

AN APHRODISIAC DINNER

UMAMI OYSTER ON THE HALF SHELL

Rose Water Mignonette

Piper-Heidsieck, Brut, Cuvée 1785, Reims, France NV

or

POACHED GREEN AND WHITE ASPARAGUS *Vegetarian

Pomegranate

Momo, Sauvignon Blanc, 2013, Marlbororough, New Zealand

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MAINE LOBSTER RAVIOLI
Sea Urchin Foam, Mascarpone, Upland Cress
Les Sétilles, Olivier Leflaive, Bourgogne Blanc, Burgundy, France, 2012

or

EDIBLE FLOWERS AND SPRING RADISHES SALAD *Vegetarian
Fennel Pollen, Ginger Vinaigrette
Attems, Pinot Grigio, Venezia Giulia, Italy, 2013

ARCTIC CHAR FILLET

Saffron Risotto, White Truffle-Leek Fondue Les Pensées de Pallus, Chinon, Loire Valley, France, 2011

or

OVEN ROASTED POUSSIN

Ricotta Cavatelli, Candied Beets, Honey and Ginseng Jus Marquis de C., Domaine de la Garrelière, 2011, Touraine, Loire Valley, France

or

BALSAMIC GLAZED CHÂTEAUBRIAND

Gratin Dauphinois, Haricot Verts, Sauce Bourguignonne

Hendry HRW, Cabernet Sauvignon, 2012, Napa Valley

or

CHANTERELLES AND WHOLE GRAINS RISOTTO *Vegetarian Roasted Candy Beets, Wilted Spinach, Parmesan Crisp Camus-Bruchon, Savigny-Les-Beaune, 2012, Burgundy, France

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FROZEN BANANA MOUSSE

Fig and Chocolate Sauce

Dashe, Late Harvest Zinfandel, 2012, Dry Creek Valley, California

\$120 per person / \$160 with wine \$300 with wine for two



LOVE FOODS

History is rife with the human pursuit of aphrodisiacs in many forms. Scientific tests have proven that some aromas can cause a greater effect on the body than the actual ingestion of foods. Here are some common foods of love used through the ages.

- **Asparagus**: three courses of asparagus were served to 19th century bridegrooms due to its reputed aphrodisiac powers.
- Banana: Not much to talk about there! It is creamy with a lush texture, and some studies show that its enzyme bromelain enhances male performance.
- CAVIAR: is high in zinc, which stimulates the formation of testosterone, maintaining male functionality.
- **CHAMPAGNE:** viewed as the "drink of love," moderate quantities lower inhibitions and cause a warm glow in the body.
- **CHOCOLATE:** contains both a sedative which relaxes and lowers inhibitions and a stimulant to increase activity and the desire for physical contact. It was actually banned from some monasteries centuries ago.
- Figs: seasonal crops were celebrated by ancient Greeks in a frenzied copulation ritual.
- GINSENG: increases desire for physical contact.
- **PERFUMES:** made of natural foodstuffs such as almond, vanilla, and other herbs and spices act as a pheromone to communicate emotions by smell.
- Puffer Fish: considered both a delicacy and an aphrodisiac in Japan. If the poisonous gland is not properly removed, the tiniest taste is deadly. The flirt with death is said to give a sexual thrill. Not recommended and only item not present on tonight's menu at Triomphe!
- OYSTERS: Some oysters repeatedly change their sex from male to female and back, giving rise to claims that the oyster lets one experience the masculine and feminine sides of love.
- RADISH: considered a divine aphrodisiac by Egyptian pharaohs, most likely because its spicy taste stimulated the palate.
- TRUFFLES: probably due to its rarity and musky aroma, it has long been considered to arouse the palate and the body. To sustain his masculinity, an ancient lover in lore was said to have gorged himself to death on Alba truffles during the wedding feast.
- **WINE:** (and other alcohol) lowers inhibitions and increases confidence; however, overindulgence has a sedative effect not conducive to a romantic tryst.