Real

August 2023

Beautiful Wedding Cakes

Brides

Unique Veil Ideas

Cruise Ship Wedding

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.





ATTORNEYS

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Pincus Matz House | Brodie Road Wynberg 7800 | Cape Town Docex No. 7 Wynberg | Fax: +27 (0)21 797 6013 | Tel: +27 (0)21 797 8191 | Email: info@pincus.co.za www.pincus.co.za

ATTENTION ALL BRIDES-TO-BE







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Bride: Rebecca Rodgers Photo: Garland Photography Stewart on 061 490 4915



PRODUCTIONS

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 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 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: 082 416 2363 The Silver Sixpence: 082 557 3304 Collisheen: 032 815 1107 Pheasant Hills: 012 941 1724 Dullstroom Country Weddings: 074 405 0910 Fairview: 083 488 3885 Rickety Bridge: 021 876 2129 Tula Baba Game Lodge: 084 258 2226 Vredenburg Manor - 021 842 3264 Oakfield Farm: 011 933 3464 Cathedral Peak Hotel: 036 488 1888 Riverside:

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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"Don't sweat the small stuff" and basically - Everything is small stuff!

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.

JULY ISSUE

In this issue we read about budgeting tips.

Download a copy:





Dear beautiful reader

Welcome to the most imformative 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.

July was an incredible issue focusing on helping you find your perfgect wedding dress. Budgeting tips was our main topic that could help you stretch your funds even further.

I am proud to be featuring my own wedding in the August issue. We eloped on a Cruise ship which was the most magical journey of our lives. Please read more about my perfect day.

This month we have a look at a some stunning unique Veil ideas as well as seeing those special traditions such as a silver sixpence in your shoe.

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

Your Friend Morgan

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

Rebecca & Stuart Rodgers

Tell us about how you met?

Stuart and I met in Dubai on the famous Tinder. What started with a Forest Gump wave GIF ended up marriage four years later. He charmed me by planning a first date at a beach bar and showing up with some my favourite chocolates that he got his mum to bring all the way from South Africa. I was sold.

A year later Stuart planned a trip for us to his home town, Newcastle Kwa-zulu Natal. I was beyond excited to meet his family, on day one of the trip we went to Askari Game Lodge and Spa were Stuart had arranged for an incredibly large, majestic elephant to do his proposal for him, how could I say no?

Tell us about your venue?

While organizing our wedding from Dubai, we dedicated countless hours scouring the internet for the ideal venue. Our hearts were set on a vineyard backdrop with on-site accommodations, considering the long distances our guests would be traveling. The moment we stumbled upon Rickety Bridge and conversed with Eldoret, we sensed it was the perfect match. Upon visiting the venue for the first time, our intuition was confirmed without a doubt. The team, led by Eldoret, at Rickety Bridge surpassed all expectations, leaving us in awe. This charming, rustic, and undeniably romantic setting became a cherished haven where we joyfully celebrated our most special day.

The morning of the wedding, I remember looking out the window of the manor house, I was in awe at the set up, it was everything that I dreamed of and more. The sound of the string quartet playing as guests entered the venue and the buzz in the air is a memory I will not forgot. We were also incredibly lucky to have had the very talented John Niel who ensured that the dancefloor was busy from the minute the party started.

We feel very blessed that we were able to celebrate our special day at Rickety Bridge, a truly remarkable place with staff that show such warmth and care you feel like family.





"A wedding planner and making use of an event and design company was the best decision we could have made."

> Rickety Bridge (Venue) AVZ Décor and Design Company Garland photography Wedding cake - Alena crafford Instagram: alena_crafford Make up – D and M agency – Bianca and Marite Entertainment: Simply Strings and John Niel Brides dress: Ginger and Poppy

Tell us about your photographers?

We used Garland photography to help us capture our special day.

Tell us more about your stunning dress?

I thought I would find it difficult to find a dress that I like however when I went to try dresses on in Ginger and Poppy in Dubai, you could not help but love their entire collection. The dress I chose was Riley Crepe from the Made with Love Brand.

What should brides not worry about?

The small things. Everything will fall into place on the day. For us the most important thing was the happiness of each other and celebrating our special day with close family and friends.

Any tips for brides to be?

A wedding planner and making use of an event and design company was the best decision we could have made. Eldoret and team at AVZ helped bring our ideas to life.

Eat breakfast, fuel yourself in the morning as during the day you will be busy soaking in all the excitement that you may not get to eat until dinner.

Take some time with your husband on the day to stand back and appreciate everything and everyone.

Enjoy every single minute.

Did you go on honeymoon and where?

We had an unforgettable holiday in the Maldives.





Click here to view our virtual tour

THE MANOR H









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 dating back to 1797. 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.

The idyllic setting of the wine estate provides stunning backdrops for your big day and our all-inclusive packages make planning easy. The most popular option is a ceremony on the beautiful lawn in front of the 17th-century Manor House, followed by a reception under the stars. An elegant marquee can also be erected and filled with fairy lights, leading to a magical feeling.

functions@ricketybridge.com www.ricketybridge.com +27 (0)21 876 2129



Rachelle-Mari & Nicholas van der Nat

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"Life is a grand celebration, and you are the guest of honor. Embrace every moment and make it a remarkable experience."

Tell us about your love story?

We met years ago at a chess tournament, but I would've never guessed that the "chess coach" would one day be my husband. We became good friends during the chess nationals early in 2018, but I went to study in the Netherlands and we only officially became a "couple" in December 2019.

Thereafter followed many Parkruns I dragged him to, a pandemic, I opened a business which he supported day-and-night and he even moved to Pretoria for me.(According to him a very big sacrifice!) In December 2020 he planned a surprise holiday for us. This was a big challenge, as international traveling was still very restricted due to lockdowns all over the world, but he arranged an unforgettable holiday in the Maldives.

On 27 December 2020 on a deserted island in the middle of a very blue ocean he proposed. This was already a fairy tale which he then managed to "top" with a booking in a hotel where we could watch the Dubai new year's fireworks from the 62nd floor.

Being as adventurous as we are, we've travelled as often as possible and it was only in January 2023 that we started planning our wedding. In chess I have a tendency to run short of time (chess players will know the nightmare of "time trouble") and when we found our dream wedding venue in February 2023, and a quirky date 22/4, we were ready to put ourselves in "time trouble" to get the wedding arrangements done.

We included a chess tournament as part of our wedding celebration as that is where we met and we had the two doggos we love so much with us, together with friends and family. A love story, which is still getting written every day.

Who was in your bridal party?

My two best friends, Ilse de Villiers and Zanele Herman. We then also had a Dog of Honor, Nikki and the Best Dog was Hugo. (Our furbabies, a Pekipom, and a Toy Pom which is an old man of 18 years already).





