

Real Brides

South Africa's Exciting
Wedding Magazine

April 2022

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Backdrops*

*Cupid Hits
Home*

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Real Weddings

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THE SILVER SIXPENCE – THE PERFECT PLACE.

The Silver Sixpence Wedding Venue is perfect for Winter weddings – crisp sunny days, and clear starry nights.

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

Begin your weekend celebrations in our microbrewery on Friday evening! The Brewery has an indoor fireplace and an outdoor fire-pit and a braai area.

Winter is the best time of the year if you are wanting a forest ceremony as there is very little chance of rain, and our luxury accommodation will ensure everyone has a cosy weekend.

For a full overview of The Silver Sixpence see pages 8, 9, 10 and 11.

VIRTUAL TOUR

To take a virtual tour of The Silver Sixpence **CLICK HERE**. https://youtu.be/2YnnUI2H_Qk

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On the cover:

Bride: Adeline Lombard

Photo: Linda Vos Photography

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HERE COMES THE BRIDE ...

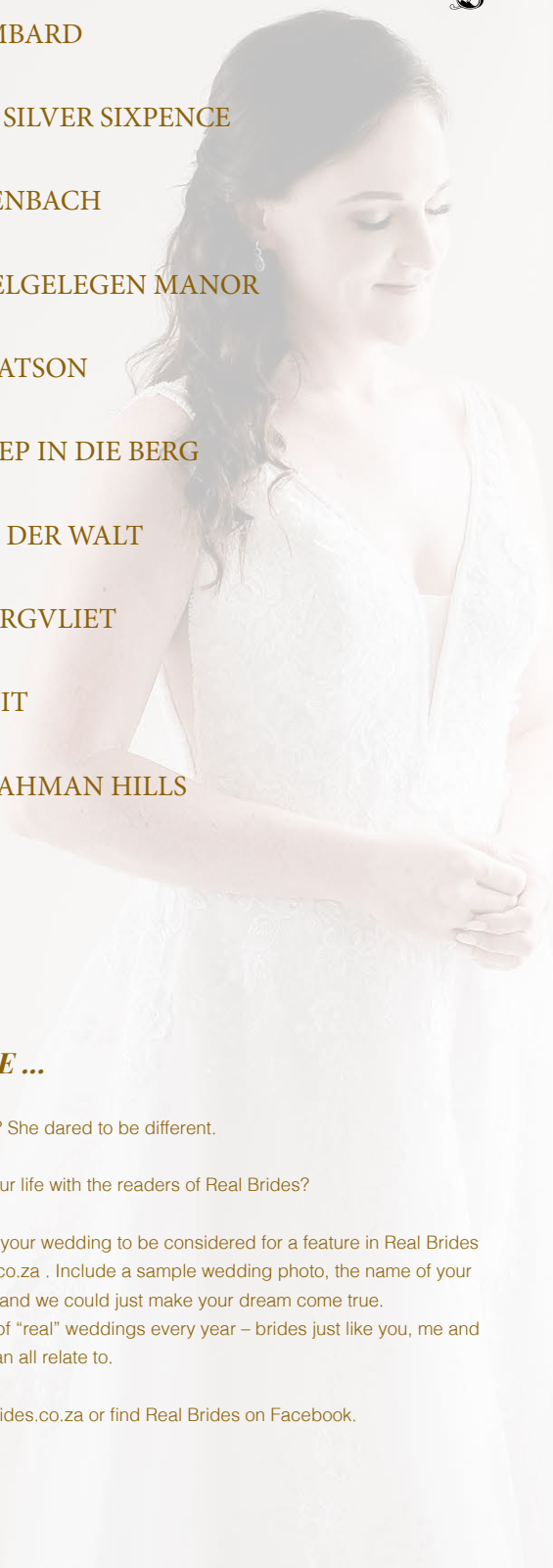
Don't you love our cover bride this month? She dared to be different.

Would you like to share the best day of your life with the readers of Real Brides?

If you got married recently and would like your wedding to be considered for a feature in Real Brides then email us at robbyn@topicpublishing.co.za. Include a sample wedding photo, the name of your venue and a list of your service providers and we could just make your dream come true.

Real Brides features dozens and dozens of "real" weddings every year – brides just like you, me and the girl next door ... real people that we can all relate to.

For more info visit our website www.realbrides.co.za or find Real Brides on Facebook.



ADELINE & ANTON

LOMBARD



Here's a wedding where the bride decided to dispense with the traditional white wedding look and added a lovely subtle dose of colour to her dress instead and ... it was a real winner.

Your love story?

We first met at a golf day. In Anton's words: "She was an angel attending a sponsored hole at a golf day in Kempton Park. I gave her one look and told my partner that I would marry her one day!" And he did – exactly 5 years to the day later!

Tell us about your proposal.

Anton says that it was "an epic fail" on his side, but the main thing was that I said Yes!

Did you have a clear idea of what you wanted for your wedding?

Yes I did. Our wedding was picture perfect and turned out exactly as I had visualised.

With so many wedding venues in the Cape, how many did you actually consider or visit?

We considered two other wine farm venues in the Cape but I saw our venue, Bona Dea near Hermanus first and fell in love with the place. It was perfect for our wedding in every way.

You used a wedding planner?

Yes, we used Lisa Vogel from our venue. She really excelled herself and we declared her to be the best planner in the world!

Outdoor ceremony?

Yes we risked it, but we tried to play it safe by setting the date for the beginning of May, to avoid the wind or rain. We were blessed with a perfect day!

Who walked you down the aisle?

I was walked down the aisle by my twin brother Dewald.

Your own children in your entourage?

The three flowergirls were a mix of his and hers and the ring bearer is mine! Exciting day for the children too.



“Our guests made donations to the SPCA in Somerset West in lieu of wedding gifts.”



*Venue: Bona Dea Private Estate – Hermanus
Dresses – bride & flowergirls: Marlize Boshoff, Immagika Design
Make-Up & hair – bride: Ruth Botha, Make-up By Ruth
Make-up – flowergirls: Klynt van der Merwe @24-7 Hair
Flowers: Andre – Fab Events
Food: Two Chefs
Cake: Lisa Vogel
Gift boxes for flowergirls: littlespartybox
Band: Johan Liebenberg
Photographer: Linda Vos*

Tell us about your dress?

I really didn't want to go the old fashioned white wedding dress route so instead I went for something completely different – a vintage type of look using subtle shades of rose gold, green and pink. I loved my dress.

Theme/colour scheme?

I wanted a Romantic look, with lots of candles and fairy lights. Like a fairytale! We got exactly that and more.

Looks like Anton nailed the “Sabrage”?

He did and what a privilege to be offered to do one! (A novel way to open a champagne bottle using a sword.) He was very well coached the day before. Injury free success!

How many guests?

120 – around 50 of them flew in from Johannesburg.

Great wedding gift idea?

We asked our guests to make donations to the SPCA in Somerset West instead of giving us wedding gifts.

Did you choose your menu?

We first went for a food tasting at Two Chefs then I decided on the menu. The food was world class and went down very well.

Live music at your reception?

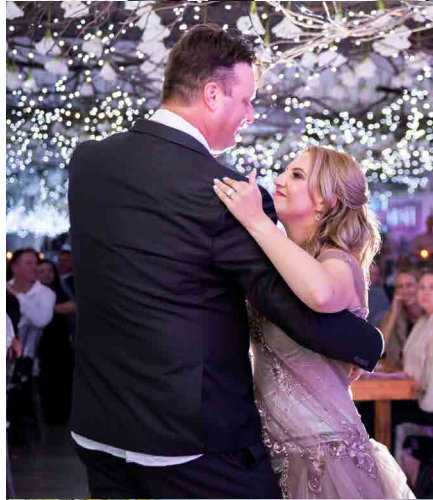
Yes, we had a seven-piece showpiece. Johan Liebenberg (who sounds more like Neil Diamond than Neil Diamond himself) and six professional musicians, including four permanent Barnyard performers. They rocked!

The best advice you could give to brides-to-be?

It's your day! Do what YOU like to make it special for YOU.

Honeymoon?

