





YOU EXPECT THE BEST ON YOUR WEDDING DAY ...

Let us exceed your expectations







Prespect Bay is a hidden gem on the Eastern Shore, just minutes from the Bay Bridge, offering a ceremony and reception venue for up to 250 people. Our experienced, friendly staff will guide and assist you from the initial planning to the final toast. We specialize in exceptional quality and value.

To schedule a tour or for more information, contact **Joy Haschen** at **410-827-6950** or **jhaschen@prospectbaycc.com**WWW.PROSPECTBAYCC.COM | 311A PROSPECT BAY DR. WEST | GRASONVILLE, MD 21638







TIMELESS

253 YEARS OF HISTORY 3 HISTORIC INNS 1 PERFECT DAY 410.216.6320 58 STATE CIRCLE, ANNAPOLIS, MD HISTORICINNSOFANNAPOLIS.COM

THE TIDEWATER INN

Picturesque DOWNTOWN WEDDING DESTINATION

A TIMELESS EASTERN SHORE VENUE















Easton, MD | 410.822.1300 | tidewaterinn.com

SUMMER/ **FALL 2025**

On the cover: Drone shot from a real wedding on page 66. Photo by Andreea Russo Photography. Design by August Schwartz.



Contents





08 From the Editor

Obsessions

Wedding trends we can't get enough of

- 12 Color, Color, and More Color Colorful palettes and bold details
- 13 Mantilla & Juliet Cap Veils Unique veil styles for a romantic bridal look
- 14 Late Night Snacks Quick bites to keep the party going



Get the Look

Style inspiration from local couples

- **Brianna and Brady**
- 20 Clare and Gage
- 22 Allison Bridal fashion spotlight

Planning

How to throw a superlative wedding

28 Destination: Staycation

Local staycation weddings for you and your guests

36 Making the List Practical tips for planning a

quest list

42 Best Of Weddings

Real Weddings

Stunning weddings of the Chesapeake Bay region

- 46 Riley & Jane St. Mary's Church & Annapolis Waterfront Hotel
- 50 Josh & Lizzy Wildly Native Flower Farm
- 54 Tyler & Natalie **Brittland Estates**
- 58 William & Rachel Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- 62 Max & Maggie Annapolis Waterfront Hotel
- 66 Mac & Tess Private Residence
- 70 The Ultimate **Wedding Guide** A comprehensive listing of area venues, and other vendors you need to know

80 What's Your Flavor? Wedding cake

flavors for every sweet tooth



SUBMIT YOUR WEDDING

Weddings must be in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay region. Online features will be selected throughout the year. To submit, visit whatsupmag.com/weddings/submit.





Celebrate your special moments in an enchanting English Garden! Whether it's a wedding ceremony, reception, rehearsal dinner, or vow renewal, your event at the William Paca House & Garden will be one to remember.

410.990.4538 | weddings@annapolis.org





weddi

Publisher & President Veronica Tovey (x1102) COO & Director of Advertising Ashley Raymond (x1115)

> **Editorial Director** James Houck (x1104) Weddings Editor Alexandria Taylor

Art Director August Schwartz (x1119) **Graphic Designers** Matt D'Adamo, Lauren Ropel Web Content Specialist Arden Haley (x1116) **Production Coordinator** Amanda Stepka

Social & Entertainment Media Associate Cali Schwerdtfeger

> **Senior Account Executive** Kathy Sauve (x1107)

Account Executives Beth Kuhl (x1112) Nina Peake (x1106), Haley Raymond, Michelle Roe (x1113) Sales Assistant la Louisse Horton

> Finance Manager Deneen Mercer (x1105) Bookkeeper Heather Teat (x1109) **Executive Assistant** Regine May Gelera

Contributing Photographers Andreea Russo Anna Lowe Photography Arbor Lane Studio Crystal Finnegan Photography Kate Fine Art Photography Kir Tuban Photography Kylee B. Photography Jenny Wagner Photography Laura Bell Laura's Focus Photography Lisa Blume Photography Liz Fogarty Photography Madeline Serio Photography Madison Berlen Photography Megan Bennett Photography Memento Weddings Nell Mallia Photography Peach Photography Precious Pics White Glove Sarah James Photography

Urban Row Photography WHATSUPMAG.COM/WEDDINGS

Syd Marks

What's Up? Weddings is published twice a year by What's Up? Media,

900 Bestgate Rd. Ste. 202, Annapolis, MD 21401 410-266-6287 Fax 410-224-4308

No part of this magazine may be reproduced in any form without express written consent of the publisher. Publisher disclaims any and all responsibility for omissions and errors. All rights reserved.

Total printed circulation is 8,500 copies with an estimated readership of 35,000 per issue. 6.500 copies are mailed free to brides in the Chesapeake Bay region, with an additional 2,000 copies distributed on regional newsstands, at bridal expos, and to venue locations within Maryland.

©2025 What's Up?, Inc.



HAPPILY EVER AFTER. Now and Always.



100 Main Street | Annapolis ZacharysJewelers.com 410.266.5555















et's start at the beginning; after all, that's kind of where I'm starting. This is my second issue editing What's Up? Weddings, I'm six months into wedding planning; it's all just the beginning. The whirlwind of a new chapter, a ring on the finger, telling loved ones about a big life moment. Yes, the beginning of wedding planning can be a sort of fun chaos, just the start of endless decisions. So, where

do you start? For most couples, the first step is getting the venue and choosing a date. Our venue was the first vendor booked and I think it's an incredibly personal choice. It speaks to what a couple



The wedding in Tuscany, Italy that inspired Destination: Staycation.

wants their wedding day to be like, not just in aesthetics but in atmosphere as well. My fiancé and I choose somewhere small and intimate. But I've attended weddings in extravagant ballrooms and close-knit wedding weekends. It was my friends' overseas wedding that inspired the feature Destination: Staycation (page 28). Going to a winery, white water rafting, exploring a small town in Tuscany, and hanging out by the pool together all before the wedding day was such a memorable experience. I wanted to highlight the amazing venues on the Eastern Shore and couples who made a special experience for their guests. After all, weddings are about being surrounded by those you love and who love you back.

And yes, it's important to remember that all those early decisions, as exhausting as they may be, will turn into a day you'll look back on fondly. The love stories of all of our Real Weddings couples prove that. My advice as a future bride and weddings editor? Bask in this new beginning.

With joy, Alexandria Taylor

Allendria & Taylor







Whether enjoying the dark wood and stone features of our Lodge area, the high-vault ceilings and rustic décor of our Barn, the oasis that is our adaptable patio, or the privacy of our outdoor ceremony space, our guests will feel enveloped in the luxury of sophisticated catering exemplified by our food, our décor and our staff.

Contact us today to schedule a tour and discover how we can make your next event truly unforgettable!

329 GAMBRILLS ROAD, GAMBRILLS, MD 21054 (443) 645-3035 x4 · BARNANDLODGE.COM









Rentals to Remember

"Setting your table with elegance and ease"

1981 Moreland Parkway, Suite 104 Annapolis, MD 21401 410-295-3446 rentalstoremember.com

TENTS TABLES CHAIRS CHINA GLASSWARE FLATWARE LINEN

OBSESSIONS

Wedding trends we can't get enough of

12

COLOR, COLOR, AND MORE COLOR

13

MANTILLA AND
JULIET CAP VEILS

14
LATE NIGHT
SNACKS



Anna Lowe Photography WHAT'S UP? WEDDINGS 11



gather. The pops of color stand out from the white draped tenting. Kylee B. Photography

Color, Color, and More Color

"What are your wedding colors?" A question every engaged couple will get asked throughout wedding planning. Elegantly neutral nuptials have ruled the trends. But color has been creeping into palette lately and it's the perfect way to add memorable and a bold details to your wedding day.

▲ Custom printed napkins and fruity drinks can be small ways to add a pop of color. Lisa Blume Photography

▼ Colorful plates and patterned linens stand out against a simple white table setting.

Lisa Blume Photography





▲ Get creative with textured flowers, like with the addition of these Anthuriums. Color paired with fun details, like a retro TV and metal martini glasses, makes for a memorable vignette.

Kylee B. Photography

Mantilla and Juliet Cap Veils

Dresses might be the day's showstopper, but veils are the rising stars. Mantilla and Juliet cap veils have a unique design feature: they're worn atop the head rather than on the back of the head or tucked into the hair. They're an antique piece that are making a comeback for traditional and contemporary weddings, and everything in between. Often featuring intricate lace detailing, the veils add a romantic detail to any bridal look.



▲ Mantilla veils add softness and detail to this cool, modern wedding attire.

Sarah James Photography





▲ Lace on lace with bold florals takes timeless details and turns them into a bold style.

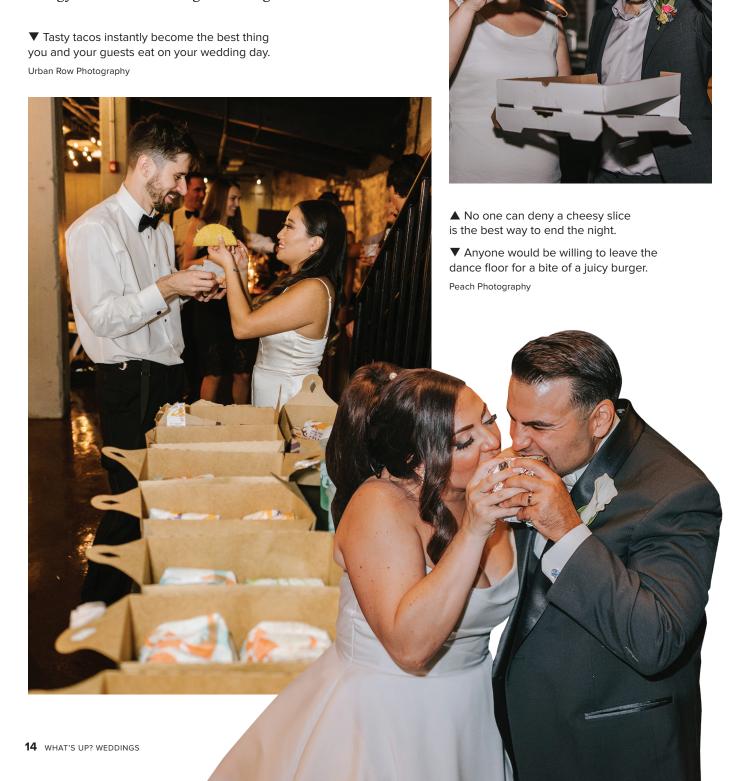
Anna Lowe Photography

◀ A Juliet cap veil elevates a simple hairstyle and adds texture to a simple dress.

Nell Mallia Photography

Late Night Snacks

You and your guests have spent the wedding dancing the night away. Around 10 or 11, you might be feeling a little craving. That's where a late night snack comes in. These are perfectly-timed bites towards the end of the night that will satisfy a craving and give you one final boost of energy to close out the night on a high note.







THE CELEBRATION OF A LIFETIME Intimate Weddings | Full Weekend Celebrations

One of a Kind Experiences

QUEENSTOWN HARBOR OFFERS STUNNING WATERFRONT VIEWS & ON-SITE LODGING WITH UNIQUE EVENT VENUE OPTIONS, LIKE OUR TOPTRACER RANGE.



