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On the cover:

Bride: Marlene Reddy-Ribeiro

Photo: Amorie arts

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# ATTENTION ALL BRIDES-TO-BE

Make your big day even more special

Your wedding will be one of the most memorable days of your life.

There is the opportunity to make occasion even more special by having your wedding featured in the Real Brides magazine.

In planning your wedding one of the most important decisions is the choice of your venue.

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

But it may also decide if your wedding is featured is Real Brides

A list of the country's Top Wedding Venues have entered into associate agreements with Real Brides to feature their brides in Real Brides The result is that If you choose any of the venues below for your wedding then your wedding will be considered for featuring in Real Brides:

#### **VENUE LIST**

The venues that provide this wonderful opportunity for all their brides are:



Tsekama: Marinda - 082 416 2363 Vredenburg: Leon - 021 842 3264 Silver Sixpence: Lesley - 082 557 304 Welgelegen Manor: Connie - 017 773 9000

Inkwenkwezi: Tamaryn – 043 734 3234

Collisheen: Wayne – 032 815 1107

Pheasant Hills: Pieter – 012 941 1724

Dullstroom Country Weddings: Nixi – 074

405 0910

Oakfields: Carl - 011 933 3464

Goedgeleven: Charmaine - 067 702 8363

NOTE: In this issue you will find

- full overview of the above venues
- A link to a virtual tour of the venues

So if you want to add to the memories of your big day by having your wedding featured in Real Brides then look no further than the list of venues above for your big day.

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# Real Brides readers competition

# R1000 Catrice Gift Hampers up to be won

Real Brides in junction with the House of Cosmetics are running an exciting new competition Every month two Catrice gift hampers valued at R1000 will up to be won.

Each hamper will contain the following Catrice products.

Catrice Pro Peach Origin Slim Eyeshadow Palette 010, Catrice Shake Fix Glow Spray, Catrice Blush Box Glowing + Multicolour 030 Warm Soul, Catrice Matt Pro Ink Non-Transfer Liquid Lipstick, Catrice More Than Glow Highlighter, Catrice Lash Changer Volume Mascara 010 Ultra Black, Catrice Plumping Lip Liner, Catrice Waterproof Eyeshadow Primer 010, Catrice Lip Cushion Protecting Multi Balm



# **HOW TO ENTER**

Entering the competition is simple Just name one of the Top Wedding Venues featured in this edition.

Send the answer with your full name – cell number and e mail address to stewart@topicpublishing.co.za

All correct entries will go into a draw. The first two correct entries draw will each win a R1000 gift hamper.

The winners of the July competition are:

Claire Sturgeon Corrine Horn

The September winners will be announced in the October edition of Real Brides \*Full terms and conditions apply and no correspondence will be entered into.















# MARLENE REDDY-RIBEIRO & HERNANI RIBEIRO



Two wedding dresses in the city!

# Tell us about your proposal?

He asked me to marry him on our 18 month anniversary (August 2020), at the restaurant where we first met which was Tashas, Nelson Mandela Square, Sandton

We had talked about getting married but the proposal still came as a surprise. It was a what I thought was just a normal dinner to celebrate our anniversary. I love eating out and took the opportunity to dress up as we didn't have many of those moments during lockdown. Little did I know he phoned ahead and planned it all with the manager. He had the waitress pretend to be taking photos and then got down on one knee. It was surreal. I think I forgot to even answer his question!

# How and when did you start planning your wedding?

We talked about our wedding inspiration long before we got engaged, so we did have ideas in mind already by that stage. I plan events as part of my job, so I called upon all that experience and contacts to put this special day together. Planning was done in six weeks post engagement but due to COVID-19 we only got married later in August 2021.

# Tell us about your TWO Dresses?

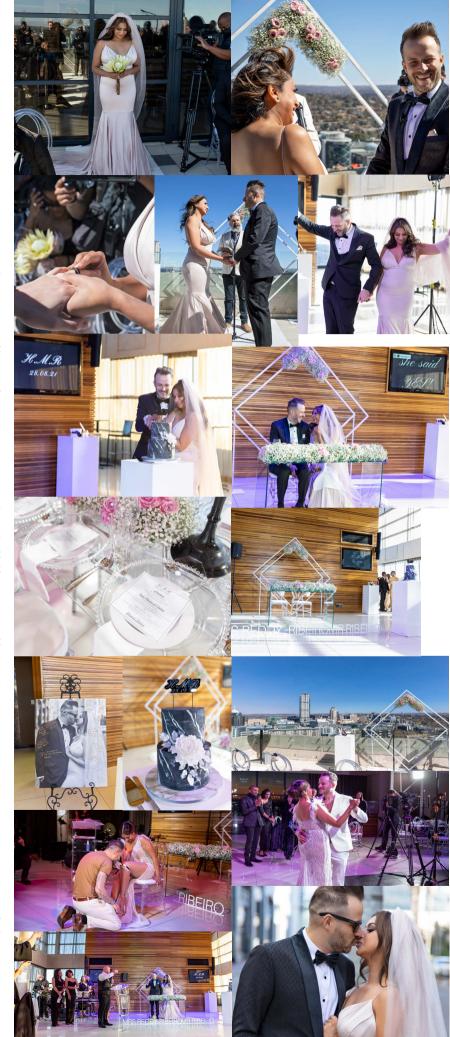
The theme of the wedding is modern and elegant so the fashion is very important, also coming from a pageant background at Mrs South Africa. I had two bespoke custom design dresses for the event – one blush pink and one white. I also have a 3m long cathedral style veil for the element of drama. I had an Indian headpiece as well.

## What was your favourite part of your big day?

The ceremony, which was short and sweet, just 20 minutes but set against the incredible roof top views and was tailored towards our beliefs and values. We also loved connecting with each of our guests, as it was just fifty guests. The food and dancing was also a highlight for us.

# What was your colour scheme and theme?

Our theme was modern, elegance in the city as we live in the city and met in the City. We are definitely City folks who love the pace and energy of it. We embrace modern, with touch of elegance. Definitely less is more! Our key colours were the classic combo of black and white. We are a mixed race couple, in our late thirties. We represent the rainbow nation and that true love can still happen later in life. Our wedding is therefore a celebration of these elements.





The most important elements to us were 1. Food, as we love to cook and dine out & entertain family and friends. It is therefore very important to us that the food is high quality and delicious. Food is also a key part of Portuguese and Indian cultures 2. Entertainment as we wanted this event to be a celebration and a party that no one forgets. We have therefore spent a great deal of time and attention on Entertainment. We have an opera singer during the ceremony and a live band for the reception

# Tell us more about your venue?

Our venue was The Venue, in Morningside, Sandton. This is located on the 20th floor and so the wedding was a roof top wedding on the 20th floor with surrounding glass panels. It has the most stunning views of the city, which served as the most incredible backdrop for the afternoon ceremony and evening reception. The staff were incredible, and the food was outstanding.

# Who were your photographers and why did you choose them?

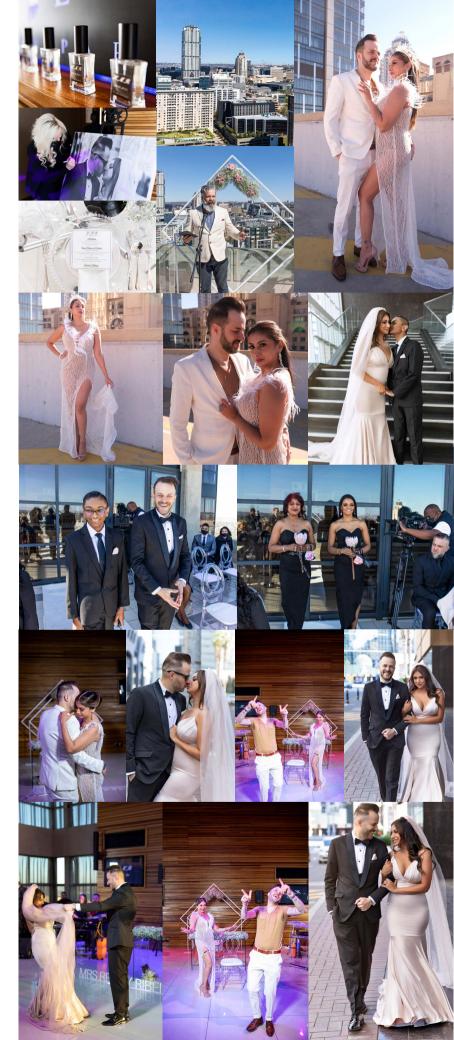
Our wedding day photographer was Amorie Pearson, of Amorie arts. I worked with her a great deal in my professional capacity and s it made sense to have her on board as she knew us so well and we worked very well together.

#### Any tips for brides to be?

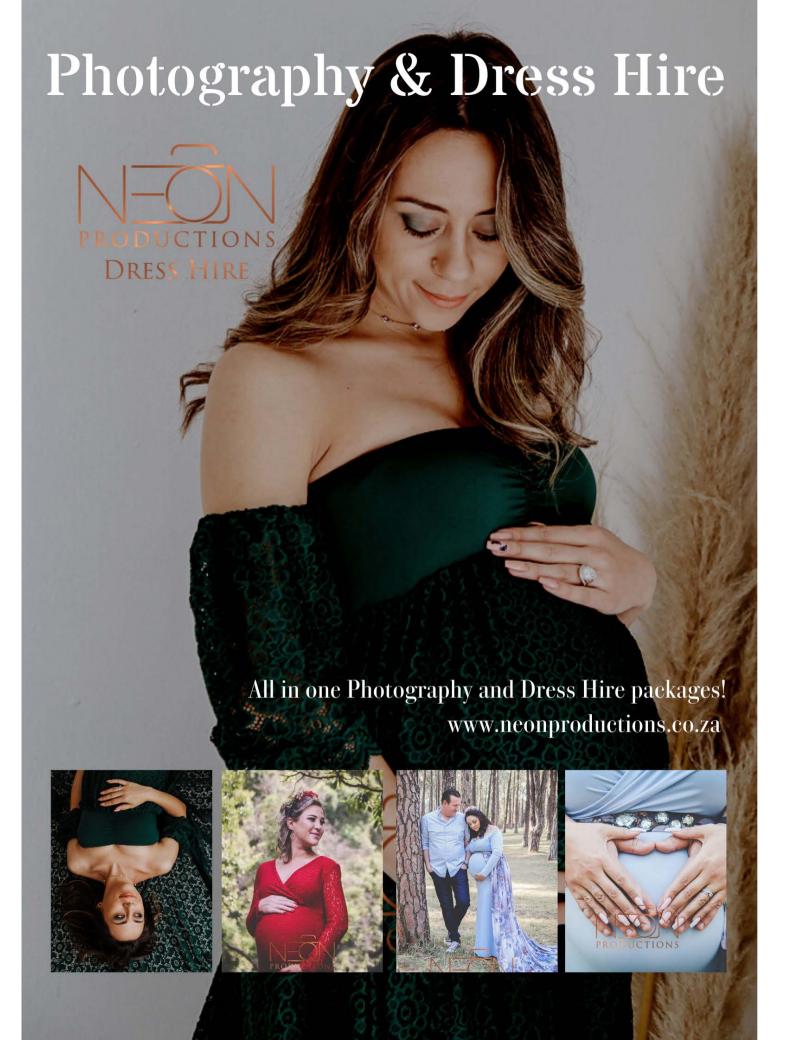
Focus on what you and your partner want and not want makes the family happy. Remember this is your big day and the two of you should be comfortable with it. Don't spend on thighns that are not important to you. We don't like cake so we took money from the cake budget and added it to the entertainment budget which was more important to us.

