

San Antonio Express-News

Presenting a very expensive Valentine

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If you're used to all your champagne wishes and caviar dreams coming true, then you, my fine-financed friend, should appreciate these extravagant Valentine's Day gift ideas. (Cue the Robin Leach voice.)

Buckingham Hotel Valentine's Day package: \$150,000 (buckinghamhotel.com)

A jet will fly you and your special someone from anywhere in the continental U.S. to New York City, where a limo will take you to the Buckingham's luxurious triplex Martinelli Penthouse. Enjoy the Manhattan view, then whet your appetite with a romantic carriage ride to Central Park, where you'll find a bench named in honor of you and your special someone. After that, it's back to the penthouse for a candlelit dinner privately catered by Nobu Fifty Seven, followed by a private concert by a Steinway pianist.

The decadence continues the next morning, when a personal concierge will guide you and yours on a truly posh shopping and sightseeing tour, complete with musically themed mementos. The love song ends with a limo ride back to the airport for the flight back to reality.

Great white shark adventure: \$100,000 (wallbounce.com)

You'll need to get to San Diego, where you and up to nine other of your nearest and dearest will hop a private plane to Guadalupe Island some 150 miles west of the Baja Peninsula. There, you'll board a private yacht with a knowledgeable crew. Then it's into the shark-diving cages for quality time with Jaws and the gang below. Fine dining also available. On the boat, not under it.

X line bracelet: \$49,000 (tiffany.com)

X marks the lavish spot with this X line bracelet from the Victoria collection at Tiffany & Co. The round brilliant diamonds (8.05 total carat weight) and marquise diamonds (.44 total carat weight) add up to one sparkly wristband.

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Carved jasmine cuff: \$12,000 (neimanmarcus.com)

For the medium-sized wrist of the lady who likes to live large, Neiman Marcus offers this woven sterling silver and 18-karat white gold cuff with diamonds (3.83 total carat weight) by John Hardy.

Dinner party at your home by "The Royal Chef": \$5,000 (wallbounce.com)

Darren McGrady, former private chef to Princess Diana and the Queen of England, will fly to your city and whip up a most regal three-course meal for 10 at your home, then dish some royal gossip. He takes care of the classy cuisine, you take care of the booze.

— *René Guzman*