TRUE COLORS

BEAUTY CO

Glam On Demand





















Davey Cook named among Top 10 Makeup Artists by msn.com

153 Mayo Rd, Suite 201 | Edgewater, MD 443.262.6880 | truecolorsbeautyco@gmail.com truecolorsbeautyco.com



Meet the TCB team

True Colors Beauty Co has been glowing and growing for over twelve years. What started with just one makeup artist with a dream, evolved into a family of talented and experienced hair stylists, makeup artists, and a beauty coordinator ready to be the beauty squad for your next special event! From weddings, boudoir, and maternity, to magazines and New York Fashion Week, this team has flourished through continuing education efforts and catering to each individual client. As an awardwinning company providing luxury services, this team strives to learn your beauty vision and make it come to life. From start to finish, your experience with True Colors Beauty Co will be fun, effortless, and unforgettable.



Meet the owner - Davey Cook

Davey Cook is the founder and master makeup artist of True Colors Beauty Co. His love for makeup began at a young age, watching his mom and older sisters with their beauty routines, and in turn, practicing techniques on his younger sisters. He is now a makeup mogul in the DMV area and beyond. He nurtured this dream into a reality by creating his own company which has grown into a team of eleven incredible women, and he's not stopping any time soon. Davey has an eye for each client, listens to their vision, and works his magic. He engages in a diverse portfolio through continuing education and forever evolving trends. His ultimate goal is to bring out your true beauty and make you feel your most beautiful when leaving his chair.



GET THE LOOK

Style inspiration from local couples

18
BRADY AND
BRIANNA

20
GAGE AND
CLARE

22
ALLISON



Kir Tuben Photography WHAT'S UP? WEDDINGS 17

Brady and Brianna

TIMELESS AND STYLISH

A classic modern love story, Brady and Brianna are a dating app success. Brady thoughtfully planned their first date at Café Normandie in Annapolis because they served Brianna's favorite drink, a Cosmopolitan. They quickly bonded over shared values and a love of being on the water. As the location of their first date and after getting engaged at State Circle, they knew they wanted to get married in Annapolis, too. Their desire to get married at a historic





Brianna wanted to walk the fine line between timeless and fashionforward, which was perfectly featured in her dress. She saw a photo of the dress right after getting engaged and instantly saved it. The combination of the puffy sleeves and simple fabric put the dress at the top of her wish list. "I tried on probably 50 dresses at seven different bridal boutiques and nothing felt right," Brianna said. Although they all fit the criteria, the dress she first saw was stuck in her mind. She visited a store in DC that carried the designer, and the boutique was able to ship the dress Brianna fell in love with from their New York City location. After trying it on, her dream dress was immediate "yes!"

> "Although my dress sleeves were a 'moment,' everything else about my fashion and beauty was truly timeless!"



His Look

Brady knew he wanted a custom navy suit for the wedding day. They worked with the Indochino store in Georgetown, Washington, DC. "We loved getting to choose every detail of the suit." Custom details included a blue floral print for the suit liner and his name and the wedding date embroidered on the inside of the suit jacket.

The Accessories

Her bridal heels, a pair of Loeffler Randall sandals, were the look's biggest splurge. The pleated block heels added the perfect pop of blue. Earrings were one of the hardest accessories for Brianna to find. But she borrowed a pair of scalloped diamond and pearl earrings from one of her friends who recently married. She finished the look with a cathedral-length, scattered pearl veil.

> THE BRIDE Gown: Ventura Dress by Vagabond (designer), Lovely Bride DC (shop), \$3,715 Veil: Scattered Pearl Tulle Cathedral Veil (David's Bridal), \$180 Jewelry: Pearl and diamond earrings (borrowed), Cartier love ring Shoes: Loeffler Randall Camellia Blue Pleated Bow Heel, \$395 Reception Dress: Mesh Louanne Dress, \$250 THE GROOM Suit: Indochino Custom Suit (designer and shop) Jewelry: Citizen Endeavor Watch, \$595 Shoes: Florsheim Horse Bit Loafers Other Accessories: Monogramed Gold Cufflinks (Etsy), \$40 THE BRIDESMAIDS Dresses: Sky Blue Stretch Crepe Dress, various styles (Azazie) Jewelry: Mother of Pearl flower earrings (Etsy), \$40 THE GROOMSMEN Suit: Navy suits (rented, Generation Tux) Shoes: Brown dress shoes (Generation Tux)

Their Entourage

Initially, Brianna wanted her girls to wear all white but then decided to add a little color variation because of the simplicity of her dress. The bridesmaids wore light blue dresses in mixed and matched styles, adding the perfect pop. Groomsmen wore navy suits, which complimented the bridesmaids' icy blue dresses. Brianna and Brady requested their guests wear blue in any shade or pattern. "Surprisingly enough, everyone listened, and it made for great photos!"

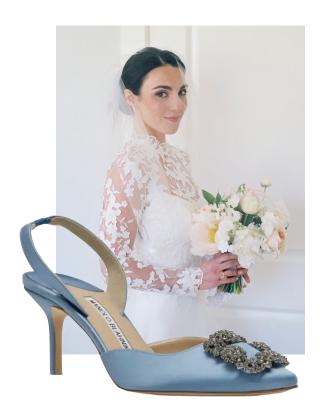


Gage and Clare

EASTERN SHORE AMERICANA

Though both Gage and Clare lived in New York City, their initial meeting was delayed by the pandemic in 2020. For the first three months, they got to know each other over the phone. And when Clare had to go back to New York, Gage took the train from D.C. for their first dinner date. It went so well that the next weekend, she took the drain to D.C. for their second date. By then, it was clear they were both smitten.

After spending weekends in St. Michaels during their relationship, the waterfront town became an obvious choice for the setting of their May wedding. The couple married at the Historic Christ Church and held their reception at the Oaks Waterfront, perfectly encapsulating Clare's timeless, elegant, and classic Americana vision.





"When they opened the doors, and I stepped into the church, the sunlight shone through behind me, illuminating the overskirt and veil. It was completely magical."

Her Look

It was third one's the charm for Clare finding her dress. The owner of the boutique who helped her pick her wedding dress noticed an instant change in Clare when she put it on. "Look how flushed your cheeks just got," said Luvi, the owner. "That is the one." Elegant, sleek, and breathtaking, the dress was exactly what Clare wanted. Clare's look also featured an overskirt and a long-sleeve lace topper, which felt like she had three dresses in one.



His Look

When it came to choosing a suit, Gage wanted something classic and timeless, so he chose a traditional black tuxedo. They both wanted to look back at their photos in 30 years and think his ensemble "still looked sharp".

The Accessories

Clare used a variety of family jewelry pieces to complete her wedding day look. She wore a bracelet that belonged to her grandmother, which also served as her "something old." "It was really special to feel like I had a piece of my late grandmother there with me." For "something new," she had a handkerchief with her new monogram, gifted by one of her best friends. An antique square of Irish linen loaned from her godmother with her bouquet was "something borrowed." And an antique dime from 1892 that her great-grandmother collected in her shoe was meant to bring luck and prosperity.

Their Entourage

For bridesmaid's dresses, Clare loved the idea of supporting a local designer. At the time they got engaged, Clare was living in Charleston, South Carolina. She found local designer LulaKate at Bella Bridesmaids for the floral blue bridesmaids' dresses. As for the groomsmen, they wore black tuxedos, but the couple weren't picky about having the men wear the same exact style. "This way, guys who owned their own tuxes could wear [them], be comfortable, and have the best fit." Groomsmen who didn't already have their own tux rented through Berrier.



THE BRIDE Gown: Romona Keveza (designer, gown, overskirt, custom lace jacket), Casa de Novia (shop, Houston, Texas) Veil: Romona Keveza Bride's jewelry: diamond studs (gift from the groom for first dating anniversary) and vintage pearl bracelet with sapphire clasp that belonged to the bride's grandmother and was worn by her mother at her mother's wedding Shoes: Manolo Blahnik light blue satin Hangisi pumps, \$1,350 Reception dress: Galvan London, Sienna halterneck mini dress THE GROOM Suit: Paul Stewart (designer and shop) Groom's jewelry: wedding ring from de Boulle jewelers in Houston, Texas Groom's shoes: Ralph Lauren Purple Label Men's Alonzo Velvet Loafers, \$695 THE BRIDESMAIDS Bridesmaids' dresses: LulaKate (designer), Bella Bridesmaids (shop) THE GROOMSMEN Groomsmen suits: various designers, personally owned or Berrier (rental shop) **OTHER STYLE-RELATED VENDORS** Hair and makeup: Amie Decker Beauty Florist: Floral and Bloom

Kir Tuben Photography WHAT'S UP? WEDDINGS 21

Allison

BRIDAL FASHION SPOTLIGHT

Adam started working at the same company as Allison just a couple months after she did. After being tasked with training him and spending time together, Allison convinced Adam to have a joint birthday party since they were born a day apart. The two shared their first kiss the night of their joint celebration.

During their search for a wedding venue, the couple realized they preferred locations on the water. They considered options on the Finger Lakes in Upstate New York and the Chesapeake Bay. Ultimately, the two decided on the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club for their timeless and elegant July nuptials.







The Gown

Like most brides, when Allison began looking at dresses, she turned to Pinterest. She saved a variety of styles to her board and initially felt it would be impossible to narrow down to just one. However, by the time of her first appointment, she knew she wanted "an A-line, dress with mostly plain fabric, [but was] open to different necklines." Initially, her stylist showed her dresses that fit that exact description until he took a risk and showed her something completely different. Rather than an A-line dress, he picked a ball gown that had some similar qualities, yet different from the inspiration photos. The risk paid off because she absolutely loved it; it was her dress.

"I loved the fitted corset bodice and how it balanced so perfectly with the big ballgown skirt and train," Allison says of her dress. "I couldn't get over the detailing on the front of the skirt with a slit and the buttons trailing all the way down the train. It brought the drama while also being classic and elegant."

The Shoes

On her hunt for bridal shoes, Allison was looking for a shorter heel and a pointy toe. She ended up purchasing five pairs before deciding on the Badgley Mishka stilettos, a pair of plain pointed toes with a silk ribbon tied around the ankle.

The Accessories

Allison incorporated family pieces into her bridal look as her "somethings" for the day. Since family is so important to her, it meant a lot to have the accessories of loved ones with her as she married Adam. Her "something old" was her paternal grandmother's pearl bracelet. "Something new" was, of course, her wedding dress. "Something borrowed" was the hanky her maternal grandmother carried on her wedding day. And "something blue" was her paternal great-grandmother's ring.

"I was raised by so many strong women who had beautiful, lasting marriages. It was so special to be able to physically carry pieces from them with me."



The Second Look

The second look was Allison's biggest style splurge, but well worth it. She chose a dress with a more fitted silhouette to wear during the reception so it would be easier to move around and dance in. Allison found a fitted lace dress second-hand. "I fell in love with a dress worn by another bride [who was] the same height as me and looked to have a similar body type. It ended up fitting like a glove with no alterations needed!" A dress that was meant to be to dance the night away in.