Because of the COVID travel restrictions in place at the time we swapped Greece for Namibia and then went to the Maldives. Both are fantastic honeymoon destinations!



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THE SILVER SIXPENCE

TOP WEDDING VENUE



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 tranquillity 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 50 guests, a Micro-Brewery for a Friday night get-together, and the option of either a forest or Chapel ceremony ensures a perfect setting for 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 spoilt 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.



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Our on-site luxurious accommodation ensures excellent convenience for the family and close friends of the bridal couple. Each room has tea & coffee making facilities.

Included in our Accommodation Package is a complimentary romantic Honeymoon Suite adjacent to our well-appointed Bridal Dressing Room.

Cairnfern Country Lodge, (the Manor House which has self-catering facilities), has accommodation for 8 guests in 4 en-suite rooms. It has a large lounge where family and friends can relax in front of a log fireplace before the festivities get underway. All the bedrooms open up onto a spacious veranda overlooking the Friesian horse paddocks.

The Paddocks accommodation (approximately 150m from the hall) accommodates 12 guests in 6 well-appointed suites. All rooms have fireplaces – and are ideal for the bridesmaids and groomsmen. There are two comfortable 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 Ferns – our 6 new rooms for 12 guests – is situated opposite The Brewery, and each en-suite room has a cosy fireplace and a little patio with a lovely view to the horse paddocks.

The Highland Suites, our self-catering lodge which is situated on top of the mountain, is ideal for preserving the tradition of preventing the Bride and Groom from seeing one another before the Ceremony begins. This Lodge has accommodation for 10 guests in 5 ultra-luxurious suites (individual units) – each with its own private balcony with magnificent views towards the escarpment. Each suite has its own entrance off a central garden courtyard and is linked via a covered walkway/patio. Additionally each has 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 incredible panoramic views and is ideal for pre-wedding photos! Enjoy an early morning cup of coffee on your balcony or the deck whilst watching the sun rise over the misty valley - anticipating the excitement of the day ahead!

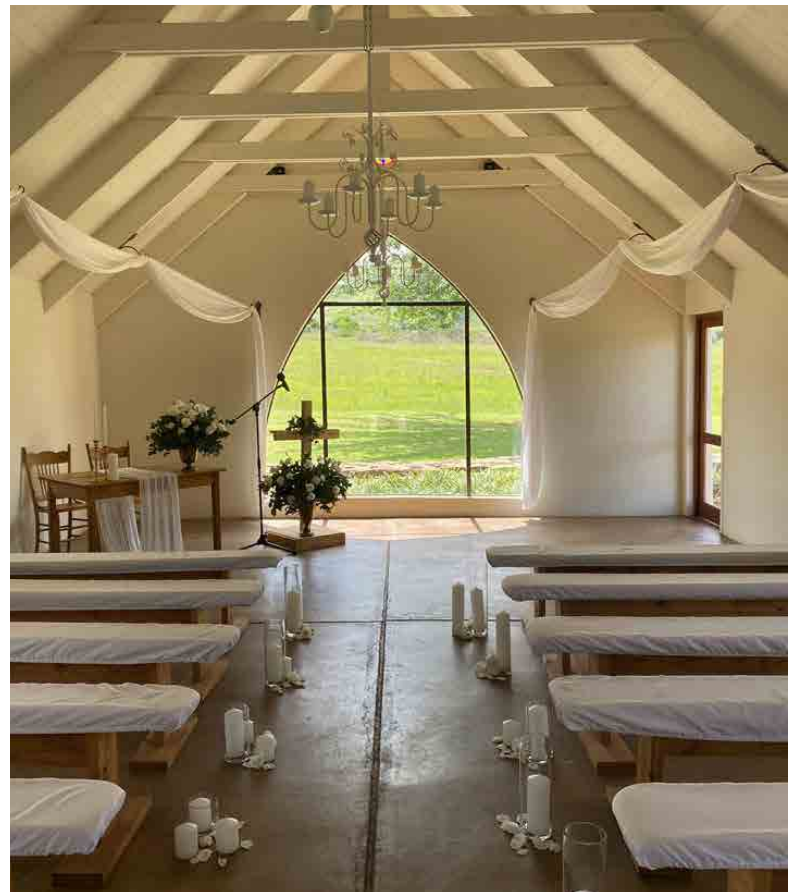
Within an 8km radius, there is accommodation to suit all your guests – a 4-star hotel, B&B's, and self-catering cottages.

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”!



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PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY



SILVIA & RUAN BREYTENBACH



This couple's first kiss was on the playground swings during lunch break at school and not even an incurable disease could keep them apart. A true and touching love story.

Unexpected proposal?

When Ruan visited me from the Northern Cape, where he was working, he took me on a dinner date. At sunset we took a walk through the flower gardens towards some horses in paddocks. I was looking at the beauty in front of me when he went down on one knee and proposed. He said he'd wanted to ask me to be his Girl from the day he first met me in school but never had the courage! Yes, he asked my Dad of course and the first people we told were my parents. I was jumping up and down with excitement. It was a surprise to me, because I got sick with incurable Addison's disease in 2012 and live with an Adrenal pump carried on me 24/7. I did not think I would ever be so lucky as to have such a loving and caring person, who said that he did not care and wanted to marry me for me. Ruan's not afraid that I'm sick.

Your chose a lovely venue called Oakfield Farm?

I had been to a wedding expo at Oakfield Farm and always thought the place was so beautiful. We have a small family and wanted the day to be as intimate as possible. There are several options. We fell in love with the Dairy venue's romantic atmosphere and the fairy lights and horse & carriage were the selling points. Their food is outstanding too.

Sum up Oakfield Farm in one sentence.

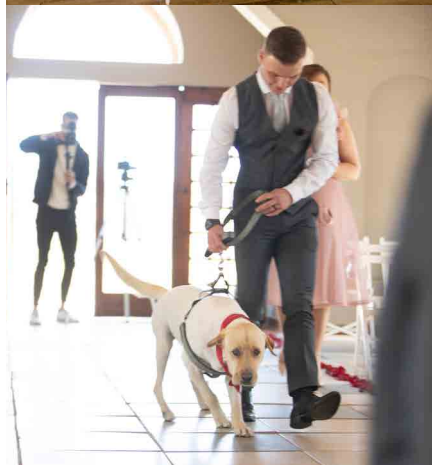
Summer, romance, and heavenly food; what more could a girl ask for?

Your dress was specially made?

My dress, made by my 80-year old aunt Gladys, is super special. She also made the dresses I wore for my Christening and Matric Farewell and she promised to make my wedding dress one day. The love and hard work that went into my dress is indescribable. It looked and felt like a shop bought dress.

Special photos in our bouquet?

We've lost family members very dear to our hearts and I wanted to have them at our big day. This was something small to keep them close to us.



“Summer, romance, and heavenly food sum up Oakfield Farm.”



Venue: Oakfield Farm, Mulderdrift – www.oakfieldfarm.co.za

Wedding gown: Aunt Gladys

Hair & Make Up: E A Academy

Flowers & Decor: Absolute Flowers and my Mom

Photography: Natasha Malan Photography

Your main flower?

We decided on Proteas, because they are one of Ruan's favourites.

Did your bridesmaids have a say in the style and colour of their dresses?

My Maid of Honour Danielle chose the dresses with me. I wanted them to be comfortable and the colour was just luck being the burgundy that matched the Proteas.

How many guests?

50. Due to Covid we had to cut some children but luckily didn't have to change the date.

One very special "guest"?

Our Labrador Cody was a surprise for Ruan. When Ruan moved up from the Cape to be with me he had to leave his dogs behind so I bought Cody on the day he arrived. Cody was our ring bearer. When the Pastor asked for the rings, Ruan's best man Louis acted like he had lost them and then ran out to fetch Cody who brought the rings in!

How did you choose your photographer?

I searched and asked around until I found Natasha Malan. The quality of her photos and her prices were unbeatable.

Your wedding favours for guests?

My Mom worked so hard on these. A glass jar filled with several smaller containers, which contained Spice of my life, Bee my Honey, Lost then Found milk bottle, Light up my life Candle, Infused with love Olive oil and Rosemary and Spread the love Jam.