Do your research! Buy those bridal mags and research venues online. Many venues have great specials. Draw up a preliminary budget, which is realistic and does not put you both under financial pressure. Stay within your budget and try not to put items on credit. If you don't have wedding debt, it makes married life smoother.

Have a honeymoon fund if you don't need more household gifts. We already had established our home and more plates and coffee machines were not needed. We asked our guests to contribute to a honeymoon fund, which funded our Zanzibar honeymoon







# ADÉLE & GUSTAV PETERSEN



Glamorous Bush wedding amongst the Giraffes!

# How did he propose?

Gustav and I met in January 2010. We went with friends on holiday to Italy in July 2018. It was Gustav's first time overseas. He surprised me by proposing late one evening in the middle of a vineyard where we were staying just outside of San Gimignano.

#### Why did you choose your venue?

When we moved to Gauteng in 2014, we said we would prefer a bushveld wedding - it is something different for the guests travelling from Cape Town. We also agreed that a winter wedding is non-negotiable. Tsekama Wedding Venue lured us in from the get go. As the gate opened, the giraffes greeted us, and that was a real treat. They have buffalo and variety of antelope that roam around as well. The fact that the chapel, reception, restaurant and accommodation is neatly situated on the venue is so convenient. No need for guests to travel in between festivities. When you decide on Tsekama, Marinda and her team go above and beyond to make your dream day a reality. As Tsekama has hosted many weddings before us -Marinda and her team is a well-oiled machine. They do the catering, supply the flowers and décor, and DJ and can even bake your wedding cake if you require it. There are ample suites in which the Bridal party can get ready in, which provide beautifully rustic backgrounds for photos. When it came to décor, Marinda has more than 2 shipping containers full of décor - I had no need to buy anything, there was some many options to choose from. The easiest for me was to email ideas of what I would like the table settings to look like and how I think the chapel should be made up - and Marinda and her team brought the vision to life.

# What was your colour scheme and theme? Navy, Charcoal and White

riary, enareear and rime

Who did your hair and makeup?

Make-up Artist: Odette Bukowski Hair: Herman @ Studio H





#### What was your food like?

The food was to die for – I have never received so many compliments with regards to catering.

After the Ceremony we were treated to a Harvest table, filled with freshly baked breads, homemade pate's and jams, cold meats, biltong, dry wors, biscuits, cheeses etc and sherry. The main course was the traditional leg of lamb and a chicken pie, served with roast vegetables, roasted potatoes, pampoenkoekies, and with a selection of salads – there was so much food!!!! The dessert table was a selection of freshly baked cakes – that did not go to waste. Everyone just wants to know where they can order the cheese cake and coffee meringue cake.

# What was your favorite part of your big day?

The whole wedding planning experience for me was super stressful – especially because of COVID. But as our special day finally arrived, there was a calmness that filled the day and everything was perfect. Apart from walking down the aisle and seeing that there was not a dry eye in the chapel as everyone could not believe we are finally saying "I DO" after 3 years' waiting - there was a moment in the reception hall were Gustav and I got a moment to ourselves, were we just stood in silence to look around the room and take in the moment – everyone around us was so happy and did not have a care in the world. Everything just came together nicely.

The guests thoroughly enjoyed the Caricaturist we arranged for the day to draw each couple/family as our wedding favour for each guest.

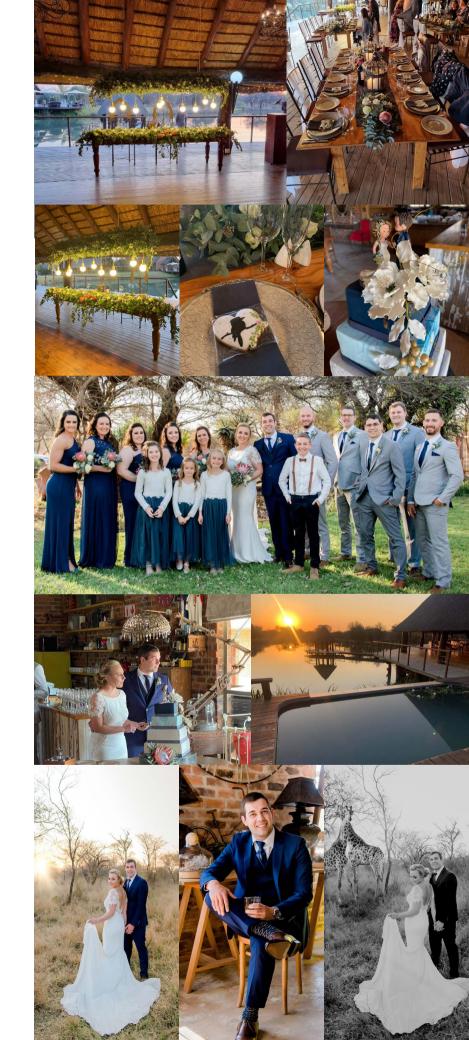
#### Who were your photographers?

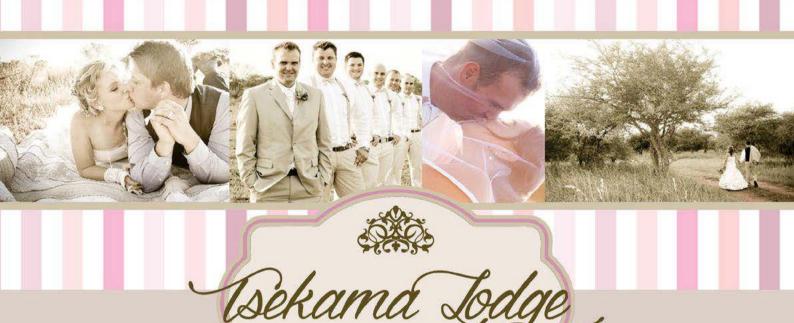
Rianka and Floris Conradie from Rianka's Wedding Photography (Krugersdorp). This couple is exceptional. They have done both our engagement shoots – as we adored our 1st shoot so much, we arranged for a 2nd one the following year as their pictures truly tells a story – and they allowed us to have our fur babies in our shoots as well <3! I will recommend them whole heartedly!

#### Any wedding day advice?

Coming from someone that is a serious planner and doesn't cope without having everything checked of her list – there will be things that you miss – so try to delegate tasks to someone you trust and knows you well enough. Keep your wedding party small and guest list intimate (quality over quantity) – it does save you a lot of trouble and sleepless nights! The day goes by so fast – make sure to have a moment with each guest. A great DJ can also help getting the crowd to their feet and everyone have a blast together. I can not recall that there was not one single person that did not dance with us at our reception. The celebration went well into the next morning.

We would not change a thing of how our day turned out – we had the most magical time with the people that mattered the most!!





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Wedding and conference venue















Relax while our team take care of
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We understand the dreams and wishes of every bride and groom,
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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











The essence of a farm wedding is the opportunity to say your vows in the beauty and tranquility of the countryside. Dullstroom Country Weddings offers 5 beautiful and unique options for you to choose from.

We have a stunning waterfall. The bride and groom, under an arch of ivy and roses, have the waterfall behind them and the pine forest around them. The ceremony spot is lawned and in keeping with the environment we have solid oak benches, with cushions, for the guests.

The second ceremony option is set amongst 200 year old oak trees. The bridal party makes their way through a "tunnel" of "skaapappel" trees, opening into the forest of oaks with the hessian runner leading to the alter.

A third option offers a different ambiance and is our ceremony spot in the large blue gum forest. These majestic trees are on the edge of a precipice that falls away to a valley and dams, offering spectacular views. Our last outdoor ceremony spot option offers you getting married on the banks of one of our dams, with the simmering water as a backdrop.

Our final option, and our only indoor option is our picturesque chapel— a beautiful old stone building, originally a farmyard barn, overlooking our pretty duck pond. Each location has a uniquely beautiful setting for the canapes, while the wedding photos are being taken

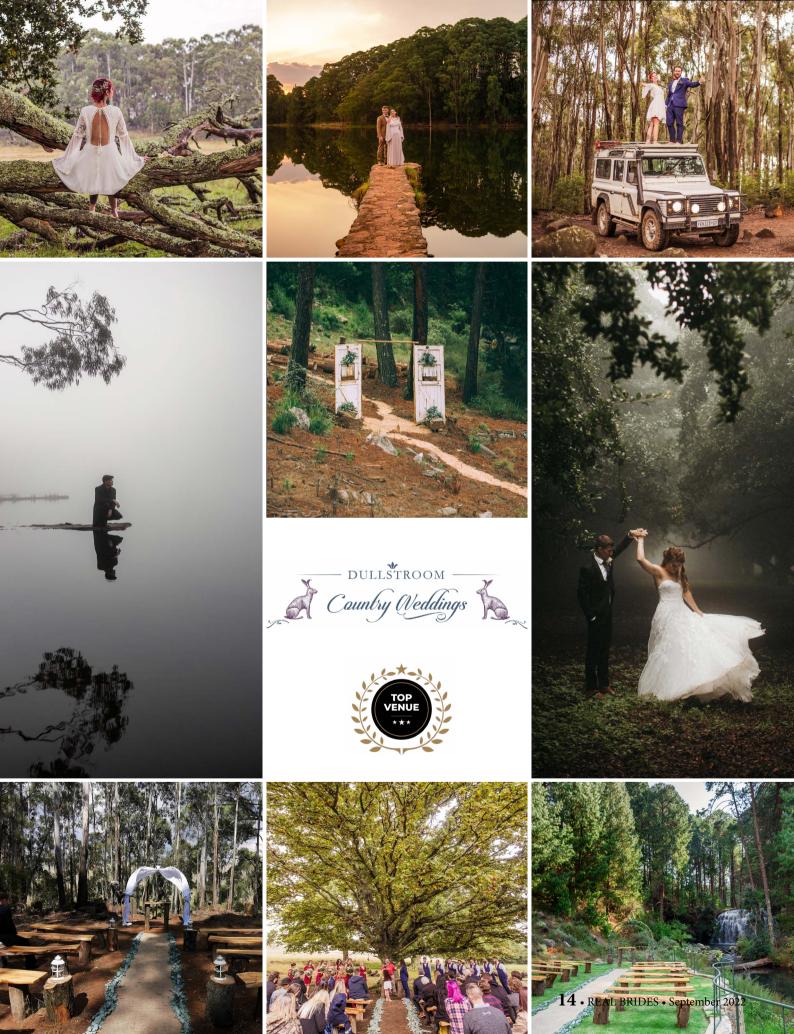


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Dullstroom Country Cottages offers accommodation on the farm which means the wedding group, family and close friends can fully enjoy the peace and beauty of the dams, forests and mountains for the entire wedding weekend. It also means that they never have to travel far for the celebrations.

We have beautifully appointed cottages that are located to maximize the views, either overlooking our dams, the surrounding farmlands or in the case of "Picnic" cottage, a stunning waterfall. All the cottages are self catering with a braai area outside, a fireplace inside and are serviced daily.

