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WELCOME to Your Scottish Wedding



ew Year's resolutions. However you feel about them there's no escaping them right now, whether that's the vows made by your loved ones or the strangers on social media planning to make 2025 their best year yet! It seems I'm surrounded by a myriad of marketing and ever-so-helpful social posts inciting me to "Commit to wall pilates now for a better February," or, quoting a classic, to "Just do it!"

Yet annoying as a constant barrage of well-intentioned resolutions may seem, I have to admit there is often a kernel of truth in them. Because why wouldn't I just do it, make that healthy change or dial down on people pleasing? When you think about it, many of these oft-quoted intentions are just plain good sense, and incidentally mantras that can also be applied to wedding planning. Stop procrastinating. Be bold. And, another resolution that can really ring true while organising your big day, run with your own ideas and don't settle for what other people expect your wedding *should* be.

Among the following pages of inspiration and expert advice, you'll find the weddings of 10 recently-wed couples, many of whom have dispensed pearls of wisdom and lessons they learned to motivate the next crop of to-be-weds. Call their tips your wedding resolutions. Look out for bride Kara who made sure she tracked every little planning detail in a "massive spreadsheet" when she and wife Laura married (see page 180), while Ryan and Holly, who said 'I do' at Òran Mór (page 260), warn against getting complacent because, "You may never be as organised as you think you are!" And turn to page 176 to see Lauren and Gavin's wedding at The Dougarie Boathouse. I love her sage advice to not overthink planning, to do your research and to prioritise what's important to you.

Research may not sound like a fun pastime but that's where *YSW* comes in. It might feel like a wee indulgence to curl up with a magazine when you have a to do list the length of your arm, but we've crammed this issue with everything you need to pull together your dream wedding. From the very latest bridal trends and a super-chic styled photoshoot at The Exchange, to our picks of some of the best venues across the country (with a special nod to city locations on page 214), and tips on how to plan that trip-of-a-lifetime honeymoon, we've got you covered.

So go grab a cuppa, immerse yourself in the January issue and resolve to plan a truly personal wedding.

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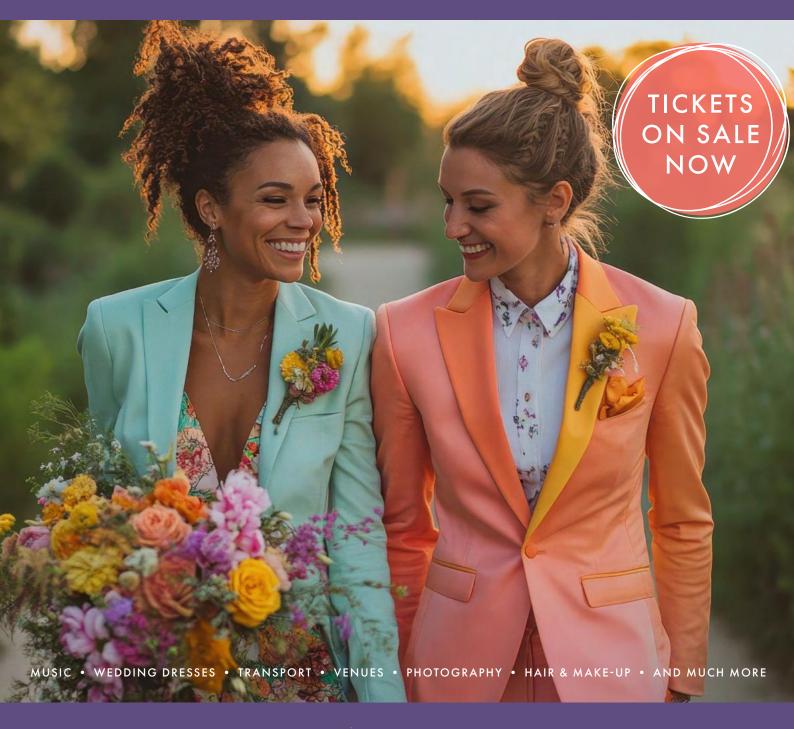
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Claire and Martin, AKA The Cloggies, threw the ultimate feel-good wedding at Carrick Castle Estate





The Scottish Wedding Show

22-23 FEBRUARY 2025 | SEC - GLASGOW

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YOU SAY 'I DO', WE DO THE REST



Tick off your to-do list at The Scottish Wedding Show!



The country's biggest and best wedding show returns to the SEC Glasgow, 22-23 February 2025...

So assemble your bridesmaids, gather the groomsmen and get ready for a day full of wedding inspiration!

RAD Runway Shows

Take your seat in our fabulous RAD Runway and see the largest bridal collection in Scotland, showcasing outfits for brides and grooms-to-be, their mothers, and bridesmaids from the likes of Opus Couture, Remus Uomo, Folklore Bridal and more - it's a show not to be missed! Performances take place at 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm each day, and are guaranteed to inspire.

VIP Experience

Treat yourself and your party to VIP tickets and enjoy a little touch of luxury. Our VIP visitors get fast track entry, a glass of bubbly from our exclusive VIP bar, goody bag, access to the VIP Lounge, seats in the front two rows of the RAD Runway, and more!

Let's Talk Tying the Knot

Join us for a curated programme of drop-in talks and Q&As throughout the Wedding Show weekend, covering various aspects of your wedding day - and importantly your wedding planning. With leading industry experts and trendsetters guiding you through everything from your first steps to finishing touches.

Live Band Showcase

How do you pick a wedding band without seeing them perform live? It's a trick question – you don't have to! At the Live Band Showcase, sponsored by Hireaband, you can see some of Scotland's leading musicians performing live on stage throughout the weekend, with different

bands playing each day!

Fabulous food and delicious drinks

Take the weight off your feet and refuel in our bistro and eateries – grab a bite before you head back out on to the show floor.

You say "I do", we do the rest

Find out more and book tickets at www.thescottishweddingshow.com



Advance booking essential. Children under 16 go free.







YOUR 10119 COUNTDOWN

Let's get started

Before you get carried away with the finer details, decide on the where, when and how much

- ☐ Set your budget
- ☐ Check out potential venues with *Your Scottish Wedding* and visit your shortlisted venues
- ☐ Make your guest list
- ☐ Make sure you follow us on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok @yourscottishwedding for all the inspo you need
- ☐ Buy wedding insurance
- ☐ Join the *YSW* Wedding Chat Room
- ☐ Decide what type of ceremony you both want



While it may feel a bit awkward, chat to your parents as they may want to contribute to your budget



Over a year to go

This is the time to make the big bookings and secure the suppliers who will deliver your dream day

- ☐ Book your venue
- ☐ Book your celebrant
- ☐ Book your photographer
- ☐ Book your videographer
- ☐ Start the search for your outfits and those of your wedding party
- ☐ Send your Save the Dates
- ☐ Research caterers, if you need one
- ☐ Book your band, DJ, ceremony music and drinks reception entertainment
- ☐ Book hair and make-up trials

3 6-9 months to go

Start getting creative and fine-tuning the details of your theme or colour scheme

- ☐ Finalise your décor ideas do you need to hire a professional to bring it all together?
- □ Book your florist
- \square Order your wedding cake
- ☐ Buy your wedding rings
- ☐ Book your honeymoon
- ☐ Organise your outfit fittings
- □ Post invitations
- ☐ Book transport for the wedding party and guests if necessary
- ☐ Book accommodation for the wedding party if necessary
- ☐ Register for your wedding gift list





Last week to go!

The countdown is truly on now

- □ Collect your Marriage Schedule
- ☐ Pack for your honeymoon
- ☐ Decorate your venue the day before if possible
- ☐ Print name cards, seating plans and menus

1-3 months to go

This is where the fun really kicks in!

- \square Finalise your table plan
- ☐ Enjoy your stag, hen, sten or hag do!
- ☐ Submit Marriage Notice (M10) forms no later than 29 days before the wedding date
- ☐ Buy gifts for your wedding party
- ☐ Attend your menu tasting yum!





After the day...

The details and the second

The wedmin doesn't stop after you say 'I do'

- ☐ Return your Marriage Schedule within three days of the wedding
- ☐ Get your outfit(s) dry cleaned
- ☐ Select images for your wedding album
- ☐ Send thank you cards

Did you know you can set up your very own Wedding Planner at *yourscottishwedding.co.uk*?





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In the KNOW

For all the latest news from the Scottish wedding industry, we've got you covered

Contemporary designs

Katherine Hunt of Katie's Cakes is excited to share some gorgeous cake designs for 2025. She explains, "These beautiful new designs were created to showcase my individual style of wedding cakes, which my wonderful couples are embracing. They are very much influenced by my architectural background: modern, minimalist and structural works of art. And whilst I adore making realistic sugar flowers, I set myself the challenge of creating stunning display cakes that do not all include sugar flowers. These contemporary designs include textured fondant, linear detailing, whimsical florals, stencilling and pearl highlights, as well as an ontrend silk bow and, of course, a few statement sugar flowers."

KATIESCAKESSCOTLAND.CO.UK



From a styled photoshoot at Virgin Hotels Edinburgh, shot by Iris Art Photography, with floral arrangements by Botany & Brass, hair and make-up by Karen Mason, dress by Gwenne, tuxedo by Bowdens Kilts, models Ishbel Carson and Zander Westland and videography by Knoxland Films.



Making a difference

The Scottish Celebrants is all about being fun, quirky and unapologetically bold. And with ceremonies packed with personality and tears of laughter, a memorable start to every wedding day is most definitely guaranteed! Humanist celebrant Paul Browett explains, "We also strive to make a big difference and have some amazing initiatives that we do for each of our couples. They choose which charity they'd like to support from our chosen partners, which allows them to see that they are making a difference to people in Scotland. As well as giving to charity we plant a tree in the Scottish Highlands for every ceremony that we do, helping the environment and giving couples a physical marker of their special day."

THESCOTTISHCELEBRANTS.ORG

"As well as giving to charity we plant a tree in the Scottish Highlands for every ceremony that we do."

PAUL BROWETT, THE SCOTTISH CELEBRANTS



Westwood and Swarovski

Dates for your diary alert from Rachel Scott Couture - there will be a Vivienne Westwood trunk show from March 13th – 16th, so don't miss the chance to see some stunning new gowns.

In other news, the Edinburgh bridal boutique has also recently started working with Swarovski, giving you lots of potential for accessories and headwear such as crystal veils. Bring on the sparkles!

RACHELSCOTTCOUTURE.CO.UK



Destination dresses

When it comes to planning a destination wedding with the perfect atmosphere, every detail counts, and one of the most significant decisions a bride will make is choosing her wedding dress. For those dreaming of tying the knot in an exotic location, boho style wedding dresses handmade by Mirka Bridal Couture are the perfect choice.

One of the standout features of Mirka's bespoke collection is the use of natural fabrics and intricate lace details. Brides can expect lightweight, breathable materials that allow for ease

of movement and enjoyment throughout their special day. Mirka's designs are inspired by the free-spirited and relaxed aesthetic synonymous with the bohemian style, making them ideal for beachside ceremonies, mountaintop vows, or lush garden gatherings. Mirka's attention to detail means her boho dresses often feature unique embellishments such as delicate embroidery, flowing silhouettes, and artistic patterns that capture the spirit

flowing silhouettes, and artistic patterns that capture the spirit of nature and adventure. This makes her gowns particularly suited to brides who wish to reflect their personal style and the natural beauty of their wedding location.

MIRKABRIDAL.COM





Cakes of art

Denise Lai of YiShi Cake is offering brides-to-be an exclusive experience where their wedding cake can transform into a stunning extension of their chosen bridal gown. The surface of the cake becomes an amazing work of art that complements the intricate designs, patterns and details of their very own wedding dress.

"By working together, we can provide brides with a fully cohesive design experience, from the aisle to the cake table, where every detail feels seamlessly connected," Denise explains.

And it doesn't just stop at bridal dresses, adds Denise.
"We can also incorporate the groom's outfit like the tartan prints to the cake design."

