


Real Brides

A smiling bride with blonde hair, wearing a white lace off-the-shoulder wedding dress and a pearl necklace, holding a large bouquet of pink and white roses. The background is a softly lit indoor space with a wooden chair visible on the left.

July 2023

**Finding your
perfect dress**

Budgeting Tips

African Blessings

Real Weddings in South Africa



One more thing before you say 'I do' ...

Fabrics and flowers, manicures and comfortable shoes — there is much to do before you step into your new life together. One of the most important things is to contact an attorney to formalise your legal matters.

Pincus Matz Attorneys — a boutique law firm specialising in Ante-nuptial Contracts, Property Law and Wills and Estate Planning — would love to walk this exciting life journey with you.

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INFORMATION

ATTENTION ALL BRIDES-TO-BE



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

There is the opportunity to make the 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 in Real Brides.

A list of the country's Top Wedding Venues have entered into associate agreements with Real Brides to feature their brides in the magazine.

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
- The Silver Sixpence: Lesley - 082 557 3304
- Collisheen: Wayne - 032 815 1107
- Pheasant Hills: Pieter - 012 941 1724
- Dullstroom Country Weddings: Nixi - 074 405 0910
- Fairview: Marinda - 083 488 3885
- Dwarsberg: Suzanne - 023 349 1919
- A lodge at Bloem - 082 782 8490
- Morgansvlei - 084 584 1820
- Vredenburg Manor - 021 842 3264
- Hlananathi - 036 438 6308
- Moon & Sixpence - 011 659 7030

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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TOPIC

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NEON
PRODUCTIONS





Note from the Editor

Dear beautiful reader

Welcome to the most informative bridal magazine in South Africa. What makes us so unique is that we celebrate Real Weddings with Real Couples. We are proud to showcase the top suppliers in the wedding industry to help you on your wedding planning journey.

June was such a wonderful issue to be welcomed as the new Editor, a big thank you to everyone for all your love and support.

Can you believe we are half way through the year already? If you are getting married in 2024, now is your time to start planning. Venue and your photographer are the first suppliers to book. This month we will help you find your perfect match.

This month we have a look at a few budgeting tips from Brides to help you plan your big day.

Read through each story from our couples in the July issue to help guide you with ideas and advise.

Your Friend
Morgan

Contact me today:
morgan@neonproductions.co.za
082 772 8980

**When you want something all
the world conspires in
helping you achieve it
- Paolo Coelho**

Make your big day even more special.
Have your wedding featured, send us an email
with your suppliers list and 3 photos of your day.

JUNE ISSUE

In this issue we read about the importance of hiring a wedding planner.

Download a copy:



Selandi & Edwin Botha



When you want something all the world conspires in helping you achieve it - Paolo Coelho

Tell us about how you met?

In the UAE, Through Mutual friends that came to Visit us as we both live and work in the UAE.

Tell us about your venue?

Franschoek Cellar, absolutely stunning on the wine tram route. I wanted an indoor ceremony area which protected us from the moody Cape Town weather, and yet a Main Venue with loads of light. Franschoek gave us the opportunity to show off our beautiful home country to all of our foreign friends that came for the wedding.

Tell us about your photographers?

Mighty fine, very professional. Eileen and Naledi, certainly made us feel comfortable

Tell us more about your stunning dress?

I bought my Vera Wang dress in the USA at Davids Bridal. I loved the detail and the lace, and the sleeves which I could remove. I had it for nearly three years by the time we had the wedding, which was postponed because of Covid. It was the first dress I tried on, I thought I was crazy but no regrets.



**It was the first dress I tried on, I thought
I was crazy but no regrets.**



Venue - Franschoek Cellars
Wedding Planner - MK events
Dress - White by Vera Wang
Make up by Angelique at Blush babes MUA
Hair by Diva_Hairstyles

What should brides not worry about?

Anything!! Get a wedding planner, especially if you are having a destination wedding, people are of the opinion that wedding planners are expensive, they can actually save you money as they use repeat vendors and have relationships with people in the industry. It was the best investment, we just showed up and had fun.

Any handy tips for brides to be?

Do not get embellished shoes, no matter how beautiful they are. Walking is more essential. I spend a whole lot on shoes, that caught on my train while walking, I swopped with one of my bridesmaids before we could even go for photos.





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PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY



Randy & Johan Jacobsz



*Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength,
while loving someone deeply gives you courage.*

How special was your proposal?

It was very special, getting married was something that we always knew we both wanted to do so when the day came I was not surprised but I was very happy that he made it very memorable.

How did you settle on a wedding date?

The availability of the venue and the good price that came with the time of year. We initially planned to get married in December 2023, so during December 2022 while on holiday in Dullstroom we decided to visit some wedding venues in the area as we loved it there and wanted to get married there. On our visit to the Sixpence, we were certain that the venue was our wedding venue and when Lesley gave us a good price for a wedding in May as compared to one in December it made sense to get married in May.

What made you choose The Silver Sixpence?

Besides the fact that I was already in love with the place from pictures on social media, when my husband and I visited the venue for the first time, it felt perfect to both of us and made us really excited to get married.



**It felt perfect to both of us and made us
really excited to get married.**



The Silver Sixpence Wedding venue
Applegange Occasions
An eye for eye Photography
Grace note music - Ceremony and Canapes Music

What food did you have?

On Friday night we had a self-catering braai with all the wedding guests who were sleeping at the wedding venue, which gave us and all our guests the opportunity to get to know each other and socialize in a more comfortable setting without formalities. For the wedding we served Canapes for starters, Moroccan Lamb-Roll with grilled vegetables for mains, some Panacotta for dessert and then the wedding cake was served with the Tea and coffee at the end of the night.

Tell us about your photographers?

We had An-eye-for-an-eye photography. One photographer & One Videographer package. We received some sneak pictures of the wedding and are very excited to receive the rest of the pictures. The turnaround is 3 months.

Tell us about your wedding dress?

I was wearing a white classic A-line Satin ball gown. I am a classic girl so when I found it I knew it was perfect. I did not overthink it, I just went for it.

Did you go on honeymoon?

With our work commitments we decided to go on honeymoon in December 2023 to the Black Forest in Germany.





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



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

Wake up on your wedding day relaxed in the knowledge that you are already at your venue and can continue to enjoy the build-up to that magical moment when you walk down the aisle - either in the forest or our quaint country chapel. Arrive at your ceremony in a horse-drawn carriage. Dance the night away under a sparkling galaxy of fairy lights and crystal chandeliers in our hall - with the cosy ambience of large indoor and outdoor log fireplaces.

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



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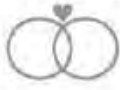
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13

DOMINIQUE & DEWALD

BOTHA



My vir altyd

Tell us about your love story?

We met back in 2012 when a mutual friend asked Dewald to give us a lift to a concert. Dewald being the helpful sweet person he is gladly helped even though he wasn't even joining for the event. He always says he noticed me in his rearview mirror the minute I got into his car, as I sat behind him I didn't actually get a good look at him. But he dropped us off and I thought nothing of it.

But when we had trouble getting into our event Dewald was asked to come fetch us which he was more than happy to do. He picked us up and, not wanting to call it a night, we all went back to hangout at the commune to join Dewald and his friends for their braai. And that's where we interacted for the first time.

I felt a need to impress Dewald when we first started talking and apparently the feeling was mutual (as we both started our vows with the line "when I first met you I felt the need to impress you") we bonded over a mutual love of motorbikes and Videogames. After several commune kuiers later we started becoming good friends.

But then... I actually lost Dewald's number for almost a year! and we lost contact for that time, luckily a friend of mine sparked up a social event at the commune which put us back in contact!

Even though Dewald had a huge crush on me we became very good friends. I was going through some personal things and He knew I was not available for a romantic relationship and he embraced the friendzone! he was always there to listen and I found myself confiding in him, things I'd never even admitted to myself. And I knew I had a connection with him that I'd never felt before. He made me feel like myself again and brought a spark back to my soul, I was slowly gaining a new best friend and he felt the same way! A few deep conversations and some personal revelations later, We were falling for each other.

On Braai Day 24 September 2013! We officially became a couple.

We share everything with each other and find comfort in each other's company he makes me smile and laugh daily we promised each other to never let things brew and talk out our feelings as they arise without judgment. we support each other's dreams and encourage each other to always do what makes the other happy even if it means we need to work a little harder together for each other. I can happily say I've married my best friend.



"He was my ride now I'm his bride!"



Venue - Dullstroom Country Weddings

Photographer - Wandering pelican productions

Videographer - Pinnacle Studio Photo & Film

Food - Sumi

Lashes - Bloom beauty room

Nails - Shaz Nails

Hair - Masset Hair Studio

Makeup - Cisca Treurnicht Make-up Artistry

Birds - Dullstroom Brid of Prey Centre

Ring - - William H T Judson

DJ - Jean Brüning

Tell us about why you chose your venue?

