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## **LOOKING FOR A VALENTINE? GOURMET DATING –A TASTEFUL WAY TO DATE!**

San Francisco (January, 2005) Valentine's Day gets a tasteful makeover this year when matchmaking moves into the kitchen! Gourmet Gatherings, as seen on the Today Show and the Food Network, turns up the heat with *Gourmet Dating*, a deliciously fun singles culinary event where guests learn new cooking techniques, eat tantalizing tapas, and meet other fun single people.

This Valentine's Day, Gourmet Gatherings™ invites singles to participate in an exciting hands-on *Gourmet Dating* cooking party in the state-of-the-art Sur La Table teaching kitchens in San Francisco, Santa Rosa, Chicago and Santa Monica. Guests are greeted at the door with a nibble and nametag. After an introductory cooking lesson featuring tips such as the fastest way to dice an onion without a tear, guests are divided into co-ed cooking teams. Each team works on a recipe from the evening's Tantalizing Tapas menu, all while sipping wine and listening to upbeat music. The group then savors their culinary creations with new friends! After the event, copies of the recipes, digital photos, and e-mail addresses are sent to the group.

"Cooking is an ideal icebreaker. Because guests are focusing on cooking together, *Gourmet Dating* cooking parties take the pressure away from making small talk," notes Chef and Co-Owner Bibby Gignilliat. "And nothing brings people together better than cooking, wine and music," adds Co-Owner Shannan Bishop, "We know it works, our guests have written to tell us! We even have had a couple who met at one of our singles events and later got married!"

Gourmet Gatherings designs fresh, seasonal tapas menus for each event. *Gourmet Dating* menus are loaded with aphrodisiacal ingredients such as Oysters with Pancetta-Shallot Butter and Chocolate Espresso Truffles to help ensure a Valentine's Day match made in the kitchen! Guests don't need cooking experience to attend *Gourmet Dating* events. Tickets are \$75 per person and include cooking instruction by professional chefs, a meal prepared with the finest, freshest ingredients, copies of the recipes, and the camaraderie of cooking with new friends (or maybe a romance)! For information, visit the award-winning website at [www.gourmetgatherings.com](http://www.gourmetgatherings.com) and click on Singles Events.

[gourmetgatherings.com](http://www.gourmetgatherings.com)  
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