

Real Brides



February 2022

South Africa's Exciting
Wedding Magazine

*Glam Fairy In
Action*

*Cheese, Wine
& Beer*

Do I Trash my dress?

Real Weddings

Take a virtual tour of these top wedding venues

One of the most important decisions you will have to make when planning your wedding is to choose your venue.

Your choice will help you determine a multitude of important factors such as a theme, number of guests, décor, food and drink and accommodation requirements.

There are literally hundreds of venues to choose from countrywide. So, looking for the right venue to host your wedding is time-consuming and can be a difficult task.

TOP VENUES FEATURED

In this edition we feature and highlight seven of the country's Top Rated Wedding Venues to help you choose.



To take a VIRTUAL TOUR of these six Top Wedding Venues just click on the links below.

Click On Links Below

Tsekama

[Silver Sixpence](#)

Welgelegen Manor

[Inkwenkwezi](#)

Brahman Hills

[Zorgvliet Wine Estate](#)

VISIT OUR VIRTUAL WEDDING EXPO

Also don't forget to visit the Real Brides Virtual Wedding Expo - <https://realbrides.co.za/exhibition-floor-plan/>

At the Real Brides VIRTUAL WEDDING EXPO and you will find an audio visual presentation for each Exhibitor together with a full overview of what they have to offer brides-to-be.
PLUS – You will find a link to take you directly to the Exhibitor's website



Contents



www.realbrides.co.za
Visit our website!

Find us on:



@realbrides



@realbrides



Facebook.com/RealBridesMagazine

On the cover:

Bride: Danielle Radević

Photo: Neon Productions/Morgan Brink

REAL BRIDES is published independently by
Topic Publishing (Pty) Limited.

TOPIC
publishing

To advertise call:
Stewart on
061 490 4915

4. DANIELLE & NIKOLA RADEVIĆ

8. ONWABA & TAVONGA GONYORA

12. Top Wedding Venue - Welgelegen Manor

16. SASH & JACO SWART

20. Top Wedding Venue - Zorgvliet

24. RUVÉ & J.P. LOUW

28. Top Wedding Venue - The Silver Sixpence

34. COURTNEY & TIAAN BEETGE

40. MERIZA & DUAN VILJOEN

THE MONTH OF LOVE ...

To celebrate February, the short but warm and wonderful month of LOVE, we have another bunch of 'real brides' and their fabulous weddings for you to read about in this issue. Each wedding is unique in its very own way.

If you got married recently and would like to have the chance to share your love story and photos from your wedding with our readers, write to us robbyn@topicpublishing.co.za attaching a sample wedding photo and a list of your vendors.

Visit the REAL BRIDES website www.realbrides.co.za to download your FREE copy – we believe in sharing the LOVE.

Pay the Real Brides Facebook page a visit and show us some LOVE back.



DANIELLE & NIKOLA RADEVIĆ



Tall, dark and handsome is probably every girl's romantic dream and this bride got to meet her match through mutual friends at university.

How romantic was your proposal?

Nikola is the hopeless romantic in our relationship. In all the discussions we had about getting married one day, I was always the one advocating for court! So, it came as a shock to many that there still has not been a formal proposal! We have been together for 8 years and already considered ourselves married. We thought it would be fun to drop hints about a wedding when we were around our families to see if they noticed. One day they did and everyone took it that we were engaged. After that we spent a while shopping for the ring I had in mind and just when we thought we would have to get it made, we managed to find the one.

How many venues did you consider?

We really only considered one as we loved their outdoor chapel and the atmosphere at their open day was exactly what we were hoping for.

Did you source all your own service providers?

We sourced most and thankfully it was quite an easy process. We did a lot of searching online and shortlisted our vendors who we then met for coffee before paying deposits. The most difficult had to be the cake as many bakeries charge for tiny portions of cake that you don't even get to enjoy!

How did you come to choose your photographer?

I have known Morgan from Neon for many years - she is our go to person for any and all photography. She knows my family and friends and is able to wrangle the whole lot of crazy so that we could get some fantastic photos!

Your colour scheme?

Our colour scheme was white with a touch of blues.

Your dream dress?

I wanted an A-line dress that was elegant and simple. However, when I took to Pinterest, I realised just how many dresses fit into that category! Luckily Timeless Bridal, in Pretoria, had a sample - so off I went to try the dress on. It was absolutely perfect!



“I wanted an A-line dress that was elegant and simple.”



***Venue: Timber on Lace
Dress: Timeless Bridal
Hair: & make-up: Urban Hair and Makeup
Décor: Pebbles and Lace
Photography: Neon Productions***

More guys than girls in your entourage?

My brother and I have always been close and we managed to rope him in to being a bridesman, which resulted in us having a more male entourage.

Did you follow any traditions?

I did. My favourite pair of blue shoes was something old; my dress and earrings something new and something borrowed was a handkerchief from my Dad (in case of tears) and I had a few something blues as it was also our colour scheme.

How many guests?

50. We wanted an intimate ceremony that would take place no matter the Covid restrictions. Everyone knew each other so there was a very relaxed atmosphere.

Any budget advice?

We were really good with our budget and managed to come in well under. The minute you say the "W" word many vendors quadruple their prices! Don't be afraid to shop around when getting quotes.

Your first dance?

Nikola used to be a ballroom dance instructor and one of the first dances he taught me was the foxtrot to Michael Buble's Moodance - so it had to be our first dance as a married couple.

What did you do about wedding gifts?

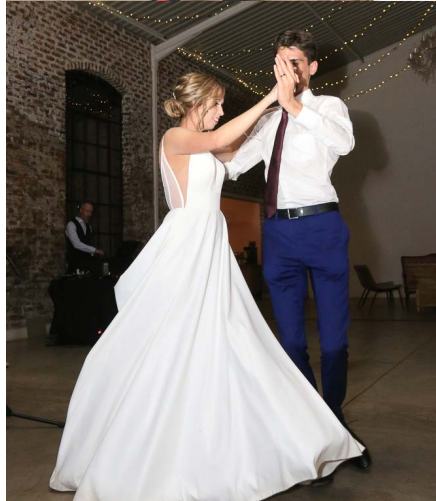
We'd been living together for several years so there was really no need for a gift registry. What we ended up doing is asking people to share memorable experiences with us. We were so spoilt and have started off our married life with many adventures such as dinners, board games, fencing lessons, gin blending and even sky-diving.