What a unique, personal and stylish touch for your cake! ≫ YISHICAKE.COM



Studio launch

The team at Ark Bridal is thrilled to announce the launch of gorgeous new studio space AURA, located in Carluke. Owner Amy Kettles says, "At AURA we offer a range of services for our brides and clients, from hair and make-up to brows, lashes and nails. It truly is the one-stop shop for all your

beauty needs! Our search for the perfect space had been ongoing for a while, and we finally found the right property. We love all of our beautiful team working under one roof to bring our clients the most relaxing and luxurious experience possible!"

ARKBRIDAL.CO.UK

A fond farewell

After I7 years as a well-known presence on the capital's bridal scene, Kudos Bridal has announced the closure of its Edinburgh branch later this year. Michelle Scott, co-owner of Kudos Bridal, says, "I have enjoyed every step of the way on our bridal journey but now that I have reached retirement age, it's time to hang up my tape measure and enjoy some leisure time."

Brides will have until 3Ist January to place their orders for Rosa Clara, Wendy Makin and Essense of Australia gowns, and after that all sales will be 'off-the-peg'. You can call the branch on 0I3I 447 8800 to make an appointment – and the chance to take advantage of some very special offers.

All of the team at Your Scottish Wedding wish Michelle a very happy and well-deserved retirement!

KUDOSBRIDAL.CO.UK

New-look website

If you're looking for a humanist celebrant for your big day, check out the fab, new-look Fuze Ceremonies website. It's packed with exciting features like a live celebrant availability checker, exclusive content, blogs, and podcast pages. Plus, you'll find a dedicated section showcasing The Fuze Foundation's charitable work, including

partnerships with the Beatson Cancer Charity and Alzheimer Scotland. With over 60 celebrants across Scotland (and the rest of the UK!), Fuze is committed to matching you with a celebrant who fits your style and vibe. They'll create a highly personalised humanist wedding ceremony, filled with personality and meaning. You can even book your celebrant online 24/7, giving you complete control over who helps you say, 'I do'.

FUZECEREMONIES.CO.UK

Brave the dancefloor!

Scottish ceilidh band The Brave have a reputation for performing great music while making it easy for guests to learn all of the traditional dances during your wedding reception. If you'd like to see them in action in Edinburgh in 2025 then check out their Facebook page for details of upcoming monthly public ceilidhs at Stramash (free entry too!) as well as Ghillie Dhu. They're also offering YSW readers £100 off bookings for 2025 and 2026. Just quote "YSW100" when you drop them a line.

The band's also excited to announce the arrival of The Brave 2, who can provide an accordion and guitarist or singer for a drinks reception, wedding service or wedding breakfast! Sounds like music to our ears...

FACEBOOK.COM/BRAVECEILIDH





Chic designs for less

Booking your bridal appointment at Opus Couture in West Kilbride is always exciting but if you visit during their sample sale you could find your dream dress for less. The boutique is hosting its sample sale from 3lst January to 3rd February with huge discounts on sample gowns. There are styles, designers and sizes available for every bride with savings of up to 50% off. Book your appointment quickly to avoid missing out!

Then in February Opus Couture is sharing the love during Valentine's weekend (I5th – I6th) and gifting every bride who says yes to their dress a free veil of their choice, up the value of £300. Definitely a Valentine's gift we would swoon over!

Later in the month the Opus team are excited to be hosting their second in-store WONÀ Concept runway event, where you can preview dresses from the designer's very latest collection. Expect graceful silhouettes, luxurious fabrics, intricate embroidery, and shimmering accents. The event will run from 28th February to 3rd March and brides can book via the Opus Couture website.

OPUSCOUTURE.CO.UK

Wafers and bougcakes' Carol James Cake Design is

Carol James Cake Design is embracing some hot new trends for 2025 and beyond. "There's a couple of new trends in weddings which are very exciting," Carol explains. "The first is the use of edible wafer paper in various decorative pieces including florals." Carol says that wafer paper is very versatile and she can use it to create effects such as vertical ruffles, or scrunched ruffles that weave all the way down the front of the cake.

"The second trend, which has come from Australia, is the 'bouqcake'. It is a huge bouquet of cupcakes!" Carol can decorate each cupcake with buttercream flowers, hand-piped in various designs to mimic a bouquet. Then each guest has a cupcake to celebrate the day. We think these designs look amazing!

CAROLJAMESCAKEDESIGN.COM





Make an appointment

If you're a bride-to-be with an eye for elegance and graceful silhouettes make sure you book in for the WONA Concept 'White Swan' trunk show at Sophia Grace Couture. From 31st January until I4th February you'll find all the gowns from the newly launched collection in-store and if you buy any White Swan dress on the day of your appointment, you'll receive a 10% discount. This is your chance to be one of the first brides to try these new designs. Contact the boutique to book your appointment.

Remember, you can try dresses from any of the other designers carried by Sophia Grace Couture during the Trunk Show, including the latest collection from Enzoani. Renowned for their classic and timeless elegance, this new collection showcases a blend of traditional styling infused with contemporary twists. The muchanticipated 2025 collection from Enzoani Blue has also arrived, showcasing the brand's signature elegance, combining timeless designs with modern flair. Brides can expect to find breathtaking styles adorned with intricate beaded 3D mikado, delicate floral organza appliqués, and show-stopping lace.

You'll also find the very latest collection from Calla Blanche which is exclusively available in Scotland at Sophia Grace Couture. Renowned for crafting fashion-forward bridal looks, Calla Blanche epitomises the essence of the modern bride. And finally, if you're tight on time, or looking to find your dream gown for less, the Sample Suite at Sophia Grace Couture is the place to go. This luxury bridal suite has just expanded, offering even more dream wedding dresses for less. Filled with exsample gowns in immaculate condition, you can find a stunning selection of designer dresses, all of which are priced at £1,500 or less. With savings of up to 70%, make sure you don't miss out!

SOPHIAGRACECOUTURE.COM

At's showtime

'Tucker' by **WONÀ** Concept

Diaries at the ready, there's a host of wedding shows coming up in the next few months. Grab your squad, meet suppliers and stop by to meet team YSW.

19th - Luxury Scottish Wedding Show, The Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh

19th - V.I.P Wedding Fayre, Marine, Troon

© FEBRUARY

2nd - Razzmatazz Wedding Exhibition, Macdonald Inchyra Hotel & Spa, Falkirk 22nd & 23rd The Scottish Wedding Show, SEC, Glasgow

23rd - Razzmatazz Wedding Exhibition, Glasgow Westerwood Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort, Cumbernauld

© MARCH

2nd - Razzmatazz Wedding Exhibition, Dunblane Hydro, Dunblane

9th - Razzmatazz Wedding Exhibition, Keavil House, Dunfermline



27th - Razzmatazz Wedding Exhibition, Rothes Hall, Glenrothes



10th & 11th - Braehead Wedding Exhibition, Braehead Arena, Glasgow



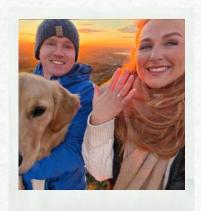
Opus COUTURE

Opus Couture 23 Ritchie St, West Kilbride Ayrshire, KA23 9AL www.opuscouture.co.uk 01294 824838 @opus_couture





Ido'DIARIES



Rachel & Kenny

It all started with a dance floor kiss for this pair!



achel and Kenny were teenagers when they first met on a night out, but their love story took a few years to get going properly. "We actually met when we were 18, had a 'disco winch in the dancing', then went our separate ways," Rachel explains. "Then we started chatting again six years later online and decided to go on a date to the Fringe. That was five years ago now!"

Joiner Kenny proposed in a superromantic setting, getting the timing just right on their four-year anniversary. "He took us on a sunrise hill walk – something we'd spoken about doing since we first got together – with our pup Poppy up Arthur's Seat," Rachel remembers. "We were engaged before 8am!"

While it was a beautiful proposal Rachel may have had some inkling it was coming as the couple had gone shopping together the summer before they got engaged. Kenny had wanted to make sure the ring was exactly what his bride-to-be wanted and to get the size just right so when he proposed with the beautiful ring from the Glasgow Argyle Arcade branch of ROX he knew she would love it.

With Rachel working in the wedding industry as a make-up artist with ARK Bridal, (check out her beautiful work on our model Skye in the Mar Hall photoshoot in September 2024's *YSW*), she knew they had to be quick to secure the suppliers they wanted. "Everything is now booked!" she smiles. The couple viewed their venue Enterkine House only three days after they got engaged and

"We had a disco winch in the dancing!" fell in love, booking their wedding for 3rd August this year.

Then only three weeks later Rachel found her dream dress! The couple have decided on a wildflower theme for their big day. "It's perfect for summer and my girls will be in pink," she explains. "Kenny is a big fan of nature and I'm a big fan of flowers so it's the perfect theme for us."

So'floral will be in charge of all the flowers on the day while photographer Sean Myles, videographer Mooi Studio, and content creator ur bts bestie will be there to capture all the highlights from the wedding.

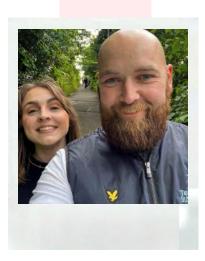
Rachel and Kenny have decided to marry in a humanist ceremony with Evonne McLaughlin presiding, and later in the day Tartan Entertainment is providing the DJ to get all their guests on the dance floor. We predict another wee disco winch!



We're introducing three new to-be-wed couples this issue while Lynn and Gary have less than a year to go now!

R<mark>ebecc</mark>a & Owen

With a wedding set for the longest day of the year, these celebrations look set to resemble a midsummer night's dream!



ebecca and Owen had known each other from school but there was never a sniff of romance, being firmly in the good friends camp. Or so Rebecca thought. But when they each came out of different relationships it wasn't long before Owen messaged asking her how she was, and she soon found herself on a date with him at the Shenai Indian restaurant in Cupar. "Another couple of weeks passed and he popped the 'Will you be my girlfriend?' question at my house where I stayed with my parents in Guardbridge." That was in the spring in 2019.

Fast forward to 21st December 2023 and the couple were treating themselves to a night in Edinburgh at the Christmas market. "Edinburgh was always one of my favourite places which Owen was very aware of," Rebecca



recalls. "We spent the day exploring and walking around, then returned to our hotel Ten Hill Place to get ready for our meal out. Owen seemed unsettled and started acting strangely and I checked with him that he was ok." Minutes later he was down on one knee asking that all-important question. Rebecca of course said yes, and they headed out to Fazenda to celebrate.

Owen had cleverly taken his fiancéeto-be to look at rings in Malcolm's Antiques in Guardbridge the previous autumn and commissioned John, the company's ring specialist, to make a beautiful engagement ring with diamonds on the shoulders, a band made with gold and silver and a central diamond.

The couple are now busily planning their big day, and the Fifers are keeping things nice and local, booking Earls Hall Castle in Leuchars. "It makes the perfect backdrop with a spacious marquee for our meal and dancing," smiles Rebecca. "We are getting married on Saturday 21st June. Little did we know this is the longest day of the year!" They're going for a pretty sage green and pale pink rustic theme which will suit their venue down to a tee! And with the big bookings made including their band, photographer, celebrant, make-up artist and even Rebecca's dress they can spend the last few months having fun on the finer details.≫

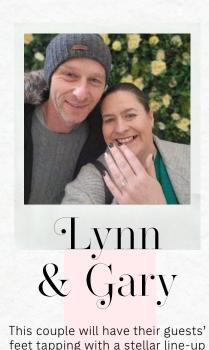


"The castle makes the perfect backdrop."

