

## Romance your loved one in Shakespeare's England!

Romance your loved one in Shakespeare's England, one of the most stunning and romantic settings for Valentine's Day. Escape to the *Knights Village* at Warwick Castle, stroll through gardens, make Valentine's Day cards, act out romantic scenes with Shakespeare Aloud!, attend music concerts or simply relax over a romantic afternoon tea or candle-lit dinner.

Commanding an unrivalled location on the banks of the River Avon, **Warwick Castle** offers a host of new themed short breaks for all the family: book before 31 January to save up to 30%. On 14 February, hide away in Knight's Village, nestled in a tranquil woodland grove, a truly evocative setting for a lovers' escape. A romantic '*knight*' to remember includes prosecco upon arrival; a candle-lit dinner accompanied by a string quartet; breakfast and car parking and two days' entrance to the Castle. Costs from £77 per person per night.

Take a romantic stroll through **Hall's Croft** garden and place your Valentine's message on the Valentines tree. Visit **Anne Hathaway's Cottage** at the very place Shakespeare's love for Anne bloomed. Follow the riddles and post your Valentine's message in the post box. The most romantic messages will be posted on twitter. Transform into Shakespeare's romantic heroes at **Shakespeare's Birthplace!** Dress-up as your favourite Shakespearian couple and act out one of their romantics scenes with Shakespeare Aloud, the in-house actors. Cherish this moment by having your scene recorded and posted on social media.

Celebrate Valentine's Day with a spectacular night of dancing, dinner and drinks at **Compton Verney** on 11 February from 6.30pm – 11.30pm. Hosted by The Duke of Wellington's Dancer, this Regency Ball will start with a glass of traditional Negus Punch in the Naples Galleries, before dancing in the beautiful Adam Hall and a 2-course dinner.

Enjoy a romantic snowdrop day at **Hill Close Gardens** in Warwick on Saturday 19 February and explore the different varieties of snowdrops. The café and shop will be open serving delicious cake and hot & cold drinks. Cost is £4 for adults and £1 for children.

Whisk your loved one off to **Batsford Arboretum** for a delicious breakfast on Saturday 11 & Sunday 12 February in The Garden Terrace Café between 10am - 11am followed by a romantic stroll around the magical arboretum. Cost is £20 per couple.

Attend a unique music concert at **St. Mary's Church** on 14 February at 7.30pm. '*Sound House*' is performed by the Society of Strange and Ancient Instruments. The concert will explore the aural illusions that intrigued Francis Bacon, with fresh interpretations of 17th

century music linked by composed pieces by Jon Nicholls, played on historic instruments. Tickets cost from £13 to £20.

Make a Valentine's Day card at **Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum** on Saturday 11 February from 2pm - 4pm. Children can create origami heart cards to give to someone they love.

Pop the question at the UK's largest butterfly paradise - **Stratford Butterfly Farm**. Walk with your loved one through a tropical paradise with hundreds of butterflies flying around. As the days get longer, butterflies mate once again and practice a courtship routine to discover the suitability of their potential mate, similar to humans!

One of the most romantic experiences is to take a leisurely boat trip down the River Avon. The area is blessed by its connection with some of the most enchanting river and canal side countryside in the country. Hire your own boat or let someone else take the strain and guide you with **Bancroft cruisers, Avon Boating** and the **Countess of Evesham**.

Stay at one of **The Bell at Alderminster's** nine beautiful and individually styled bedrooms. All rooms come equipped with luxuries such as homemade shortbread biscuits, fresh coffee and L'occitane toiletries. Champagne can be delivered to your room or enjoy it in the cosy traditional bar or in the stunning AA rosette restaurant. Prices from £95 per room.

Dine at the **Royal Shakespeare Company's** Rooftop restaurant which offers unique views across the River Avon. Romantic diners can enjoy a 2 or 3 course romantic menu on Saturday 11 February which costs £19.95 for 2 courses or £24.95 for 3 courses.

Enjoy Valentine's by candlelight at **The Fleece Inn** in Worcestershire on Tuesday 14 February at 6:30pm. Dine from a 3-course menu with real ales and quality wines in the romantic setting of the historic inn which ditches electric lighting for candlelight and firelight for the night. Visit the Inn on 19 February for their Wedding Open Day.

Treat your loved one to a Valentine's Day lunch or dinner at the **Mallory Court Hotel** in Leamington Spa. A 4-course lunch, coffee and a glass of Champagne is £49.50 per person in the Main House or a 5-course dinner, coffee and a glass of Champagne is £80 per person. A 3-course lunch, coffee and a glass of Prosecco is £29.50 in The Brasserie or a 4-course dinner, coffee and a glass of Champagne is £45.

Enjoy a Valentine's Day dinner at **The Arden Hotel** in Stratford-upon-Avon with options of sharing dishes, including a glass of pink fizz on arrival. Cost is £42.50 per person. Book in

for a romantic break on Valentine's Day with a bottle of Champagne, flowers, chocolates and a special dinner in The Waterside Brasserie with breakfast the following morning. Cost from £375 per room per night in a classic room.

Head over to the stunning Cotswolds and visit the **Kings Hotel** in Chipping Campden from 11 – 14 February. Enjoy Champagne, canapés and a romantic 6-course tasting menu in the restaurant for £65.00 per person.

**For more information and holiday ideas in Shakespeare's England please visit the <http://shakespeares-england.co.uk> or call 01789 260 677.**

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**Notes to editors**

Shakespeare's England is the official destination management organisation for Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick Districts. It is a public-private sector partnership representing the leading tourism businesses and organisations in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, Royal Leamington Spa, Kenilworth and surrounding market towns and villages. For more information visit please visit <http://shakespeares-england.co.uk/about-us>

More information on Shakespeare's England can be found at [www.shakespeares-england.co.uk](http://www.shakespeares-england.co.uk) [www.facebook.com/ShakespearesEngland](https://www.facebook.com/ShakespearesEngland) and Twitter [@ShakespearesEng](https://twitter.com/ShakespearesEng)

Please note all offers are subject to availability and T&C's.

**For more information, interviews and photo opportunities please contact:**

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