Hotel. On the top level, you'll find the West Restaurant and Lounge with floor-to-ceiling windows and striking 180 degree views of LA. On a clear day, it is possible to see not only the Los Angeles skyline but also the San Bernardino Mountains to the east as well as the Pacific Ocean to the west. The Lounge is the perfect place to enjoy the sunset while sipping on a refreshing cocktail and seasonal small bites (but save room for dinner!).
6. **Dinner & Drinks in Style (~ 2 hr)** – After you're done lounging at the West, it's time to head back down to San Vicente Blvd to finish off your day with a fantastic meal at one of Brentwood's fine restaurants. We suggest either Tavern (President Obama has dined here...twice) or Katsuya (sushi by Master Chef Katsuya Uechi and design by Phillipe Starke. Enough said.). Make reservations!

## MAP & LEGEND



### 1(a) Peet's Cafe

[11750 San Vicente Boulevard](#)

(310) 979-7892

Mon-Sun 5 am - 9 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 1(b) Blue Plate

[1415 Montana Ave](#); (310) 260-8877

Mon-Sun 8 am - 9 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 2. Sweet Rose Creamery

[Brentwood Country Market](#)

[225 26th St, Ste 51](#); (310) 260-2663

Mon-Sun 11 am - 11 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 3(a) Farmer's Market

[741 Gretna Green Way](#)

(818) 591-8161

Sun 9 am - 1:00 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 3(b) Vicente Foods

[12027 San Vicente Blvd](#)

(310) 472-5215

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 3(c) Coral Tree Cafe

[11645 San Vicente Blvd](#)

(310) 979-8733

Mon-Sun 7 am - 11 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 4. Getty Center

[1200 Getty Center Dr](#)

(310) 440-7300

Tue-Fri, Sun 10 am - 5:30 pm,  
Sat 10 am - 9 pm

[Museum Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 5. West Restaurant & Lounge

[170 N Church Ln](#); (310) 476-6411

Mon-Thu 7 am - 12 am,

Fri-Sat 7 am - 1 am,

Sun 7 am - 11 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 6(a) Tavern

[11648 West San Vicente Boulevard](#)

(310) 806-6464

Mon-Thu, Sun 8 am - 9:30 pm

Fri-Sat 8 am - 10:30 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 6(b) Katsuya

[11777 San Vicente Boulevard](#)

(310) 207-8744

Mon-Fri 11:30 am - 2:30 pm,

Mon, Sun 5 pm - 10 pm,

Tue-Thu 5 pm - 11 pm,

Fri-Sat 5 pm - 12 am

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

## SHARE THESE INTERESTING FACTS WITH YOUR DATE

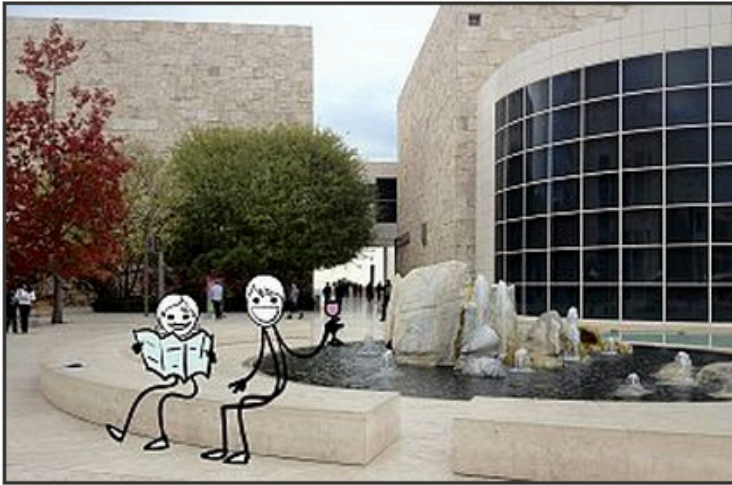
1. The area that is now Brentwood was part of Rancho San Vicente y Santa Monica, a Mexican land-grant ranch sold off in pieces by the Sepulveda family after the Mexican-American War.
2. The Sunset Fields Golf Club, known as the Brentwood Country Club since 1941, hosted the running portion of the modern pentathlon event at the 1932 Summer Olympic Games.
3. Though there is no direct connection, Brentwood was named after Brentwood of Essex, England, a town on the outskirts of London dating back to Saxon times. Many local street have British names, including Barrington, Gorham, and Bristol.
4. Brentwood received unwelcome notoriety in 1994 when Nicole Brown Simpson, ex-wife of football legend O.J. Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman were found stabbed to death outside her Bundy Drive condominium.
5. The Getty Center's construction cost was \$1.3 billion and was designed by world renowned architect Richard Meier.
6. Around 1,200,000 square feet (110,000 square meters) of travertine was used to build the Center.

### Golden Nugget Tip

The Getty Center closes at 9pm on Saturday only (on other days it closes at 5:30pm) so ideally you'd go on the date above on Saturday to have more time to enjoy the Getty and potentially stay for sunset.

## INVITE YOUR DATE WITH THIS FREE E-DATE

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An Epic Date in  
Brentwood.

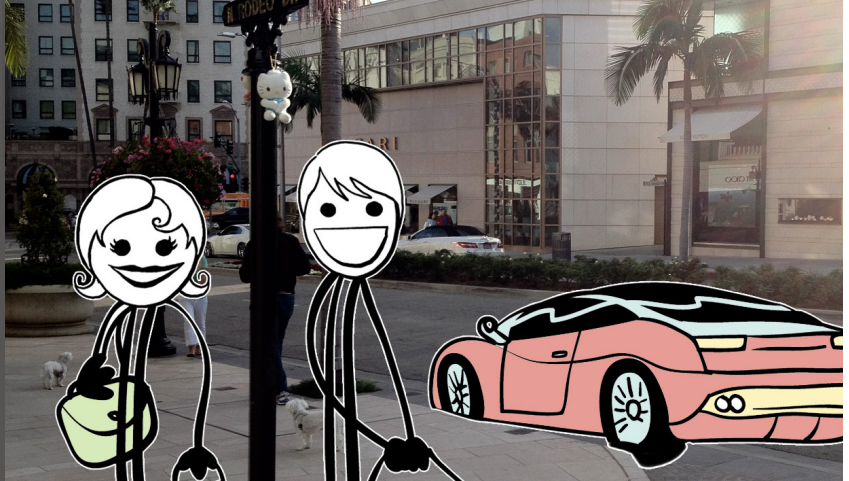
Including, but not  
limited to, an  
awesome picnic  
at the Getty.

TO: Date's name / FROM: Your name

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## EPIC DATE Westwood/ Beverly Hills



