

Wine bars, live music, dance clubs, skating rinks, and lots more ideas to spice up your life

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Great Dates

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It's not easy to plan creative dates. But for anyone stuck in a dinner-and-a-movie rut, here's help. We spent the last few months searching for the best places to take someone—from a Match.com prospect to a longtime sweetheart. Consider this a playbook for a more exciting romantic life. ¶ You'll find skating rinks, bars for microbrews or martinis, even a place to enjoy a high-octane spin around a racetrack. Music fans can visit jazz clubs, catch country acts, or go to rock shows. Dance lovers can check out a tango class, a honkytonk, or a DJ battle. For recessionistas there are \$1 movies, free live music, scenic hiking trails, and more. ¶ So whether you've been married for decades or are a fixture on the singles scene, you'll get plenty of ideas. You might be surprised at how much fun our city can be. And if a first date doesn't work out, there are plenty of places in these pages where you can meet your next one. >>

Eat Out

Just Dessert

Traditionalists can get updated renditions of French classics—perfectly tall soufflés, textbook *macarons*—at **Adour** (923 16th St., NW; 202-509-8000; *adour-washingtondc.com*), where the relaxed lounge is a cozier bet than the whitewashed dining room.