

# Tri- VALLEY

The Tri-Valley isn't just an intersection of valleys but an epicenter of casual date fun, from tasting the fruit of local vines to horseback riding through golden hills to burning rubber on the racetrack.



► **DITCH THE CAR**  
The bicycle-friendly Iron Horse Trail connects Dublin to Danville—and beyond.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: MARTIN SUNDBERG. COURTESY OF SIMPLY FONDUE. COURTESY OF CONCANNON VINEYARD



Underdog  
Wine Bar



Simply  
Fondue

## 6:30 a.m. Catch the Sun

☐ Watch the sun rise over the valley from the **Pleasanton Ridge**. Head northwest at the top of the ridge, through Augustin Bernal Park, to find a pond teeming with bullfrogs. You may find a prince to kiss—or better yet, give your date a smooch. [ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

☐ Split a giant cinnamon roll at **Denica's Pastry Café** in Dublin, as you dream about your sweet future. (Yes, those are "double chocolate orgasm" cookies in the display case.) [denicascafe.com](http://denicascafe.com).

☐ Get an early start on a day of **wine tasting in Livermore Valley**, with a bike ride along vineyard-lined Tesla and Greenville roads. Tasting rooms begin opening as early as 11 a.m. Break up the booze with small plates at überhip **Underdog Wine Bar**. [lvwine.org](http://lvwine.org); [underdogwinemERCHANTS.com](http://underdogwinemERCHANTS.com).

## 1:15 p.m. Go Head to Head

☐ There's no harm in some friendly competition. So why not battle it out for bragging rights at 45 miles per hour on the go-kart track at **Umigo** in Livermore, with expert aim on the bocce court at nearby **Campo di Bocce**, or on the links surrounded by San Ramon's beautiful Dougherty Valley at the **Bridges Golf Club**. [umigoracing.com](http://umigoracing.com); [campodibocce.com](http://campodibocce.com); [thebridgesgolf.com](http://thebridgesgolf.com).

☐ Traverse the **Sunol wilderness on horseback** like it's the Wild West, taking in beautiful waterfalls, eagles, and wildflowers. Moonlight and overnight rides are also available. [westerntrailriding.com](http://westerntrailriding.com).

☐ Go retro, and fly around the rink hand-in-hand with your sweetie at **Dublin Iceland** or the **Golden Skate** in San Ramon. You'll feel like a giddy junior high kid all over again. [dubliniceland.com](http://dubliniceland.com); [thegoldenskate.com](http://thegoldenskate.com).

## 7:15 p.m. Indulge

☐ Snag a table next to the cozy fireplace and order crab cakes at **Barone's** in Pleasanton. Afterward, catch a show at the new **Firehouse Arts Center**. Cabaret singer Wesla Whitfield performs *Isn't It Romantic?* on February 13. Then, head to a luxury suite at the **Rose Hotel** for the night. [baronespleasanton.com](http://baronespleasanton.com); [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org); [rosehotel.net](http://rosehotel.net).

☐ Share a sinfully decadent dessert at **Simply Fondue** in Livermore. Dip marshmallows, fruit, and cake into one of 17 different chocolate concoctions, including white chocolate Amaretto. Then, stroll quaint First Street. [simplyfonduelivermore.com](http://simplyfonduelivermore.com).

☐ Hit one of Danville's hot wine bars for drinks, small plates, and live music. **Stomp**, in Blackhawk Plaza, has water-side dining and an outdoor fireplace to set the mood. [stompsf.com](http://stompsf.com).

☐ Test your teamwork at a couples cooking class at **Pans on Fire** in Pleasanton. The Valentine's Day class includes oysters, steak with truffled mashed potatoes, and a double dark chocolate cake. You'll get to know other Tri-Valley duos and end with a delicious feast you helped prepare. [pansonfire.com](http://pansonfire.com). —LEEANNE JONES

date planner

## Worksheet

① PLAN YOUR DAY ② MARK IT DOWN!

### ▼ MORNING

### ▼ AFTERNOON

### ▼ EVENING