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## **Celebrating Valentine's Day Late?**

**By Julie Francis**

Whether or not you have special feelings about Valentine's day, your partner may feel strongly about it. Days have a special significance to some people and they feel disappointed if things don't go as they wished. If you can't make the day itself a special occasion, make sure you make up for it by still holding a celebration when you can.

There are many couples who enjoy making Valentine's Day special but get annoyed or stressed when they try to celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th. Perhaps because one of the most popular ways to celebrate Valentine's Day is by going out to dinner.

This can lead to overcrowding and long waits to be seated. Some restaurants do not take reservations and even the ones that do often have difficulty honoring their reservations when there are huge crowds on Valentine's Day. As a result many couples may opt to celebrate Valentine's Day by going out to dinner a day or two late or even a day or two early. There is nothing wrong with this and it can often result in a much more relaxing celebration simply because it is taking place on the 13th or the 15th of February instead of the 14th.

If you are planning to take your partner out to dinner but are having trouble making reservations you might consider making your reservations for the first weekend after Valentine's Day. Don't forget to consult your partner to make sure celebrating a few days late will not be disappointing to your partner. This is important to consider because there are many who are very adamant about going out to celebrate on the Day and may be extremely disappointed if plans are made for a day that isn't the 14th.

If your partner shows signs of being extremely disappointed about celebrating Valentine's Day late, it might be a good idea to alter your plans rather than delaying them. If you want to avoid having to wait more than an hour for a table at a fancy restaurant, try cooking a great meal for your partner instead. You will still be celebrating in a really fun way but you won't have the stress of dealing with a crowded restaurant. Alternatively you could get take out and make it special by getting the good dinner service and the crystal wine glasses out.

Sometimes it is not merely a matter of convenience which makes it necessary to celebrate Valentine's

Day a day or two late. You or your partner may have an unusual work schedule which would make getting together on Valentine's Day extremely difficult. For example doctors often work a few long shifts per week which can interfere with Valentine's Day plans. If you or your partner is in this type of situation maybe you could just exchange cards on Valentine's Day and plan a weekend away at a later date. Whatever you decide you should make sure it is a decision which makes you both happy.

If you do celebrate Valentine's Day a day or two late it is important to remember that you should still treat your celebration with all of the excitement and enthusiasm as you would if you were celebrating on the 14th of February. For example if you would buy a new dress, get your nails done or get your hair done for Valentine's Day you should still go ahead and do these things even if you are celebrating late. It will help to make the celebration feel more fun and exciting.

Getting a special gift for the day is usual, under these circumstances, you'll need to agree on whether you'll exchange gifts on Valentine's Day or on the day you do celebrate. Whichever you do decide on, a token gift on the alternative day will let your partner know you care. A single flower, a single special chocolate, something silly from a \$2 shop that will make them laugh, just something to say that you know the timing went wrong but you were thinking about them.

Great Ideas for Valentines Day or any other Romantic Occasion. Unique gift ideas, cooking special meals, and surviving the day when you're on your own. Visit <http://www.onbeinghuman.net/Valentines/>

## The Origin and History of Valentine's Day

By Tony Luck

### The Origin and History of Valentine's Day by Tony Luck

#### Why We Celebrate Valentine's Day..

The oldest Valentine card still in existence was sent in 1415 by Charles Duke of Orleans, at the time a prisoner in the Tower of London, to his wife. The Valentine's card is now preserved and displayed in the British Museum.

However, the origins of Valentine's Day lie in ancient Rome. Over the years the ever expanding Roman empire became more difficult to police and there was an increasing shortage of soldiers. Believing that married men were too attached to their families and unlikely to sign up, Emperor Claudius II banned marriage, thinking this would increase the number of quality recruits.

The story goes that a Christian priest by the name of Valentine, seeing the unhappiness and trauma that resulted, secretly married couples in defiance of the new law.

It wasn't long before Emperor Claudius found out about Valentine's actions and the priest was imprisoned and eventually executed on February 14th, 270.

Whilst in prison, Valentine was befriended by his jailer, a character called Asterius. Asterius had a blind daughter and the jailer asked Valentine to cure her, which he did. Shortly before his execution, Valentine asked for writing implements and signed a farewell message to the jailer's daughter "From your Valentine", a phrase that has lived on, much to the delight of modern day florists, rose growers and card companies!

Tony Luck runs a site with advice for moms-to-be and new moms. Included is the fascinating [chinese pregnancy calendar](#) which is supposed to tell you whether the baby you are expecting will be a boy or girl, and a [conception chart](#) to tell you when baby is expected.

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