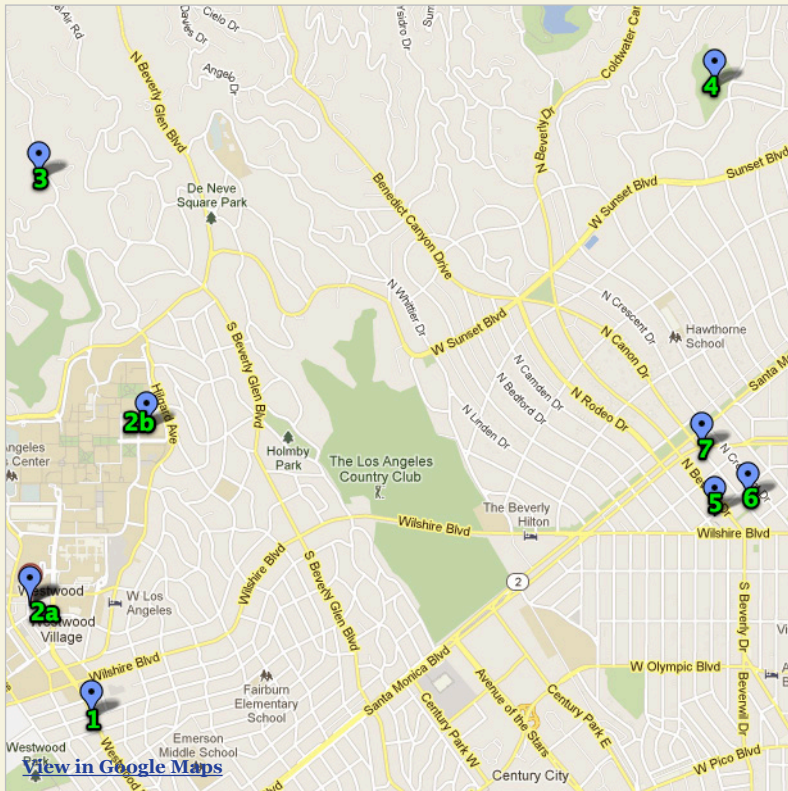
### EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 1. Fresh & Friendly Brunch at Fundamental (~ 1.5 hr)** - Start your day off at one of the most unique restaurants in LA. Fundamental has an open kitchen with friendly chefs, the freshest ingredients from local farmers markets, a daily changing menu, and a minimalist modern atmosphere. If you like coffee, they grind your coffee beans to order and serve it in a French press. Not coming here would be a *fundamental* mistake.
- 2. 35 cent cookies and the #1 make-out spot in the nation (~ 1.5 hr)**- It's time to walk off brunch with a stroll through UCLA's famous quad and sculpture garden. On your way into campus, make a quick stop at Diddy Riese for their world-famous cookies. There is almost always a line out the door, but it moves quickly and it's well worth the wait for freshly baked cookies at only 35 cents a pop or an ice cream sandwich for \$1.75!! Once on campus, just ask someone to point you in the direction of Royce Hall. You'll enjoy the charm of the 4 buildings that originally comprised the UCLA campus. For a little exercise, go up and down the Janeee steps. And finally, no trip to UCLA would be complete without wondering through the sculpture garden, which Playboy once named the #1 make-out spot in the country. I couldn't say I agree with that, but you and your date will definitely enjoy the garden and fascinating sculptures from the likes of Rodin, Melnitz, and Moore. Find a romantic bench in the garden to enjoy your cookies from Diddy Riese and a smooch.
- 3. Hotel Bel Air for a drink or afternoon tea (~ 2 hr)** - After all that walking at UCLA, you'll be ready to lounge and relax at the iconic Hotel Bel Air. Nested on 12 acres in the Bel-Air Estates neighborhood of Los Angeles, the hotel recently underwent a 2-year \$150 million transformation and the result is spectacular. You and your date will love the romantic setting and beautifully manicured grounds. Afternoon Tea at the hotel is an art but pricey (\$60pp; reservations recommended), or you can always simply enjoy a signature cocktail in the bar.
- 4. Greystone Mansion (~ 1 hr)** - If you don't lose track of time at Hotel Bel Air, head over to the Greystone Mansion before the grounds close at 5pm (or 6pm during daylight savings). The 1928 Tudor mansion was built for Edward Doheny and has 67 rooms and over 18 acres of landscaped grounds, waterfalls, and pools. The interior of the house itself is closed to the public, but you and your date will still enjoy walking around this impressive property (owned and operated by the City of Beverly Hills) and entrance is free. You may recognize the mansion from many Hollywood films, including The Big Lebowski, Spiderman 3 and There Will Be Blood.
- 5. Cruise Rodeo (~ 1 hr)** - No trip to Beverly Hills would be complete without a walk down Rodeo Drive. You'll need to have some serious cash to burn to shop in the luxury boutiques here, but there is nothing wrong with a little window shopping. Between the corners of Wilshire and Dayton Way you'll find the cobblestone-lined Two Rodeo Drive, which feels more like a movie-set than a real shopping center. There are a number of specialty food stores within walking distance that are worth checking out (and where you'll be able to find something you can actually afford), including Teuscher Chocolates, The American Tea Room, The Cheese Store, and of course, Sprinkles Cupcakes.

## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 6. Dinner at the best restaurant in the city (~ 2.5 hr)** - Mastro's will set you back a pretty penny, but there is a reason why it is always jam-packed and is widely considered to be the best steakhouse in L.A., if not the country. It's where I took Olga for dinner on the night of our engagement, and remains my #1 choice for any special occasion. Mastro's cuisine is the stuff dreams are made of... lobster mashed potatoes, bone-in fillets, warm butter cake. My mouth waters just writing about it. Reservations are a must and we recommend requesting a table upstairs where the atmosphere is fun with live piano music.
- 7. The VodBox and Live Music at Nic's (~ 1.5 hr)** - After dinner, finish off the evening a few blocks away with vodka tasting at Nic's Beverly Hills. The friendly staff will outfit you and your date with faux fur coats and hats before you head into the VodBox, essentially a walk-in freezer, to taste a variety of impressive vodkas. Sure, the VodBox is a bit gimmicky, but it's a lot of fun and makes for a great photo op. Nic's hosts live musicians on Friday and Saturday evenings, so after getting out of the Freezer you can warm each other up on the dance floor.

## MAP & LEGEND



- 1. Fundamental**  
[1303 Westwood Blvd](#)  
 (310) 444-7581  
 Tue-Sun 11 am - 3 pm,  
 Tue-Thu, Sun 6 pm - 10 pm,  
 Fri-Sat 6 pm - 12 am  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 2(a) Diddy Riese Cookies**  
[926 Broxton Ave](#)  
 (310) 208-0448  
 Mon-Thu 10 am - 12 am,  
 Fri 10 am - 1 am,  
 Sat 12 pm - 1 am,  
 Sun 12 pm - 12 am  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 2(b) UCLA Campus**  
[405 Hilgard Ave](#)  
 (310) 825-4321  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 3. Hotel Bel Air**  
[701 Stone Canyon Rd](#)  
 (310) 472-1211  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 4. Greystone Mansion**  
[905 Loma Vista Dr](#)  
 (310) 286-0119  
 Mon-Sun 10 am - 5 pm  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 5. Rodeo Drive**  
[9480 Dayton Way](#)  
 (310) 247-7040  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 6. Mastro's**  
[246 N Canon Dr](#)  
 (310) 888-8782  
 Mon-Thu, Sun 5 pm - 11 pm,  
 Fri-Sat 5 pm - 12 am  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 7. Nic's Beverly Hills**  
[453 N Canon Dr](#)  
 (310) 550-5707  
 Mon-Wed, Sun 5 pm - 12 am,  
 Thu-Sat 5 pm - 2 am  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)

## SHARE THESE INTERESTING FACTS WITH YOUR DATE

1. The UCLA Bruins have won 125 national championships, including 108 NCAA team championships as of December 2011, more than any other university.
2. Under legendary coach John Wooden, UCLA men's basketball teams won 10 NCAA championships, including a record seven consecutive (1967-1973). The team also won an unprecedented 88 consecutive games from 1971-1974.
3. The Tongva, the Native Americans who first inhabited Beverly Hills, considered the nexus of Franklin, Coldwater and Benedict canyons a sacred site and named it Gathering of the Waters or, in Spanish, El Rodeo de las Aguas.
4. The Beverly Hills Hotel was constructed in 1912 at the site of the Gathering of the Waters, and spurred development in the area. Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford led the wave of movie stars moving here when they built their mansion, Pickfair, in 1919.
5. The famous Electric Fountain, erected in the 1930s on the corner of Santa Monica and Wilshire, has a sculpture of a Tongva in prayer at the top, homage to Beverly Hills' heritage as a wellspring of fertility and abundance.
6. The City of Beverly Hills' operating budget of more than \$300 million is comparable to the Gross National Product of the British Virgin Islands.

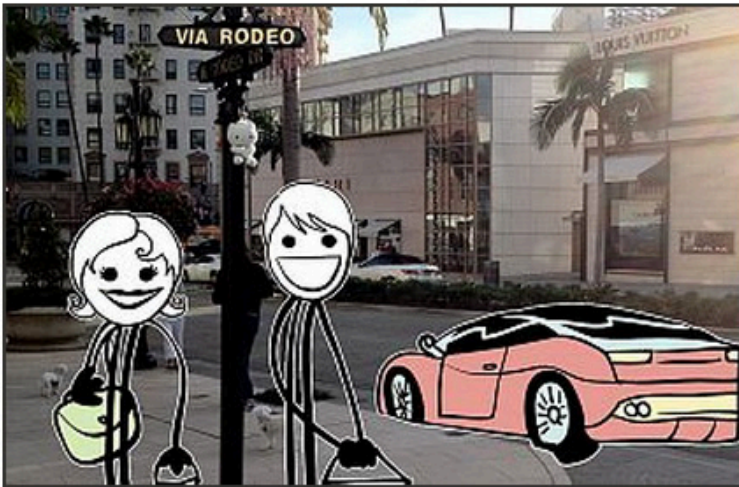
### Golden Nugget Tip

Westwood and Beverly Hills parking enforcement are notoriously aggressive. If your meter expires at noon, you can expect a ticket by 12:01pm. Make sure to keep track of parking signs and meters to avoid parking tickets. This date is expensive enough as is without a \$70 parking citation!

[Sprinkles Cupcakes](#) recently introduced the world's first cupcake ATM, featuring a robotic arm that delivers the freshly-baked cupcake of your choosing 24-hours a day.

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An Epic Date in  
Westwood and  
Beverly Hills.

