

Vegantine's Day is coming!

Despite some potentially negative stereotypes against us, vegans are actually full of love: love for animals, the planet, people talking about veganism, vegan restaurants and companies, businesses adding vegan options, our friends, and hopefully our family.

But the month of love should be celebrated regardless and, with that, this issue features a versatile date outfit and beauty look, décor options that work well for a romantic night at home, and a dining spot as enjoyable for a group of single girlfriends as it is for couples... just be sure to reserve a table (click images to view.)

Even if having a valentine isn't your "thing," try embracing the pseudo holiday anyway by appreciating everyone in your life—human and animal—that you are lucky to love. And click on each section for gift ideas!



Fashion: Two versatile Valentine outfits that are chic, casual and comfortable



**Décor:**Accessories for your château and romance with a loved one



Beauty: Easy makeup you can dial up or down and be ready in minutes



Dining: The ideal dinner spot for foodies, hipsters, couples and singles

# **FASHION**

Let's throw the red and pink cliché to the wind this February! There's simply good reason many of us feel comfortable in black. And especially in winter, why not embrace it? Not only is the shade flattering for almost every skin tone, it also helps hide away some of the extra snacks we've been munching on since the weather got cold. Just don't make it boring! Try unique sleeves and slim stretch denim, or a little black dress with seams that nip in the perfect spots, then add stylish ankle boots or cute heels (if not trudging through snow), plus sparkly accessories. Whether you're doing brunch with friends, dinner with the girls, or a romantic night in, you'll have a better time feeling relaxed and super fly.



## BEAUTY

When it comes to makeup, some like it glitzy, while others prefer super minimal. This 3-minute face, which combines earth tones with subtle pops of colour, lands somewhere in the middle—and is easy to add to or subtract from for any occasion. Some favourite tips? Try brown mascara instead of black and plum-coloured shadow as eyeliner (applied with a small angular brush) for a magnetic look. Use a palette of neutrals for different purposes by starting at the lighter end to apply all over your lids and going darker for the creases and outer corners (fun fact: shadow can also cover small facial blemishes). When it comes to concealer, avoid going too light or making crescents under your eyes, and remember that bronzer and a lovely shade of lipstick are great tricks when you are home-bound and tan-less!



For her: Stella eau de toilette by Stella McCartney
For him: Blue Mark eau de parfum by Jack Black

# DÉCOR

Love is a tricky business, but it can be expressed in many forms. That's why these tokens of affection for Vegantine's Day are meant to help spoil anyone in your life who really deserves it—including the kids, with cute (and philanthropic) animal dolls! You can also skip the over-packed night out on February 14th, if you prefer, and treat your (vegan) honey to a beautiful night in. Enjoy a little at-home romance with breakfast-in-bed mugs, cookware for a lovely dinner, a cozy rug to curl up on, a cute decorative dog (if you don't have your own companion animal yet), plus realistic faux flowers that last much longer than a traditional bouquet... although real ones are always nice, too!









Clockwise from top left: Cuddle + Kind cotton knit Chelsea the cat and Aspen the penguin dolls, Indigo stoneware Monogram and Espresso Mugs, Pottery Barn resin french bulldog, Home Outfitters polypropylene and jute Malton Area Rug, Crate and Barrel polyester White Hydrangeas and stoneware Potluck Baking Dish (Set of 3)





### GIFT IDEAS:

It's never a bad time to question what you truly want from your life, but early in the new year is especially appropriate! Encourage yourself or a loved with some self-help about self-love.



For her: "You Are A Badass" by Jen Sincero

For him: "Unf\*ck Yourself" by Gary John Bishop

## DINING

Dining out is a solid, staple date option—romantic *or* platonic—for a plethora of reasons: a) we need to eat anyway, b) it's easier than cooking, c) it's nicer than getting takeout, d) the ambiance is usually a vast improvement over being at home, and e) we don't have to worry about cleaning up afterwards. For an ideal spot in Toronto that's not only vegan, but suitable for any kind of date during the month of love, Planta arguably has one of the best blends of upscale food and a chic atmotsphere. It's geographically central in the city, the food is accessible (with a touch of too-challenging-to-make-yourself), yet not much pricier than average, while the vibe is cool and classy. So bon appétit, vegans!



Clockwise from top left: Queso Cheese Dip served with tortilla chips, Lettuce Wraps, The Bianca pizza at Planta located at 1221 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5R 3P5



#### GIFT IDEAS:

Treat him *or* her to a lovely dinner this Vegantine's month, either at a place you already know and love, or somewhere new you've heard is great. With so many options now in Toronto and beyond, delicious food and mood lighting will help set a perfect tone to the evening. Plus, there's always restaurant gift cards if you'd rather avoid the busy holiday.