

#TRAVEL

5 most romantic cities around the world

Romantic tours usually stand apart from regular travel experiences due to their unique focus. While they encompass aspects of exploration and sightseeing, the focal point for couples on these journeys usually revolves around deepening their personal connection. Such intimate bonding flourishes best through shared activities, ones that resonate with both partners.

If your upcoming plan as a couple involves embarking on a journey to savour new culinary delights, indulge in shopping escapades, or simply wander through secluded ancient alleyways in each other's embrace, then consider these recommendations for the most enchanting cities worldwide to embark on this amorous expedition with your beloved partner.

Paris, France

With little surprise, the very first entry in our list of most romantic cities around the world is Paris. The reputation of this city as the City of Love is undeniably well-deserved. This iconic metropolis presents a distinctive fusion of unforgettable moments with its famous landmarks, charming cafés, and age-old cobblestone pathways.

The city's world-renowned museums, like the Louvre and Musée d'Orsay, offer splendid opportunities to delve into arts and culture as a couple and find a common ground among each other's interests. For the poetic allure of the city, a stroll hand in hand along the Seine River is recommended, as historical bridges and riverside bookstalls decorate your path. Couples may also opt for a serene boat tour, gliding along the Seine beneath the shimmering expanse of stars.

In addition, Parisian cuisine can be best described as a journey in itself. From the patisseries offering delicious pastries to intimate bistros with original French dishes, sharing a meal with your beloved anywhere in Paris can guarantee a romantic experience that is quite one of a kind.



Venice, Italy

There's something undeniably romantic about boat rides, and there is no better city than Venice to offer such an enchanting experience. Simply drifting along the stunning Gothic and Renaissance architecture aboard a gondola (a flat-bottomed traditional boat), the picturesque waterways of this city effortlessly foster an ambiance of romance.

Captivating is the sight of the colourful sun setting over the Grand Canal or the Rialto Bridge — a moment of pure romantic splendour made possible by the city's unique geographic layout, allowing for awe-inspiring vistas and perfect couple photo opportunities as the sun gracefully disappears beyond the horizon.

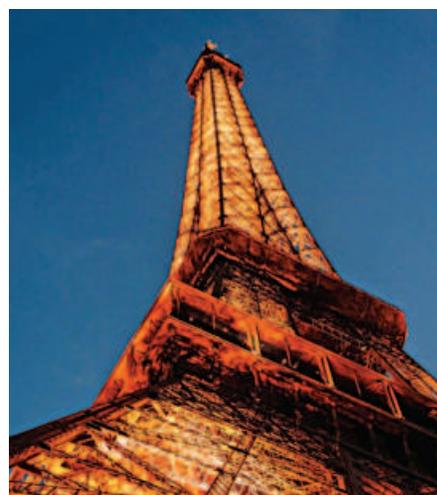
To get a more immersive cultural journey, setting your sights on a February visit is advisable to partake in the renowned Carnival of Venice, and amid your explorations, should your quest for the perfect souvenirs commence, please do remember to seek out the iconic Venetian masks, an embodiment of the city's unique artistic heritage.

Kyoto, Japan

Kyoto welcomes couples seeking a serene ambiance steeped in cultural heritage, crafting an enchanting canvas for their romantic journey. The renowned Arashiyama Bamboo Grove provides a breath-taking setting for leisurely walks, offering an

intimate cocoon for couples within the lush bamboo lines. Moreover, Kyoto boasts some of the nation's most beautiful cherry blossom views, with the Kiyomizu-dera Temple standing out as a must-visit, especially during the blossom season for panoramic views.

For a deeper connection and a taste of history, couples can delve into the historical layers of the Gion district, a window into Japan's past. Here, shared kaiseki, the



serene canvas for romantic strolls.

Beyond offering seclusion and ambiance, this island city also grants an enchanting glimpse into the world of vibrant marine life and intricate coral reefs. With opportunities for snorkelling at your disposal, an underwater journey hand in hand through the dazzling array of these marine creatures promises an experience for couples to treasure for a lifetime.

In addition, Malé has built a reputation for delivering a truly personalised experience, from beach diners to luxurious spa treatments, allowing couples to design their dream journey any way they prefer!

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Renowned for its vibrant energy and colourful streets, Rio de Janeiro features arguably the most stunning coastline of any city. The iconic Copacabana and Ipanema beaches, set against the majestic backdrop of Sugarloaf Mountain, create an atmosphere that seems straight out of the pages of a romantic novel.

Nevertheless, beyond its breath-taking beaches, Rio's true allure lies in its bustling neighbourhoods, which offer couples the opportunity to explore Latin American culture together, a fantastic way to strengthen the bond further. At the heart of Rio's charm lies its iconic Carnival, the largest of its kind, with bloco street parties, mesmerising Samba dance displays, and the dazzling costumes adorning performers creating an experience that stands as a reason in itself to visit.

Furthermore, Rio can be considered as a veritable haven for authentic Latin American street cuisine. As you and your beloved engage in an unforgettable street food feast, do make sure to sample dishes like feijoada, desserts like brigadeiro, or the savoury delight of pão de queijo!

By **Abdullah Al Zuber**
Photo: **Collected**



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