I have a love of fantasy and have always loved the scenery and tranquility and mystical feeling that comes from a forest setting, and Dewald, having grown up in Pietermaritzburg has always felt at home in the forest. When we found the Dullstroom country weddings venue we fell in love with everything! The day we viewed the venue the forest was full of mist and I felt like I was in a fairytale world! Everything just felt amazing! The reception hall has the most warm and welcoming feel the wood, stone and huge windows feel like they are bringing the surrounding forest from outside in! the space is breathtaking and immediately my brain started coming up with décor ideas for our big day. From the moment we met Nixi who runs the wedding venue we just clicked so well with her and loved her energy! Her enthusiasm is so contagious and she was super helpful through everything!

Any planning tips for brides to be?

- Don't be afraid to be hands on with certain things especially if you have a vision of what you want
- Be willing to let small things go if they don't make it to the wedding day its not worth letting something small ruin your whole day
- Remember it's not just your wedding but your groom's big day to!

You had an owl join you for your photos, please tell us more?

We were so blessed to have these beautiful birds join us for our special day thanks to the dullstroom bird of prey center. We visited the bird of prey center during our venue search and found out that they offer a service where you can have an owl as a ring bearer! I knew immediately that we needed to have this at our wedding! Not only is it an amazing way to support the sanctuary, but I also have a passion for bird photography, and we both have a love of birds and birding so it was so amazing to bring it all together into our big day! Not only did Heidi the barn owl deliver our rings but the center also brought two other birds, and during the canapes all our guest were able to interact with the birds from feeding, holding and learning about the birds and the center, it is such a cool and unique form of entertainment for the guests plus we got to use them in our wedding photos which just added to the fairytale feeling that we were hoping for.

Who were your photographers?

Photography was done by Mellissa Brown and her husband Kelvin Brown from wandering pelican productions. Her story telling style of photography was exactly what we wanted and we just loved her eye and editing style! She was so good at directing us but also catching unscripted moments.



DULLSTROOM
Country Weddings

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The essence of a farm wedding is the opportunity to say your vows in the beauty and tranquility of the countryside.

Dullstroom Country Weddings offer 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 make their way through a "tunnel" of "skaapappel" trees, opening into the forest of oaks, with a hessian runner leading to the altar.

A third option offers a different ambiance 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 the opportunity to get married on the banks of one of our dams, with the shimmering water as a backdrop.

The final, and only indoor option, is our picturesque chapel – a beautiful old stone building, originally a farmyard barn, overlooking a pretty duck pond.

Each of these locations have a just as beautiful setting for the canapes, while the wedding photos are being taken.

Our farm offers accommodation for 38 guests in 10 beautiful cottages.

We are situated only 9 km from Dullstroom so your other guests will not have to travel too far to join your celebration.

nixi@dullstroomcountryweddings.com
Nixi: +27 (0)74 405 0910
Dullstroom Country Cottages, R540, Dullstroom,
Mpumalanga
www.dullstroomcountryweddings.com





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If you are looking for an exclusive family friendly getaway where you will be welcomed with true African hospitality then look no further than Tula Baba Guest Lodge.

Tula Baba Lodge is a sophisticated Lodge that has lovely entertainment and dining areas that overlook the bushveld and watering hole.

We are only 1 hour 30 minutes from OR Tambo International Airport and 1 hour from Lanseria Airport. We are just over an hour from Sun City and the famous Big Five Pilanesberg Game Reserve.

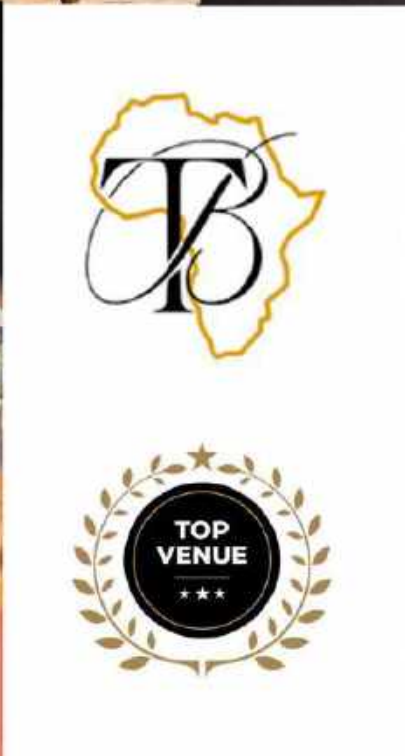
The Lodge is managed by a family and they are supported by a dedicated team of staff that provides a highly personalized experience. Your comfort is our priority.

For weddings we offer our couples the luxury of choice – whether you are looking for an upmarket or a rustic styled wedding, or anything in between, we have you covered.

Tula Baba caterers for intimate weddings and functions for up to 120 guests.

Our idea is for our guests to come and enjoy a special occasion without a series of rules and hidden costs.







Tula Venue at Tula Baba Game Lodge offers the ultimate wedding destination in South- Africa. Tula Baba Game Lodge is situated on an intimate game farm in the bushveld in the North-West area. It is the ideal wedding location for a unique destination wedding, also perfect for an extended weekend away.

Our couple have various options from a full package done by our vibrant Wedding Planner Andrew, you bring your ideas, and he makes the magic happen. We also offer active packages for fully catered to self-catering weddings. Our Venue is ideal for a small intimate wedding of 10 to 30 guests or a festival celebration of maximum 100 guest. A stylish celebration in the Bushveld, surrounded by the beauty of nature and wildlife as you recite your vows. We offer their bridal couple a wedding of their dreams with a luxurious bridal and groom suite. We work closely with our couples to bring their vision to life, so they can truly enjoy the day with their guests and family. Tula Venue at Tula Baba Game Lodge believes that the focus of any celebration should be the enjoyment you share with your guests.



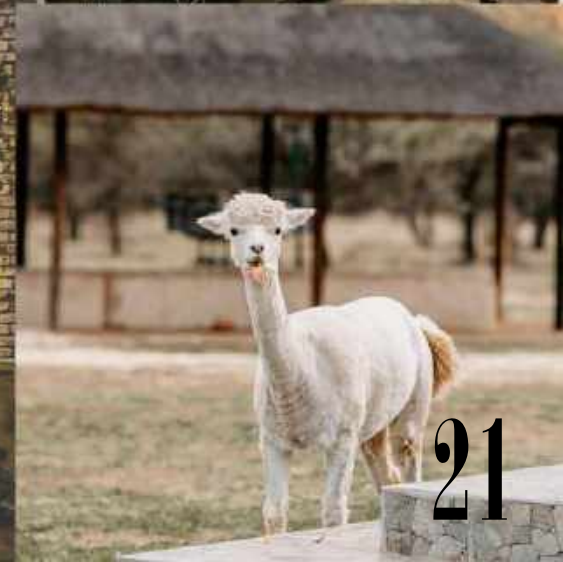
Tula Venue hosts weddings, corporate events, and milestone celebrations. This venue offers an elegant indoor facility offering a magical atmosphere for a stunning event. The Venue can comfortably accommodate 20 to 100 guests seated. Our Venue has immaculate finishes that gives a touch of elegance. We offer our couples an exclusive experience as we only host one function at a time. Our wedding Ceremonies are held in an open-air chapel under a beautiful Gazebo overlooking the bushveld with wildlife roaming past. Should the weather be a little wet we have a charming Chapel 4km from the Venue that will ensure our couple and their guest stay dry.



The Game Lodge has a Main Lodge that speaks for itself, when you walk into the front door the open plan entertainment area gives the WOW factor. Relaxing on the patios or enjoying a braai next to the pool. The main lodge has six bedrooms can sleep 12 guests and 5 additional cottages can accommodate 12 guests in total. Your wedding guest can stay over and enjoy a scrumptious breakfast the next morning. We have a few lovely accommodation options that provide additional place to stay for wedding parties and families.



Guests are greeted with a professional team. Andrew and his amazing team are available to assist our couple from the minute they arrive. We aim to exceed your expectation.



Zantie & André Visagie



Do what you love and love what you do

Tell us about how you met?

André is two years older than me and knew me from primary and high school as I was in the same grade as his sister, but we never met and never made contact. André became a Professional Musician in Pretoria and I became a Beauty Specialist in my hometown - Tzaneen. 12 Years later the whole world came to a literal stop. Covid 19 hit South Africa with an official and strict lockdown in March 2020. André decided to spend the lockdown period with his parents in his hometown - Tzaneen, Limpopo. During this time my name popped up in his family conversations and his mother suggested for André to just get to know me. André was spontaneous and got my number on his mother's phone under the salon's name. I lived 4 minutes from his parent's house so after two weeks of WhatsApp chats he invited himself to finally meet me and I guess it was love at first sight!

Who was in your bridal party?

We wanted a smaller, intimate wedding and I thought I could do everything on my own. I realized three weeks before the wedding that I needed help with designs, printing, guest management, details such as holding my bouquet, my veil and dress, my nerves and tears etc. I picked the three people who could support me the best and who I knew would always be there for me even after the wedding. It was so special that all three bridesmaids were in the same grade as me. André has a beautiful sister, Michelle, a Professional Architect in Pretoria. I had no doubt to ask her to be in my bridal party and to have the blessing of having her as my own sister now. I would not have a lot of special details in my day without her! My beautiful best friend of 16 years, Nadia - who knows me inside and out - is an amazing Primary School Teacher and I couldn't imagine coping on the day without her! Delize has always been my friend for 16 years but we only got closer to each other the last 3 years. She is a Professional Hairdresser so just imagine all the fun and trust we had!