For their wedding night we have the "Honeymoon Suite" cottage – a delightful, one-bedroom cottage nestled in the forest and overlooking a valley and dam – a wonderful culmination to their "once in a lifetime" day.



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## RECEPTION AREA WITH WONDERFUL VIEWS

The final celebration of this magical day all happens in the reception area. We offer a room that on one side has fully opening sliding/folding doors onto a timber deck, overlooking a valley with two dams and a gum forest.

The opposite side of the room has sliding folding doors onto the garden, with extensive lawn, flower beds and oak trees.

The timber ceiling, with exposed beams, are tastefully decorated with fairy lights but for the rest, the room lends itself beautifully to your own interpretation of what a wedding "celebration" should look like.

We have round or rectangular tables with "tiffany" chairs, a wood burning fireplace giving a lovely ambiance, plus two closed combustion fireplaces for those chilly Dullstroom nights.

We have an in-house chef who will create a delicious personalized menu to suit your requirements. Her scrumptious canapes are the perfect filler before the equally tasty main meal.

Our in-house decor is extensive and includes the most elegant glassware, vases, candlesticks etc and for the more rustic look we have timber slice "underplates" and succulents.























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# DRESS HIRE

# and Photography all inclusive

# LAUNCH

Neon Productions Dress Hire has launched! We are so excited and cannot wait to meet all you beautiful ladies!!

We recently bought the business over from Beauty and the Bump after years of collaborating on photoshoots! It was time to expand Neon Productions into offering more to our valued clients, by having a one-stop-shop. By having a single source supplier that offers professional photography and dress hire in one all-inclusive package.

Our stunning locally designed and made dresses are fashioned with imported material. The style and fabric flow beautifully and compliment all body shapes.

We cater for sizes 6-16 and will be adding more sizes soon.

When you come for your fitting before your photoshoot you also get to choose a flower or Diamante crown, all included in the cost.

# LAUNCH SPECIAL R550, DRESS HIRE ONLY



Our dresses are not limited to maternity photoshoots only. They can also be hired for new-born sessions, baby showers, bridal showers, engagements and events.

Photography and Dress Hire all inclusive.

Neon Productions offers packages, from Maternity to new-borns all the way to Cake Smashes and Events. Book your photoshoot including Dress hire today! Specials can be found on our website, Facebook and Instagram pages. Packages start at R1450!



# CONTACT US TODAY

Whatsapp 082 772 8980 or Email morgan@neonproductions.co.za Www.neonproductions.co.za Studio based in Randburg





# 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.

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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 ♥



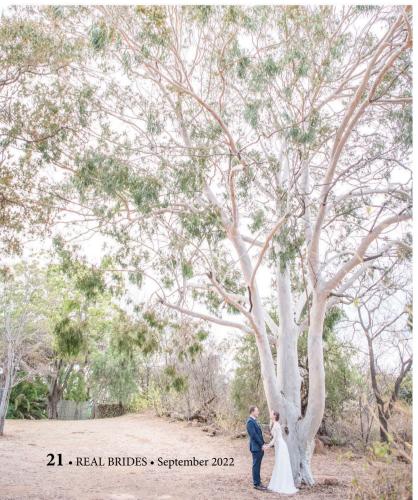
- Outdoor Experience in our tranquil lush gardens or Indoor Experience in our quaint Chapel / VIP Venue against the Bronberg Mountain (weather permitted)
- Bohemian Flowers & Décor for your Ceremony and Reception Area
- Full Wedding Planning and Coordination Included
- Service Staff (Waiters & Barmen)
- 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 ♥



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- 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 / lx Main / lx 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
- 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



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# AT ITS BEST ♥

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- 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
- 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 (Ix Starter / Ix Main / Ix Dessert)
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- Picturesque Gardens with Water Features and lots of Photo Opportunities



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# KYLA & MATTHEW LAWTHER



Classic elegance and leather jackets!

## Tell us about your love story?

We met in a club on a cruise ship to the Portuguese Islands! It was my matric vac, I was on the cruise with a group of friends, he just happened to be on the cruise with his family on December vacation. After the cruise I went away to the Western Cape on vacation and he went to Jeffrey's bay. A few months in Cape Town and I couldn't get him off my mind, seems he felt the same way! He asked me to make it exclusive and so we did long distance for 4 years while I studied in Cape Town! Only seeing each other every 3 months or so. After I returned from Cape Town we were basically inseparable!

#### How and when did he propose?

December of 2020 we went to Knysna. This was midcovid pandemic and the beaches had been banned/ closed. We knew of a small private beach at Brentonon-Sea so he took me for a sunset picnic there (so illegal but all the more fun!). Our romantic picnic was interrupted about 3 times by random beach-goers but eventually we had a moment alone, took a stroll by the water, and he popped the question!

## Tell us about your stunning dress?

I had an idea about wanting a loose flowing dress with some beautiful lace, straps, etc. My sister organized for a fitting at Timeless Bridal Couture saying that I had to at least experience it, even if we didn't have the budget for the dresses they had. We went, I tried on SO MANY dresses, some I liked, some I hated and only 1 did I absolutely LOVE.

## Why did you choose your venue?

My sister was helping us plan the wedding and assisted us with booking viewings and budget planning. She did all the inquiries on my behalf and all that was left for me to do (other than initially giving her a list of venues to enquire at) was to view them. So we (my husband, my sister and myself) went on 2 separate Saturdays and looked at about 5 different venues, 1 of them was way out of budget, the others only mildly impressed us, but as we drove through the gates at Lace on Timber all 3 of us had the same jaw-dropping, amazed expressions and we basically all 3 knew then and there before even looking at all





the offerings that that was going to be the venue. The grounds are absolutely breathtaking. Bonus points for falling in budget and having the perfect date available!

#### What food did you have?

We chose a harvest table for canapés, provided by the venue. The canapés were AMAZING and the venue is thoughtful enough to provide extra canapés for the couple as well, where we were taking photos. For starters we chose the Wild Mushroom Arancini which was amazing, we chose the Lamb Shank as our mains and they had a variety of small puddings in a jar available for dessert.

# What was your favorite part of your big day?

It's SO difficult to pick just one moment. I really enjoyed the girl time getting ready with my sisters. The couples photo session was probably close to being my favourite part because it was just so easy and intimate and basically some 'alone time' with my new husband. I really enjoyed the speeches as well, everyone spoke so well and created such a vibe of love. But I think the best part of the whole day was probably the romantic candle-lit bath that was set up for us in the bridal suite at the end of the evening, just a moment to relax, unwind and chat about the whole day with the love of my life!

#### Leather Jackets! How awesome! Tell us more?

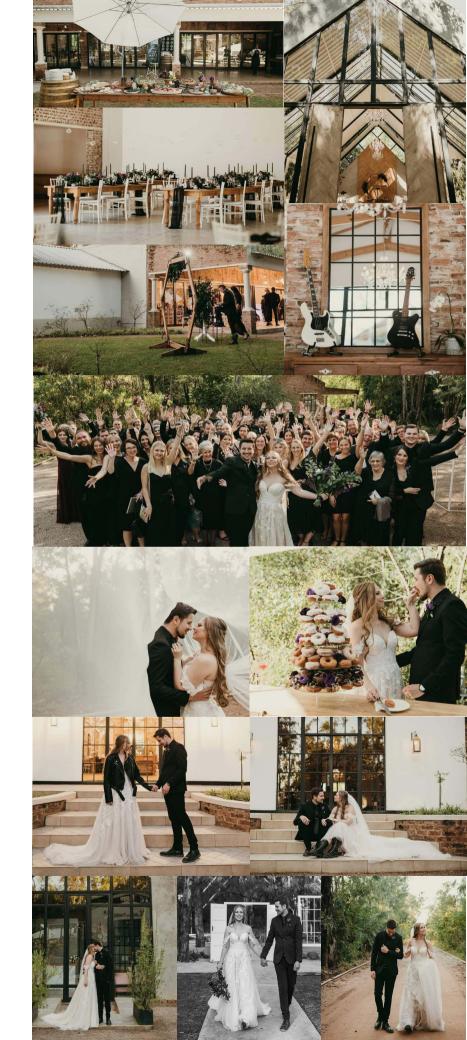
Matt and I are rock n roll lovers at heart and our love for punk and rock music as well as Harley Davidsons and the Sons of Anarchy series is part of what drew us to each other. My leather jacket is a staple part of my wardrobe and I have about 5 leather jackets in different colours. We wanted to do something fun for the photos and from the start I thought: LEATHER JACKETS! Throughout the whole process of wedding planning it never became a serious idea though, until the day before the wedding I told Matt we HAVE to get them. So we spent the day looking for affordable leather jackets in the right sizes and eventually found them! The same mentality is what made me decide to wear my Dr. Marten combat boots as my shoes for the wedding! And to use electric guitars as our 'guest book' for guests to sign.

# Who were your photographers?

Our photographer was Elsabe and videographer was Sebastian, both from Mighty Fine. They were both so amazing, helpful and gave great advice as well as made us feel super comfortable during the whole process. They were the quintessential professionals, would 100% recommend them.

# Any pre-wedding day advice?

Lists are really helpful, having a set timeline in advance is really helpful and talking to other recent brides about their day (what was good, what was a disaster) also really helped!







### A DREAM WEDDING VENUE

Vredenburg Manor House is a top four-Star Guest House, set in the heart of the Cape Winelands – the perfect setting for your dream wedding.

At Vredenburg you can have a true Cape-Dutch styled wedding on a spectacular 17th century estate, in the heart of the Winelands, surrounded by lush gardens and breathtakingly beautiful mountains. This beautiful, tranquil location is bound to turn any wedding into what dreams are made of. The carefully manicured gardens are big enough to cater for an intimate gathering or a large party up to 250 people. Carefully manicured gardens, flowing lawns and massive oak trees provide the perfect back drop for a picturesque garden

wedding and stunning photo sessions. Our refurbished original rustic barn with high exposed wooden beams can be transformed into a fabulous air-conditioned dinner hall or a dance floor. The massive wooden barn doors add to the nostalgic feel and can be closed for a cosier winter function or swung wide open for those balmy summer nights.

We offer a full in-house service. Set-up and Break-Down, Waiter and Bar Staff, Catering, Décor, Flowers and On-the-day coordination. We are more than willing to assist with providing preferred suppliers for music, photography, hair & makeup, guest entertainment etc. Book an appointment to meet our creative team, and will tailor make a package for you, should one of our standard packages not suit your exact needs. This venue is a designer's dream because the style is eclectic and lends itself to any theme or direction, wherever your mind may wonder.

Tel: +27 21 842 3264 • Cell: +27 61 725 9120 eMail: info@vredenburgmanor.co.za • Website: www.vredenburgmanor.com











# TOP CLASS ACCOMMODATION

At Vredenburg we have high quality upmarket accommodation available. This Cape Dutch style guest house offers five spacious rooms and two cottages. Offering seven exquisitely decorated rooms with all the creature comforts of modern day living, the guest house gives you the feel of old world charm.

All 3 Deluxe Double Rooms are spacious suites with living room areas. Two are situated on the top floor with spectacular mountain / garden views. One of the rooms are situated on the Ground floor with its own entrance onto the verandah, overlooking the pool. The in-room amenities include satellite TV, courtesy-bar, a safe, a tea / coffee station with selection of teas and an Espresso machine. Each room offers a modern ensuite bathroom equipped with hairdryer, international razor plugs and exquisite bath amenities.