STYLE DETAILS Gown: Abella Collection by Allure Bridal 'Nova' (designer)| Stella's Bridal (shop, Pittsford, New York) Veil: Marionat pearl-edge Ceremony Shoes: Blaze Satin Bow Stilettos by Badgley Mishka, \$200 Reception Dress: Galleria della Sposa (purchased via Stillwhite) Reception Shoes: Nike Air Force 1 '07, \$115 Accessories: Freshwater Pearl Bracelet by Pavoi, \$14 | family heirloom jewelry CREDITS Hair: Lucja Ryzner Makeup: Emily Seeley Flowers: Arrow Bella

Madeline Serio Photography WHAT'S UP? WEDDINGS 23









Tilghman Island









BLUSH BRIDAL

BRIDAL HAIR & MAKEUP















Based in the heart of Annapolis, Maryland, Blush Hair Salon ℰ Skin Studio invites you to indulge in a new salon experience. This award-winning salon, established in 2021, combines hair artistry with a spalike experience. Offering Color Services, Extensions, Bridal Hair & Makeup, Facials, Waxing, Lash Services, and Japanese Head Spa. Blush caters to all your pampering needs under one modern roof. Get ready to be swept away by their warm and welcoming ambiance and professional staff. Blush Bridal, part of Blush Hair Salon in Annapolis, MD, is a premier travel bridal hair and makeup company dedicated to making every bride's special day unforgettable. Blush features a talented team of stylists and makeup artists who create personalized looks that reflect each bride's unique vision.





For Bridal Pricing & Inquiries www.blushsalonmd.com/bridal

WEDDINGDAY

Turf Valley Resort, Ellicott City, MD

ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGES Priced Per Person

CUSTOMIZABLE WEDDING MENUS

> Catered By Our Experienced Culinary Team

FAMILY-OWNED RESORT In Howard County, MD

CALL
410.465.1200
OR VISIT
TurfValley.com/
Weddings

A Love Story Unfolds...

Turf Valley Resort offers the convenience of hosting your entire wedding celebration all in one location. With an onsite hotel and restaurant, we can accommodate both your wedding party and overnight guests. Seamlessly transition from wedding day preparations to the ceremony, reception, and after-party—all without leaving the property. Plus, our resort amenities—including a full-service spa, golf course, pools, and restaurant—provide plenty of opportunities for fun and relaxation, making your celebration a true weekend getaway.

Photo by Madeline Serio Photography



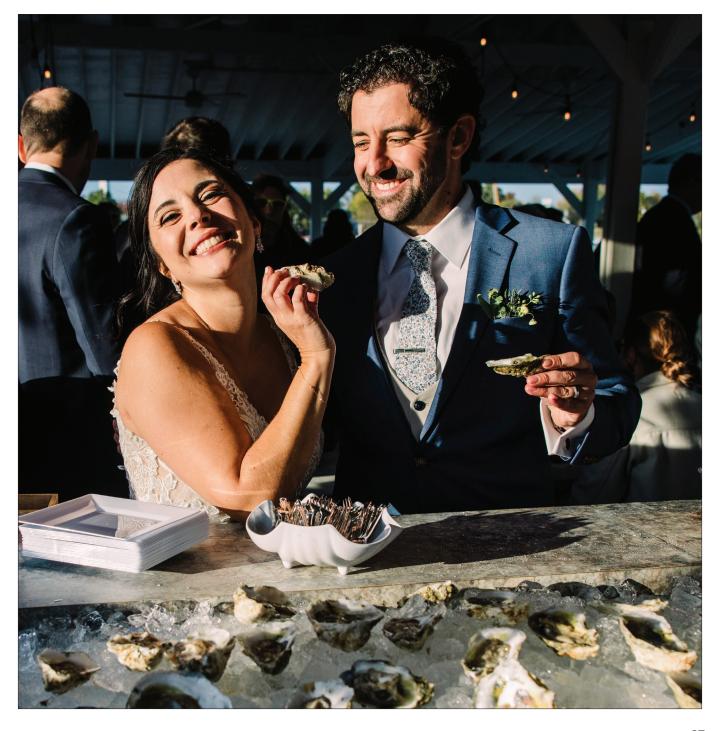
PLANNING

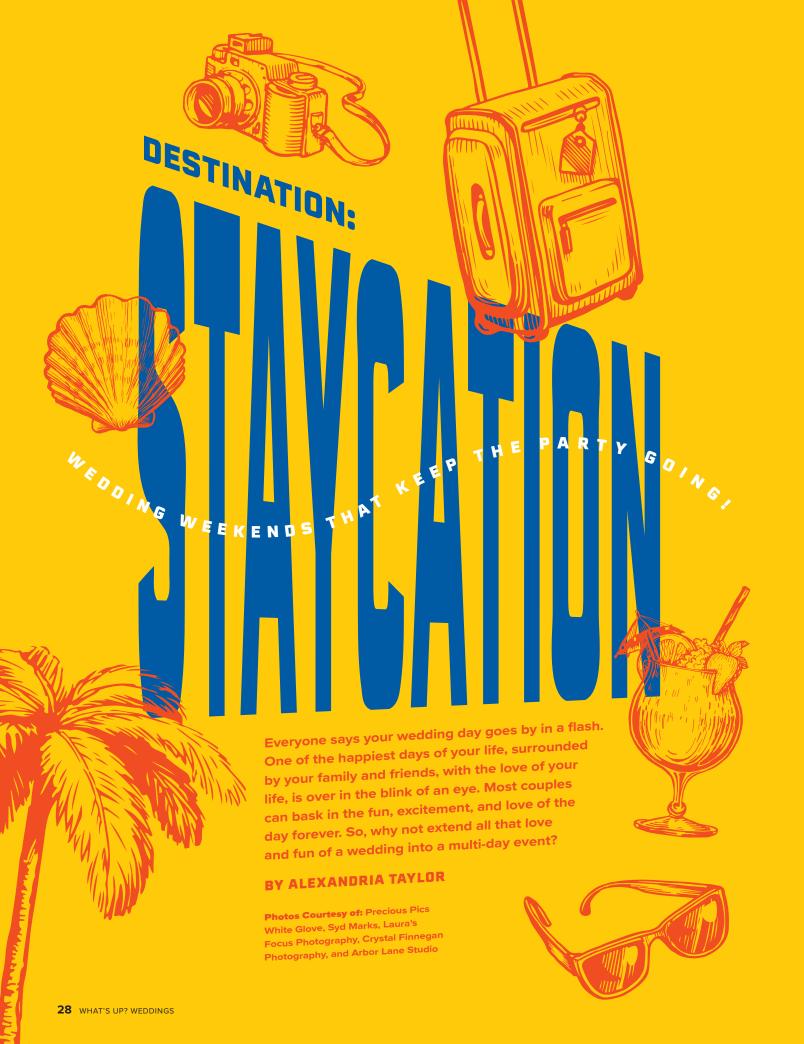
How to throw a superlative wedding

28
DESTINATION: STAYCATION

36
MAKING THE LIST

42
BEST OF WEDDINGS

















Think about them as destination weddings that are a little closer to home. Staycation weddings are mini-vacations centered around a wedding date. Guests come a few days earlier, stay a few days later, and often lodge in on-site accommodations.

For Samantha and Brandon, who had a September wedding at the Inn at Huntingfield Creek, it was also about creating a special atmosphere for guests. "We wanted them to be able to enjoy the weekend and make a vacation out of it rather than [have] a quick one-night stay."

It's a way for the couple to be surrounded by their loved ones and extend the celebration past the traditional ceremony and reception. Plus, they offer downtime and opportunities for casual gatherings outside of scheduled events, leading to more memories that everyone cherishes.

THE MORE EVENTS, THE MERRIER

Many couples kick off their wedding weekend with a welcome party for their guests. Typically held after the rehearsal dinner, it features cocktails and light bites where guests can casually stop in, greet the couple, and spend time together. "That was a perfect way to start the weekend and welcome all of our out-of-town guests!" says Gabby and Parker of their welcome party for their September wedding at Brittland Estates.

But this is just the start of a weekend full of fun events, whether they're structured and planned or not. "Our guests swam, kayaked, and enjoyed the on-site sauna and plunge pool. They also went sightseeing on bicycles all around Tilghman Island. In town, many of our guests enjoyed the Oyster Festival and walking around the charming shops and side streets," explained Janeen and Todd, who hosted their wedding at Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island during the coastal town's famous festival in October.

Some couples might offer activities for guests to do during the weekend's downtime. Wine or beer tastings at nearby wineries and breweries. A round of golf or a scenic hike during the day. Maybe a cooking class or a boat charter. Back onsite, couples might host movie nights, cookouts or barbecues, and pool parties, depending on the venue's amenities.

Janeen and Todd ended their first night by the fire pit with their guests making s'mores. Samantha and Brandon had a bonfire where they shared stories and memories while sipping on drinks. Brooke and Andy, who married at





"IT WAS SUCH A NICE WAY TO SEE EVERYONE **OFF. WE WERE ABLE TO SPEND SOME MORE OUALITY TIME WITH GUESTS IN A VERY** LAID-BACK SETTING."

> -MARISA AND JC OF THEIR FAREWELL BRUNCH

Brampton 1860, walked on the surrounding trails and played games with their guests before the wedding. Marisa and JC, who hosted their rehearsal dinner and welcome party at Herrington on the Bay, served pizza from a local brick oven pizza truck to kick off the festivities.

And after the final dance of the wedding, the weekend doesn't have to end. After-parties and farewell brunches can end the weekend's events on a high note. "It was such a nice way to see everyone off," says Marisa and JC of their farewell brunch. "We were able to spend some more quality time with quests in a very laid-back setting." Guests can stop in for a quick bite or a full sit-down breakfast, enjoying a final moment to celebrate the couple and spend time with loved ones.

QUALITY TIME **FOR GUESTS AND** THE COUPLE

Getting a chance to talk to all of your guests the day of the wedding is a feat. But staycation wedding weekends make catching up more natural for both the couple and the guests. "It really allowed everyone to spend quality time together," says Janeen and Todd. "Family members and friends who hadn't seen each other in a while had time to reconnect."

Since wedding weekend events are more casual, they're ideal for meeting distant family members and plus-ones in a less formal setting. Conversations can be longer and deeper, allowing you to feel like you've connected and made memories with your guests. And it takes the pressure off having to greet everyone the day of the wedding.

"The truth is no amount of time with loved ones is ever enough," says Brooke and Andy, "but we are so grateful for everyone pitching in and willing to stay the entire weekend with us to get in as much of those moments as we could!"





WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A STAYCATION VENUE



First, look for estates and resorts that offer on-site accommodations. Depending on the size and your guest count, you may have just family and close friends staying on-site, or you may be able to get all guests to stay on the grounds.

Beyond spending time together, having guests stay on-site offers other benefits. "They loved being able to stay on the property and not have to worry about driving or [the] stress of finding somewhere to stay," explains Samantha and Brandon.

Venues in or nearby small towns offer guests activities and places to explore during down-time. Quaint locations also provide a scenic backdrop to the weekend. Consider the amenities the venue has on-site as well. Pools, lawn games, and fire pits make great casual entertaining.