Tell us about your venue?

We wanted a venue with a natural, intimate setting. We also didn't want the guests to drive from the ceremony to the reception so we decided to hold everything in one place. We booked Fairview Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort in our home town, Tzaneen, and they provided us with the most beautiful venue you can imagine in a natural setting with amazing packages! Our guests had many options of rooms for accommodation to choose from and could play Golf while they wait for the wedding to start, or even spend time in the Spa or Restaurant. So much to do at one venue! The owner, Marinda Thomas, welcomed us with open arms and even bought a few extra beautiful decor details for her venue to make everything extra special for us. Her manager Angie Woodward helped us with the budget details and any questions as well as the menu and seating. The guests were ecstatic about the food and we had the most special wedding right beside the Groot-Letaba River. Our package included a heavenly honeymoon suite so we really had all the special memories at one place!



“We really had all the special memories
at one place!”



Venue and Food: Fairview Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort

Photos: Joe Dreyer

DJ: Die Mancave (André Visagie)

Makeup: Jana Pohl

Hair: Delize Engelbrecht

Nails and Beauty Treatments: Be-you-tiful Beauty Salon (Zantie Visagie)

Preacher: Ds Johann Fourie

Accessories: Shein

Who were your photographers, why did you choose them?

We asked our local photographer, Joe Dreyer, who owns the Bulletin digital newspaper in Tzaneen to be our photographer for the day because he takes breathtaking photos with an interesting, unique look. We really enjoyed his personality behind the camera and we are very happy with our unique photos.

Indoor or outdoor ceremony?

Our ceremony was outdoors in natural light on a deck with the Groot-Letaba River right behind us. André wanted a special entrance for his bride and arranged to hire the venue's steel river raft to bring me to the ceremony. It was super special to arrive with my bridesmaids on a raft with a special song playing. My Grandfather waited for me at the dock to walk me down the aisle.

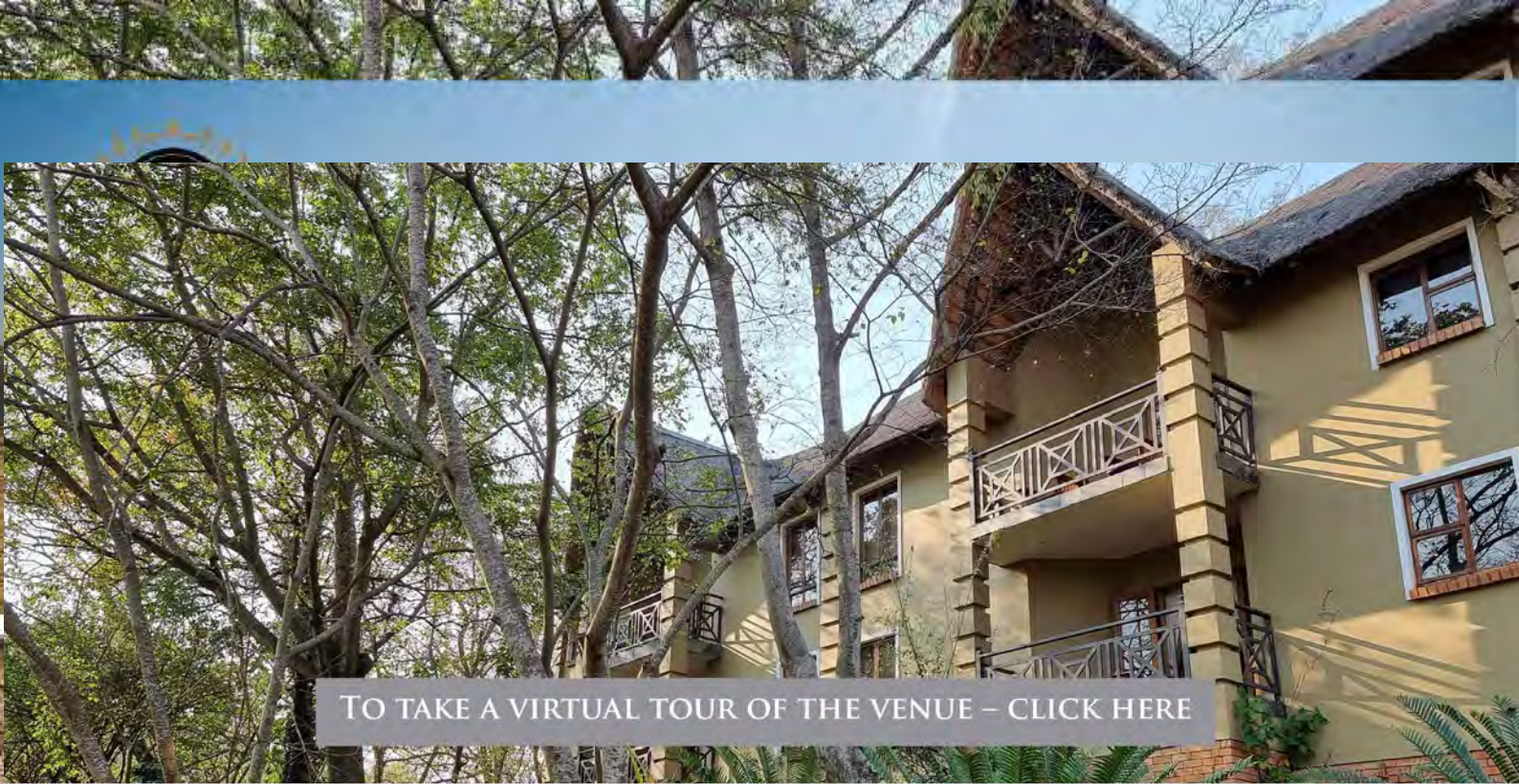
Did you go on honeymoon and where?

André arranged our week long Honeymoon in Ballito, the Dolphin Coast in KwaZulu-Natal. He spoiled me with an amazing experience in LaMontagne Resort where we could enjoy room service and walk to the beach. He taught me how to Snorkel and we spent one whole day at uShaka Marine World.

Any Tips for Brides-to-be?

Do not hesitate to bless yourself with a bridal party you will forever be grateful for their help. They think of details that you may have missed and you need someone to do unplanned runs and calls on the day! Make sure your groom has everything he needs before the big day and appoint someone to double check everything for him because the groomsmen is most of the time all about the party of the day than the details of the main man. Plan something special like a small present or something to wear with their outfit on the day for your parents, grandparents, siblings and new parents to show them how you appreciate and love them. Spend special time with them before the big day as well as after to catch up! Accept who you are and embrace that. Laugh, smile, cry, live in the moment more that you think about what the photo's will look like. Ask family and friends to take cellphone video's - they always catch something special from different angles! Very important tip! Our guests loved that we let them eat dinner first before we started with all the speeches and formalities! Game changer!





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FAIRVIEW

Hotels, Spa & Golf Resort

Set on 26ha of scenic farmland, lies the Fairview Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort, a landmark venue that offers luxury hotel accommodation and function and wedding facilities,

Plus an 18-hole par-3 golf course, well-appointed Zen Spa and beautiful, lush gardens - all idyllic elements for a all-in-one wedding venue.

Fairview Hotel offers various options to choose from to make your wedding-day dreams come true.

Couples can choose between the large Limpopo ballroom, with stately chandeliers that are suspended from the enormous, thatched roof over the 80 m2 wooden dance floor

There is a smaller venue for more intimate occasions, the Baobab Wine Cellar, or the well-groomed estate gardens for an open-air experience.

The latest edition to choose from is the newly developed Fairview Clubhouse, on the embankment of the Letaba River, a semi-open-air structure, with luxurious Afro-colonial interior.



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PHEASANT HILL



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Boutique Hotel, Wedding & Function Venue

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.



39 Sterkfontein Ave, Doornkloof East Pretoria
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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

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Doornkloof East, Irene, Pretoria

Contact: 0129411724

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PHEASANT HILL
Historic Hotel, Wedding & Function Venue



TOP VENUE



Je'nique and Bryan Jovner



If you change the way you look at things, things you look at will change.

Tell us about your proposal?

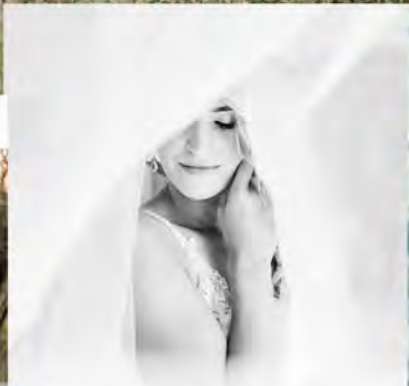
☑ He proposed to me on the 5th of Feb 2022 right on top of the Lisbon Falls at Sabie. We had a fun day planned with our close family and friends and we walked around pilgrims rest and our last stop was at the Lisbon falls. He got down on one knee and asked the big question.

What made you choose Tsekama?