"A love story, which is still getting written every day

WEDDING DRESS: Bridal Manor PARTY DRESS: Thomas Thomsan SHOES & VEIL: JJ's House NAILS: NailLab Hermi Dempsey HAIR: Skatlik Haarsalon, Gerda de Beer IAKE-UP: Brandon Walt BRIDAL BOUQUET: Bliss Floral Creations SING ROBE: Autumn, Fynbos Bridal BRIDESMAID DRESSES: Lilly Design Studio GEMENT RING & WEDDING BAND: Poggenpoel Diamond Jewellers SUIT, SHIRT, BOWTIE, SHOES: Zedmen Rosebank **RING: Orbit Rings** FLOWERS & CEREMONY DÉCOR: Bliss Floral Creations **CANDLES:** Candle-lite STRING TRIO: Gracenote Music DJ: Core Music PHOTOGRAPHER & VIDEOGRAPHER: Kelly Productions WEDDING CAKES: Cakes by Armin BIRTHDAY CAKES: Rachella's Café CAKE TOPPERS: Figurine Queen MASTER OF CEREMONY: GP van Rheede van Oudtshoorn, Coppertop Consulting FIRST DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY: David Lombaard, DeLaVida Dance Studio ANTENAPTUAL AGREEMENT: Amori Steyn, NR Nagel Attorneys MARRIAGE OFFICER: Rev. Johannes van der Merwe DOGGIES' OUTFITS: Heavenly Dog Clothing

What made you choose The Silver Sixpence?

We wanted a whole weekend destination wedding. I've always dreamed of a forest ceremony and when I saw all the fire places at The Silver Sixpence, my heart made the decision.

The owner, Lesley, is also very impressive and made us feel comfortable right from the first viewing. We are not the traditional couple, and we wanted to include a few different ideas (like a chess tournament during canapes!) and the venue gave us the freedom to do what works for us.

The accommodation is beautiful and convenient, the forest is breathtaking and have I mentioned that the chef, Bevvie, is a magician! Our guests still rave about the delicious food, I think they almost forgot anything else of the day.

I wanted to do "Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue.... And a Silver Sixpence in my shoe" and I did it at the beautiful Silver Sixpence venue!

Tell us about your wedding cake?

One of the very few requests the groom had was: CHOCOLATE CAKE! Lots of it.

So, we had three different chocolate cakes all made by Cakes by Armin, which is a super talented friend of ours.

I love birthdays and decided to include two birthday cakes, one for my brother and one for our brilliant MC, who celebrated their birthdays the very next day. It was so much fun to be cutting our cake with two birthday boys joining in.

Tell us about your photographers?

Kelly Productions, Chrizelle and Zander. We wanted memories captured, without the photographers being the main event of the wedding. They did a wonderful job and made it the comfortable experience we were hoping for.

Any tips for brides to be?

"Don't sweat the small stuff" and basically- Everything is small stuff! Avoid taking too many things upon yourself. Hire a coordinator, if you can. If that is not an option, choose service providers that provide more than one service to lessen the communication burden. Don't be a bridezilla – Just have fun!







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



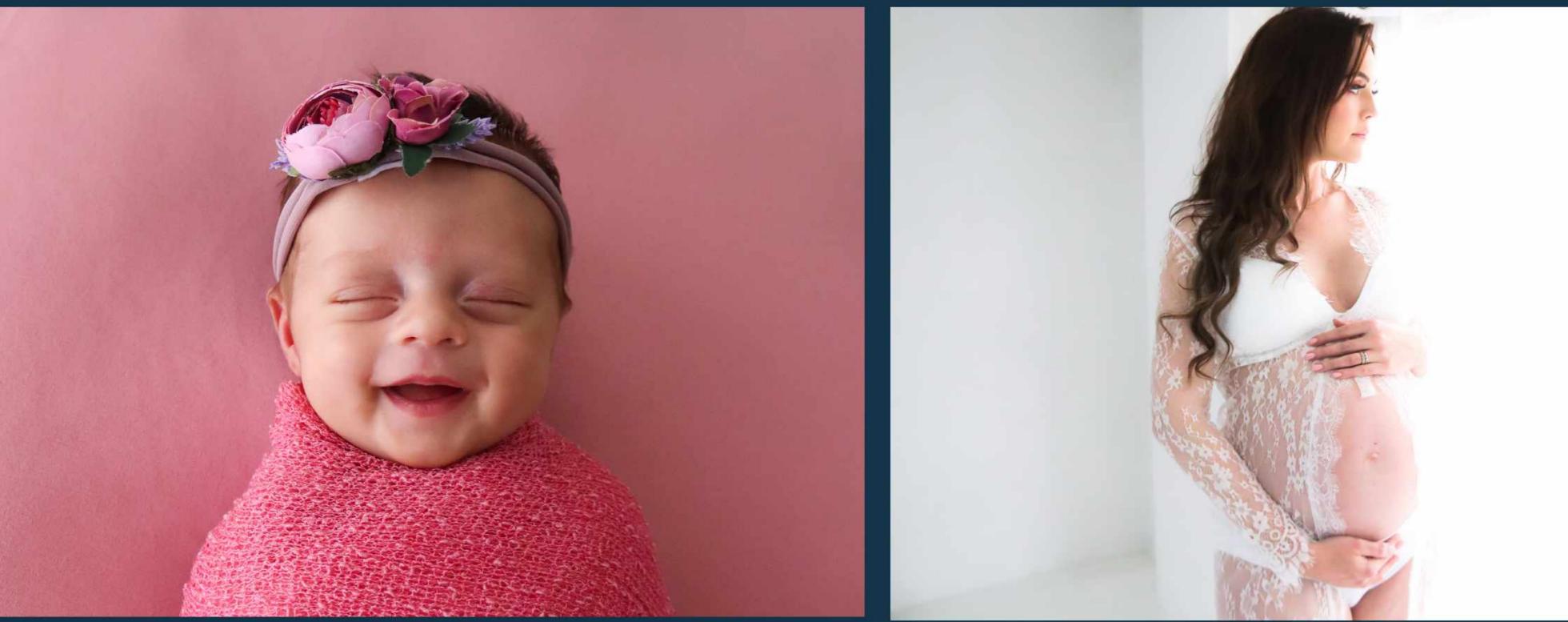
Tucked away in the hills near Dullstroom, The Silver Sixpence is the perfect Wedding Venue for an exclusive fairy-tale "weekend wedding experience" in tranquil surroundings - 300 Ha of rolling grasslands, with forests, trout dams, and meadows with beautiful Friesian horses - providing endless photo opportunities.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





