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Special treats for Valentine's weekend

FREE PRESS STAFF

The calendar says **Valentine's Day** is Sunday, but at numerous area restaurants, the holiday lasts the whole weekend.

Many restaurants offering special Valentine's menus will make them available Saturday, too; some will also include Friday. And a few places that normally close on Sunday will open for that night.

If you're looking for something different, there are brunches, special events and even boat rides to celebrate the holiday.

Whatever plans you make, be sure to double-check hours, menus and prices to avoid disappointment.

And make reservations as soon as possible. Prime times get booked quickly.

Here's a sample of special menus and events at restaurants and other venues around metro Detroit.

BEGINNING THURSDAY

Andiamo: Valentine's Dinner Dance. With Barry White and Stevie Nicks tribute performers and Radio City Band, 6:30 p.m. Thu. \$51 per person. Reservations. 7096 E. Fourteen Mile, Warren. 586-268-3200.

Corsi's Restaurant & Pizzeria: Valentine's Special. Half carafe house wine, soup, salad, two entrées and dessert, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Thu.-Sun. \$20.95 per couple. Reservations suggested. 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. 248-777-4960.

Modern Food & Spirits: Winemaker's Dinner. With winemaker Michele Scienz from the estate Podere Guado al Melo on the Tuscan coast of Italy, 6:30 p.m. Thu. \$60 per person. \$8 for optional dessert course. Reservations. 1535 Cass Lake, Keego Harbor. 248-681-4231.

FRIDAY AND BEYOND

Boston's Gourmet Pizza: Valentine's Day Fund-raiser. Heart-shaped pizza and heart-shaped dessert promotion will benefit Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. \$1 from each item sold will be donated, and paper hearts may be purchased for \$1 for a personalized Valentine's Day message, 11-2 a.m. Fri.-Sat., noon-1 p.m. Sun. 15133 Hall, Shelby Twp. 586-247-4992.

Bravo Cucina Italiana: Valentine's Weekend Dinner and Brunch. Dishes include halibut, beef tenderloin, capocollo and puttanesca sauce, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 4-9 p.m. Sun. \$8-\$15 for lunch, \$12-\$28 for dinner. Full bar available. Reservations encouraged. 17700 Haggerty, Livonia. 734-591-5600.

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Cuisine: **Cupid** Cuisine 2010. Special five-course menu includes seared sea scallops with citrus

coconut glaze, lump crab cake, Caesar salad, lobster bisque, pineapple sorbet, sliced beef tenderloin, roast prime rib and more, plus dessert, 5 p.m. Fri.-Sun. \$75. Reservations. 670 Lothrop, Detroit. 313-872-5110.

El Nibble Nook: Valentines Dia de Amore. Fajitas for two and bottle of wine or fajitas for two and an appetizer and dessert, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri., noon-11 p.m. Sat., noon-9 p.m. Sun. \$30. 27725 Eight Mile, Livonia. 248-474-0755.

Ginopolis' on the Grill: Valentine's Day Dinner for Two. Appetizer, soup or salad, choice of entrée: grilled steak Diane, salmon crab cakes, grilled Gulf shrimp, baked coconut tilapia, and dessert. Regular menu also available, 11 a.m.-midnight Fri.-Sat., 2-9 p.m. Sun. \$38 or \$45 with two glasses of house wine. Reservations. 27815 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. 248-851-8222.

Glen Oaks Country Club: Valentine dinner dance. With the Farmington Community Band Big Band, 6:30 p.m. Fri. 30500 W. Thirteen Mile, Farmington Hills. 734-261-2202.

Holly Hotel Comedy Club: Valentine Weekend Specials. Dinner entrée choices include lobster string torte, Cabernet-steeped beef tenderloin, caponata, smoked pork, cheese course, dessert for two. Regular menu also available, 2-5 p.m. for tea, 4-11 p.m. for dinner Fri. & Sat., 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. for brunch & 4-9 p.m. for dinner Sun. \$59 per person. Reservations. 110 Battle Alley, Holly Twp. 248-634-5208.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant: Valentine's Weekend Dinner. Choices include soup, salad, filet mignon, lobster tail, crab cake, salmon and shrimp. Appetizers and dessert extra, 4-11 p.m. Fri., 3-11 p.m. Sat., 3-8 p.m. Sun. Dinners start at \$29.95. Reservations. 2850 Coolidge, Troy. 248-637-6400.

