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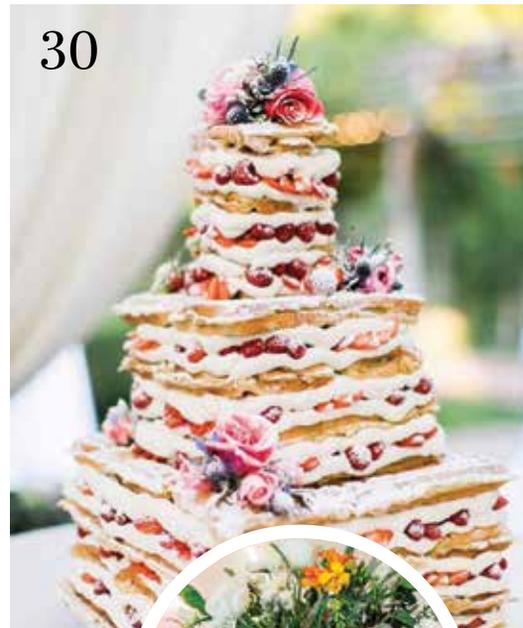
On the cover: Cake by Steve Konopelski, from "The English Countryside on Tilghman Island," on page 44. Photo by Kylie Martin Photography. Design by August Schwartz.



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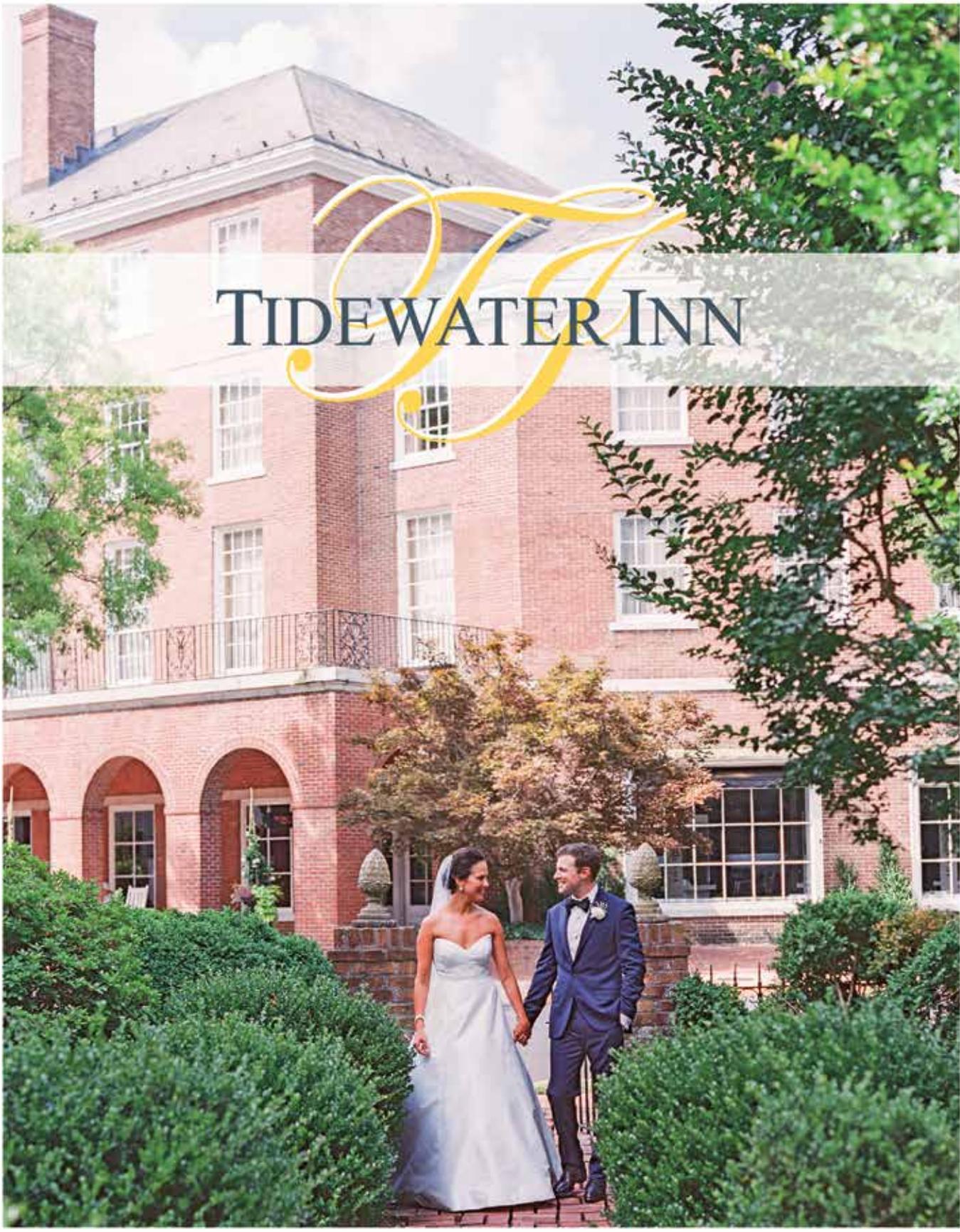
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WEDDING NEWS FROM AROUND THE BAY



SNAPINGGIGGLE PHOTOGRAPHY

NEW VENUE

The Atreum at Soaring Timbers, Annapolis' newest event space, opened this spring. With vaulted ceilings, exposed beams, and a clean, light-filled aesthetic, we're calling this the next big thing. Also, hallelujah! You can invite literally everyone because max capacity is 365.



NEW DIGS

Honeywood Event + Tent debuted its 4,800-square-foot downtown Annapolis showroom, giving local couples and planners a physical spot to check out gorg tableware and seating, plus these really terrific Kim Hovell Oyster Napkins. Cha-ching.



WHAT'S UP? weddings

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My sister Ellie (left) ties the knot in October and I couldn't be more excited to serve as her matron-of-honor, alongside my little sis Sarah (right).

What to expect: Both this year and next year will be very busy, which means unconventional choices will be common as scarcity drives couples to explore new venues, vendors, and dates. With the help of a few recent brides, we wrote a primer to help you assess whether a vendor is the right match, based on word-of-mouth, communication patterns, and personality types (page 37). Another consequence of the covid shuffle is that brunch weddings will reign supreme (your guide on page 30) as weekend dates are snatched up. Whether or not you decide to have a morning reception, we think a waffle cake is a very good thing.

Per usual, we scouted the Internet for the most impressionable, Instagrammable, inspiring weddings that happened in MD and came up with seven to set you to distraction, from Lydia and Lemuel's hotel wedding that came together in under SIX days to Amanda and Ben's boho reception, decorated exclusively with dried flowers. Our style section got a new spin, with a focus entirely on local couples. We found out the details of what they wore, so all you have to do is click.

Best wishes to you and yours,
Truly,

Jessica Greensmith

What's Up? Weddings Editor

Finally. We can see the light — a vaccine! — and are reveling in the freedom that will soon, please soon, return to weddings. The warm embraces, the bottom half of our faces (hello, hot lips!), epic dance parties, European honeymoons, family-style dining, bespoke seating charts that go on and on and on because 10 people in a room is so 2020.



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A Sunset Palette

Last year, if you had told us we'd be singing the praises of yellow, we'd have laughed in your mask - properly distanced, of course! But this golden hue is associated with warmth and happiness for a reason, and boy are we ready for both. Also, yellow, especially in its marigold form, is a shockingly perfect match for pinks, lilacs, and sky blues. Bring the sunset directly to you.



Babsie Ly Photography / Amerology / Siren Floral Co



Alaina Ronquillo Photography >



Morgan Franklin Photo



Cheese Studio Fotografia



Alaina Ronquillo Photography



Sarah D'Ambra Photography

Japandi Design

This minimalist ethos, which fuses the Scandinavian hygge movement with Japan's wabi-sabi aesthetic emphasizes natural materials, monochromatic colors, clean craftsmanship, and functional style.

WHAT IS HYGGE?

Hygge is a concept, originating in Denmark, of creating cozy and convivial atmospheres that promote wellbeing.

WHAT IS WABI-SABI?

Wabi-sabi is a Japanese aesthetic that finds beauty in things imperfect, impermanent, and incomplete.

FLORALS Studio Mondine PHOTO M.K. SADLER >



Jotun



PHOTO Cheers Babe Photo STYLING Hand & Heart Event Design FLORALS Boheme Tipi Events



Nutmeg Cake Design

All the Pretty Pendants

Chandeliers are beautiful, no doubt, but they're far from the only light game in town. Steal a trick from your living room and experiment with textured fixtures (which are easy to rent!)



Scott Clark Photography



Woven textures add instant warmth to a space, which is why we love these rattan lanterns from **Sugarplum Tent Company**. For maximum impact, cluster a few over the head table or space them out over the dance floor at various heights. Specialty pendants range from \$175 to \$500, which includes the cost of installation.



Finding Light Photography

**TERMS TO KNOW:
IN ORDER FROM FUNCTIONAL TO STYLISH**

UPLIGHTING

Upward-facing lights that are placed on pillars or around the perimeter of a room to highlight architectural details and set the mood. One of the advantages of uplighting is you can program them to dim and even change colors.

PIN SPOTS

Narrow-beamed lights that are used to illuminate centerpieces, the cake, and other reception focal points. (Because why pay the big bucks for a design detail no one can actually see?)

STRING LIGHTS

(Also known as fairy, twinkle, bistro, or cafe lights) - Stands of bulbs that are draped around a venue. The size and shape of the bulb can vary - as well as the hue - so, if you're particular, always ask to see a sample!

PENDANTS

Single light fixtures that hang from the ceiling of a space. They are sometimes called drop lights and include chandeliers and lanterns.

GOBO

A stenciled disc that is positioned in front of a light source to project an image, such as a couple's monogram or wedding date, onto any surface, most often a wall or dance floor.



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Carolina Lima Photography



Q&A: Grazing Tables

CHARCUTERIE, BUT MAKE IT ART.

When we discovered **Those Crazy Girls** on Instagram, all diets were ruined forever. You know that whole trapped-on-a-desert-island scenario where you can only bring one thing? Turns out there is an objective answer ... it's whatever Hannah Mann is packing.

Coastal Roots Photography



< Melissa Barrick Photography / Days of May Florals



How did you get your start designing grazing tables?

HM: When I was living in San Diego, my sister and I were natural hostesses and always inviting people over. We had so much fun putting cheese boards together, making them delicious with local flavors but also making them really, really pretty. When I moved to Southern Maryland, I realized there was nothing like that happening here. When people did charcuterie, it wasn't aesthetically appealing. So we decided to curate our own and we've had a really great response!

How are grazing tables different from charcuterie boards?

Grazing boards and tables allow you to be more creative. You don't have to think about just meat and cheese with a few olives. You're able to play around with the selection or theme, like a brunch grazing table. You can make something that is beautiful, delicious, and fun, that people will come back to. It's more of an experience than just an appetizer.

Where do you source your ingredients from?

Our distributor is a California wholesale distributor, who also works with Cowgirl Creamery, so we use a lot of their cheeses. We've also found some really great farmers markets and small

produce stands in Maryland that are open year-round; we strive to stay local whenever we can. One of the local creameries we work with is Firefly Farms, where we get our goat cheese.

What's one food you can't live without?

I could not live without Cyprus Grove Creamery's Humboldt Fog cheese. They sell it here, thank goodness. We had to convince one of our local supermarkets to carry it. It's made with dry vegetable ash, so they were worried people wouldn't buy it for themselves because they'd think it was a blue cheese or something funky.

Is it still possible to do a grazing table in the time of covid?

One of our specialties for larger parties are grazing table runners. Because of covid, we obviously aren't doing them (or anything else shared), so we've transitioned to Kraft picnic boxes in several sizes and charcuticones.

What are your favorite seasonal ingredients?

Every time its kumquats or cara caras or blood orange season, I get so excited. Whether it is fresh or dried, citrus pairs so well with cheeses.