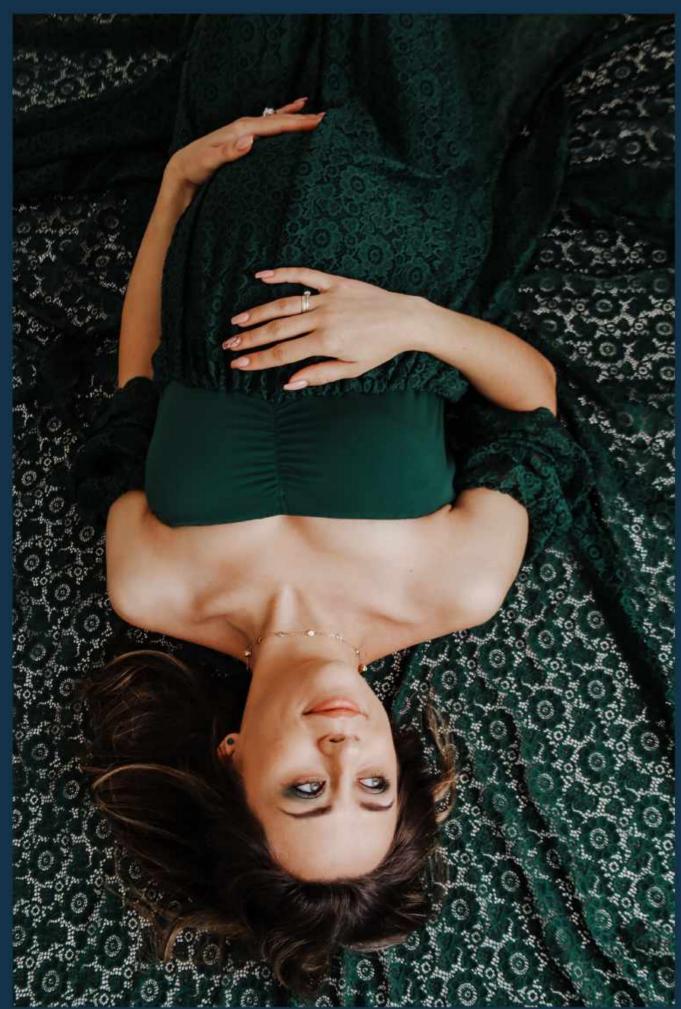




Maternity & Newborn Photography



Studio in Randburg Gauteng Packages from R1500 Dresses for Hire





Contact Morgan 082 772 8980

morgan@neonproductions.co.za www.neonproductions.co.za







"I love you today, tomorrow, forever, to infinity and beyond" The words we would say to each other before marriage, and now in marriage. This also formed part of our vows... Corinthians 13: 4 – 7

Tell us about how you met?

Phumu and Ipfi met back in December 2004 when Ipfi visited the Mandiwana residence with her mom... Before they knew it, weeks rolled into months, then months rolled into years. After years of great friendship, in 2021 Phumu asked for Ipfi's hand in marriage, and she said yes! Lobola negotiations happened and a prayer of blessing. Due to the pandemic, they couldn't celebrate.

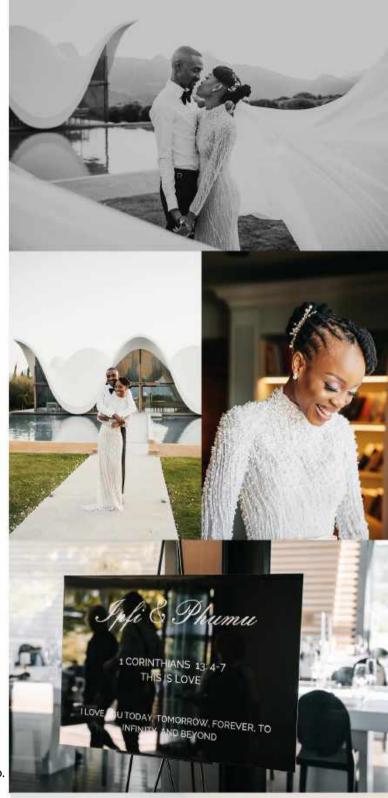
Tell us about your venue and why you chose your venue?

The wedding venue was at Bosjes, Ceres, in the Western Cape. A beautiful wine farm with amazing architectural buildings that really stand out.

The Wade Union inspired the venue. Ipfi showed Phumu the video and he knew where they could achieve the dream. Upon seeing it, Ipfi was blown away...

Did you follow any traditions and did you make your own?

No traditions were followed as we of Christian belief. Everything was centred around the Christian Faith, to our amaze, the venue too.









"May your marriage be more beautiful than your wedding."

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Who were your photographers?

Adorn Photography

Any advice for brides to be?

Plan and Pray, as this is a recipe that helped us. It gets tough but, God carried us through it all

Your wedding should represent the both you

Even if you have a wedding planner (we did not, Ipfi did the conceptualising), ensure that who you are, is well represented in everything

Service providers that are aligned with making your day special will have your best interest at heart, they will not use your day as an opportunity for them to go wild with their own ideas for their portfolio advertising. If you doubt them, change them as soon as possible

When choosing a gown, always concern yourself with how you feel in the gown, do not compromise. When comfortable and when feeling beautiful, it translates

Have room for overruns on your budget for costs you were not expecting

On the day, let go of all the planning, enjoy and be glad. Only you and your husband/planning team have the full picture of what you would have wanted to achieve, your guests don't, so let go and be present. Trust that you have done all that you could have...

May your marriage be more beautiful than your wedding, remember the efforts and all the planning you did to achieve a day as beautiful as you will have, and let that fuel you in days that come

Service Providers:

Concept: Bride @ipfy_hopy Venue: @bosjes_farm Event Manager: Erina @bosjesinsa Deco/Coordination: Adrienne @xleventscapetown Stationery: @seen_creative Acrylic signage: @gratiumdesigns.co Photography: @adorn_photography_film Cake: @sheena_henry_sa Music: @shoutmc Guests accommodation: @goudinispa and @proteahotels Cars: @porshe_southafrica Rings: @brownsjewellers

The groom - Phumu Suit&shirt: @kaleandcobespoke Hair: @headlines_barbers_beauty Socks: @tigerofsweden Shoes: @europaart Bow tie: romens

The bride - Ipfy Dress: @stephen_van_eeden Hair accessory: @kathleenbarryaccessories Shoes: @forevernew_sa Earrings: @forevernew_sa Make-up: @pammy_the_mua Nails: @boabeautybar (Tarry) Hair: @Indonilifestylesalon (Surprise)

The sonshine: Ndiwa Suit: @aslam_tailored4u Shoes: @superbalist





PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

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MIGHTY FINE





DULLSTROOM — Country (Neddings



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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 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.



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

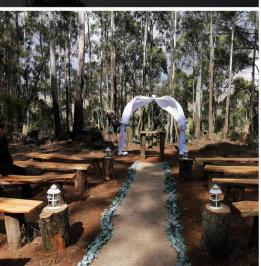






DULLSTROOM — Country (Veddings





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BEAUTIFUL COTTAGE ACCOMMODATION

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 in your celebrations.

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.



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





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.











DULLSTROOM — Country Weddings





"I love you more, I love you Harder."

Tell us about how your love story?

Ruan and I met at the Northgate Icerink in 2003, he was dating my friend at the time but we became great friends and continued chatting. Our friendship grew into something magical, a year later we started dating. The sterotypical love story of two best friends falling in love. Ruan Proposed in 2011 and we got married in 2014 on the most amazing wedding cruise. We now have two beautiful boys ages 3 and 6. We truly did find our happily ever after.

Why did you choose to elope on a cruise ship?

Planning a wedding is both mentally, emotinally and financially draining. My dad was the one sho suggested we elope. I really wanted my family to be at our wedding so we did some research and found the most amazing wedding package on the MSC Opera. Wedding Planning, food, cake, flowers all included. All we had to bring was our clothes and a smile. It worked out a lot cheaper than a big wedding at a venue and we had a week long wedding not just one day, best decision we made.

Who took your photos?

My sister in laws; Jenny-Lee and Mia took our stunning photies. There was an in house photographer but we decided to have our family take the photies as they are photographers and did an amazing job.