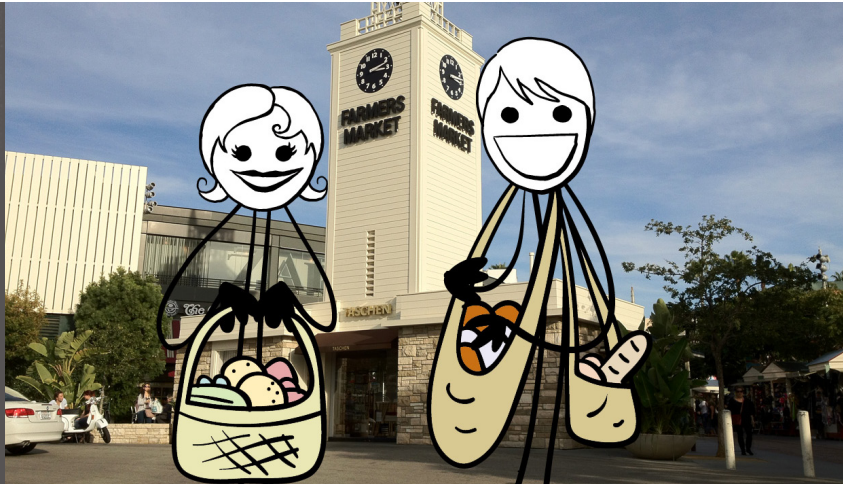
Get ready to be  
spoiled!

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## EPIC DATE Mid-City/ West Hollywood



### EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 1. Brunch at Blue Jam Cafe (~ 1.5 hr)** - Blue Jam is hands-down our favorite brunch spot in LA. Unfortunately, word has gotten out so expect to be standing outside for 30-45 minutes if you get there after 10am on the weekend. Trust us, it's worth the wait, especially for their signature crunchy french toast.
- 2. Treats and People Watching at the Farmers Market (~ 2 hr)** - The Farmers Market first opened in July 1934 -- nearly eight decades ago, on what was then a 256 acre dairy farm owned by Arthur Gilmore. More than 90% of all the shops and stalls at Farmers Market are independently owned and operated, and many of them (such as Maggie's Nuts and Kip's Toyland) have been in the same families for generations. Spend some time exploring the market and then take a stroll through the Grove, the adjoining upscale outdoor mall, to enjoy the choreographed fountain water show (think the Bellagio fountain show in Las Vegas, but on a smaller scale).
- 3. Wine Tasting & Small Plates at 3Twenty Wine Lounge (~ 1.5 hr)** - You'll likely be greeted by Edgar, the gracious and generous owner/host who will make sure your experience is top-notch. The food is inventive and impeccable (try the burrata olive tapenade and flat iron steak with roquefort butter). But the real draw is the wine. They have the new-agey wine dispensers where you put a card in, and it dispenses by the ounce, allowing you to sample a variety of great wines. Love, love, love this place, and so will your date.
- 4. Culture at LACMA (~ 3.5 hr)** - Next you're off to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (known as LACMA). Enjoy the world-class art collection that includes works by Rembrandt, Monet, Picasso, and Guaguin. Make sure to snap a few photos at the romantic Urban Light sculpture by Chris Burden, one of the most popular "Save The Date" photo locations in the city. LACMA is the largest encyclopedic museum west of Chicago so if your legs begin to tire, take a load off at the ultra-cool Stark Bar and enjoy a beverage overlooking the Urban Light Sculpture.

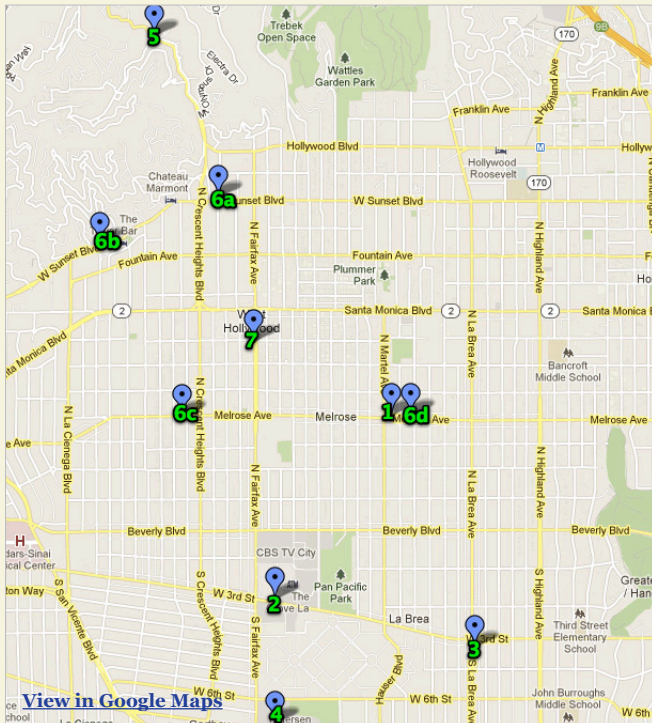
**Note:** LACMA hosts live jazz musicians on Friday nights (from 5:30-8:30pm) from April to December. Although this wouldn't work with this full-day epic date itinerary, it is definitely worth checking out for a date night on a Friday evening.

- 5. Romantic Escape & Dinner at Pace (~ 2 hr)** - After you've worked up your appetite again wondering through LACMA, hop in your car for a short drive up Laurel Canyon, where you'll find Pace nestled in the hills. Here, it's more than just delicious food (although make sure to try their house specialties, the Cedar Planked Salmon and chocolate souffle). It's about the experience. The bohemian chic and romantic atmosphere in the canyon is a haven from the bustle of the city just minutes below. We highly recommend you make reservations here, especially on the weekend, and that you request a table on the heated covered patio.

## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 6. Have a Laugh at Groundlings or the Laugh Factory (~ 2 hr)** - After a day of heavy eating and culture, it'll be the perfect time to lighten the mood and share some laughs at one for the nearby comedy or improv clubs. Lucky for you, this neighborhood is home to many of the best clubs in the nation (the Laugh Factory and Comedy Store for stand-up, or the Improv and Groundlings for improv). All of these venues have performances after 10:00pm on the weekend, so check their websites for schedules before the date and purchase tickets for whichever spot has the best act or show that particular evening.
- 7. Round off your day with the perfect martini at Lola's (~ 1.5 hr)** - Head to Lola's for the largest martini menu you've ever seen. Grab a seat in the lounge and choose from over 135 martini varieties (last time we counted), from classic to blood orange to strawberry milkshake. Lola's definitely has a martini for everyone including you and your date!

## MAP & LEGEND



- 1. Blue Jam Cafe**  
[7371 Melrose Ave;](#) (323) 951-9191  
 Mon-Sun 8 am - 9 pm  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 2. Farmer's Market**  
[6333 W 3rd St;](#) (323) 933-9211  
 Mon-Fri 9 am - 9 pm, Sat 9 am - 8 pm  
 Sun 10 am - 7 pm  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 3. 3Twenty Wine Lounge**  
[320 S La Brea;](#) (323) 932-9500  
 Mon-Sat 11 am - 2:30 pm,  
 Mon-Thu, Sun 6 pm - 11 pm,  
 Fri-Sat 6 pm - 11:30 pm,  
 Sun 12 pm - 2:30 pm  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 4. LACMA**  
[5905 Wilshire Blvd;](#) (323) 857-6000  
 Mon,Tue,Thu 12 noon-8 pm,  
 Fri 12 noon-9 pm, Sat,Sun 11 am-8 pm  
 \$15 admission; \$10 for students and seniors.  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 5. Pace**  
[2100 Laurel Canyon Blvd](#)  
 (323) 654-8583  
 Mon-Thu, Sun 5:30 pm - 10:30 pm,  
 Fri-Sat 5:30 pm - 11 pm  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 6(a) Laugh Factory**  
[8001 W Sunset Blvd](#)  
 (323) 656-1336  
 Mon, Wed-Sun 8 pm - 9:30 pm, Mon,  
 Thu-Sat 10 pm - 11:30 pm,  
 Tue 6:30 pm - 8 pm,  
 Fri-Sat 12 am - 1:30 am  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 6(b) Comedy Store**  
[8433 W Sunset Blvd;](#) (323) 650-6268  
 Mon 7 pm - 2 am, Tue-Sun 9 pm - 2 am  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 6(c) Improv**  
[8162 Melrose Ave;](#) (323) 651-2583  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 6(d) Groundlings**  
[7307 Melrose Ave;](#) (323) 934-4747  
 Mon 10 am - 5 pm,  
 Tue-Thu 10 am - 8 pm,  
 Fri 10 am - 10 pm, Sat 3 pm - 10 pm,  
 Sun 3 pm - 7:30 pm  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)
- 7. Lola's**  
[945 N Fairfax Ave;](#) (323) 654-5652  
 Mon 5:30 pm - 12 am,  
 Tue-Fri 5:30 pm - 2 am,  
 Sat 11 am - 2 am, Sun 11 am - 12 am  
[Company Website; Yelp Reviews](#)