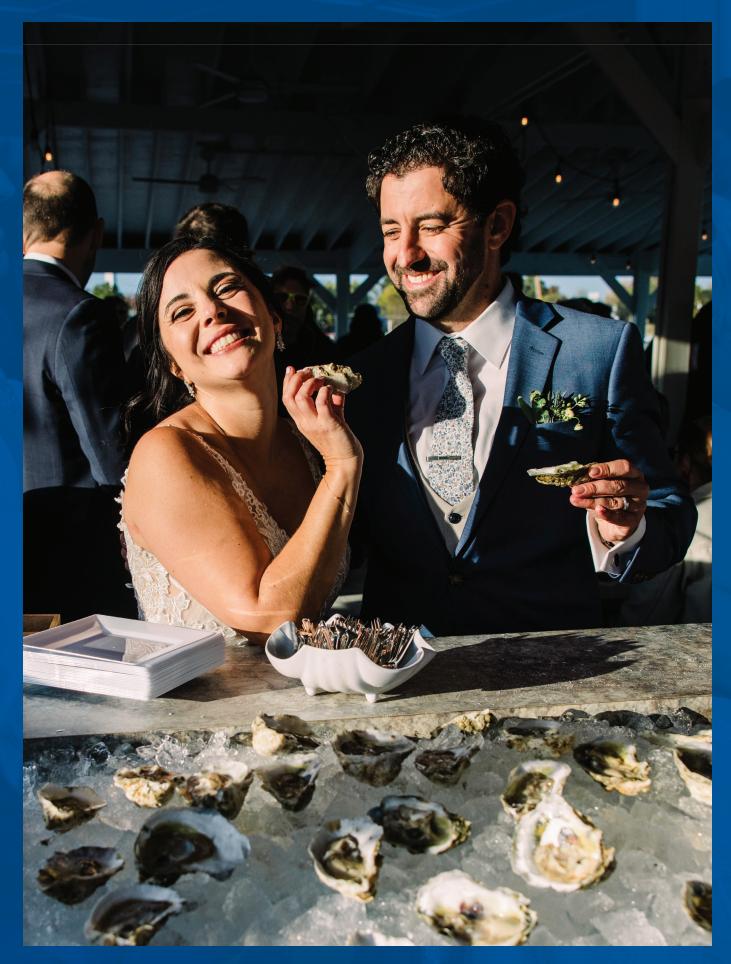
To get the staycation feel, book accommodations at the venue a few days before the wedding. The wedding party and close family can come those first few days before other guests. And as guests arrive, they'll have plenty of relaxation and time to hang out before the big event.

A venue with a homey atmosphere is also a plus. "The way the Inn is situated makes for a neighborhood kind-of-feel," says Marisa and JC about Herrington on the Bay, "so it was fun waking up, walking to breakfast and running into our family and friends on the way."



"THE TRUTH IS NO AMOUNT OF TIME WITH LOVED ONES IS EVER **ENOUGH, BUT WE ARE** SO GRATEFUL FOR **EVERYONE PITCHING** IN AND WILLING TO STAY THE ENTIRE WEEKEND WITH US..."

-BROOKE AND ANDY







MY FLOWER BOX

Your Dream Wedding

I will guide you through each aspect of the wedding design process. We will discuss the Bridesmaids, Grooms, Groomsmen, Family Flowers, Ceremony Decor and Reception Decor.

You will have the opportunity to choose from our inventory of design props such as various wedding arches, lanterns, votive holders, candlesticks, candelabras, vases, columns, chuppahs and urns.







www.myflowerboxdesigns.com | 443-904-0802

@myflowerboxdesigns

Your one-stop shop for every special occasion!













Bridal Gowns • Tuxedo Rentals - Men & Kids Quinceañera & Sweet 16 Dresses • Prom, Bridesmaids & Mother of the Bride Attire • Accessories & More

We also offer: Custom Flower Arrangements • Event Decoration Day-of Event Coordination • Alterations for dresses, pants, gowns & more

f 🕝

1916 Forest Dr, Unit 2 | Annapolis, MD | (443) 926-3375 www.mis15bridalboutique.com







Take your next steps in life together with a beautiful romantic wedding in The Queen (Anne Baltroom.



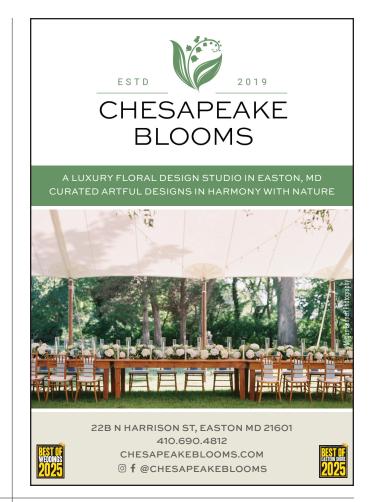
3028 Kent Narrows Way South Grasonville, MD 21638 kentnarrowsevents.com 443-446-6000

"I really can't say enough good things about our experience and it was the absolute hands-down best choice to hand over our ideas and wishes to the staff of Brampton to create our perfect, unforgettable wedding weekend." TRIP ADVISTOR GUEST

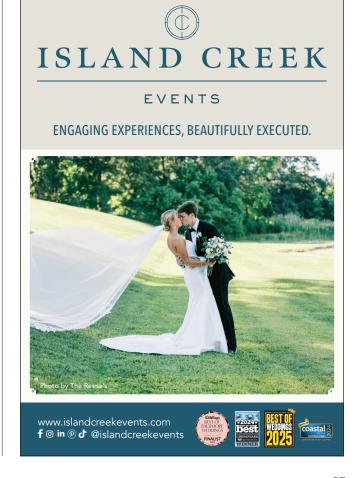


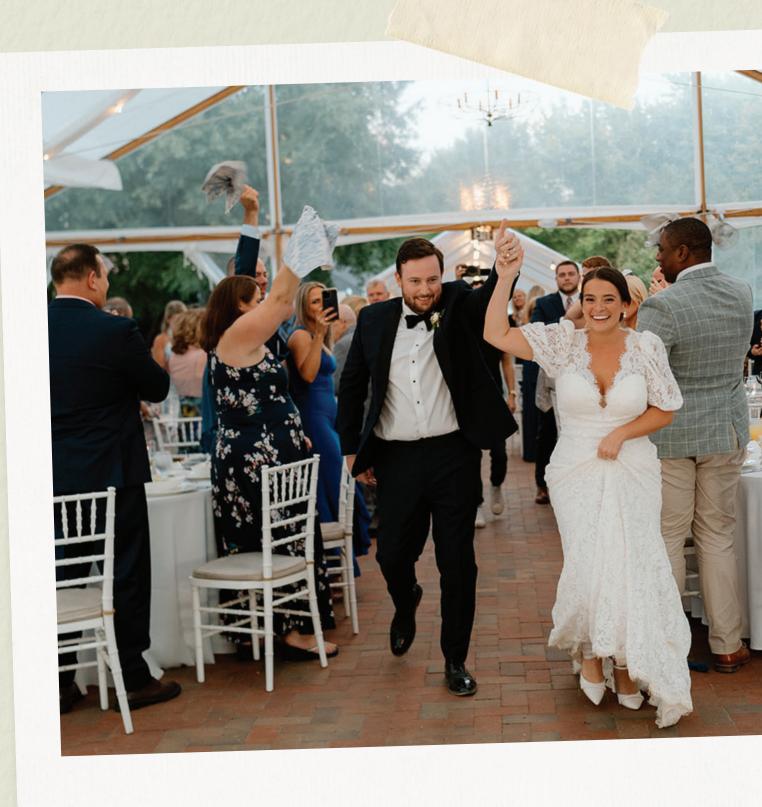
BRAMPTON













Photos Courtesy of: Laura Bell, Memento Weddings, and Kir Tuben Photography

THE

Practical tips for who makes the cut

Ilexandria Taylor



Celebrating with your

But, let's be honest, trying to figure out who gets to come can be a bit overwhelming. With friends, family, and coworkers to choose from, it can be difficult to determine exactly who gets to be in attendance when you say, "I do."

Everyone wants to be invited to a wedding and no couple wants to hurt feelings. Ultimately, some people get the invitation in the mail and others don't. But where do you draw the line? Before you pick out that beautiful invitation suite and send your save the dates, you'll have to make some important decisions about who makes the list.

Imagine the Ambiance

While you may not have all the details worked out, you probably have concepts of your ideal wedding day. You don't have to settle on an exact number, but rather simply have an idea of the ambiance of the event. "Consider if you want a more grand celebration or a more intimate gathering," say planners Tori Wolfgang and Ali Mulford of Victoria Alexandra Events. The atmosphere you're after can help guide you on a guest count and who would make the list. With more intimate affairs, you can limit the list to your closest inner circle. On the other hand, larger celebrations can extend invites a little further.

Budget Always Comes Into Play

The guest list affects nearly every detail of the wedding. You might not know who every name on the list will be early on, but that estimated number will come into play from the start. Choosing a venue is often the first time a couple will have to have a number. You may have your eye set on a space and are willing to have the guest count they can accommodate. "If someone has had their dream wedding venue picked out since childhood, then sure, base your guest count around that," says Michaela Bussey of Olive+Oak Event Co. But in most cases, she suggests, "having at least a rough idea of your guest count before you start venue shopping."

The way guest count and budget intertwine will affect catering and drink costs, seating, invitations, favors, and ambiance, along with the quality of each. "A 50-guest wedding on a \$100k budget is very different from a 200 guest wedding using the same budget," explains SRS Events planner Stephanie Sadowski.



Turn Numbers Into Names

Many professional planners recommended categorizing guests. Yes, it may sound harsh, but it's a good way to organize; and guests don't have to know in which category they fall. Create simple categories like immediate family, extended family, college friends, and work friends. Use a tiered system, with the first tier being immediate family, your close friends, and wedding party. In Tier 2, extended family, including aunts, uncles, cousins, and longtime friends. The final third tier includes colleagues and acquaintances.

Another version is the 'must, plus, feel' rule, suggests Bussey. These categories are for guests that, "must be there, [are a] plus to be there, [and] feel like they need to be there." If you must start trimming, guests in these lower categories would be ones to be first on the chopping block.

"Be mindful of balance," says Katie Falatako of LF Weddings and Events. "If [you] invite one cousin, it's courteous to invite others in the same category." So, that often means if you plan to invite one first cousin or one set of aunts and uncles, you should invite the rest as well.

Who Gets a Date?

Extending plus ones can be tricky, especially since they can quickly double a guest count. It's wedding etiquette to invite both partners of a married, engaged, or long-term couple. And it's generally accepted to give guests who may not know other people an opportunity to bring someone. It's "recommended that all the wedding party be allowed to bring a guest, for their contribution to the wedding," Sadowski explains. Beyond that, it's up to the couple's discretion to extend plus ones.

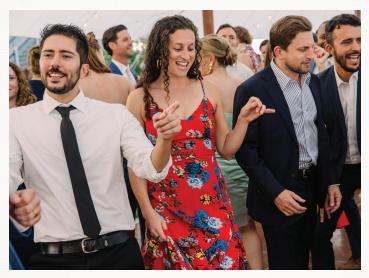
The Kid Debate

Kids are another tricky guest situation and ultimately, it's up to the couple whether to have a child-free wedding or let kids join in on the festivities. Consider the desired tone of the wedding, budget, and venue restrictions. Some couples might be fine with allowing all kids to come while others may prefer to set an age limit. "The key is to decide early and be consistent in how the rule is applied," Falatako says. If you set a rule of 13 and older, it should apply to all kids being invited.