Shiraz: The Lovers Feast. Seared sea scallops, curried organic carrot bisque, roasted Bosc pear salad, butter-poached Maine lobster tail and

toasted prime tenderloin, 7-11:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat. \$45.95. Reservations. 30100 Telegraph, Bingham Farms. 248-645-5289.

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The Capital Grille: Valentine's Weekend Dinner. Hand-cut, dry-aged steaks, fresh seafood offerings and signature menu items like lobster mac-n-cheese, 4-11 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 5-9 p.m. Sun. Reservations. 2800 W. Big Beaver, Troy. 248-649-5300.

The Whitney: Valentine's Day Weekend. Four-course dinner, roses, chocolate-dipped strawberries and champagne. Entertainment by the Coachmen. Seating every half hour starting at 5 p.m. Fri.-Sun. \$58 per person plus tax and gratuity. Reservations. 4421 Woodward, Detroit. 313-832-5700.

Vinology: Valentine's Weekend Dinner. Chef Jim Leonardo will serve a prix fixe menu with multiple selections. Regular menu will also be available on Friday and Saturday. Wine pairing packages available, 5 p.m. Fri.-Sun. \$40 per person. Reservations. 110 S. Main, Ann Arbor. 734-222-9841.

SATURDAY AND BEYOND

Big Rock Chophouse: Valentine's Weekend Dinner. Three-course dinner with starter toast of Juno Rosé. PAMA drink specials also available. Menu has butternut squash soup, beef tenderloin sauté, ahi tuna tempura, prime rib of beef and more, plus dessert, 4 p.m.-midnight Sat., 4-9 p.m. Sun. \$40 per person. Reservations. 245 S. Eton, Birmingham. 248-647-7774.

Detroit Princess Riverboat:

- Valentine's Motown-Dinner Cruise. 2- 1/2 - hour cruise featuring Captain's prime rib dinner. Entertainment by the Impact, 6:30-10 p.m. Sat. \$50. Cash bar.
- Valentine's Moonlight Cruise. Dancing to DJ music; appetizers available throughout the night. 10:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Sat. \$30. Cash bar. 21 and older only. Detroit River, Detroit. 877-338-2628.

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House: Enchanted Evening. Tour the historic house, then enjoy a candlelit dinner with wine and decadent desserts in the Activities Center, 5-9 p.m. Sat. \$45, \$40 for members. Reservations required. 1100 Lake Shore, Grosse Pointe Shores. 313-884-4222.

Fairlane Club: Valentine's Eve Celebration. Jazz in the Oak Room. Four-course meal, dessert. With Meri Slaven, pianist Scott Gwinnell and John Dana on bass, 6-9 p.m. Sat. \$60 per couple. Reservations. 5000 Fairlane Woods Drive, Dearborn. 313-982-1752.

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Josephine Creperie & Bistro: Valentine's Weekend Dinner. Five-course meal with choice of 11 entrées. Menu items include cheese paté with cherry compote, garlic-stuffed mushrooms, housemade sorbet, crêpe stuffed with spinach and ricotta and topped with Béchamel sauce and tomato coulis, duck confit, filet mignon, surf-and-turf, crème brûlée and chocolate custard, 4:

30-11 p.m. Sat., 3-9 p.m. Sun. Entrées \$22-\$40. Reservations. Wine and champagne also available. 241 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale. 248-399-1366.

Loren Andrus Octagon House: Victorian Valentine Chocolate Tea. Fancy tea luncheon with chocolate desserts, followed by tours of the historic home, 11:30 a.m. Sat. \$22, \$18 children. Reservations required. 57500 Van Dyke, Washington Twp. 586-781-0084.

Rocky's of Northville: Valentine's Day Lovers Dinner. Baked stuffed shrimp with jumbo lump crabmeat or filet mignon and stuffed shrimp. Caesar salad, chocolate cheesecake and glass of champagne with entrée. Regular menu also available, 4-10 p.m. Sat., 1-9 p.m. Sun. \$20.95-\$24.95 per person. Reservations. 41122 Seven Mile, Northville. 248-349-4434.

Steve & Rocky's: Valentine's Day Lovers Dinner. Chef offering filet mignon and Gulf shrimp sauté with mashed potatoes, vegetable, dessert and glass of house wine. Regular menu also available, 4-11 p.m. Sat., 1-9 p.m. Sun. \$24.95. Reservations. 43150 Grand River, Novi. 248-374-0688.