Advice for brides-to-be?

Try to relax and enjoy the process. The day goes by in a blur of orders from where you must be and what you need to do. If you fret about the details, you'll miss the opportunities to really just take everything in.

Honeymoon?

We were hoping to go overseas in December, but with the Omnicron travel restrictions being imposed, we had to postpone.







NEON PRODUCTIONS

Photography & Videography

Please contact Morgan Brink:

morgan@neonproductions.co.za 

www.neonproductions.co.za 

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram

@neonphotoproductions 

@neonproductionsa 

ONWABA & TAVONGA GONYORA



This fun bride calls herself the Glam Fairy of Brahman Hills and her job is her passion.

How did you and Tavonga meet?

We crossed paths purely by chance in 2018 at a local restaurant. A friend, who was visiting from Zanzibar, decided the group should all sit together and we were soon immersed in some cheeky banter. We exchanged phone numbers. I had just moved from wrapping up my life in Zanzibar.

First date?

We finally went on our first date a month later. We both love the sound of our own voices so by the end of the evening, at what had meant to be a dinner date, we had full plates and most of the restaurant staff were anxiously staring at us waiting to close up and go home! It didn't take long for us to realise from our shared experiences that we wanted exactly the same things out of life.

You actually had 3 weddings?

We had our customary marriage on 19 December 2020 – 1st wedding; our traditional wedding on 27 March 2021 – 2nd wedding and our 3rd wedding on 8 October 2021. We still have one last traditional celebration, which will be in Zimbabwe, where I will be officially welcomed into the Gonyora family.

Choosing a wedding venue was easy?

I have been a part of the Brahman Hills family for nearly 5 years now. We are one of the best wedding venues in South Africa, and I eat, live and breathe my brand! As the champion and incredibly passionate wedding Glam Fairy, that's what I call myself, I could not imagine any other venue that would feel as much as home as Brahman Hills. I have the best team, and as they always do, they gave us the BEST day.

Did you get involved or did you leave it to your team?

I am a planner at heart, it is in my blood; therefore every detail that I can think of was in place. Spreadsheets, wedding groups, weekly wedding meetings with my husband (who did not always want to get into the "detail") however obliged me. Mock setups, menu tastings, repeated dress fittings, Whatsapp groups, emails – more emails, calls, more spreadsheets, function sheets and final meetings!



“Dare to be different and dare to be bold.”



Venue & Food: Brahman Hills, Nottingham Road – www.brahmanhills.co.za

Bridal gown: Bella Bride

Hair: Jimmy, Imvelo Salons

Make-up: Sheri Tryon

Bridesmaids hair & make-up: Kym Shuttleworth

Photography: TyandEri

I started my leave on 5 October but was still working when my partner and GM of Brahman Hills, Sollie, pulled me aside and said: "Please just be a bride and enjoy it. Leave it to the team, they've got it and will make it fabulous." I embraced those words as I truly wanted to experience everything that I pour into my couples week after week. I let go, and let bride-mode flow. I did however insist on seeing the venue the day before. It was nothing short of PERFECT.

What does Brahman Hills have to offer brides-to-be?

1. Magical gardens that are the fruit of our labour of love - crafted during lockdown by our very own team members.

2. Unique chapels, accompanied by their own reception venues. These are completely separate from each other, with their own unique charms. In addition, we have two additional reception venues that are perfect for micro weddings.

3. Luxurious and comfortable accommodation to host up to 120 guests on the Brahman Hills property with additional accommodation for 42 guests at our second property, which is just 5km away.

4. In-house catering by our exceptional culinary team; to ensure that the food at your wedding is delicious, fresh and definitely one of the many beautiful memories for guests to take home. We host menu tastings so that you can see and taste the selection your guests will get to enjoy on your day.

5. Spa Bridal Room – located at the beautiful spa in the Blue Crane Nature Reserve; our spa bridal room is the perfect glam up spot to have hair & makeup done.

6. Professional in-house coordinators. We like to call these your wedding glam fairies, with years of experience in the hospitality industry, and a passion for people and events. Our wedding team not only ensures that you have a beautiful journey, they ensure the smooth running of your wedding day, liaising with all suppliers and hosting your guests.

Did your guests stay over?

90% of our guests stayed on-site. Most stayed for two nights as we had a post-wedding celebratory braai in the Stables venue. This gave us more time with our guests to reminisce on the beautiful moments of our wedding; and carried on the party. I always encourage this with our couples. Make a weekend or two to three day experience out of your wedding. You get to connect with family, friends and create magical memories.



Your menu?

Coming from a food and beverage background and having lived in the Cape Winelands; dining was a huge part of my life. I wanted our guests to have an exceptional culinary experience. This was also an opportunity to showcase that our phenomenal Brahman Hills Chefs can prepare an exceptional fine dining experience for a wedding. We served a five-course menu and everyone raved about the food. Our menu included the likes of: Roasted Pork Belly, butter bean mash, spiced apple puree, grilled garden veggies, and red onion marmalade; Braised Beef Short Rib, roasted garlic potato puree, forest mushrooms, and sautéed heirloom baby carrots; Coq Au Vin. Chicken leg quarters braised in red wine, cauliflower puree, pearl onions, bacon, button mushrooms, and chateau potato and Pistachio Crusted Roast Rack of Lamb, pont neuf potato, sautéed garden spinach, roasted beetroot, and corn puree. A dessert table with a selection of Mini doughnuts, Milk tartlets, Cake pops and Wedding cake rounded off the meal.

Your dress?

Specifically made from one of Bella Bride's own local designs. I used a top from an existing dress then made changes, added lace sleeves, added a detachable skirt in milky white shades and also had the accompanying headpiece and shoulder jewellery made. I wanted to look like royalty! Bella Bride, Shona and Magpie got this down to the final detail. I'm blessed to have had the bridal glam squad that I had, as I was very specific about the creation of my look. They nailed it.

Your bride tribe?

Choosing my bridesmaids was an effortless process; I could not have picked any other people to be with me to share my journey. I did not ask them to be my bridesmaids; I announced it to them with a beautiful leather jewellery box filled with goodies, and a black and white printed image of the two of us, with a note saying: Welcome to my tribe!

How many guests?