However, there are some exceptions to a no- or some-kid rule. The couple's children, close nieces and nephews, and kids in the wedding party are common exceptions. "It's perfectly reasonable to invite some kids and not others," Wolfgang and Mulford say. "But you should be prepared to explain why." Be ready to explain that you're only having certain kids invited if a parent asks and stand firm on your decision.



-SRS Events Planner Stephanie Sadowski





Allowing Parental Input

Since it's a major celebration for both families, parents may want to share the moment with their friends. If parents are contributing financially to the wedding, it's customary to allow them some input within reason. Even if they aren't contributing, it may still be polite to ask if there is anyone they want to invite. It's important to set early expectations regarding how many guests they're allowed to invite. Give each set of parents the maximum number of guests they can invite.

Of course, it's still your day, so if you want to be in total control of the guest list, you can be. If that's the case, let parents know and express that you're not trying to keep them out of the planning process. "[Frame] the conversation around [your] vision rather than outright denying input," Falatako suggests.

Making the Final Cut

At the end of the day, it's all about who you and your partner want to celebrate with. That sentiment along with venue capacity and financial parameters may mean some people don't make the final cut. "Leave out anyone you haven't spoken to in the past three years," Wolfgang and Mulford say. Don't feel guilty about not inviting colleagues or acquaintances. Don't feel pressured to invite distant relatives. And don't add people who cause stress or drama for the sake of saving face.

Guests at your wedding should be those you with whom you have meaningful connections and whose love you want to be surrounded by. As Falatako put it, "If a name on the list doesn't contribute to that, it's okay to let them go."



"Be mindful of balance,

if you invite one cousin, it's

courteous to invite others

—Katie Falatako of LF Weddings and Events







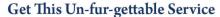
Make Your Pet a Part of Your Wedding

with Dogwood Acres Wedding Pet Attendant Services



Our dedicated, passionate and professional Wedding Pet Attendants focus on caring for and chaperoning your pet so you can focus on your special day.

- * Pet dressing & styling, dressed for the special occasion
- * Chauffeuring, get to the church on time
- Discounted lodging services
- Photo assistance and more!



Call 410.798.4776 or scan the QR code to discover everything we can do to help beloved pets become the cutest K9 of Honor.





















VIVÂMEE SIGNATURE COLLECTION

Your premier wedding destination on the Eastern Shore.

> 500 Kent Manor Drive, Stevensville, MD 21666 www.KentlslandResort.com 410.643.5757







YOU VOTED...BIG TIME! AND NOW... **MEET THIS YEAR'S CLASS OF WINNERS!**

Welcome to the region's premier business accolades. Why so special? Because these are the local companies that you—thousands of you—voted for as the very best in their respective categories of business. This year, ballots went live for public voting during winter. By spring, our executive team tallied the results, vetted the entries, and confirmed this year's Best of Weddings winners! What's Up? Media congratulates all winners and thanks you for choosing the best customer experiences of the region. Enjoy perusing this year's list and, hopefully, many of your personal favorites have won!

Bridal Hair Cut & Styling

Beyond The Updo · 5307 East Drive, Arbutus, MD 21227 •

410-491-5758 • beyondtheupdo.com

Cakes

Cakes by Abby •

Based in Chestertown. Maryland • abigail@ cakesbyabby.net • cakesbyabby.net

Caterer

Main & Market ·

914 Bay Ridge Road, Annapolis, MD 21403 • 410-626-0388 • mainandmarket.com

Ceremony Venue

Haven Harbour Marina Resorts • Multiple locations in Rock Hall, Maryland • 410-778-6697 • havenharbour.com

Dance Studio

Arthur Murray Dance

Center • 3200 Solomons Island Road. Edgewater, MD 21037 • 410-216-2427 • arthurmurrayedgewater.com

DJ / Entertainment Service

DJ Hector & IDJ Entertainment •

Serving Maryland • idi-entertainment.com

Dress Shop (Wedding, Bridesmaids, etc.)

Punk & Boone Bridal •

572E Governor Ritchie Highway, Severna Park, MD 21146 • 410-226-6351 • punkandboonebridal.com

Florist (Tie)

Chesapeake Blooms ·

22B N. Harrison Street, Easton, MD 21601 • 410-690-4812 • chesapeakeblooms.com

Florist (Tie)

My Flower Box

Designs • Serving Maryland • 443-904-0802 • myflowerboxdesigns.com

Hair Stylist

Blush Hair Salon • 2431 Solomons Island Road, Annapolis, MD 21401 • 410-571-5147 • blushsalonmd.com

Jeweler

Zachary's Jewelers

• 100 Main Street, Annapolis, MD 21401 • 410-266-5555 • zacharysjewelers.com

Makeup Artist

True Colors Beauty Co.

• Based in Annapolis, Maryland • truecolorsbeautyco.com

Photographer

Madison Berlen **Photography** • Serving Maryland • madisonberlenphoto.com

Rehearsal Dinner Venue

Tidewater Inn • 101 East Dover Street, Easton. MD 21601 • 410-822-1300 • tidewaterinn.com

Rental Company

Eastern Shore Tents and Events • 25452 Commerce Lane, Chestertown, MD 2 1620 • 410-810-0686 • estents.com

Specialty Desserts

Blue Crab Cupcakes

• 1580 Whitehall Road, Annapolis, MD 21409 • 443-221-7246 • bluecrabcupcakes.com

Stationery

Turnage + Watts •

Based in Maryland and Washington, D.C. • turnageandwatts.com

Transportation

Blanchard Limousines

· Serving Annapolis, Central Maryland, and the Eastern Shore • 410-224-7222 • blanchardlimo.com

Wedding / Reception Venue Indoor

Governor Calvert House / Historic Inns of Annapolis • 58 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401 • 410-263-2641 • historicinnsofannapolis. com

Wedding / Reception Venue Outdoor

Chesapeake Bay Beach Club • 500 Marina Club Road, Stevensville, MD 21666 · 410-604-1933 · baybeachclub.com

Wedding / Reception Venue Waterfront

Brittland Estates • 205 Cannon Street, Ste. 1, Chestertown, MD 21620 · 443-282-0860 · brittlandestates.com

Wedding Coordinator Island Creek Events / Katharine Henning

· Based in Oxford. Maryland • katharine@ islandcreekevents.com · islandcreekevents.

Wedding Planner

com

Ren & Co. Wedding & Event Planning / Alexis David • Based in Hampstead, Maryland • lex@renandco.org • renandco.org









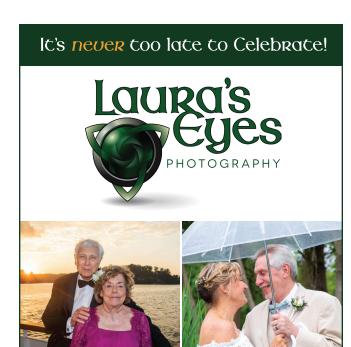






Making Life Delicious

914 Bay Ridge Rd. Annapolis, MD 21403 | 410-626-0388 | www.mainandmarket.com



Vow Renewals, Anniversaries, Special Birthdays... AND WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY FOR WHEN YOU'VE SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST.



443-324-7955 www.lauraseyesphotography.com









REAL WEDDINGS

Stunning weddings of the Chesapeake Bay region

46

RILEY & JANE St. Mary's Church & Annapolis Waterfront Hotel 50

JOSH & LIZZY
Wildly Native Flower Farm

54
TYLER & NATALIE
Brittland Estates

58WILLIAM & RACHEL
Chesapeake Bay Foundation

62MAX & MAGGIE

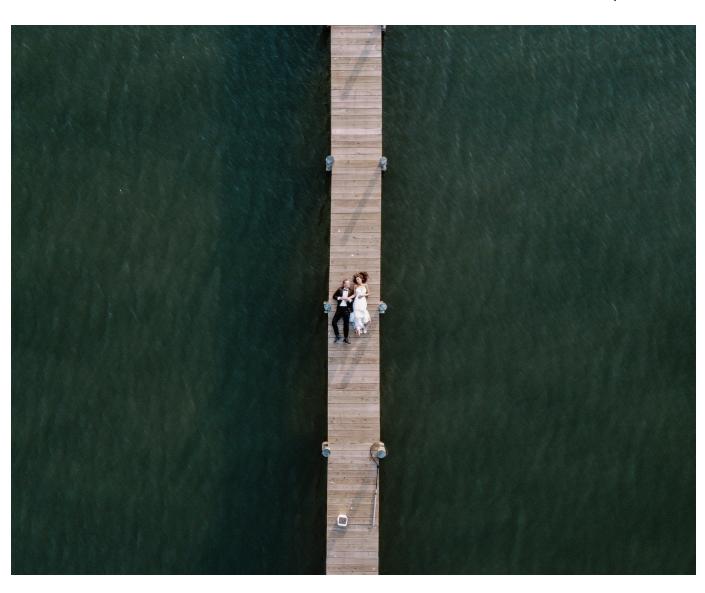
MAX & MAGGIE

Annapolis Waterfront Hotel

66

MAC & TESS
Private Residence

•





Riley & Jane

CHARM AND TRADITION IN ANNAPOLIS

St. Mary's Church & Annapolis Waterfront Hotel Kate Fine Art Photography

Father Elias, a close friend of Jane's family, officiated the wedding. Their cousins served as ushers and readers, her cousin was the altar server, and Jane's brother and one of their college friends were Eucharistic ministers.

A CLASSIC COLLEGE ROMANCE

After meeting in Riley's Notre Dame dorm freshman year, Riley and Jane both thought the other was kind, smart, funny, and friendly. But the beginning of their love story didn't start until the fall of their senior year after they went to dinner at a popular date spot for college kids in South Bend, Indiana. "Our first official 'date' was, honestly, a little awkward. We were definitely still figuring out the transition from best friends to dating." It didn't take long for them to fall back into the rhythm and conversations they previously established, truly embodying marrying your best friend.

IT WAS ALWAYS ANNAPOLIS

Jane, who grew up in Annapolis, always knew she wanted to get married there. "It is truly my favorite place in the world. I went to church and school [at St. Mary's Church] for K-12 and wanted to add a wedding to the list of milestones I had celebrated in that church." Jane had always dreamed of marrying at St. Mary's and talked about it enough that the couple joked that Riley knew he'd be getting married there before they even started dating. Jane reflects, "I am very grateful that he was on board and excited about it!"



Wedding Date: October 26, 2024 **Number of Guests: 220** A Favorite Detail: Custom Toile Invitations









VENUE DREAMS DO COME TRUE

Having their wedding reflect the charm of Annapolis and Chesapeake Bay was a top priority. "We wanted very dearly to be on the water and/ or Downtown Annapolis, and were incredibly fortunate to be able to do both!" Jane says of their venues. The ceremony took place at St. Mary's Church before guests walked to Annapolis Waterfront Hotel to enjoy cocktail hour on a balcony overlooking the Bay. But the couple wanted to incorporate other places that were significant to both of them, like Michigan, where Riley grew up; Notre Dame, where the couple met; and Denver, where they live now.