The two Classic Rooms enjoy mountain and / or garden views. Inroom amenities include satellite TV, underfloor heating and a safe, a tea / coffee station with selection of teas and an Espresso machine. Each room has an ensuite bathroom with a hairdryer, international razor plug and an array of exclusive bath amenities.

The two, open-plan one-bedroom cottages are stylishly decorated, each with a fully equipped kitchen, private garden with barbeque facilities, ensuite with bath and shower facilities, DStv and are pet friendly, by management approval only! They are secure and totally private, separately situated away from the main house. Both cottages are fully equipped with a fully fitted modern kitchen, thus giving you the opportunity to book the cottages as self-catering or bed and breakfast.

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# SPECTACULAR SURROUNDINGS

In addition, Vredenburg Manor House features an exotic garden, watered by borehole and greywater, and an outdoor swimming pool with lots of space to soak up the sun and enjoy a view of the Hottentot's Holland Mountain Range.

Situated between Stellenbosch and Somerset West, the historic property is close to a variety of restaurants and bars. Dinner, packed lunches and special diet menus are available on request and can be served in beautiful surroundings or next to a cosy fire place.

Other activities to be enjoyed includes hiking, wine tasting, mountain biking, and diving in the nearby surrounding areas. A bicycle rental service and free secure parking is available. Shuttle services are available at an extra surcharge.

Nominated by two leading booking portals, as the second-best establishment in Somerset West and Stellenbosch, Vredenburg Manor House is located on Winery Road, Somerset West, just 30 kilometres from the Cape Town International airport.

Contact us and come and see Vredenburg Manor House in all its splendour for yourself.

Tel: +27 21 842 3264 • Cell: +27 61 725 9120 eMail: info@vredenburgmanor.co.za • Website: www.vredenburgmanor.com































GUESTHOUSE, CONFERENCE AND FUNCTION VENUE

MANOR · HOUSE

Contact us – Vredenburg Manor House, Winery Road, Somerset West

Tel: +27 21 842 3264 • Cell: +27 61 725 9120

eMail: info@vredenburgmanor.co.za



# Annette Stewart





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1st Floor Pharos House Buckingham Terrace Westville



1st Floor Liberty Life Building Umhlanga Rocks

# ANTENUPTIAL CONTRACTS

# What You Need To Know

"An Antenuptial contract sets out the manner in which your property is dealt with in the event that a marriage comes to an end through death or divorce."

In South Africa, we have three types of marriage regimes, being married in community of property, being married out of community of property with the inclusion of the accrual and being married out of community of property with the express exclusion of the accrual system.

# What are the legal consequences of the different marital regimes?

- a) Antenuptial contract with the inclusion of the accrual system
  - the two parties remain separate legal entities and may contract in their individual capacities;
  - you are not liable for the debts incurred by your spouse;
  - you both share equally in the growth of your estates from the time you get married, you share what you have built up together and
  - if you have a wealthy estate before marriage, you can exclude it specifically from the accrual.

- b) Antenuptial contract with the exclusion of the accrual system
  - The two parties remain separate legal entities and may contract in their individual capacities:
  - you are not liable for the debts incurred by your spouse;
  - you do not share in the growth of your spouse's estate.
- c) Marriage in community of property
  - everything the couple owns, and all their debts and assets are shared equally;
  - the property of each party automatically becomes the property of both parties and forms a part of the joint estate;
  - in the event of death or divorce, both parties will be entitled to their half share of the assets and liable for the half share of all debts.

We look forward to drafting your tailormade contract for you!

Annette Stewart has two degrees in Law and two degrees in Psychology and have been a runner up in Africa's Most Influential Business Women on two occasions. I am the first female legal practitioner whose practice is virtual with all my ladies working from home, which enables business sustainability. I believe we all have an obligation to make a difference.

I have been fortunate in receiving the following awards

Most influential Business Woman In Africa: 2014 Finalist • 2015 Runner-Up
• Most Successful Law Practice in South Africa awarded by the MEA 2017 •
Nominated as a finalist in Acquisition International in the category Legal Awards
2020 • Most innovated Modern Women Driven Practice in South Africa











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.





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"!



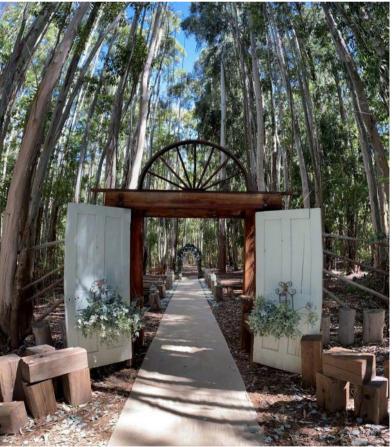


















# ASHTON & KYLE PEARSON



Something old, something new, something borrowed and Something Blue!

### When and how did you and Kyle meet?

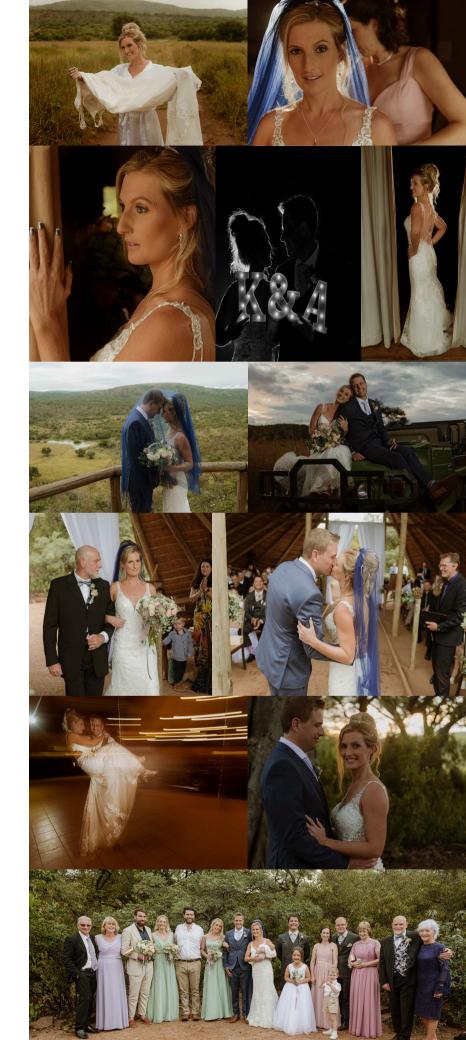
Our adventure starts in 2007 when we met on Umhlanga matric vacation. Here, with 'Girlfriend' playing, Kyle and I interacted on a bus. Once his friends noticed my interest in him, they conjured up a believable lie about him having been dumped! I used this opportunity! We had drinks in Ballito and, whilst walking, our fingers interlocked! We exchanged numbers and had only two dates before The Pearson couple was official! As our timeline started on 18 December 2007, so 2022 is a big year for us – 15 years and our wedding!

### How did he propose?

We originally discussed our plans in 2012; when Kyle raised 'marriage'. I was not ready but thankful he was prepared to wait. I had always hinted that, if possible, I would like to design my own ring. After discussions. in June 2020, we co-designed my engagement ring; which incorporates both our birth stones on a two twirl coming together to one diamond with an infinity symbol on the ring underside. Following the design approval, I was expecting the proposal soon. We, and some of our family members, went away to Bush Trail Environmental Centre in August 2020. As we had not yet discussed the ring with ANYONE (barring my father to whom Kyle had spoken), no-one was aware of Mr P's plans. The families left on Sunday, 23rd. On Monday, we picnicked at the farm stream. Here, we sat, opened our drinks and Kyle reached into his pocket whilst politely telling me to please stand. Next, he knelt, I looked pleasingly surprised at him - 'Are you doing funny business?'. We both giggled and he gave his romantic shpeel. I was so excited to see the ring and shouted 'Yes yes, whatever....can I have the box!!!' The proposal was simple and romantic!

### Tell us about you blue veil?

A controversial topic! Our theme was intended to compliment bushveld colours - we would represent the sky, whilst our bridal party and parents' outfits would resemble the pastel colours of a typical African sunset - soft and pale! My jewellery was custom-designed with hints of blue, to match Kyle's suit. I wanted a vastly different statement item to the conventional 'bridal outfit'....so came about a custom-made colour veil!





### What was your favourite part of your big day?

As the wedding planning was long, so we felt that everything was as well organized as possible. Unfortunately, the night before the wedding taught me that you cannot control everything, especially the weather – it POURED! Hence, the slight drizzle and overcast start to our day made, the later, beautiful colours that streamed through the clouds and lifting mist; a beautiful sight with a stunning African mountainous grassland backdrop! As cliched as it is, the aisle walk is heart-wrenching! The powerful effect of personally chosen music made for an emotional moment. Vocalising the vows and sealing these into our personalized winebox was so real!

### What was your colour scheme and theme?

Our theme was Shakespearean rustic romantic with pastel colours, delicate florals, succulents, wood and subtle decor. The dominant colours were dusty rose and sage green; which were used throughout décor and bridal party wear. We did our engagement shoot in these colours too!

### Tell us more about your food?

Our venue only provides a buffet option. We opted for sliced wraps and crostinis with a gin and beer bar for canapes. We had fig and camembert phyllo parcels, salads, vegetables, potatoes, roast meats and, in true South African style, peppermint crisp tart and malva pudding with Amarula custard! We placed bottles of the same wine as that in our wedding winebox, on each table.

### Why did you choose your venue, and what was your favourite part of the venue?

Kyle and I love the bush! Hence, we chose a wedding under the African skies at an affordable venue close enough for our guests. We loved that the venue was booked exclusively for us for the weekend! The venue hire fee, children entertainment options and the low accommodation costs were big drawcards! We had much family time, no-one needed to drive whilst there, and everything was easily accessible. The picturesque scenery made for stunning photos! It was a bonus that the farm next door provided more accommodation! The Kuthaba staff, their assistance and organization skills made communication with the venue, a pleasure! Our supply team were fantastic; meaning everything ran smoothly.

### Any advice for brides to be?

Prioritise your budget according to what is important to you as a couple – budget planners are not rulebooks! Throughout the many emotions, remember the end goal and embrace the whole experience. There are certain things you cannot control! If you have planned thoroughly, do not blame yourself for being underprepared. Don't expect your wedding to be equally important to everyone else. Ensure your bridal party and parents are well-informed of all plans. Allocate and DISCUSS roles and duties thoughtfully and thoroughly. Thank your bridal party and show them gratitude. Be thorough in your acknowledgments of all family members, service providers and people who have assisted you.













### MAKING YOUR DREAM WEDDING A REALITY

Oakfield Farm located in Muldersdrift is easily accessible from both Pretoria & Johannesburg and just a stones throw from Krugersdorp.

Established in 1991, the property is filled with history, from the Dairy Venue built by Italian prisoners of war in 1940, to the majestic Oak tree that served as stop point for the Voortrekkers before crossing the Juksei River when in flood. It sadly fell after a thunderstorm but pieces of the old trunk can still be seen where it fell in the garden.

The Conservatory Chapel was an old chicken run that was later converted to an orchid growing room by the original farm owner Mrs. Harrison, whom grew price winning orchids.

