



FIRST ORDERS

5 ROMANTIC BARS TO TOAST VALENTINE'S DAY



**GILGAMESH BAR
LONDON, UK**

Named after a Babylonian king, this pan-Asian venue was hand-decorated by 10,000 Indian designers. Choose aromatic cocktails made from passion fruit, lychee, elderflower, violet and rose. With moody lighting and music it's guaranteed to seduce all five senses.

📍 **CAMDEN STABLES MARKET, CHALK FARM ROAD.**
TEL: +44 (0)20 7482 5757, WWW.GILGAMESHBAR.COM

✈️ **FLY TO LONDON (GATWICK, LUTON AND STANSTED)**
FROM OVER 100 DESTINATIONS, INCLUDING **DUBLIN, KAUNAS, MARRAKESH AND WROCLAW.**
VISIT WWW.RYANAIR.COM

THE DRINKERS' COLUMN

► **AKITA SAKE**

I have long enjoyed Chinese food with the Japanese rice wine, sake, much to the horror of my purist Chinese friends. So at a recent lunch at the excellent Min Jiang restaurant in London (www.minjiang.co.uk), I was delighted to learn just how well different varieties of Akita sake match Chinese dishes. One of my favourites is Junmai Ginjo – a pretty pink variety that's faintly reminiscent of roses. Its aniseed flavour when served chilled magically transforms into the taste of pink grapefruit upon warming.

📍 WWW.HINOMARU-SAKE.COM. ORDER YOURS FROM WWW.SARAHWEDGBURY.CO.UK

GOLDEN STAR

This is a deliciously refreshing non-alcoholic drink with a festive feel – a sparkling white jasmine tea in a Champagne-style bottle. Made by hand-steeping small batches of top-quality silver needle tea from China's Fujian province, Golden Star is sweetened with raw sugarcane juice and allowed to ferment like wine. It has a wonderful balance of sweetness and acidity, with floral fragrance and plenty of fizz. It goes especially well with cheese, seafood, salad and fruit.

📍 WWW.KINGSFINEFOOD.CO.UK

PEPPI'S BAR

GOZO, MALTA

If you're looking for an idyllic getaway, try Peppi's – part of a hotel with a private beach and medieval castle nearby. Sip on Emerald Lily (vodka, white rum, crème de menthe, pineapple and lime), or Golden Dream (Galliano, Cointreau, orange juice and cream).

📍 **HOTEL TA'CENC, SANNAT, GOZO.** TEL: +356 21 556819.

WWW.VJBORG.COM/TACENC

✈️ **FLY TO MALTA (LUQA) FROM 12** DESTINATIONS, INCLUDING **BARI AND MADRID.** VISIT WWW.RYANAIR.COM

BAR IL POZZO

ASOLO, NEAR VENICE, ITALY

For privacy and discretion, you can't beat this cosy bar, located in a hotel atop the Asolo hills, with a veranda that overlooks a stunning garden filled with pomegranate trees. Don't miss the seasonal cocktails, as well as the Cipriani family's famous Bellini.

📍 **HOTEL VILLA CIPRIANI, 298 VIA CANOVA.** TEL: +39 0423 523411.

WWW.VILLACIPRIANIASOLO.COM

✈️ **FLY TO VENICE (TREVISO) FROM 21** DESTINATIONS, INCLUDING **BREMEN.** VISIT WWW.RYANAIR.COM

BAR GOLDENER HIRSCH

SALZBURG, AUSTRIA

Famous for its cocktail "Rendezvous with Susanne", this is the perfect venue to rendezvous with the man/woman in your life. Tucked into the 600-year-old Goldener Hirsch hotel, it offers an excellent selection of whiskies, spirits, beers and liqueurs.

📍 **37 GETREIDEGASSE,** TEL: +43 (0)662 80840, WWW.GOLDENERHIRSCHSALZBURG.COM

✈️ **FLY TO SALZBURG FROM DUBLIN**

AND **LONDON (STANSTED).** VISIT WWW.RYANAIR.COM

HOTEL LOCARNO

ROME, ITALY

For cinematic romance, head to the glamorous bar of this 1920s-style hotel, which is renowned for its Number 10 cocktail. The drinks list is changing as we go to press, but you may find such gems as a golden Martini (vodka, Sauternes, gold powder).

📍 **22 VIA DELLA PENNA,** TEL: +39 06 361 0841.

WWW.HOTELLOCARNO.COM

✈️ **FLY TO ROME (CIAMPINO) FROM 31** DESTINATIONS, INCLUDING **OSLO (TORP).** VISIT WWW.RYANAIR.COM