Firstly the very very friendly and very helpful staff and secondly the amazing chapel and reception area! Tsekama's staff made it so easy for me as I had to worry about nothing they had everything under control. They did all the planning from flowers, food, dj, bar, decorations ect. I would choose them over again. The food was amazing, the service regarding accommodations were on point,

Tell us about your wedding colours and how you chose them?

I am a plain Jane, I believe less is more, therefore I chose neutral colours such as neutral browns and greens but my main focus was to work around white as my main colour. I wanted a clean look and something different!



I wanted a clean look and something different!

Make up - Cari Jenna - @makeupbycarijenna

Hair - JC Castles

Photographer - Margaux Cronjé - @margaux_cronje_photography

Venue & Flowers - Tsekama Wedding Venue

DJ - Juan Jacques Roos – Encore Sound

Dress - Timeless Bridal Coutoure

Earrings - Flambojant - @Flambojant_handgemaak

Suit - Black Tie Pretoria

Groom shoes & belt- Freedom of movement

Tell us about your wedding dress?

I saw my dress online a few month prior to my fitting and already made up my mind that , that was the dress for me. Open minded willing to try everything I went for my fitting and tried every style a women can think of. I chose the dress which I saw from day one. My wedding dress had a kittle bit of lace on the top part of the dress and had lace on the train of the dress. From the waist down the dress was very plain without details, just as I liked it and would describe my personality best!

What were the best moments of your day?

I would say my best moments were to see my fathers reaction knowing I will be forever my father's last daughter to get married, and walking down the aisle seeing my husband's face, knowing that the whole day was about declaring out love infront of those we chose to keep close to us for forever. And that they are witnessed of our love-and promise!

Any Budgeting advice for Brides-to-be?

Do research-enough research. Don't jus go with the first option as the first option might not be the most budget- friendly option. Get different quotations from different suppliers Work strictly according to your set out budget, as a wedding is not a competition on who's wedding cost the most or was the prettiest. Its about the small, special moments, as everyone ate ultimately there for you snd your fiancé. Be strict according to your budget and stay within it!






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



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Antenuptial Contract

In planning your wedding one of the important matters that you will have to undertake is the planning and drawing up of an Antenuptial contract. This is an important issue because 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. Fox & Barratt Attorneys offers an expert and professional service to assist couples requiring an Antenuptial contract. Margaret H Fox Attorneys was established by Margaret Fox in 2005 to offer personalised conveyancing and notarial services. Based in Little Falls on the West Rand of Johannesburg, the firm has developed a committed and loyal client base through its dedicated approach to business. The ongoing and steady growth of the firm has been brought about by the responsive and professional attitude of the founder and her team. To accommodate this growth, while ensuring continued high levels of personalised attention, the firm expanded and took on a new partner, Dale Barratt, in 2009. Together, Margaret and Dale offer 29 years of legal experience and are extremely well-positioned to provide a specialised range of legal services. Margaret H Fox Attorneys changed its name to Fox & Barratt Attorneys in June 2009.

Our Vision

We strive to maintain the highest levels of integrity and efficiency when resolving your legal matters, without compromise. We lead by example by implementing a goal-focused strategy. We always set the highest goals of honesty and ethics and aim to deliver reliable legal services. Our services are tailored to the specific requirements of our clients and we strive to maintain the highest levels of accuracy and integrity.

Our Mission

To resolve your legal matter with the utmost integrity. To accurately and efficiently attend to our client's property transfers and related matters, deceased estates, family law, antenuptial contracts and notarial requirements to achieve the best possible outcome for all of our clients. To provide hands-on personalised services.



Margaret Fox

Margaret Fox graduated with a BCom Law Degree from the University of the Witwatersrand in 1990 and an LLB Degree from the University of South Africa in 1998. Margaret was admitted as an attorney in 2000 and as a conveyancer and notary public in 2001. Shortly thereafter, she joined a large conveyancing firm, where she gained a wealth of conveyancing and related experience.

+27 (0)11 675 7741 margaret@foxbarratt.co.za



Dale Barratt

Dale Barratt who has worked in the legal profession for 17 years graduated with an LLB Degree from the University of South Africa in 2006. Dale served her articles at a reputable law firm and was admitted as an attorney in 2008 and a conveyancer in April 2009. Dale joined Fox & Barratt Attorneys in March 2009.

+27 (0)11 675 7741 dale@foxbarratt.co.za

Tiaan & Liané Dippenaar



Where you go, I will go. Where you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.
– Ruth 1:16

Tell us about the proposal?

It was a Sunday afternoon in Kimberley. Tiaan was about to leave for home, as we were in a long-distance relationship for 4 years while I was completing my articles.

After driving home and back with the ring for a few visits over a few weeks, not having the courage every time, he took the leap of faith on this Sunday afternoon and went on his right knee before leaving in my apartment. It was the easiest YES in my life! And still the hardest goodbye!

He had so many plans that did not realise due to unfortunate events and cancelations, but I would not want this day to be different in any aspect – it was our moment!

Any pre-wedding tips?

Start your planning as early as possible.

Have a budget – and stick to it! You easily run over the planned costs if you do not check on this.

Book and pay all the deposits needed to secure dates and services before the best vendors runs out.

Make lists of everything.

Start your planning at waking up the day of the wedding and working through all the necessities for each timeslot, ensuring that you have all areas covered.

Do not forget about your HUSBAND! It is his special day too. It is not just about the bride.

Choose bridesmaids that will be there for you, 100%. From the best bridal shower to the most support on the day of the wedding.

Choose wisely! They can make or break your day!

Do not forget to enjoy the planning phase. You will miss it once it's done!

You cannot make everyone happy, so at least make yourself happy!

Do not spend money on things that will go unnoticed.

How many guests did you have?

140 of the best friends and family from all over (even Namibia!)

What favours did you have for your guests?

We had a photobooth setting that printed strips for the guests. It is so nice arriving at friends' houses and seeing these strips on their fridges!

It is not something that they cannot use or would have left behind at the venue, as this is what normally happens with wedding favours.



**I would not want this day to be different in any aspect
- it was our moment!**

- Photographer: Leani Photography
- Makeup artist: Karlé Potgieter Artistry & Glam Chick
- Venue, food & decor: A Lodge at Bloem
 - Getting dressed: Stonehill Villa
 - Wedding dress: Bridal Emporium
 - Bridesmaid dresses: Lamei Couture
- Groom suit & groomsmen clothing: The Nu Shop
- Ties & pocket squares: Wedding Accessories by Tanya
 - Bride hair: Anna Blom
- Bridesmaid hair: Charne Hair at Roca Solida
 - Wedding shoes: Anella Wedding Shoes
 - Wedding car: Judy Odendaal
 - Stationery: Bacht Design
 - Website invitation: Kiss N Bliss
 - Minister: Roné Vosloo
 - DJ: DJ Ertjies
- Entourage proposal boxes: Perfect Gifts
- Photobooth: Rozelle Photography

Tell us about your venue?

A Lodge at Bloem is based in Bloemfontein, Free State. When you are wandering at this venue, it feels like you are far away from the city, with a forest vibe and running water.

The venue has a water feature with walking decks all around the venue, and fairy lights hanging from the decks.

We got married in a wine cellar downstairs where you hear the running water as you stay still.

There is accommodation at the venue for guests. About 20 units with space for more than 50 guests. The venue is also surrounded by many other guest farms / plots.

They did the décor, food, and flowers. They are super talented!

We also had a gin bar on tap during our harvest table festivities – what a fun idea!

There was enough seating for everyone and nice music to make the wait bearable while we did our couple shoot. There even is a zipline across the water feature for the more adventurous guests! Boy oh boy! They enjoyed it with formal wear!

The venue is quite big and can accommodate 200+ guests easily. Bloemfontein is central for everyone from driving from all over South Africa.

Who were your photographers, why did you choose them?

Leani du Plessis from Leani Photography.

From the first look at her Facebook page and previous weddings she captured, I just fell in love with the colors and smiles on the pictures. The most beautiful pictures at affordable prices!

She made us feel so comfortable from the start. I cannot picture our wedding day without her!

She also captured our engagement photos which we used for our website invitations – it was love at first sight when we saw her work!

Did you go on honeymoon and where?

MSC Cruise to Pomene Island





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073 0911 863

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TOP
VENUE



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VENUE

DWARSBERG

WEDDINGS & EVENTS

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Dwarsberg is surrounded with beautiful mountains, orchards and vineyards. It provides a breath-taking setting for your special wedding day. Each element of your day is carefully considered, from stunning ceremony spaces to idyllic locations to capture your wedding photos. A magnificent venue for the perfect reception. You can even get ready in our own lavish bridal preparation area located on the farm and spend the night in one of our luxurious pod houses.

We are situated only 105km from Cape Town International Airport. Our main venue can accommodate up to 150 guests comfortably, depending on the table layout & dancing area. We have the facilities hosting an outdoor reception which can accommodate plenty. The dance floor next to the venue is a very popular choice for the young at heart. Here you can celebrate and dance the night away under the stars. All the doors of the venue can open 180 degrees, providing the opportunity to bring the beautiful outdoor surroundings inside.