136 guests including our amazing service providers. We had a lot of guests traveling from far...Zimbabwe, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town and Johannesburg. Had it not been for travel restrictions we would have had family from the UK too. We did however livestream to keep them a part of the day.

Any funny moments?

I had a well up of emotions saying our vows. When the minister said 'for richer or poorer' I guess they reached their peak. `froze! All that came out of my mouth was a long, loud screech of EEEK and tears streamed down my face! I could not continue. My husband nudged me but I just couldn't stop crying and he tried to wipe my tears. Thinking of my makeup, I thought it best I do it! It was clearly hilarious as

everyone was laughing and I finally gathered myself. I realised I was REALLY getting married now...and I was overwhelmed with joy.

Your décor?

Our décor was a vision I carried from the start. I wanted to have an accent area that would set the tone, mood and styling of the wedding. The emerald green couch, pampas grass, black draping, naked bulbs, hanging installations and the black and white dance floor, not forgetting the fairy lights - all those elements contributed to having the perfect space. The glorious gardens of Brahman Hills were the perfect backdrop for pictures.

Entertainment at your reception?

We had a Photobooth by South Coast Photobooth; Dylan on his acoustic violin; our phenomenal DJ Real Beats Entertainment and our MC Hugo Ribatika did an amazing job keeping our guests engaged with some interactive games and got people to leave us notes of advice - a lovely touch to go through after our wedding.

What worked best on your big day?

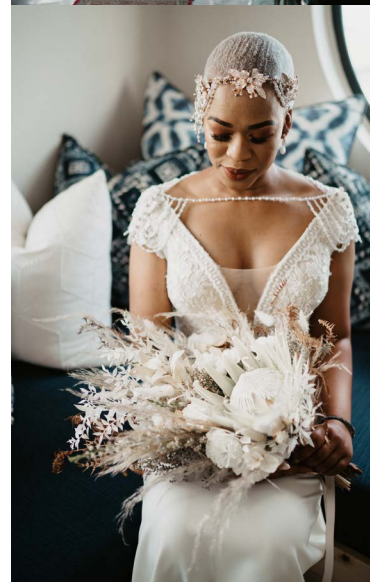
EVERYTHING - we still speak about it to this day. There is not a single thing we would do differently. We had three seasons in one day: sunshine in the morning, followed by heavy rain and lightning, then hail and more rain. Then one hour before our ceremony start time, the sky cleared, and the sun came out. Everything happened as it should have, it was an incredible explosion of love. Our guests had great synergy, there was an abundance of joy and it was magical. It was our fairy tale.

Any tips for brides-to-be?

Work together with your fiancé, your wedding is the first project that you intentionally work on together. Your wedding should reflect both of you. Have fun planning and create experiences. Something uniquely you, that will make your wedding special and memorable. Dare to be different and dare to be bold. Dare to be beautiful and uniquely you. Yes we want things to be perfect, however sometimes things happen. The beauty is to know when to let go, and focus on the positive in the moment. Things ALWAYS work out for the best, and just as they should. Trust that. Appreciate and be grateful for the people that surround and support you, thank them and acknowledge them. Be nice. A grateful heart, is an environment for miracles.

Honeymoon?

We both had work commitments and only a few days after the wedding. We went to Franschoek for a mini-moon as we were in the process of buying a house with plans to refurbish. Everything aligned so beautifully. We got to move into our home a day before Christmas to celebrate our first Christmas as husband and wife.



BRAHMAN
HILLS
CREATING HARMONY, TOGETHER

TOP WEDDING VENUES



MAKE YOUR WEDDING DAY UNFORGETTABLE

Your big day deserves nothing less than to be as perfect as possible, and that is a promise at WELGELEGEN MANOR - in classic English residential style.

Named the Land of Abundance, Balfour is located south east of Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve, just off the R23 that leaves the N3 north of Heidelberg and heads into the province of Mpumalanga. Balfour nestles in a region given over mostly to farms, game farms and bushveld.

It is called Cosmos Country because it is this area that annually explodes with varying pink and white cosmos flowers during autumn, a breath-taking sight for any visitor.

Although our facilities at Welgelegen Manor are best suited for smaller groups, we work hard to make sure this special occasion takes off stress-free, and has the class and luxury elements we pride ourselves on.

We further offer professional, flexible and personalised wedding and function services. Be it a small intimate and romantic weddings to larger special birthday or anniversary, we are here to assist you in create a truly unusual and memorable experience just a short drive from Johannesburg.

The extensive gardens and Manor house are perfect for signature weddings or small intimate celebrations as a wedding venue near Johannesburg. This ideal setting accompanied by our exquisite rooms, superb service and exceptional food will make your special wedding simply unforgettable.



Tel: +27(0)17 773 9000
Fax: +27(0)17 773 9001
Cell: +27(0)83 281 1706

Email: info@welgelegenmanor.co.za
Physical Address: Farm Rietbult, R51 /
Balfour Road, Balfour, Mpumalanga



Welgelegen Manor is equally a perfect wedding venue option near Johannesburg, or as a romantic honeymoon choice for couples looking to make their new beginnings extra special.

The four suites in the manor house are exceptionally large and overlook the pool and side rose garden whilst the four suites in the carriage houses offer two twin suites on the upper level and two garden suites with entrances to the inner rose courtyard.

All of our luxury accommodation options at the Manor stay true to Welgelegen Manor's classic English residential style. The eight suites fuse contemporary comfort with the timeless glamour and heritage associated with this historical property.

Hand-in-hand with the luxury of your rooms and facilities, the extraordinary dining at Welgelegen Manor is an experience on its own. Welgelegen Manor's resident chefs ensure luxury dining experiences during your stay.

Whether it's a picnic in a secluded spot on the estate or gardens, a lavish celebration dinner in the private dining room, or dinner a deux in your suite, our passionate staff will ensure your meal is a special experience.

After your gourmet dining experience and a day spent exploring the beautiful sights and scenery the Manor has to offer, we welcome you into your classic, elegantly perfected accommodation for the night. All of our luxury accommodation options at the Manor stay true to Welgelegen Manor's classic English residential style.