With all the history and the original farming background, Oakfield Farm ensured to retain as much of the old farm as possible. Nguni cows & horses graze the fields with geese & guinea-fowl foraging on the lawns.

At Oakfield Farm boosts 3 unique venues catering for every taste.

The HOMESTEAD venue paired with the FOREST CHAPEL is the choice venue for many magical celebrity weddings. The Homestead is a hidden gem tucked away in an enchanted indigenous forest. With the addition of fire places in the winter the Homestead offers a comfortable venue to celebrate with plenty of family & friends allowing up to 350 guests.

The SUMMERHOUSE venue paired with the CONSERVATORY CHAPEL is an intimate fusion of contemporary glass architecture set in a English country garden. The Summerhouse is a favorite due to the unique look of the venue. Crackling fires in the winter gives the venue a distinctive feel. Easily accommodating 120 or more of your closest family & friends.

The historic DAIRY venue paired with the DAIRY CHAPEL is a lovely old venue offering magnificent sunsets and is surrounded by expansive golden fields. The perfect venue for intimate gatherings of less than 120 guests.



Email: info@oakfield.co.za Call: (011) 933 3464

Address: 240 Beyers Naude @ Oakfield Farm road Muldersdrift | Gauteng GPS Co-ordinates: Latitude: 26\*2'5.05"S Longitude 27\*52'26.42"E



























Oakfield Farm is the ideal venue for those looking for a fresh approach to their exhibition, company presentation, product launch, team building, conference, matric farewell or annual function. We place great emphasis on the provision of specialised facilities, skilled and enthusiastic staff and a measure of freedom and creativity essential to the success of your function.

In-house coordination and outstanding event management enable the client to meet specific objectives cost effectively and with minimum fuss.

As the seasons come and go our dishes change with the flavors and colors of our environment. We source high quality ingredients that are always freshly prepared. Create your own special menu to delight your guests and suit your budget.

Our friendly family of staff know that no celebration is complete without great food, brilliant service and at Oakfield Farm your wedding cuisine will be a feast to remember!

Upon booking your event you will meet your dedicated sales coordinator whom will assist you with all aspects of the budget and provide you a list of preferred suppliers, tried and tested at Oakfield Farm for you to select from. Your most welcome to bring in your own suppliers, but the preferred partners list makes looking for the perfect suppliers, just that little easier. A detailed check-list will ensure that nothing is overlooked. This all comes together 2 weeks before the big day where we introduce you to your own dedicated function coordinator and Maitre'd whom will look after every aspect of the big day. From welcoming the bride to ushering the guest into the chapel, your day is taken care off.

### Bridal Expo hosted at Oakfield Farm

Apart from amazing weddings and gatherings Oakfield Farm also host the BRIDAL EXPO twice a year on the last weekend in January and last weekend in June.

This brings hundreds of TOP WEDDING SPECIALISTS together in one spot for each couple to have their pick of the best and plan the perfect celebration.

With amazing prices, give-aways and stunning live events, the BRIDAL EXPO hosted at OAKFIELD FARM is a event not to be missed.





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Our three venues are also each paired with a dressing room for the bride and a suite for the groom. Once the groom is accompanied to the chapel the suite is refreshed for the couple for the evening.

### Guesthouse

Please inquire about our Guesthouse for your guests who are looking to stay over for your wedding day. The guesthouse which is particularly suitable for groups of between 8 and 12, be it the family of the bridal couple or a corporate booking. Situated in the original Pear Orchard of the farm, the Guesthouse has 3 twin rooms with 2 shared bathrooms and 1 en-suite double room. The loft with 2 single beds and 2 "pull-out" beds is perfect for children or young adults.

Maximum of 12 guests

### Suites & Dressing Rooms

Our farm style accommodation, with its crisp white linen, fluffy towels in combination with tastefully decorated homely furnishings giving you that "home away from home" experience.

### The Oak Suite

Nothing will prepare you for the glass covered bathroom and comfort of the Oak Suite.

Air-conditioned

En-suite bathroom, with al fresco showers King size bed with sumptuous bedding Mini bar and a tea/coffee station

### The Rose Cottage

The Rose Cottage is the ideal romantic getaway and the name says it all.

Air-conditioned

En-suite bathroom, with al fresco showers King size bed with sumptuous bedding Mini bar and a tea/coffee station

### Nguni Suite

The ideal suite to escape, relax & enjoy the beautifully manicured gardens.

Air-conditioned

En-suite bathroom, with al fresco showers King size bed with sumptuous bedding Mini bar and a tea/coffee station

### Office Hours

Viewing can be arranged, by appointment only, Tuesday to Sunday.

Weekdays between 08h00 - 16h00 Saturdays between 09h00 - 13h00, Sun/PH at 10h00 - 13h00





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### Make lasting memories in our 3 exquisite venue and luscious gardens.

Jasmine Hills Country Venue is a refreshing country side venue of distinction, perfect for every occasion any time of the year.

Situated a mere 12km from the South Gate Shopping Center on the R82 (Old Vereeniging Road) south of Johannesburg.

This elegant venue has an African feel complemented by magnificent views of Johannesburg; picturesque gardens ideal for photos; exceptional cuisine and friendly staff.

We cater for any special occasion, including weddings, matric dances, year end functions, conferences and lots more. We also have the option of having your event indoors or outdoors (weather permitting).

### The venue boast 2 exquisite halls and bridal change room.

The rose venue 350 guests

Jasmine venue 400 included is the lapa venue which seats another 150 guests

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Suraya – 084 460 0700 Kevin – 081 584 8777 Venue@jasminehills.co.za













### 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.

TOP VENUE 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.





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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 land-scaped 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.

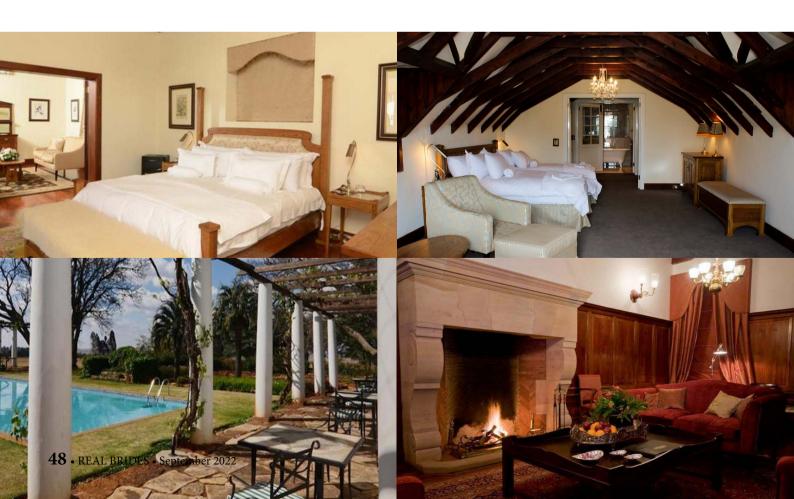
Welgelegen Manor is situated 30km south of Heidelberg, Gauteng. Please see our map for more information on the best possible routes from your side of the country, or contact us directly for assistance.





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# CHANELLE & JEANDRE' TERBLANCHE



Rain is good luck on your wedding day!

### Tell us how your love story started?

My husband and met at Church in 2013, we remained friends until 2015. Then in 2015 on the same day he asked me to his girlfriend and I asked him to my matric farewell date. Since then we have been high school sweethearts.

### How and when did he propose?

We love travelling. On 21 August 2019, we were in Mauritius at the Veranda Tamarin Hotel. After a day of rum tasting and adventuring around the island. We got back to the resort, Jeandre told me to get dressed up because we were going to take place in a dancing competition that night (never mind the fact that I cannot dance to save my life). He took me to a rooftop bar for sundowners that overlooked the ocean. His excuse was that we were having a few drinks to calm our nerves. The waiter brought my favorite drink, in my favorite color. We sat down and spoke about how ridiculous my dance moves were going to be. The next thing I knew he gets up and goes down to one knee, truth be told I cannot remember a single thing he said – All I remember is saying yes and smilling at how cute and nervous he was to ask me to marry him.

### We love your wedding cake and cupcakes! Tell us more!

My Mother in laws best friend (Friends who gather at 5th coffee & cakery) baked our wedding cake. We loved the idea of having a small cake just for the two of us to keep for our one-year wedding anniversary (but that did not last long, it was finished the very next day). However, the cake, cupcakes and color were all chosen by my phenomenal husband. We had a mixture of vanilla cupcakes (Jeandre's favorite) and chocolate cupcakes (my favorite). The roses were added in because of my obsession with Disney – it reminded us of Beauty & The Beast.

### What was your favorite part of your big day?

Chanelle: Walking down the aisle to "I choose you" by Ryan Darling and seeing Jeandre standing there waiting for me. I cried the whole way down. Seeing him waiting for me at the end with tears in his eyes and a massive smile on his face, was just the best feeling ever. Everyone always tells you that no matter what your wedding day will be a fairytale, I did not believe it, until I saw him there. #OnceUponATeblanche

Jeandre: Our first dance, dancing to "Kom le my neer" by Appel. Having the first dance with her as my wife was an amazing feeling.



"You are marrying the love of your life - a marriage, a union with the person you love the most." Venue: Bell and Blossom wedding venue Dress: Bride and Co Hair and makeup: Bianca hair and makeup artistry Photography: Pelser photography DJ: Kilowatt productions Wedding cake: Friends gather at 5th coffee and Cakery Wedding favors & decor: Jolene Zietsman Personalized gifts Wedding pajamas: Pretty creations

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### What was your color scheme and theme?

Our theme was based on Disney (because I am absolutely obsessed with Disney movies). We based our day off of Once Upon a Time and so #OnceUponATerblanche was born. Our color scheme was black, white and greenery. We really want a rustic touch to our wedding as well, and these colors went beautifully with the venue.

### Why did you choose your venue?

Bell and Blossom was the third wedding venue we looked at. As soon as we saw the glass chapel, and beautiful garden. We knew that it was the venue for us. My husband wanted a rustic wooden themed venue and I wanted a fairy light fairy tale wedding, and this was a beautiful mixture of what we both envisioned. I must thank Bell and Blossom for their outstanding service. The wedding venue was stunning, the wedding planner was fantastic and all the staff were professional, well mannered, helpful and oh so happy for us!