REBECCA



Look out for Rebecca and Owen's next update in the May 2025 issue



of music and entertainment





ince their super-romantic proposal on the beach at St Andrews Lynn and Gary have forged ahead with wedding planning. "As we want our guests to enjoy the day, entertainment is a big thing for us," smiles Lynn. "We have booked Capella String Quartet who sound amazing. They are going to play when I am walking down the aisle at Boclair House, as well as during the meal. We have also booked a magician called Lorenzo who will keep the guests entertained while we are away getting our pictures taken. We have no doubt the guests will be amazed as me and Gary still talk about him after we saw him at the Braehead Wedding Show."

And to keep their guests entertained the couple have also secured sax player Konrad Wiszniewski from Hireaband to play. "Who doesn't like a sax player?!" says Lynn. Throwing more in the musical mix, there will be a piper from Piping Services Scotland to play as guests arrive and later pipe the top table in to dinner. Then the venue has organised the DJ for the reception.

Centre of attention

Lynn admits to feeling very emotional when it was dress shopping time. "I never thought I would be trying on wedding dresses and my mum and my maid of honour Lesley were as bad as me. There was not a dry eye in the shop," she says.

She tried on about nine dresses in shop number one but when they moved on to Wed2b it was third dress lucky. "I knew instantly that was the dress and, again, there was not a dry eye in the shop." She and her mum and Lesley rounded off a fantastic day with dinner at the Ivy and cocktails at TGI Fridays. "I just wish I could do it again," she says.

As well as her maid of honour, Lynn's bridal party will be made up of her daughters Caitlin and Erin who will take on bridesmaid duties. "I could not say 'I do' without them and Lesley has been by my side helping me through tough times and happy times and is always at the end "I knew instantly that was the dress and, again, there was not a dry eye in the shop."

LYNN

of the phone," she says. "I'm looking forward to them all being by my side as I say 'I do' to the love of my life Gary." Gary's two best friends Gordon and David will be his groomsmen while the couple's son Kaiden will be their page boy. And Lynn's brother Craig and nephew Jack will step up as ushers.

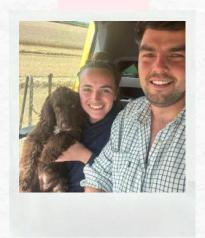
Gary has also been busy shopping and the couple have organised their kilts with Kilts 4 U. "We never realised there were so many tartans to pick from but we found the perfect one for our day and it ties in with the scheme," says Lynn. "The staff at Kilts 4 U were fantastic and made the experience fun, relaxed, and were very knowledgeable."

Lynn and Gary have been busy ticking other bookings off their to do list too, with The Bride to be... booked in for Lynn and her girls' hair while Makeup by Leigh Blaney is in charge of the bridal party's glam. Finally, the couple have chosen Laura A. Tiliman Photography to capture their day. "We want natural pictures as we are not people who like staged photos," explains Lynn. "We prefer a more candid and relaxed look and I am sure Laura is the perfect photographer for this."



Jess & Alex

With the bride growing up at a stunning wedding venue, this couple's planning has been plain sailing





"We wanted to make sure all our friends and family were involved, from all corners of the globe!"

IFSS

ess and Alex have a pretty clear idea of how their wedding should be. "Given both our links to farming and the countryside we want the wedding to have a very natural, traditional feel," explains Alex, who works as an agronomist. "Farmers also know how to party!" And for a venue that would suit their preferred style the choice was obvious. "Bachilton Barn has a special place in my heart as it is actually my family home," says Jess. "It makes planning all the more exciting as the team and sisters get to plan the dreams we have been talking about for years! Alex and I are going for a garden party vibe with lots of vibrant and seasonal flowers. I love colour, but tasteful!"

The couple first met back in 2022. Jess had moved to Yorkshire and lived with her cousin Anna and her fiancé Will for a couple of months that summer. Then in October she was invited to a dinner with Anna and Will which their friend Alex from their uni days was also attending. "Will played Cupid and switched name tags at the table so Alex and I were both sitting next to each other and the rest is history really," smiles Jess.

The couple were together for about 18 months before Alex popped the question. Going down the traditional route he first asked Jess' dad for her hand. Then it was a case of sneaking off to Bradley's Jewellers in York to choose the perfect ring ahead of their holiday in Thailand. "After hiding it at the very bottom of every piece of luggage for over four days, we randomly stumbled upon a beautiful waterfall on the Island of Koh Samui and Alex plucked up the courage," Jess remembers. "I've always dreamt of a gemstone with diamonds and his choice of a blue sapphire with sparkling diamonds in a snowflake style exceeded my expectations! I love it!"

Getting engaged abroad and being able to spend time just the two of them meant they got straight into the fun of party planning. "The guest list was definitely at the top of the agenda," says Jess. "We wanted to make sure all our friends and family were involved, from all corners of the globe." Deciding on the church was also a top priority. Luckily, she knew exactly who should preside over the ceremony. "My old school reverend is marrying us in St John's Kirk in Perth which makes it even more special and fun as Mr Wylie is hilarious," she says. "We are going for a fun, upbeat and personal ceremony which everyone can enjoy!"

The couple want to keep that sense of fun going throughout the day and have chosen Killer City Sound for their evening band. "We are wanting a more Indie vibe to the music. Think Sam Fender!"

The wedding is booked for this June -

ideal for their choice of seasonal flowers – and they were actually lucky the date was available, given how popular Bachilton Barn is. Jess is now excited to put their own spin on the venue and transform it into something different to what has been done before.

With the date looming this couple is pretty relaxed, knowing pretty much everything is booked. They have Platter & Pop in charge of catering, Joanne Clenaghan is their photographer, and they also have a few secret suppliers up their sleeves.

And while Jess is giving nothing away about her dress, Englishman Alex has opted for traditional morning suits. "So you will definitely be able to spot the Scots!"



HARVEY NICHOLS

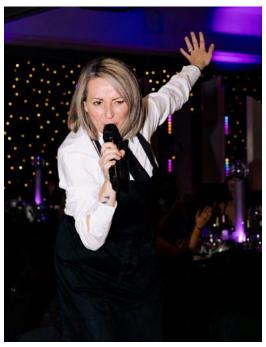
Personal Shopping

From engagement celebrations to walking down the aisle, our expert Personal Shopping team is on hand to help you say "I do" to your dream wedding looks.

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Meet the winners of the —2024—

YOUR Scotlish WEDDING AWARDS

The fashion and entertainment were amazing - and that's before we mention the awards themselves. Read on for the complete YSWA rundown

ood
things
come
in threes and
as things got
underway at the
DoubleTree by
Hilton Glasgow
Central for the
third annual Your
Scottish Wedding

Awards it was clear guests were in for a fabulous night. The cream of the Scottish wedding industry gathered to eat, drink and dance the night away with an evening of top-notch entertainment and style. It was a chance to come together with their peers from all corners of Scotland and celebrate the very best in customer service for to-be-weds.

As the festivities kicked off, guests had fun in the Blushbooth photo booth, posing in a rickshaw from Style in Detail, and listening to guitarist Sam Vincent-Kilbride of the band Kasbah. They were then called into the ballroom, which had been beautifully dressed by Vstate Events, Social Jungle and 21CC Productions. Scottish bagpipe and drums group Clann an Drumma kicked off the main event in truly rousing style, before DoubleTree served up a mouth-watering meal with chef Stewart's team taking to the dance floor to expertly carve the main course in front of guests' eyes. Dessert was interrupted by surprise act, The Essential Singing Waiters, (just one of the four entertainment acts provided by title sponsor Hireaband), who had everyone up on their

Then it was down to the serious business of the awards themselves as stage and screen legend Elaine C Smith took on the compering duties for the third year running and announced the winners. She also took time

to honour each of the shortlisted finalists, who had been nominated by their couples as a testimony to their exceptional customer service. The panel of expert judges then undertook the painstaking task of reading all these finalists' submissions and selecting the winners.

The Your Scottish Wedding Awards are run and judged anonymously, and all nominations are checked and verified and then cross-checked with the marriage register in Edinburgh. This year's judging panel was made up of Drew Rutherford and Tom Goodfellow of Luxury Scottish Wedding, Nicole Mitchell of Braehead Wedding Exhibition, George Gilchrist-Grodnicki of Edinburgh Wedding Directory, Nikki Stokoe of The Scottish Wedding Show and Andrew Fraser of Razzmatazz Wedding Exhibition. The panel all adhered to strict rules, judging submissions anonymously to ensure the integrity of the process.

The awards sponsors DoubleTree by Hilton, Social Jungle, 21CC Productions, Vstate Events, Laura A. Tiliman Photography, AMMazing Team and Style in Design gave generously of their time and expertise to guarantee a fabulous night and guests had fun posing for photos on Style in Design's giant chair. Incidentally, you can hire this for your wedding. How's about that for a talking point! After the ceremony title sponsor Hireaband made sure the dance floor was never empty with band Kasbah and DJ Simon Boyle keeping the party going until the early hours!

The YSWA organisers would like to thank the judges and sponsors, and to pay tribute to the amazing work done by their chosen charity CHAS.

And now, without further ado, read on to discover all the winners of the 2024 Your Scottish Wedding Awards... ≫





This year's win was the second in a row for Freja Designer Dressmaking and the judges felt the company had shown "high levels of dedication not only to all of their clients but to providing a flexible and supportive workplace, allowing creativity to thrive." Designer Mette Baillie said every time she wins is special. "I think it's just all about staying true to our core values and doing what we want to do."

BRIDAL RETAILER > Opus Couture

The judges praised how Opus Couture offers a range of appointment options and price points, ensuring a fully inclusive experience.

They said, "Full customisation of dresses and a genuine passion for customer service provides an outstanding experience."

Manager Susan Lightbody said, "It makes it all the more special knowing the nominations came from the brides because that's what we do. We're there to dress brides, help brides and make sure the women who come into our store feel confident on their wedding day."



« caterer Jo's Kitchen

The judges loved how Jo's Kitchen has the whole community in their sights when delivering exceptional service for their couples. They said, "The examples of going above and beyond are heartwarming and really show what this award is here to recognise." Owner Jo Lawrence paid tribute to her colleague Nicola Mackenzie calling her, "the most dream employee anyone could ask for and I'm so proud of my whole team. It's really special."

EQUIPMENT HIRE ≫

All Wrapped Up Events Scotland

All Wrapped Up Events Scotland were lauded by the judges for "continually expanding their offering, ensuring their couples have a range of choices available." They said, "It is clear that this company strives to make the hire process easy and stress-free for their couples. They have an extremely flexible approach and have great lines of communication." Accepting the award, Cait Hyslop from the company said, "It's such a nice recognition because we try and offer so much to make our couples' wedding planning journey so easy."



≪filmmaker Pinnacle Films

Scooping the YSWA was the culmination of five years' hard work and dedication for Dean Howie of Pinnacle Films. "It feels absolutely amazing because I put my heart and soul into it," he said. "Every couple I work with is amazing and for them to nominate me means so much." The judges applauded his bespoke service when finalising details right up until collecting the final film and cited the company's reviews which included things like, "One of the best videographers I could ask for", "Outstanding service. We are in love with our video," and "10 out of 10".

FLORIST » Becky's Flowers

Becky Lindl of Becky's Flowers does everything herself and the judges were impressed by her all-round approach. They praised how she, "does everything from taking enquiries, updating couples, meetings, and then creating all the floral arrangements."
Accepting the award she said, "It's overwhelming.
I didn't think I stood a chance. It's early mornings, late nights, a lot of 'Have I got this?' And every time
I have got this it's the best feeling in the world. I can't imagine doing anything else."

≪ HAIR STYLIST

Michelle Reid Hairdressing

Michelle Reid's approach was commended by the judges who commented on her "true service excellence, going over and above from small acts, to helping massively in the face of disaster including emotional support on the day." Speaking after she collected her award she said, "I had a dream this year. I wanted to list all the things I wanted to achieve and one of the big ones was winning this award and I actually can't believe it's come true. I'm just so honoured and privileged. I love my job. I can't believe that after all this time I've achieved one of my massive dreams. To everyone who's ever booked me, thank you from the bottom of my heart."