CHARM IS IN THE DETAILS

The coastal charm came to life through the wedding details. The linens were an oyster pattern by Annapolis-based artist Kim Hovel. The escort board featured oyster shells. The invitations had a custom toile pattern with drawings of the Chesapeake Bay, the Notre Dame Golden Dome, Walloon Lake, and the Rocky Mountains, a few of their most beloved places.





DETAILS: Band: Bachelor Boys Band Bouquet Preservation: Wren & Olivia Cake: Main & Market Ceremony Musicians: Faith Harless (Vocalist), Kregg Stovner (Violinist), Mary Ann Shoemaker (Pianist) Florist: York Flowers Annapolis Hair & Makeup: Blush Hair Salon Invitations / Ceremony Programs: Write Impressions



FIRST DANCE TO REMEMBER

Having a live band was important to Riley. And that choice led to his favorite moment of the night: the first dance. "The band did an amazing rendition of Louis Armstrong's version of 'La Vie en Rose' complete with horns, and it was absolutely incredible to be there dancing with my new wife, surrounded by the people most important to us in the world." For the couple, having everyone on the dance floor signaled that all the hard work of wedding planning had come to fruition. The band ensured that everyone was having just as much fun as them.

> Riley and Jane also included sustainable details in their wedding with save the dates sent through Paperless Post and a reception menu that excluded beef.





A SURPRISE TRADITION

Their wedding day was made special with two family traditions. The first was expected since it was passed down from Riley's parents. Each table of guests was asked to get together and serenade the couple with a part of a song that featured the word 'love.' "All of our guests completely committed and had a blast with it." The singing and shouting led to both joyful and hilarious moments. The second tradition, however, was a surprise passed down from Jane's grandparents, who tailgated before and after Notre Dame games. "If Notre Dame wins, they pass around a fifth of Gentleman Jack at the post-tailgate, and everyone is invited to partake as long as they say 'To the Irish!' before they drink," says Jane. Her uncle and a college friend ensured the tradition continued at their wedding, celebrating a day that love won.

Linen Rentals: Honeywood Rentals and Rentals to Remember Photographer: Kate Fine Art Photography Planning: 2hands Studios - Mollie Ryan Munafo Save the Dates: Paperless Post and The Knot Tuxedo Rentals: The Black Tux Videographer: Fordham Films Wedding Dress: a&bé bridal shop Wedding Dress Alterations: Donna Beth Creations



Josh & Lizzy

FAMILY AND FLORALS

Wildly Native Flower Farm Madison Berlen Photography

"The flowers meant so much to me in the sense of who grew them, when, and how we planted them."

SEVEN YEARS IN THE MAKING

Despite initially meeting in high school, Josh and Lizzy aren't the typical high school sweethearts. They met in her mother's classroom one day after school, where the football team was going over plays because the board in the weight room was



broken. While Lizzy sat at her mom's desk, Josh came over and asked to have some of the Smarties she was eating. While he caught her eye in that moment, the two didn't end up dating until seven years later when they were both back in their hometown after college. "You know [how] you have a gravitational pull to someone, you automatically 'hit it off,' or you just have this gut feeling? That was it, those Smarties, that moment in 2015."

A VISION COME TO LIFE

For Lizzy, designing the day was about honoring her inner child and creating a look that her inner self would love no matter what the current trends were. One of her decor musts was a black and white dance floor. "I wanted my Cinderella moment." Josh and his dad built the platform that would go underneath the dance floor to bring his then-future wife's vision into reality. The dance floor ended up being the biggest splurge for the wedding, and it was completely worth it. Her favorite part? "It had rainbow sparkles in it; silly, but so so fun in the sun."

Wedding Date: June 1, 2024 **Number of Guests: 52**

Favorite Detail: The swing under the ceremony tree









THE WEDDING PARTY WORE BOOTS

Lizzy's were a vibrant blue. But Josh wanted all the groomsmen and the ring bearer to wear matching boots. After finding the exact ones he wanted, the hunt was on to find a pair for all the guys. Thanks to Lizzy's superior boot-hunting skills, they found the last pair at a tack shop in Ohio.

HOMEGROWN FLOWERS

Josh and Lizzy's venue was incredibly special since it was held at Lizzy's mom's flower farm. And that led to some incredibly special wedding details, particularly the flowers, which were grown on-site. "The flowers meant so much to me in the sense of who grew them, when, and how we planted them. My bouquet has the most meaning to me." Lizzy also built each floral piece herself. Playing both bride and floral designer was not easy, but she was able to create a design she loved and that wowed their guests.



DETAILS: Flowers: Wildly Native Flower Farm Photography: Madison Berlen Photography Rentals: Pretty Little Wedding Co. Day of Coordinator: Peachy Parties DJ: Dustin Thomas, DJ DT Dress: Mia Rose Bridal Boutique Catering: Catering by Jamie

"I loved it when my grandfather helped me tape my sixpence in my shoe the morning of. A completely unplanned moment that contributed to the family essence of the day."

DETAILS WITH A FAMILY TOUCH

Lizzy's favorite detail was the swing under the ceremony tree, where she grew up swinging and singing for hours. Her grandfather worked on the swing for weeks, re-staining and varnishing a new seat. "[He] chose the wood specifically because he said the center of it looked like a butterfly." The other details that brought meaning to the day: her mom's veil and hairpiece, which she added to her own and her grandmother's earrings worn the day of. "She and I loved to play dress up as a kid," Lizzy said of her grandmother, "so I went up with her one afternoon into her room and she asked me which ones I would want and we went from there!"







A SNEAK PEAK AND A FIRST LOOK

As Josh and his brother JP were taking pictures, Lizzy snuck a peak of her groom through the window. But they didn't really see each other until walking down the aisle. Josh didn't turn around until the chorus of 'God Gave Me a Girl.' The anticipation of the moment led to happy tears. "That is *the* moment I remember that defines the ceremony for me."

Cake: Cakes by Abby Dessert: Sweet Melissa Hair: Image Salon and Spa Suits: Men's Warehouse Lizzy's Blue Boots: Idyllwind Fueled by Miranda Lambert Boots for the Men: Anderson Bean Mens Paper Goods: Design, Etsy Printed, Vista Print



Tyler & Natalie

WEEKEND ON THE WATER

Brittland Estates Jenny Wagner Photography

The wedding arbor is now a part of their garden, serving as a constant reminder of their wedding day and their love.



A LITTLE MISCOMMUNICATION

Thanks to mutual friends, Tyler and Natalie met through their respective roommates. Her first impression of him? Tall, good-looking, and had a great laugh. "[It] left me wondering how we hadn't crossed paths before." Natalie tried to catch his attention, but Tyler didn't seem to pick up on the hints. Tyler's first impression was that Natalie was out of his league but still worked up the courage to make a move at the Renaissance Festival a few weeks after meeting. Natalieunknowingly-shut him down. Luckily, later, Natalie made a move on a group camping trip and they shared a kiss in his tent.

WEDDING WEEKEND ON THE COAST

Celebrating the spirit of the Eastern Shore with a waterfront location was a top priority. They splurged on the venue in order to create a wedding weekend experience. With most of their wedding party coming from out of town, having a place where they, along with Natalie and Tyler's families, could stay gave everyone one less thing to worry about. Staying together on the scenic estate was a highlight of the weekend.

Wedding Date: October 19, 2024 **Number of Guests: 140** Standout Detail: Hand-painted florals on the cake

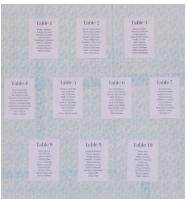


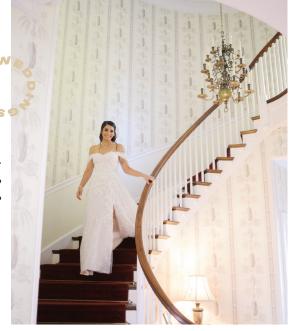
HANDMADE FROM THE HEART

Diving into a few months of DIY was well worth it to add a handmade touch to the wedding day. The couple created a welcome sign from a mirror, along with other signage, a custom seating chart, and cornhole boards. Though they put love and intention into every detail, there were two major labors of love. They spent months cleaning oyster shells, painting the rims gold, and dipping them in resin to create ornaments for each guest. The second was the wedding arbor Tyler made from scratch. "Walking up to it and see it decorated with the most colorful, beautiful flowers, and Tyler standing underneath, is a moment I'll never forget." FIVE MINUTES AWAY









Natalie had shopped around for a wedding dress but ended up finding the one just five minutes from where she grew up. "The experience felt completely different from the others—we had the whole place to ourselves [and] champagne in hand." What felt like a private try-on party led to them finding the perfect dress that featured off-the-shoulder tulle with romantic floral detailing and stitched sequin accents. "My mom was the first to say my smile looked different in this dress-that I looked like a bride."



DETAILS: Venue: Brittland Estates Wedding Planner: BK Coordinate Caterer: Chesapeake Chefs Rentals: Eastern Shore Tents and Events (tent, tables, linens, and chairs) Florist: Wildly Native Photographer: Jenny Wagner Photography Videographer: Studio Duplo DJ: Hercules Entertainment (reception) Singer: The Sirens/Kate Fisher (guest arrival, cocktail hour, and first dance)

VETTING VENDORS

Tyler got hands-on with wedding planning by making a shortlist of recommended vendors by searching through Maryland wedding forums and Facebook groups. Luckily, the hard work paid off with people who made the day amazing. The caterer prepared an amazing selection of food, including a braised pork belly appetizer, stuffed chicken, and an Orange Crush, which Tyler notes were his favorite bites of the night. Natalie loved the from-scratch margaritas, her signature drink.







MEN OF HONOR

Natalie's brothers were heavily involved in making the day personal. Aris was her Man of Honor, taking all duties seriously, including coming on the bachelorette trip. Berj officiated the wedding. "He worked so hard perfecting his script, writing, rewriting, and rehearsing multiple times." Berj added poems and meaningful reflections that made the ceremony feel unique to the couple. "Having him be one to lead us through our vows, sign our marriage license, and officially join us as husband and wife is something I'll never forget." The two brothers gave a joint toast that had every guest laughing and tearing up.





"One of our favorite moments... was watching our friends and family embrace the Armenian dance block during the reception. The energy on the dance floor was wild... and many guests said it was the most fun they'd had at a wedding."

Hair and Makeup: Sofia Serrano Beauty Shuttle: Blanchard Limousine Services Cake: Cakes by Abby Printed Goods: Annie Fox Design (logo and brochures) Stationary: Minted Menswear: Generation Tux Wedding Shop: I Do I Do (closed) Rehearsal Dinner Catering: Bark BBQ Floral Preservation: Elle Belle Events



William & Rachel

AN ELEGANT BEACHFRONT AFFAIR

Chesapeake Bay Foundation Liz Fogarty Photography

Rachel also designed the bar signage, menus, place cards, welcome bag itineraries, and ceremony programs herself. Her favorite was the sign for the three crush flavors.