Email:
weddingsandevents@trouthaven.co.za

Contact Number:
023 349 1919

Instagram:
[dwarsberg_weddings_and_events](https://www.instagram.com/dwarsberg_weddings_and_events)

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DWARSBERG
WEDDINGS & EVENTS

TOP VENUE





We have three luxurious four sleeper with either 4 single beds or 2 king size beds per unit. Each room equipped with an on suit bathroom. Breath-taking views, overlooking mountains and vineyards in your hot tub. Access to WiFi with air conditioning.



We have four old world cottages that can sleep up to 21 people in total. All with an open kitchen/lounge area, open plan or closed off bedrooms. Inside and outside braai area and sufficient bathrooms in each cottage. Access to WiFi with air conditioning. Each cottage has their own hot tub.



We have a total of 11 private riverside campsites which we keep 2 for the wedding guests. The campsites can take up to 20 people per campsite with their own ablutions. They have trees that provides shade, lovely access to our river for swimming and has electricity.

We have three 4x4 mountain vista campsites that can sleep a total of 16 people per site. Each has their own canopy/gazebo, one bathroom, no electricity, but has idyllic views from your hot tub. Also has access to Wifi.





DB
DWARBERG
WEDDINGS & EVENTS





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The Homestead & Forest chapel

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 fireplaces in the winter the Homestead offers a comfortable venue to celebrate with plenty of family & friends allowing up to 350 guests.



The Summerhouse & Conservatory

The SUMMERHOUSE venue paired with the CONSERVATORY CHAPEL is an intimate fusion of contemporary glass architecture set in an English country garden. The Summerhouse is a favourite 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 Syringa tree that forms part of the venue has one foot inside and one outside, adding to the distinctive look of the venue.



The Dairy & Dairy chapel

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. An olive grove sits opposite the pink rose arches that hugs the venue from the cocktail area, and a secret garden allows for some of the most amazing pictures of the newly wed couples.





Linzi & Charl Simpson



I love you, not only for what you are, but for what I am when I am with you.

Tell us about how you met?

My husband and I met 19 years ago through a mutual friend. We started out as friends, very platonic. We lost contact for a few years. In 2014 I managed to get Charl's number and sent him a text to see how he's doing. Little did I know that he was into me. The first thing he asked me was if I was seeing anyone? He immediately opened up to me over whatsapp telling me how he felt about me all these years. I was in seventh heaven because I had no clue he felt this way and have not told me before. The Monday I texted him and the Friday he was outside of my place waiting to take me out on our first date. We went on a coffee date and the rest was history. After the first date Charl ended up getting an apartment close by to me, just to be closer to me and I could see he was very serious about this relationship. We are very much still inlove. We are married for 2 years and go on regular dates.

How did you choose your guest list?

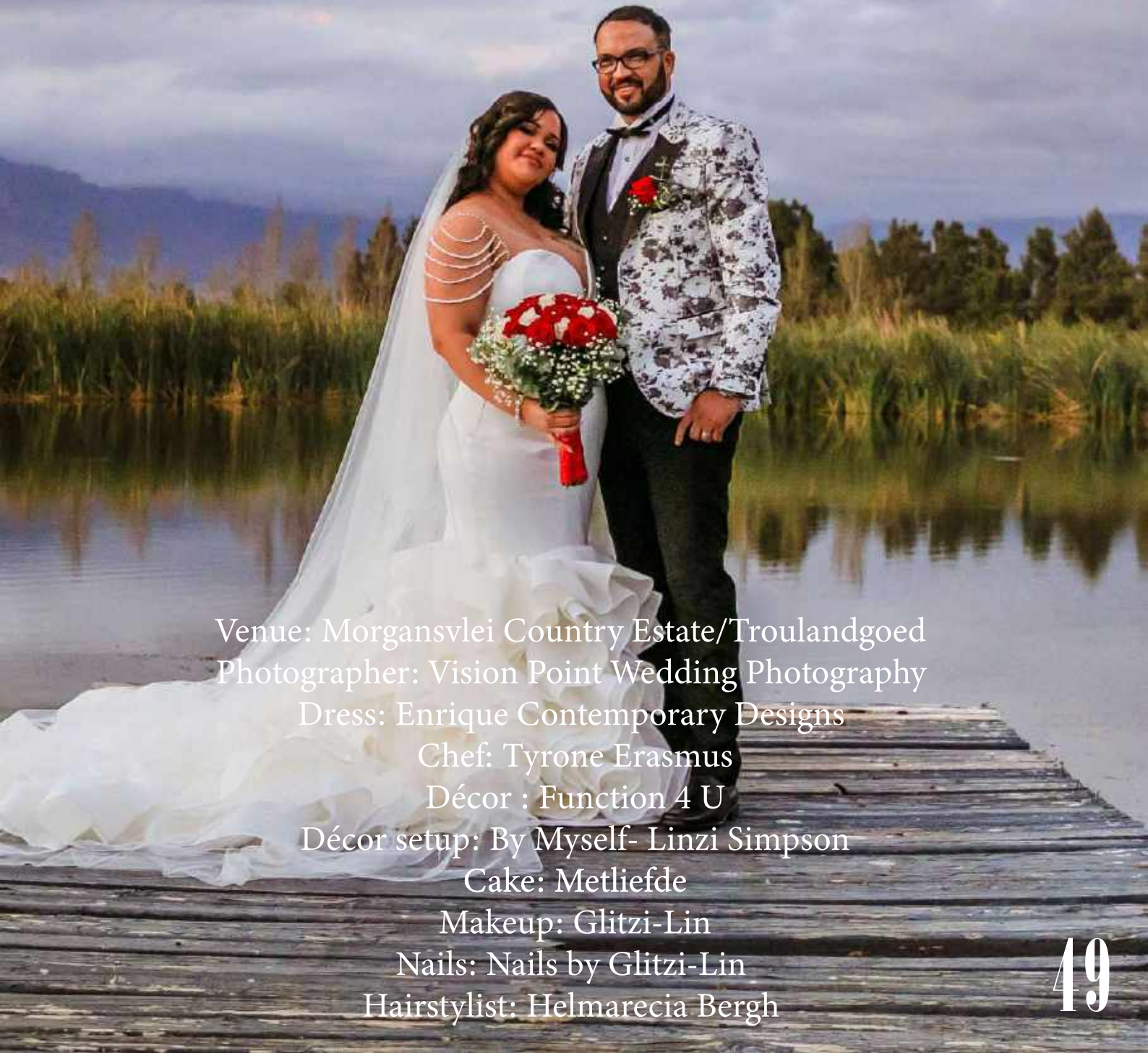
We always wanted an intimate wedding. Small but classy. We planned our bachelors and Bachelorette party together months in advance and sent out many invitations but only 14 guests rocked up to the party and we just thought that would be the amount of guests we are going to invite that is actually the friends and family that is in our lives right now.

Tell us about your venue?

We got married in Tulbagh at Morgansvlei Country Estate / Troulandgoed. The most beautiful Vintage Venue surrounded by the Tulbagh Valley Mountains and vineyards. The venue is very retro that complimented our rustic & glass theme. Morgansvlei has a cute little chapel, reception hall and accommodation on the property overseeing a breath taking view of the dam. We booked in a day before the wedding to do all the décor set-up ourselves. The rooms we booked are self-catering units and the chapel and reception area was walking distance from each other.



“Sit back and take a moment to enjoy your special day because it goes by so quickly!”



Venue: Morgansvlei Country Estate/Troulandgoed

Photographer: Vision Point Wedding Photography

Dress: Enrique Contemporary Designs

Chef: Tyrone Erasmus

Décor : Function 4 U

Décor setup: By Myself- Linzi Simpson

Cake: Metliefde

Makeup: Glitzi-Lin

Nails: Nails by Glitzi-Lin

Hairstylist: Helmarecia Bergh

Our colour scheme was Burgandy, Rose gold & Blush Pink, We also incorporated glass to our rustic décor theme. We got married the end of April and thus the colours suited the season perfectly. The highlight of the décor was the custom glass menus with a bit of greenery underneath the menu that gave that finishing touch.

Did you have a gift registry?

No gift registry. We preferred cash since we already had all our homely things. The money went towards our honeymoon fund. Even small weddings cost a lot of money. So every bit of money we appreciated.

Did you go on honeymoon and where?

We went on honeymoon to Houtbay, Western Cape. Houtbay took us back to our engagement proposal. We got engaged on top of Chapmans peak. The most romantic surprise proposal ever! We booked a cute place in the mountains surrounded by nature & the beach. There was so much to do like taking romantic scenic drives through Chapmans peak, mountain climbing and visiting seafood restaurants at the harbour.

Any Tips for Brides-to-be?

Do not wait last minute to plan and spend that extra money on a good photographer, videographer, wedding dress, nails, makeup artist, MC and DJ. Your pictures are there forever and you are only getting married once! I got the opportunity to do my own makeup and the bridal party as I am a professional Makeup Artist. So if you are in that field you can save a lot of money. Brides are always spending more money on food and drinks but end up neglecting themselves. The day is about you and not your guests. If you have to cut on certain things you should cut on your guest list. The less guests, the less you spend on food & drinks. Let guests pay for their own accommodation for the night, unless it's for your bridal party. Always remember to invite people that is in your life right now. Sit back and take a moment to enjoy your special day because it goes by so quickly!