» INDEPENDENT WEDDING PLANNNER The Wedding Guru — Oskar

The judges acknowledged the passion that goes into the role of a wedding planner and praised the dedication and responsibility of The Wedding Guru – Oskar. Oskar Gilchrist-Grodnicki took to the stage to collect his award alongside his assistant wedding planner Linda Martin. Speaking of the win he told us, "Knowing it comes from couples just puts the dot on everything we've done this year, to know that we are appreciated and what we're doing makes a massive difference in creating wonderful memories for all our couples."



« MAKE-UP ARTIST Samantha Connor Makeup Artist

After accepting her award Samantha Connor said she was "in shock". "I'm so happy," she added. "I do my best for all my brides so it's an honour." The judges agreed and mentioned her "calm and patient approach". They said, "Brides and their bridal party are sure to enjoy getting ready for the big day. Feedback shows she is fun to be around, which the customers love."



≫ MUMS' OUTFITS

Catwalk

The Catwalk team achieved the triple this year, winning for the third year in a row with judges citing "brilliant" examples of saving the day, including a fake tan disaster and the gran with the broken arm who the seamstress had to custom design an elastic panel for. Owner Pauline Spiers said she and her team had put everything into the last year and their customers' feedback means everything to them.



« PHOTOGRAPHER Laura Kemp Photography

The judges said Laura Kemp offers a relaxed, fun-loving and unique approach to wedding photography, and said she has a natural ability to turn wedding day nerves into excitement. She has only been working as a wedding photographer for three years and said the win was "surreal". "It's totally out of this world so I'm really, really grateful. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for my customers."





≪ STATIONERY Starca Designs Nicola Mullen from Starca

Designs talked about having a great wedding family of support that she in turn supports and the judges admired "this warmth, coupled with the dedication and drive towards her wedding couples." Collecting her second consecutive win she said she was, "blown away" and trying to go bigger and better.

TRANSPORT ≫ **Enchanted Limousines** and Wedding Cars

Craig Trower of Enchanted Limousines and Wedding Cars said the fact that the YWSA nominations come from customers make it even better. "It just shows we're doing something right for them," he said. The judges agreed. They said, "It was clear from the customer feedback they continually went above and beyond to add those special touches to their vehicles and always gave the highest level of customer care to their clients."



≪ VENUE STYLING

Ivory Tower Weddings & Events

The judges said, "Offering a truly bespoke service to their wedding couples allows this company to be creative and use their imagination to make any wedding couple's dreams come true." Laura Kidd of Ivory Tower Weddings & Events said, "I'm so shocked. Genuinely when I saw how many other companies were in the category I had no idea we were going to win." >>



NET WEDDING PLANNER Kirsty Grant at Lochside House Hotel

This was the second year in a row Kirsty scooped the award and the judges commended how she could think quickly on her feet in the most stressful of situations. "She really does go above and beyond, is creative and you can tell she really does love her job," they said. Kirsty added, "I'm so grateful for the couples. I love my job and this makes it even better to know I'm doing a really good job for everybody."



« ABERDEEN AND HIGHLANDS VENUE Cluny Castle

The judges said, "This venue's teamwork, leadership, determination and going above and beyond shone through when even the owner got involved and personally made sure a wedding still went ahead when he headed out in treacherous weather to collect the celebrant and witnesses." Owner Cosmo Linzee Gordon said he was thrilled but the win was for the whole team who he would be celebrating with when he got back to Aberdeenshire. "To have this direct acknowledgement on the night is so appreciated," he said.

* EDINBURGH VENUE Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

An example of the team going above and beyond for one neurodiverse couple and another case where they pulled out all the stops to make one wedding happen in the midst of a power cut clinched the win for Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. Laura Whytock from the venue said, "We love all our couples and it's an absolute pleasure to help them with their day."



« FIFE AND TAYSIDE VENUE The Old Course Hotel, Golf Resort & Spa

Laura Russell from The Old Course said they were "absolutely over the moon" with their win. The judges said, "The values shown with their submission and the evidence of living them set them apart from the others. We would feel wholeheartedly happy to recommend this venue to any couple looking for a venue based on their commitment to their customers."



« GLASGOW VENUE Boclair House

The judges said it was apparent Boclair's team lived up to their mission statement – "Make life better through hospitality" and praised their collective passion and dedication to creating unforgettable weddings. Boclair's general manager Richard Archer said the win was amazing not just for Boclair but for the for the whole Manorview group too. "For the whole group it's unbelievable," he said.

STIRLING VENUE >> Boturich Castle & Pavilion

Boturich Castle & Pavilion owners Erin and Ruairidh Roome said they were "absolutely delighted" with their win. "It's the team that makes it," added Ruairidh. The judges said that the owners and team obviously put their hearts and soul into every wedding and said, "Recently extending the property shows the commitment to enhancing their offering and to the future of the business."



≪ WEDDING SPECIALIST

NJE Fireworks Displays

The judges said, "The commitment from the company to all of their wedding couples was outstanding. They always go above and beyond and have true dedication to their business and the offering to their wedding couples." Jacky Donald from NJE said, "It's phenomenal. Our couples are amazing and we always do the best that we can do and it ends their beautiful day putting pretty colours in the sky." >>>

Other winners who couldn't be there on the night...

cake designer
Forgoodnesscake
celebrant
Rachel Heys – Magical Life
Celebrations

GROOMSWEAR
MacGregor and
MacDuff
Music
Devotion Weddings

¥ Head-turners

The Carltons, the family behind Kilts 4 U, were dressed to the nines with lain (far left) donning a stylish kilt suit designed by Sally (second from left), using cloth supplied by Brooke Taverner. Meanwhile Leigh (pictured beside sister Selina) designed his dapper outfit himself in Frank's Gold Room, using Lochcarron tweed with House of Edgar tartan.



♠ One of a kind

Mirka of Mirka Bridal Couture of course delivered cutting edge style in one of her own artful designs. We love this gorgeous look!



¥ Flawless

Trust a bridal designer to pull out all the stops! Mette Baillie of Freja Designer Dressmaking looked fabulous in her own embroidered floral creation.



» Sharpdressed man

Robert Craig of Fresh Entertainments looked super-suave wearing M&S.

The YOUR Seattish WEDDING AWARDS STYLE files

We say it every year but the men and women of the Scottish wedding industry certainly know how to bring the glam! Look to them for inspiration for your 'maids, MOBs and MOGs and grooms (or your hen party wardrobe)!

≫ Man of

fashion
Always one on our
best-dressed list, The
Scottish Celebrant
Paul Browett did
it again, pairing an
eye-catching vintage
velvet Topman jacket
with MacGregor
and MacDuff
highlandwear.



♠ Play(ful) suits We fell in love with hair stylist Michelle Reid's effortless jumpsuit and jacket combo, while Leigh

of Makeup by Leigh Blaney

also opted for a jacket paired

with shorts to show off her

gorgeous Terry de Havilland

shoes. Leigh's dapper

husband Brian donned his

very cool 21st Century Kilts

wedding outfit.













≪∧ Back to black

Black was definitely the signature look of the night with so many guests keeping things classic, including Gemma Lavender of Lavender Blue Alternative Wedding Coordination (pictured above far left) wearing Cider and RAD Group's Emerald MacNeil (pictured far left, wearing Club L London) alongside Kevin Hewitson (in Slaters) and Lynsey Hewitson (wearing Lipsy navy sparkles). Sponsor and Team YSW's fabulous glam squad for the night AMMazing Team's Jay Mcloughlane, Anne Marie McElroy and Victoria Giannelli (pictured above) looked stunning in their dresses from Club L London and Lipsy, while Maureen Crolla of The Bride to be... brought all the glamour in her feathered Uoozzee gown (left). And for black with a twist of embellishment we love Katherine Hunt from Katie's Cakes' Lipsy dress (pictured above middle).



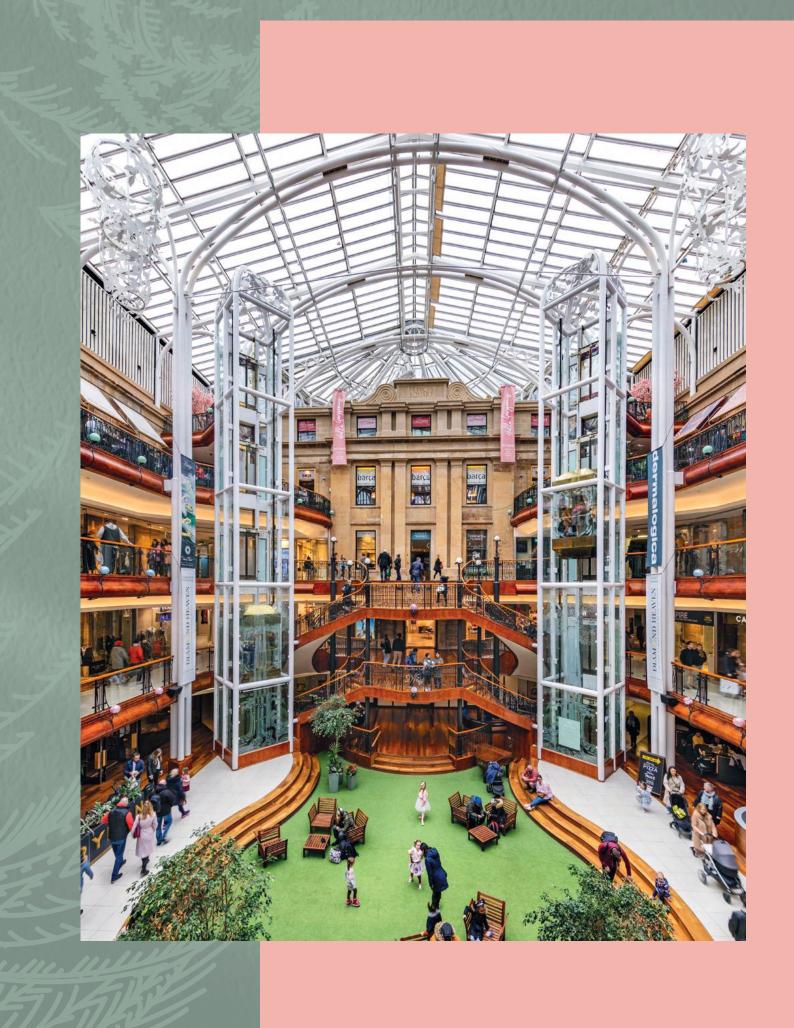


\Rightarrow All that glitters An awards ceremony isn't complete without a

touch of sparkle and we loved Alison McCabe of The Kilted Cake Company's gorgeous Club L London halterneck (pictured above with daughter Megan), while Trudi of Trudi Todd Creative Florist shimmered in Shein, alongside her friends Jen of Jenniflower Photography in vintage Lipsy and Susan Philliben in a chic M&S velvet suit (pictured far right). Meanwhile Becky Lindl of Becky's Flowers (right) artfully pieced together this stunning outfit from ASOS, Amazon and Next.



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ALLSAINTS ARGENTO

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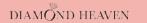
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WORTH £1,300

£1,000 towards a Mirka Bridal Couture wedding dress, plus a matching veil worth £300

irka Jankowska, the awardwinning talent behind Fife-based Mirka Bridal Couture, says she was born holding a needle and thread, and with over 30 years' experience designing exquisite dresses her passion for what she does is undeniable. Mirka took on her first evening dress commission at the age of just 16 and designed her first wedding dress when she was 26. From there her career in bridal has flourished and she's been making brides feel incredible ever since.

Mirka spent years creating beautiful bespoke dresses before striking out and designing her very own Mirka Bridal Couture collections. Instantly recognisable, her designs focus on feminine silhouettes with a slight bohemian edge and have a strong emphasis on sustainability, employing recycled fabrics where possible. What's more, many of the dresses include optional sleeves to heighten their impact or give the bride the option to switch up their look, throughout their wedding day.