The Rattlesnake Club: Valentine's Weekend Dinner. Prix-fixe menu. Three-course lobster dinner with champagne, 5-10 p.m. Sat.-Sun. \$45

per person. Reservations. 300 River Place, Detroit. 313-567-4400.

SUNDAY

Bacco Ristorante: Valentine's Day Dinner. Regular menu and specials, 4-10 p.m. Sun. Reservations. 29410 Northwestern, Southfield. 248-356-6600.

Detroit Princess Riverboat: Valentine's Day Motown Dinner Cruise. 2- 1/2 -hour cruise featuring prime rib dinner. Entertainment by the Prolifics, 6:30-10 p.m. Sun. \$50. Cash bar. Detroit River, Detroit. 877-338-2628.

Gino's Surf Banquet Center: Brunch and show. With Rod Stewart and Barry Manilow impersonators, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. \$25. Reservations. 37400 Jefferson, Harrison Twp. 586-468-2611.

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Italian American Club Banquet Hall: Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan, "Love Songs from Broadway to Opera." Includes Italian dinner, 5 p.m. Sun. \$50 per person. Reservations required. 39200 Five Mile, Livonia. 734-953-1137.

Josephine Creperie & Bistro: Valentine's Day Brunch, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sun. Reservations. 241 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale. 248-399-1366.

P.F. Chang's China Bistro: Chang's for Two Prix Fixe lunch or dinner: soup, appetizer and dishes like Chang's spicy chicken, Kung Pao chicken or shrimp, Mongolian beef, beef a la Sichuan, ginger chicken, Cantonese Shrimp, plus mini dessert. \$39.95. Reservations.

• 17905 Haggerty, Northville. 248-675-0066. 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun.

• 18900 Michigan, Dearborn. 313-429-2030. 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun.

• 17390 Hall, Clinton Twp. 586-263-0860. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun.

• 2801 W. Big Beaver, Troy. 248-816-8000. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun.

Rugby Grille: Romance at Rugby Grille. Choose from tuna tartare, Kobe short ribs or duck tacos for starters. New York strip for two, Kona-c rusted bone-in filet or Dover sole prepared tableside, and house-prepared dessert, 4-11 p.m. Sun. Entrée prices \$28-\$60. Reservations. 100 Townsend, Birmingham. 248-642-5999.

Small Plates: Valentine's Day Dinner. Tenderloin crostini, choice of chop or Caesar salad, grilled salmon with sage cream sauce, chocolate cake and a glass of champagne, 5 p.m. Sun. \$50 per couple. Reservations. 1521 Broadway, Detroit. 313-963-0497.

The Emory: 22700 Woodward, Ferndale. 248-546-8202.

• Valentine's Day Dinner. Dinner for two with dessert and champagne toast. Menu features grilled filet, seared sea scallops and spinach ravioli, 5-10 p.m. Sun. \$60 per couple. Reservations by Fri.

- Valentine's Day Dinner and entertainment tickets. Dinner for two with dessert and champagne toast. Menu features grilled filet, seared sea scallops and spinach ravioli. Tickets to the Cold Wave and Fawn at the nearby the Loving Touch included, 5-10 p.m. Sun. \$65 per couple. Reservations by Fri.

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The Granary: Valentine's Day Brunch. Four-course New Orleans-style meal features Bananas Foster french toast, smoked pork chops, boiled shrimp and crawfish, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. \$35 per person. Call for tickets. 3225 Fourth, Jackson. 517-768-8495.

The Queen's Residence Bed and Breakfast: Valentine's Dinner. Elegant six-course prix fixe dinner prepared and served by Chef Craig Pierson. Seatings at 5 and 8 p.m. Sun. \$75 per person. Reservations. 220 S. Huron, Ypsilanti. 734-340-2805.

The Whitney: Valentine's Day Brunch. A harpist will perform during the meal, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sun. \$29 per person plus tax and gratuity. Reservations. 4421 Woodward, Detroit. 313-832-5700.

Volare Ristorante: Grand buffet brunch. Features appetizers, smoked salmon, homemade pastas, steamed lobster, shrimp and clams, lamb chops, chicken, whitefish and omelets made to order. Champagne, mimosas and Bloody Marys available, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sun. \$29 per person. Reservations. 49115 Pontiac Trail, Wixom. 248-960-7771.