Something old, Something new, Something borrowed and Something blue?

My veil hair clip, worn by my Aunt on her wedding day, was Something old. Earrings and bracelet from my Mom and Dad were Something new. A brooch worn by my late grandma every day, was Something borrowed and a little blue flower my Mom stitched onto my wedding dress was Something blue.

Your first dance song?

Perfek verby by Georic Lomas – because Ruan always says that I'm Perfect for him!

The highlight of your big day?

Seeing Ruan waiting for me at the end of the aisle.

Honeymoon?

We did a 9-day tour of the Northern Cape.



MAKING *Memories*

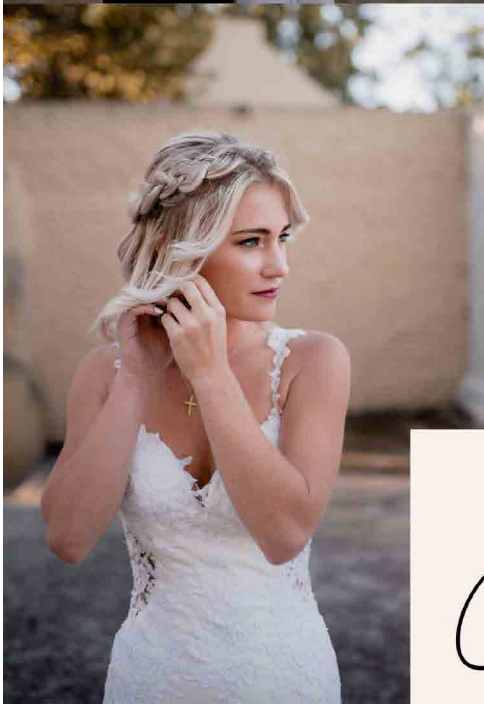
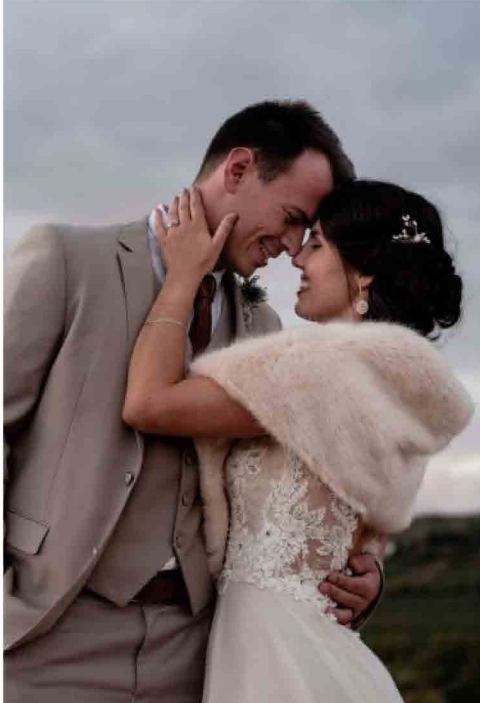
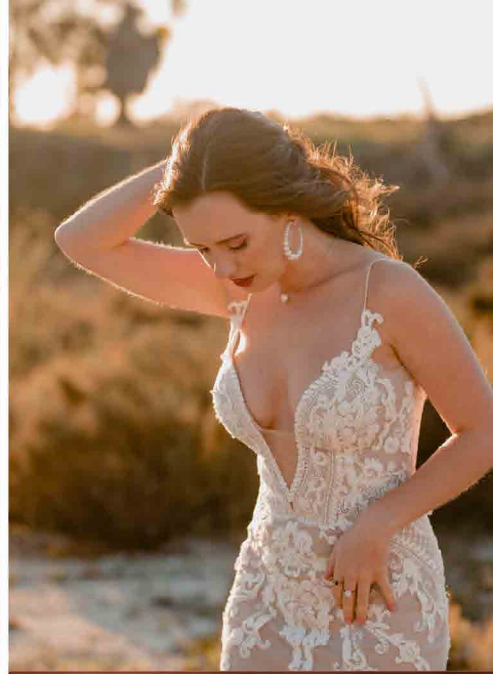
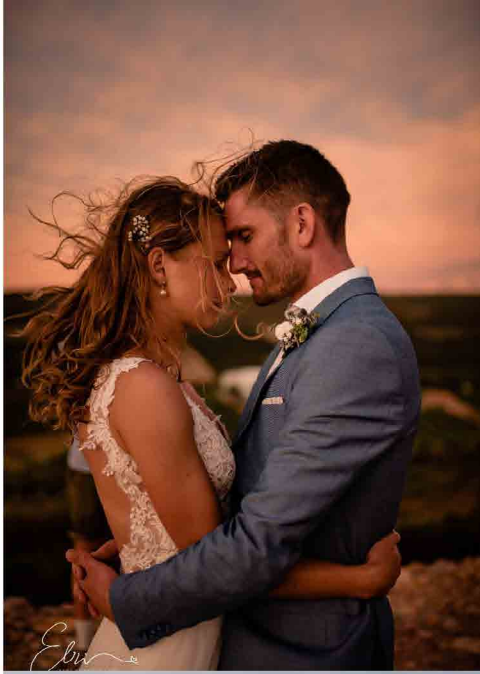


Couple: Michaela & Justin | Photography: Hilda Mans

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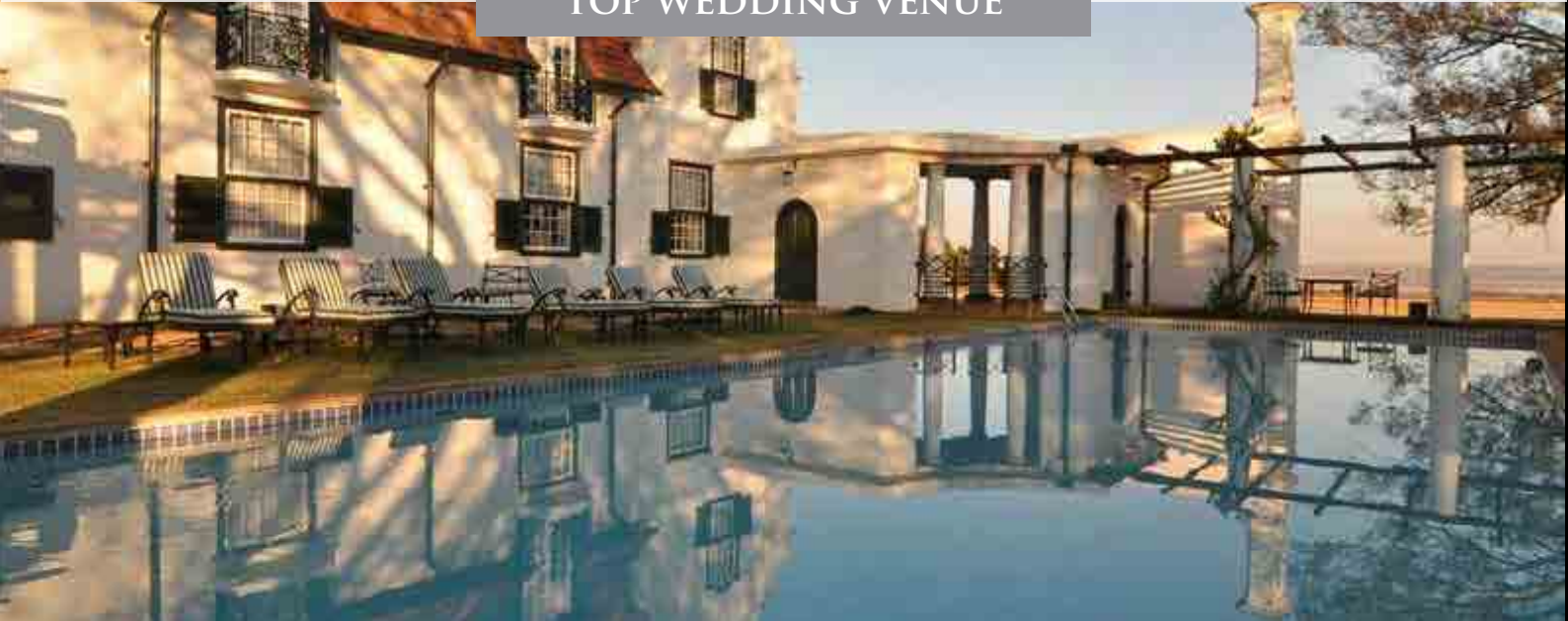
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Your big day deserves nothing less than to be as perfect as possible, and that is a promise at WELGELEGEN MANOR - in classic English residential style.