Alongside creating the Mirka Bridal Couture collections, Mirka still loves to design totally bespoke dresses for her brides, taking their ideas to create the dress of their dreams.

And now Mirka is offering one lucky *YSW* reader this amazing prize to choose their dream dress either from the Mirka Bridal Couture collection, the With Love, Mirka collection, or to have a bespoke dress made, up to the value of £1,000. She'll even gift a matching veil!

What's included?

One lucky winner will receive £1,000 to choose their dream wedding dress from the Mirka Bridal Couture collection, the With Love, Mirka collection, or for a bespoke dress designed by Mirka, before selecting the perfect matching veil, worth up to £300.

The prize includes:

- ■£1,000 to spend on any wedding dress from the Mirka Bridal Couture collection, the With Love, Mirka collection, or towards a custom design by Mirka.
- A matching veil worth up to £300.

How to enter

Simply answer the following question:
What is the Mirka Bridal Couture
tag on Instagram?

Send your answer, your name and telephone number to editorial@ yourscottishwedding.co.uk. You must also let us know if you agree to your email address being passed on to Mirka Bridal Couture for marketing purposes. Entries which fail to agree to this will not be included in the prize draw.

Applications must be in by 23.59 on 30th April 2025. The prize must be claimed by 3lst October 2025.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Closing date is 23.59 on 30th April 2025. To participate in the competition, you must email your answer to editorial@ yourscottishwedding.co.uk. By entering you agree to Mirka Bridal Couture using your data for marketing. Entry implies acceptance of these terms. The Your Scottish Wedding giveaway winner will be selected randomly and will be notified by Mirka Bridal Couture. The prize includes £1,000 for a dress from the Mirka Bridal Couture collection, the With Love, Mirka collection or a bespoke dress by Mirka, plus a free veil up to the value of £300, to be claimed by 31st October 2025. This prize is for new customers over the age of 18 and is not applicable to current orders. Prize value is up to £1,000 for a dress, and a veil worth up to £300. No refund for lower-priced dresses, and extra cost for higher-priced ones to be paid by the winner. The winner bears fitting, alteration, and accessory costs. The prize is non-transferable, non-refundable, with no cash alternative. Additional terms may apply.

*Your Scottish Wedding is the media partner of this competition and is not responsible for the delivery of the prize. The arrangement of the prize will be between the winner and Mirka Bridal Couture. Entrants must state whether they are happy for their email address to be passed to Mirka Bridal Couture for marketing purposes. Head to the Your Scottish Wedding website for full terms and conditions.

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BRIDAL COUTURE

BRIDAL COLLECTIONS AND BESPOKE DRESSES HANDMADE AND DESIGNED IN SCOTLAND





"Trust the process – but ultimately trust yourself."



The BIG Interview with Gwenne Jeffrey of GWENNE

Gwenne always wanted a bridal shop and this only intensified after the positive experiences of her own wedding – but first she wanted to see if she was the right fit for the industry. So, back in 1995, she dipped her toe into the wedding world by making stationery and favours. From there, the business grew and grew...

Your Scottish Wedding: How did you know it was time to move into bridalwear in 2001? And what is it about the world of weddings that has kept your interest?

Gwenne Jeffrey: I'm very practical (I have a degree in quantity surveying) and knew the numbers needed to balance before venturing into bridalwear. Plus there had to be a perceived gap in the market. When the time came, the transition was easy. My clients trusted me from doing stationery and favours so their sisters, friends, etc., knew my standard of service. Coming to try a 'new' bridal shop wasn't a big risk as my word of mouth was established. Overall, I love the bridal business. I love people - and what a total privilege to help someone find a wedding dress. Each appointment is unique and fun. How can you ever get bored when you love what you do, and each day is different? YSW: You've been in bridalwear for nearly 25 years now. How do you account for your longevity?

GJ: We started with £300 many years ago and because it was my livelihood (not a hobby) I knew that if I wanted a roof over my head, we had to survive! My passion for bridal meant I learned my chosen profession completely. We're very good at what we do and we adapt to the times. We have good products from reputable suppliers, backed by a strong core team who know the business. We always have that same

passion to help someone find the dress of their dreams and that's what drives us. I'd add that my ethos has always been that I don't sell dresses – people buy them. I'm not one for gimmicks and clients value our advice. Gwenne is a warm and welcoming (but not overdone) store where brides can be as open and honest as they want without judgement.

YSW: What are some of the biggest changes you've seen in that time? Have there been noticeable differences in what brides are looking for?

GJ: We've seen it all, from internet buying and high street stores introducing bridal to boutiques that open as 'hobby shops' - but most of these trends have come and gone. If, as a business, you get your product and standard of service right, you'll thrive through market changes. Change needs to be embraced and not feared. For example, when we noticed the lower budget/buying off-the-peg trend we opened one of the first bridal outlet shops in Scotland; Thistlekiss. A bride will always want to find a dress they feel beautiful in and are excited to get married in. This never changes. But the shopping experience the bride wants evolves. It's developed over the years to include special touches like gift bags, refreshments and - as we do - preconsultation Zoom calls. This helps us tailor each appointment to the bride's requirements. It also lets them meet us

ahead of visiting so they can see the knowledge and experience we have. Our clients love the fact that we do that wee bit extra.

YSW: Your two shops in Broxburn and Edinburgh carry different designers and different size ranges. How important is it to have these two distinct offerings?

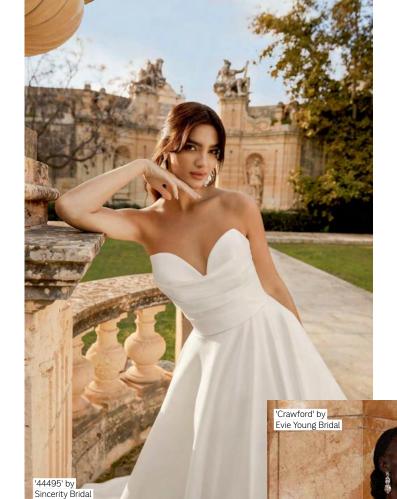
GJ: I don't think it is! For us, the Edinburgh shop evolved to suit what those clients were looking for. The only brand we wanted there specifically was Ronald Joyce or Veni Infantino as we couldn't get them in Broxburn. Many Gwenne Brides come via word of mouth – they've decided prior to visiting that they want a dress from us. So, the brands we stock aren't always the driving force for appointment bookings. We did feel in Broxburn, though, we wanted more emphasis on curvy brides as we celebrate curves. We wanted to cater for everyone.

YSW: How do you decide which designers to carry?

GJ: Going back to the start, I did my research then went to the Retail Bridalwear Association for advice pre-opening. Bridal is a very unique industry and I was amazed at how you couldn't get suppliers if you were too close to another shop. From these originals, I still have Romantica, Sincerity and Mori Lee. Of course, all suppliers have lovely dresses but when we decide who to bring in we also have to look at financial stability, customer service and the ability to solve problems. All our suppliers have been with us for years - Madi Lane and Evie Young are our only new additions. They filled a style gap for us, and we loved their innovative approaches to bridal and can-do attitudes.

YSW: How would you describe the Gwenne bride?

GJ: She's a strong, independent girl who is not defined by a selfie or today's fashion trends. She knows herself and her priority is finding the perfect dress that makes her feel like a bride. A Gwenne bride prioritises style, quality and value for money. She expects a high



"A bride will always want to find a dress they feel beautiful in."

GWENNE

standard of personalised customer service. And for her it's about the dress, not the label.

YSW: Do you have a favourite gown in store right now?

GJ: I genuinely love all the dresses! Each is there for a reason, and each is perfect for someone. If I had to choose, my current favourite would be Sincerity Bridal '44495'. I love the timeless shape with the modern neckline and clean lines, and the versatility it offers for styling.

YSW: What are your best tips for brides searching for their wedding dress?

GJ: Do your research first (we have great resources online). Pick a boutique where picture-taking or video calls are allowed. It's always nice to have another perspective of yourself and include people who maybe can't be in-store but are decision-makers.

When you're there, trust the process – but ultimately trust yourself. Bridal shopping is not always logical. It can be emotionally driven. The feeling of finding The One is unique to everyone. And not everyone has 'that moment'. You'll find your dress in your own way.

YSW: What's next for Gwenne? GJ: We've just started a full shop renovation for Gwenne Broxburn. After that, who knows... Maybe another shop! ■



RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION

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Sunday 2nd February 2024 11am to 3pm

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RAZZMATAZZ WEDDING EXHIBITION KEAVIL HOUSE DUNFERMLINE

Sunday 9th March 2025 11am to 3pm

RAZZMATAZZ Wedding Exhibition Fife Rothes Hall

Sunday 27th April 2025 11am to 3pm

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She's in

FASHION

It's a new year and we're super-excited to see what direction bridal fashion takes in 2025. Over the following pages top designers and bridal boutiques from across Scotland let us in on the major trends captivating catwalks and ceremony aisles alike!



THE TREND

Statement 3D florals

We're not telling you anything new by saying floral appliqués are big news in the world of bridalwear but this season they've gone super-sized and we are here for it! "One new trend which literally stands out is statement 3D florals," explains Naydene at Sophia Grace Couture. "3D florals have been a trend for several years, however designers are really bringing florals to life with bold statement appliqués. This is showcased by one of our new arrivals from Enzoani. This 'Udelia' gown features oversized 3D floral appliqués that cascade down the detachable skirt, creating a stunning and eye-catching effect. At Sophia Grace Couture, we are excited to see how this trend evolves in the coming years and how designers continue to push the boundaries of traditional floral designs. We believe that

We believe that statement 3D florals will continue to be a popular choice for brides who want to add a touch of drama and sophistication to their wedding day look."

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THE TREND

Capes and cover-ups

Have your heart set on a strappy or strapless wedding dress but scared you may feel a little bit exposed, or even cold? Listen up! "The trend we are loving at the moment could be classed as 'capes and cover-ups!" explains Michelle of Kudos Bridal Edinburgh. "By which we mean a clean, simple sheath dress paired with a sheer overdress or cape that softens the silhouette, adds a touch of extra detail and even brings an element of modesty for the ceremony, which can be important to the bride, especially for a church wedding. Then in the evening the dress by itself is slim and sexy with the chance to accessorise in any number of ways." Michelle's favourite example of this trend right now are 'Teseo' and 'Abira' from the 2025



THE TREND

Pearls

Whether you opt for a scattering or a more concentrated design, pearls are packing a serious punch right now and Pamela Jayne's **Bridal** is a big fan. "I love the combination of crepe or satin and pearls," she says. "I think the plain fabric with the statement neckline and straps is so striking, so clean cut and modern. Pair it with a statement cathedral length pearl veil and any bride is ready to walk down the aisle." Pamela Jayne has chosen '44388' by Sincerity Bridal as a gorgeous example of this trend.



"I love the combination of crepe or satin and pearls."

PAMELA, PAMELA JAYNE'S BRIDAL



Structured corsetry

Corsets are at the heart of so many amazing bridal silhouettes so it's very apt that structured corsetry is the hot trend chosen by Susan at **Opus Couture**. "It's been everywhere on the 2025 bridal runways," she says. Susan loves this beautiful 'Artizia' gown by WONÀ Concept . "It nails this look perfectly, mixing timeless elegance with a fresh, modern vibe," she

says. "This stunning design features a layered silk wrap detailed corset, topped with an intricate overlay of pearls across the upper part of the dress. Transparent long gloves finish off the look beautifully, highlighting the gorgeous pearl and corset details." Susan reckons this look would be amazing for a modern stately home or even a castle wedding. "That said, with a dress this stunning and so versatile (those optional gloves are such a fab touch), it would look beautiful on any bride at any wedding venue." >>



"It's all in simple cuts with rich details."

> METTE, FREJA DESIGNER DRESSMAKING



THE TREND

Contemporary period gowns
We hear the words period-style

We hear the words period-style dresses and the YSW team's thoughts immediately turn to some of our favourite costume dramas of late. (We know, we know, it's time to get over our *Bridgerton* and *The Great* obsessions!) But while you may love the look, you might want to make changes for your big day. Cue this trend, loved by Mette at **Freja Designer Dressmaking**.