## SHARE THESE INTERESTING FACTS WITH YOUR DATE

1. LA's first professional football team, the Bulldogs, played in Gilmore Stadium, now the CBS lot which is right next to the Farmers Market.
2. Long before the Dodgers came to LA, the Hollywood Stars played professional baseball at Gilmore Field, just a short walk from the Market.
3. Kip's Toyland, owned by Irvin Kipper, has been in the same location in the Market since 1956.
4. LACMA, founded in 1910 and in its present Miracle Mile home since 1965, is the largest encyclopedic art museum in the western United States.
5. In 2011, around 1.2 million visitors went to LACMA, making it the first time the museum has broken the one million mark in attendance.
6. On December 8, 2010 at 4:38pm the Laugh Factory broke the Guinness World Record for Longest Continuous Stand Up Comedy Show with a set that lasted 80 hours.
7. On November 17, 2006, the Laugh Factory made headlines when Michael Richards (Kramer on Seinfeld) went into a racist rant toward two black men who were heckling him during his standup comedy routine.
8. Alumni of the Groundlings improvisation and sketch comedy troupe include Will Ferrell, Phil Hartman, Lisa Kudrow, Cheryl Hines, and Jon Lovitz.

### Golden Nugget Tip

Keep in mind that 3Twenty Wine Lounge is only open for lunch from 11am-2:30pm on Saturday and 12pm-2:30pm on Sunday. If you lose track of time at the Farmer's Market and 3Twenty is closing by the time you are heading over there, you can always grab a bite at the Farmer's Market (we recommend [Pampas Grill](#) for Brazilian BBQ) or at [Stark Bar](#) at LACMA.

## INVITE YOUR DATE WITH THIS FREE E-DATE

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An Epic Date in  
Mid-City and  
West Hollywood.

Delicious food,  
remarkable art,  
and wine tasting  
are on the  
agenda!

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## EPIC DATE Hollywood



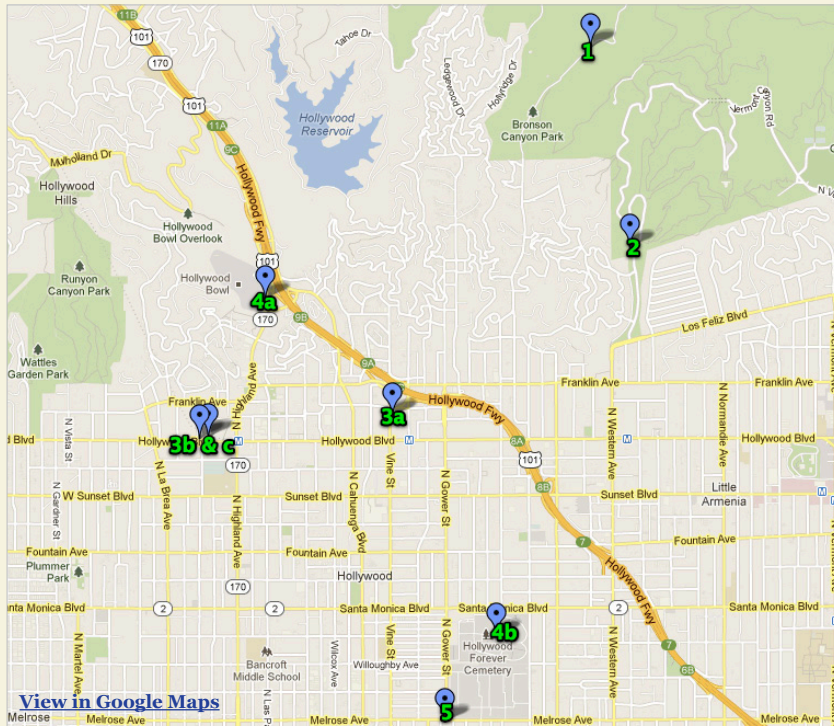
### EPIC DATE ITINERARY

1. **Hike to the Hollywood Sign (~ 3 hr)** - If you are going to have an epic date in Hollywood, then what better way to start your day than with a hike to the most epic sign in the world -- The Hollywood Sign! This is an easy/moderate hike that should last approx 2-3 hours and takes you to the top of Mt. Lee (the highest mountain in LA) right above the Hollywood Sign.
2. **Delightful Lunch at Trails Cafe (~ 1 hr)** - After the hike, you'll have worked up quite an appetite. Lucky for you, there is a tiny little cottage inside Griffith Park that delivers huge on both ambiance and food. From the avocado sandwich to the vegan hand pies to the freshly baked cookies and the strawberry lemonade, you will not be disappointed. It's cash-only though so make sure you've got some money on you.
3. **Tourist In Your Own City (~ 2 hr)** - Strap on your fanny-pack and spend the afternoon playing tourist in the heart of Hollywood. Yes, it's a tourist trap but you can't beat the people watching and in recent years Tinseltown has undergone a renaissance that has revived some of the glitz and glam from its 1930s and 1940s heyday. These landmarks are all within walking distance of each other so we recommend parking near Hollywood & Vine, and walking west on Hollywood.
  - **Capitol Records Building** - The 1954 13-story tower looks like a stack of vinyl 45s, though the architect Welton Becket's has denied this was intentional. One of Hollywood's most recognizable landmarks, the blinking red light on the roof spells out "Hollywood" in Morse code.
  - **Grauman's Egyptian and Chinese Theatres** - These famous movie palaces were built in the 1920's, and are still fully operational movie houses. Stop in for a movie, or at the very least walk by to admire the architecture and snap a few pics placing your hands in the handprints of Hollywood's most famous celebrities.
  - **Walk of Fame** - Over 2000 pink-terrazzo stars line the sidewalks on Hollywood Blvd (between Gower and La Brea) and Vine St (between Yucca and Sunset), and immortalize the artists who have made significant contributions to the entertainment community. You'll discover many of your favorite celebrities' stars just by walking the streets. If there are particular ones you don't want to miss, then [this site](#) lists the exact location of each Hollywood star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.
  - **Madame Tussauds Hollywood** - This is admittedly as touristy as it gets, but if you embrace that fact, then you'll actually have a blast. Their wax sculptures are startlingly lifelike and provide non-stop cheesy photo-ops with your favorite celebrities. If you [buy tickets online](#) in advance, you'll get a significant discount (as of this writing, 50% off for L.A. residents).

## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

4. **Picnic and a show (~ 4 hr)** - After spending the afternoon in the heart of Hollywood, you'll be ready to relax with some good food, wine, and entertainment. For your picnic, we recommend ordering a picnic basket from Mozza2Go, the take-out version of Nancy Silverton, Mario Batali and Joseph Bastianich's Pizzeria and Osteria Mozza. Just make sure to order 1 day in advance. For entertainment, we've got 2 picnic-friendly venues for you:
  - **The Hollywood Bowl** - This is our favorite live entertainment venue in LA, if not the world. During summer months, the Los Angeles symphony performs here, as well as world-renowned musicians from around the world.
  - **The Hollywood Forever Cemetery** - This is definitely the exception to the "Don't take your date to a graveyard" rule. During the summer months, Cinespia screens movies every Saturday Night at the cemetery that houses the graves of many of the most famous celebrities from Hollywood's past. Bring blankets, pillows, lawn chairs, and of course, your picnic basket full of goodies. Top DJs spin before and after the movie. Trust us, you'll be dying to go to the next screening together :)
5. **Drink at Pour Vous (~ 1.5 hr)** - To put an exclamation point on an already amazing date, make your last stop the stunning Parisian watering hole Pour Vous. With its brick walls, candlelit coves, sparkling chandeliers, white marble bar, and old trolley car on the patio (yes, you read that right!), you and your date will feel like you are on the set of Moulin Rouge as you enjoy the most inventive cocktails in town. Note, cocktail attire is encouraged, so makes sure to dress appropriately. Yes fellas, this means NO jeans.