Tell us about your wedding Dress?

My first choice was a ballgown, princess dress but when I tried it on it was not for me. I never thought I would look pretty in a mermaid style dress but I loved the way it made me feel and knew it was the style for me. My wedding dress was very special. I had it made by Blush Couture by Jani. The pearl and diamante embelishments were from my mom's wedding dress making it my perfcet dress.





'We had a week long wedding not just one day, best decision we made.

What food did you have?

It was Italian night on the cruise, which was perfect as that is our favourite cuisine! We had muscles, lasagne and tirimisu, ending with loemonchello drinks. We also had a cake that they made for us which was white chocolate mousse cake.

Any tips for Brides wanting to elope?

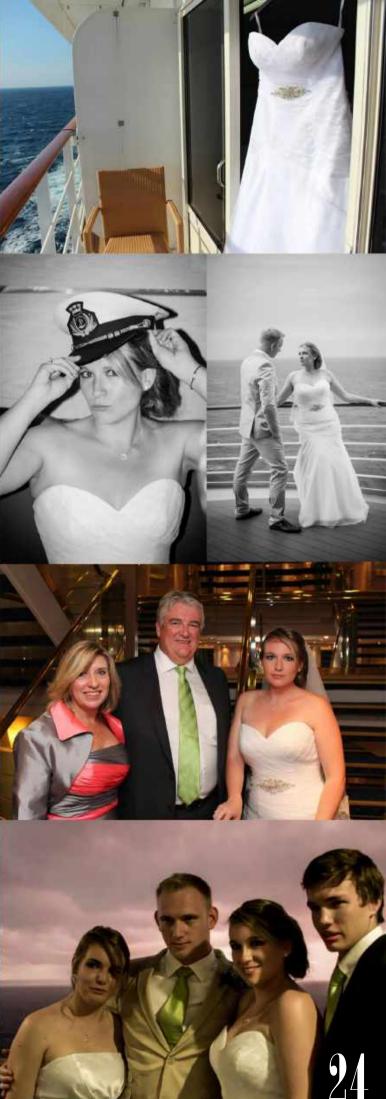
Do your research, there are amazing packages out there to suit any budget. A cruise is a wonderful fun way to have your close family and friends join you. Make sure you hire a good photographer, this is the most important part! They give you the only physical memory of the day to cherish forever. Choose a easy dress to transport, My dress was very heavy and carrying it through the port and customs was a bit of a shlep.

What were your best moments?

It is so hard to choose as the entire week was amazing but walking down the eisle with my dad and seeing Ruan was my highlight. The night of the wedding there was a huge storm which gave us stunning skies for the photos but wow the seas were rough, it was fun though. Having my family with us was the most important thing and I am so lucky to have had them there. We also had our bachelor and bachelorette parties on board which was loads of fun!

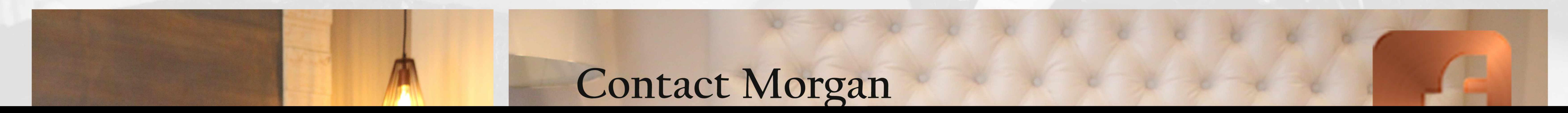








Boudoir Photography Gauteng based Packages from R1550 A perfect gift for hubby to be or for your 1st anniversary.











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 to120 guests.

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





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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 yourguests.

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 a s 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.











Tsekama

At Tsekama the spacious thatched roof and wooden wedding reception area built partly over the water, and the sprawling gardens and Bushveld scenery will turn every wedding photograph into a masterpiece.

For your big day – we will do the planning and execution so that you may have a relaxed, stress-free wedding ceremony and reception.

We will deliver an elegant, fun-filled wedding celebration to make your dreams come true.



Email: info@tsekama.co.za Call: +27(0) 82 416 2363 | +27(0) 84 497 8388 Website: www.tsekama.co.za













Tsekama













Tsekama has an 80 guest minimum and a 300 guest maximum.

Our wedding packages are flexible to suit your personal style as well as you budget.

We provide tables, linen, chair covers, crockery, cutlery, and glasses. Flowers and a wide variety of modern equipment are available.

The venue has a fully licensed bar. Clients are welcome to bring their own wine and sparkling wine. A corkage fee will be charged.

The menu is flexible and can be tailor-made according to the couple's preferences for their celebration meal.

Whether it is a champagne breakfast or brunch, a lunch or dinner overlooking the dam or a romantic Boma dinner around the fire, under the stars.

Accommodation is available for 42 people in 18 luxury units.

We offer the complete wedding package, personalized service and attention.

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

Tsekama is the perfect venue for adding a touch of magic and style to your wedding day. Tranquil, serene and picturesque, providing a natural but very romantic atmosphere.











Email: info@tsekama.co.za Call: +27(0) 82 416 2363 | +27(0) 84 497 8388 Website: www.tsekama.co.za



To take a virtual tour of the venue - Click here



Isekama Todge

Wedding and conference venue



Relax while our team take care of every small detail to contribute to the *perfect* day in your life. We understand the dreams and wishes of every bride and groom, and will go the extra mile to make sure that all requirements are met. Tsekama is the perfect venue for adding a touch of magic and style to your wedding day.

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

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

Imagine your ceremony in the natural splendor of the African bush with buffalo, giraffe, zebra and a wide variety of antelope partaking in your wedding celebration. Please note we have a 80 guest minimum and a 300 guest maximum.

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





Experienced florists specializing in: Weddings, Corporate Functions, Private Events, Funerals, Gift Hampers, Bunches and more







Alma & Johan van der Walt

Thinking of you keeps me awake. Dreaming of you keeps me asleep. Being with you keeps me alive.

Tell us about how you Met?

My sister visited me from Gauteng on my birthday. So she shared a birthday photo of me on Facebook which Johan saw on "People you may know.' Johan made first contact and so we met at a Coffee shop in Durbanville.

Who was in your bridal party?

As we are both 60+ and not a first wedding, we decided to have a small ceremony of only family and longtime friends.

Tell us about your venue?

We were very impressed with the venue, beautiful and well-maintained gardens with various options for the ceremony as well as reception areas. There was also the option for indoor reception next to the chapel. The historic house with all its reception areas on the ground floor and guest bedrooms mostly on first floor, are first class The entire venue offers memorable opportunities for photographs, not just the gardens but also the inside of the house. Our ceremony was conducted in the chapel next to the main house and pre-drinks and canapés was served on the veranda, overlooking the pool. The register was signed in the formal dining room followed by dinner served in the tastefully decorated reception area for our guests, next to the chapel. The venue, hosts, the food and the overall service was more than what we could have asked for or expected.





Choose a venue like Vredenburg Manor who caters for every aspect of the wedding

Venue: Vredenburg Manor House Photographer: Dirk du Plessis.

Who were your photographers, why did you choose them?