"This summer and last we were working on a really lovely trend, which I have absolutely loved getting involved in," she says. "I have had a couple of brides asking for 'contemporary period dresses'. I know that is a contradiction already. But it has been dresses with some soft vintage-style feels, but cleaner and more understated and minimalist than if you took a period dress. It's all in simple cuts with rich details in high end natural fibres." And Mette adds that working on these dresses has been a real pleasure and they have matched the bride's more sustainable approach to their weddings.





THE TREND

Pared-back minimalism

Lovers of all things simple and fuss-free, this one's for you. On their latest buying trip, the **Kudos Bridal Dunfermline** team got very excited about their designers' 2025 collections. "We've seen a lot of pared-back minimalist styles recently and this trend is definitely set to continue into 2025," says Megan from the boutique. "As we see a shift away from lace in store, our designers are thinking of ways to give plainer styles more impact by embracing different types of textured fabrics like organdy and jacquard. We're in love with how Essense of Australia's 'D4I49' shows this trend off at its best. With her structured mermaid shape, Basque waistline and detachable train, this style is definitely a statement." And Megan adds the fact she's made in brocade is just the cherry on the top! ≫

"We love the bridal take on this trend!"

RACHEL, RACHEL SCOTT COUTURE

THE TREND

Dropped waists Another trend that harks back to

Another trend that harks back to an earlier time, the dropped waist is making an appearance on bridal catwalks and in boutiques. Rachel of **Rachel Scott Couture** is embracing this look. "One trend that we have been seeing more and more on the catwalks is dropped waists!" she says. "And we love the bridal take on this trend! Have a look at our designers Suzanne Neville and Danielle Frankel for some gorgeous examples."





THE TREND

Flowers and lace

They're forever synonymous with bridal, and Mirka of Mirka Bridal Couture reckons the romance of floral and lace will be a major trend for 2025. While it's captivating it's also so versatile, offering a wide range of styles to suit various tastes and themes. Both lace and flowers played starring roles in Stranger Things star Millie Bobby Brown's wedding dress by Galia Lahav, as well as Princess Theodora of Greece's dress by designer Celia Kritharioti. "For me the floral motifs will become a cornerstone of bridal fashion this year with intricate appliqués and embroidered patterns

adorning not only my dresses but those of other designers too," says Mirka. "I love the detail which often mimics the beauty of a blooming garden, bringing a touch of nature's elegance to the bridal ensemble. Whether it is featuring subtle petal detail or bold, oversized blossoms, floral patterns are adding depth and texture to wedding dresses, transforming each piece into a work of art." Mirka's favourite dress which exemplifies this trend is 'Celine' from her own collection. "It features a classic silhouette with a sweetheart neckline, delicate 3D floral appliqués over the bodice and a sheer, leafshaped illusion train that shimmers as light hits it due to the sequins throughout."

THE TREND

Modern minimalism

Keeping things sleek and chic is the key to nailing this trend and it's a look loved by Kavelle at Kavelle Couture. "It's all about clean lines, luxurious fabrics, and timeless silhouettes that feel effortlessly elegant," she says. "This trend appeals to brides who want a chic, understated look that exudes confidence and sophistication without being overly embellished." And a dress that perfectly embodies this trend is 'Adrienne' by Pronovias. "It features a sleek crepe fabric, a flattering unique neckline and a stunning open keyhole back that adds just the right amount of drama," adds Kavelle. "The sleeves are soft with a slight modern fullness. Its simplicity allows the bride to truly shine, making it a perfect choice for the modern, fashion-forward bride."





YSW'S TREND WATCH

We've met the Corset Queen and kept an eye on the *Wicked* queens of the catwalk for this issue's Trend Watch

here's always something very exciting about getting to meet one of your favourite designers in the flesh so when Suzanne Neville (I) visited Rachel Scott Couture for a dedicated designer weekend our editor Katie jumped at the chance. Suzanne and Rachel had lined up a busy three days of appointments but squeezed us in to talk all things 2025 collection. And it's stunning! The new 'Enchanting' edit marries gorgeous textiles with exquisite tailoring in a range of silhouettes.

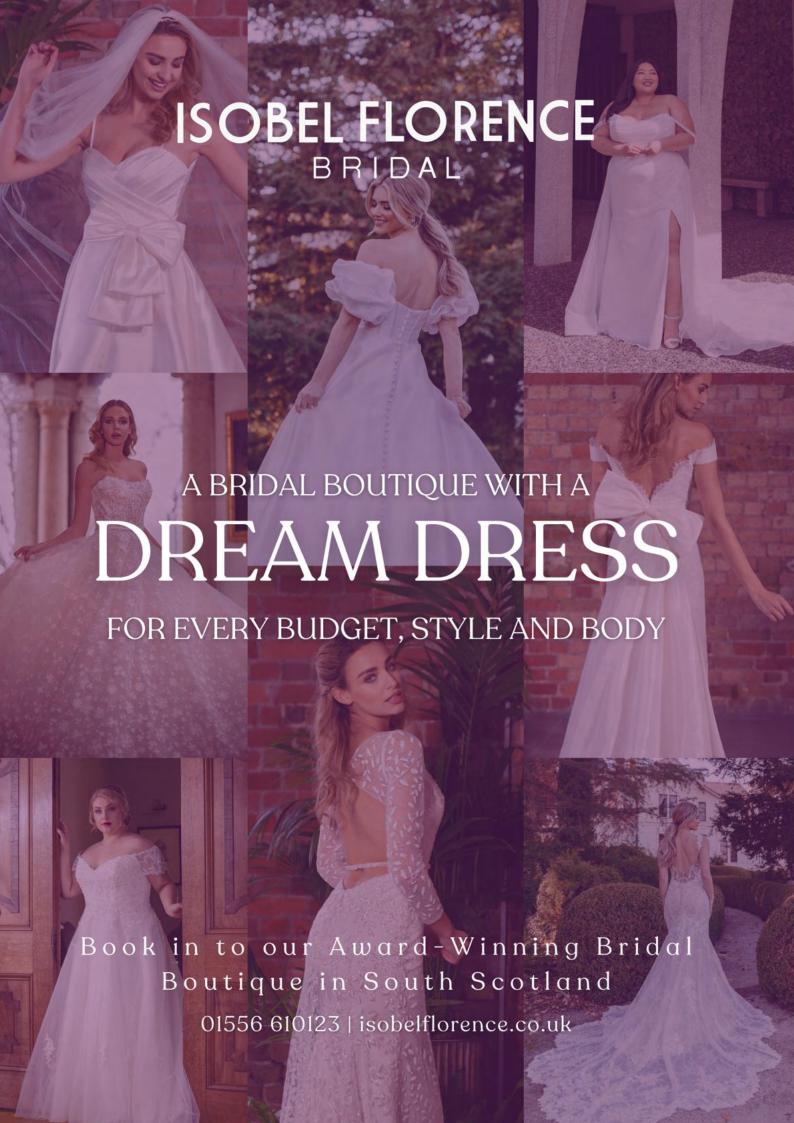
Suzanne has earned the moniker 'Corset Queen' because of her dedication to perfect fit and the actual mechanics of a dress. However, she told us her designs always start with the fabric. "I'll spend months per collection just choosing my fabrics and working with the mills and then once I've got them, I'll look and think what am I going to do with it and I'll start building the designs around it," she said. But she admitted those designs often include a corset! I couldn't imagine not having corsetry in my dresses," she said. "It's my thing."

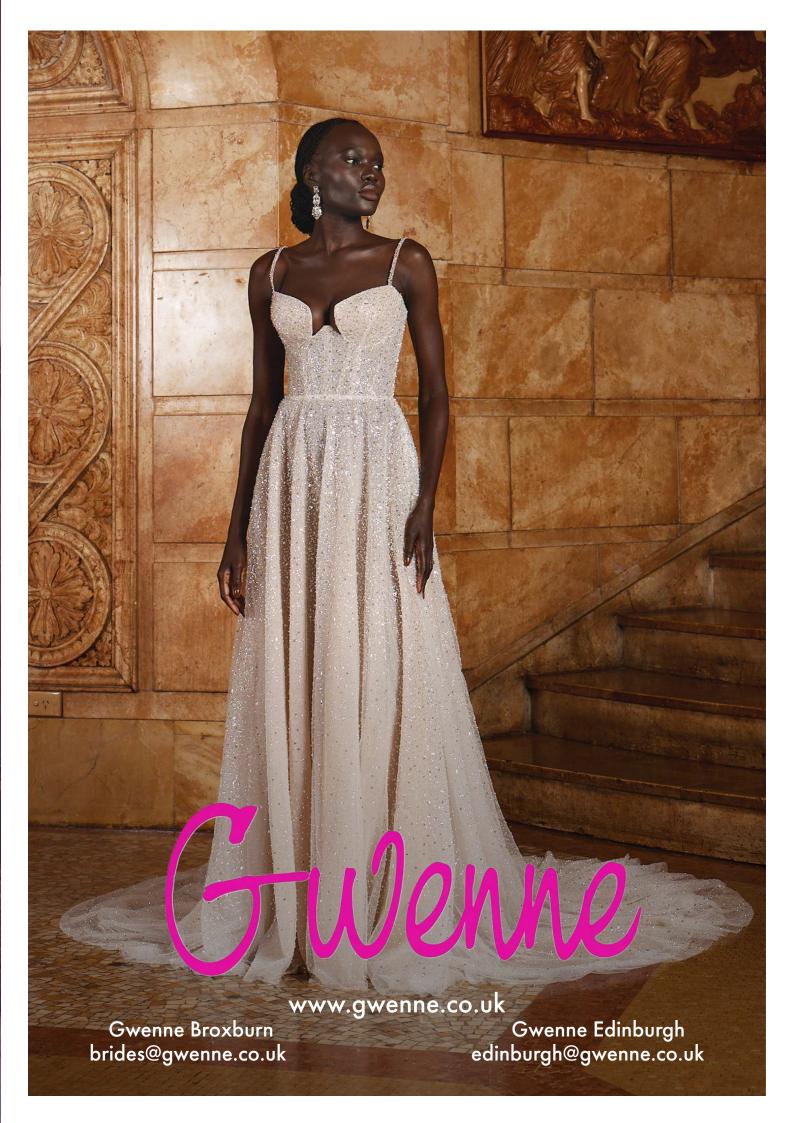
One trend we've been watching with interest is the rise of textured fabrics like jacquards and brocades in bridal. Check out one of our favourites, the stunning 'Matilda' by Ellis Bridals (3).

A wicked sense of style

Unless you've been under a rock you won't have escaped Ariana Grande and Cynthia Erivo's *Wicked* film promo tour, or their head-turning fashion choices. Ari's pink couture Vivienne Westwood offering was a total moment, and very translatable to bridal. The British design icon's dresses have been gracing many a celeb wedding recently and we're in love with the 'Galaxy' gown (5) which would give Ariana a run for her money.

For a similar showstopping sleeve, we also adore 'Bernadette' (4) by WONÀ Concept (a designer stocked by both Sophia Grace Couture and Opus Couture). Why not finish the look with this gorgeous I8ct yellow gold brilliant cut diamond shaped wedding ring 0.08 (£995) from James Porter & Son (2)? A guaranteed way to make a real statement!







Ask the expert

Rachel Scott Couture

Rachel outlines the importance of choosing a dress that fits your venue style

veryone's wedding planning journey is different, and one couple's priorities will be another's afterthought. However, there are a couple of things that always undoubtedly inform one another - your venue and your wedding dress!

Your entire day should be a reflection of you and your partner, and you'll have selected your venue because you want your wedding to play out in a particular way, with a certain vibe and atmosphere. Alternatively, you might have such a strong idea for your dress that the venue must match and reinforce that vision. Regardless of which one comes first, they are inextricably intertwined.