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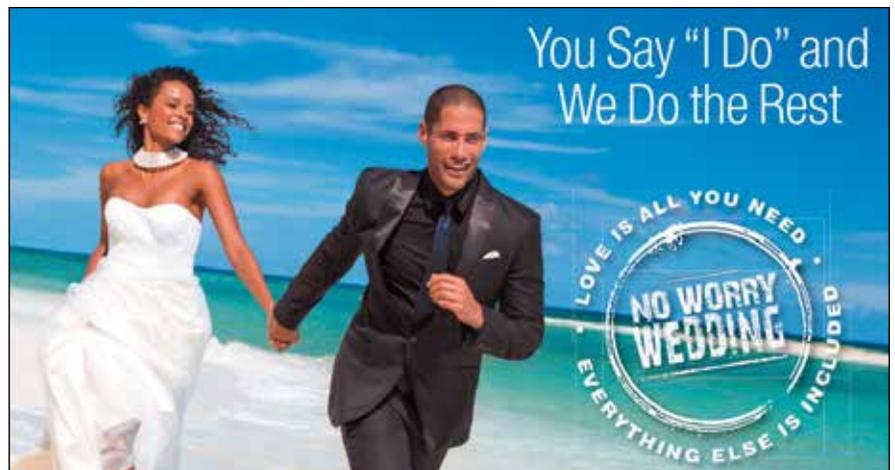
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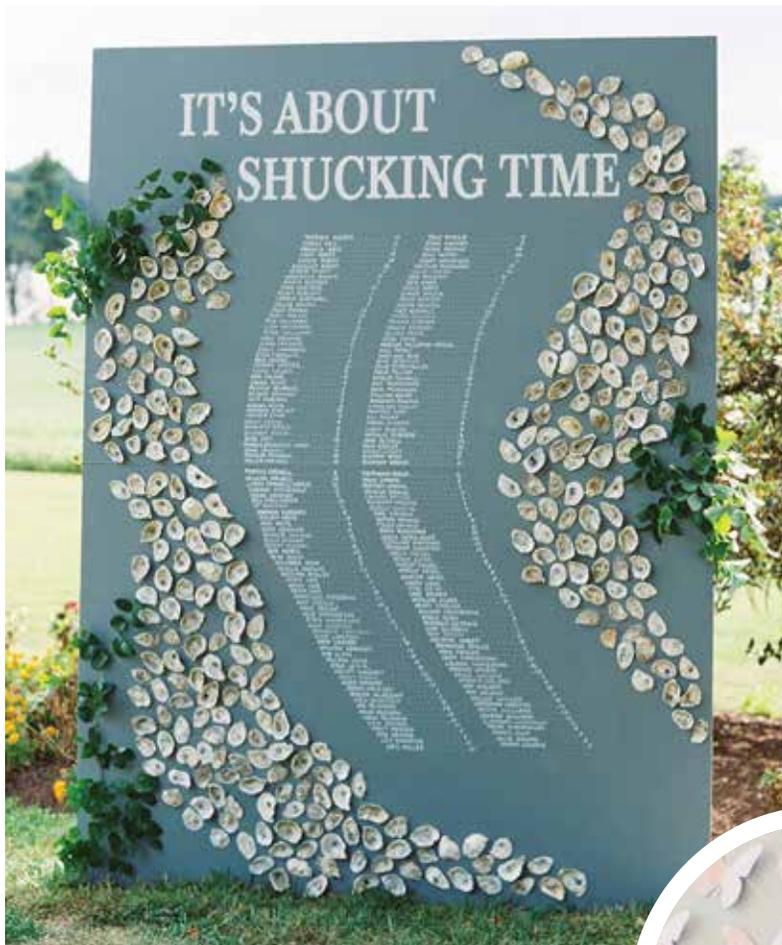
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Artful Table Assignments

You *could* print out little cards with peoples' names, but that would be kind of boring. Think three-dimensional, and craft an escort card that can pass for art.



Rachel May Photography

THE NATURE LOVER

Butterfly kisses, IRL.

After she designed these three-dimensional butterflies for her own wedding in October 2020, Kate Wiseman realized she was not the only lepidopterist in town. Pieces start at \$1.25 for white pearlescent paper with gold ink calligraphy via Kate Wiseman Creative on Etsy.



THE ANNAPOLITAN

The oyster anthem of 2021.

Adriana Gorman of Adriana Marie Events designed this hilarious escort display for her clients, Devon and Hunter Siegel, who dated for five and-a-half years before their September 2020 wedding.

THE DIY-ER

Just add pressed flowers.

Jami Velez, of Sheffield House Creative, elevates a simple escort card with flowers, herbs, and leaves collected from her yard. After she's done foraging, she places the blooms between two sheets of parchment paper, weighs them down with a heavy book, and waits for them to dry. After three weeks, the flowers are ready to be glued to the cards.



DEFINE THE TERMS

SEATING CHART - A display that lists out guest names and table numbers.

ESCORT CARD - An individual card (or other object) that directs a guest to a particular table.

PLACE CARD - An individual card that identifies a guest's particular seat. Can include a meal choice indicator to help serving staff.

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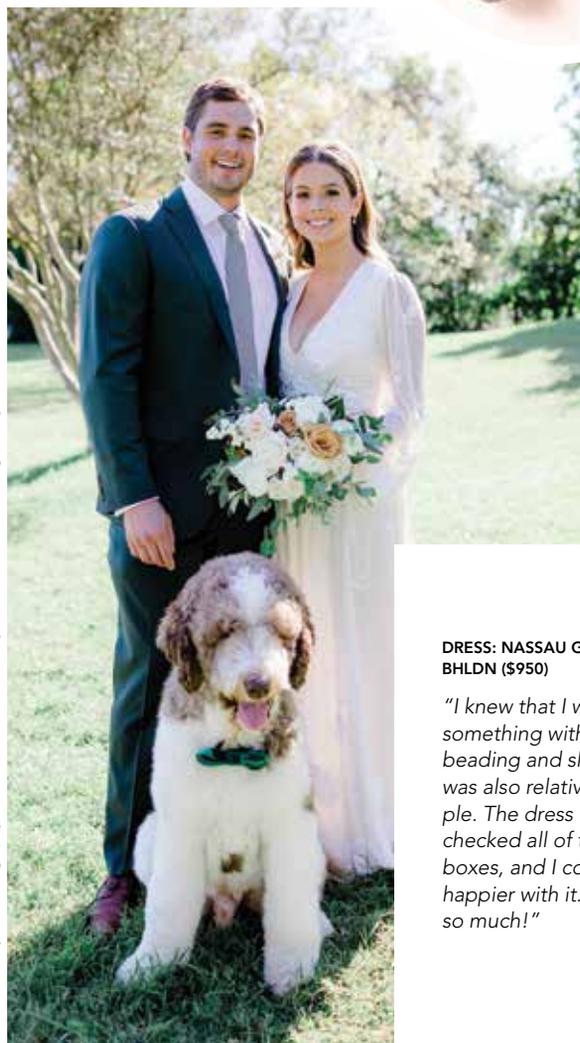
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Minimalist Glam

Before Samantha Moran ever met Shane Denman, she knew she wanted to meet him. (C'mon, this story starts in high school.) Someone threw a party and Sami spotted her chance to bump into her secret crush. And so, three minutes before her curfew, a mutual friend made the introduction that would change Sami's life forever. Twelve years later, the pair made it really official with a ceremony at the Annapolis Courthouse, a formal sit-down dinner with immediate family, and an after-party with friends hosted at Sami's parents' house.

EARRINGS: VIRGINIA DROP
BHLDN (\$60)



DRESS: NASSAU GOWN,
BHLDN (\$950)

"I knew that I wanted something with delicate beading and sleeves that was also relatively simple. The dress I picked checked all of those boxes, and I couldn't be happier with it. I loved it so much!"



SHOES: YARO BLOCK HEEL
SAM EDELMAN (\$120)

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Traditional with A Modern Dash

Malory Guenoune and Ryan Wilke's backyard Annapolis wedding channeled classic style with traditional silhouettes (viva la veil!), simple greenery, and a LOT of roses. Their love story follows a similar pattern: they met the old-fashioned way, at church, but didn't start dating until five years later, when Ryan "like a modern-day gentleman slid into my DM's," Mallory explains.



EARRINGS: OLIVE
+ PIPER HARRIET
DROPS (\$42)



DRESS: KENSINGTON DRESS
BY ALLISON WEBB, GARNISH
BOUTIQUE (\$2,900)

"I liked how traditional the dress was, as a ball gown with a chapel train, but how it also had a modern element with the winged fabric on the waist."

VEIL: DAY DREAM VEIL,
UNTAMED PETALS (\$204)

"The inspiration was actually the cathedral train of my gown! I loved how aesthetically pleasing it was to the eye that they were both in proportion to each other as I walked down the aisle."



BRACELET: SWAROVSKI TENNIS
ROUND DELUXE
WHITE BRACELET
(\$169)



SHOE: BADGLEY
MISCHKA BRONWEN
EMBELLISHED EVENING
SHOE (\$109)

PHOTOS McKenna Mansfield BEAUTY Bridal Glow with Victoria O. FLORALS Floret + Vine



SHOES: COLE HAAN WARREN CAP TOE DERBY IN BRITISH TAN LEATHER (\$200)

SUIT: CALVIN KLEIN SKINNY FIT BLUE SUIT PANT + JACKET (\$625)

"Ryan is a blonde haired, blue-eyed, tan California boy and naturally, the color that looks best on him is BLUE! So he knew that a blue suit would be the most flattering on him."



SHIRT: CALVIN KLEIN SLIM FIT HERRINGBONE POINT COLLAR PERFORMANCE NON-IRON DRESS SHIRT (\$75)



TIE: KENNETH COLE SOLID SLIM TIE IN BLACK (\$60)

"The hardest-to-find accessory was my husband's tie! Should we go with pink to create a pop of color? Or should we go with a neutral cream? We went back and forth for a while before landing on a black skinny tie, which we thought would best uphold the "classy" ambience that we were striving toward with the rest of the details."

Picture Perfect

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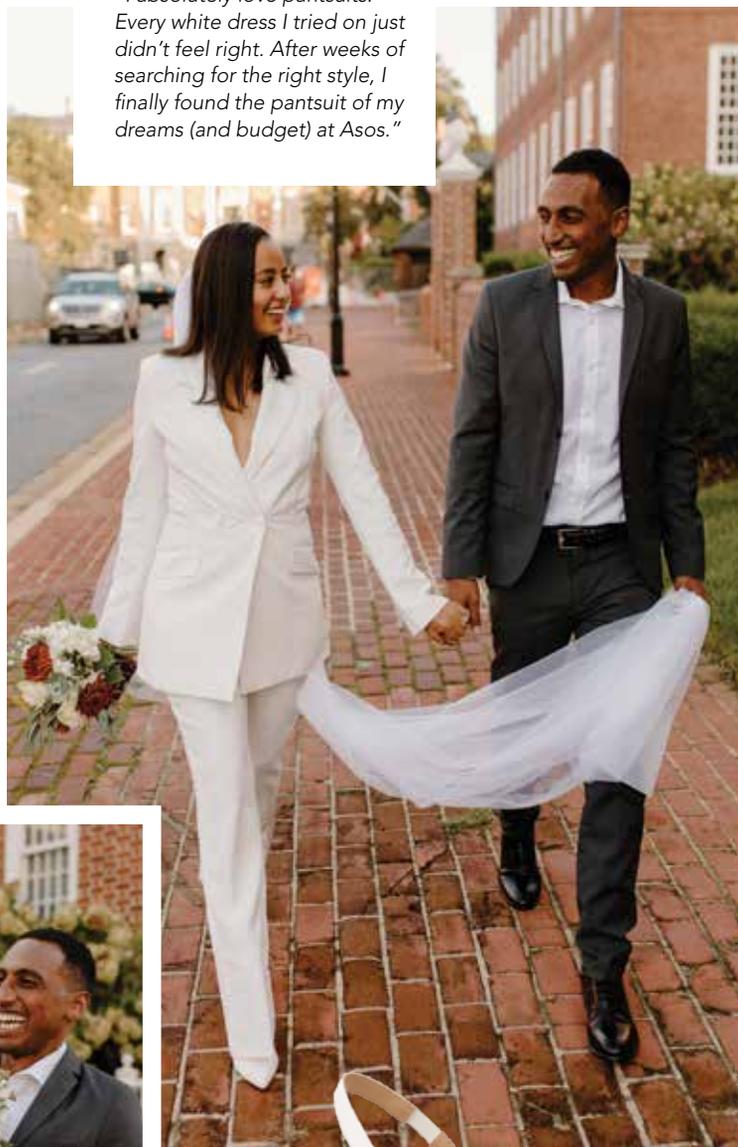


Posh & Polished

Makda Alazar and Senay Kahsay met at a human rights protest in downtown D.C. “One of the things that made me fall hard for him was his passion and dedication to making our world a better place,” Makda says. After COVID derailed the couple’s plans for a 300-person traditional Eritrean wedding, they decided to elope at the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court this past November. “It just felt right,” Makda says. “2020 was hard on everyone; it was nice to have something to look back on and be happy about.”

DOUBLE BREASTED WEDDING JACKET, ASOS (\$151)

“I absolutely love pantsuits. Every white dress I tried on just didn’t feel right. After weeks of searching for the right style, I finally found the pantsuit of my dreams (and budget) at Asos.”



