A Day in the Garden for Two...

By Chris Francin Venice Gulf Coast Living Magazine

Living in Florida, we have plenty of opportunities to dine al fresco! Once in a while, you might want to surprise a special someone by planning a day of meals in the garden or any outdoor space that you enjoy. A little bit of planning and imagination can be the key to creating a relaxing ambiance and moments to remember. You can enjoy this activity by setting up one table in the garden and changing the theme for each meal, or if you are adventurous, you might consider setting up several table stations and designing your own movable feast that is all ready to go! When selecting a place for your table(s), you will want to make sure the ground is relatively flat so that your table will be secure and not shift from side to side. Think about places where you can position it that offer plenty of shade and protection from the sun, whether it be under a tree or patio umbrella. Consider the theme and gather items that would add a little flair to the event.

Here are a few ideas to design the perfect garden time for two...





Breakfast Special (opp. page)...

The first meal of the day becomes an event when you drape the table and set it with cloth napkins and a bouquet of flowers. Beautiful vessels of fresh water and lemon add to the look and feel of this special garden tablescape.

Let's Barbecue...

Set up your table with the grill nearby and a basket that's full of special treats. Grapes on the table and some bubbly set the mood for a bit of barbecue lunch fun!



Celebration for Two...

Whether it is an anniversary, holiday, or any day you would like to commemorate, create a romantic theme by dressing the table in white linen paired with elegant napkins and tapered candlesticks. Delicate flowers in a beautiful vase will add that special touch to a late afternoon or early evening dinner.



Divine Desserts... End your special garden time for two with some sweet treats. Serve your favorite cake, fruit, and coffee or tea, and you have just completed a day of wonderful garden bliss!

Enjoy a bit of peaceful relaxation, the beautiful sounds of nature, some exquisite meals, and of course, the pleasures of memorable moments for two...