BLIND DATE AT FORMAL

William and Rachel both went to Washington University in St. Louis and met after being set up. Will's friend, who was attending the boys' fraternity formal with a friend of Rachel's, secured the date for the dance. Despite meeting that night, the two don't consider this blind date their first. Their first real date was seeing a Cardinals game together in St. Louis.

UNDERSTATED, COASTAL, AND ORGANIC

They always knew they wanted to get married on the water in Annapolis, where Rachel spent summers with her family. "We wanted a coastal vibe that celebrated the Chesapeake Bay, but without going too in-your-face." Rachel, who is a graphic designer, and her mom, who has a penchant for interior design, both zeroed in on the tablescape. Together, along with her wedding planner, they created the organic table design of Rachel's dreams. "I wanted the flower arrangements to look like you might have plucked them from the grounds of Chesapeake Bay Foundation."



Wedding Date:: June 1, 2024 **Number of Guests: 160**

Bride's & Groom's Signature Cocktails: Aperol Spritz & Negroni







LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

It only took Rachel one day of wedding dress shopping to completely fall in love with a dress. "I went to countless bridal stores in New York City with my mom and bridesmaids," she recounts. "I kept comparing every dress I put on to the Anne Barge dress I tried on our first day of shopping." From the start, both she and her mom had imagined a dress exactly like what she fell in love with: simple and elegant for a beach wedding.





"[William] tried to add crab to every course. He did not succeed."



SPOTLIGHTING COASTAL CUISINE

For William, the food was one of the most important details. "We knew we wanted to incorporate crab somehow, and [Ken's Creative Kitchen] is incredible," says Rachel. The couple served mini crab cakes during the cocktail hour, which were easily awarded the best dish of the day. Bringing more of that Chesapeake coastal feel, William and Rachel also had a crush bar, where they served grapefruit, lemon, and orange crushes.

DETAILS: Band/Entertainment: Lucy Black Entertainment, Luxe Band Florist: Sophie Felts Floral Design Hair & Makeup: Amie Decker Beauty Invitations/Save the Dates/Day of Paper: Annie Lloyd Designs Linen Rentals: Select Event Group Photographer: Liz Fogarty Videography: PaperBoys

NON STOP ON THE DANCE FLOOR

There was no shortage of memorable moments on the dance floor that night. The first dances took place before dinner, which included William and his mom doing an unrehearsed jive to "You Make My Dreams Come True," which took everyone by surprise. Then, they invited guests up for a few songs to get everyone excited about the dance floor opening later in the night. At the end of dinner, the horn section of the live band walked and played through the dining room, encouraging everyone to follow them to the dance floor and start the party.

BURIED FOR GOOD LUCK

Despite having a rain plan, Rachel began to feel nervous about the weather leading up to the wedding. "[I] heard a story about burying bourbon at your wedding site for good weather." So, a few months before, "Will and I buried a bottle of bourbon on the beach by our ceremony spot." The ritual must have worked; the day ended up having weather better than they could have imagined. They ended up digging up the bottle right before the ceremony and it's still sitting on their bar cart as a unique memento of a beautiful day.









Planning: Anne Kelley Events & Design Drape/Stage/Lighting: Mark Henry Events Specialty Rentals: Pretty Little Wedding Co. Groom Attire: Ralph Lauren, purchased at Ralph Lauren Wedding Dress: Anne Barge, purchased at Kleinfeld's



Max & Maggie

A COASTAL AFFAIR FOR COLLEGE SWEETHEARTS

Annapolis Waterfront Hotel Madeline Serio Photography

They ended their ceremony with the romantic pop punk song, "First Date" by Blink-182, one of their favorite music genres.

ON CAMPUS MEET-CUTE

Maggie and Max's love story started on Penn State's campus, where they were Lion Ambassadors together, the school's student tour guides. The pair were so close, their peers teased them for acting like a couple. Ultimately, an ice cream date changed it all. "Max told me he had feelings for me, and wanted to see if there was any potential there." The pair got cones at the local Dairy Queen and joked how it felt like the many other times they hung out. Only this time, the night ended with a kiss.

SOMEWHERE SPECIAL

Choosing a location was the challenge of wedding planning. "Since we grew up across the country from each other, we wanted a location that represented both of us and was a special destination." Ultimately, they settled on getting married in Annapolis. After dating long distance, Maryland became their new home state, where they began building a home and life together.



THE CHARM OF THE COAST

Their love of Annapolis' coastal aesthetic inspired Maggie and Max's wedding day. With a ceremony set on the waterfront, the couple used shades of blue and a mix of bright colors. Blues adorned their wedding stationery, the groom's and groomsmen's ties, and the bridesmaids' dresses. Their florals were vibrant with shades of pink, orange, and yellow, one of the ways they infused their personality into the wedding.

Wedding Date: August 5, 2023 **Number of Guests: 200**

Favorite Menu Items: Crab dip, crab cakes, and orange crushes.









SWEET DETAILS

Personality was infused in all the little details. "We are huge sweet tooths and wanted to have fun with the dessert!" On the outside, their wedding cake looked classic, adorned with blue flowers. But on the inside, it was a colorful funfetti. They also had a traditional Pittsburgh cookie table with sweets curated by Maggie's cousins. The groom's cake was shaped like the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, an homage to the groom's last name.

SIGNIFICANT LOCATIONS

Making their wedding feel like them was a top priority for Maggie and Max. One way they did that was through their unique welcome bags for their guests. Max helped curate the gifts, which featured food from places that were significant to them. "Sarris chocolate from Pittsburgh, taffy from the Jersey Shore, and pretzels from Philly."



DETAILS: Planner: Lissa Marie Weddings and Events Venue + Catering: Annapolis Waterfront Hotel Photographer: Madeline Serio Photography Videographer: Rivion Desserts: All in the Mi DJ/Band: Gold Event Group and DJ Chris Legend Hair: Brushed Beauty LLC Make Up Artist: Beauty by Ruben Officiant: Taylored Vows Florist: Floral Impressions Hunt Valley



"It's one of the only, if not the only, time in your life when loved ones from all different corners of our stories are together."

BRINGING FAMILIES TOGETHER

Max and Maggie involved their families in the wedding ceremony, incorporating both of their religious heritages into the wedding. Maggie was raised Catholic and Max was raised Jewish. "We had family members give blessings from each religion and incorporated traditions from both." A meaningful moment that symbolized making their two families one.





FOCUS ON JOY

During planning, Maggie and Max wanted their wedding to feel like a party that prioritized fun and joy. They had a high-energy reception and a dance floor that went all night, thanks to the mix of dancing and sing-along songs. What "centered our planning was that it's one of the only, if not the only, time in your life when loved ones from all different corners of our stories are together," says Maggie. "My cousins, my high school English teacher, my college roommate, my boss, my great aunt...all on one dance floor. It's a beautiful thing."

Artwork: Kelly Hinnebusch (Save the Dates and Cocktail Napkins) Hayley Marie Designs (Crest) Tent: Loane Brothers Rentals: Honeywood Rentals Bride's Attire: Love Couture Bridal in Potomac, MD (bridal shop) Anne Barge (dress designer) Bridesmaid attire: Dessy Groom and Groomsman attire: The Black Tux Bride Welcome Party Attire: Nadine Merabi Groom welcome party Attire: Bonobos



Mac & Tess

BAYSIDE BACKYARD BASH

Private Residence Andreea Russo

"Logistically, having a wedding in your backyard is a challenge," Tess says of the planning process. "You have to bring in everything. But our rental vendor was amazing and helped us with everything, even the power!"



BIRTHDAY BARBECUE STARTED IT ALL

College sweethearts Mac and Tess met at the University of Maryland, College Park. They had a class together, and just clicked. Over the next year, their friendship grew into more, culminating in an official date on Mac's birthday. "We went to get barbecue to celebrate (terrible choice for a first date)," Tess remembers. "But it was his pick since it was his birthday." Tess ended up paying because she felt bad about making Mac pay on his birthday.

MARRIED AT HOME

Getting married at her family home had always been a dream for Tess. The waterfront property served as the perfect backdrop for their timeless modern day. "I've always envisioned this day in so many different [color] schemes over the years, but ultimately landed on a very neutral, simple, and timeless color palette." The sun setting over the Chesapeake Bay was the perfect backdrop for the simple color scheme.

Wedding Date: September 14, 2024 Number of Guests: 125

A Favorite Detail: Personalized letters for each quest









THE DRESS WAS A **PLEASANT SURPRISE**

Tess had gone into dress shopping thinking she wanted a simple design with no beading or lace but still had some wow factor. The one she ultimately ended up selecting came as a surprise to her. "I probably tried on 75 dresses," Tess remembers. "And finally after exhausting every plain dress in a small bridal shop in Georgia, I tried on [one with] a beaded and lace bodice." Stunned at how she felt in the dress, no other she tried on after compared.

HEART IS WHERE THE HOME IS

The wedding's Kent Island location inspired some of the day's details. Cocktail napkins featured an outline of the island with a heart where their home is located and decoupage oyster shell ornaments featured the same design. The bridesmaids, who were all from Maryland, wore permanent bracelets with little gold crabs on them. Rather than traditional coolers, a beverage boat kept the canned drinks cold. And the most unique Maryland tie-in? A professional oyster shucker behind the raw bar.



DETAILS: Band/Entertainment: JD Cichocki Florist: Avery Newman Makeup: Kaytee Spanoghe Hair Stylist: Paige Clifton Cake: Abby Robson Caterer: Chesapeake Chef Service



Mac's godmother and aunt officiated the wedding because she was someone who knew the couple and their love story well. "[She] could speak to the years she has seen our love grow!"



BRINGING THE PARTY

Mac's job was to bring the party to the reception and all would agree he succeeded. He hired a live band and had a checkerboard dance floor to get all the guests grooving. "The band/DJ, they were hybrid, and such a vibe. They had the dance floor going to 12 AM, even during their breakdown." Mac also booked a light show, a disco ball, and a confetti cannon that shot out biodegradable confetti.

THE LOVE THAT BUILT OURS

Being married 67 years, Tess's grandparents had always been an inspiration in love. As a way to incorporate them into the ceremony, her grandparents passed down their wedding rings during the presentation of the rings. "[T]he entire event was sobbing," Tess says, "I could barely breathe." They also honored her grandparents' love story with their cake topper, which Tess's mom refurbished, and a photo of her grandparents cutting their cake by Tess and Mac's wedding cake.







Photographer: Andreea Russo Videography: Jerry Adams Planning: Renee Wolf Pro Shucker: Steve Curran Dress: Wedding Angels, shop



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 Hotel

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

Vonderwall backdrops Planning to say, "I Do"? Isn't it time to kiss DIY goodbye?

Backdrops, balloons, and custom decor for weddings, showers & bachelorettes - designed to wow.