Tel: +27(0)17 773 9000
 Fax: +27(0)17 773 9001
 Cell: +27(0)83 281 1706

Email: info@welgelegenmanor.co.za
 Physical Address: Farm Rietbult, R51 / Balfour Road, Balfour, Mpumalanga



The eight suites fuse contemporary comfort with the timeless glamour and heritage associated with this historical property. Each suite offers exceptional grace and comfort with views over the landscaped terraces, pool or rose gardens.

The bathrooms are welcoming and spacious, offering a unique combination of style and function. The four suites in the manor house are exceptionally large and overlook the pool and side rose garden whilst the four suites in the carriage houses offer two twin suites on the upper level and two garden suites with entrances to the inner rose courtyard.

The Carriage House Suites (Luxury Suites), the twin suites on the upper level of the Manor House, offer beautiful views of the grounds. These rooms accommodate either single beds or a king size bed, and all rooms have en-suite bathrooms.

The Deluxe Garden Suites have the advantage of an entrance to the inner herb courtyard. These rooms have a king size bed for those needing some time out and relaxation.

The Manor House Suites (Superior Suites) offer exceptional grace and comfort with views over the landscaped terraces, pool or rose gardens. The bathrooms are welcoming and spacious, offering a unique combination of style and function.

Contact us today for more information on booking your escape, your wedding and conferencing facilities, or about our current specials and packages. We will tell you how we can help you create the perfect day – we promise to give all our attention to every detail, and that we will sure that the day goes as smoothly as possible.

Our friendly family of staff at Welgelegen Manor are happy to keep in touch before your arrival to ensure every detail of your wedding or getaway is met and perfected.

Welgelegen Manor is situated 30km south of Heidelberg, Gauteng. Please see our map for more information on the best possible routes from your side of the country, or contact us directly for assistance.



Tel: +27(0)17 773 9000
Fax: +27(0)17 773 9001
Cell: +27(0)83 281 1706

Email: info@welgelegenmanor.co.za
Physical Address: Farm Rietbult, R51 / Balfour Road, Balfour, Mpumalanga





SASH & JACO SWART



Simplicity and the joy of being in a game reserve environment was the focus of this Eastern Cape wedding.

Was your proposal romantic and unexpected?

Although I had suspected Jaco would ask soon, he still managed to catch me completely off-guard. He surprised me with a beautiful and simple band exactly half way between my hometown and our place in Cape Town. His proposal spot was symbolic of our two lives, and two families, meeting half way to become one. We used the ring as my wedding band and then went shopping for the official engagement ring together.

Did you have a firm idea of what you wanted your wedding day to be like?

We are both very laid back and no fuss people, so for our wedding day we just wanted simplicity and joy. Our main hope was that our guests would enjoy themselves.

Did Covid restrictions interfere with your plans?

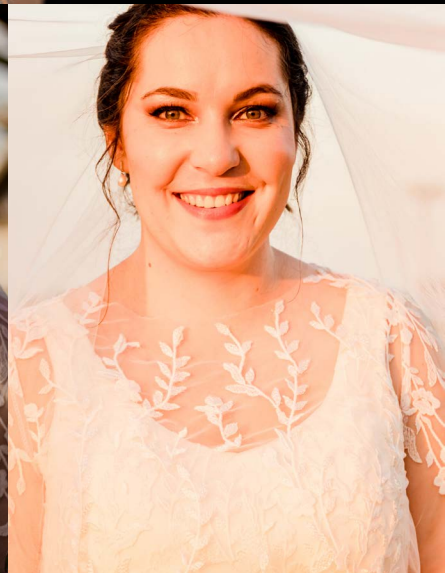
Besides a curfew, not really. We had already been planning a more intimate wedding with only family and very close friends anyway.

What did you look for in terms of a venue?

We liked the idea of a venue with an indoor/outdoor flow. We spend a lot of time outdoors and enjoy the South African bush, so Inkwenkwezi was a perfect representation of our daily lives, but of course with the added element of glamour and sophistication, perfect for the special occasion of a wedding.

Tell us a bit about Inkwenkwezi.

Inkwenkwezi Private Game Reserve does offer packages, and these can be tailored specifically to suit each couple's needs. Our coordinator, Tamaryn, was very flexible and was able to customise our chosen package to our requirements. We spent the weekend being treated by Tamaryn and her husband Willem, who chauffeured us around the reserve and made us feel so welcome and at home during our stay there.



“Greenery indoors allowed the flow from the game reserve into the venue.”



Venue: Inkwenkwezi Private Game Reserve, East London – www.inkwenkwezi.co.za

Dress: Lana Cilliers

Hair & make up: Mariska Swart

Photography: Melissa Cardoso

What did you like most about your venue?

Our favourite element of the venue was that it is a game reserve. We loved the indoor/outdoor feel, and that we weren't confined to a set package, but rather could amend it to our taste. Tamaryn was kind, generous and flexible with her time and ideas all throughout the planning process. She made our wedding planning a breeze.

Tell us about your dress?

My dress was made by Lana Cilliers in Cape Town. She was a dream to work with, and helped me achieve a more modest look for the ceremony with a veil and bolero style top, which could then be taken off for a more casual look for the rest of the day.

You only had children in your entourage?

Because we got married in my hometown, we didn't want to pressure any friends to travel if they were not able to do so. We chose to include only two cousins in our bridal party, and enjoyed the weekend with our families.

Simple reception décor?

We had a lot of greenery indoors to allow the flow from the game reserve into the venue, and this was complemented by deep reds in proteas and other flowers arranged around the venue. Because we were merging our Eastern Cape and Western Cape worlds, we used spekboom as one of our favours, tying in the Eastern Cape, with the fynbos, especially proteas, which tied in Jaco's family and Western Cape heritage.

How many guests?

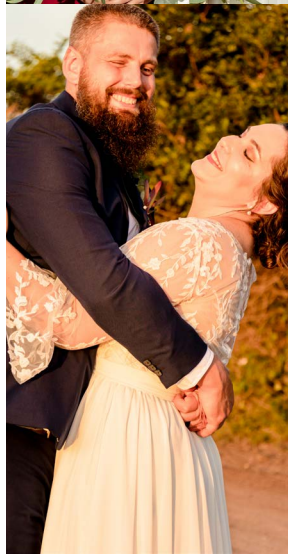
We had about 80 guests who were mostly family, with one table dedicated to our closest friends. Our guest list met the Covid requirements and we did not have to cut anyone unwillingly.