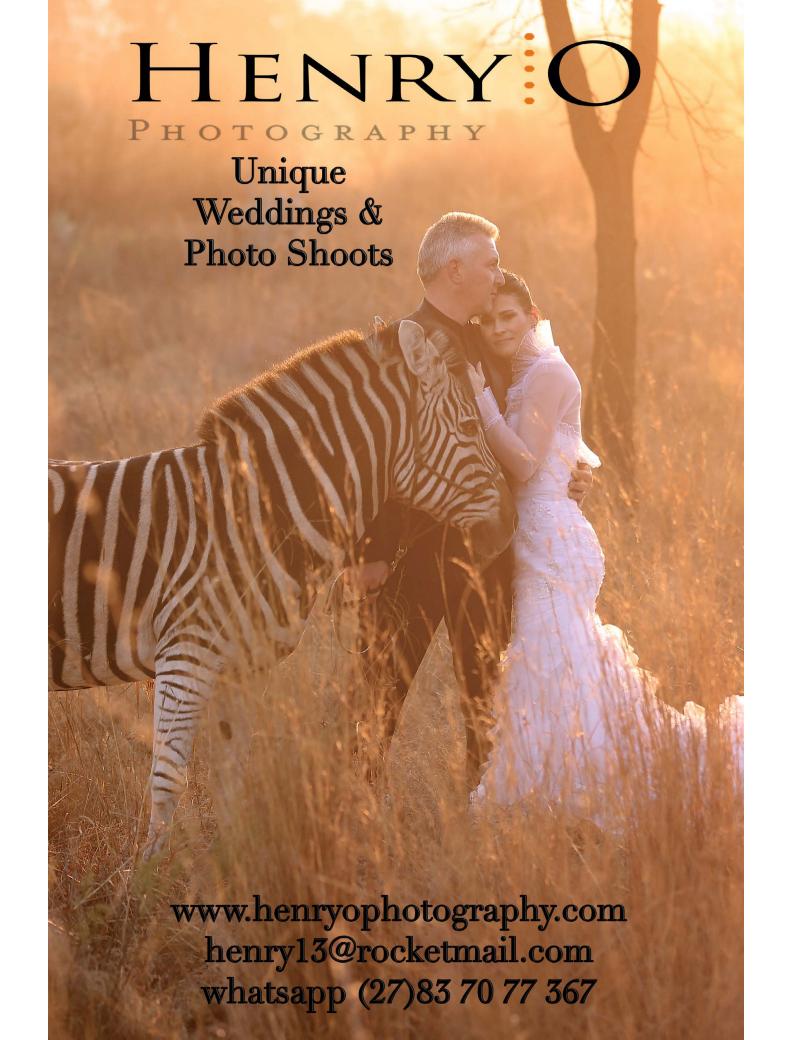
### Who took your beautiful photos?

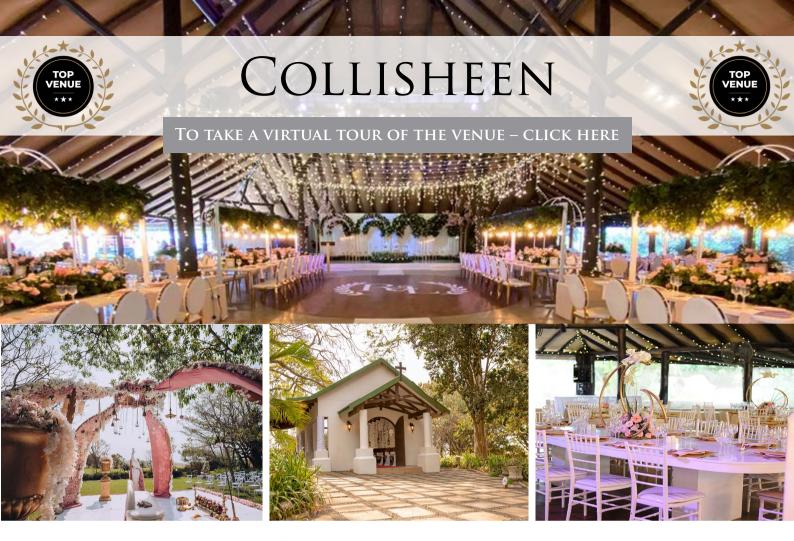
Nici Pelser from Pelser Photography took our stunning wedding photos. Nici is a wonderful man and truly a professional in his field. He was instantly able to put us at ease, and capture some amazing photographs. I will treasure them forever. I simply cannot recommend him enough! Our wedding day came with different challenges such as weather changes and a sudden case of not feeling very well. However, you would never be able to tell when you look at the pictures!! He has a great eye for photos and attention to detail. We also did a night shoot and the way that Nici plays with light is spectacular! I highly recommend him!

### Any advice for brides to be?

Countless people told me that there would be things that would go wrong on your wedding - and boy were they right! But I believe it is important that getting married is more than just a wedding, so what if it rains? So what if you a little sick on your wedding day? You are marrying the love of your life - a marriage, a union with the person you love the most. Keeping in mind that at the end of the day, you are spending the rest of your life with the love of your life - that's the most important thing. A bible scripture I also recommend is 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.









Just thirty minutes from central Durban and an arm's length from Ballito, Collisheen offers a perfect venue for weddings and functions.

We cater for everything including conferences, banquets, launches, exhibitions, meetings, corporate training and events.

Two venues complete with our private chapels, beautiful gardens, bridal salon and outdoor arena with water feature and landscaped gardens, make this the perfect venue for stylish weddings.

Over the last 20 years, Collisheen Estate has earned through top class service and a high level of professionalism, an outstanding reputation as a weddings and functions venue.

Our functions venue facilities are very flexible so please feel free to ask us should you have any special requests.

Collisheen has a bed & breakfast on the premises, and we are close to an extensive range of accommodation – from luxury country hotels to bed & breakfasts and self-catering facilities, should your guests want to stay over.



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Located on a sugar farm and set amongst magnificent old trees, the estate offers private function facilities that are exclusively yours for your special day.

Panoramic views of undulating sugar fields are complemented by the warm "family" hospitality of the staff at the estate – making this a private function facility like no other.

This wedding venue will have your guests in awe at the surrounding beauty and tranquillity and is sure to make your special day one to remember.

Orchid House is a 150 square meter open-sided building which can accommodate up to 140 guests with a dance floor – perfect for a more intimate wedding or function. The Venue overlooks the picturesque garden, which is full of fairy light wonder.

The Boma, our larger venue, is a 400 square metre open sided building which can accommodate up to 400 guests with a dance floor and a stage area, and is set in beautiful gardens which, at night, are transformed into a fairyland with lights in the trees and bridge.

A private chapel, water feature and dark wood poles, with tiled roof structure is surrounded by seemingly endless space

Collisheen Estate has two conference facilities that can accommodate between 20 and 400 delegates, depending on the seating configuration.

Our conference facility comes fully equipped with everything you need to make your conference run smoothly and efficiently. We aim to please in every way, and if our conference facility does not cater for some of your needs, please get in touch and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Collisheen Estate's bed & breakfast has been a welcome addition to the Collisheen family.

We have converted Douglas Liege & Zillah Hulett's original homestead into a three-room bed & breakfast, all en-suite. Loads of space and high ceilings are characteristic of homes built in the early 1900's and Collisheen is no different.





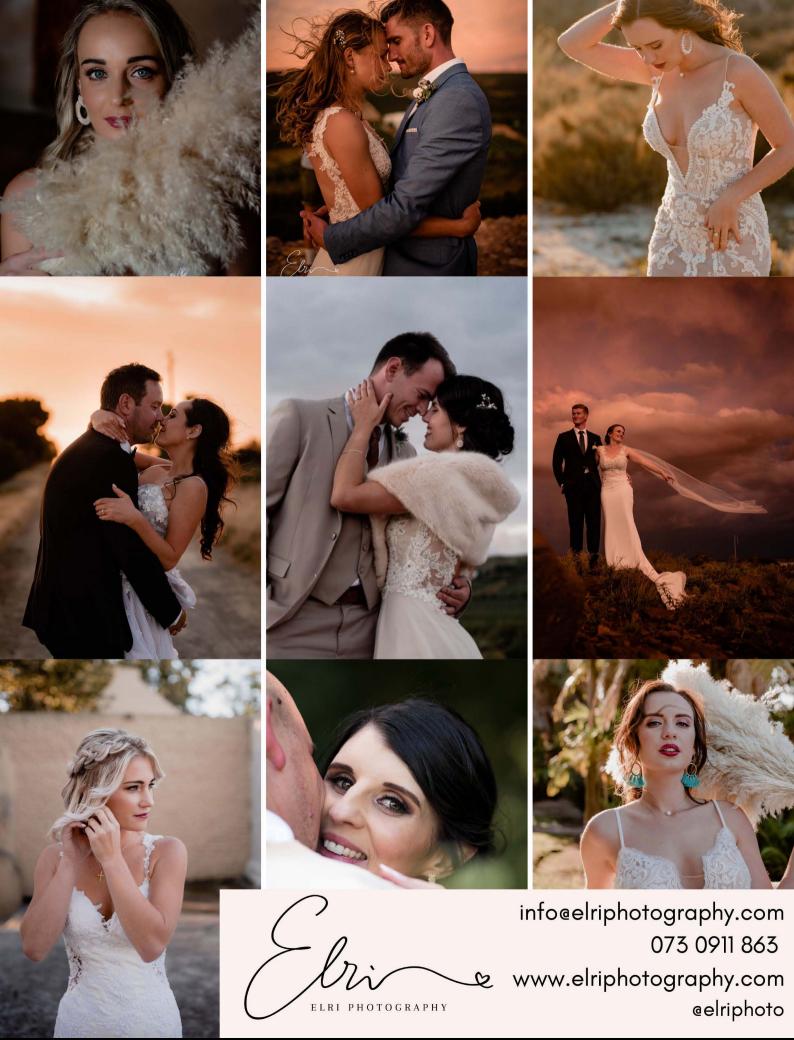
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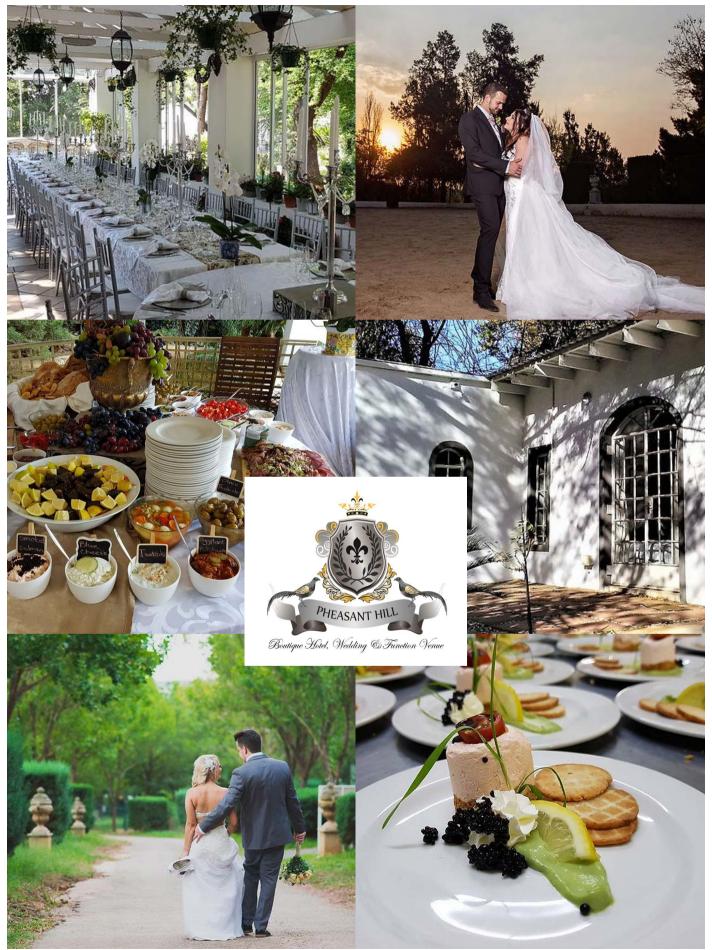




A little bit of French Provincial style in the heart of Gauteng – Pheasant Hill Boutique Hotel is set in lush, tranquil gardens and is a stone's throw away from the Rietvlei Nature Reserve and Dam.