## MAP & LEGEND



### 1. Hollywood Sign Hike Parking Lot

End of Canyon Drive (see Golden Nugget Tip below)

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 2. Trails Cafe

[2333 Fern Dell Dr](#); (323) 871-2102

Tue-Sun 8 am - 5 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 3(a). Capitol Records Building

[1750 Vine St](#)

### 3(b) Grauman's Egyptian and Chinese Theatres

[6925 Hollywood Blvd](#); (323) 464-6266

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 3(c) Madame Tussauds Hollywood

[6933 Hollywood Blvd](#); (323) 798-1670

Mon-Thu 10 am - 8 pm, Fri-Sun 10 am - 10 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 4(a) Hollywood Bowl

[2301 N Highland Ave](#); (323) 850-2000

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 4(b) Cinespia

[6000 Santa Monica Blvd](#); (323) 469-1181

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 5 Pour Vous

[5574 Melrose Ave](#); (323) 871-8699

Mon-Sun 8 pm - 2 am

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

## SHARE THESE INTERESTING FACTS WITH YOUR DATE


1. The Hollywood sign was originally built in 1923 for \$21,000, and was intended to be a temporary billboard for an upscale real estate development, called Hollywoodland.
2. The sign originally read "HOLLYWOODLAND." and was illuminated at night with 4,000 blinking light bulbs on each letter.
3. In 1932, Peg Entwistle, a successful Broadway actress who had moved to Hollywood but found no success, climbed 50 feet up a workman's ladder to the top of the letter "H" and jumped to her death. In a cruel twist of irony, Entwistle received an offer letter the following day from the Beverly Hills Playhouse to play the lead role in a play about a woman driven to suicide.
4. Pranksters altered the Sign in 1973 to read "Hollyweed" to advocate looser marijuana laws and in 1987 to "Holywood" to commemorate a visit by Pope John Paul II.
5. The Egyptian Theatre was home to Hollywood's first premier, *Robin Hood* starring Douglas Fairbanks, on October 18, 1922.
6. The Hollywood Bowl, which first opened in 1922, is the largest natural amphitheater in the United States.
7. The Bowl has welcomed the world's greatest performers over the years including Mikhail Baryshnikov, Fred Astair, Cher, Nat "King" Cole, Billie Holiday, Elton John, Al Jolson, Judy Garland, The Beatles, Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and countless others.
8. The Bowl's all-time attendance record of 26,410 paid admissions was set on August 7, 1936, when 26,410 people crowded into the Bowl to hear opera singer Lily Pons.


### Golden Nugget Tip

If you plan to attempt this entire itinerary, then I would definitely recommend bringing a change of clothes. Although the hike to the Hollywood Sign is not very challenging, on a warm day you may get sticky and will want to change into a fresher set of clothes after the hike. In addition, we would advise you to have warmer clothes for the evening picnic and cocktail attire if you choose to visit Pour Vous.

The Hollywood Hills sign hike begins at the end of Canyon Drive in Griffith Park. The best way to get there is to take Franklin Ave to Canyon Dr and head north on Canyon Dr into Griffith Park (here is an address that will get you to the corner of Franklin and Canyon: [5833 Franklin Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90068](#).) As you take Canyon Dr north, you'll eventually pass through the park's gates and you'll want to continue driving until you reach the barrier that says no vehicle entry. At that point, you'll see a parking lot with the sign "Camp Hollywoodland", which is where you'll want to park and then follow signs to the trailhead.

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## EPIC DATE Los Feliz/ Silver Lake



### EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 1. Autry Farmer's Market (~ 2 hr)** - On Saturday mornings, the south parking lot of the Autry National Center in Griffith Park is transformed into one of the best farmers' markets the city has to offer. Although there are fewer booths than you'll find at larger farmers' markets in the city, you and your date will love the picturesque setting, organic produce, speciality artisan foods, Mimosa & Bloody Mary bar, live music, and bocce ball on the lawn. It's the perfect way to jumpstart your morning exploring Griffith Park's many treasures.
- 2. Griffith Park Activity (~ 3 hr)** - You can literally spend days exploring this vast open-air park and all that it has to offer. I would suggest choosing one of the following activities:
  - Griffith Observatory** - Since the Observatory's opening in 1935, more than 7 million people have put an eye to the Observatory's original 12-inch Zeiss refracting telescope, making it home to the most trafficked telescope in the world. You'll recognize the Observatory from scores of Hollywood films, most notably *Rebel Without The Cause*, and take in some of the best vista views in Los Angeles.
  - LA Zoo** - You and your date will enjoy spending a few hours at the Zoo, filled with more than 1,100 animals from Gorillas to Komodo dragons. The newest exhibit, the LAIR (Living Amphibians, Invertebrates, and Reptiles) had garnered rave reviews and contains many of the world's rarest species of amphibians, invertebrates and reptiles.
  - Horseback Riding** - Sunset Ranch offers one and two hour horseback trail rides along scenic trails in Griffith Park. You'll get close to the Hollywood Sign, Observatory, and enjoy incredible views throughout. On clear days, you can even see the ocean. With knowledgeable, safety-oriented wranglers and gentle horses, no riding experience is needed. Reservations recommended.
- 3. Lunch and a refreshing cocktail at Alcove Bakery (~ 1.5 hr)** - Alcove bakery is the perfect embodiment of the laid-back, artistic spirit of Los Feliz. On a nice day, soak up the sunshine dining alfresco on the adorable brick patio in a garden-like setting. Oh, did we mention the hand-crafted cocktails, fine wines & beers, scrumptious food, artisan baked goods, hand-roasted coffee, and hand-crafted teas? With something for everyone, it'll be a guaranteed hit with your date and the perfect way to unwind after your busy morning in Griffith Park.
- 4. Visiting the Silver Lake Reservoir (~ 1 hr)** - Silver Lake gets its name from the Silver Lake Reservoir, which provides water to over 600,000 homes in Los Angeles, and holds 795M gallons of water at capacity! Unfortunately post-September 11th, a chain-link fence was erected around the Reservoir, which is a bit of an eye sore although it's still pleasant to take a walk along the 2.2 mile jogging path around its perimeter. On the east side of the reservoir, take some time to relax in the "Meadow", a nice and open grass area where locals come to sunbathe, picnic with friends, and practice yoga. There are no dogs allowed in the Meadow, but beware of dog "dynamites" on the jogging path, as some owners fail to pick up after their dogs.

## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

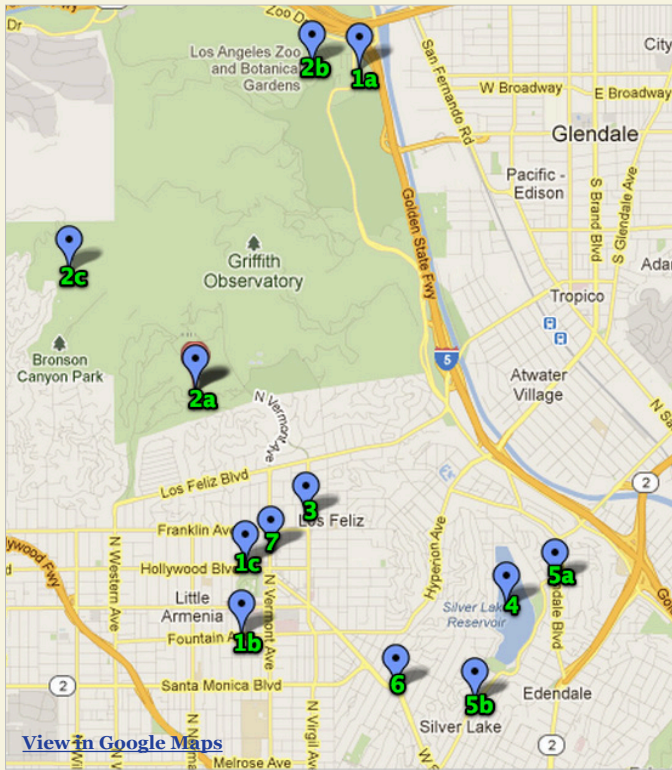
### 5. Coffee or Wine or Both at the best wine and coffee boutiques in the city (~ 1 hr)

- **One of the best, and definitely the friendliest, wine store in Los Angeles** - On Sundays at 3pm, the Silver Lake Wine Store does a tasting you won't want to miss! For \$20 per person, you get four featured wines paired with hors d'oeuvres plus one aperitif, as well as an informative presentation about the region being featured. Even if it is not a Sunday, it is worthwhile stopping by to chat with the incredibly friendly and knowledgeable staff, peruse their impressive collections, and perhaps pick up a bottle of wine for dinner (even if that means paying the corkage fee at the restaurant).
- **The ultimate coffee shop** - If you and your date enjoy coffee, Lamill Coffee Boutique is a must-stop. You can choose to get your roast prepared through the Chemex, Eva Solo, Siphon or French Press, and the friendly staff will be happy to explain to you the mechanics behind the various extraction methods. It's on the pricey side for coffee, but if you are a coffee snob, every penny will be worth it for the quality and experience.

### 6. Dinner at one of L.A.'s most romantic restaurants (~ 2 hr) - Your date won't be particularly impressed by the unassuming exterior, but you'll see his/her jaw drop upon walking inside Cliff's Edge to discover one of the most romantic restaurants in the city. The highlight is the huge ancient tree that sits in the middle of the outdoor heated patio, which is where you'll want to request to be seated when you make reservations. You and your date will feel like you are dining in an elegant tree house with exceptional cuisine and innovative cocktails.