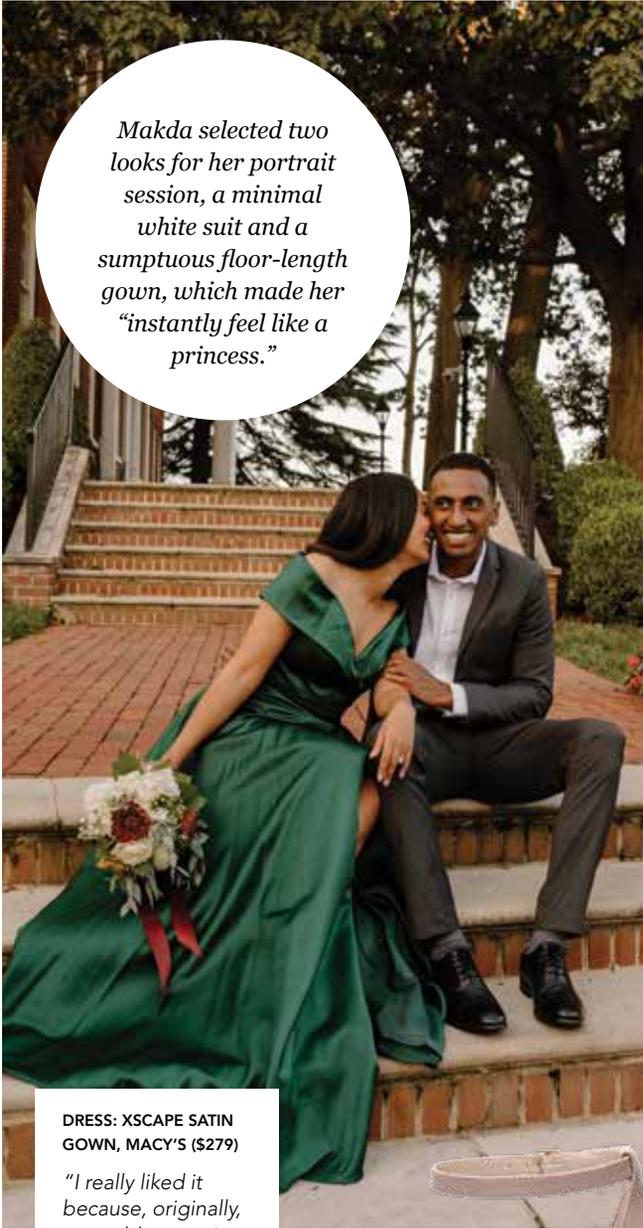
EARRINGS: GOLD EARRINGS, H&M (\$10)



“I’m sure most brides would agree with me—wedding planning is highly overwhelming. I couldn’t have done it without the help of my sister.” — Makda Alazar

SHOES: ABELLA SAPPHIRE PUMP, DSW (\$45)





Makda selected two looks for her portrait session, a minimal white suit and a sumptuous floor-length gown, which made her “instantly feel like a princess.”

DRESS: XSCAPE SATIN GOWN, MACY'S (\$279)

“I really liked it because, originally, emerald was going to be our wedding color and it had pockets!!”

SHOES: KELLY & KATIE KIRSTIE SANDAL, DSW (\$50)



PHOTOS Vanessa Bennish Photography BOUQUET Park Florist



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**DRESS: MARTINA LIANA,
GARNISH BOUTIQUE (\$2,900)**

"I usually have a relatively simple style, so I was shocked that I chose the dress I did. The big kicker that really sold me was that Garnish worked with the designer to customize the dress so that the train was removable. I had this beautiful long train for the ceremony, but as soon as the dancing started revving up, I was able to take my train off and have a completely different look!"

Laid-back Romantic

The first time Chelsea Harris visited her older sister at Virginia Tech, she met the man of her dreams. But as a high schooler, she thought she might be out of her league and kept the feelings to herself. Fortunately, six years later, Chelsea got a second chance, when she moved to the same town as Stephen Norris and their circles overlapped again. The pair tied the knot at the Swan Cove Manor on September 12, 2020, in a relaxed celebration with their family and closest friends.

WATCH: FAMILY HEIRLOOM

"The watch was Stephen's great grandfather's — passed down to his dad and then to Stephen."



PHOTOS Liz Kyle Photography **HAIR** Heather Meredith + Laura Graves (Shapers Salon)
MAKEUP Airbrush by Rebecca Ritchie **FLOWERS** Sherwood Florist

**SHOES: MOLLY FLAT,
BLUE BY BETSEY
JOHNSON (\$90)**

"Not being a 'heel-kind-of-girl,' I was looking into sandals before I found these gems. They gave me the boho feel that I envisioned for our wedding and were so affordable!"





BELT: ENGLISH LAUNDRY, NORDSTROCK RACK (\$20)



BOWTIE: MY BOWTIFUL CREATIONS (\$10)

SUIT JACKET: JOS. A. BANK

"Stephen is a minimalistic guy, but he always strives to find pieces that no other person is wearing."

EARRINGS: FAMILY GIFT

"My grandmother gave me these earrings when I was in high school, and they have always held a special place in my heart."



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Feminine & Fierce

For their October wedding, Addie Cropper and Adam Bowie rocked boho glam with a moody black-and-jewel-tone color palette. One of our favorite style decisions from their day? The groom's unique, all-black look, which distinguished him from his groomsmen.

EARRINGS:
ESMERALDA DROPS,
OLIVE + PIPER (\$48)



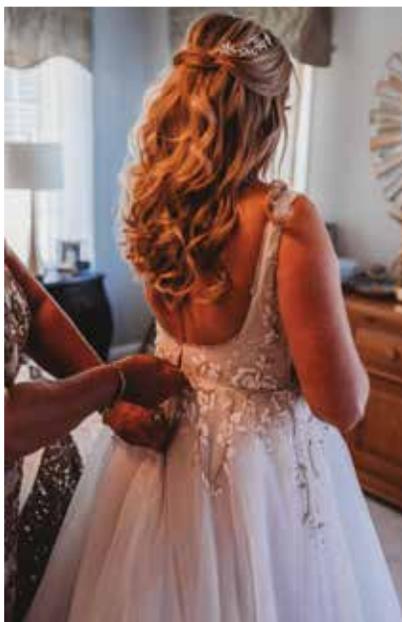
VEIL: MARRYBRIDALUS

"I bought a royal cathedral veil from Etsy, which I actually wouldn't recommend. It was too long and kept getting caught on the ground. Although, it did make for some really great pictures."



DRESS: LAUREN BY HAYLEY
PAIGE, JENNIFER'S BRIDAL
(\$4,730)

"Before I even got engaged, I was sure I wanted a Hayley Paige gown because they are all about the texture and sparkle. I went to Jennifer's Bridal because they were highly recommended for Hayley Paige dresses and I decided it would be best to go during a trunk show to save some money. What I didn't know when I booked the appointment was that Hayley herself would be there!"



PHOTOS Liz Kyle Photography HAIR Heather Meredith + Laura Graves (Shapers Salon)
MAKEUP Airbrush by Rebecca Ritchie FLOWERS Sherwood Florist

SUIT: DRYDEN DRESS COMPANY

"Adam is like me, and he was looking for a style that was unique. We have been in a few weddings over the last few years and wanted to make sure ours was the total opposite of everyone else's. Since we got married in October, and my girls were wearing all black, I thought it would add to the dark romance if he wore all black. We loved how it made the corsage pop."



SHOES: CRYSTAL PULL-ON METALLIC T-STRAP WEDGES, DAVID'S BRIDAL (\$50)

"I am very big on comfort when it comes to shoes — I did not want to be walking around barefoot on my wedding day. I went through 3 or 4 pairs before ending up with the ones I actually wore, which were glam, but they also had a stretchy back piece so I wouldn't get blisters or feel uncomfortable."



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I LOVE *a brunch* YOU

BY JESSICA GREENSMITH

Saturday night weddings are looking very booked these days, so why not move the whole shindig up a few hours (and maybe even to the middle of the week)? Everybody's looking for an excuse to skip their five thousandth Zoom meeting. And if minimal guests can make it to your morning wedding, that just means more bang for your micro-buck.
(a.k.a go bananas on that biscuits and gravy bar!)



TIMELINE

The sweet spot between beauty rest and “still brunch” hits somewhere between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The key thing to remember is that the earlier your ceremony begins, the greater your alarm clock regret when you are roused by your responsible MOH. Hair and makeup take time, and the last thing you want to do is rush your stylists. But, on the flip side, the earlier you start, the more vendors you may have to choose from. “Typically, there is more availability during the day for wedding professionals,” Brielle Woods, Herrington on the Bay’s director of sales and marketing, explains.



Waffle Love / Jadie Jo Photography



MENU

The best part of a brunch wedding is, obviously, the brunch. In the beverage department: you can do a smoothie station, set up a mimosa or bloody mary bar, or hire a barista to whip up signature lattes (!) to order. Donut walls are a little overdone but bagel walls with fancy schmears are toasty. Food options run the gamut from traditional (quiche Lorraine, salad nicoise, scones and a raw seafood bar) to the avant-garde. Instead of a traditional wedding cake, consider a waffle tower with whipped cream layers and fun flavored syrups, which can be poured on by guests tableside or by the couple for a great photo opp!



Christy Wilson Photography



Rachel Owens Photography

VIBE

Not quite breakfast, not quite lunch: Brunch by its very definition is a rule-breaker's meal, which means you shouldn't feel constrained by etiquette. If you want to make your brunch wedding formal and lavish, decree it. Rent posh plates and live your best *Bridgerton* life—just make sure you convey your vision to your guests via the invitation. On the other side of the spectrum, a brunch celebration is also perfect for the couple that doesn't care about all the trappings. (As a morning person, I could have easily skipped the hours of anticipating the nerve-wracking/joyful milestone that was about to happen. A brunch wedding would have enabled me to just get on with it!)

ENTERTAINMENT

No matter what haters may say, dancing is not taboo. The brunch gods say, "You do you." If your people are party people, they will feel the music at all times of day. If a DJ at 1 p.m. feels like trying too hard, skip music altogether or create a coffeehouse ambiance with your fave local singer-songwriter. Gospel brunch is also a thing, and it pairs really well with comfort food.

continued on page 34



Anneli Marinovich Photography



Holley Elizabeth Photography



Photo courtesy of Weddingstar

STYLE

Citrus is probably the most obvious motif for a brunch wedding, but we also like pastel color palettes, bubbles, linen suits, gingham, croquet, and custom coffee cups that double as escort cards (grab your cup and fill up!) Edible flower ice cubes are a feasible DIY project and mini picnic baskets to house favors are an adorable must!



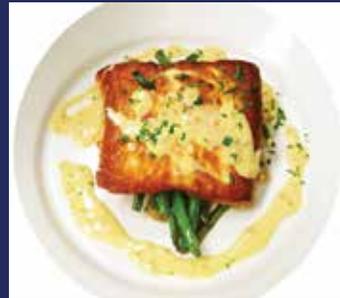
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Chef Doug Stewart

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HOW TO FIND
*Your vendor
dream team*

BY JESSICA GREENSMITH

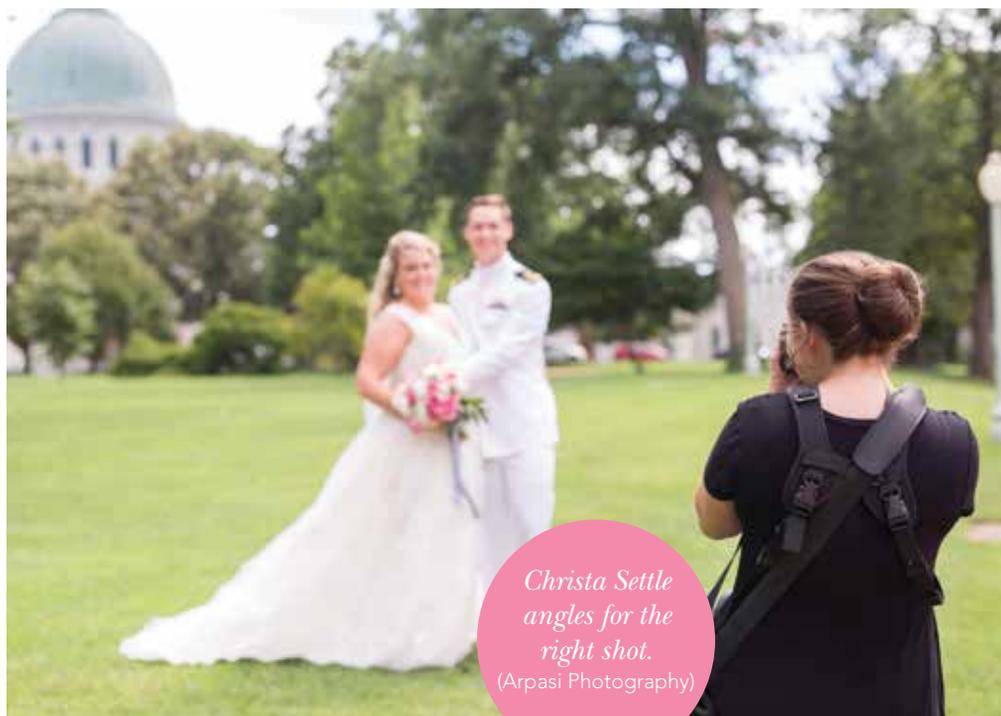
There are many fish in the sea who style hair, rent limousines, and cater big events. So how do you know when you've discovered the one? We queried the experts, local newlyweds, about how they found their vendors and distilled three basic rules of thumb.