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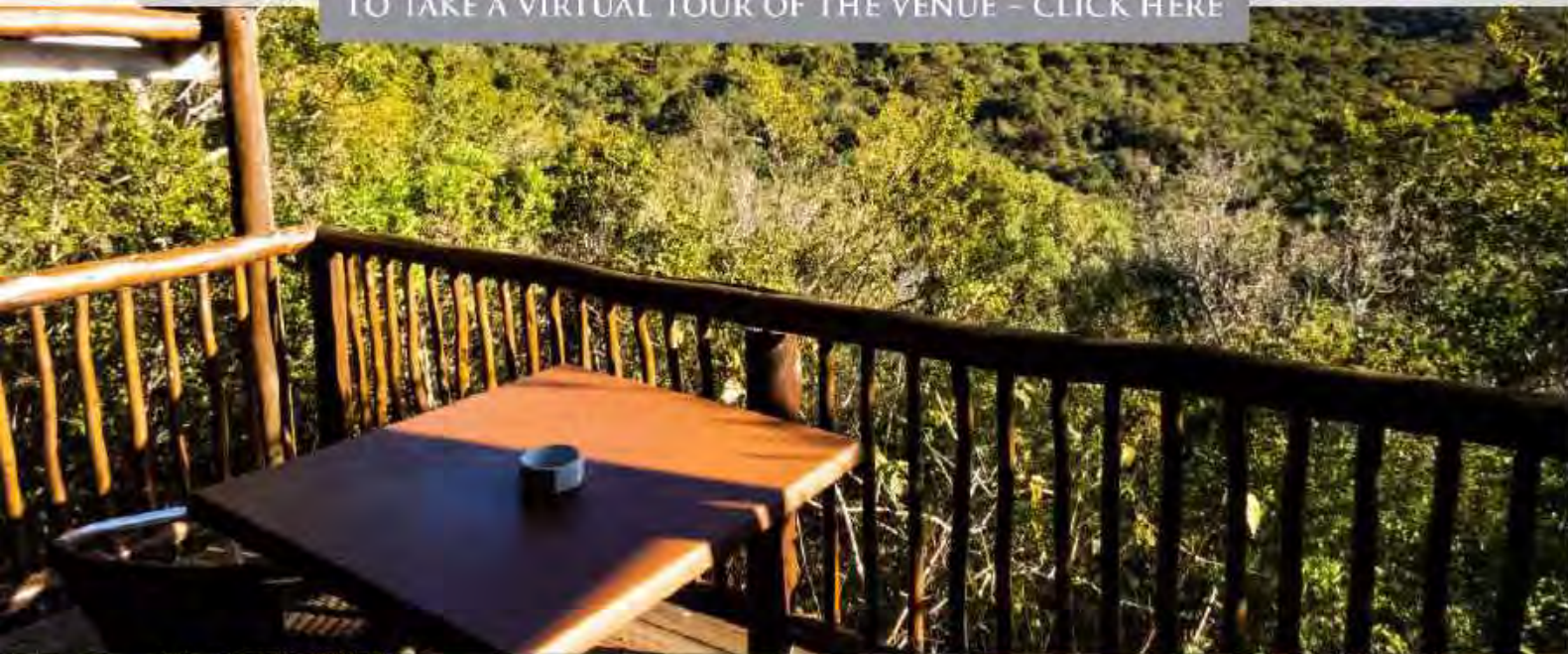
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Weddings at Inkwenkwezi Private Game Reserve are as romantic and unique as the Wild Coast itself, as unforgettable as the love that brought you together.

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 wander 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 pre-arranged 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
PRIVATE GAME RESERVE





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 guests:

- 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* Chirtsa 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/>



Inkwenkwezi
 PRIVATE GAME RESERVE



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

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Emma & Jonathan Daines



"Our love story, ignited by a chance encounter"

Tell us about how your love story?

I spotted Emma amidst the vibrant chaos of the crazy golf course in Solihull, West Midlands, and instantly, I knew she was someone I had to know.

There was a magnetic pull drawing me towards her, and I couldn't resist the urge to approach her. With my heart pounding, I scribbled my phone number on a napkin and handed it to her, my voice trembling as I managed to utter a few words. Luckily, Emma's eyes lit up with intrigue, and she called me back a few days later.

We arranged a dinner date, and from the moment we sat across from each other, I could feel something special in the air. The world seemed to fade away as we delved into deep conversations and shared gentle touches. It was undeniable—we were falling for each other.

Three months flew by, and we embarked on our first holiday together, venturing to the breathtaking landscapes of South Africa. As we explored the country, our love for each other grew alongside our love for the land. South Africa became a witness to our blossoming romance.

Now, seven years later, we find ourselves happily settled in Hampton in Arden, relishing the life we have built together. Our love story, ignited by a chance encounter on a crazy golf course, continues to unfold, reminding us of the power of destiny and the magic that can be found when two souls connect in the most unexpected of ways.

How many venues did you consider?

When Emma and I were considering what we would like to do for our wedding celebration my first choice was to go back to South Africa, where I spent most of my childhood, to have an "African Blessing" on our civil marriage which was performed in the UK. Emma has embraced my love of South Africa and agreed it would be perfect. We wanted a wedding with close family and friends, including 20 guests who would fly out to Cape Town to join us for our celebrations.

We contacted Ruth Slack who has been arranging concerts, functions and events for years in South Africa. We knew we could relax and leave everything to her to arrange to the highest standard.

Emma and I made a call to Ruth from the UK asking her to plan our wedding and before we finished our list of requests she said "I have the perfect venue already." She had no hesitation in recommending VREDENBURG MANOR to host us and our friends for 4 days.



**“Ruth had promised us that it would be
a wedding like no other.”**

For further details on how you can have an “African Blessing” contact
Wedding Planner
Ruth Daines-Slack
081 872 5341
ruthdaines@me.com

PHOTOGRAPHER – NATASHA LOUW
BOLAND WEDDINGS
079 290 4987

What made you choose Vredenburg Manor?

The Manor house offers 5 superb bedrooms, a pyjama lounge where Emma's bridesmaid helped her dress and the girls had a glass of pre-wedding champagne and canapés. There are cottages in the garden offering additional accommodation. It was fantastic to have all our guests to stay together. We had full private use of the Manor House and gardens.

Vredenburg Manor offers a Boma with braai facilities. As guests arrived the day before our wedding my old school mates prepared a South African braai around the Boma. Vredenburg Manor set up the Tables and ensured we had everything we needed.

After dinner we enjoyed sitting in the sunken boma, with a roaring fire in the pit, giving an opportunity for all our guests to get to know one another.

On the morning of the wedding we woke up to the sound of rain. Initially we felt disappointed but Ruth assured us Leon and Luke would transform the Manor House for the ceremony and have drinks and canapés on the stoep. It was more than we could dream, so beautiful, an intimate ambiance making us think of weddings in Downton Abbey!!

Ruth had promised us that it would be a wedding like no other our guests had attended. It would have an African influence and to that end as Pastor Bevan gave me permission to "kiss the bride" the sound of African drums resonated throughout the Manor and we were met by traditional African dancers who escorted us down the aisle to the stoep outside. As if by prior arrangement, the sun came out and lit up our way.

The dancers gave us and our guests a fabulous show and then invited both Emma and I to join in. It was something we are still talking about. Whilst we were having our photographs taken by Natasha Louw, our guests were offered to get into the African style and have Moyo dots painted on their face. Face painting aka umchokozo, plays a big role in Xhosa culture, and women decorate their faces with white or yellow ochre, a ritual meant to prepare them for life, leadership and being custodians of their culture.

Vredenburg Manor has a function venue which continuing with the African theme was perfect. The flowers, were stunning. Added touches were the Zulu Love Letters, a beaded banner on a safety pin, on each serviette. The colours tell your lover all about your personality.

The masterpiece was our wedding cake. A vision of Africa's wildlife and Zulu heritage. The middle tier was wrapped in a Zulu beaded band made by an HIV Charity in KwaZulu Natal. Not only was it visually stunning the carrot cake was delicious.

Vredenburg Manor prepared a gourmet wedding dinner. Canapés were had in the garden and then we moved into the Barn to have the most succulent steak, prompting comments from several guests, "This is the best steak I have ever had". It truly was a fine dining experience. They also accommodated our vegetarian guests and served the young children in their cottage.

With Ruth's music connections we were honoured to have International Saxophonist, Andrew Young, fly out from Austria to play for our wedding. He was joined by South African musicians, Tony Drake (pianist) and James Ward (percussion).

Andrew and Tony played for the ceremony as Emma walked, accompanied by my Son, Ben, down the aisle.

James joined Andrew and Tony at the reception. Guests danced late into the night and all agreed it was a great band with great music.

Both Emma and I agree Vredenburg Manor, with hosts Leon and Luke, deserve a 6* rating. They went over and above supplying everything we needed. Nothing was too much trouble for them. It was the perfect venue choice for the perfect





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Bronwyn & James van der Spuy



Every Pot has a Lid. Every person will find their perfect match. And I am so grateful that we managed to find each other. - Vincent van Eyk (my Dad)

Tell us about how you met?

