

8 best restaurants in RI for a fantastic, romantic anniversary dinner

Romantic dinners are a state of mind.

The best plans of a special night can be ruined before you even arrive at a restaurant if your workday was stressful, traffic bad, the kids were cranky or the dog threw up before you left the house.

But, you can stack the deck in your favor. Do it by choosing a restaurant that has a unique atmosphere, delicious food and exceptional service. Even if you walk in feeling a bit uninspired, dining at the right restaurant can lift your spirits.

Challenged to offer the perfect place to celebrate an anniversary, I thought about all these things, plus a restaurant's warmth and authenticity. I also started reliving some wonderful nights, the kind you don't want to see end. That made me smile.

I hope you will be all smiles after you try one of my choices for a special anniversary. They aren't the new trendy places, but they just might be what you need to feed your soul.

Gracious elegance at Cara in Newport

Cara, the restaurant at the Chanler on the Cliff Walk in Newport, may be the ultimate special occasion dinner spot. How can you miss when you are set in the gilded age elegance of the boutique hotel that sits above the Cliff Walk. Every detail is perfect in the small dining room. The chefs may change but Cara's excellence is always maintained. It is also respectfully quiet, allowing diners to converse easily.

117 Memorial Blvd., Newport, (401) 847-2244, thechanler.com/cara-restaurant



Cara is the elegant restaurant at Chanler on the Cliff Walk in Newport. Steve Szydlowski, *The Providence Journal File*