1 ASK YOUR PEOPLE, AND THEN SOME



“I think the ease of working with a vendor is almost as important as the services a vendor provides... Don't be afraid to ask around about vendors before you book!”

- Mrs. Rebecca Hollerbach



Christa Settle angles for the right shot.
(Arpasi Photography)

Have you ever read a savage review that denigrates your favorite restaurant? (Maybe it's vegan and the Yelper hates health.) The point is, reviews are great, but sometimes, you want to dig a little deeper. If you're going to find reputable vendors, you'll want to ask people you can trust, who can offer the right context. The list may be longer than you think, spanning recently married friends to the photographer you knew you were going to hire before you even saw the ring. “Christa [Settle, the owner of Christa Rae Photography] was one of the first vendors I booked, and I felt a really good rapport with her right away,” explains Rebecca Hollerbach, who married her Navy beau at the Annapolis Sailing School this past October. “We're both Broadneck High School graduates and we had some mutual friends, so I knew she would be honest with me when I asked her for recommendations. Photographers see everything, so she was extraordinarily helpful.”



Jacob Jensen
of District
Remix



2 PAY ATTENTION TO PERSONALITY TYPES

When you started dating your significant other, you were searching for more than good looks (we hope!). Similarly, it's smart to vet your vendors to ensure they are the whole package and not just good at Instagram. If you can, ask to meet a prospective vendor in person—maybe over coffee—so you can get a sense of their personality type. Do you click? Do you need to? Not necessarily, but a 1-on-1 interaction will give you the opportunity to develop a baseline for who they are and the energy they will bring to your big day.

BEFORE YOU HIRE A VENDOR, ASK YOURSELF:

Is this vendor organized?

Quick to respond?

Realistic?

Trustworthy?

Do they understand my needs?

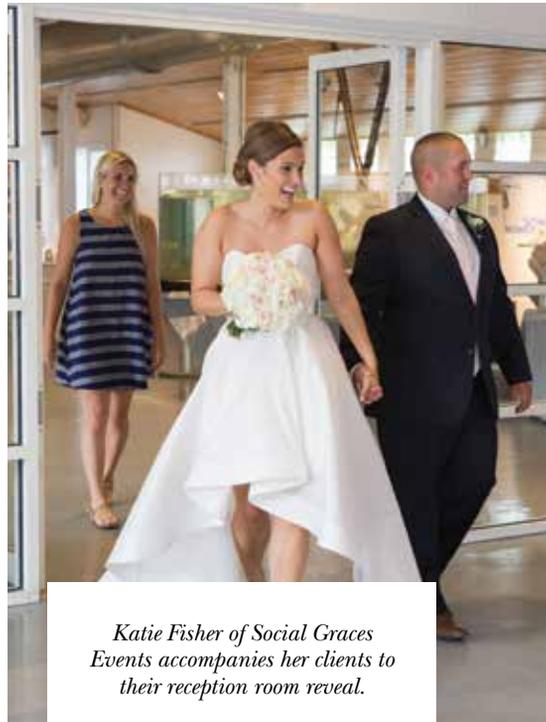
Do I like them (at least enough to tolerate on my wedding day)?

Are they professional and easy to work with?

Rebecca and her husband discovered Doug Segree Band at an Annapolis bar; they loved the music so much that they booked the band for their wedding.



Christa Rae Photography



Katie Fisher of Social Graces Events accompanies her clients to their reception room reveal.

Christa Rae Photography

3 HAVE THE BUDGET TALK EARLY ON



Kayla Gunn and her wife Caitlin talked to a lot of caterers, but none of them seemed to take her financial priorities seriously until she found Crave Catering. “I really appreciated how Kevin [Devine, the owner of Crave Catering] approached our budget realistically, honestly, and with an emphasis on flexibility and creative solutions,” Kayla explains. “We wanted to find someone who would not only be able to make delicious food, but also someone who would help with set up and breakdown and make us feel at ease; Kevin did all of those things and more!” Other caterers had pressured Kayla to increase her budget, but Kevin respected the limits Kayla set and still managed to create a standout menu (Kayla’s favorite was her signature drink, the Gunn Shot, which was a play on her maiden name, while her wife couldn’t get enough of Crave’s spinach and goat cheese rigatoni.

Kevin Devine puts final touches on an entrée course.



MOJO Photography

“If it takes a vendor awhile to get back to you with updates or pricing, it’s probably because you’re not high on their list. It’s important that you feel as though you are their only client.”

- Mrs. Kayla Keegun



Kayla and Caitlin tied the knot at the Howard County Conservancy in October.

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REAL WEDDINGS



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LINDA YIN
+ BEN ILIFF

Black Walnut Point Inn

48

JACKIE BLACK
+ LORIN MONES

*Chesapeake Bay
Beach Club*

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LYDIA FELTER
+ LEMUEL SOH

*The Hotel at Arundel
Preserve*

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AMANDA WYATT
+ BEN SILVERMAN

Kent Island Yacht Club

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MACEY YATES
+ ADAM JOHNSON

*Maria's Love Point Bed +
Breakfast*

64

TINA BRANDEMARTE
+ RANDY JONES

The Oaks Waterfront Inn

68

CATHERINE PELO
+ PATRICK SNOW

*Wylde Hotel
Tilghman Island*



THE ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE
IN TILGHMAN ISLAND

Linda Yin + Ben Iliff

Black Walnut Point Inn | Kylie Martin Photography

OCCUPATIONS:
PHYSICIANS

WEDDING DATE:
SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

NUMBER OF GUESTS:
50

**WHEN THEY
STARTED PLANNING:**
1 YEAR OUT



Because Ben and Linda both have fond memories growing up on the water, they settled on a nautical theme for their wedding. “Every time we went out sailing or boating on the Bay, it felt magical; those were some of the happiest times of our lives,” Linda says.

TWO HEARTY APPETITES

Ben and Linda met at an orientation event during their first week of medical school, but it wasn't until a party later in the semester that they got the opportunity to really connect. For their first date, the pair visited a Greek restaurant in Baltimore. “The food was great, and we were reassured [when we realized] we both ate enough for a family of four,” Linda recalls. “By the end of the night, we were already talking about what each of us wanted in a serious relationship.”

DOCTORS' ORDERS

Since Linda and Ben are both doctors, they were “painfully aware” of the risk of hosting a super spreader event with a covid wedding. To help keep their guests safe, they downsized, instituted a masking policy, increased the size of their tent, and assigned seating based on household.



HOW TO HAVE FUN PLANNING

Linda and Ben knew they wanted to get married on the Eastern Shore, since Ben grew up in Annapolis and the couple had spent many summers there during medical school at Johns Hopkins. But planning a Maryland wedding from Minnesota was exhausting. One weekend, after Linda and Ben confessed their complete overwhelm to their baker, who happened to be a family friend, he suggested they check out Kari Rider's Instagram. The pair loved what they saw and within hours, Kari had agreed to take the helm, even squeezing in a next-day consult before Linda and Ben caught a flight back west. "If you can afford a planner, get one!" Linda says. "It made our lives so much easier, and made the process of planning a wedding much more fun."



Kari worked with an artist to draw a sketch of Ben's family's sailboat, which served as a motif on everything from the couple's cocktail napkins to their laser cut wooden escort cards. "All those little details were so cute and made our day feel even more special," Linda says.





IN SEARCH OF A BLANK CANVAS

With their talented wedding planner on hand, Linda and Ben focused next on finding a waterfront venue with lots of room for creative input. And Black Walnut Point Inn, with its 270-degree waterfront views and easy-going owners, was the perfect match. “Bob and Tracey at Black Walnut gave us the freedom to do whatever we wanted with the venue,” Linda says. “They were easy to work with, and happy to accommodate any vision we had.”

READY, SET, PASTELS!

All Linda knew when she met with her florist, Amy Wilkins (Monterey Farms), was that she wanted roses and pastels. “I honestly don’t know very much about flowers and she deserves all the credit,” Linda says. “Our flowers were amazing!” They selected peach, pink, and blue as the base colors for the arrangements, and Kari carried the same hues into the rest of the decor. It was an easy partnership, Linda says, since Kari and Amy often work together. She also appreciated that neither vendor tried to sell big displays. “Amy was very honest about what we did and didn’t need...She’s all about the natural scenery at the venue and working with what’s there,” Linda adds.



THE DETAILS

CAKE: CHEF STEVE KONOPELSKI
CATERING: ROYAL OAK CATERING
INVITATIONS: STEPH B. & CO.
BRIDE’S HAIR: BEHIND THE VEIL BEAUTY
BRIDE’S MAKEUP: SUZANNE EDEN OF NATURAL MAKEUP CHIC
DAY-OF PAPER GOODS + CALLIGRAPHY: SURCEE CALLIGRAPHY
FLORALS: MONTEREY FARMS

LINENS: LA TAVOLA LINEN, NUAGE DESIGNS
MUSIC: HILL CHAMBER MUSIC (CEREMONY) + MIXING MARYLAND (RECEPTION)
PHOTOGRAPHER: KYLIE MARTIN PHOTOGRAPHY
PLANNING + DESIGN: KARI RIDER EVENTS
RENTALS: WHITE GLOVE RENTALS
TENT: EASTERN SHORE TENTS
VENUE: BLACK WALNUT POINT INN

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 72 for more vendor information.



THE ORCHID LOVERS UNION

Jackie Black + Lorin Mones

WEDDING DATE:
JUNE 29, 2019

Chesapeake Bay Beach Club | Nessa K Photography

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:**
200

**STATEMENT
BLOOM:**
ORCHIDS



GAME ON

Lorin and Jackie met on Tinder the summer of 2014 and hit it off immediately. “I think we went on three dates in the first week,” Jackie says. The first one was drinks at a pinball bar, for which Lorin came touting a bag of quarters. “He was very good at pinball, which I didn’t know was a skill people actually had,” Jackie says. Because Jackie arrived at the bar first, she started the tab, but Lorin covertly swapped his card in while Jackie was using the restroom and didn’t reveal his tack until hours later, when they settled up. “Most of me thought it was very sweet and gentlemanly,” Jackie says, “but the other part of me said, ‘You’ve had my card all night!’”

BETTER THAN HALLMARK

Three and a half years later, Jackie was on the verge of completing her MBA. The evening of her final exam, Lorin planned a celebratory seafood dinner at Fiola Mar in Georgetown. Since Jackie is a greeting card aficionado, Lorin had thoughtfully picked out the perfect paper product to convey his congratulations. But he wasn’t quite finished. On a return trip from the restroom (see a pattern here?), Jackie discovered something extra at her seat, which put every Hallmark card thereafter to shame: inside was a proposal.

Jackie and Lorin wanted to honor their grandparents, who are no longer living, by incorporating their memories into the key details of their day. Jackie had handkerchiefs from each of her grandmothers sewn into the underside of her dress and the couple used their grandfathers’ tallits (Jewish prayer shawls) to create their chuppah (the cloth canopy under which they were wed).





THAT BAY BRIDGE VIEW

The Mones' primary criterion for finding their venue was onsite accommodation. "We wanted to find a location where everyone could stay and make it a weekend affair," Jackie explains. The Chesapeake Bay Beach Club fit the bill with its Bay Bridge views and mix of indoor and outdoor space, which ensured a beautiful, built-in rain plan. The itinerary for the weekend included family dinner at Hemingway's, a crab feast rehearsal dinner at the Crab Deck, and brunch at the Inn at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club the day after the wedding.



FOUND & LOST

Jackie was a marathon dress shopper; in three weeks, she tried on more than 70 gowns with her mom serving as sidekick. But it was a solo, last-minute detour to Carine's Bridal that led Jackie to the gown. "Their selection was beyond what I'd seen anywhere else," she says. With her mom cheerleading via FaceTime, Jackie purchased her dress, a silk crepe mermaid gown by Vera Wang. Sadly, the dress went missing just a few months after the wedding, when an Owings Mills dry cleaners sent Jackie home with another bride's dress. When Jackie discovered the mix-up a few days later, the business had shuttered permanently. Although Jackie was able to deliver the dress she received to its rightful owner, she was never able to find her own.



Jackie and Lorin's biggest splurge was their band. "We love music!" Jackie says. "We added a horn section and paid [extra] to have the music play all night without breaks."



IDIOSYNCRASY

From the very start, Jackie and Lorin’s objective for their day was to ensure their guests had a good time. To get the party flowing, they passed champagne out before their ceremony began, and built on the social atmosphere with food stations in lieu of a plated dinner. Jackie doesn’t like the matchy-matchy look, so she invited her bridesmaids to choose their own black dresses and brightly-hued shoes and differentiated her tablescapes with patterned linens and idiosyncratic floral arrangements.

CAKE POP TOSS

Lorin gets full credit for three momentous decisions: cake pops, custom corn hole boards, and cigars. Regarding the former: “He liked the idea of everyone being able to get [dessert] immediately, rather than having to wait for a cake to be cut and served, especially because we didn’t have any tables or seating,” Jackie says. After the couple cut their cake, Lorin spontaneously threw a cake pop to the crowd. “It became this fun thing where both of us were throwing them and everyone was standing around, waving their arms to catch one,” Jackie recalls.



