

NOBLEMAN

STYLE & SUBSTANCE FOR THE MODERN GENTLEMAN

ORANGE COUNTY EDITION

4 42



EXTRAORDINARY DATE NIGHT

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WHY RESERVE OVER-THE-TOP DATES FOR REALITY DATING COMPETITIONS?

If you are in a relationship, it is important to put in some effort. A dinner and a movie is good, but every once in a while why not step it up. Lydia and I have been married for ten years and we have a date night once a week. With three kids and our own businesses, life is busy, but we have made dating a priority. No excuses. Get out of your normal routine and try something new. Orange County has plenty of out of the box activities to try; here are three dates that we did first-hand and are guaranteed to be memorable.

WORDS BY DOUG & LYDIA MCLAUGHLIN >> PHOTOS BY STEVE COWELL



DATE **1.**

PELICAN HILL RESORT

There is something about Pelican Hill that ladies just love. Popping in for lunch or dinner is a great date, don't get me wrong, but follow this date night recipe and you will take it to the next level.

11AM

PRIVATE PASTA MAKING LESSON

I made reservations with Chef Julia, the Pasta Chef at Pelican Hill. Upon arrival, she whisks us back to her private kitchen, hands us some champagne and some fancy aprons. She cranks up the Italian music and immediately gets us in the pasta making spirit. We are both new to the pasta making world and I must say, it was a lot more fun than I imagined. Chef Julia wasted no time putting us to work since we had not one, but two kinds of pasta to get going on. After about an hour, our pasta is complete, and looking quite impressive, might I add. Chef Julia takes care of the cooking and clean up while we head to the spa.



DATE NIGHT



12:30PM
GET YOUR SPA ON

Welcome to the Fantasy Suite - I mean, Spa Suite. A private part of the spa reserved just for small groups, VIP's, and today - the two of us. Here, we have a couples massage followed by a romantic bath for two in an infinity-edge deep-soaking tub. Let's just say if there were roses to be handed out, you, my friend, would win.

SPA PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE RESORT AT PELICAN HILL



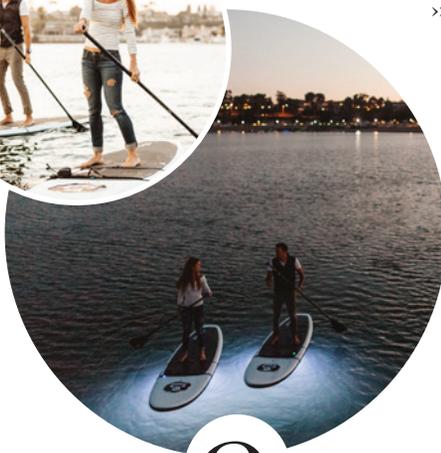
6PM
WNE + DINE

To round out the date, we both head to Andrea's to dine on the terrace overlooking the sun setting over the pacific ocean. The aromas of Northern Italy mingle with the soft coastal breezes. The main course is served and our familiar pasta is on display in such a way we know we will never be able to recreate at home, but we are ok with that. We indulge in possibly the best pasta I've had in my life. This is the perfect date and we are in pure heaven.



LIVE A LITTLE
WITH THESE ADVENTURE DATES

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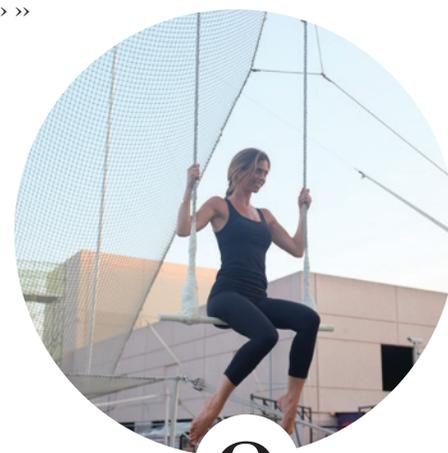
DATE

2.

GLOW FOR IT

Stand Up Paddling through Newport Bay is a favorite date for Lydia and I, but this night we took it to another level. We rented special glow boards from Pirate Coast Paddle. Each board is equipped with waterproof LED lighting that makes for a glowing spectacle of awesomeness. The illuminated experience allowed us to see marine life, and enjoy paddling in a whole new and thrilling way. We watched the sunset together and then got to paddle around in this unique romantic setting.

piratecoastpaddle.com / 949-278-0011



DATE

3.

HEAD OVER HEELS

Lydia is deathly afraid of heights, so this date was a risk. Swing It Trapeze is a legit trapeze school right here in downtown Anaheim. I don't think we have ever laughed so hard on a date together. You start out on a 'lower bar' and once you get a few moves down, they take you to the top and let you go for it. It was so much fun, a bit scary, and something we will be telling our grandchildren about one day. We both have a newfound respect for the circus act. It is a lot harder than it looks, and it looks plenty hard.

swingittrapeze.net / 887-979-4644