Any handy tips for brides-to-be?

Remember that a wedding, although a very special and important day of your life, is also just one day. Try to focus on preparing for your marriage, and joining your two families, as much as, if not more, than the superficial aspects of your wedding day. Flowers and décor are fun, but they will only be remembered in photos whereas your marriage will be lived by you every day of your life.

Honeymoon?

Jaco planned a 3-week road trip, which included stays at the Wild Coast, time in the Drakensberg and in the Karoo. We were blessed to spend so much time exploring South Africa together.



Inkwenkwezi

PRIVATE GAME RESERVE



Weddings at Inkwenkwezi Private Game Reserve are as romantic and unique as the Wild Coast itself; as unforgettable as the love that brings you together.

Contemporary and yet authentically African, our perfectly-appointed venue is the ideal mix of wild beauty and modern comfort.

Game Reserve

30 kms from East London

• Weddings • Functions • Conferences

Tel 043 734 3234 / Fax 043 734 3888

PO Box 236, Kwelera, 5259

E-mail: marketing@inkwenkwezi.co.za

Website: www.inkwenkwezi.com

Please watch our latest video on You Tube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zXO6P6ssOE>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/inkwenkwezi.reserveec/>

TOP WEDDING VENUES



ZORGVLJET
BANGHOEK STELLENBOSCH



ADD A TOUCH OF MAGIC

Steeped in fascinating history, Zorgvliet Wines is the perfect wedding venue, where we can add a touch of magic, class, and style to your big day!

Zorgvliet offers breath-taking settings, catering for both smaller more intimate celebrations, as well as bigger more lavish celebrations. The majestic views of the mountains and vineyards create the ideal backdrop for any celebration.

We offer less formal end-of-year braais and spit braais as well as wonderfully relaxing picnics, baby showers, and kitchen teas at our peaceful picnic area. For the more formal occasions such as dinners with dancing, conferences, and sit-down lunches, we offer buffets, wine pairings, bowl foods, and set menus at our exquisite Banghoek and Oak Room venues.

Our estate is nestled in the Banghoek Valley near Stellenbosch. Experience the breath-taking views

of both the majestic Simonsberg and Drakenstein Mountains that surround our beautiful vineyards.

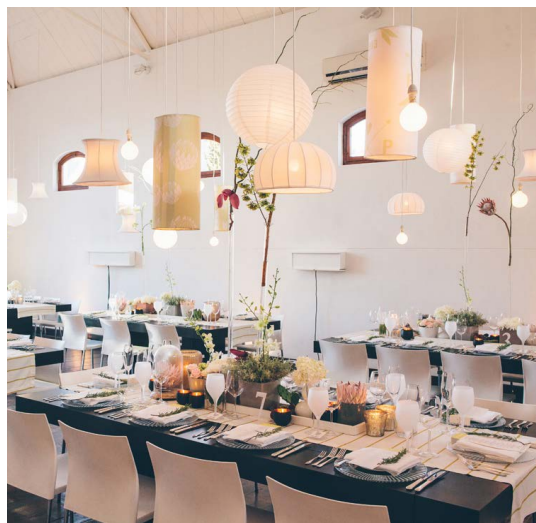
Visit Zorgvliet Wine estate and allow us to make your occasions exceptional. We pride ourselves on customising every event to suit the needs and style of each individual. The venue, with its Cape Dutch charm is designed to adapt to any Wedding or Event, ensuring a distinctive look and feel every time.

We have a very elegant wedding venue, The Oak Room, for your reception and a Chapel for your ceremony. Our Banghoek Room is the ideal setting for pre-reception drinks.

For pre-or post-wedding activities, we have a Picnic Area, with a country-style restaurant and a deli where we can host various events. Choose from a pre-wedding BBQ under the stars, to a post-wedding picnic on the lush green lawns. The possibilities are endless. Or pay a visit to our Wine Tasting and savour the taste of Zorgvliet.



Email: info@zorgvliet.com
Call: 021 885 1399



Zorgvliet's warm and welcoming Country Lodge caters to the accommodation needs of every individual with exceptional attention to detail.

The Lodge offers guests an opportunity to truly experience the unique personality of the Stellenbosch Winelands, from service and hospitality to accommodation and dining. Splendid grandeur and warm hospitality are the core of your experience at Zorgvliet.

Our rooms are spacious, comfortable, luxurious, and individually decorated. All our rooms offer views of the surrounding vineyards and mountains. Our Lodge features a private lounge and outdoor swimming pool area. For other activities on the farm, we offer wine tastings and also have a picnic area that will provide the perfect spot to unwind during your stay.

In walking distance from the venue is our Country Lodge that sleeps 36 guests.

Our rooms are spacious, comfortable, luxurious, and individually decorated. All our rooms offer views of the surrounding vineyards and mountains.

CONTACT US

Contact us at 021 885 1399 or accommodation@zorgvliet.com We would love to share our portfolio with you.



ZORGVLIET

BANGHOEK STELLENBOSCH



Email: info@zorgvliet.com
Call: 021 885 1399





ZORGVLIET
BANGHOEK STELLENBOSCH

ADD A TOUCH OF MAGIC ...

Zorgvliet Wines can be the perfect wedding venue for you, if you want to add a touch of magic and style to your big day. Seven kilometres outside Stellenbosch, in the heart of the Winelands, you will find a place of serenity and ultimate beauty.

Zorgvliet Wines Estate
Banghoek Valley
Helshoogte Rd • Stellenbosch, 7600
E: info@zorgvliet.com • P: 021 885 1399



RUVE & J.P. LOUW



How lucky that this bride didn't judge the book by its cover as J.P. was actually her soulmate in disguise!

How did you and J.P. meet?

We met on 7 September 2016 when we were elected to the Academic Executive Committee of the NWU Student Council. For J.P. it was love at first sight, but I had my reservations at first! The Upington farm boy on his Massey Ferguson was not my idea of Prince Charming on a white horse at that time! A tight friendship developed however and one coffee date led to the next. With his "vellies", he left deeper traces in my heart than I ever thought was possible. We were in a long-distance relationship for 80% of the time!

Your proposal on a romantic scale of 1 to 10?

Definitely a 10! We got engaged at the Slangkop Lighthouse near Kommetjie during a surprise weekend getaway in Cape Town. J.P. arranged everything in the finest detail, from the photographer to a special picnic.