THE DETAILS

- BRIDE’S GOWN:** VERA WANG (DESIGNER), CARINE’S BRIDAL (SHOP)
- BRIDE’S HAIR & MAKEUP:** JANICE KINIGOPOULOS
- BRIDE’S SHOES:** KATE SPADE
- CAKE BALL CAKE:** BLUE CRAB CUPCAKES
- FAVORS:** BERGER COOKIES
- FLORALS:** WICKED WILLOW EVENT FLORALS
- INVITATIONS:** PAPERS PLUS
- MEN’S ATTIRE:** TRUNK CLUB
- MUSIC:** BLACK TIE BAND

- OFFICIANT:** RABBI ANDREW BUSCH
- PHOTOGRAPHER:** NESSA K PHOTOGRAPHY
- PLANNER:** ELIZABETH BAILEY WEDDINGS
- RENTALS:** PARTY RENTAL LTD, TOP TIER PHOTO BOOTH, EVENT PRO, SELECT EVENT GROUP, AFR FURNITURE RENTAL
- STYLING:** ELIZABETH BAILEY WEDDINGS
- VIDEOGRAPHER:** FORDHAM FILMS

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 72 for more vendor information.



THE HOTEL WEDDING THAT CAME TOGETHER IN SIX DAYS

Lydia Felter + Lemuel Soh

The Hotel at Arundel Preserve | Alison Dunn Photography

OCCUPATIONS:
NURSE +
QUANTITATIVE
RESEARCH ANALYST

WEDDING DATE:
DECEMBER 6, 2020

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 60

**DOUGHNUT
FLAVORS:** MOCHA
CRUNCH + PUMPKIN
GLAZED



After Lydia and Lemuel pushed their wedding date to December, Lydia embraced a ‘Christmas-y’ theme with the ceremony and reception decor. “My aunt helped create our beautiful centerpieces, using greenery, cranberries, and gold-painted pinecones,” she says.

FOURTH WHEELING

Lydia met her brother’s college friend Lemuel at a Christian conference the summer of 2012. “The first thing I noticed about Lemuel was how outgoing he was and how passionate he was about his faith in God,” Lydia says. “I’m pretty sure Lemuel’s first, and possibly only, impression of me back in 2012 was how much I look like my brother!” After the conference ended, Lydia didn’t talk to Lemuel again for seven years, when he ran into her parents at the same conference and invited them to catch up over dinner. Lemuel was surprised when Lydia showed up, too. It didn’t take long for him to start fourth wheeling on the family’s meals. When the conference was over, Lydia was surprised when Lemuel offered to drive 2.5 hours to take Lydia out for their first date.

NEXT AND NEXT STEPS

Lydia and Lemuel were supposed to get married in October, but as the COVID situation worsened, it became apparent that Lemuel’s parents and brother, who live in Singapore, might not be able to travel to the United States for a fall wedding. “Our first venue, The Great Room at Savage Mill, and Alison, our photographer, were extremely helpful and patient with us as we determined our next steps,” Lydia says. Eventually, the couple decided to take their chances—with Lemuel’s parents’ blessing—and push their





Lydia adores District Doughnuts and knew she wanted to serve them at her wedding before she was even engaged. “They have the most creative and delicious flavors and their staff are so lovely!” she says. Since she’s not a big cake person, she ordered five flavors from District Doughnut’s seasonal menu and cut into their oversized doughnut “cake.”



AN UNCOMMON DRESS

When Lydia and Lemuel got engaged, many bridal shops were indefinitely closed due to COVID. “I was a bit stressed, since any bride-to-be timeline you find will tell you to buy your dress six to eight months before your wedding,” Lydia says. With the clock ticking, Lydia started searching online for a classic gown with a high neckline. But her browsing didn’t turn up many options. So, at the end of May, when shops reopened, Lydia’s first call was to Lex Thamasangvorn, an Annapolis tailor who had helped Lydia’s sister create her perfect gown. Lex took a too-large gown with over-the-top beading and turned it into something exquisite and subdued—exactly what Lydia had envisioned. “I essentially wore a custom wedding dress, but paid less than many off-the-rack dresses cost!” Lydia says.



clandestine officers, but it went off without a hitch,” Lydia says. “Lemuel did the most perfect double-take when he first saw me and he was so touched by the performance that he even teared up! This will be a moment that we remember and cherish for a long time.”

A LIGHT BULB VISION

Lydia wanted to have a sparkler sendoff, but because her venue did not allow sparklers, she had to get creative. Enter string lights: “I got this vision in my head of our guests forming an aisle and holding strings of fairy lights, creating a tunnel for us to run through,” she says. “The few people I tried to explain it to didn’t quite see where I was going with it (my mom definitely thought I was crazy), but I felt like it would be beautiful if executed properly.” She ended up finding battery-operated fairy lights on Etsy, which her dad fastened to wooden dowels—making for a perfect photo opp.

SURPRISING SERENADER

Lydia studied violin for ten years—up until college—so she was thrilled when her former teacher Stephanie agreed to perform at her wedding. But what Lydia didn’t expect was that she would be making a musical cameo of her own. When Stephanie asked Lydia if she wanted to surprise Lemuel by accompanying the string quartet for a piece, Lydia was hesitant. She knew Lemuel would be elated to hear her play, but she hadn’t practiced the violin in years and had just started a new job, so when would she find the time? Six a.m. was her answer. The bigger struggle, it turned out, was smuggling Lydia’s violin from Texas to Maryland without Lemuel noticing. “It took a team of



THE DETAILS

- BRIDE’S GOWN:** LEX BRIDAL DESIGNS
- BRIDE’S HAIR:** THIRTY HAIR
- BRIDE’S MAKEUP:** ANNIE RAGOT
- BRIDESMAID DRESSES:** AZAZIE
- CAKE TOPPER:** WORLDCAKETOPPER
- COASTER FAVOR:** CARDISHO
- DESSERT:** DISTRICT DOUGHNUT
- FLORALS:** THE PINK ORCHID
- MEN’S ATTIRE:** JOS. A BANK
- MUSIC:** CALEB AND JING STURGIS (PIANO/VOICE) + STEPHANIE MYERS STRINGS (QUARTET)

- PHOTOGRAPHY:** ALISON DUNN PHOTOGRAPHY
- RINGS:** BRILLIANT EARTH
- STRING LIGHTS:** CHURCHHOUSEWOODWORKS
- VENUE:** THE HOTEL AT ARUNDEL PRESERVE
- VIDEOGRAPHY:** NOAH JAMES PHOTOGRAPHY

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 72 for more vendor information.



A DIY, BOHO DAY ON THE BAY

Amanda Wyatt + Ben Silverman

WEDDING DATE:
SEPTEMBER 26,
2020

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 100

**GO-TO PROP
SHOP:** AT HOME
(FOR THEIR
CEREMONY JUGS
AND CENTERPIECE
VASES)

Kent Island Yacht Club | Hannah Baldwin Photography



Amanda and Ben found their wedding venue through Amanda's grandparents, who are members of the club. "It's one of the best-kept secrets in Kent Island!" Amanda says.

A CRAFTY LADY

Technically, Amanda and Ben went to high school together, but neither of them knew it, until they met at a party in 2015. Ben was two years older and had been far off Amanda's radar, despite a bevy of mutual friends. But when they bumped into each other in the kitchen that evening, Amanda asked Ben what his plans were for a huge box of bottle caps she saw sitting on the floor. "He told me, 'Probably just throw them away,' and I was like, 'What?! Do you know how many crafts you can make out of those?'" Amanda recalls. And so they started lining the dining table with caps to see if there were enough to cover it. A few days later, when Ben asked Amanda out, he asked if she remembered promising to make him a table. Of course, she did, and showed off her upcycling



skills several months later when she built Ben a bottle cap table for his birthday. “It’s still a current piece in our living room,” Amanda says. “It’s always a fun conversation starter because people want to know where we got it.”

DRINKS WITH THE BOYS?

The couple’s first date was sort of conventional: drinks, at a restaurant, on a Thursday...at 10 p.m.! “At the time, Ben was a personal trainer, so his schedule was all over the place,” Amanda says. When she arrived at the restaurant, Amanda saw Ben sitting with three of his friends and immediately panicked, thinking she had misread the situation. She ran to her car, called



a girlfriend and was debating leaving when she received a text from Ben, asking where she was and letting her know he was waiting outside. Confused, Amanda walked around the building, and discovered the “Ben” she had seen inside was not her date! “We were there until they closed and then went back for date nights every single Thursday for the next two years,” Amanda says.

RAIN, RAIN GO AWAY

COVID had a huge impact on Amanda and Ben’s wedding—affecting everything from their menu to their guest list. But the biggest risk they took in relation to the pandemic was having no plan for rain. “Our group could not be accommodated indoors due to COVID, so we just hoped for the best,” Amanda explains. “Obviously, it rained almost all day!” Luckily, right before the ceremony began, the weather cleared for a few hours. By the time it picked back up, nobody cared. “We danced and got muddy anyways,” Amanda says.



Amanda spent about a week making all of the acrylic signs and name plates. The hardest part of the DIY project was her own perfectionism:

“I was really critical of my own handwriting and [ended up] redoing so many,” she says.





MORE CHAMPAGNE, PLEASE!

Amanda had no idea what she wanted in a wedding dress, so she started her appointment at Posh Bridal by trying on one of every style. Toward the end of the visit, someone in her posse spotted a stunning sheer-bodied fit and flare gown by Martina Liana on a mannequin. When Amanda tried the dress on, both her mother and maid-of-honor started to cry—“so I knew it was right,” she says. “Also, champagne helped with the confidence!”



AN ETERNAL ARRANGEMENT

When Amanda started pricing out floral arrangements, she was floored by the quotes she was getting. “I just couldn’t justify the price tag for something that was going to get thrown away at the end of the night,” she says. She briefly considered making her own live arrangements and looked into fake flower companies (“they all just seemed too fake...and the process of receiving the arrangements only days before the wedding and having to send them back also seemed too complicated”), before deciding that sourcing her own dried flowers was her best bet. “I would highly recommend going the dried flower route,” she says. Months later, she still has her bouquet sitting pretty on her work desk, looking just like it did the day she got married.

THE DETAILS

BRIDE’S GOWN: MARTINA LIANA (DESIGNER) + POSH BRIDAL (SHOP)

BRIDE’S HAIR + MAKEUP: BRIDAL GLOW BY VICTORIA O.

BRIDESMAID DRESSES: SHOW ME YOUR MUMU

CATERER: SMOKEHOUSE GRILL

DAY-OF-COORDINATOR: MAGNOLIA EVENTS

FLOWERS: FERN + SUNPALM (BRIDE’S BOUQUET), HIDDEN BOTANICS SILK WEDDING FLOWERS (BRIDESMAID BOUQUETS), FLEURS DE SIMONE (GROOMSMEN BOUTONNIERES)

GROOM’S TIE: SHOW ME YOUR MUMU

GROOMSMEN ATTIRE: GENERATION TUX

LOGO: @P.S.LETS_CELEBRATE (FOR GETTING-READY SHIRTS AND KOOZIE FAVORS)

MUSIC: BENEFACITOR EVENTS

PHOTOGRAPHER: HANNAH BALDWIN PHOTOGRAPHY

TENT: EBB TIDE TENT & PARTY RENTALS

VENUE: KENT ISLAND YACHT CLUB

See our *Ultimate Wedding Guide* on page 72 for more vendor information.



NAVY NUPTIALS FOR A FREE-SPIRIT

Macey Yates + Adam Johnson

WEDDING DATE:
SEPTEMBER 26,
2020

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 140

OCCUPATIONS:
MEDICAL STUDENT
+ MV-22 OSPREY
PILOT

FAVE DETAIL:
THE FLOWER
GIRLS' ORCHID
HALOS, MADE
BY MACEY'S
GRANDMOTHER

Maria's Love Point Bed + Breakfast | Dagment Photography



A WELCOME PARTY

Macey was vacationing with her family in Ocean City, when a family friend, just home from a deployment, came to visit and brought along Adam. Adam, then a midshipman at the Naval Academy, was spending Memorial Day weekend with his sponsor family in Bethany Beach. "My first impression was that he was a very handsome, athletic man that was a little shy," Macey says. "I made him laugh at one point during our conversation, and hearing that laugh I knew there was more to him that I wanted to meet; I was immediately smitten."

GYRO IN LOVE

For their first date, Macey and Adam went to the Greek Festival at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. They stuffed their faces with loukoumades and baklava and got matching mustache temporary tattoos on their biceps. "I'm pretty sure Adam can still tell me exactly what I was wearing that day!" Macey says.

Adam and Macey hired a wedding planner, Leslie Jefferson from Wedding Savvy, to help with logistics three months out from their date. "She was an indispensable person on our team," Macey says.