We are a Bumble dating app success. I had only been on the app for just over 2 weeks when I made the first move - on Bumble, the girl has to start chatting to the guy first (once your profiles have matched) and the girl only has 24 hours to make that move, otherwise you lose that match.

It was a Friday evening (27 September 2019) Our profiles matched and I sent out a message to say hi, and that I was very new to the whole dating app thing, and James had replied saying that it was nice to have connected, and that he promises he's not a weirdo, and I shouldn't be scared... which made me laugh.

I knew within 5 mins of chatting to him, that he is the one for me. We ended up chatting for 3 hours that night. And non-stop chatted the next day. I had my birthday lunch the next day, where I had told all my close friends about James. And said that I really like this guy. They were all very excited for me.

We weren't able to meet face to face for 2 and a half weeks after first chatting, as I went to Sun city for a week and the day I got back he went to the Kruger for a week too. Which made it so much more exciting. When we finally met face to face on our first date, I knew in my heart that I was going to marry this man... which I did!

Who walked you down the aisle?

My Dad, who is also my hero, walked me down the aisle - Vincent van Eyk.

Tell us about your venue?

We both wanted a low key "Celebration of love" day, instead of a wedding wedding. We had gotten engaged last year (July 2022) in the Drakensberg, so we decided it would be the perfect place to get married too. Hlalanathi Guest Lodge is where we shared our Celebration of love day together, with just over 100 of our closest friends and family.



**We both wanted a low key
“Celebration of love”**

A bride with blonde hair styled in waves, wearing a white lace wedding dress, stands in a room with a wooden staircase railing. She is holding a large bouquet of flowers featuring proteas, eucalyptus, and various green and pink blooms. The background is a plain white wall with a light switch visible on the left.

Service providers: Venue - Hlalanathi guest lodge - Drakensberg.
Wedding Coordinator - Kerry-Lee Landman
Photographers - Jo Drakensberg Photographers
Hair - Tyla Botha
Make-up - Roberta Lewis - The Lewy Look
Eye lashes - Bridgette from New Moon artistry
Dress - In the light box
Dress tailor and garter - Lizette - Bridal Alchemy
DJ sound and lights - Blue Moon (Paul)
Grooms suit - David Harris custom suits

How did the planning go?

The planning was intense. I took control of most of the plans. We had a wedding coordinator who also owns the restaurant at Hlalanathi, she managed to get all the quotes etc for our special day and made sure everything ran smoothly on the day. Most things I had organized I had to have a plan B and sometimes C. But thankfully everything turned out incredible.

Did you stick within your budget, what cost more than expected?

Yes we managed to stick to our budget (Thankfully) and what helped us out so much is both our parents paying a portion towards things for the wedding itself.

Did you go on honeymoon and where?

We have booked for Bali in September. Instead of a wedding registry (because we basically have everything that we need for the house) we opened up a savings account as our Bali Fund. And we managed to book our flights with all the gifts.

What should brides not bother with?

Not too sure? I loved everything that I had organised. Can't think of anything that we should've left out.





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Cross the bridge over the Franschhoek River, tucked away between a forest of trees and discover the perfect wedding venue amongst the vines... Rickety Bridge is perched on the slopes of the Franschhoek mountains with sweeping views of the valley.

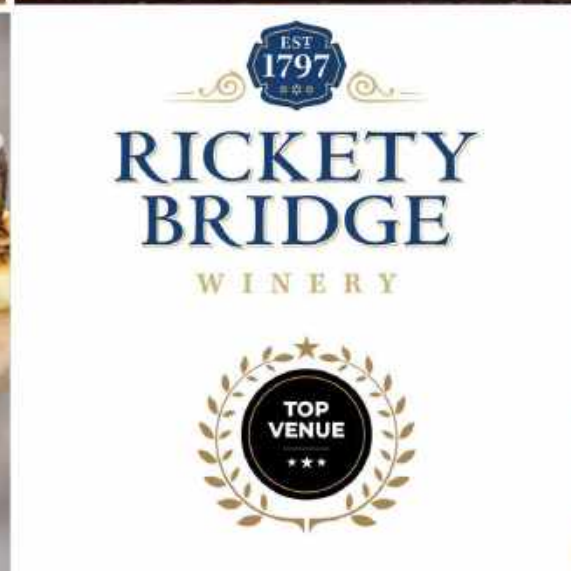
The charming 19th-century Cape Dutch setting offers a range of picturesque onsite ceremony and reception options. The vineyard blends perfectly into an almost picturesque panorama, located between the Dassenberg Mountain and the Franschhoek River.

Rickety Bridge is a winery with a long tradition. With a history going back to 1797, the estate and its legacy have been passed on to its current owner Duncan Spence, who has owned the estate since 2000.

This historic estate was originally part of the great La Provence farm given to French Huguenot farmers in 1694. Over the years the property was divided and the portion which is now Rickety Bridge was granted to Paulina De Villiers, one of the first female landowners in South Africa, in 1797.

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Should the weather not play along, we offer a beautiful refurbished old barrel room that can comfortably seat up to 100 guests, with the dancefloor on the adjacent terrace.

The terrace is a great option in all weather conditions, still allowing a 180-degree view of the mountains, even when the glass windows are closed and the overhead heaters are keeping your guests warm.

We offer accommodation for six guests in the 5-star Rickety Bridge Manor House situated next to the venue and adjacent to the lawn with magnificent mountain and vineyard views in three luxury suites.

There is accommodation for a further 20 guests at our four-star sister accommodation, Basse Provence Guest House, only 800m away.

The 1855 thatched Basse Provence Manor House and neighbouring Country House have been completely refurbished, blending traditional heritage with stylish modern luxury. Basse Provence offers a Manor House with one luxury room and a family loft, a Country House with 5 en-suite luxury rooms, and one two-bedroom cottage, with views of a vine-green valley and ageless mountains.

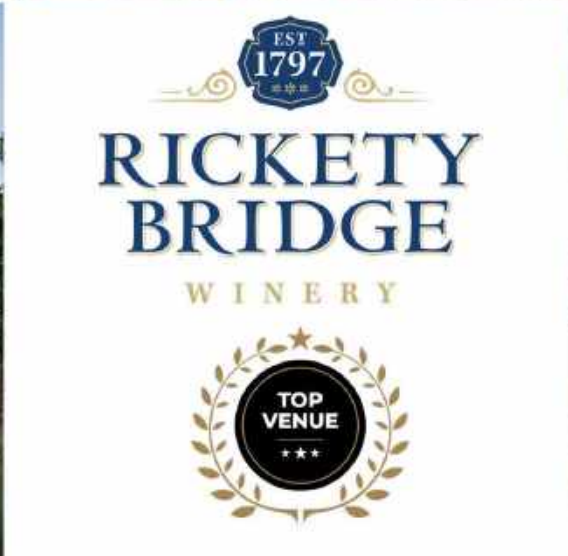
Our all-inclusive package takes the stress out of planning your special day, and includes the following:

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- Exclusive Accommodation
- Wedding Coordination included for 60 or more guests
- Crockery, cutlery & glassware
- Furniture for ceremony & reception
- Welcome drinks
- Selection of five canapés
- Three-course meal
- Rickety Bridge wines for toast and dinner service
- Basic bar setup
- Staff (Waiters & Barmen)
- Gratuity on food and beverage in package included
- Full wedding planning upon request

For more information, or to book a tour of the venue, contact our Weddings & Functions manager, Eldorét Visser, at:
083 377 4103 or functions@ricketybridge.com

Email: functions@ricketybridge.com
Call: 083 377 4103
Website: www.ricketybridge.com





Talia & Jared Govindasamy



“There is only one happiness in this life, to love and be loved.” – George Sand

Tell us about how you and Jared Met?

Jared was a personal trainer at the Virgin Active my family and I would frequently visit, One afternoon my mother rushed in from the gym with a huge smile on her face telling me she’s met such a handsome guy with green eyes, I should definitely go check him out, curious as I was with a broken leg at that stage, I went to the gym with one leg to see exactly what my mother was bragging about, and WOW I was impressed. We became friends and always kept in contact, we were friends for 10 years then he asked me to be his girlfriend, then to be his wife a year later.

Tell us about your proposal?

Our proposal was in Rosebank at the Proud Mary Restaurant on the 29th July 2022. It was such a beautiful surprise. My brother and sister in law assisted my husband in making this one of the most memorable moments of my life.

What made you choose The Moon & Sixpence?

I choose The Moon & Sixpence Venue with my brother we loved the Chapel and the gardens. There was accommodation on site for guests to get ready and stay the night. They also served breakfast in the morning before we left. It was a beautiful venue.

Who were your photographers?

Felix Entertainment Directors: Luke & Elain



**“one of the most
memorable moments
of my life”**

Hair and beauty by Kash - Hair
The Moon & Sixpence - Venue and Accommodation
Bridal Make Up by Keshmica - Make Up
Felix Entertainment - photography and DJ
Arts and More Northgate - Stationary & Name tags & Table numbers
Ansen Flowers and Rams - Flowers
Sorbet Fourways Mall - Nails and Lashes
Africology South Africa Maslow - Spa treatment
Bespoke by Humeshnee - Wedding cake
Top Signs - Graphic Designs and Printing

Tell us about your dress?