Did you choose your own engagement ring?

While dating we would occasionally do ring shopping just for fun. J.P. therefore knew exactly what I wanted, but when the time finally came, he did everything on his own. I always wanted a protea basket, but with a cluster diamond setting and J.P. had my engagement ring designed and made specially – a protea basket with a double halo cluster of diamonds set in platinum. He also had my wedding jewellery designed and specially made.

Your dress?

I knew exactly what I wanted and recognised it the moment I saw an Instagram notice for a limited time only Élysée trunk show – a classic silhouette with open-work baroque lace fully embroidered with miniature paillettes, creating an all-over shimmer effect, a low, illusion corset back and a dramatic, double-layer sculpted hem. I immediately made an appointment, and my mother went with me.



“Our colours were white, champagne, black and charcoal with the focus on white King Proteas.”

*Venue: Green Leaves Country Lodge & Venue
Wedding gown: Bridal Emporium
Hair: Captivating Mobile Hair & Makeup
Make-up: Beautiful Change
Décor & flowers: BLOM Bespoke Floral Design
Photography: Mighty Fine Productions*

One bridesmaid and two groomsmen?

We truly believe in quality over quantity. J.P.'s entourage consisted of his only sibling, and his best friend. I'm an only child and my entourage consisted of my life-long best friend - the closest to a sister I will ever have.

Your photographer?

Finding the right photographer and videographer to bring our perfect memories to life was extremely important to us. No matter how hard you try to take everything in, at the end of the day, the photos and videos are all you have left. Mighty Fine's style and the emotion that they capture stood out for us.

Did you write your own vows?

Yes. We wrote a set of vows together before the wedding, which we incorporated into our invitation website. A recording thereof was also played in the chapel before I entered. We each also wrote our own set of vows which we read to each other during the ceremony.

All white flowers?

We want to look at our wedding photos 40 years from now and not regret silly trends we blindly followed. Our colours were white, champagne, black and charcoal. We played around with various elements of wood, glass, and silver. Candlelight added to the romantic feel. Striking flower arrangements in both the chapel and the banqueting hall, as well as a dramatic bouquet was very important to me. To keep it classic and elegant, we had a selection of white flowers, with white king proteas as the focus.

A wine barrel was your guest book?

As with wine, our love only gets better with time. We had a wine barrel made and branded to be signed by our guests. This complimented the venue's wine barrels, used as canapé tables, the cake cutting table and the MC stand. We also had a small wine barrel made and branded for the guest's envelopes. Both currently have a very special place in our dining room.

Your first dance song?

Dance With Me – Caleb & Kelsey. We love dancing together however, it was a bigger challenge than we anticipated. We wanted it to look natural and not staged but were used to a much higher paced "sokkie" and found it quite challenging to slow dance!

Honeymoon?

We were very fortunate to be able to go to the Maldives - our dream honeymoon destination.



@mightyfineweddings | info@mightyfine.co.za | www.weddings.mightyfine.co.za



MIGHTY FINE

Weaving visual narratives all over the world.
Enquire now with Promo Code #mightyfinerealbrides

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY



TOP WEDDING VENUES



The Silver Sixpence wedding venue offers you the opportunity to be part of an exclusive group who have embraced the magic of "The Silver Sixpence" experience!

Allow yourself to be seduced by the beauty and tranquility of rolling grasslands, forests, and lakes – providing you with the perfect setting for a romantic weekend wedding experience.

The Silver Sixpence Wedding Venue is tucked away in the hills of the Mpumalanga Highlands, near the popular trout fishing village of Dullstroom – 2,5 hours from Johannesburg.

The stunning Architecturally designed Venue and Lodges, with luxurious en-suite accommodation for 38 guests - including a romantic Honeymoon Suite with a beautiful well-appointed Bridal dressing room, a Micro-Brewery for a Friday night get-together, and the option of either a forest or Chapel ceremony ensures the realisation of all your wishes and dreams!

A weekend wedding at The Silver Sixpence gives you exclusive use of the 300 Hectare Estate – for the weekend - Friday to Sunday - so you enjoy your wedding for 3 days, not 8 hours!

The excitement and exhilaration begins the moment you arrive at The Silver Sixpence – the spectacular natural beauty, along with the peaceful seclusion and tranquillity of the surroundings allows you to immerse yourself in the transformation of the estate into your own personal fairy-tale wedding venue.

Fly-fishing, mountain biking, hiking, bird watching, or relaxing in front of a log fire - your guests will be spoiled for choice!

To fully appreciate this exceptional environment of beautifully maintained landscaped gardens, paddocks with Friesian Horses, trout dams, as well as blue-gum and pine forests, a site-visit is essential!



Website: www.thesilversixpence.co.za
Email: lesley@thesilversixpence.co.za
Call: 082 557 3304

Our Microbrewery – The Old Oak Brewery - has proven to be the perfect “launch pad” on Friday evening for your weekend celebrations and catching up with family and friends. For those cooler evenings there is a large indoor fireplace as well as an outdoor fire pit and braai area.

We have a full liquor licence and our own unique craft beer is available in The Brewery on Friday night – along with our full bar list, - and, if requested, a keg or two of our craft beer can be available on Saturday too...(especially during the photo session time) in our quirky mobile wagon!

On your wedding day, wake up to the sound of birdsong, relaxed in the knowledge that you are already at your venue and can continue to enjoy the build-up to that magical moment when you walk down the aisle – either in the forest or our quaint country chapel!

Hairdressing and makeup in our well-appointed Bridal Dressing room adds to the excitement of the day!

Every bride is given a sixpence on her wedding day which is to be placed in her shoe... This age-old tradition ensures prosperity, health, and happiness for the newly married couple!

Arrive at your ceremony in our beautiful horse drawn carriage, and say your vows under a canopy of leaves in the forest, or candle chandeliers in our charming chapel.

After your ceremony, whilst you are having photographs taken, your guests can begin to enjoy the mouth-watering cuisine prepared by our in-house caterer. Canapés and refreshments are served on the patio and lawn in front of the large outdoor fireplace alongside the reception hall, and guests can entertain themselves by playing one of the lawn games, or fly-fishing in the nearby trout dam.

At the end of your photo session, the Chapel bell can be rung to remind guests they are at a wedding and need to enter the hall for the evening celebrations to begin!