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.

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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.



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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.



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NATASCHA & BRYCE WATSON



There's something truly magical about a forest wedding ceremony ...

Was your proposal a surprise?

When I raised the topic of engagement Bryce would shrug it off nonchalantly, so when he proposed I really was surprised. We were engaged early March 2020 and then the pandemic hit, so we found our venue 7 months after getting engaged.

Did you have a clear idea of what you wanted for your big day?

I never made any final plans without running them past Bryce. I had never thought about my wedding day until we were engaged, not even as a little girl! I immersed myself in wedding magazines, TV shows and Pinterest and found a style we both liked.

What stood out about The Silver Sixpence?

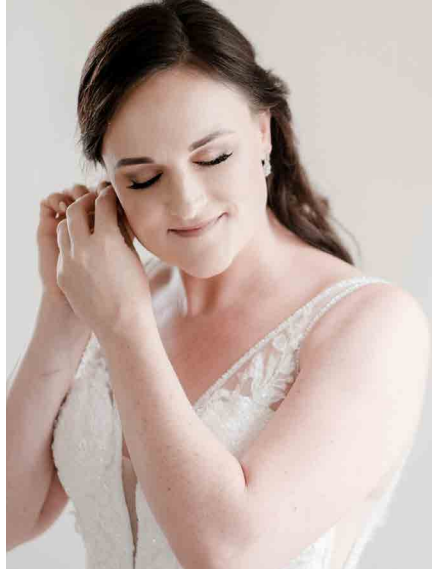
The venue is near Dullstroom and Belfast along the N4 in a quiet country area, between rolling hills and trout farms. The venue is beautiful with incredibly well-maintained gardens; you can tell the owners take pride in their venue. You have the option of having your ceremony in a forest or in a chapel. The reception is in a large hall with two huge fireplaces. Accommodation on site and when you book the venue the entire weekend is yours, not just your wedding day. We had a get together on the Friday night at the on-site micro-brewery; the Saturday was our wedding day and on the Sunday we had breakfast with our guests, all on site. This whole weekend experience was truly memorable.

Your biggest challenge?

I found sourcing genuine, reliable service providers very challenging. It's tricky choosing someone you've never seen in person. You cannot attend someone else's wedding to see how the DJ or Officiant will be! So, we went on recommendations for about 80% as social media isn't always 100% reliable.

"Black Friday" dress?

I looked around for specials and saw that Timeless Bridal Couture had an amazing "Black Friday" discount for the month of November. I refused to try on dresses that weren't on special so that I wouldn't get tempted! After trying on a few different styles I found the perfect dress for me. It was a mix between an A line and a Ballroom style.



“When you book The Silver Sixpence, the entire weekend is yours.”



Venue: The Silver Sixpence, Dullstroom – www.thesilversixpence.co.za

Dress: Timeless Bridal Couture

Hair & Make-up: Blend Make-up and Hair

Flowers: A family friend, Kerstin Ferraris

Photography: VanLuke

Your bridesmaids wore black?

All 5 bridesmaids wore black floor-length dresses. As we didn't really have a colour palate, I decided on a colour that would complement them all. Black is elegant and timeless. I let each bridesmaid choose their own style as they all have different body types and would feel comfortable.

Forest ceremony?

The forest was one of the reasons we chose The Silver Sixpence as a venue. You have the option of a pine forest or a blue gum forest. Tall trees tower over the aisle and provide a beautiful private, intimate setting. It really leaves you in awe having such a special moment out in Nature. Should it rain then plan B is a lovely chapel with a large glass window that looks out on to the forest and trout dams.

How many guests?

80. Due to the ever-changing lockdown regulations we kept the numbers under 100.

Your wedding songs?

"Close Your Eyes" by Michael Buble was my aisle song; then we chose "For You I Will" by Teddy Geiger for our first dance as it was also the first song Bryce played on guitar for me. The waltz with my Dad was to "Edelweiss" from The Sound Of Music – my favourite movie to watch with my late Gran. My paternal grandparents were from Austria so this was a special way to remember them.

Wedding budget-savers?

Have your wedding cake as part of your desserts to avoid spending extra. And, your guests won't notice if you don't have favours for them.

What cost more than you thought it would?

Photography and videography cost more than we expected, but we soon realised it involves a lot more than just pointing a camera and pressing a button. Good photographers and videographers are worth every cent.

Any surprises?

It rained the entire morning and I was convinced I would be getting married in the chapel and not the forest! But ,at 1pm the rain stopped and it was a beautiful afternoon.

Honeymoon?

We went to Thailand and as their restrictions relaxed we wanted to visit an extra city, so our wedding fund went towards seeing more. We explored Phuket and Bangkok. Beautiful beaches, an incredible culture, great food and the friendliest people!





THE SILVER SIXPENCE

— WEDDING VENUE —



"Something old, Something new, Something borrowed, Something blue...
And a Silver Sixpence in your shoe!"



Tucked away in the hills near Dullstroom, The Silver Sixpence is the perfect Wedding Venue for an exclusive fairy-tale "weekend wedding experience" in tranquil surroundings - 300 Ha of rolling grasslands, with forests, trout dams, and meadows with beautiful Friesian horses - providing endless photo opportunities. Begin your weekend celebrations in our Microbrewery on Friday evening!

Wake up on your wedding day 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. Arrive at your ceremony in a horse-drawn carriage. Dance the night away under a sparkling galaxy of fairy lights and crystal chandeliers in our hall – with the cosy ambience of large indoor and outdoor log fireplaces.

Mouth-watering plated cuisine - canapés, harvest table, appetising starters, delicious main courses, decadent desserts, and even the option of midnight snacks! A romantic Honeymoon Suite with a well-appointed Bridal Dressing room, Luxurious on-site accommodation for 50 guests. Ample additional accommodation all within 6km.



DIEP IN DIE BERG

TOP WEDDING VENUE



Diep in die Berg has a luxurious modern Wedding, Conference and Function Centre nestled on the slopes of the picturesque Bronberg Mountain Range in Pretoria East, only minutes away from the N1 and N4 highway.

Our breathtaking gardens with its tranquil water features are one of the many things that make our venue so charming. With over fifty indigenous trees, beautiful sunsets over the mountain and indoor and outdoor fire places, our clients can be sure that their next corporate function, special event or wedding will be an unforgettable experience.

Diep in die Berg has a soft elegant indoor chapel for your wedding ceremony as well as a beautiful modern reception venue that can accommodate up to 230 guests with a dance floor. Our breathtaking gardens are green throughout the year and can be reserved for an optional outdoor experience.

Diep in die Berg's Wedding Planner will bring elegance, quality and personal attention to the planning of your wedding including her vast experience, from the first meeting to your perfectly orchestrated wedding day.

EXPERIENCE LUXURY AT ITS BEST!