Dirk du Plessis. He is not only a family member but also a renowned photographer who specializes in facial portraits for models.

Indoor or outdoor ceremony?

Indoors, because it was a rainy day. The original plan was to have the wedding ceremony in the garden and on the big veranda outside, but because of bad weather, the ceremony had to move inside. Luckily, we had the option! What a warm and cosy event it was!

Did you go on honeymoon and where?

We had a great honeymoon in Langebaan (West Coast) and stayed in a cottage on the beach. Beautiful sunsets from our balcony and the sound of the waves throughout the night. What more could one ask for? Two months later we did a road trip to the Kgalagadi. This honeymoon never ends!

Any Tips for Brides-to-be?

Keep the wedding simple and natural. Choose a venue like Vredenburg Manor who caters for every aspect of the wedding. Much less stress for the bride and bridegroom so you can enjoy your day!











GUESTHOUSE, CONFERENCE AND FUNCTION VENUE

Contact us – Vredenburg Manor House, Winery Road, Somerset West Tel: +27 21 842 3264 • Cell: +27 61 725 9120 eMail: info@vredenburgmanor.co.za

www.vredenburgmanor.co.za

Click here to view our virtual tour





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 selfcatering facilities, should your guests want to stay over.



Email: info@collisheen.co.za Call: +27 (0)32-815 1107 Website: www.collisheen.co.za Address: Compensation Station, X1 Esenembi Road, Umhlali, 4390



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.







Email: info@collisheen.co.za Call: +27 (0)32-815 1107 Website: www.collisheen.co.za Address: Compensation Station, X1 Esenembi Road, Umhlali, 4390









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



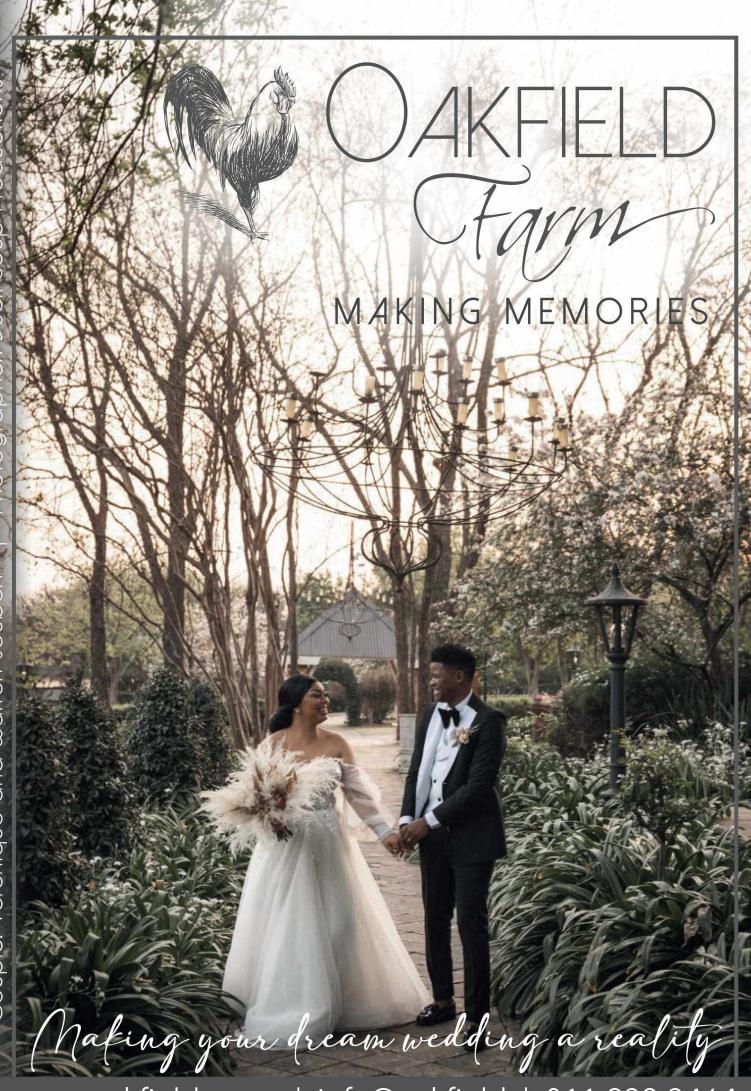
An ante-nuptial contract ("ANC") is an agreement between two partners that intend to get married and sets out the financial consequences of the upcoming marriage. It is a critically important document to get right.

If you and your partner do not sign an ANC, the automatic financial consequence will be an in community of property marriage with a single, joint estate.

TO WATCH VIDEO- CLICK HERE



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Naking your dream wedding a reality!

Oakfield Farm located in Muldersdrift is easily accessible from both Pretoria & Johannesburg.

In 1988, Mary Slack fell in love with the farm, and with her long-time friend, David Stubbs, purchased the farm from the Harrison family. In 1991, David's son, Matthew Stubbs, left his teaching career and trekked from the Cape with a load of horses. The task of making the farm pay its way was not as easy as it seemed. Quail eggs were sold, guinea fowl were bred, and fifteen rather wild Warmblood horses arrived from Alzu Stud to be broken in and trained as show jumpers. However, it was the old barn overlooking the indigenous wood and freshwater stream which came to the rescue. This was converted into a reception venue and is now known as the Homestead Venue.

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 once served as rest point for the Voortrekkers before crossing the flooded Juksei River. It sadly fell after a thunderstorm but

pieces of the old trunk can still be seen memorialized in the garden.

Inspired by an old stone altar in an Oak Forest which has seen the marriage of five generations of Halse children on their beautiful family farm, a charming Chapel was built in the grove of Cottonwood trees. Having grown up on horseback, it also seemed obvious to include a horse-drawn carriage. So began the vision, the "one-stop" wedding venue. Over the years, the unique Summerhouse was completed, followed by the bridal suites and the Guest House. The old chicken run in which old Mrs Harrison grew her prized orchids, then became the beautiful Conservatory.

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 & guineafowl foraging on the lawns.

A visit to Oakfield Farm is an inspiration. Explore the captivating English country gardens and historic old trees while also visiting the charming forest chapel, stunning conservatory, and magnificent glass-clad venues. The secret of a perfect wedding is the marriage of your pennies with your vision. It is here that Oakfield Farm's knowledgeable and flexible team excel by assisting you with a full costing of every aspect of your wedding. This includes an introduction to the wedding packages which include every conceivable extra from select décor to dressing rooms and even complimentary drinks to welcome your guests on arrival, not to mention the horse drawn carriage to take the bride to the chapel.

An exceptional wedding is no less than the sum of its parts. With your vision and Oakfield Farm's expertise, we will design your own bespoke wedding. Entrust us with your dream. Oakfield Farm boosts 3 unique venues catering for every taste.

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.



ję Vinyl Studios

















Nadine & Juan-Pierre



Faith is deliberate confidence in the character of God whose ways you may not understand at the time.

Tell us about how you Met?

We met when I was 11 years old and he 12. We were in the same school. We dated throughout high school for 3 years. He was my high school sweetheart and first real love. I always knew he was the one.

Our paths separated after school, life taking us on different journeys, however throughout ten years we always somehow stayed in touch and our paths crossed again in 2021 and we did not waste another minute without each other.