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An elegant, stylish and versatile venue offering 22 fully equipped rooms, including a Honeymoon Suite, a lavish banquet hall, conservatory, conference rooms and terraced gardens, it's the ideal venue for an exclusive wedding, corporate event, conference, or weekend getaway.

The Outdoor Wedding Chapel with its breathtakingly beautiful gardens, serene resident swans and waterfowl is the ideal setting for a fairy tale wedding.

The Ile de France Banquet Hall with its elegant and unique French Style, can host up to 180 guests and is replete with 5-star catering by an award-winning chef.

Pheasant Hill boasts several spaces that can be used for different events – from garden weddings to High Teas or sunset cocktails - if you can imagine it; we can execute it.

Our in-house services include catering, music, flowers, decor, and gifts.

Our conferencing facilities can accommodate from 10 to 200 delegates and is fully equipped with the latest technology and free uncapped wi-fi. It is the ideal place to meet in a relaxed atmosphere close to the city.

Each room has been modernised and stylishly decorated for your comfort, with ten of the rooms having been converted from the original stables to retain their charm. Choose between a pool or garden facing room to revive your senses and make your stay unforgettable.

All the rooms are equipped with a bar fridge, TV, hair dryer and a coffee station.

For more information and to do an online quotation visit our

website: www.pheasanthill.co.za

Facebook: Pheasant hill wedding and function venue

Address: 39 Sterkfontein Avenue Doornkloof East, Irene, Pretoria

Contact: 0129411724

Cell: 0834590305





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### KIRSTEN & MATTHEW WILLS



### Rustic bush wedding at its finest!

### When and how did you and Matthew meet?

Matt and I first met when on a family holiday down the wild coast, I was 11 and he was 13, he was conveniently one of my cousins best friends, and still is to this day! We met again years later at the Mooi River country club and became friends, our friendship became more serious and I guess you can say the rest is history.

### How did he propose?

Wow our proposal, Matt always said he was going to catch me completely off guard, and that he did! I had been gardening all day when he came and asked if we should take our dogs for a walk, something we did almost every weekend so I wasn't suspicious. I hardly washed my hands, put my takkies on, still in my gardening/farm clothes and off we went. He timed it perfectly, when we came across the opening at the fig tree the sun was just setting with a table set with flowers and champers, when I turned around a little confused he popped the question, I will never live down what my grubby hands and nails looked like, but it was us and we still laugh about it!

### Tell us about you dress?

I always knew I wanted a dress with a halter neck or some variation of it. I tried on multiple dresses and fell in love with 2 dresses, the skirt of one and the top of another. Amy from Sposabella (she was amazing!) suggested I get in contact with Maryke and see if she was able to make me the Payton with my custom removable skirt. From our first meeting we clicked instantly, the sketch of what I had described took my breath away and I knew from that moment I had found my dream dress, I would literally do it all over again just to wear my dress again!

### Tell us about your bridesmaids and their hats?

My bride tribe consisted of my sister (MOH), a junior school friend, two high school friends and a friend I met while working when I first moved to pmb. I couldn't have asked for a better squad! I wanted to celebrate our bush wedding properly and I thought safari hats would bring my whole vision together. I also wanted my ladies to feel special and I thought the addition of a little prop would be a nice touch.



"I wanted to celebrate our bush wedding properly and I thought safari hats would bring my whole vision together"



### What was your colour scheme and theme?

The color scheme for our flowers was "bush sunset". The garden and flowers mean a lot to me so I wanted to incorporate that with lots of succulents from our garden. Sarah Stewart is just too phenomenal for words and put it all together more beautifully than I could've ever imagined. I wanted to keep the bridesmaids colours natural and neutral to go with the bush, with pops of color from the hats and their bouquets.

### What was your favourite memory of the day?

My favorite part of the day, shew, that's a tough one! But I have to say walking down the aisle, looking up to see Matt standing up there with the biggest grin on his face is right up there, it honestly was just the happiest day!

### Tell us more about your venue?

KirstenVale is a natural but classy venue situated on a small private game farm. We really encourage couples to make their day their own and love when couples come with unique and different ideas. The reception venue is an empty canvas to bring your vision to life. We offer a choice of 4 different ceremony spots to choose from as well as accommodation for 43 people on the farm, a river where you can fish and multiple trails for guests to run and walk making your wedding weekend one to remember!

### Any Tips for brides to be?

Trust your suppliers, don't stress about what you've trusted them to do and take every second of your day in, it honestly does go by so quickly!

### Did you go on honeymoon and where?

We did a road trip down the garden route:)











Goedgeleven is nestled in between scenic farmlands and situated just outside Durbanville, about 200m past the "Lichtenburg / Paarl – R312" turnoff on the Klipheuwel road

The host Charmaine Gouws has more than 25 years in the wedding industry and brings their passion to life at Goedgeleven.

Goedgeleven started as a small family owned business where brides came for their wedding stationery and decor ideas.

With many of the brides returning stating: "no one could implement the ideas", Charmaine started bringing the bride's dreams to reality by commuting from venue to venue, doing the decor and flowers, while at the same time co-ordinating the wedding on the day and at the respective venue's.

Amongst the services offered is a quaint little chapel for intimate weddings that can comfortably seat 80 to 100 quests.

With the side doors of the chapel able to slide open, we can bring the tranquility of the garden and pond "into" the chapel and make the wedding ceremony even so much more picturesque.

The reception hall can comfortably seat 150 guests and with glass doors opening onto the pond, it allows for spectacular views over the water and landscaped gardens with views of surrounding farms all around.

Centre of the hall offers a comfortable sized dancefloor, under a customised fairy light and floral coronation ring, which again was made specially for unique photo opportunities.



Email: Info@goedgeleven.co.za Call: 067 702 8363 Website: www.goedgeleven.co.za





















With an inhouse DJ that sits one level above, with a birds eye view over the hall and dance floor, he ensures that the event is at all times filled with clients customized playlists while still accessible for special requests, creating so much more memorable moments.

Goedgeleven offers events and special occasions for groups between 40 – 250 guests, which comprises weddings, funerals, birthday parties, christenings to big corporate events and NPO benefits as well, all whilst supporting local business and in particular Alta Du Toit Children's Home.

Our catering is of the highest standards and quality with Chefs Stefan & Ryan doing our in-house catering, thus ensuring that no guest is ever left unsatisfied.

They create visually and palate pleasing menus as well as individualized desserts placed on a multi layered dessert table, enticing even the non-dessert lover to try a taste or two.

Our beautiful gardens contribute towards the elegance of the function and the pallet furniture and cushions allow our guests to sit and enjoy their drinks and canapés.

At night we light the outside fire pits and the air is filled with wood aromas, with the outside fairy lights lit the venue becomes a truly spectacular picture with reflections on the water.



Your host Charmaine Gouws





Email: Info@goedgeleven.co.za Call: 067 702 8363 Website: www.goedgeleven.co.za

































PHOTO BOOTH

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Inkwenkwezi Game Reserve's prime location in the malaria-free Eastern Cape offers many unique opportunities, as it encompasses five different regional ecosystems and a tidal estuary.

This rich diversity of landscape offers unparalleled wildlife viewing. Inkwenkwezi Game Reserve is just five minutes from magnificent beaches and a short, convenient drive from the East London airport.

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

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

Inkwenkwezi Game Reserve's has a charming open-air chapel with

its red carpet laid out for the bridal couple to walk down to say "I do". The chapel is situated at Emthombeni (under the old wild fig tree) and paradise garden settings with water features incorporating waterfalls and small ponds.

Walking down the red carpet to take your vows in Inkwenkwezi's charming open-air chapel, nestled in the gardens amongst the trees, is the beginning of your happily ever after dreams. To capture this beauty way into the night, strategically placed lights light up the garden.

After the service the couple may wonder into our paradise garden for their photo session. The variety of breathtaking scenes and interesting features will give you the opportunity to have a range of unique photographs to keep as mementoes of your special day. During the photo session your guests are invited to have prearranged welcoming drink and snacks or cocktails and canapés – depending on what you have chosen for them – provided by Inkwenkwezi.











Inkwenkwezi focuses on attention to detail so that your wedding is everything you ever dreamed of. Prior to your big day you are invited to meet with to discuss, in detail, the various options available to you.

Once you have taken your vows and are ready to celebrate, you and your guests will enjoy a banquet of a lifetime – made from the freshest, hand-picked ingredients, accompanied by a selection of the finest wines.

You will dance your way into a new life together as music and laughter echo into the starry skies.

On walking into the thatched Emthombeni, you are welcomed and become one with the enchanting gardens when the big sliding glass doors are opened.

Your unique table décor and artistic displays will ensure that your special occasion is not short of being exclusively to your needs. The most magical setting with fairy lights- Tiffany chairs-and soft flowers and fabrics to create the elegance and charm of a romantic fairy tale wedding.

The beautiful, well-designed and equipped bar is operated as per your instructions. You are offered a Cash Bar or a Tab Bar. You are required you to hand in your Tab Bar requirements prior to your special day.

The kitchen will cater according to your requirements and only the finest and freshest ingredients are used. On the buffet, more than generous portions are served.







Inkwenkwezi Game Reserve is a world-class game reserve with an emphasis on luxury and thoughtful details.

Inkwenkwezi has three types of accommodation to offer you and your quests:

- Bush camp tented accommodation: Situated in the reserve.
- Bush Camp offers accommodation for 12 guests (sharing).

All tents have electric lights and twin beds with comfortable Cloud 9 mattresses. From the hilltop site the camp overlooks a valley and each safari tent is positioned on a raised timber deck offering you your own private viewing. Each tent has its own private bathroom resembling a cave.

- Valley Camp Tented Accommodation: Also situated in the reserve
- Valley Camp offers 12 guests accommodation in 6 custom designed luxury tents, the bathrooms are ensuite with a slipper bath and shower.

Tents are furnished with twin three quarter beds. (The Honeymoon suite has a queen size bed). This tent is situated within the reserve. Guests are welcome to contact Inkwenkwezi if accommodation

is needed for out-of-town guests. We will gladly assist you and arrange special accommodation rates at the 3\* Bush Lodge, 4\* Valley Lodge, 3\* Chintsa Sands Guesthouse and 3\*Umnenga Lodge.

Bookings must be made in advance in order to avoid disappointment, and all accommodation is subject to availability To take a Virtual Tour of Inkwenkwezi – Click on this link https://realbrides.co.za/inkwenkwezi-game-reserve/







## THORNTON & ZUNÉ FORD



## Vintage Wedding with a twist!

## How did the two of you meet?

We went to high school together!
We started to date during our grade 11th year (2013) and we just kept going... love that we are high school sweethearts! We also went to the same university (Kovsies), and thank goodness we did!

## How and when did he propose?

My husband proposed to me on his father's birthday, the 22nd of March 2021. This way he was able to easily tricked me into saying we are going for a picnic at the Ground in Muldersdrift, without me suspecting anything. As we all sat at the picnic harvest table he asked me if I would like to take a short walk with him past the grape vines. Just a few meters away from our families he bent down on his knee and with teary eyes, he asked me to marry him!! Of course, I said yes!