TOP
VENUE

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BOHEMIAN LOVE & ELOPE 2022

4 HOURS | 20 MINIMUM TO 50 MAXIMUM GUESTS



BOHEMIAN LOVE IS A 4 HOUR MODERNISED ROMANTIC FAIR PACKAGE THAT WAS CREATED FOR OUR SMALLER WEDDINGS THAT WANTS TO MOVE AWAY FROM OLD TRADITION. LOVE & ELOPE ♥



WHAT TO EXPECT

- Outdoor Experience in our tranquil lush gardens or Indoor Experience in our quaint Chapel / VIP Venue against the Bronberg Mountain (weather permitted)
- Bohemian Flowers & Décor for your Ceremony and Reception Area
- Full Wedding Planning and Coordination Included
- Service Staff (Waiters & Barmen)
- Infused Oasis filtered water with Seasonal Fruit (Chef's Choice) to be served on Arrival
- Gin & Tonic Interactive Drinks Station with Garnish or Tea, Coffee & Juice Bar for the earlier weddings that do not want to start off with a "G&T"
- Luxury Cocktail Menu or Savoury Harvest Station
- On-site Dressing Area Only
- Bridal Basket with snacks and drinks to take on your photo shoot
- Complimentary Kitchen Tea Area at our Restaurant
- Customised High Wooden Tables or Glass Top Wrought Iron Twirl Tables (Availability Dependent)
- Picturesque Gardens with Water Features and lots of Photo Opportunities



SEALED WITH A KISS

ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGE | MINIMUM OF 50 GUESTS



SEALED WITH A KISS WAS CREATED AS AN ALL INCLUSIVE "ENTRY LEVEL" PACKAGE. PERSONALISE THIS PACKAGE TO YOUR NEEDS AND SPECIFICATIONS ♥



WHAT TO EXPECT

- Luxurious Reception Venue with Quaint Chapel against the Bronberg Mountain for Weddings over 70 Guests
- Quaint Reception Venue against the Bronberg Mountain with either an Outdoor Ceremony or a combined Indoor Ceremony / Reception Experience for Weddings below 70 Guests (weather permitted)
- Full Wedding Planning and Coordination Included
- Service Staff (Waiters & Barmen)
- Infused Oasis filtered water with Seasonal Fruit (Chef's Choice) to be served on Arrival
- Gin & Tonic interactive Station served with Garnish as Welcoming Drinks
- Pita Bread and dips served as Welcoming Snacks
- Scrumptious Three Course "I DO" Buffet (Plated Starter / Buffet Main Course / Buffet Dessert OR Plated Meal (1x Starter / 1x Main / 1x Dessert))
- Honeymoon Suite for the night of your Wedding including Breakfast
- Grooms on-site Dressing Area
- "Survival Pack" for your Service Providers (DJ, Photographers, Video)
- Bridal Basket with snacks and drinks to take on your photo shoot
- Complimentary Kitchen Tea Venue / Area at our Restaurant
- Diep in die Berg Ceremony Stands and a choice of either Table Décor (Table Cloths, Underplates, Centre Piece Candelabra / Vase) or beautiful Wooden tables (availability dependant)
- Picturesque Gardens with Water Features and lots of Photo Opportunities

HEAD OVER HEELS

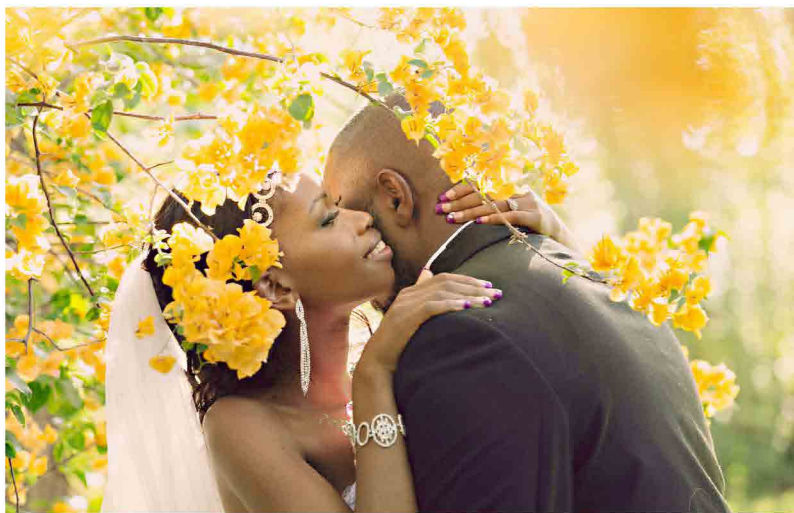
LUXURY PACKAGE | MINIMUM OF 50 GUESTS



WHAT TO EXPECT

HEAD OVER HEELS IS A LUXURIOUS ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGE WITH ALL THAT YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR DREAM WEDDING MOST MEMORABLE. EXPERIENCE LUXURY AT ITS BEST ♥

- Luxurious Reception Venue with Quaint Chapel against the Bronberg Mountain for Weddings over 70 Guests
- Quaint Reception Venue against the Bronberg Mountain with either an Outdoor Ceremony or a combined Indoor Ceremony / Reception Experience for Weddings below 70 Guests (weather permitted)
- Bridal Hair & Make-Up Cash Voucher
- Wedding Cake Cash Voucher
- Flowers & Décor Cash Voucher
- DJ Cash Voucher
- Full Wedding Planning and Coordination Included
- Service Staff (Waiters & Barmen)
- Infused Oasis filtered water with Seasonal Fruit (Chef's Choice) to be served on Arrival
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- Picturesque Gardens with Water Features and lots of Photo Opportunities



FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US REGARDING OUR THREE ALL-INCLUSIVE WEDDING PACKAGES OR LET US TAILOR-MAKE YOUR PACKAGE TO SUIT YOUR BUDGET AND NEEDS.



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ELSTINE & FLORIS VAN DER WALT



Here is living proof that some blind dates definitely do work out!

You met on a blind date?

A mutual friend set us up. It was a Sunday and we enjoyed each other's company at a restaurant so much that we then went to watch a movie. We ended up drinking coffee at my house and have been together ever since.

Was your proposal a surprise?

We love to go on hiking trails and Floris proposed to me at Bridal Veil Falls at Sabie, Mpumalanga. The waterfall reaches up quite high and I remember looking up to the top. As I turned around, there he was, on one knee, with the ring in his hand. I was so happy I forgot to actually say the word 'yes' so he had to ask me again!

Your engagement ring story?

I'd kept a picture of the ring I wanted since Grade 8. Despite me losing many phones, between me and my best friend that picture always popped up again. Floris had my ring made EXACTLY like the one in the picture and it is PERFECT. It was a big surprise because I did not know he had seen the picture. I decided to make it a combined engagement and wedding ring with nothing added.

Tell us a little about your wedding venue.

We wanted our guests to enjoy a weekend wedding so we arranged to view three venues in Modimolle (Nylstroom). I'd read that the venue Tsekama said 'We do everything!' I contacted the owner, Marinda Turvey, and so Tsekama was the first venue we looked at.

Why did you choose Tsekama?

We ended up choosing Tsekama because it has an all-inclusive package. With the venue not being close to where we live, it would have been difficult to juggle vendors and suppliers, but with Tsekama they really do have everything! The planning process was so easy and we even saved some money. Before we bought anything I'd ask Marinda whether they had it, and they usually did. It is a beautiful venue with an amazing chapel onsite, a reception area overlooking a dam, accommodation which includes breakfast and much more. All this with a bushveld backdrop, romantic sunsets, friendly staff, yummy food and great guests made our wedding day perfect.



"I'd kept a picture of the ring I wanted since Grade 8."



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

Wedding gown: The Bridal House

Hair & make up: Salon Amelia

Flowers & décor: Tsekama

Photography: Ulandi Sanders

You knew what dress you wanted?

I wanted a ball gown style dress. I figured you only get one day to wear a dress like that. I set a week to go for fittings and by the end of the week I had a dress in mind but then... The Bridal House phoned and said that they had got in new stock and that they had the perfect dress for me. It really was perfect and so comfortable too - especially for someone who loves dancing.



Your entourage included two flower girls?

They are close family friends and both very dear to us. Our day would not have been the same without them. Other children were also welcome. I made a little gift pack for each child and they ended up in a group playing, chatting and colouring in pictures. It melted my heart!



Did Covid interfere with your initial plans?

Our wedding date was set for April 2020 but because of the pandemic we had to move our date to 7 November. It was quite easy because Tsekama was already providing EVERYTHING including accommodation. We only had to inform our guests, photographer, beauty salon and entertainers.

What worked best?

Making it a weekend wedding! Most guests arrived on the Friday and we had a braai in the boma. Everyone could just relax and mingle the day before the wedding. Relaxed guests gave the whole wedding a really fun vibe.