LAST MINUTE CEREMONY SWAP

Macey and Adam’s original plan was to get married at the Naval Academy Chapel, which held a lot of memories for them both individually and as a couple. However, six weeks before their wedding, the Chapel cancelled all events through the fall. “We were so grateful to Ed Puffy, the owner of Maria’s Love Point Bed and Breakfast, to allow us to easily switch the ceremony to precede our reception onsite,” Macey says. Other changes to their day included a larger tent to accommodate social distancing, a selection of red, yellow, and green wristbands to help guests signify their preferences for physical touch, and masks and hand sanitizer on tap.



One of the Johnsons’ biggest splurges was their custom invitation suite by Emily Baird. “We plan to keep our invitations for keepsake, so we wanted them to be unique and beautiful,” Macey explains.



MELLOW YELLOW

Macey wanted a late-summer, boho vibe for the September wedding, with dried palms, pampas grass, orchids, and a relaxed “Pacific” feel. Her color scheme—mustard yellow, palm green, dusty cream, beige, with pink and red jewel tones—was designed to bridge a tropical aesthetic with the coming fall season. “I loved the look of my bridesmaid dresses, which is actually what I started with design-wise,” she says. “I took the warm, velvet dresses and some white orchids and started to grow from there!”

A GOWN LIKE GRANDMA'S

Macey went dress shopping with her mom, sister, sister-in-law, and mother-in-law in Nashville, set on finding a vintage-style gown reminiscent of her grandmother's. "We went to The Dress Theory and every dress I tried on was stunning," she says. But it wasn't until her mother-in-law flipped to a Galia Lahav gown in a magazine that Macey made up her mind. When she tried on a similar style in the store, "both my mom and I began to cry," Macey explains. She loved the open back, sparkle, and vintage lace train, and also selected an illusion veil that day.



THE DETAILS

- ALCOHOL:** MILLS FINE WINE AND SPIRITS
- BRIDE'S DRESS:** GALIA LAHAV (DESIGNER), THE DRESS THEORY NASHVILLE (SHOP)
- BRIDE'S HAIR:** CHRISTINA MACEY
- BRIDE'S JEWELRY:** SWAROVSKI
- BRIDE'S MAKEUP:** KELLY UNTHANK MAKEUP
- BRIDE'S SHOES:** SIMMI LONDON
- CAKE:** SUGAR BAKERS CAKES
- CATERING:** KEN'S CREATIVE KITCHEN
- FLOWERS:** PRETTY LITTLE WEDDING CO.
- GROOM'S RING:** SMYTH JEWELERS
- INVITATIONS:** EMILY BAIRD DESIGN
- MUSIC:** ERIN BAKER HARPIS (CEREMONY) + MIXING MARYLAND (RECEPTION); SEAN JOHNSON)
- OFFICIANT:** PASTOR DAVID BEMPONG OF DOWNTOWN HOPE CHURCH
- PHOTOGRAPHER:** DAGMENT PHOTOGRAPHY
- PLANNING:** WEDDING SAVVY INC.
- RENTALS:** EBB TIDE RENTALS, HONEYWOOD RENTALS, + PRETTY LITTLE WEDDING CO.
- TRANSPORTATION:** BAYSIDE LIMOSOUINE (BRIDE + GROOM), TOWNE TRANSPORT (GUESTS)
- VENUE:** MARIA'S LOVE POINT BED & BREAKFAST
- VIDEOGRAPHER:** FORDHAM FILMS

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 72 for more vendor information.



A COLORFUL FAIRYTALE FETE

Tina Brandemarte + Randy Jones

WEDDING DATE:
OCTOBER 24, 2020

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 120

FIRST DANCE SONG:
"BEYOND" BY LEON
BRIDGES

**MOST USED
REGISTRY ITEM:**
A FRENCH PRESS +
A DUST BUSTER

The Oaks Waterfront Inn | Madison Berlen Photography



Tina's biggest splurge was her blue suede Harriet Wilde shoes, which were hand made with a white, gold, and crystal floral embellishment. "They are so beautiful that I just can't put them back in their box," she says. "They've become a piece of décor in my closet."

NOT THROWIN' AWAY MY SHOT

Tina noticed Randy was handsome and kind the first time they met, at a friend's birthday party, but she was fresh out of a break-up. Eight months later, however, when the same group got together for St. Patrick's Day, Tina was ready for her second shot. "Randy and I spent the whole day talking; he made me feel like I was the only girl in the room," Tina says. Their first date happened the following weekend and only confirmed her gut: this guy was the one.

A BEAUTIFUL, ALL-INCLUSIVE VENUE

Randy and Tina were all set to tour five venues, but they never made it past their first one. "The Oaks had everything I was looking for and more," Tina says. "It was on the water (my no. 1 requirement); the setting was very beautiful and peaceful; the ceremony and the reception could be held at the same venue; The Oaks provided meals, tables and chairs, linens, set-up and break-down, they also had wonderful staff who managed our entire wedding day, and, as a bonus, the inn had rooms for us, our families, and our bridal party all on-site."



START WITH THE STATIONERY

Tina did not have a grand plan for her wedding when she got engaged; instead, she let each decision build on the next. “Since invites come first, we created a fall-inspired floral detail, with a deep blue background and lettering, since blue is my favorite color,” she says. Then, she went to Bella Bridesmaids’ Baltimore showroom and found two floral pattern dresses with her maid and matron-of-honor. Last came the flowers. “I met with my florist, Amy, and Tracy, the Oaks coordinator, and showed them my invites, dresses, and Pinterest board, and Amy reassured me she knew what I was looking for,” Tina explains. “When the bouquets were delivered to the Bridal Cottage on my wedding day, I shed my first tear of the day; they were beyond what I could have imagined!”



HAUTE HOMEWORK

Tina had a terrific experience at Garnish Boutique when she accompanied her matron-of-honor there, so it was a no-brainer to book an appointment at the shop when it came time for her own wedding. She knew she wanted a gown with sleeves, so she worked with Mia, Garnish’s owner, to special order a few extra styles to try on. Of course, the preliminary planning paid off: “The minute I entered the store, my eyes were drawn to my dress,” Tina says. “I just didn’t feel comfortable in an all-white dress, so I loved that it had white details on top of a champagne lining.” But the best part were the little sequence birds scattered around the fabric. “I endearingly refer to my girlfriends as birds, so I had them there with me on my wedding day!” she explains.

RISK MANAGEMENT

When COVID hit the US, Tina and Randy had already planned an entire wedding. “Being financially-minded as a CPA, all I could think of were deposits and payments we had already made toward our event,” she says. The Joneses monitored the situation, ready to pivot if necessary, but, fortunately, by the time October rolled around, infection rates were decreasing in Maryland and they were able to hold their wedding, mostly, as planned. “I feel extremely lucky that we were able to have our wedding on our original date and have it look like it would have (minus masks) if COVID had never happened,” Tina says. “It was a wonderful escape for a night and we are so grateful that all our guests and vendors were safe and attended in good health!”



While Tina handled most of the wedding planning, Randy researched and selected the DJ and managed transportation and room blocks. “It was most important to him that our guests feel comfortable and welcome,” Tina says.



THE DETAILS

BRIDE’S GOWN: WILLOWBY BY WATTERS (DESIGNER)
GARNISH BOUTIQUE (SHOP)

BRIDE’S HAIR: PAIGE CLIFTON

BRIDE’S MAKEUP: KATE FACE BEAUTY

BRIDE’S SHOES: HARRIET WILDE

BRIDESMAID DRESSES: JENNY YOO (DESIGNER) BELLA
BRIDESMAIDS (BALTIMORE)

FLORALS: MONTERAY FARMS

GROOMSMEN SUITS: MEN’S WAREHOUSE

MUSIC: TOMMY GATZ ENTERTAINMENT

PHOTOGRAPHY: MADISON BERLEN PHOTOGRAPHY

RENTALS: EASTERN SHORE TENTS & EVENTS

STATIONERY: PAPER IN THE PARK

VENUE: THE OAKS WATERFRONT INN

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 72 for more vendor information.

ROOM SERVICE

Many couples will tell you they didn’t have time to eat at their wedding. Luckily, in Tina and Randy’s case, dinner was served twice; the Oaks staff wrapped up all the leftover hors d’ouevres and delivered them to the Joneses’ bridal cottage along with a main dish, dessert, and several mini cheesesteaks, which were the culinary hit of the night.



AN ODE TO SURF AND "SNOW"

Catherine Pelo + Patrick Snow

WEDDING DATE:
OCTOBER 10, 2020

**NUMBER OF
GUESTS:** 60

**FIRST DANCE
SONG:** "STARTING
OVER" BY CHRIS
STAPLETON

BIGGEST SPLURGE:
THEIR WEDDING
BANDS

Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island | Ann-Marie VanTassell Photography



CREWSEEKERS

Cat and Pat met at a regatta in St. Petersburg, Florida on New Year's 2014. They were sailing the same event and were introduced by close friends. "Right off the bat, I thought Pat was so nice and handsome," Cat says. But as a recent college graduate living in Massachusetts, Cat figured she shouldn't chase after a sophomore midshipman. A few months was all she needed for a change of heart, however, when she coincidentally moved to Annapolis for a coaching job at Severn Sailing Association and Pat asked her out. "Pat and I stayed close friends and, as rumor has it, he was determined to make me his girlfriend!"

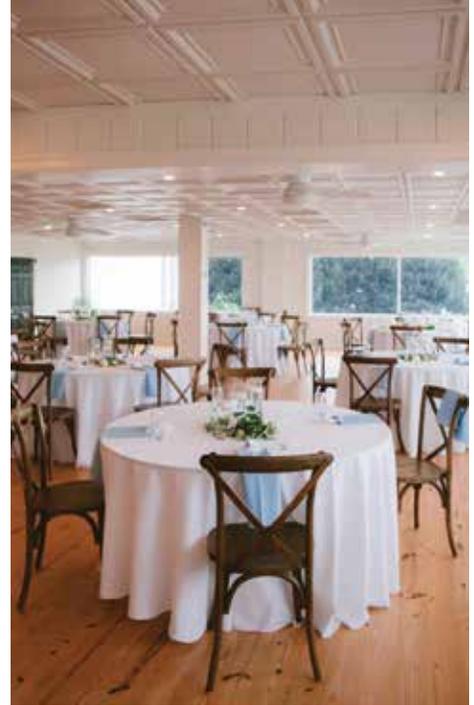
A LAID BACK LOCALE

Venue shopping was a breeze, in that Cat and Pat only ever considered one destination. "We wanted a waterfront venue with a lot of space to allow for lawn games, mingling, and a relaxed environment," Cat explains. They discovered Wylder Hotel on



Two heirlooms completed Cat's elegant look: diamond and sapphire earrings from her mother and a pearl heart pin loaned by her mother-in-law.

WeddingWire while searching for Eastern Shore venues, and were compelled by the photos, cute marketing, and an exclusive WeddingWire discount. Cat got Pat's OK (he was deployed), then booked a tour with two of her best girlfriends. Two days later, the contract was signed.



CORONA CUTS

The biggest challenge Cat and Pat faced with COVID was shrinking their guest list from 150 people to 60, after they had already mailed save the dates. “For the guests we were unfortunately unable to invite, we sent a note on our wedding stationery indicating our need to reduce the size of the wedding for everyone’s safety and noting that we looked forward to celebrating with them at another time in the future,” Cat says. “To bring some cheer to a rather disappointing piece of mail, we also included a wallet sized photo of Pat, myself, and our dog.”

SURF'S UP

Cat chose a dusty blue and light grey color scheme, which tied in perfectly with the couple’s subtle surf theme. Pat repurposed a surfboard to make a statement seating chart and framed vintage surf prints to provide additional decor around the bar and cocktail tables. To keep things easy, Cat invited her



bridesmaids to pick out their own dresses and the groomsmen wore blue suits and brown shoes. The rest of the aesthetic came naturally: “I wanted to capitalize on the beauty of the venue, so I did not feel as though I needed to go overboard with florals and decor,” Cat says. “Ashley, at Sherwood Florist, did an amazing job capturing my vision.”

SOMETHING AUSSIE

Cat was supposed to go dress shopping with her mom, sister, and mother-in-law in March 2020, but, of course coronavirus intervened. Uncertain about when shops might open back up, she set a deadline to order a dress by early June, eventually pulling the trigger on the Estelle gown by Jenny



Yoo. Although she had never tried it on, it fit like a glove, in part because BHLDN uses typical street-ware sizing (wedding dresses, in contrast, tend to run small). On the inside of her dress, Cat wore a pin replica of her Australian Shepherd, Duke. “He was at the wedding, but stayed in the room as he would not have done well around so many people at the ceremony,” Cat explains. “As a little gift, some friends gave my husband and I matching Aussie pins so that Duke could be with us the whole time.”

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Cat’s favorite details from her day were sentimental: the beautiful suede bowties made for the groomsmen by her parents, who own a leather clothier business in Boston, and the ceremony music that her brother-in-law performed on guitar (“Simple Song” by Chris Stapleton for the groomsmen and “All of Me” by John Legend for the bridesmaids and Cat’s procession.)