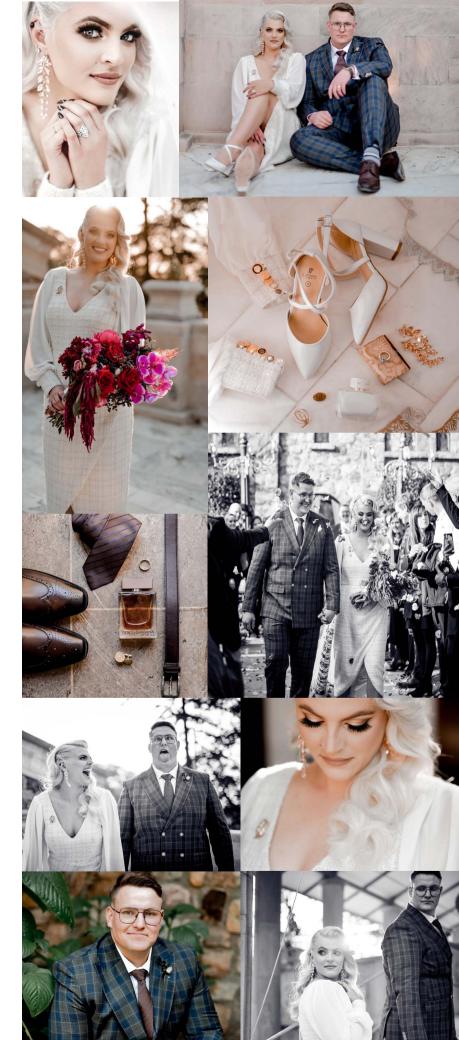
## We absolutely love your wedding dress and style please tell us more!

From the get-go, I knew that I did not want a big, extravagant wedding dress, hence my choice of a calf-length dress. When it came to choosing the dress material it was a tedious journey as I just could not find the 'right' material for the look I was going for. Then one day came when I put on my green vintage thrift tweed blazer... and TA-DA! Just there and then I knew tweed material was what I was looking for.

With all of the details on my dress, I tried to do something meaningful and unique. Thus, the buttons on my cuffs were from my grandparents – one very old gold button from when my grandfather was in the Army – and several other unique ones. I also wore my deceased grandmother's brooch to pull the gold 'look' through, but more importantly, I incorporated all these small details to create the feeling that they were also at my wedding.

## Tell us about your stunning veil!?

OH, MY VEIL... I am still in love with my veil! I think between my wedding dress and my veil, my veil was the most exciting clothing aspect of my whole look. I knew from the start that I wanted a long, and coloured





veil. It all came down to the type of lace I could get hold of, and after several unnecessary veil material purchases, I found this beautiful reddish pink, with hints of blue and turquoise material. I added a blue and gold – almost half mooned shaped - edge trimming to the veil to add something blue to my wedding day.

## What was your favorite part of your big day?

Every moment was a perfect moment within itself. I can honestly say that everything went according to plan. But if I must choose a favorite moment, it will unquestionably be the moment I entered the glass marquee (chapel)! Purely for the fact that at that moment everything felt so wholesome.

## Why did you choose your venue?

We got married at Shepstone Gardens in Johannesburg, and the reasons for choosing this particular venue were because of its beautiful gardens and buildings. It is something out of this world!

### Who were your photographers?

Our photographer was the talented Renské from RDK Photography. Her work is phenomenal and worth the money.

### How many guests did you have?

Including my husband and myself, we were 76.

## Any tips for brides to be?

Enjoy every moment and don't worry too much. Not everything always goes to plan, but don't let that 'destroy' your entire day.

If possible, get yourself a wedding coordinator, they help a lot!

Go for the food/cake tasting, not just to test and select your food for the wedding but see it as a quick, and effortless date.

Don't waste your money on big and expensive gifts for your guests.

## Did you go on your Honeymoon and where?

Yes, we did go on honeymoon!!

We went to Egypt for 7 days – 3 days in Cairo where we went to visit the Great Pyramids and other historical sites and then we flew to Sharm El-Sheikh and stayed there for 4 days and swam and dived in the Red Sea. It was amazing!







# Thornybush



Have you ever dreamed of a safari wedding? Imagine saying "I do" under the soft shade of a Marula Tree, overlooking a dry riverbed with just the birdsong as a background chorus,

Or maybe a sunset wedding is on the cards as you exchange vows as the magnificent African sun, sets in a place so deeply connected to the earth and nature.

When it comes to your dream wedding you can guarantee that celebrating your holy matrimony at Thornybush, one of the Top 12 Best Wedding Venues in the country is as close to magic as you're going to get.

And not just for you, the wedding couple, but for all your guests too.

Why celebrate for just one day when, in fact, your wedding could be a whole weekend of enjoying yourself with friends and family?

This is just one aspect of what makes a safari wedding at Thornybush so unique and special; long days spent with people you love in a beautiful place celebrating the start of a new life.

## The Magic of Saying "I do" in Africa

There's no doubt that a safari setting is one of the most luxurious and romantic locations in which to get married if you love the African bush as much as your partner.

Glorious sunrises and sunsets, pristine wilderness and prestigious exclusivity are all a part of the package when you book your wedding with Thornybush.

Aside from the traditional singers, spa treatments, exceptional field guides, memorable game drives and lingering sunset cocktails, we outline a few other reasons you should head for the bush on your wedding day.



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Thornybush





## TYPES OF WEDDINGS

If you can dream it, you can count on the team at Thornybush to make it happen.

Thornybush has a number of incredibly beautiful wedding ceremony sites for couples to choose from, creating an evocative venue in a wild landscape surrounded by untamed Africa.

Then, when the ceremony is over, you have the joy of returning to a luxury lodge for the reception, where no detail has been overlooked and where the setting perfectly complements the occasion.

Your choice of venue sets the tone for your event.

Perhaps you picture yourself saying your vows under the shadow of an acacia tree amid the vast open savannah that is Africa.

Maybe you prefer a more secluded ceremony in a dry riverbed with only an audience of whatever wildlife happens to be passing by.

Perhaps you'd choose the sublime luxury of your lodge surroundings – whatever your choice, Thornybush will make your day picture-perfect.

## "I do" at sunrise

It may seem a little on the untraditional side, but sunrise is the most magical time of the day in the bush. Imagine waking up with the morning chorus, being whisked away in your private vehicle to a magical spot deep in the African bush – just the two of you, binding your lives in a private elopement as Africa welcomes in a new day.

### "I do" at sunset

One of our most popular wedding setups, which is able to accommodate bigger groups and a much more lavish affair Spend the afternoon in the camp getting ready, while your guests enjoy a game drive to your secret wedding location. We'll set up a bush bar, adorn your altar and wait for your arrival as the African sun dips into a golden hue. We couldn't think of a better way to usher in your "I do", ultimately customized by you.

## "I do" at the lodge

Perhaps a bush wedding isn't quite what you're after, but you still dream of the magnificent backdrop of the African bush Choose any one of our lodges as your wedding venue and we'll take care of the rest. With beautiful views over the Monwana river beds, and watering holes teaming with wildlife; your wedding at our lodges is the perfect Africanmetropolitan affair All wedding receptions will take place at our lodges, but if you are after a purely African experience we are happy to envision a reception under the stars.







# Thornybush

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## SIT BACK AND RELAX, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE SETUP

Weddings usually mean huge amounts of planning and organisation, but we can help alleviate this stress from the bride.

With years of experience and expertise, we can run the entire wedding for you, helping organise all the logistical concerns, and giving guidance on decor ideas.

Florists, marriage officers, photographers, make-up artists, DJs, cakes and so much more; we have a list of reliable and reputable suppliers who will come to the lodge and create all the magic for you on your special day.

We are in the hospitality business and making sure guests have an enjoyable experience is what we do best – creating memorable weddings, is one of them.

## Make a weekend of it

What could be better than combining a big 5 safari with a beautiful wedding and making it last for a whole weekend?

With more time to share experiences you can surprise your guests with a bush dinner, or special champagne sundowner the night before the big day.

On the morning of your wedding, you can still jump on a game drive and enjoy all of nature's wonders, before heading back to get ready for the ceremony.

There are not many wedding venues that allow for watching elephants in the morning and dancing under the stars that night.

With daily airline connections from major South African cities, Thornybush is an unsurpassed wedding destination for local and international guests alike.

With four world-class lodges to choose from Thornybush can accommodate groups of up to 70 guests.

We offer a variety of unique and breathtaking venues that will help create the wedding experience of a lifetime.

So let us start the journey together, we can make one of the most special days of your life even more extraordinary. Get in touch to find out more about our wedding packages.

Editorial and images supplied by Thornybush.







# Thornybush

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## BIANCA & BRAAM MOUTON



Laugh, Dance and be Married!

## When and how did you meet each other?

We connected in December 2014, Bianca had liquid courage and decided to Facebook message Braam, who had been her random Facebook friend since May 2012. Braam responded very casually, and from then on, the conversation went back and forth. Bianca then invited Braam to meet up for a "free" lunch at a popular takeaway she managed and made him pay whilst blushing to take his order. The poor guy, was in shock as he probably used his last R50 bucks for that interaction, but it was worth it!

### Tell us about your venue?

St Ives (KZN Midlands) – a venue like no other. The most beautiful views and most accommodating owners and managers. They allowed us to take each one of our dreams and make our visions a reality at the venue. The views were Breath-taking, a beautiful glass chapel overlooking the dam and the accommodation was amazing- it could sleep the entire wedding party and many guests. Our wedding party, family and guests got to enjoy delicious food too and the morning after we all were treated to the buffet style best breakfast that was really needed after such a magical night. Some of our guests were even energetic enough to do a park run the next morning, a few were even found still sleeping on the dance floor.

## What was your colour scheme and theme?

This was one of the hardest decisions to make with so many colours and themes popping up while scrolling through Pinterest, but after many appointments back and forth with Jackie, we settled for a romantic theme with an elegant finish and chose the colours burgundy, navy, with a touch of rose gold.

## When was your wedding? And why did you choose that date?

Saturday 02 March 2019. We officially started dating on 02 June 2015 so we felt the 02nd was the perfect date to choose. March was the best choice for a weather prediction too. It's not quite cold like winter and no longer boiling hot. Plus KZN Midlands afternoons are just the best. We got to experience it all and had such a magical day.



## "Dancing until the lights were turned on. A Party we still talk about today- the best one yet!"



## Did you have a wedding cake? Tell us more!

Cake? Of course!! Bianca is always down for cake.

The cake was DEMOLISHED! Not a single crumb was left. Our cake was a 3 tier naked iced cake. It was made with a Vanilla sponge ( it's a personal favourite of the bride), each tier having a different filling; the base was a caramel filling; the middle was chocolate mousse and the top tier had a caramel buttercream filling. Cake was made and delivered by the talented Caitlin from Hilltop House Bakery.

## What was your favourite memory of the whole wedding experience?

Bride – the speeches and the dance floor. All the Speeches were amazing , filled with so many incredible memories and many giggles. The ultimate highlight was dancing the night away, Bianca's best thing to do – Party!

Groom – Dancing until the lights were turned on. A Party we still talk about today- the best one yet!

## Who were your photographers?

Kelly Daniels Photography captured our entire day perfectly and Stories By Goya did the videography. They are both Durban based brands with hearts of gold.

## Any pre- wedding day advice?

Don't let the small things stress you.

You can't control everything, so make a list and delegate where you can.

Remember the day is important but you and your partner are the bigger picture. So communicate with each other & enjoy the planning.

Your love comes first!





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