Now, we don't believe in rules when it comes to wedding dress shopping. There is a lot of conflicting advice, but our philosophy is that regardless of your shape, size and age your dress has to complement your personality and allow you to feel like the most elevated version of you! And I think this ethos can absolutely be applied to your entire day. That's why we thought it would be fun to look at different styles of wedding and things you might want to consider when matching your look to your overall day...





Destination wedding

Destination weddings are a *huge* category on their own, and if you choose to hop on a flight for your dream venue abroad then the likelihood is that you have considered how this might change your look. Whether it's a romantic Italian ceremony or a Spanish fiesta, one thing to consider is your climate. What might work in a British summer, might not

"Always
put your
dress in
your hand
luggage."

be so appropriate in the Mediterranean. Our designers are superflexible when it comes to customising dresses. It might be a simple case of removing a full-length sleeve, or changing to a lighter, more breathable fabric, or we take out some of the underskirts on

your gown. There are always other options, so don't settle for less than perfect!

One thing to highlight when opting for a destination wedding is you'll need to transport your dress. We always recommend you put your dress in your hand luggage, so you can keep an eye on it and not be victim to missing baggage! We will even show you how to pack your dress neatly and we will press it before it's packed up. We recommend hanging it out to see what creases drop out on their own before going anywhere near it with a steamer. If you do, ensure there are no water droplets coming out of your steamer and test in a discreet area first!

Nova Cocotte' with 'Diva' train

Legal ceremony

When having a destination wedding, you'll also need a legal ceremony at home to make it official, which can be a really fun excuse to try out two looks!

During a legal ceremony, you tend to find spaces will be smaller, or you might be manoeuvring through the city, so longer styles and trains could be less desirable. We have seen some really amazing bridal minidresses recently that do not disappoint on wow factor, such as Vicky Pattinson's custom short Suzanne Neville dress, or Sophie Habboo's short 'Cora Cocotte' dress by Vivienne Westwood.

Another option could be you love a dress so much you want to wear it again and again, and there are lots of ways of reinventing your gown and creating multiple looks. It could be a detachable train or overskirt to add volume and drama, or detachable sleeves for an extra flourish or some texture.



Garden wedding

The garden wedding can be relaxed and romantic and lends itself to that real fairy tale feeling. We love designers like Temperley London for the botanical element of her dresses with floral embroidery and tasteful splashes of colour. Or perhaps Halfpenny London for a whimsical layered look, with frothy organza arm drapes and ruffled skirts.



Church wedding

When we think of a church wedding one thing that often comes to mind is traditional and classic. This can come in a variety of different forms, and not all church weddings will have the same aesthetic! Some might be bright and airy, whilst others are moodier and gothic, and the dress you'd wear to one you might not necessarily wear to the other.

Another aspect to the church wedding is that you might want to dress more conservatively, cover up a tattoo, or ensure your shoulders are covered during a religious ceremony. Recently we had a wonderful bride who chose to wear the Vivienne Westwood 'Long Cocotte' dress which has that gorgeous figure-hugging corset to highlight an hourglass shape, but we added a tailored full length sleeve, which changed the impact of the dress and created a more modest silhouette for her beautiful church wedding.

Sassi Holford is another great designer to consider for a removeable jacket or sleeve to take you from day to night. Her styling is a wonderful blend of traditional and timeless and would look beautifully at home in any church.

Reception dresses

Maybe you wanted that grand dress to fulfil your childhood fantasy, but now that the ceremony and photos are all done, you want something that allows you to let your hair down! We have loads of options for fun reception-appropriate dresses, whether it's a bit of sparkle, vibrant colour, or complete comfort for a proper boogie. New York designer Naeem Khan is the king of beaded and embellished dresses you want to dance the night away in, whilst Danielle Frankel has some gorgeous styles that have you looking chic and bridal, but comfortable and ready to mingle. Or if you see something you love, but you want it to be shorter and in colour, then we will just have it made that way for you! There really is no need to compromise, especially on your wedding day!





Modern city wedding Like the legal ceremony, you might be travelling from one venue to another or stopping off for photos in the busier streets. But with this aesthetic you also may not want something so traditionally 'bridal'.

We have some amazing designers that can deliver a chic, and fashionforward look. Minimalist clean lines and gorgeous fabrics can really shine in a busy cityscape.

We recently welcomed New York designer Danielle Frankel who has been coined the bridal designer for the 'cool girl' fashion aesthetic and offers a showstopping alternative to the bridal market. Another designer who can tick this box is Vivienne Westwood, whose styles are both timeless and contemporary. Add an opera glove and a pair of shades for something worthy of a *Vogue* editorial!

Ah, the wild wedding! It could be a beach, forest, or mountain but there is one thing for certain – you're going to be outside! And the thing we always hear brides worrying about is, you guessed it, the weather. First of all, I'd encourage you not to worry too much as we have had brides up the hills in wind, rain and shine, and no matter the climate, it makes for some truly breathtaking imagery.

The likelihood is, that you don't want something too heavy or with too many layers, as you will undoubtedly need to scoop up those skirts at points. We always add either a hand loop or a bustle to take up your train if you have one but depending on how 'wild' your wedding is, you might want a little more flexibility! Andrea Hawkes is a great designer for a lighter dress, which doesn't have tonnes of structure or underskirts, so you can dance, hike and frolic with complete ease!

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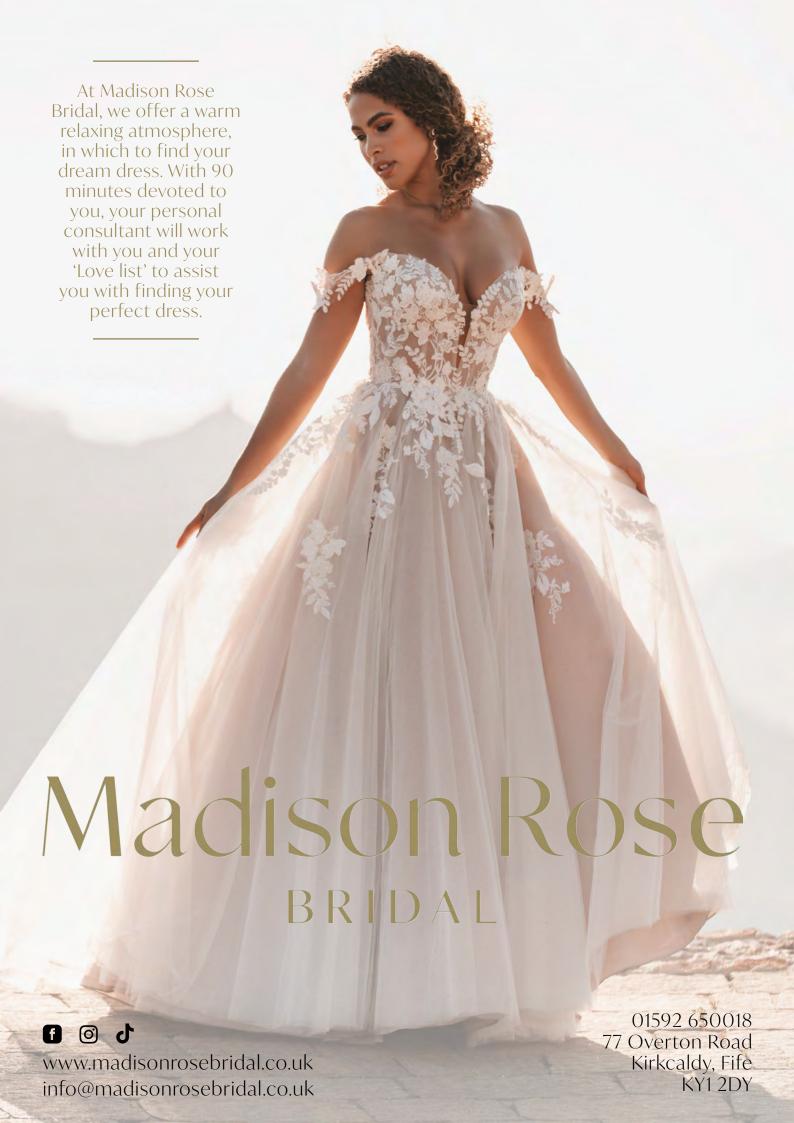














HELENA: 'Giulia' dress and matching veil by Naeem Khan (both POA), Rachel Scott Couture. Small diamond solitaire stud earrings in 9ct yellow gold (£1,292), Sheila Fleet Jewellery. ≫

BOLC MOKES

Make a daring bridal statement with head-turning veils, voluminous overskirts and hints of glitter

