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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2005
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WINE AND DINE UNDER THE STARS

PAMPER YOURSELF AND YOUR SWEETHEART ON VALENTINE'S DAY

WRITTEN BY STEPHANIE CAVANAUGH

A loaf of bread, a jug of wine and that may have been enough then. But this is now. So bring on the duvets, hot rock massages and whirlpools this Valentine's Day. These weekend specials will leave you gasping, spaaaaa.

Into the Wilderness Poplar Springs Inn and Spa

Poplar Springs may feel a thousand miles away, but it is a mere 45 minutes from the Memorial Bridge. Splendidly isolated, the intimate inn and spa are set amid 200 spectacular acres in Casanova (how apt!), Virginia.

Wander the paths, ponder the lake, or indulge in the spa, which offers everything from exfoliation scrubs to mud baths to massages. If the pool is closed for the season, the outdoor whirlpool jets on.

If you equate spa dining with a free-range chicken nugget and a mint sprig, think again. This inn boasts divine cuisine and fine wines served in front of a roaring fireplace.

Poplar Springs' \$1,200 package from February 11-13 includes two nights amid dreamy linens and down duvets, chilled champagne and sweets upon arrival, a private whirlpool tub, two signature spa treatments, continental breakfast each morning, a five-course dinner on Saturday night, a splendid brunch on Sunday, and all manner of treats in between.



Photographs courtesy of Poplar Springs Inn and Spa

RESOURCE

■ Poplar Springs Inn and Spa
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