Dance the night away under a sparkling galaxy of fairy lights and crystal chandeliers in our hall, with the cosy ambience of two large indoor fireplaces.



Website: www.thesilversixpence.co.za
Email: lesley@thesilversixpence.co.za
Call: 082 557 3304



Our luxurious on-site accommodation (all rooms are en-suite) ensures that the family and close friends of the bridal couple don't have far to walk after the party.

We currently have accommodation for 38 guests, including a complimentary romantic Honeymoon Suite adjacent to our beautiful bridal dressing room. All rooms are serviced by our dedicated staff.

Cairnfern Country Lodge, the Manor house, has accommodation for 8 guests in 4 ensuite rooms, and has a large lounge where family and friends can relax in front of a large log fireplace before the festivities get underway. All the bedrooms open up onto a large veranda overlooking the Friesian horse paddocks.

The Paddocks accommodation (approximately 150m from the hall) consists of 6 suites – all with fireplaces – and is ideal for bridesmaids and groomsmen. There are also two lovely rooms alongside The Brewery – in close proximity to the hall.

The Carriage House – an authentic log cabin – is a cosy romantic cottage for two guests.

The Highland Suites, our lodge which is situated on top of the mountain – ideal for pre-wedding photos – accommodates 10 guests in 5 ultra-luxurious suites, each one being a separate unit, all of them having their own private entrance off a central garden courtyard and linked via a covered walkway/patio. Each individual suite has a balcony with magnificent views towards the escarpment, a small lounge area, fireplace, tea and coffee station, desk, twin beds, dressing area with dressing table, full bathroom and heated towel rails.

For outdoor entertaining, there is a braai and wooden deck in front of the lodge...the deck is built over the edge of the mountain with magnificent panoramic views! Enjoy an early morning cup of coffee on your private balcony or on the deck whilst watching the mist slowly dissipate – anticipating the excitement of the day ahead!

Within an 8km radius, there is accommodation to suit all your guests – a 4-star hotel, B&B's, and self-catering cottages.

There are four stocked dams for the fly-fishing enthusiast (stocked with rainbow trout) – ideal for the men who want to escape from the wedding preparations for a few hours! For the non-fishermen there are lovely forest and mountain walks (to a waterfall), or just relax under the trees or read on the patio!

A memorable wedding weekend celebration at the exclusive Silver Sixpence wedding venue is a truly magical beginning to your "Happily-Ever-After"!



Website: www.thesilversixpence.co.za
Email: lesley@thesilversixpence.co.za
Call: 082 557 3304





THE
SILVER
SIXPENCE
~ WEDDING VENUE ~



"Rated the not Wedding Photographers in the World"

BY OUR MOMS



By Award Winning International Wedding Photographers, Eugene & Charlotte Nagel

Contact:

072 843 9243

eugene@chillipix.co.za

www.chillipix.co.za

ChilliPix
Experience it again
Est 2008



Natasha Malan



084 587 1931



natasha@nmphotography.co.za

www

nmphotography.co.za

COURTNEY & TIAAN BEETGE



This wedding just oozed romance from start to finish.

How did you and Tiaan meet?

We had both been single for some time and both knew that we didn't want to be in a relationship if we didn't see a future with the person we were seeing. God however has perfect timing. How did I know Tiaan was "THE ONE"? We had a long-distance relationship and instantly fell head over heels. The first day Tiaan and I spoke over the phone it was like we had known each other forever and then after a day of unexpected surprises he sent me a picture of a field of sunflowers and I think I knew from then on that he was the one for me.

Surprise proposal?

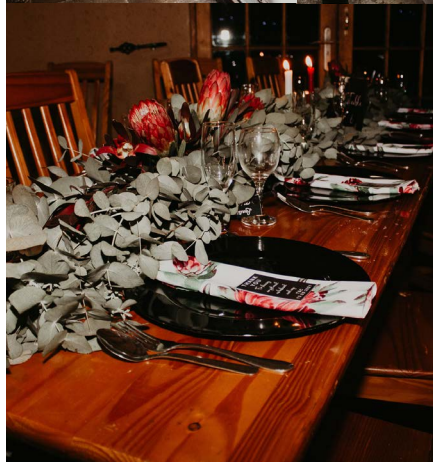
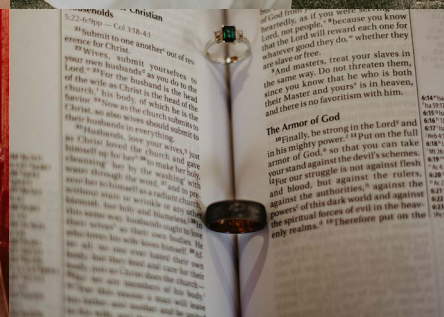
Tiaan is a romantic at heart and he always had great date ideas over the two years we dated so when he decided to take me on a random date I was just excited to spend the day with the love of my life. He planned the most amazing day by waking me up with breakfast and taking me shopping before a picnic in a sunflower field - prepared and set up in a strip called Lovers Lane and ... he asked me to be his wife.

Enjoy planning your wedding?

I would've loved to have just got married as soon as possible but unfortunately living in the real world you need to think about finances, curfews, loved ones and the safety of friends and family. I loved planning our wedding. Tiaan was very set on the fact that it was his wedding too!

How many venues did you visit?

We saw about 5 and they were all gorgeous beyond words. We knew the owners of Waremba Lodge and they were just fabulous from Day 1. They helped me every step of the way with suggestions to fit our theme and our dream day. They really listen to you and do everything to make your day perfect - which it was!



*“We made our promise to
God in an outdoor ceremony.”*

*Venue: Warembo Lodge, Groot Vlei
Wedding Dress: China Mall
Hair: Chiarra Shapiro
Make-up: Belle Moi
Photography: Wanderlove Photography*

Indoor or outdoor ceremony?

We were lucky enough to have the option and that just added to the excitement of making our promise to God in an outdoor ceremony, which was perfect. We shared our first communion as husband and wife with our friends and family. We believe that Jesus Christ has given His life for us so that we can have this life, shared with loved ones and beautiful memories and to experience the kind of love as husband and wife that can only come from Him.

Your theme?