PEP PEOPLE

Planning a wedding during COVID can be challenging, but it’s doable with the right attitude and team, Cat says. “Make sure you surround yourself with people who are going to help keep you positive and moving forward even when faced with tough decisions and realities. I was so lucky to have my sister, mom, and now husband to lean on and bounce ideas off of every step of the way.”

THE DETAILS

- BRIDE’S GOWN:** BHLDN (SHOP), JENNY YOU
- BRIDE’S HAIR + MAKEUP:** DORSEY BEAUTY
- BRIDE’S SHOES:** BADGLEY MISCHKA
- BRIDE’S VEIL:** ETSY
- DESSERT:** BLUE CRAB CUPCAKES

- GROOM’S SUIT:** CUSTOM MADE
- BOW TIES:** DESIGNER LEATHER CLOTHIER’S
- FLORALS:** SHERWOOD FLORIST
- MUSIC:** SIGHT & SOUND ENTERTAINMENT
- PHOTOGRAPHY:** ANN-MARIE VANTASSELL
- VENUE:** WYLDER HOTEL TILGHMAN ISLAND

See our Ultimate Wedding Guide on page 72 for more vendor information.

The Ultimate WEDDING GUIDE

A comprehensive
listing of area venues,
and other vendors
you need to know

Wedding Venues

This information was recorded at the time of publication and is subject to change. Please contact the venue directly for specific information. Due to space constraints, only venues that advertise are guaranteed a listing.



ADVERTISERS ARE
LISTED IN **RED**

Annapolis

Admiral of the Bay
Annapolis; 410-263-5196
Admiralofthebay.com
Max Guest Count: 225

Annapolis Bay Charters
Annapolis; 1-800-991-1776
Annapolisbaycharters.net
Max Guest Count: 120

Annapolis Inn
144 Prince George Street
410-295-5200; Annapolisinn.com
Max Guest Count: 20
Outdoor Location: Yes (garden)
Water View: No

Annapolis Maritime Museum
723 Second Street
410-295-0104;
Amaritime.org/rent-our-venue
Max Guest Count: 170
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Annapolis Waterfront
80 Compromise Street
888-773-0786;
Annapoliswaterfront.com
Max Guest Count: 600
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Annapolis Wedding Chapel
1625 Old Generals Highway
410-266-1440;
Annapolisweddingchapel.com
Max Guest Count: 24
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Annapolis Yacht Club
2 Compromise Street
410-263-9279; Annapolisyc.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Banneker-Douglass Museum
84 Franklin Street
410-216-6180; Bdmuseum.com
Max Guest Count: 125
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Best Western
2520 Riva Road
443-837-3602; Bestwestern.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Outdoor Location: Call for details
Water View: No

Blackwall Hitch
400 Sixth Street
410-263-3454; Theblackwallhitch.com
Max Guest Count: 45
(Gathering Room); 25 (Deck)
Outdoor Location: Yes (tent available)
Water View: Yes (w/out tent)

Boatyard Bar and Grill
400 4th Street
410-216-6206; Boatyardbarandgrill.com
Max Guest Count: 90 standing
or 40 seated
Outdoor Location: Seasonal
Water View: No

The Byzantium Event Center
2747 Riva Road
240-204-1190; Thebyzantium.org
Max Guest Count: 600
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Carrol's Creek Cafe
410 Severn Avenue
410-263-8102; Carrolscreek.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Chart House
300 Second Street
410-268-7166; Chart-house.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: Yes

Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Philip Merrill Environmental Center
6 Herndon Avenue
410-268-8816; Cbf.org
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Crowne Plaza Annapolis Hotel
173 Jennifer Road
410-266-3131; crowneplaza.com
Max Guest Count: 150-350,
depending on ballroom
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Doubletree Annapolis Hotel
210 Holiday Court
410-224-3150;
Annapolismeetings.com
Max Guest Count: 480-700
Outdoor location: No
Water view: No

Eastport Yacht Club
317 First Street
410-267-0549; Eastportyc.org
Max Guest Count: Indoor/120,
Outdoor/500
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes
Couples must be members or sponsored by a member.

Governor Calvert House
58 State Circle
410-216-6320;
Historicinnsofannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Graduate Annapolis
126 West Street
410-263-777
thehotelannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 500
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Maryland Inn
58 State Circle
410-216-6320;
Historicinnsofannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 80
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Martins Bo Brooks at the Naval Academy N*Room at the Navy*Marine Corps Memorial Stadium
511 Taylor Avenue
443-221-4051; Bobrooks.com
Max guest count: 530
Outdoor location: No
Water view: No

Podickory Point Yacht and Beach Club
2116 Bay Front Terrace
410-757-8000; Podickorypoint.com
Max Guest Count: Indoor/100,
Outdoor/Varies with tent size
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Port Annapolis Marina
7074 Bembe Beach Road
410-269-1990; Portannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Pusser's Caribbean Grille
80 Compromise Street
410-626-0004; Pussersusa.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Quiet Waters Park
600 Quiet Waters Park Road
410-222-1777;
Friendsofquietwaterspark.org
Max Guest Count: 75
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Reynolds Tavern

7 Church Circle
410-295-9555; Reynoldstavern.org
Max Guest Count: 60
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Ruth's Chris Steakhouse

301 Severn Avenue
410-990-0033; Ruthschris.com
Max Guest Count: 160
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Schooner Liberte

Annapolis; 410-263-8234
Theliberte.com
Max Guest Count: 49

Schooner Woodwind

Annapolis; 410-263-1981
Schoonerwoodwind.com
Max Guest Count: 48

Severn Inn

993 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd.
410-349-4000; Severninn.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Soaring Timbers

610 North Bestgate Road
410-919-8393;
soaringtimbers.org
Max Guest Count: 300
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

SpringHill Suites by Marriott

189 Admiral Cochrane Drive
443-837-3602; Marriott.com
Max Guest Count: 20
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

St. John's College

60 College Avenue
410-626-2547; Sjc.edu
Max Guest Count: 130
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Stanton Community Center

92 West Washington Street
410-295-5519; Annapolis.gov
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Treaty of Paris

58 State Circle
410-216-6320;
Historicinnsofannapolis.com
Max Guest Count: 75-80
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

**USNA Alumni House/
Ogle Hall**

247 King George Street
410-295-4000; Usna.com
Max Guest Count: 300
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

WATERFRONT
WEDDINGS
CHESAPEAKE BAY MARITIME MUSEUM
ST. MICHAELS, MD



Photos by An Endless Pursuit



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Watermark Charters/ Wedding on the Bay

410-268-7601, ext. 100;
Watermarkjourney.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

The Westin Annapolis

100 Westgate Circle
410-972-4300;
Westinannapolis.com/weddings
Max Guest Count: 400
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

West River Cruises

Shady Side; 410-867-6283
Westrivercruises.com
Max Guest Count: 90

Whitehall

1915 Whitehall Road
443-906-3464; Whitehallmd.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

William Paca House & Gardens

186 Prince George Street
410-990-4538; Annapolis.org
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Anne Arundel County + Adjacent

Anchor Inn

7617 Water Oak Point Road, Pasadena
301-572-7744; Anchorinnmd.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Atlantic Marina and Resort

2010 Knollview Drive, Pasadena
410-437-6926
Atlanticmarinasmd.com
Max Guest Count: 120
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

The Blackwall Barn & Lodge

329 Gambrills Road, Gambrills
410-891-2090; Barnandlodge.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Café Mezzanotte

760 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park
410-647-1100; Cafemezz.com
Max Guest Count: 120
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: No

The Cannon Club

699 Marlboro Road, Lothian
 410-343-4700; Oldsouthcountryclub.org
 Max Guest Count: 350
 Outdoor Location: Yes (Tented)
 Water View: No

Captain Avery Museum

1418 East West Shady Side Road
 410-867-4486
 Captainaverymuseum.org
 Max Guest Count: 200
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Celebrations at the Bay

2042 Knollview Avenue, Pasadena
 410-437-5711; Celebrationsatthebay.com
 Max Guest Count: 140 indoors/
 240 tented
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: Yes

Chartwell Golf and Country Club

1 Chartwell Drive, Severna Park
 410-987-0400; Chartwellgcc.com
 Max Guest Count: Call for details
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: No

Chesapeake Beach Resort & Spa

4165 Mears Avenue, Chesapeake Beach
 410-257-2735
 CBResortSpa.com
 Max Guest Count: 225
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: Yes

The Country Club at Woodmore

12320 Pleasant Prospect, Mitchellville
 301-249-6100
 ccwoodmore.com
 Max Guest Count: 200
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

Crofton Country Club

1691 Crofton Parkway, Crofton
 410-721-3111; Croftonclub.com
 Max Guest Count: 230
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: No

The Golf Club at South River

3451 Solomons Island Road, Edgewater
 410-798-5865; Golfclubsr.com
 Max Guest Count: 150 outside;
 85 inside
 Outdoor location: Yes
 Water view: Yes

Herrington on the Bay

7151 Lake Shore Drive, North Beach
 410-741-5101; HerringtonontheBay.com
 Max Guest Count: 350
 Outdoor Location: Yes
 Water View: Yes

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www.mikebphotography.com | 443-790-3490 | mike@mikebphotography.com mike_busada

Historic Baldwin Hall

1358 Millersville Road, Millersville
410-923-3438; Baldwinhall.org
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Historic London Town and Gardens

839 Londontown Road, Edgewater
410-222-1919;
Historiclondontown.org
Max Guest Count: 225
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

The Hotel at Arundel Preserve

7795 Arundel Mills Blvd., Hanover
410-796-9830; Thehotelarundel.com
Max Guest Count: 500
Outdoor location: No
Water view: No

Kurtz's Beach

2070 Kurtz Avenue, Pasadena
410-255-1280; Kurtzsbeach.com
Max Guest Count: 220
Outdoor Location: Yes • Water View: Yes

La Fontaine Bleue

7514 Ritchie Highway, Glen Burnie
410-760-4115; Lafontainebleue.com
Max Guest Count: 1,100
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Lake Presidential Golf Course

3151 Presidential Golf Drive,
Upper Marlboro
301-627-8577; Lakepresidential.com
Max Guest Count: 175
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Maryland Sunrise Farms

100 Dairy Lane, Gambrills
410-739-6205; Mdsunrisefarm.com
Max Guest Count: 125
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: No

Maryland Yacht Club

1500 Fairview Beach Road,
Pasadena
410-255-4444; Mdyc.org
Max Guest Count: 180
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Michael's Eighth Avenue

7220 Grayburn Drive, Glen Burnie
410-768-7901; Michaels8th.com
Max Guest Count: 1,000
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

**Michael's on the South River/
Mike's Crab House**

3027 Riva Road, Riva
410-956-2784;
Michaelsonthesouthriver.com
Max Guest Count: 180
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: Yes

Mount Airy Mansion

9640 Rosaryville Road, Upper
Marlboro
301-856-9656
Mountairymansion.org
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Newton White Mansion

2708 Enterprise Road, Mitchellville
301-249-2004
PGParks.com
Max Guest Count: 300
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Renditions Golf Club

1380 West Central Avenue,
Davidsonville
410-798-9798; Renditionsgolf.com
Max Guest Count: 170
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Running Hare Vineyard

150 Adelina Road, Prince Frederick
410-414-8486;
Runningharevineyard.com
Max Guest Count: 260
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: No

The Town of North Beach

8916 Chesapeake Avenue, North
Beach
301-855-6681
northbeachmd.org
Max Guest Count: NA
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Turf Valley Resort

2700 Turf Valley Road, Ellicott City
410-465-1500; Turfvalley.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Walden Country Club

1500 Riedel Road, Crofton
410-721-8268
Waldencountryclub.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

YMCA Camp Letts

4003 Camp Letts Road, Edgewater
410-919-1410; Campletts.org
Max Guest Count: 350
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

EASTERN SHORE**Cecil County
Kent County
Chestertown
Vicinity****The Anchorage**

5667 Augustine Herman
Highway, Earleville
410-275-8700;
theanchorageevents.com
Max Guest Count: Unlimited
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Bohemia Overlook

88 Rivers Edge Road, North East
443-877-6313; bohemiaoverlook.com
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Brittland Estates

211 Brittland Farm Lane,
Chestertown
410-810-7591; Brittlandestates.com
Max Guest Count: 400
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Chester River Yacht & Country Club

7738 Quaker Neck Road,
Chestertown
410-778-3818; Crycc.org
Max Guest Count: 140
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Great Oak Manor

10568 Cliff Road, Chestertown
410-778-5943; Greateakmd.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Kent Island Yacht Club

117 Yacht Club Drive, Chester
410-643-4101; kiyc.org
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Water View: Yes
Outdoor Location: Yes

The Imperial Hotel

208 High Street, Chestertown
410-778-5000;
Imperialchestertown.com
Max Guest Count: 100
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

The Inn at Huntingfield Creek

4928 Eastern Neck Road, Rock Hall
410-639-7779; Huntingfield.com
Max Guest Count: 175
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

