
DALLAS DATE NIGHT IDEAS & CHALLENGES

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Places/Locations/Events:

- Nickelrama arcade games in Garland, TX
- Dave & Buster's
- Drive-in Movie theater
- Bowling (i.e. Bowl & Barrel or Bowlmor)
- Live music with dinner (Sambuca, The Rustic)
- Brunch and a movie. It is fun doing breakfast and the movies are half price because they are matinees. You also have the freedom to spend the afternoon doing something else!
- Go to Ft Worth for a day, evening, or night!
- Fort Worth stockyards and dinner in Sun Dance Square.
- Dinner and gun range
- Splitting a meal at Village Burger Bar and going to a concert on the lawn at Water's Creek
- Dessert date night – pick a specialty dessert place like Emporium Pies and walk around downtown McKinney or Bishop Arts
- Food/beverage events at Central Market
- Studio Movie Grill
- Night at a Museum
- Progressive dinner at different friend's houses
- Dollar movie theater
- Spa day for two
- Brewery tour
- Go to Sole Therapy and get a foot/leg massage before dinner
- Top Golf
- Cheesecake Factory
- Serve together (i.e. at a soup kitchen, 2nd Saturday)
- Hop on the DART and get off at various stops for an appetizer, then a meal, then dessert
- Dallas Zoo
- Butterfly House and Garden at Fair Park
- Chuck E Cheese's – eat pizza, play games, and act like you're kids again!
- See a play (there are TONS of local community theatres and high schools can sometimes have surprisingly good performances for cheap)
- Chinese Lantern Festival around Christmas
- Progressive dinner (appetizer, main, dessert – each at a different restaurant – i.e. Roys: appetizers, Whiskey Cake: salad, Saltgrass: Main course, Cheesecake Factory: dessert)
- Dessert at Reunion Tower

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Places/Locations/Events:

- Horseback riding in Grapevine
- The Porch in Uptown
- Pole position in Frisco (indoor racing)
- IFLY indoor skydiving
- Take a sightseeing flight over DFW in a small plane or helicopter
- Café Brazil is constantly giving away free menu items when they have a new entrée.
- Roller skating or Ice Skating (Galleria)
- Pocket sandwich theatre
- Scardello – fun cheese place on Oak Lawn. Have nights each week that are tastings and often do chocolate and wine pairings as well
- Social House around Beltline and Montford
- The Nasher museum on a concert night
- Perot museum
- Pie Squared (Bishop Art District: Eno's Pizza then Emporium Pies)
- Eat on the roof top deck of Stackhouse burger
- Grab Cane Rosso pizza and eat it at the White Rock Lake dam
- \$50/100 shopping spree at the Galleria followed by lunch and ice skating
- Pick up dinner from Central Market or Whole Foods and have a picnic at Turtle Creek Park
- Visit the dinosaur tracks in the riverbed at Dinosaur Valley State Park – Glen Rose, TX
- Visit Chocolate Secrets (great chocolate shop on Oak Lawn with great live music)
- IMAX movie at the Children's Museum in Fair Park
- Group Dynamix in Carrollton does private group events, but on Sundays they open it up and you can go play all the games (ar chery tag, zip lining, ropes course)
- Gondola Adventures in Las Colinas – lots of options for romantic gondola rides, brunch, dinner etc.
- Stampede 66 (followed by Dallas Museum of Art and Klyde Warren Park)
- West Dallas Restaurants:
 - Hofmann Hots
 - Trinity Groves
 - Chicken Scratch

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Outdoor Dates:

- Setting up hammocks around any park
- Playing Disc Golf at Audubon Park in Garland
- Rent a boat at Lake Lewisville
- Pick strawberries
- Picnic and Dallas Arboretum Summer Concert nights
- Go for a hike in Rockwall
- A day at the Dallas Arboretum with brunch at their café.
- Breakfast on a patio when the weather is nice.
- Klyde Warren Park (you can play/rent games there!) + FOOD TRUCKS!
- Picnic at any park
- Go on a walk/bike/run around White Rock Lake
- Arrange for a picnic in your backyard
- Rock climbing (indoor or outdoor)
- Dog Park
- Rent a kayak or paddle board at White Rock Lake or Lake Grapevine
- Play tennis
- Go for a hike and pack a picnic
- Visit all the BIG letters around Dallas and take pictures with them
- Clay pigeon shooting at Elm Fork
- Mountain biking
- Frisco Rough Riders game (or any sporting event)
- 5K Mud Run
- Volleyball tournament (outdoor beach volleyball)
- Dinner cruise on Lake Lewisville or sunset sailboat ride on Lake Grapevine
- Walk on the Katy Trail and have refreshments at the Ice House afterwards
- Rent a tandem bike from Richardson Bike Mart and ride around the lake with a picnic
- Go for a hike at Cedar Ridge Preserve

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Classes/Lessons:

- Swing Dancing Lessons
- Sur La Table Cooking class
- Take a cooking/grilling class offered at Central Market
- Take a calligraphy class at Art House Dallas
- Wine Tasting Class
- Take a yoga class together (dating couples use discretion)
- Dance Class or Fencing with a Groupon
- Painting with a Twist – you can bring your own wine/dinner and they teach you how to paint a picture
- Archery Lessons (look for a Groupon)

Home Dates:

- Make a fort in the living room, pop popcorn and watch a movie in the fort on a laptop
- Game night
- Coffee Shop date night at home. Create your own coffee shop atmosphere to enjoy a warm delicious cup of Joe and conversation with someone who appreciates it.
- Make your home into a fancy restaurant and cook a romantic meal at home
- Go get Cowboy Steaks from Central Market and grill at the house
- Cooking brunch together on a Saturday

Creative Ideas to add on to your date night:

- Creating funny slow-motion videos on your iPhone
- Play Madlibs
- Playing hangman at a restaurant with a pen and paper while waiting for food
- Trying to get pictures with random strangers (i.e. – you could have a list you try to accomplish, someone at a gas station, grocery store checker, a cop, etc)
- Go to a thrift store together and buying something unique
- If you have kids, do a date night swap with some friends – think about it – if you babysit for them one night, they do the same for you on your date night – you just saved at least \$25 that you can spend on your date night!

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Creative Date Challenges:

- Come up with a word/phrase and run with it. For example, you can choose the first letter of your kid's names and come up with a date that incorporates those three letters.
- Go to a Wine Bar and interview each other. Come with a list of questions (silly, fun, serious, etc) and take turns asking questions and responding to each other's thoughts
- Plan a date day with multiple places: i.e. Kimball Museum in the morning, Ft Worth nature Center in the afternoon, capped off by dinner at Joe T Garcia's
- Work through the alphabet, A-Z switching on who is planning the date. Each date must go along with the letter of the night. A is for American Airlines Center, K is for Kobe Steak House and Kite flying.
- You each have \$5 to spend and you go to the mall and find some thing special for your spouse.
- Go on a food tour i.e. visiting 3-5 different places, same genre of food (tacos, coffee, burgers)
- Thrifting Day date – set a budget and head out on a Saturday morning for estate sale shopping and thrifting. If you and your spouse are competitive, challenge each other to find the best item under \$10.
- One night where you do activities completely built on free stuff – no \$\$ spending allowed i.e. go have samples at a big Whole Foods, go to the mall and try perfumes/colognes, check out at DVD at a public library, try on clothes at a weird resale shop, etc
- If you have kids in school, plan out at least one lunch/month during the week where you and your spouse enjoy a lunch date in the middle of the work week!
- Work through D Magazine's Top 100 restaurant list (forces you to try new things – feel free to skip some if they are too expensive, or use that location as part of a progressive dinner)
- Cheap dates – collect all the coupons and gift cards you can scrounge together and once you have a bunch go on a date night spending as little money as possible
- Take advantage of 'National (fill in the blank) Days.' For example, a couple months ago was National Pie Day and there were a couple places around town that were giving out free slices of pie.

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Creative Date Challenges:

- Gather up a bunch of books from your house and take them to the Half Price Books at the beginning of the date. See how much money you can get for your gently-used books!
- Surprise your spouse by kidnapping them in the middle of the day, hiring a babysitter, grabbing a Starbucks drink and walking around SMU's campus prior to visiting the GWB Presidential Library.
- Dice and Index Cards – write out on separate index cards locations for eating and entertainment. To decide where to go, you roll the dice. The number on the dice that corresponds with that card is the activity or eatery that will be chosen. If the lady declines, she has to pay a penalty in kisses and that option on the card is dead. Makes it easy to spend a day doing things without the pressure of really choosing anything!
- Plan out three options and encode each option and send it to your spouse early in the week – make them think about it and make a choice, not knowing what they have signed up for.
- 'Last Minute' dinner or lunch dates always add a little bit of spark and fun to a date because it is unexpected
- Date challenge - Something for each initial in their name: i.e. If his initials are BTM, you can do the following - B=bullets, shooting range, T = tacos, M=macaroons, favorite dessert
- Come up with a creative phrase and they have to come up with a date night out of your phrase; For Example:
 - Undead Fish: zombie play at pocket sandwich theater with sushi following
 - Blue Red Blue: drink at Blue Mesa, mani/pedi for her at Red Door Salon, dinner at Blue Mesa
 - Shake Your Veggie Tale: dinner at a vegan restaurant, Shakespeare in the park
 - Mission impossible: water gun fight, java juice secret menu, 007 or other shoot-em up guy movies
 - Do a colored theme date and plan all events around it – i.e. Blue themed date: test drive a blue car, eat at Blue Mesa Grill/Blue Goose Cantina