### 7. Live Music at The Dresden Room (~ 1.5 hr) - A Hollywood landmark for over 60 years and famously captured in the movie *Swingers*, the Dresden features complimentary live entertainment seven nights a week. Most notably, dynamic jazz duo Marty and Elayne, Dresden's house musicians since 1982, perform every Tuesday through Saturday from 9pm to 1:15am. The Dresden is not posh or pretentious, and most of the clientele are neighborhood locals and regulars. Here it's all about great music, inventive cocktails, and old Hollywood charm. In other words, it's the perfect way to cap off this epic date.

## MAP & LEGEND



### 1(a) Autry's Farmer's Market

[4700 Western Heritage Way](#)

(323) 667-2000

Sat 8 am - 12 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 1(b) Square One Dining

[4854 Fountain Ave](#); (323) 661-1109

Mon-Sun 8 am - 3 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 1(c) Barnsdall Art Park

[4800 Hollywood Blvd](#); (323) 660-4254

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 2(a) Griffith Observatory

[2800 E Observatory Rd](#)

(213) 473-0800

Wed-Fri 12 pm - 10 pm,

Sat-Sun 10 am - 10 pm

Admission is Free.

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 2(b) LA Zoo

[5333 Zoo Dr](#); (323) 644-4200

Mon-Sun 10 am - 5 pm

Admission is \$16.

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 2(c) Sunset Ranch

[3400 North Beachwood Drive](#)

(323) 469-5450

Reservations from 9am-4:00pm everyday.

Walk-ins available till 3:30pm.

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 3 Alcove Bakery

[1929 Hillhurst Ave](#); (323) 644-0100

Mon-Wed 6 am - 12 am,

Thu-Sat 6 am - 1 am,

Sun 7 am - 12 am

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 4 Silver Lake Reservoir

[1854 To 2246 Silver Lake Blvd](#)

### 5(a) Silver Lake Wine Store

[2395 Glendale Blvd](#); (323) 662-9024

Mon-Wed, Sun 11 am - 9 pm,

Thu-Fri 11 am - 10 pm,

Sat 10 am - 10 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 5(b) LA Mill Coffee Boutique

[1636 Silver Lake Blvd](#); (323) 663-4441

Mon-Thu, Sun 7 am - 10 pm,

Fri-Sat 7 am - 11 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 6 Cliff's Edge

[3626 W Sunset Blvd](#); (323) 666-6116

Mon-Thu 6 pm - 10:30 pm,

Fri-Sat 6 pm - 2 am,

Sat-Sun 11 am - 3 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

### 7 Dresden Room

[1760 N Vermont Ave](#); (323) 665-4294

Mon-Sat 4:30 pm - 2 am,

Sun 4 pm - 10 pm

[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

## SHARE THESE INTERESTING FACTS WITH YOUR DATE


1. Griffith Park is named after Griffith Griffith, a mining magnate who donated the land to the city for the park. Yes, he had the same first and last name!
2. Griffith served 2 years in prison for shooting his wife Christina in the face at the Arcadia Hotel in Santa Monica. She miraculously survived the shooting, but was left disfigured and lost her right eye.
3. The original L.A. Zoo opened in 1912 and was a few miles south of its current location, which opened in 1965. The site of the current zoo was originally the Griffith Park Aerodrome, which was initially used as the testing grounds for Aviation pioneers and then later the National Guard Service.
4. The lower (bigger) section of the Silver Lake Reservoir is named "Silver Lake" after Herman Silver, a member of Los Angeles' first Board of Water Commissioners.
5. The reservoir was used to put out fires in Griffith Park in 2007.
6. It takes 15-20 days to completely refill the 795 million gallon Silver Lake section.
7. During the 1930s, Walt Disney built his first large studio in Silver Lake at the corner of Griffith Park Boulevard and Hyperion Avenue (now a Gelson's Market).

### Golden Nugget Tip

If you find yourself planning this date for a day other than Saturday (and therefore won't be able to enjoy the Farmer's Market at the Autry National Center), we recommend starting your day with a delicious breakfast at Square One Dining (1(b) in map above), famous for its organic, locally sourced produce. Just a few blocks away you'll find the Barnsdall Art Park (1(c) in map above), a former olive grove donated to the city by oil heiress Aline Barnsdall. There, you can enjoy great views of the city and take a tour of the Mayan-influenced Hollyhock House, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright for Barnsdall in 1921.

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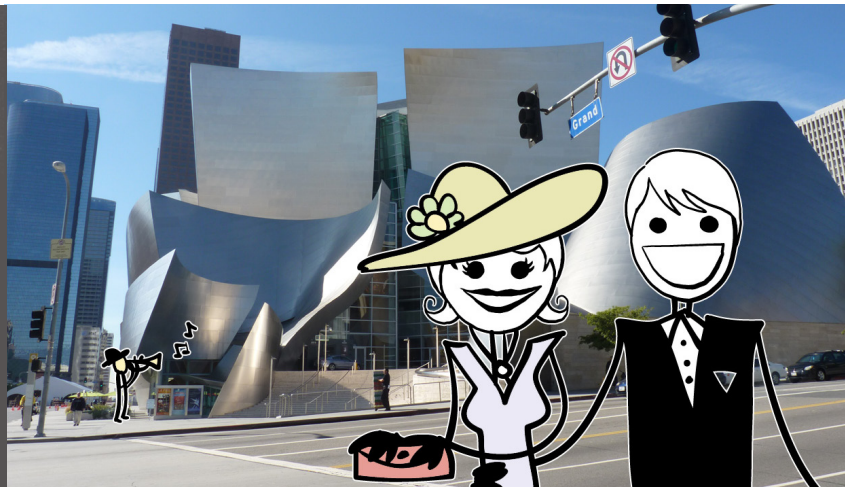
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# EPIC DATE Downtown



## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 1. Bottega Louie for brunch (~ 1.5 hr)** - Start your day off with one of the best all-around dining experiences in Los Angeles. Bottega Louie is on the ground floor of the palatial Brockman Building, and the interior features floor-to-ceiling windows, marble floors, exquisite chandeliers, and ceilings high enough acrobats could perform overhead. The food is also exquisite (my personal favorite is the Lobster Hash, but Bottega Louie is one of those special restaurants that you really can't go wrong). No reservation policy means you may be waiting for a table, but you'll pass the time people-watching and eyeing the exquisite pastries on display in the gourmet market.
- 2. Historical Walk downtown (~ 1 hr)** - Walk off brunch with the following walking tour of downtown Los Angeles:

  - **Central library & McGuire gardens** - The historic Central Library building was originally constructed in 1926 with a new wing added after two devastating fires in 1986. Inside, you won't want to miss the impressive rotunda on the second floor with a dozen murals illustrating the history of Los Angeles. On the west entrance to the library, you'll find seven water fountains in the Maguire Gardens, a calming oasis in the heart of the concrete-laden Financial District.
  - **Grand Central Market** - Next, head over to the historic 1917 open air-market where you'll find a maze of grocery stalls and food vendors reflecting the multicultural diversity of the city. Take a time machine back 90 years as you explore aisle after aisle of exciting sights, scents, flavors, and historic neon signs. While you are there, we recommend enjoying authentic tacos at the world famous Tacos Tumbras a Tomas.
  - **Angel's Flight** - Located directly across the street from Grand Central Market on Hill, you can't miss the orange and black railway cars that make up Angel's Flight. For just 50 cents each, you and your date can board the funicular, which was built in 1901 to carry passengers up and down the steep incline between the financial district and Bunker Hill, then a fashionable residential district. Billed as the "shortest railroad in the world," Angels Flight's two cars, named Olivet and Sinai, work in tandem and are connected to the same cable.
  - **Bradbury building** - No walking tour of Los Angeles would be complete without a stop at the Bradbury Building, the city's oldest commercial building designed by George Wynam in 1893 and its supreme architectural landmark. The highlight is the towering five-story, light-filled atrium with its open-cage elevators and ornate ironwork, which you may recognize from the movies Blade Runner and Chinatown.
- 3. Coffee, Beer, or a Cocktail.. Your pick. (~ 1 hr)** - With all that walking, you and your date will be ready to rest your feet and enjoy a beverage. And we've got 3 great options for you, depending on what you're feeling at that moment. For coffee, check out Spring for Coffee, one of the best coffee shops in Downtown L.A. For an ice cold beer (or michelada if you like spicy drinks), we recommend the patio at L.A.'s best dive bar, La Cita. For a sophisticated cocktail, head to the rooftop garden bar at the Kyoto Grand Hotel.

## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

**4. Great Art at the Geffen Contemporary & Great Sushi in Little Toyko (~ 3 hr)** - From the heart of Downtown, it's about a 15 minute walk or quick cab ride to Little Tokyo, the vibrant hub of Japanese culture in Los Angeles.

- **Geffen Contemporary at MOCA** - How could you not enjoy perusing contemporary art in a former police car warehouse renovated by architect Frank O. Gehry? Initially intended to be a temporary space for MOCA during construction of the facility on Grand Avenue, critics and patrons alike loved the space so much that the Museum requested (and received) a long-term lease extension. The exhibits are always changing and typically feature works by lesser-known artists than the Grand Avenue facility, but the 55,000 square foot warehouse-like space gives artists the flexibility to create large-scale, eye-catching installations that you won't find anywhere else.
- **Early Dinner at Sushi Gen** - No trip to Little Tokyo would be complete without an incredible sushi experience. Sushi Gen is famous for its generous cuts of fish that melt in your mouth. With the friendly and expert sushi chefs behind the bar, this is the spot to be adventurous and try fish varieties you've never had before. We advise that you make reservations beforehand, or show up before it opens at 5:30pm to avoid a long wait.

**Note** - Sushi Gen is closed on Sundays so if you are doing your epic date on a Sunday, we would recommend you try Hama Sushi, which is also fantastic.

- **Enjoy Mochi Ice Cream by the creators of Mochi Ice Cream** - If you've never tried mochi, it's a round dessert ball consisting of a soft, pounded sticky rice cake on the outside and an ice cream filling on the inside. It's delicious, and it just so happens that Mikawaya, the creator of this unique ice cream dessert, has a retail location in Little Tokyo Square. It just \$1 per mochi, or \$1.25 for mochilato (mochi with gelato!) so you and your date can sample a few of their inventive flavors.

**5. Wow with some culture (~ 3 hr)** - Downtown Los Angeles is the cultural center of Los Angeles, boasting incredible venues like Disney Hall, Dorothy Chandler Pavillion, Ahmanson Theatre, Staples Center, and Nokia Live. On any given weekend night, you'll have your choice of a number of fantastic live entertainment options but I would suggest you plan this epic date for a night that phenom Gustavo Dudamel is conducting the L.A. Philharmonic at the Disney Hall. It's an evening that you and your date will not soon forget! That said, the world's best performers always have tour stops at Staples Center and/or Nokia Live, so definitely check the venues' calendars first to see if there is an act in town that you and your date are eager to see.

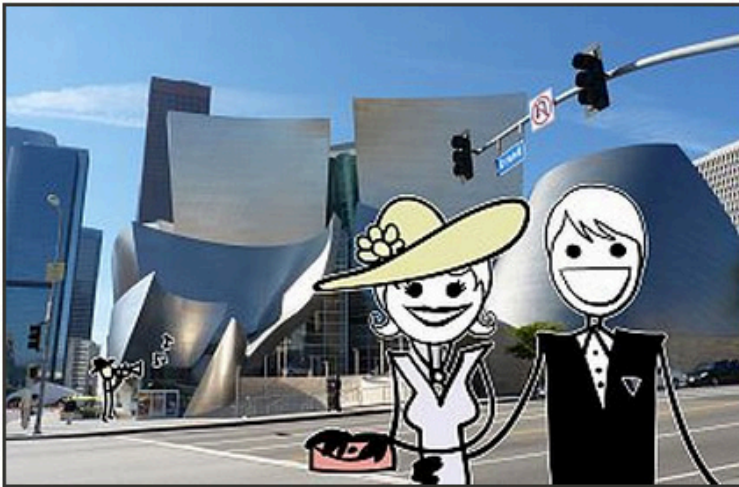
**6. Drink at Perch to end the night (~ 1.5 hr)** - This chic French bistro and rooftop bar is the perfect last stop for your date. Enjoy a delicious nightcap while you and your date sit near the fireplace and marvel at the breathtaking views of the Downtown skyline. On a weekend evening, you'll be treated to some form of live entertainment, whether it is a live Cabaret act, a funky jazz trio, indie bands or a late night DJ. After this incredible date, you'll likely end up toasting the incredible renaissance that has occurred Downtown over the past decade and already be making your plans for your next visit to Downtown.

**6. Perch**  
[448 S Hill St](#); (213) 802-1770  
 Mon-Wed 4 pm - 12 am,  
 Thu-Fri 4 pm - 2 am,  
 Sat 6 pm - 2 am, Sun 11 am - 9 pm  
[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)

## 31

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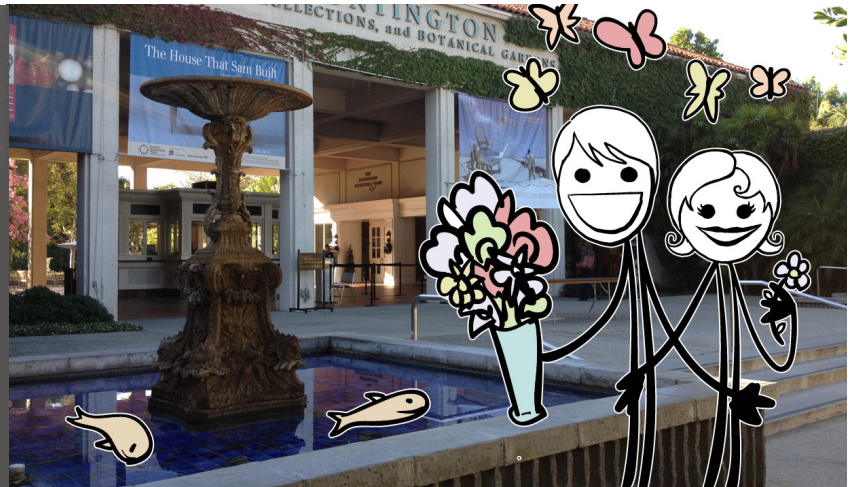
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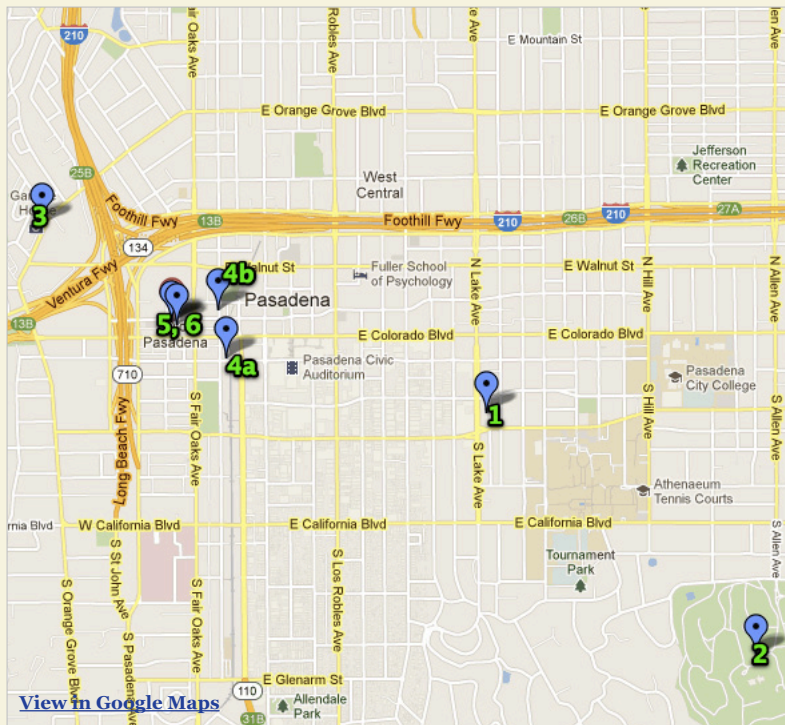
# EPIC DATE Pasadena