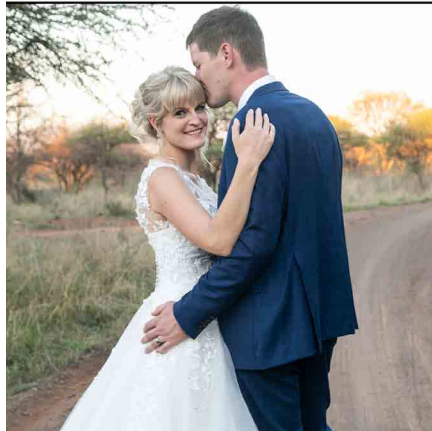


Any advice for brides-to-be?

Take your Dad and future hubby for dance-lessons even if you already know how to dance. It is a real relationship-strengthening experience!

Honeymoon?

Due to Covid we went on a 3-day mini-moon to a farm where there was no signal! As soon as we are able to we will go on our real honeymoon - it's a surprise so I can't tell you where we are going!





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



ZORGVLIET

TOP WEDDING VENUE



ZORGVLIET
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.

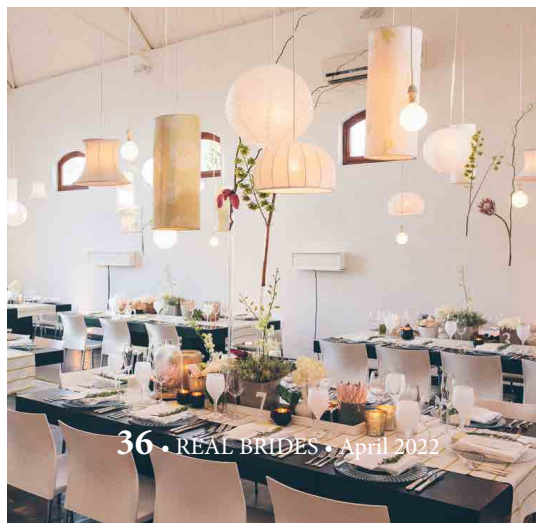
Visit Zorgvliet Wine estate and allow us to make your occasions exceptional. We pride ourselves on customising every event to suit the needs and style of each individual. The venue, with its Cape Dutch charm is designed to adapt to any Wedding or Event, ensuring a distinctive look and feel every time.

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

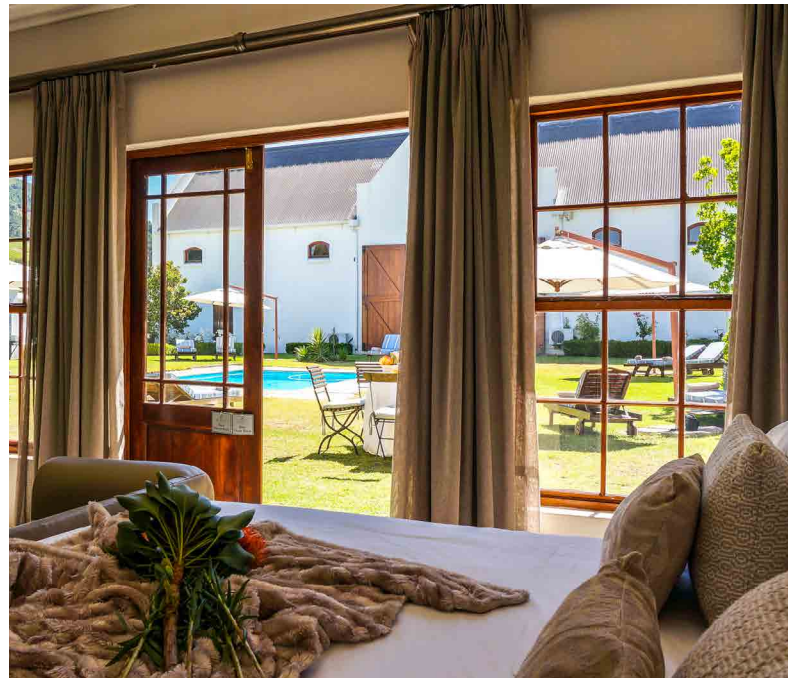
Contact us at 021 885 1399 or accommodation@zorgvliet.com We would love to share our portfolio with you.



ZORGVLIET
BANGHOEK STELLENBOSCH



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





ZORGVLIIET
BANGHOEK STELLENBOSCH

ADD A TOUCH OF MAGIC ...

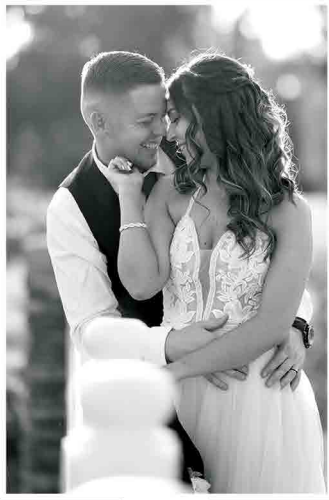
Zorgvliet Wines can be the perfect wedding venue for you, if you want to add a touch of magic and style to your big day. Seven kilometres outside Stellenbosch, in the heart of the Winelands, you will find a place of serenity and ultimate beauty.

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JESSIE & HARVEY DE WIT



This bride got to say “I Do” not once, but twice!

Tell us about your proposal.

We got engaged in 2019 and it was everything I had hoped for. We are both family orientated and love the beach, and both these components were included. Our favourite beach spot is Chintsa, East London. We took a long walk up the dunes. Harvey wrote “Will you marry me?” on our Yorkie’s ball. He threw the ball and the dog brought the ball to me to throw it again. I then saw the writing on the ball, turned around and Harvey was on his knee! Our family were with us, which was so special.

This was a wedding with a twist...

Our wedding at Inkwenkwezi was actually the 2nd time we said ‘I do’. We had an elopement in September 2020 due to having had to postpone our wedding date 4 times because of Covid! Our original date was booked for May 2020, but Covid changed everything. Our elopement was very small, intimate and special in every way. This 2021 wedding was however the big celebration every girl dreams of. I got to marry the man of my dreams twice, how lucky am I?

Wedding invitations?

We used a wedding website called “WithJoy” (highly recommended). It does everything for you. It was super-efficient, it’s free and so pretty too.

What made you the most anxious?

I’d say the guest list. It’s very difficult to include everyone, and not go too overboard. Things add up.

You chose a gorgeous venue?

Inkwenkwezi Private Game Reserve was absolutely amazing in every respect. It is located in Chintsa West, East London and offers the most magical, rustic, natural environment for a wedding. We wanted something rustic, but with a touch of magic. Inkwenkwezi are known for their incredible food and our guests all raved about the food, saying it was the best meal they have ever had at a wedding. Our package also included a buffet breakfast the next day, as well as a very exciting game drive.



“I designed my dress and had it made.”



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

Dress: Brigid Russon

Hair: Fresh cuts – Roxanne

Make-up: Make-up by Caroline

Flowers: Babatane Events

Photography: Paula Adams Photography

Who was your main help?

I did a lot of the wedding planning and organising myself, however, in the weeks leading up to the day, I depended a lot on my bridesmaids, who helped with many last minute errands.

Accommodation at Inkwenkwezi?

The accommodation was amazing at Inkwenkwezi. We spent the night in a luxury tent, which has a beautiful shower surrounded by glass, to give you the feeling of being outside. We had a Jacuzzi on our deck and an air conditioner in the tent. Our wedding night was 28 degrees at 11pm so the aircon definitely came in handy! About 20 of our guests stayed over – all in luxury tents.

The wildlife created interesting backdrops?

The wildlife is wonderful at Inkwenkwezi. Having various buck and zebra from the surrounding reserve in our photos made for the most beautiful backdrops.

Your dress?

I designed my dress and had it made. After just having had a baby, I needed something that was comfortable and elegant. I tried on many different types of dresses, but nothing really made me feel comfortable and beautiful like this one did.

More girls than guys in your entourage?

I had 5 bridesmaids and my husband had 3 groomsmen. Unfortunately his other groomsman couldn't attend, due to living abroad and the Covid restrictions on international travel at the time.

How many guests?

About 80.

Good old cupcakes!

Cupcakes are always a winner. We took the small wedding cake home for ourselves to enjoy.

Your wedding songs?

I walked down the aisle to "Take my hand" by Emily Hackett and our first dance song was "Remember us this way" by Lady Gaga.

Best moment of your big day?