Voted Best of Annapolis Party Vendor'

wonderwallbackdrops.com | 410.917.2177

f ⊚ J

Serving Annapolis and surrounding areas





Carrol's Creek Cafe

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

Chart House Prime

300 Second Street 410-268-7166; Charthouseprime.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

▲ Chronic Sailing

7082 Bembe Beach Road 443-333-9113; chronicsailing.com Multiple Vessels Max Guest Count: 12

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; graduatehotels.com/annapolis Max Guest Count: 500 Outdoor Location: Yes Water View: No

Hornor Maritime Center

613 Third Street 410-990-4460; Hornormaritime.org Max Guest Count: 75 Outdoor Location: No Water View: Ye

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

Prism Annapolis

47 Spa Road 410-271-7271; prismannapolis.com Max Guest Count: 125 Outdoor Location: No Water View: No

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

USNA Alumni House/ Oale Hall

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

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

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 Barn at Pleasant Acres

5415 Mackall Road, Saint Leonard 443-624-3333; Thebarnatpleasantacres.com

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

Hidden View Farm

702 Defense Highway, Crownsville 855-528-9483; Hiddenviewfarm.org Max Guest Count: 300 Outdoor Location: Yes Water View: No

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 Gravburn 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

Village Commons Community Center

1326 Main Chapel Way, Gambrills 410-451-8801 Outdoor Location: No Water View: Yes

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

Brampton 1860

25227 Chestertown Road, Chestertown 410-778-1860; Bramptoninn.com Outdoor Location: Yes Water View: No

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





Waterfront Weddings

Embrace the historic charm of the Chesapeake Bay, weaving its legacy into your love story.

410.745.4998 www.cbmmweddings.com





FOR WEDDINGS WE OFFER: 20+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, FREE CONSULTATIONS, CUSTOM PLANNING, A WIDE SELECTION, FREE DELIVERY, AND EASY RETURNS



28248 St. Michaels Road **Easton, MD 21601** (410) 822-1433 • tandcwines.com

Voted Best Beer, Wine, and **Liquor Store**



Deep Blue at Kitty Knight Inn

14028 Augustine Herman Highway, Georgetown; 410-648-5200; kittvkniaht.com Outdoor Location: Yes Water View: Yes

Great Oak Manor

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

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

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

Osprey Point

20786 Rock Hall Avenue, Rock Hall 410-639-2194: Osprevpoint.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

Hyatt Place Kent Narrows and Marina

3028 Kent Narrow Way South, Grasonville 443-446-6000: hvatt.com Max Guest Count: 200 Outdoor Location: Yes Water View: 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

Kentmorr Restaurant

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

Kent Island Resort

500 Kent Manor Drive, Stevensville 410-643-5757; Kentislandresort.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

The River House at Queenstown Harbor

310 Links Lane, Queenstown 800-827-5257; ghgolf.com Max Guest Count: 65 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 Wye River Estate

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.ora 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; magnoliamanormd.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 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

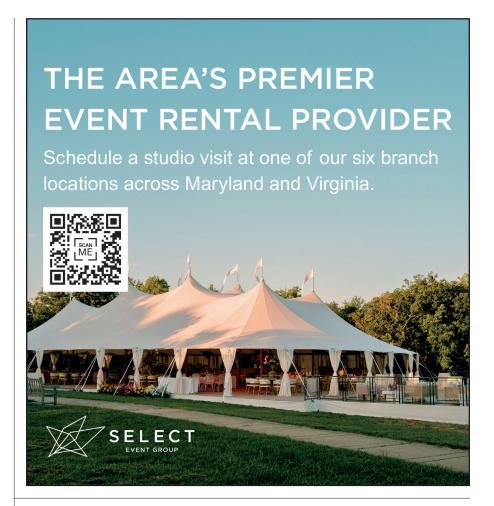
St. Michaels; 410-745-3100 Patriotcruises.com Max Guest Count: 149

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

The Wildset Hotel

209 N Talbot Street, St. Michaels 410-745-8004; thewildset.com Outdoor Location: No Water View: No

Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island

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

Dorchester County Cambridge Vicinity

Breckenridge Barn

4032 Mill Road, Linkwood Breckenridgebarn.com Rustic glam in a white post and beam barn. Max Guest Count: 250

▲ 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

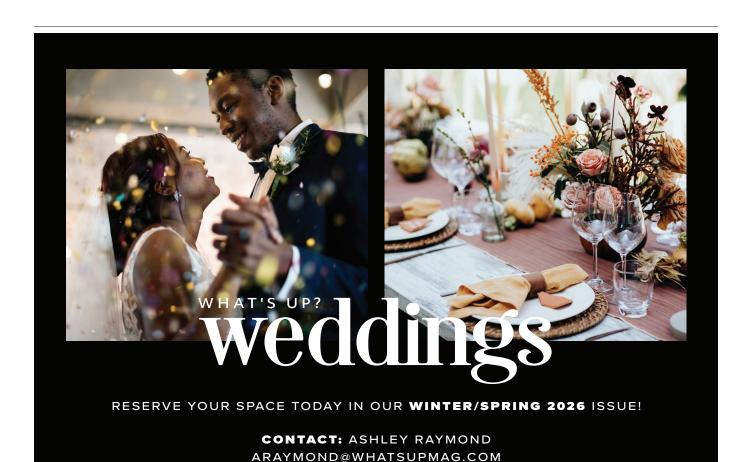
St. Michaels; 410-726-9400 Sailselina.com Max Guest Count: 6

Suicide Bridge

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

Swan Cove Manor

5441 Ross Neck Road. Cambridge; 410-600-3450; swancovemanor.com



ADVERTISERS

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

Brampton 1860

Chestertown, 410-778-1860 bramptoninn.com

Brittland Estates

Chestertown, 443-282-0860 brittlandestates.com

The Inn at Chesapeake Bay Beach Club

Stevensville, 410-604-5900 baybeachclub.com

Graduate Hotel Annapolis

Annapolis, 410-263-7777 graduatehotels.com/annapolis

Historic Inns of Annapolis

Annapolis, 410-263-2641 historicinnsofannapolis.com

Hyatt Place Kent Narrows and Marina

Grasonville, 443-446-6000

Kent Island Resort

Stevensville, 410-643-5757 kentislandresort.com

Tidewater Inn

Easton, 410-822-1300 tidewaterinn.com

Turf Valley Resort

Ellicott City, 410-465-1500 turfvalley.com

Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island

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

Attire

Mis 15 & Bridal Boutique Annapolis, 443-926-3375

Cakes & Desserts

Always Ice Cream Annapolis, 443-775-5297

Caterers

Hambleton House Events and Catering

Easton, 302-219-0106

Main & Market

Annapolis, 410-626-0388 mainandmarket.com

The Narrows Restaurant

Grasonville, 410-827-8113

Titan Hospitality Group

Gambrills, 410-721-5416

Florists & Event Designs

Chesapeake Blooms

Easton, 410-690-4812 chesapeakeblooms.com

My Flower Box Designs

Annapolis & Eastern Shore, 443-904-0802

Sherwood Florist

Tilghman Island, 443-521-9929 sherwoodflorist4u@gmail.com

The Flower Shop

Chester, 410-604-3860 mdeasternshoreflowers.com

Wildly Native Flower Farm

Chestertown, 443-457-8475

Jewelry

Zachary's Jewelers

Annapolis, 410-266-5555 zacharysjewelers.com

Libations

Bay Ridge Wine & Spirits

Annapolis, 410-268-1961 bayridgewine.com

The Winery

Kent Island, 410-643-9466 thewineryki.com

Town & Country Wine Liquor

Easton, 410-822-1433

Pet Care

Dogwood Acres

Davidsonville and Kent Island dogwoodacres.com

Photography

Laura's Eyes Photography

Pasadena, 443-324-7955 lauraseyesphotography.com

Planning

Island Creek Events

Oxford, islandcreekevents.com

Ren & Co.

Carroll County, renandco.org

Real Estate

Fanita Pegues with Keller Williams Preferred Properties

Upper Marlboro, nitapegues.kw.com

Rentals

Annapolis Photo Booth Co

Annapolis, annapolisphotoboothco.com

Rentals To Remember

Annapolis, 410-295-3446

Select Event Group

Laurel, 800-439-8729

Wonderwall Backdrops

Annapolis & Baltimore, 410-917-2177

Salons & Beauty

Blush Hair Studio Salon

Annapolis, 410-571-5147 blushsalonmd.com

True Colors Beauty Co

Edgewater, 443-262-6880

Travel Agencies & Tourism

Annapolis Maritime Museum & Park

Annapolis, 410-295-0104

Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum

St. Michaels, 410-745-2916

Historic Annapolis

Annapolis, 410-267-7619 annapolis.org

Time for Travel

Davidsonville, 301-627-8890 timefortravelltd.com

Venues

Prospect Bay Country Club

Grasonville, 410-827-6950

Silver Swan Bayside and Queen Anne Marina

Stevensville, 443-249-0400

The River House at Queenstown Harbor

Queenstown, 410-827-6611

Always Ice Cream
Annapolis Maritime Museum & Park6
Annapolis Photo Booth Co
Bay Ridge Wine & Spirits73
Blush Hair Studio Salon
Brampton 186034
Brittland Estates and The Bank77
Chesapeake Bay Beach ClubIBC
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum75
Chesapeake Blooms35
Dogwood Acres Pet Retreat41
Fanita Pegues, Keller Williams73
Graduate Hotel AnnapolisBC
Hambleton House Events71
Historic Annapolis, Inc. / William Paca House5
Historic Inns of Annapolis2
Hyatt Place Kent Narrows and Marina34
Island Creek Events
Kent Island Resort41
Lauras Eyes Photography44
Main & Market43
Mis 15 (Quince) & Bridal Boutique34
My Flower Box Designs34
Prospect Bay Country Club1
Ren & Co. Wedding and Event Planning43
Rentals To Remember10
Select Event Group77
Sherwood Florist
Silver Swan Bayside and Queen Anne Marina IFC
The Flower Shop44
The Narrows Restaurant
The River House at Queenstown Harbor15
The Winery44
Tidewater Inn3
Time for Travel, LTD44
Titan Hospitality Group9
Town and Country Wine Liquor75
True Colors Beauty Co16
Turf Valley Resort
Wildly Native Flower Farm71
Wonderwall Backdrops71
Wylder Hotel Tilghman Island25
Zachary's Jewelers

What's Your Flavor?

Are you going classic and traditional? Maybe you're looking for something personalized? Or how about flavor combinations that will pleasantly surprise your guests? Here's what some of the most popular and the most unique wedding cake flavors say about you.



MOST POPULAR CAKE FLAVORS



Vanilla Bean timeless, classic, versatile



Red Velvet elegant, luxurious, a showstopper



Lemon zesty, fun, summery



Almond traditional, buttery, sweet



Chocolate decadent, rich, crowd-pleasing



Raspberry Lemonade refreshing, sweet, summery



Chocolate Chai spiced, decadent, sophisticated



Honey Lavender floral, ethereal, dreamy



Salted Caramel indulgent, charming, candied



Olive Oil Rosemary earthy, light, fresh





BAYBEACHCLUB.COM | 410.604.1933

PC: DANI LEIGH PHOTOGRAPHY



TO SAY "I DO"

Just a short distance from the U.S. Naval Academy and Chesapeake Bay, Graduate Annapolis is the ideal venue for your next event.

For your special day and all the celebrations surrounding it, we have the pefect event space to make your wedding day memorable. For small or larger groups, our flexible event space can accommodate from 20 to 500 guests. With nautically-inspired ballrooms to smaller spaces for intimate receptions, we have a spot that is just right for you to toast tying the knot.