## EPIC DATE ITINERARY

- 1. Brunch at a favorite neighborhood spot (~ 1 hr)** - You'll love the decor, friendly servers, and most importantly, the food at AbriCott. Don't be surprised if the gregarious owner, John, greets you and personally ensures that your experience is amazing. Also, it's BYOB (for the time being until they get a liquor license - call to confirm first!), so feel free to bring a bottle of champagne for mimosas.
- 2. Enjoy the Garden of Eden-like serenity of the Huntington Library (~ 3 hr)** - After brunch, it's a quick drive to the Huntington Library, the former estate of railroad tycoon Henry Huntington. If you're an art buff, you'll enjoy the Library's impressive art collection, most notably its manuscripts and rare books collection. But the real highlight, at least for us, are the beautifully manicured grounds and gardens. It's hard to find a more romantic setting than the 12 specialized gardens, including our favorites the Desert Garden, the Japanese Garden, the Rose Garden, and the Chinese Garden.
- 3. Take a time machine to the early 20th century (~ 1.5 hr)** - Designed by brothers Charles and Henry Green for David and Mary Gamble (of Procter and Gamble) in 1908, the Gamble House is a National Historic Landmark and considered a masterpiece of American Arts and Crafts bungalow style architecture. You'll enjoy an informative 1-hour tour of the property, widely considered one of the top architectural houses in all of Los Angeles. After the tour, stop by the bookstore and grab a walking tour map of other Greene & Greene homes in the direct area for a small fee of \$1.50.
- 4. Get lost in Old Town Pasadena (~ 2 hr)** - Old Town's historic streets and alleyways date back to the late 1800s, and the district remains vibrant with open-air eateries, specialty boutiques, galleries, theaters, and antique shops. After touring the Library and Gamble House, you'll have worked up quite the appetite and there are plenty of great options in Old Town. For a lively atmosphere, we would recommend the craft beers, gourmet sausages, and live music that you'll find at the Dog Haus Biergarten. If that sounds too heavy, try the afternoon tea at Chado Tea Room which has one of the best tea collections in the city. Either way, you can't go wrong.
- 5. The Royal Treatment at iPic Theaters (~ 3 hr)** - Close your eyes and dream up the best movie theater experience you could possibly imagine. iPic Theaters has made that a reality! You get a reclining comfy seat (think first-class plane seats), call button to order goodies from a waiter during the movie, a complimentary blanket, and bag of popcorn. They even have a lounge with full bar and food where you can hang out before or after your movie. It's considerably more expensive than your average movie theater (\$29 on the weekend), but this is no average movie theater.
- 6. Late dinner and a martini at Cafe Santorini (~ 1.5 hr)** - If you don't want this magical day in Pasadena to end, then head to Cafe Santorini after your movie for a bite and a martini. On the second story of one of Old Town's classic brick-lined buildings, this gem's ambiance is romantic, yet casual. On a nice evening, you'll enjoy dining by candlelight on the heated outdoor patio. Menu highlights include the grilled calamari starter, lamb shank entree, and puff pastry apple tart with cinnamon gelato for dessert. Reservations recommended.

## MAP & LEGEND



- 1. Abricott**  
[238 S Lake Ave](#); (626) 796-1613  
 Mon-Sun 8 am - 9 pm  
[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)
- 2. Huntington Library**  
[1151 Oxford Rd](#); (626) 405-2100  
 Mon, Wed-Fri 12 pm - 4:30 pm,  
 Sat-Sun 10:30 am - 4:30 pm  
 \$15 on weekdays, \$20 on weekends.  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 3. Gamble House**  
[4 Westmoreland Pl](#)  
 (626) 793-3334  
 Thu-Sun; First tour at 12 noon,  
 last tour at 3pm.  
 \$10 for adults. \$7 for students.  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 4(a) Dog Haus Biergarten**  
[93 East Green St](#); (626) 683-0808  
 Mon-Wed, Sun 11 am - 12 am,  
 Thu-Sat 11 am - 2 am  
[Company Website](#); [Yelp Reviews](#)
- 4(b) Chado Tea room**  
[79 North Raymond Avenue](#)  
 (626) 431-2832  
 Mon-Sun 11:30 am - 7 pm  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 5. iPic Theaters**  
[42 Miller Alley](#)  
 (626) 639-2260  
 Mon-Sun 10 am - 11 pm  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)
- 6. Cafe Santorini**  
[64 West Union Street](#)  
 (626) 564-4200  
 Mon-Thu 11:30 am - 10 pm,  
 Fri 11:30 am - 12 am,  
 Sat 11 am - 12 am,  
 Sun 11 am - 10 pm  
[Company Website](#)  
[Yelp Reviews](#)

## SHARE THESE INTERESTING FACTS WITH YOUR DATE


1. The word Pasadena literally means “of the valley” in the Ojibwa (Chippewa) Indian language, but it has been interpreted to mean “Crown of the Valley” and “Key of the Valley,” hence the adoption of both the crown and the key in the official city seal.
2. Wild parrots have established self-sustaining populations in Pasadena. According to local legend, the parrots were released during a 1959 fire which destroyed Simpson’s Gardenland and Bird Farm in Pasadena. Others contend that smugglers released the parrots into the Pasadena wilderness in order to avoid arrest.
3. The Rose Bowl, the home of the UCLA Bruins Football team, was constructed in 1922 on the site of a dump in the Arroyo Seco watershed. It originally seated 57,000 and its current capacity is 100,184 people.
4. The Tournament of Roses annual parade has been held in Pasadena since January 1, 1890. It is estimated that more than half a million roses are used in each parade with the average cost of a finished float between \$75,000 and \$250,000 depending on size and mechanics.
5. The first Trader Joe’s opened in 1967 in Pasadena, CA and is still in operation in the same location today.
6. The Gamble House was the mansion of Dr. Emmett Brown in the Back to the Future trilogy. In the first movie, a newspaper headline dated August 1, 1962, declared it was destroyed by a fire.
7. In 1999, 2002, 2009, and 2010, specimens of *Amorphophallus titanum*, or the odiferous “corpse flower”, bloomed at the Huntington Library. The flower can reach more than 6 feet in height when it blooms, opening to a diameter of 3–4 feet. But the plant is perhaps most famous—or infamous—for its exceptionally foul odor. Hence the nickname, Corpse Flower. You can see photographs and learn more about the gigantic flower [here](#).

### Golden Nugget Tip

To complete this entire itinerary, you’ll want to get a early start (no later than 10am). Otherwise, you’ll have difficulty squeezing both the Library and the Gamble House into your schedule, since the last tour of the Gamble House is at 3pm. On the weekend, we would recommend booking your movie tickets at iPic Theaters in advance, and then making a reservation at Cafe Santorini based on when your movie will be over.

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## THANK YOU SO MUCH

I hope you enjoyed reading this eBook as much as I enjoyed writing it. This has been a labor of love, and if one person out there uses this guide to have the best date of their life with someone they care about, then all the time and energy I put into this project was well worth it.

If you have a second, I would love to hear your thoughts on the eBook. I plan to release updates in the future and I'd love to have your input. For instance, are there any hidden gems that I missed and you believe should have been included? Are there other areas you'd like me to focus on (perhaps Culver City or the South Bay)?

Please let me know by leaving a comment at <http://datevitation.com/blog/epic-dates-ebook>, or if you'd rather reach me in private, don't hesitate to send me an email at [alex@datevitation.com](mailto:alex@datevitation.com). Lastly, if you haven't already, you can follow Datevitation on [Twitter](#) (@datevitation), and join in on the conversation going on right now on the [Datevitation Facebook Page](#).

Thanks again!

## CAN I ASK YOU ONE FAVOR?



If you liked the book, please tell your friends about it and let them know they can get their own free copy at <http://EpicDatesBook.com>. I just ask that you do not email them the PDF directly. I'm happy to offer this book free of charge, but I am hoping to grow my community in the process. If you direct them to the sign-up page instead of forwarding the book or download link, I would greatly appreciate it!

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all my friends and family for all your fantastic venue recommendations. Many of you will notice your suggestions in these epic date itineraries. Special thanks to all who contributed, including Katie Boyle, Jon Carlos, Lindsey Meyer Clough, Alexis Crouse, Courtney Dornstein, Whitney English, Nina Goldberg, Leslie Karpman, Arash Kohanteb, Brittany Krasner, Colleen Meek Lyon, Jason Miller, Jon Patton, Tessa Raisin, Kamran Mirrafati, Polina Pinigina, Abigail Krauser Shrier, Kristine Soares, and Ryan Williams. My apologies if I forgot anyone! An extra special thank you to Justin Weiss for designing the itinerary for the epic date of Downtown L.A.

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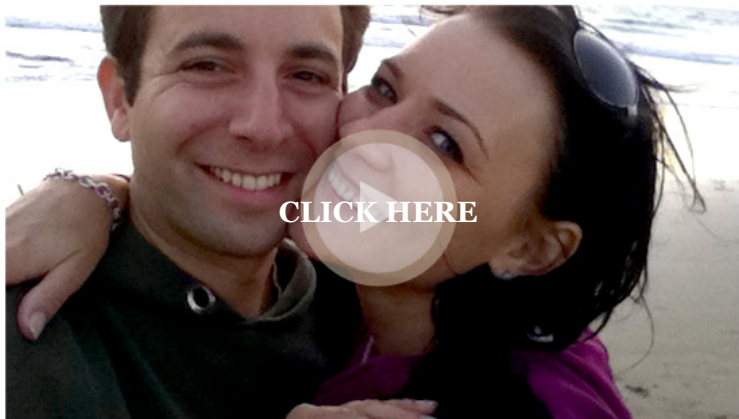
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