Having our baby daughter share our special day with us - she was 7 months old at the time. She's our little miracle baby and having her in our wedding photos and seeing her and my husband enjoy a father-daughter dance together was very special.

Any wise words for brides-to-be?

Be kind. The kinder you are, the more help you will get. No one appreciates a "Bridezilla"! Enjoy the planning, include your bridesmaids in as much as you can, like attending your dress-fittings and all the planning. Make it a celebration. It should be a fun experience for everyone involved.



Inkwenkwezi

PRIVATE GAME RESERVE



BRAHMAN HILLS

TOP WEDDING VENUE



BRAHMAN HILLS CREATING HARMONY, TOGETHER

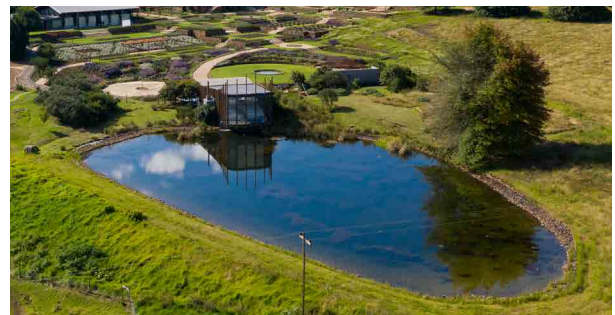
Situated in the heart of the KwaZulu Natal Midlands, Brahman Hills is a destination of choice for weddings, conferences, holistic experiences and romantic country escapes.

Offering accommodation in both hotel rooms and self-catering cottages in the Blue Crane Nature Reserve; with extensive facilities open to the public; including a world class Spa by Healing Earth, two amazing restaurants, an underground wine cellar and bar.

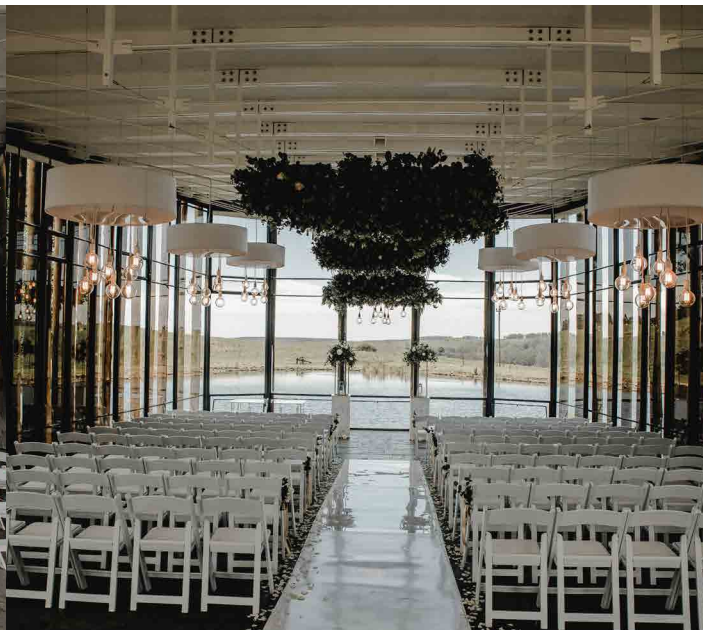
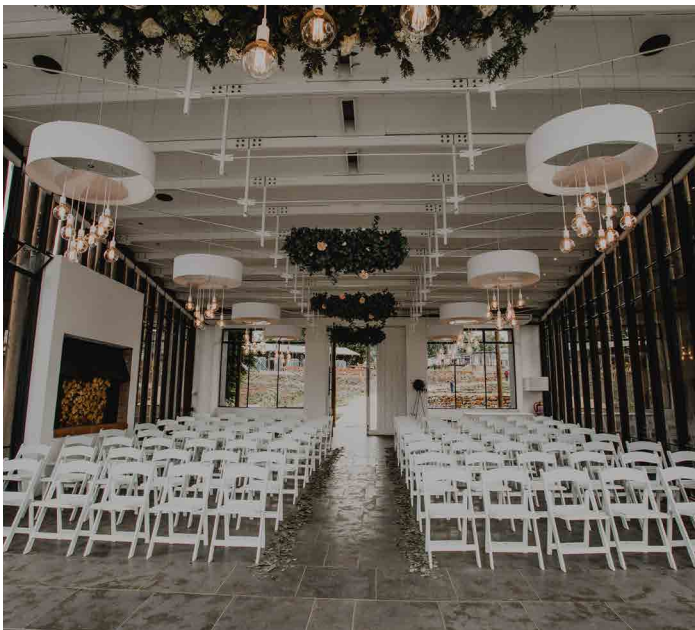
Two uniquely situated chapels, with additional eventing spaces seating up to 400 people; create a beautiful setting for an elegant countryside celebration. Brahman Hills is ready to make your event a magical and memorable experience.

Magnificent gardens that are the source of our very own herbs, fruits and vegetables; farm to table, local and fresh. This is the strong ethos behind our great food.

Relax and rejuvenate at the Spa by Healing Earth at Brahman Hills, where everything is ready for you; just the way you like it. Conclude off your day package experience with a glass of bubbly in the indoor heated pool overlooking the glorious rolling hills of the Blue Crane Nature Reserve.

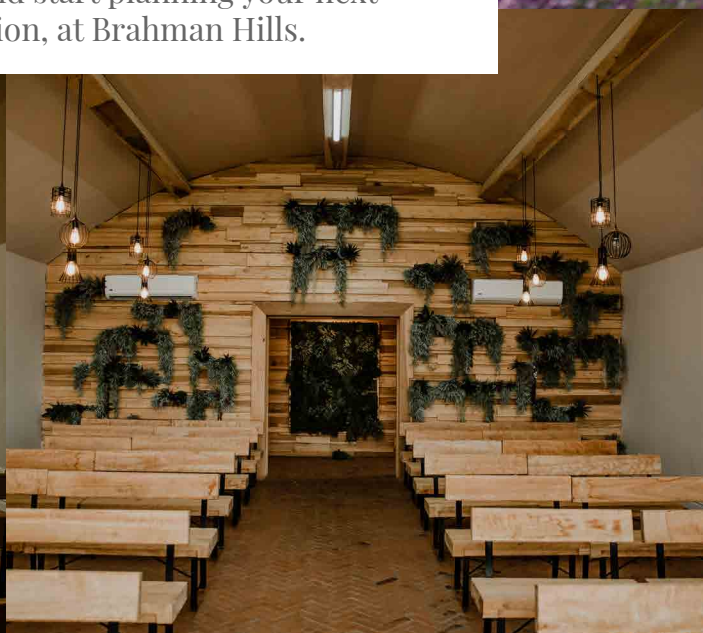
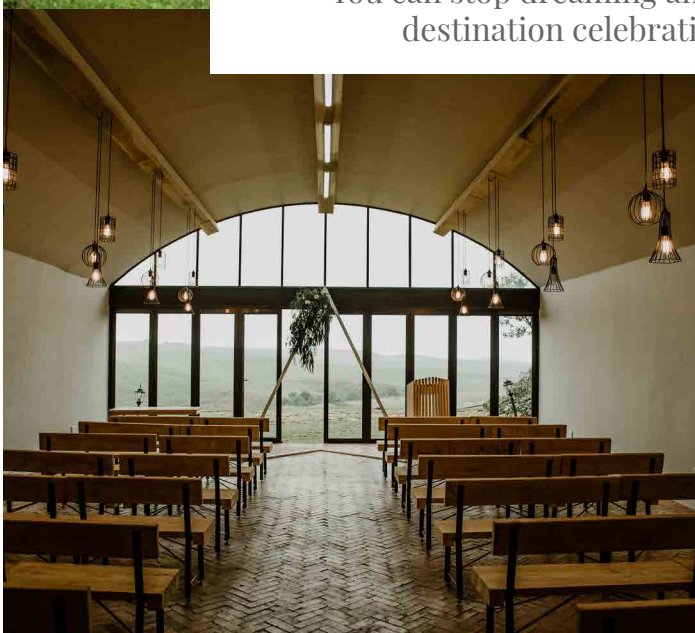


Website: www.brahmanhills.co.za
Email: weddings@brahmanhills.co.za
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BRAHMAN HILLS

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ELZAAN & EJ NAUDÉ



A Grade 10 Valentine's Day dance date saw Cupid's arrow hit the target!

