

Romantic escapes, near and far

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Valentine's Day is coming right up, so why not score points with your sweetie by sweeping her (or him) off to the four corners of the globe — or to a spot right here in the Midwest?

Splurge on a romantic getaway to these lodgings made for lovers:

Abbaye de la Bussiere, La Bussiere-sur-Ouche, France

Cistercian monks once slept on straw mats in this abbey built in 1131, but you'll find comfy beds piled with pillows. Rooms and suites with antiques and contemporary soft furnishings overlook a 15-acre park with a lake, topiary garden and lawn where Shetland ponies graze.

Eight of the abbey's buildings remain, including the church, a consecrated crypt and 14th century wine press. The best guest room, the Hermitage Suite, sits apart from the main building in what was once the abbey's infirmary. Located 30 minutes from Dijon or Beaune, you can easily organize a wine tour with tastings in Burgundy's famous Cote d'Or vineyards.

Nightly rates range from \$260 to \$665; 33 (0)3 80 49 02 29, abbayedelabussiere.fr.