My dress is from the music video The Matrimony by Usher, since the day I saw this video, I fell in love with this dress and the colour scheme. The dress couldn't be found anywhere in SA so my mother did everything in her power to get this dress as it was exactly what I wanted. She eventually found it and got it custom made and air freighted to SA. The dress arrived two weeks before the wedding. It was absolutely perfect and everything I wished my dress would be, Thanks to my mom.

What was your colour scheme?

Black, White & Silver, we chose the colour scheme together as these are our favourite colours.

Any Budgeting advice for Brides-to-be?

I would say budgeting is very important because in the end everything just starts to add up especially the finer details. Saving before a wedding is very important so that you don't go into Debt having a wedding. My advice would be to do as much as you can yourself months in advance to save yourself the stress or pressure, we made our candles and thank you gifts ourselves which we had lots of fun doing together, we spent many months looking around for the best prices on all goods and service. Self-catering venues are much more affordable, and you can cater food of your choice rather than from a specific menu. We had the most delicious traditional Breyani catered at our wedding which was also very cost saving. Indian weddings prefer the food to be halaal, this is another reason we chose self-catering so we could cater for all our guest's dietary requirements. Sometimes buying items are much cheaper than hiring the items like table clothes and runners etc, especially if you find a good supplier, so I decide to buy most of the deco and resell it after the wedding, in this way I made most of the money back rather than hiring and everything was individually chosen by myself so options were not limited.





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An ante-nuptial contract is a hugely important document in the life of a married couple and deserves careful attention

An ante-nuptial contract ("ANC") is an agreement between two partners that intend to get married and sets out the financial consequences of the upcoming marriage. It is a critically important document to get right.

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Timothy & Tessa



“We love because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

Tell us about how you and Tim met?

Tim and I met in grade 8 where he was the class joker and I was pretty much the opposite of that. Over time we grew to be great friends. One slow burn and a short ‘friendship sabbatical’ later, he finally asked me to be his girlfriend in matric!

Tell us about your proposal?

On a very windy November afternoon, Tim was adamant to go for a walk on the beach with friends. Since this is one of my favourite things to do, I agreed, but stubbornly refused to get out of the car until they arrived. Eventually, Tim coerced me onto the beach and all but dragged me towards the spot he had chosen the day before. I only half-realised what was about to happen when he started to say some nice things about me and reached into the cooler box to get the ring box. I jokingly said, “If you’re getting a drink out of there, that’s fine, but if it’s something else, please get on one knee!” To my complete shock, he promptly did so and proposed!


What made you choose Collisheen?

When we first walked up the driveway to the Orchid House, it was a beautiful summer day with lots of birds calling. Since we both grew up on farms, we loved the atmosphere of the gardens and open space. We felt right at home and fell in love with the gorgeous glass window in the chapel. God’s presence was truly there. The venue alone was enough to convince us, but the wonderfully kind and professional function coordinator and staff sealed the deal.

Tell us about your bridal party and how you chose them?

My sister, Emma, was my maid of honour. We are very close since it’s just the two of us and I wouldn’t have had anyone else by my side. She blessed me in so many ways leading up to and on the day. The rest of my bridal party was a no-brainer. I chose three bridesmaids – Emily, Tessa and Tammy. Unfortunately, Tammy was in the UK and couldn’t make it back to SA for the wedding, but we managed to include her in the getting-ready part of the day via video call. Tessa and Tammy are childhood friends and Emily is my best friend from high school and varsity. It was a privilege to have such incredible women supporting me and cheering me on.





**“We loved the atmosphere
of the gardens and open space.”**

Venue & Catering: Collisheen Estate, The Orchid House

Photography: Courtney Dale Photography

Dress: Michelle Pace

Bouquets: The Bloom Bar

Hair: Theresa from HeadHunters

Cake: The Delish Sisters

Wedding Website: withjoy.com

What entertainment did you have?

Our day was focused on friends and family celebrating our marriage, and so we just had lawn games with canapes after the ceremony. We didn't feel the need to have any other form of entertainment for our guests. Everyone loved being able to play something in the gardens while we went to take bridal party and couple photos. It worked out well!

What were the best moments of your day?

Honestly the whole day was incredible. However, a big highlight was the ceremony because it was such a beautiful thing getting married in front of God, our friends and family. One of the funniest moments of our day was during our vows when our minister accidentally called Tim my wife instead of husband! Some of the other best moments of our day were definitely the speeches, the cake and dancing at the reception. Even my grandmother of 85 made it onto the dance floor!

Any Budgeting advice for Brides-to-be?

Remember that your wedding is about celebrating with your loved ones, not the things that you have there. The small details will be nice whether you spend a fortune on them or not so don't blow your budget trying to perfect them. Where you can, ask your friends and family for help. We were blessed to have friends do my makeup, the table and chapel décor, and the music for the whole day. We only paid for their costs and thank you gifts. One last practical tip that we were given when planning was to keep a small sum of money aside for things that pop up in the last week or two leading up to your wedding. This really helped us with some unexpected expenses!





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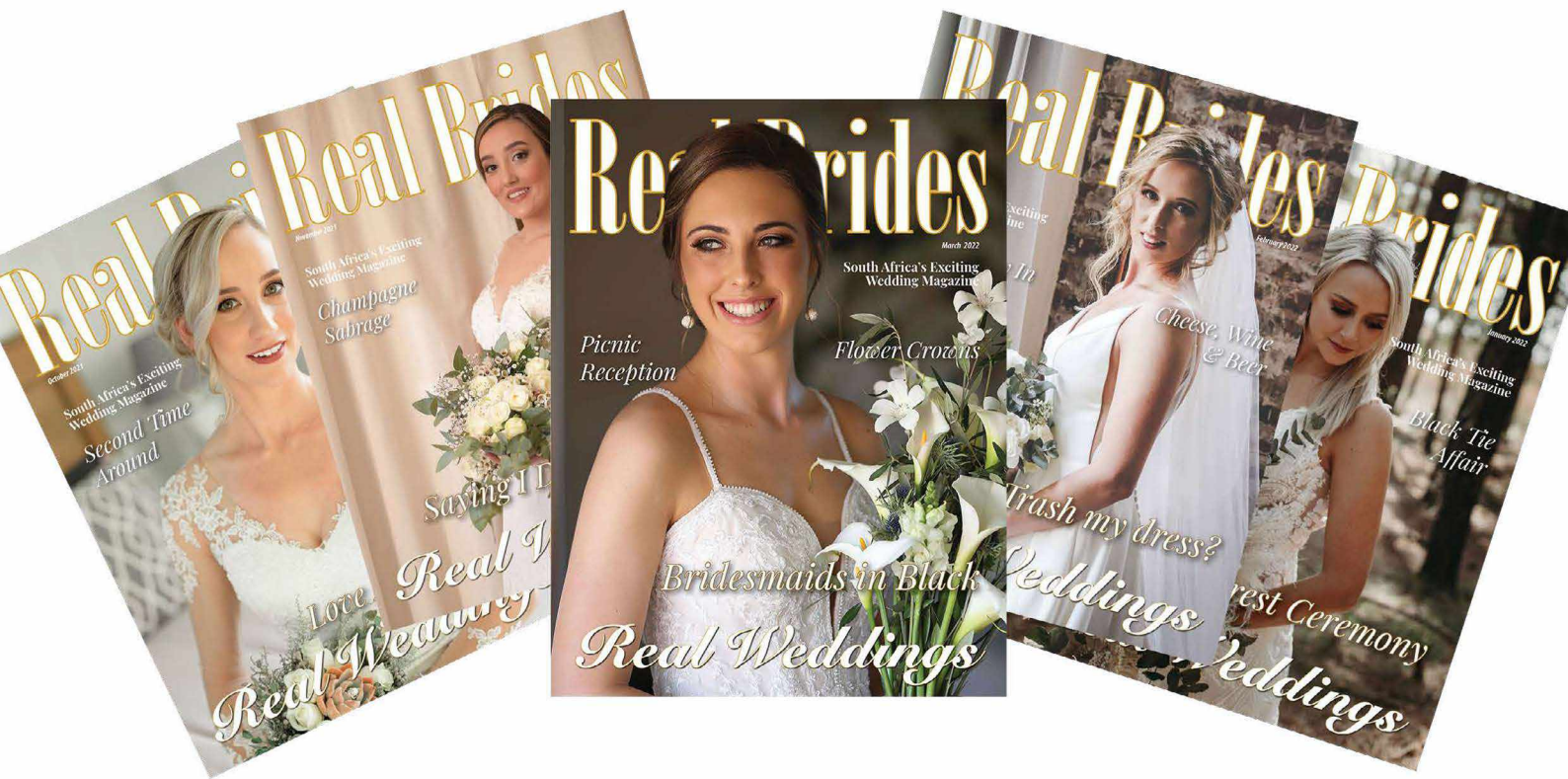


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