

MATCH MADE IN ...

We asked a matchmaker to reveal her top picks for romantic vacations that really set the mood



WITH MORE THAN 100 girlfriend-boyfriend matches, 11 engagements and 16 marriages (and counting) under her belt, New York matchmaker **Amy Laurent** has a knack for helping couples fall in love. With Valentine's Day in mind, we asked Laurent, star of Bravo's *Miss Advised* and author of *8 Weeks to Everlasting*, to give us her picks for the most romantic destinations in the U.S., Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean.



"There is something especially romantic about a desert getaway to the heart of the Red Rocks."

"Take in the view from atop the Gay Head lighthouse."

1. ANGUILLA

Perfect for couples who can't sit still. "Anguilla has limitless options for the active, sporty couple who also wants to get away from the everyday grind," Laurent says.

2. GAY HEAD, MARTHA'S VINEYARD

Those who love everything preppy will revel in the sun, surf and sand that this iconic slice of Americana offers. "Take in the view from atop one of the island's iconic lighthouses and sip gin and tonic at sunset."

3. TURKS AND CAICOS

Here's where world-weary workaholics can put down their

smartphones and reconnect. "Turks and Caicos is the ultimate relaxation destination. Lie beneath an umbrella in a cabana built for two, preferably with a fruity drink in hand, and let the day unfold."

4. RIVIERA MAYA

"Hiking in the ruins of a former Mayan temple, snorkeling in the largest coral reef in the northern hemisphere and dancing beneath the stars to some classic Mexican guitar—just a typical day for visitors to Riviera Maya."

5. SEDONA

"There is something especially romantic about a desert getaway to the heart of the Red

Rocks. Known for its spiritual allure, Sedona will cast its romantic spell on you and your sweetheart."

6. SONOMA VALLEY

All of that wine-swirling and food-tasting that Sonoma is famous for can be "a feast for the senses," says Laurent. Between drinking and eating your hearts out, rent a bike and pedal the valley, or search for hidden treasures in local shops.

7. LAKE GEORGE

"At Lake George in upstate New York, there is no off-season. Winter brings sleigh rides and crackling fires, fall features spectacular foliage and

apple-picking, while summer and spring are ideal for kayaking, hiking and hopping on a bicycle built for two."

8. FLORIDA KEYS

"Each island has its own magic. Spend the day snorkeling and swimming with dolphins; then explore Victorian architecture and an exciting array of restaurants and bars."

9. MONT TREMBLANT

Head north to some of Canada's best slopes. "After a day spent on the slopes, sip some hot chocolate and thaw frozen toes by the fire while reliving the day [together]."

— Jamie Beckman