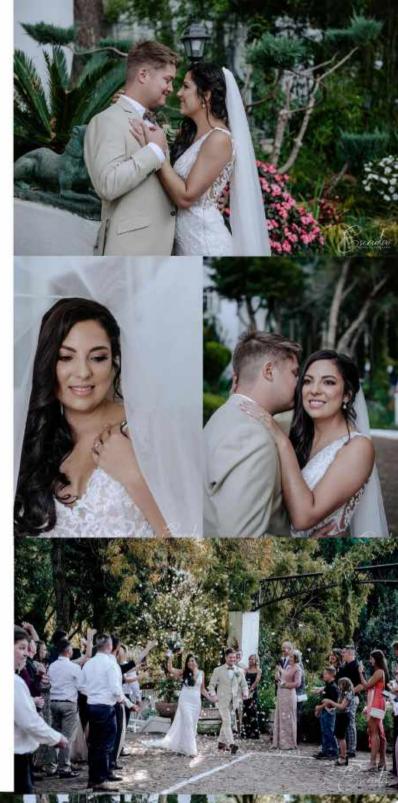
We got engaged in October 2022 and our wedding was on 29 April 2023.

Who walked you down the aisle?

My Father (the best in the world)

Tell us about your venue?

Pheasant Hill was the very first venue we visited and we fell in love. Their gardens are breath taking and the Ile de France banquet hall is so unique and beautiful. The food were amazing and the décor and flowers just stunning.



"Pheasant Hill was the very first venue we visited and we fell in love."

Venue: Pheasant Hill Boutique Hotel They provide all the suppliers. Photographers: Escada Photography & Videography Hair: Charlize – C-Morr Hair Artist Make-Up – Make-up by Dominiq

How did the planning go?

The planning was hassle and stress free as Pieter and his team did all the planning and were hands on. I did not have to worry about a single thing. They were amazing.

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

No! There are so much extra expenses that we did not account for, so many small things which adds up to a lot of extra money. Bridesmaid dresses, accessories, guest gifts, gifts for the bridesmaids and mommies etc.

Did you go on honeymoon and where?

No, we are saving money and will then go on our honeymoon.

What should brides not bother with?

I can't think of anything except to only invite guest you are actually close with.





The memories of a lifetime await you at Pheasant Hill.

Pheasant Hill Wedding venue and Boutique hotel is situated just outside Irene close to the R21 and Irene Village Mall. This charmingly elegant gem is conveniently near Pretoria, Irene, Centurion and Pretoria East and next to the Rietvlei dam and Nature reserve.

The boutique hotel offers 22 ensuite rooms where your wedding guests can stay over for Breakfast the next morning.

Our mission at Pheasant Hill is to offer our Brides and Grooms a one-stop experience where we offer a full service at affordable prices. You come with all your ideas and we make it a reality without hassles.

As a couple you need to relax and enjoy your wedding without worries so leave it all in the experienced hands of the Pheasant Hill team and coordinator. The splendor of lle de France, our French style banquet hall, is a sight to behold. This banquet room can host events for up to 180 people seated. The room is elegantly decorated in a French Empire style, with immaculate finishes and facilities.

Wedding ceremonies are held at our open air Chapel in a built-in Amphitheatre style overlooking a small dam with ducks.

Pheasant Hill offers 3 small venues and 1 large banquet room. Though we have 4 venues, we only host one wedding per day in order to give you as the bride and groom the exclusivity you deserve on your big day.

As an award-winning venue and one of the top venues in Pretoria, our mission is to give our clients complete peace of mind when booking your wedding at Pheasant Hill. Our professional team is there to assist you all the way and to make this special day in your life a day to remember forever.

- Weddings
- Complete Service
- Engagements
- Birthdays
- Corporate Events
- Yearend Functions
 - High Teas
 - Bridal Showers
- Stork Teas

www.pheasanthill.co.za 0129411724 or 0834590305 pieter@pheasanthill.co.za or bookings@pheasanthill.co.za 39 Sterkfontein Avenue, Doornkloof East, Irene Pretoria.





Inkwenkwezi PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

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.

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



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 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* 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/





Inkwenkwezi

PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

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

Contemporary and yet authentically African, our perfectly-appointed venue is the ideal mix of wild beauty and modern comfort. Game Reserve 30 kms from East London • Weddings • Functions • Conferences

> Tel 043 734 3234 / Fax 043 734 3888 PO Box 236, Kwelera, 5259 E-mail: marketing@inkwenkwezi.co.za Website: www.inkwenkwezi.com

Please watch our latest video on You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zXO6P6ssOE Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/inkwenkwezi.reserveec/

Antoinette & Stephen Burke

Once in a while, right in the middle of an ordinary life, love gives us a fairy tale.

Tell us about how you Met?

It was the 2nd of October, and the sun cast its golden hues over the Kalahari Golf Estate in Kathu. I was invited by my best friend, Nicolene, to her house, anticipating a day filled with laughter and camaraderie.

I was introduced to an unfamiliar face – Stephen (Mansmens). Amidst friendly banter and shared laughter, a connection began to bloom. However, unknown to me, (Mansmens) perceived my friendliness as flirting, and he playfully boasted about it to everyone. The following weekend brought us together once again, as a group of friends planned an adventurous 4x4 trip to Vanzylsrus. Knowing I didn't have a suitable vehicle, I approached Mansmens, who was driving a Fortuner, and asked if he'd like to join the expedition. Graciously, he agreed, and together we embarked on a journey into the wild unknown.

Upon reaching the sandy dunes of Vanzylsrus, everyone eagerly embraced the thrill of the moment, except for Mansmens. When I inquired about his reluctance, his pride in his Toyota Fortuner shone through as he stated that he had nothing to prove – a moment that left me both bewildered and amused.

But as the day unfolded and our conversations deepened, Mansmens felt the need to share a secret that had weighed on his conscience. It turned out that his Fortuner was not a 4x4 as I had assumed, and he had chosen to remain silent about it, simply to spend more time in my company.

Tell us about your proposal?

On an enchanting Easter weekend in 2021, our paths crossed on a journey from Kathu to Clarens. Amidst savoring LOVE HEARTS sweets, fate surprised us with a candy that said "Marry Me." Excitedly, I showed it to Mansmens, but he unknowingly ate it, unaware of the hidden message.

Determined, we sought another sweet with those heartwarming words, buying countless packets of LOVE HEARTS. Yet, fate seemed to have chosen that one unique candy for us.

Undeterred, we continued our adventures, and on the 26th of April 2021, during a trip from Cape Town to Kathu, hope rekindled at the Piketberg Fresh Stop. As we ascended Piekenierskloof pass, there it was – another "Marry Me" sweet! Overwhelmed with joy, I handed it to Mansmens, and he understood.

Stopping amidst the picturesque pass, he took all the sweets, searching for a candy that said "Yes." And there it was, the perfect response to my heartfelt proposal. With trembling hands, he gave it to me, sealing our love amidst the breathtaking beauty of Piekenierskloof pass. From that day on, our hearts intertwined, bound by love and the sweetness of fate's delightful encounter.



"The perfect place to celebrate our love and mark the beginning of a new chapter."