Your proposal?

Huge surprise. I didn't expect a thing; not until the moment EJ went on his knee! Looking back now I realised he made sure my nails and hair were done before we went on holiday and the outfit I was wearing on the day was actually my Christmas gift from him. He organised an apparent "couple picnic" with an amazing view. We went on a vineyard walk with the manager, not expecting that this was to be MY engagement picnic. Everything was beautifully set up; a picnic with champagne, candles and beautiful flowers and EJ had even organised a professional photographer hiding in the vineyard to capture the special moment.

How long did you have to plan your wedding?

We got engaged on 27 December 2021 and got married just 4 months later. Charmaine and Lucas from Goedgeleven made this seemingly impossible task a breeze. When setting our date date we kept the Covid restrictions in mind. It worked out as well as it can during a pandemic, we could host an indoor function for 100 people and the curfew was midnight.

What did you particularly like about your venue?

The service was something to behold. Charmaine and Lucas really looked after us. It was a "one stop shop". You don't have to outsource anything, Goedgeleven do it ALL and make it as stress free as possible. They have a beautiful venue, the staff is friendly and they are all so clued up. We looked at +-5 venues, but considering Goedgeleven's package, we couldn't look beyond their amazing offer. They are situated just outside Durbanville on the Malmesbury road.

Would you recommend Goedgeleven?

Yes, most definitely, and I already have! It was a dream working with them to plan the beautiful wedding I have always dreamed of. I sent them like a 100 Pinterest pictures and that was exactly what they produced, our wedding looked like a Pinterest pin board.



“The sweetheart table was a great idea.”



Venue: Goedgeleven, Durbanville, W Cape – www.goedgeleven.co.za

Wedding gown: Eulogeo Zello Couture

Hair & Make Up: Mary-Anne MUA

Flowers & Decor: Goedgeleven

Photography: Da'Taan Productions

You hired your dress?

What an amazing experience. Eulogeo Zeloo Couture made my wedding dress. I had an album of photos off Pinterest and they mixed all those ideas into one stunning dress and I then had the option to hire it. I loved this option because you get what you want and are not stuck with the dress hanging in your cupboard for the rest of your life!

Which service provider went the extra mile?

Definitely Goedgeleven! They did everything - food, drinks, décor, flowers, confetti, DJ, dance lights, yard games and a pop-up coffee station. They have a breath taking little chapel on the premises for the formalities and a stunning room for getting ready. They are a bride's absolute dream team.

How did your wedding budget fare?

We didn't go too far over our budget. We worked with what we had and still produced one of the most amazing nights of our lives. One aspect we did go over our budget was with the photography. We decided to ensure amazing quality photos that will provide forever memories of our big day.

How many guests?

84. Children of family members were included.

Sweetheart table?

The sweetheart table was a great idea. It made it easier for guests to come and congratulate us and/or take a photo with us. Our parents were placed with their family members making it more comfortable for them to enjoy their evening without being in the spotlight the whole night.

Cake and cake pops?

We had a small three layer cake. This was mainly for cutting of the cake purposes. The rest consisted of cake pops, each wrapped and matching the colours of the cake.

Your first dance song?

Somebody Like You by Keith Urban.

What did you do about wedding gifts?

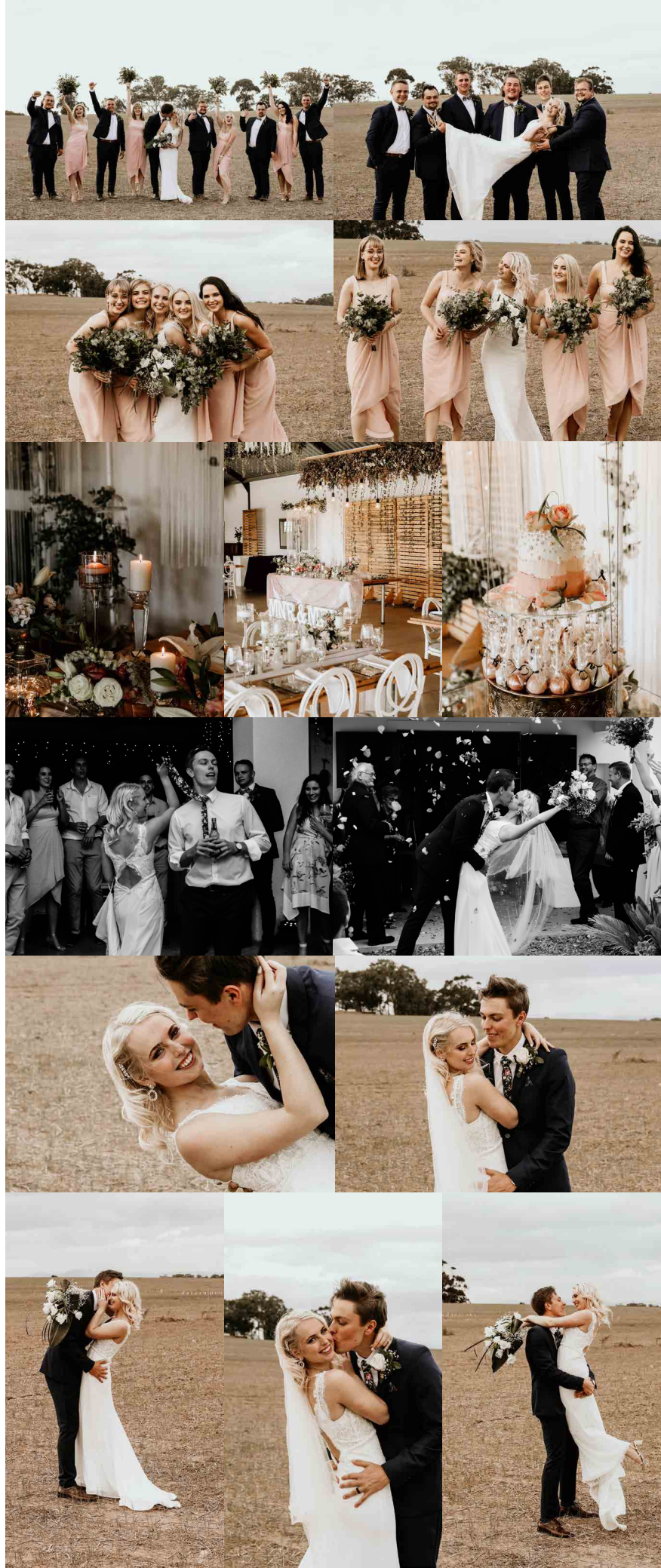
Our wedding invitation asked for money...in a subtle way! We bought some nice goodies for our home.

Any "oh no" moments?

Probably when EJ's little brother and my little cousin got their hands on the yard games when everyone was inside eating and start throwing the big Jenga blocks into the dam to see if they would float!

Honeymoon?

We went to Kol-Kol, near Botrivier and then to a 4-star lodge in Knysna.



Goedgeleven

Your Dream Wedding is Waiting...

Competitive packages
Quaint chapel seating 80 to 100 guests
Reception hall comfortably seating 150 guests
In-house DJ
Catering of the highest standard
Honeymoon suite
Beautiful landscaped gardens

Goedgeleven nestles in scenic farmlands outside Durbanville in the Western Cape and started as a small family-owned business. Today, with more than 25 years experience in the wedding industry, Charmaine & Lukas bring their passion to life at Goedgeleven.

So much more than just a Wedding Venue... Goedgeleven is available for events and special occasions of groups of between 40 – 250 guests.

Contact us:

Charmaine Gouws:
067 702 8363
info@goedgeleven.co.za
www.goedgeleven.co.za





Natasha Malan



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In line with worldwide trends, when the COVID pandemic hit Real Brides was switched from a printed publication to a digital format.

At the same time Real Brides launched their Virtual Wedding Expo.

The Real Brides digital magazine and Virtual Expo is the Perfect Package for advertisers and has taken wedding marketing to another level.

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