The Inn at Mitchell House

8796 Maryland Parkway,
Chestertown
410-778-6500;
Innatmitchellhouse.com
Max Guest Count: 100
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Moonlight Bay Inn & Marina

6002 Lawton Avenue, Rock Hall
410-639-2660; Moonlightbayinn.com
Max Guest Count: 120
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Osprey Point

20786 Rock Hall Avenue, Rock Hall
410-639-2194; Ospreypoint.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Worsell Manor

555 Worsell Manor Road, Warwick
410-656-4144; worsellmanor.com
Max Guest Count: 190
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

**Queen Anne's
Centreville
Kent Island****Bay Bridge Marina Yacht Club**

357 Pier One Road,
Stevensville
410-643-3162; baybridgemarina.com
Max Guest Count: 100
Outdoor location: yes
Water view: yes

Bridges on Kent Narrows

321 Wells Cove Road, Grasonville
410-827-0282; Bridgesrestaurant.net
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Chesapeake Bay Beach Club

500 Marina Club Road, Stevensville
410-604-1933; Baybeachclub.com
Max Guest Count: 310
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Fisherman's Crab Deck

3032 Kent Narrow Way South,
Grasonville
410-827-6666; Crabdeck.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Harris Crab House

433 Kent Narrow Way North,
Grasonville
410-827-9500;
harriscrabhouse.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Holiday Inn Express

1020 Kent Narrows Road,
Grasonville
1-800-652-3705; Hiexpress.com
Max Guest Count: 125
Outdoor Location: No
Water View: Yes

Kentmorr Restaurant

910 Kentmorr Road,
Stevensville
410-643-2263; Kentmorr.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Kent Manor Inn

500 Kent Manor Drive,
Stevensville
410-643-4242; Kentmanor.com
Max Guest Count: 300
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Maria's Love Point B&B

1710 Love Point Road,
Stevensville
410-643-5054;
mariaslovepoint.com
Max Guest Count: 275
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Prospect Bay Country Club

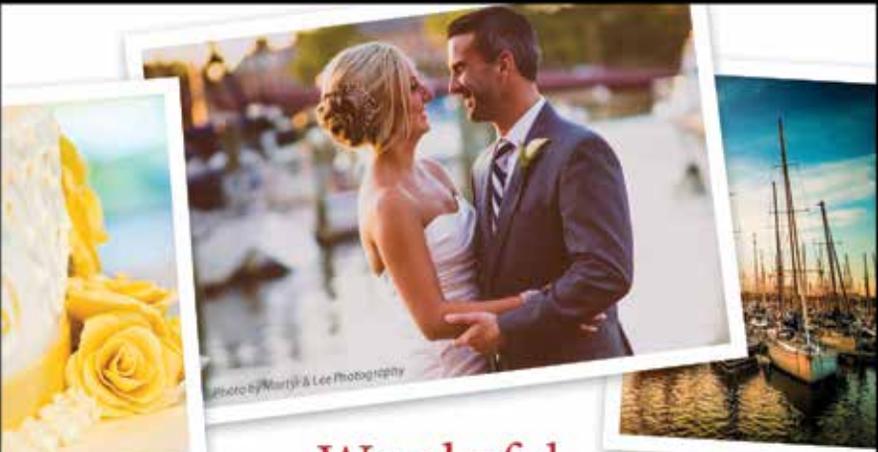
311A Prospect Bay Drive West,
Grasonville
410-827-6950;
Prospectbaycountryclub.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: Yes

Silver Swan Bayside & Catering

412 Congressional Drive,
Stevensville
443-249-0400;
Silverswanbayside.com
Max Guest Count: 300
Water View: Yes
Outdoor Location: Yes

The Inn at Chesapeake Bay Beach Club

180 Pier One Road,
Stevensville, MD 21666
410-604-5900;
Baybeachclub.com
Max Guest Count: 70
Outdoor location: Yes
Water view: No



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511 Pintail Point Farm Lane,
Queenstown
443-333-9931
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Water View: Yes
Outdoor Location: Yes

Talbot County St. Michaels Easton Vicinity

**Black Walnut Point Inn
Bed and Breakfast**

4417 Black Walnut Point Road,
Tilghman
410-886-2452;
blackwalnutpointinn.com
Max Guest Count: Call for details
Water View: Yes
Outdoor Location: Yes

**Chesapeake Bay
Maritime Museum**

213 N. Talbot Street,
St. Michaels
410-745-4944; Cbmm.org
Max Guest Count: 350
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

▲ **Chesapeake Bay Skipjack**

Rebecca T. Ruark
Tilghman; 410-829-3976
Skipjack.org
Max Guest Count: 49

The Inn at Perry Cabin

308 Watkins Lane, St. Michaels
410-745-2200; Perrycabin.com
Max Guest Count: 100
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Kirkland Manor

300 North Talbot Street, St.
Michaels
410-745-5255;
Tidewaterwedding.com
Max Guest Count: 400
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Knapp's Narrows Marina & Inn

6176 Tilghman Island Road,
Tilghman
410-886-2720;
Knappsnarrowsmarina.com
Max Guest Count: 100
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

▲ **Lady Patty Sail Charters**

Tilghman; 1-888-250-3030
Ladypatty.com
Max Guest Count: 16

Magnolia Manor

768 Port Street, Easton
410-443-1444; magnoliamanor.md.
com
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Miles River Yacht Club

24750 Yacht Club Road, St.
Michaels
410-745-9511; Milesriveryc.org
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water Front: Yes

**The Milestone Event
Center & Catering**

9630 Technology Drive, Easton
410-822-0100;
Themilestoneeventcenter.com
Max Guest Count: 275
Outdoor Location: Yes (limited)
Water View: No

The Oaks Waterfront Inn

25876 Royal Oak Road, Royal Oak
410-745-5053; The-oaks.com
Max Guest Count: 300
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

▲ **Patriot Cruises**

St. Michaels; 410-745-3100
Patriotcruises.com
Max Guest Count: 149

Robert Morris Inn

314 North Morris Street, Oxford
410-226-5111; Robertmorrisinn.
com
Max Guest Count: 80
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

▲ **Skipjack H.M. Kretz**

St. Michaels; 410-745-6080
Oystercatcher.com

St. Michaels Harbour Inn

101 N. Harbor Road, St. Michaels
410-745-9001; 800-955-9001
Harbourinn.com
Max Guest Count: 115
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Tidewater Inn

101 E. Dover Street, Easton
800-237-8775; Tidewaterinn.com
Max Guest Count: 250
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: No

Tilghman Island Inn

21384 Coopertown Road, Tilghman
410-886-2141;
Tilghmanislandinn.com
Max Guest Count: 150
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Wades Point Inn on the Bay

10090 Wades Point Road,
St. Michaels
410-745-2500; Wadespoint.com
Max Guest Count: 125
Outdoor Location: Yes (tented)
Water View: Yes

Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island

21551 Chesapeake House Drive,
Tilghman
877-818-1922;
wyldderhoteltilghmanisland.com
Max Guest Count: 200
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Dorchester County Cambridge Vicinity

▲ **Choptank Riverboat Cruises**

Hurlock; 410-943-4689
Suicide-bridge-restaurant.com
Max Guest Count: 149

Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay

100 Heron Blvd., Cambridge
410-901-1234;
Chesapeakebay.hyatt.com
Max Guest Count: 1,000
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

▲ **Nathan of Dorchester**

Cambridge, 410-228-7141
Skipjack-nathan.org
Max Guest Count: 20

▲ **Selina II**

St. Michaels; 410-726-9400
Sailselina.com
Max Guest Count: 6

Suicide Bridge

6304 Suicide Bridge Road, Hurlock
410-943-4689;
Suicide-bridge-restaurant.com
Max Guest Count: 300
Outdoor Location: Yes
Water View: Yes

Vendors We Love

This information was recorded at the time of publication and is subject to change.

Please contact the vendor directly for specific information.

For more vendors please visit

whatsupmag.com/weddings/vendors.

Accommodations

Black Walnut Point Inn
Tilghman, 410-886-2452
blackwalnutpointinn.com

The Hotel at Arundel Preserve
Hanover, 410-796-9830
thehotelarundel.com

The Inn at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club
Stevensville, 410-604-5900
baybeachclub.com

Kent Island Beach House
Kent Island, 410-984-7618
kibeachhouse.com

Maria's Love Point
Stevensville, 410-643-5054
mariaslovepoint.com

The Oaks Waterfront Inn
Royal Oak, 410-745-5053
the-oaks.com

Osprey Point Inn
Rock Hall, 410-639-2194
ospreypoint.com

SpringHill Suites
Annapolis, 443-321-2500
marriott.com/hotels/travel/bwisu-springhill-suites-annapolis/

Tidewater Inn
Easton, 800-237-8775
tidewaterinn.com

The Westin Annapolis
Annapolis, 410-972-4300
starwoodhotels.com

Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island
Tilghman, 410-886-2121
wylderhotels.com/tilghman-island

Cakes + Desserts

Always Ice Cream
Annapolis, 443-714-8674

Angyono Custom Cakes
Bowie, 240-544-7880
angyonocakes.com

Nothing Bundt Cakes
Annapolis, 443-775-7979
nothingbundtcakes.com/bakery/md/annapolis

Caterers

Blackwall Barn & Lodge
Gambrills, 410-317-2276
barnandlodge.com

Carrol's Creek
Annapolis, 410-263-8102
carrolscreek.com

Chesapeake Chef Service
410-828-0307
kurt@chesapeakechefs.com

Crave Catering Co.
Crofton, 443-302-9169
info@cravecateringco.com

Royal Oak Catering
Easton, 410-490-5123
royaloakcateringcompany.com

Dance Lessons

Annapolis Dance Academy
Arnold, 410-757-8860
annapolisdanceacademy.com

Arthur Murray Dance Centers
Edgewater, 410-216-2427
arthurmurrayedgewater.com

Dental Care

Eastern Shore Dental Care
Chester, 410-643-5500
easternshoredentalcare.com

Events + Party Rentals

Eastern Shore Tents and Events
Chestertown, 410-810-0686
estentsandevents.com

Ebb Tide Tent and Party Rentals
Queenstown, 800-675-6053
ebbtidetentrentals.com

Sugarplum Tent Company
Boys, 301-869-2054
sugarplumtents.com

Florists + Event Design

The Flower Shop
Chester, 410-604-3860
mdeasternshoreflowers.com

Jewelry

Smyth Jewelers
Annapolis, 443-321-0300
smythjewelers.com

Zachary's Jewelers
Annapolis, 410-266-5555
zacharysjewelers.com

Photography

Mike B Photography
Annapolis, 443-790-3490
mikebphotography.com

Salons + Beauty

The Inn at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club
Stevensville, 410-604-5900
baybeachclub.com

Skin Oasis Dermatology
Gambrills, 410-402-5207
skinoasisderm.com

Swan Cove Spa & Salon
Stevensville, 410-604-1500
swanovespa.com

Transportation

Towne Transport
Annapolis, 410-266-3392
townetransport.com

Travel Agencies and Tourism

Clearscape Travel
Arnold, 703-409-0982
clearscapetravel.com

Time for Travel
Davidsonville, 301-627-8890
timefortravelltd.com

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ROOM BLOCKING: BY THE NUMBERS

With Emily McAuley, the general manager of SpringHill Suites
by Marriott Annapolis



22
PERCENT

The average room blocking discount at the SpringHill Suites in 2019 was 22 percent. Discount rates will vary depending on supply and demand, but they generally run between 15 and 35 percent (and higher if a couple is willing to sign an attrition clause guaranteeing the rooms). If there is a large-scale event happening (such as the Annapolis boat show) on the same weekend, supply will likely decrease and so will the group discount.

\$0

Most hotels offer a courtesy hotel room block. This means that the hotel will set aside a block of rooms for your guests to book by phone using a special code or online using a special weblink, with no fees attached. The hotel rooms not picked up by guests are then released back into hotel inventory the month before the event.

2
HOTELS

Planners are best to stick with booking a block at two—or maximum, three—hotels and to encourage their guests to stay there. The promise to the hotel of more rooms per block can mean a deeper discount and it's also easier when it comes to transportation schedules if you are offering bus shuttles to your guests.

10
ROOMS

Planners booking a local wedding with a few out-of-town guests can start off with 10 hotel rooms. However, for a larger or "destination" wedding, a block of 20 to 30 rooms is better.

6

**NAVY HOME
FOOTBALL
GAMES**

If you're going to book your wedding during a Navy home football game, just be aware you're booking your wedding during a Navy home football game! It's a predictable cause of price hikes. This year, home football games are scheduled on the following Saturdays:

Sept. 4, 2021
Sept. 11, 2021
Oct. 2, 2021
Oct. 9, 2021
Oct. 23, 2021
Nov. 20, 2021

Other hot dates in Annapolis include the Fourth of July, the Annapolis Boat Shows (Oct. 7–10, 2021 and Oct. 14–18, 2021), and Easter Weekend (April 15–17, 2022).

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