> Wedding Venue & Decor - Panorama Wedding Venue Wedding Dress - Blooming Brides Studio Suit - Splendor Boutique (Kathu) Bride's shoes - Funky Feet Groom Shoes - De Jagers (Bredarsdorp) Hair & Make-up - Larischa (Lala) Lendia

Music - Dual Sound Photo Booth - VW Combi Photo Booths Photography - Captured Photography Cake - Oh Bake

What made you choose your venue?

We chose the Panorama Wedding Venue in Franskraal because it embodied everything we had envisioned for our special day. The venue offered a perfect fusion of natural beauty, with a serene bush setting on one side and a captivating beach location on the other. As we laid eyes on it, the breathtaking charm immediately captivated us. The majestic mountains and lush bush exuded tranquility, while the crashing waves and vast sea brought a sense of adventure and freedom. This venue symbolized the essence of our love story, reflecting the journey we had embarked upon a mix of calm reflection and exciting new experiences. The contrast between the serene bush and invigorating beach resonated deeply with us. Beyond its stunning appearance, the Panorama Wedding Venue held a meaningful connection to our relationship, making it the perfect place to celebrate our love and mark the beginning of a new chapter.

Who were your photographers, tell us more?

Captured Photography. I bought an all-inclusive package and the photographer was included in the price.

Tell us about your dress?

The dress seamlessly complemented my enchanted forest theme. Its ethereal fabric and nature-inspired details evoke the very essence of the magical forest setting you've envisioned for your wedding day.

What was your colour scheme?

Olive green and dusty pink. I infused my wedding with the enchanting allure of nature, and my love for succulents and Proteas was beautifully represented throughout the entire celebration.

Any Budgeting advice for Brides-to-be?

Involve friends and family. I chose to involve my friends and family in my wedding planning because I believe that sharing this special occasion with our loved ones creates a stronger sense of community and togetherness. Embracing their presence and unique talents adds a personal touch to the celebration, making it more meaningful and memorable.

By inviting friends and family to contribute their special skills or professions in lieu of traditional wedding presents, we not only save on costs but also create a deeper connection with our loved ones. Their involvement in tasks such as baking the wedding cake, arranging the flowers, providing wedding favors, supplying wine and dessert, or even offering their car for the wedding day adds a touch of love and sincerity to each aspect of the event.





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Negan & Gareth Glyn

The Trail Provides -Appalachian Trail Community Saying

Tell us about how you Met?

Gareth and I met in 2017 on a through-hike of the Appalachian Trail in the United States. The trail is a 3,500km unguided footpath that traverses across 14 states through the Appalachian mountains, from Georgia in the South all the way to Maine, just shy of the Canadian border. When we met over lukewarm beers in the parking lot of the Budget Inn Motel in Franklin, North Carolina, we had no idea what a special moment had occurred. Due to our shared sense of humor, love of long conversations, and hatred of cold, rainy days, we accidentally hiked together for nearly six months, completing the through hike. After the hike, I moved to South Africa to give the relationship a real chance, and I haven't looked back!

Tell us about your venue?

We chose to get married at Cathedral Peak Hotel in order to celebrate the natural beauty of the mountains, which had been so central to our meeting. The venue could not have been more gorgeous or perfect for the event, with stunning scenery, delicious food and drink, and activities for the whole family.

How many guests did you have?

Since myself and my family are from America, our guestlist topped out at 80. It was the perfect number for our celebration though, as we were able to spend meaningful time with each and every guest there.

Who helped with the wedding planning?

Oh Happy Day were our chosen wedding planners, and I must say it was the smartest decision of our entire wedding process. Since it was my first time planning a wedding, there were so many things I had never considered. My team at OHD was always a quick message away, answering every question, sourcing my dream decor, and finding things at the right price point. Best of all, their presence at the wedding made the weekend not only stress-free for me, but completely enjoyable. I could not recommend them more!



The venue could not have been more gorgeous or perfect for the event."

Venue: Cathedral Peak Hotel Dress: Silk Stitches Bridal / Eddy K. Rings: Lorean Jewellery / Point No Point Studio Suit: Zedman Wedding Planners: Oh Happy Day Photographer: Mighty Fine Ceremony Music: Hot Club d'Afrique Reception Music: Angus Flowers: The Floral Team

Hair & Makeup: Nixon

Tell us about your photographers?

We had a last minute photography emergency when our original choice informed us they had double-booked two months before the wedding – a few days before the holidays! Mighty Fine stepped in at the last minute and saved the day. They were extremely organized and professional through the entire process, and the photos and videos are absolutely incredible!

Tell us more about your stunning dress?

Ironically I never really thought of myself as a particularly girly girl (hence being willing to live in the woods for 6 months while wearing only one hiking outfit), and yet the moment I started considering wedding dresses, all I wanted was lace and sparkles. The dress I chose is called "Gloria" by Eddy K., and the shape-hugging silhouette and layers of lace made me feel unbelievably gorgeous.

What should brides not worry about?

Don't sweat the small details! I often have a hard time relinquishing creative control to other people, but since there were so many details to consider, I decided that choosing vendors whose work I admire would be good enough. From there, I just trusted that they would make their magic happen ... and they did! The best part was that there were many pleasant surprises the day of the wedding, and everything was every bit as beautiful as I hoped it would be.

Any handy tips for brides to be?

The main reason to relinquish control to other people on your wedding day is so that you can be in the moment. The day of the event, it doesn't matter if the schedule is tight, if the flowers are perfect, or if the right song is being played at the exact right moment. What really matters is that you are constantly checking in with yourself and your partner, realizing that this is the day you've waited for your whole life, and truly enjoying it.







The perfect setting for the start of your next adventure

No adventure is greater than the one you start with the one you love. The perfect step-off point is the gracious elegance we offer you at the magnificent 4 star family-owned Cathedral Peak Hotel. With over 80 years of experience our personal service, warm hospitality and scenic beauty will make your wedding day or wedding weekend a memory that will live forever.

Set in beautiful gardens, our charming stone-and-thatch chapel has an expansive window behind the pulpit and boasts breathtaking views of some of the Drakensberg's most beautiful mountains. We offer a variety of reception venues, superb menus, and a helicopter for unforgettable photographs. Our on-site experienced and professional banqueting team will ensure your wedding and reception runs smoothly and flawlessly.

Up until 31st October 2024, wedding parties of 30+ guests staying in 15+ double rooms will receive a wide range of complimentary benefits and discounts including FREE use of our chapel & a reception venue.

Take a virutal tour - Click Here





We look forward to welcoming you to the Ultimate Drakensberg Wedding Experience!

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FAIRVIEW HOTEL

TO TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE VENUE – CLICK HERE





Hotels, Spa & Golf Resort

Situated on the outskirts of tropical Tzaneen, Fairview Hotels combines first-class facilities with warm country hospitality.

When you enter the tranquil estate, with 18 holes par-3 golf course surrounded by magical mature gardens, you can exhale and relax.

The Fairview Hotel offers elegant 4* thatched rooms decorated in Afro-Colonial style in a garden setting boasting an incredible variety of indigenous trees and colourful birdlife.