We share a love of humour, food, beer and wine so decided to create our dream day with those things in mind. The wine red, greenery and black trimmings just added to the ambiance of the sun setting. We had a CHEESE cake with all the extras to go with it, paired with different bottles of wine and a craft beer stand. We gifted the men a beer glass and the women a wine glass, which also had a table number attached.

Your dress?

I'd always wanted to do a 'trash the dress' shoot on the beach after my wedding so decided not to spend a lot of money on a dress. I went to the China Mall, tried on 4 dresses and couldn't get over the first one. I have to be honest and say that I am having second thoughts about going into the sea with it as I loved the way it made me feel on the day

How did your wedding budget fare?

We worked out a budget out and saved as much as we could and only started buying things a few weeks before – stressful but also super fun! There were definitely things that surprised us cost wise but we were blessed to save on a photographer as we won a Black Friday competition.

Your first dance song?

All for love by Bryan Adams, Rod Stewart and Sting. We really practiced a lot but still messed it up so we just laughed and winged it!

Your most cherished wedding gift?

I don't have to think about this one. It is my ring! Tiaan got it so right.

Honeymoon?

We are looking at emigrating to Ireland and planned this amazing honeymoon where we would've been in Ireland on St Patrick's Day and then visit 3 more countries. But, due to Covid, this was not possible so Tiaan took me along the magnificent Garden Route instead.



SelfieBox[™]



- Having a photo booth at your wedding is as much about the experience as it is the memories that'll be captured.

- Our friendly booth attendants will make sure your guests can get the most from the time in front of the camera and can really let their hair down.

- With Unlimited printing, Customized prints, you can be sure no-one will forget the experience any time soon.

- Vibe, Energy, and a Lifetime of memories as guests take away their printed photos.



PHOTO
BOOTH

www.selfiebox.co.za
capetown@selfiebox.co.za
083 4064 714



HENRY  **O**
PHOTOGRAPHY

Unique
Weddings &
Photo Shoots

www.henryophotography.com
henry13@rocketmail.com
whatsapp (27)83 70 77 367



lwrcreativestudio@gmail.com
+27 (0)82 760 7567
www.littlewhiteribbonphotography.com

MERIZA & DUAN VILJOEN



This couple met at University where they were both studying for their teaching degrees.

Romantic proposal?

We were celebrating my Dad's 60th birthday at a game farm in Limpopo. The day we left Duan said that since we were in the area, he wanted to show me the wedding venue where I'd always wanted to get married. When we got to Tsekama we received a private tour that led to the chapel. When we were sitting in the chapel, he asked me if I could see myself getting married there? I told him of course, but sensed that he was starting to get nervous. As I went to leave he called me to stand with him at the front of the chapel. He got down on one knee and said; "Since you already gave me a yes for the venue, I only need one more yes and that is to spend the rest of your life with me? It was an instant YES, followed by tears, a ring and overwhelming joy.

You had to postpone your wedding?

We were supposed to get married on the 13 June, on my Dad's birthday, but unfortunately, we were placed on Level 5 lockdown which meant that we had to postpone our wedding. We both made the very difficult decision to be apart from one another during lockdown as Duan's mother is a single mom who lives alone. It was extremely difficult to be separated for so long, but we knew we were going to get married in 2020 and that the hardship would soon be overshadowed by the joy of our big day.

Had you already done quite a lot of your wedding planning?

Yes, I was one of those girls who'd always dreamed about her wedding day. I kept a folder on my phone with many Pinterest ideas before we even got engaged!

Your venue was obliging with the date change?

We already had everything planned and organised for our original date so we phoned Tsekama when we moved down to Level 3. It was a gamble changing our date, but we went for it and luckily they had a cancellation on 17 October. We booked that date and finally got to have our dream wedding.



“Level 5 lockdown meant that we had to postpone our wedding”



Venue: Tsekama Lodge, Nylstroom, Limpopo – www.tsekama.co.za

Dress: Trés Jolie Bridal

Hair: Captivating Mobile hair & Make-up

Make-up: Swan Creations

Flowers & Cake: Tsekama

Photography: Lilatography

Tell us a bit about Tsekama.

Tsekama is situated near Nylstroom, Limpopo. It is a beautiful venue surrounded by wildlife and lush green trees. The venue has an indoor chapel and a reception area overlooking a dam. Tsekama are truly exceptional at what they do and include everything in the price - from the flowers to the catering. They organised and planned everything according to my vision. I worried about nothing on my wedding day and would honestly give them a 11 out of 10!

Did you have your dress specially made or was it bought?

I bought my wedding dress and added long lace sleeves as we were originally meant to get married in Winter. I decided to keep the long sleeves after we changed the date as I absolutely loved the final look.

Emotional walk down the aisle?

The whole day was very emotional for me, especially when I saw my Dad as we have a very special bond. The walk down the aisle is a memory that will forever be embedded in my mind. I chose Ruelle's song 'I get to love you'. I was filled with so much joy that I could not stop smiling. Duan was very emotional as the words of the song and the moment itself were very special to him too.

How many guests?

We had 83 guests and were fortunate not to have to cut down our numbers. The venue could accommodate 200 and, in compliance with the Covid restrictions, we were allowed to have half the capacity of the venue.

The best advice you could give a bride-to-be?

Pick a venue that can organise most of the items on your to-do list as your wedding day should be one where you only relax and make memories.

Honeymoon?

We did have a honeymoon where we got to explore the Kruger National Park and God's Window. We will however go on our original planned honeymoon when international travel opens up.





Tsekama Lodge

Wedding and conference venue

www.tsekama.co.za



Relax while our team take care of every small detail to contribute to the *perfect* day in your life.

We understand the dreams and wishes of every bride and groom, and will go the extra mile to make sure that all requirements are met.

Tsekama is the perfect venue for adding a touch of magic and style to your wedding day.

Tranquil, serene and picturesque, providing a natural but very romantic atmosphere.

The Lodge is a mere 130 km north of Pretoria near the Kranskop Toll plaza and offers the ideal location for a wedding with a difference.

Imagine your ceremony in the natural splendor of the African bush with buffalo, giraffe, zebra and a wide variety of antelope partaking in your wedding celebration.

Please note we have a 80 guest minimum and a 300 guest maximum.

Contact Marinda: 082 416 2363 or Ilze: 084 497 8388
e-mail: info@tsekama.co.za