The Village at Fairview is a luxury 5* hideaway with only ten spacious and stylish spa suites looking out over the lush gardens and the scenic golf course.



Email: reservations@fairviewhotel.co.za Call: +27 015 307 2679 / +27 082 900 5166 Website: fairviewhotel.co.za

























Guests can indulge in the warm luxury of their suite fitted with a Nespresso coffee machine, a private balcony and a beautiful bathroom with a jumbo shower, heated towel rails, underfloor heating and jacuzzi baths to make their stay memorable. Dine in the spacious thatched Le'Thaba Restaurant or at the Fairview Clubhouse Restaurant and Bar, offering outstanding cuisine accompanied by an excellent selection of wines.

Fairview offers the perfect setting for a romantic wedding with its chapel, extensive lawns, and intimate feel.

Guests can arrange private smaller functions for large groups in various venues with distinct atmospheres. Other facilities include pampering treatments at the Fairview Spa & Rasul, golf, fly-fishing, walking trails, or relaxing at the private swimming pool.

Fairview is just 5 minutes from the heart of Tzaneen and an hour from the world-renowned Kruger National Park. The lush and tropical area of Tzaneen serves as a perfect base to explore the Wolkberg Mountains, Magoebaskloof, quaint Haenertsberg, Modjadji Cycad Forest and various other popular tourist attractions.

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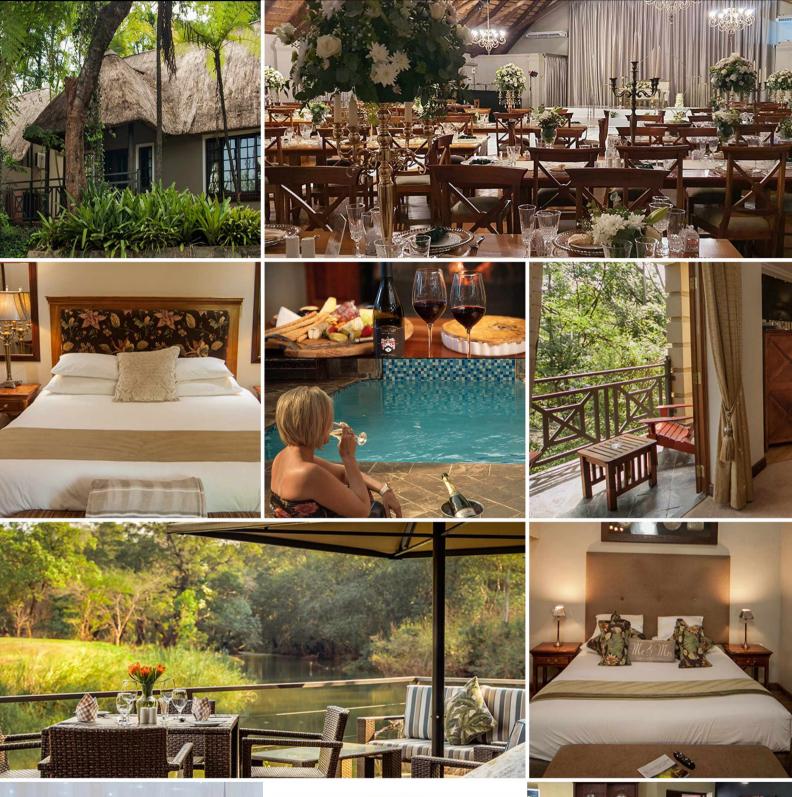




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Justine & Michael Naude

I'm the happiest me when I'm with you

Tell us about how you Met?

I met my husband Michael through my dad. He had been friends with Michael's dad Mike for years and my dad had mentioned that Mike had a really nice son, but we only met briefly when I was around 18 and it was a quick hi and goodbye.

My dad always said he could see me with someone like Michael but I never gave it much attention until one day, a few years after our initial meeting, we met over drinks with our dads.

Michael and I connected instantly and we have been inseparable ever since that day.

Tell us about your proposal?

My husband took me to Cape Town for a few days. Half way through our trip, he took me to my favourite beach in Bloubergstrand to see the sunset as he knows how obsessed I am with them. He had packed us a basket with snacks and champagne. As the sun was starting to set we got up to take a photo and in that moment he got down on one knee and asked me to be his wife. It was the most perfect intimate moment. I started to cry and he took me in his arms.Afterwards we sat watching the sun disappear beyond the horizon, sipping champagne and drinking in the moment.

This was by far was my favourite sunset of them all.

What made you choose your venue?

I had heard about the beautiful Riverside Country Estate from my mom in-law Louise.. It sounded like the perfect place to honour our love. Susan was extremely warm and welcoming. She took interest in my wedding from the start, gave really good ideas and suggestions and helped us plan the perfect day. She ensured that I got everything I wanted at an affordable price.



At the end of the day, we had the wedding of our dreams

Venue and DJ: Riverside Country Estate Photographer: Meisiekind Fotografie Bride and Bridesmaids dresses: Wedding Connexion Boksburg Make-Up: Make-up on Fleek with Heidi Photobooth: Moose booths Stationery: JP Design

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

My bridal party consisted of my closest friends, Maid of Honour Tamlyn, Roxanne, Cheryl-May and Dayna and my extra special flower girls Tannah and Tatum. We had a kitchen team and I gave them a bottle of wine with a message on them asking them to be my bridesmaids.

These ladies planned a beautiful bridal shower and made sure that our wedding day was stress free and ensured that my journey toward becoming a married woman was one filled with joy

What entertainment did you have?

We chose the resident DJ who kept the crowd on the dance floor. Our guests loved the photo booth most and spent a good deal of their night having fun . .

What were the best moments of your day?

The whole day was beautiful. Waking up early with my mom and my stepmom and my bridesmaids arriving and getting ready for the day.

Our ceremony was relaxed, just how we wanted and the pastor made it fun, there were lots of laughs and a few tears.

Our one on one photoshoot during sunset was probably the hi-light of the day, it was an intimate moment for just me and my husband

Dancing with family and friends at the end of the night and having our friends walk with us to our honeymoon suite at the end of the night made the day all the more special.

Any Budgeting advice for Brides-to-be?

Don't overwhelm yourself with pictures and ideas from social media

Nobody notices the small things but you

Our wedding co-ordinator at Riverside prepared a storyboard for us and reached out to many vendors for us, she helped us find cheaper or alternative ways to do things At the end of the day, we had the wedding of our dreams







Situated on the banks of the Blesbok River, Riverside Country Estate is tucked away from the hustle and bustle of the CBD. The décor at Riverside Country Estate reflects a stylish country home, set in elegant and sophisticated surrounds. Each member of the Riverside wedding team is passionate about creating a day to remember. From the moment you call our Events Manager to ask a question, until the groom whisks away his bride at the end of the wedding evening; our team are on hand to cater to your every whim.

We can accommodate weddings as small as 30 guests and as large as 300. We can happily host your ceremony on site in our Open- Air chapel or overlooking the Blesbok River in our gardens. Riverside is beautifully segmented into areas designated to flow from cocktails to dinner, complete with a bridal retreat. Your Wedding Coordinator will be delighted to offer guidance on all the finishing touches available to make your wedding individual and unforgettable, creating a lifetime of treasured memories.



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