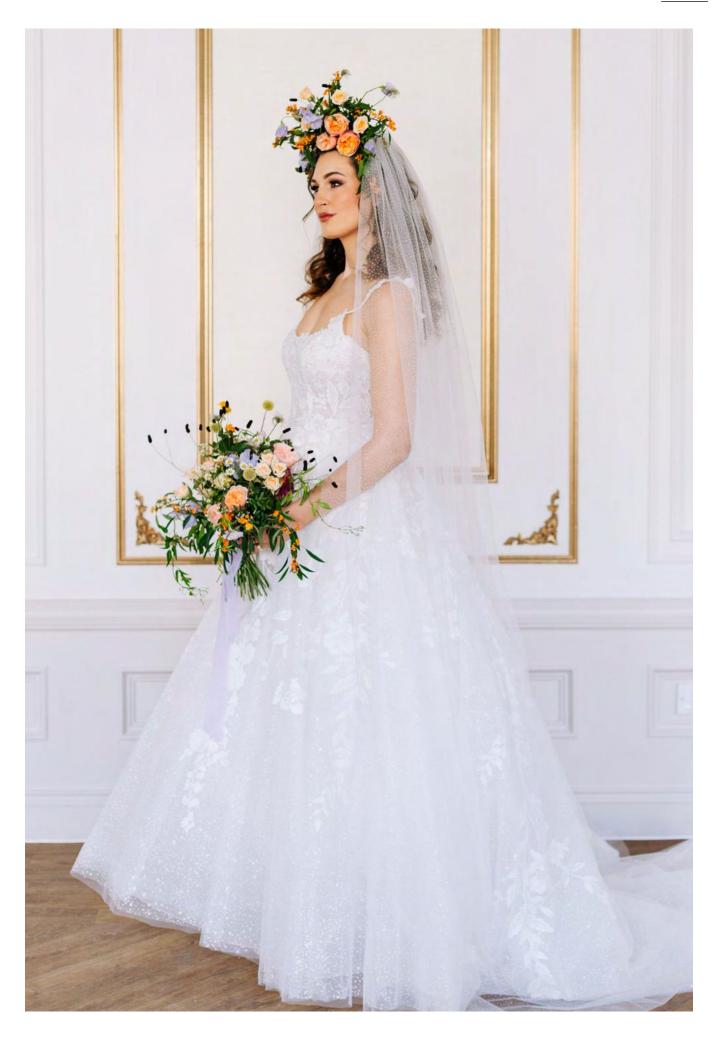
VENUE: The Exchange

PHOTOGRAPHY: Laura A. Tiliman Photography









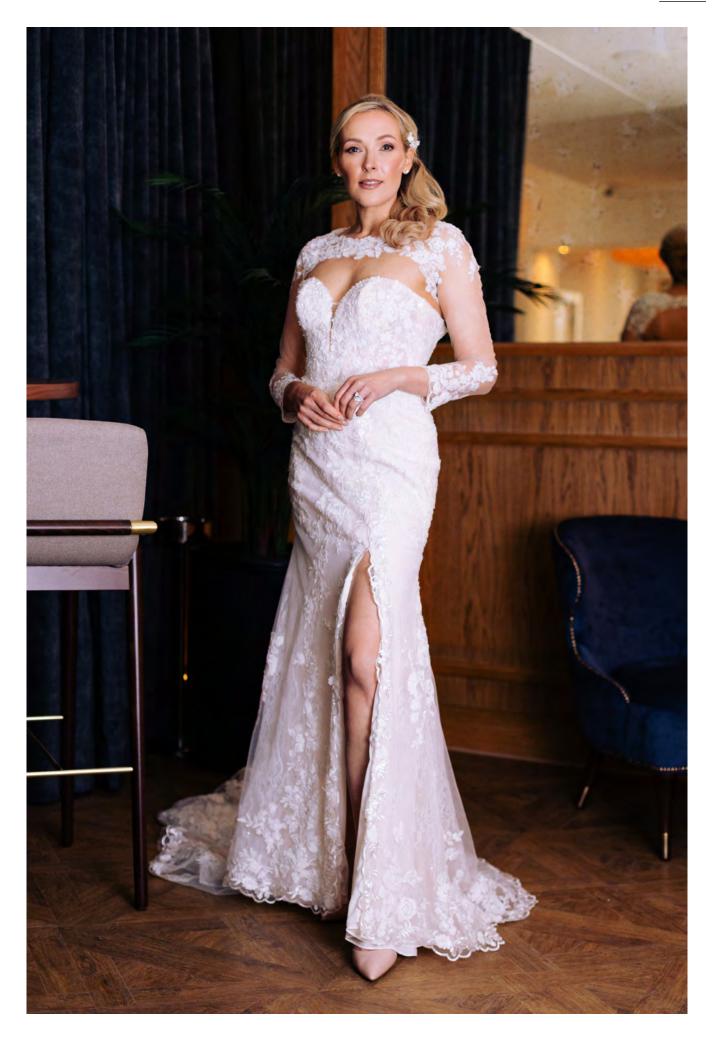


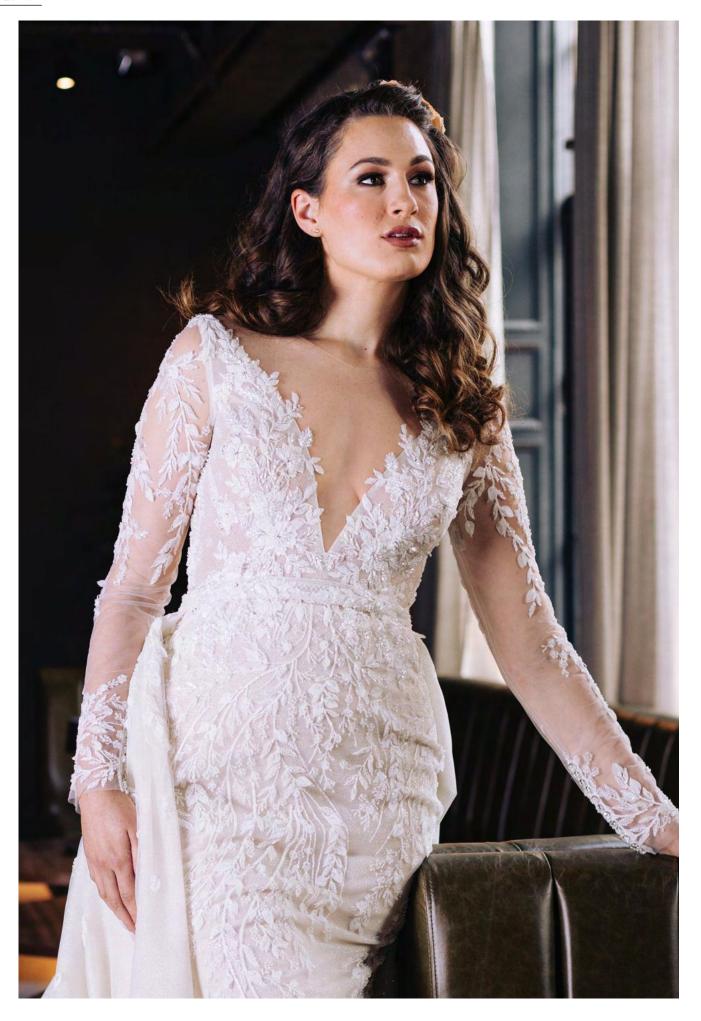










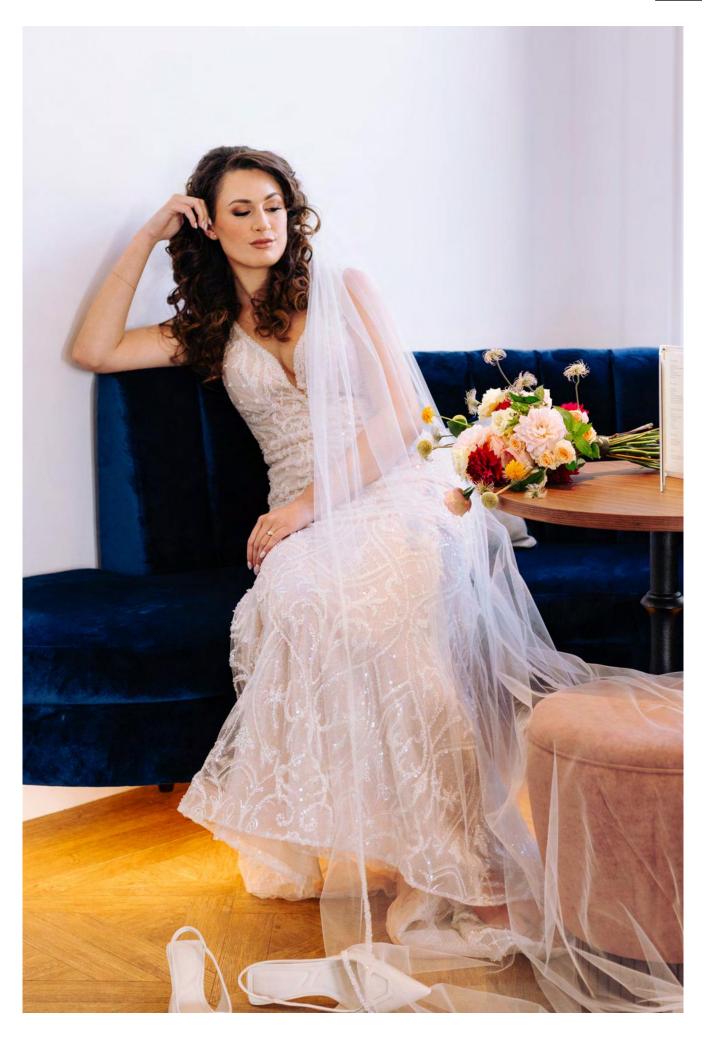




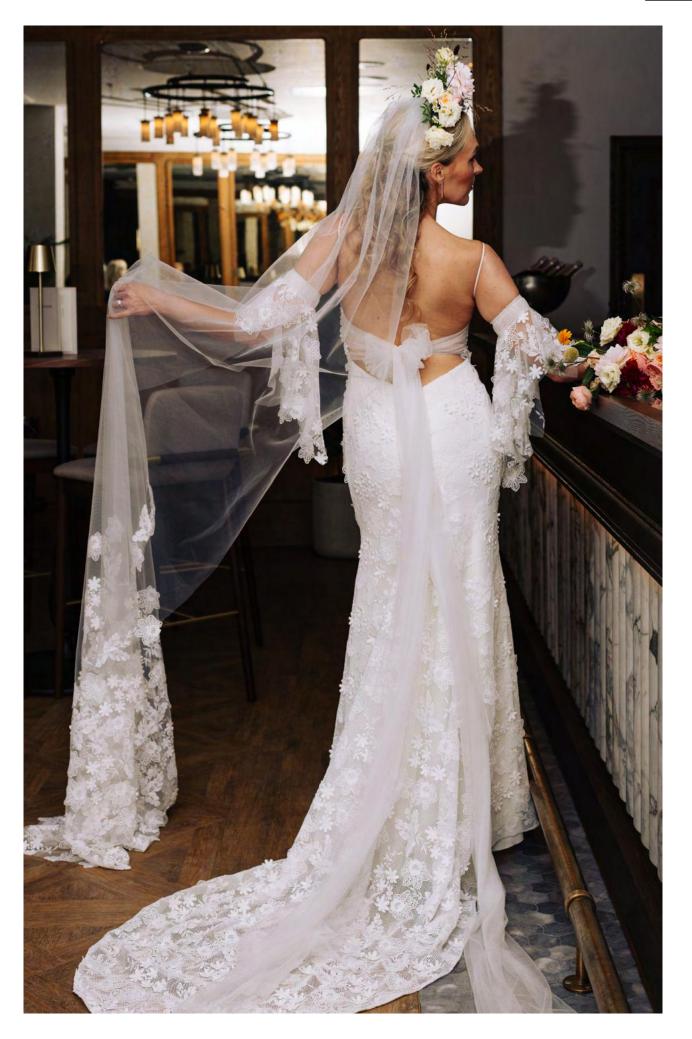




















Get 1THE 1OOK

tepping through the doors of The Exchange in Glasgow's Royal Exchange Square is walking into a world of glamour and unbridled luxury. Occupying the upper floors of an A-listed blonde sandstone building, the city centre's hottest new venue has been lovingly renovated and the owner's attention to detail is everywhere you look. From the art decoesque light fixtures to the clean lines and gilt touches, this is a venue in which to say 'I do' in serious style, and it was a very fitting setting for our ultra-chic photoshoot.

Leigh of Makeup by Leigh Blaney was in charge of the glam on this shoot, working her magic on models Gillian and Helena. "We're going for glass skin," she explained as she applied Weleda Skin Food Light to moisturise and then worked with 'Wonderglow' by Charlotte Tilbury and Hollywood Flawless Filter

and Beautiful Skin foundation to achieve the desired effect.

Charlotte Tilbury's Hollywood Cream Bronzer was used to contour before Charlotte Tilbury's beauty wand in 'Peachgasm' was applied to the cheeks, topped up with Beautiful Skin 'Island glow', Face Architect highlighter and Laura Mercier setting powder.

For our models' eyes Leigh applied Charlotte Tilbury nude cream eyeliner in the waterline to make the whites look brighter, before using Makeup by Mario's 'Ethereal' palette and 'Pillow Talk' by Charlotte Tilbury eyeshadow palettes. Finally, Leigh applied Charlotte Tilbury's Pillow Talk medium lipliner in the appropriately named 'Wedding Belle.'

Maureen Crolla of The Bride to be... created the stunning hair looks for Gillian and Helena, prepping with WOW Raise the Root and using her clampless José Eber curling iron to create beautiful curls and movement. She also used extensions to add extra volume and expertly styled the fabulous floral headdresses created for the shoot by Sarah Rushbrooke of Rook Botanics. "I'm so excited to work with them," Maureen told us. We also love the retro-look pinned up-dos she styled for the two heavily beaded art deco-inspired Eliza Jane Howell dresses. Just gorgeous! And she let us in on her secret weapons to ensure the ultimate shine; Colour WOW extra mist-cal shine spray, Kérastase

Elixir Ultime serum (a beautiful finishing product which can be used on wet or dry hair), and the tried and tested Elnett hairspray.

Go bold

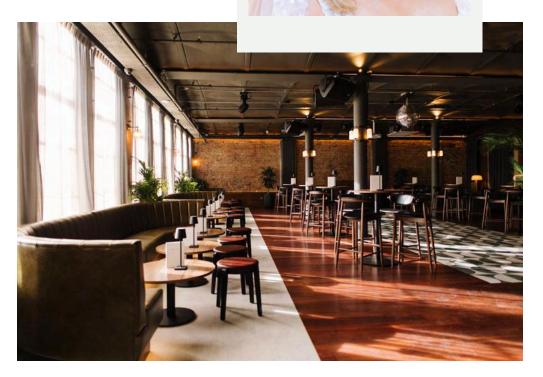
Alongside fashioning the eyecatching floral headpieces, Sarah also provided a number of bouquets for the shoot, taking inspiration from our moodboard. "Colour is usually the place I start and there was a nice mix with some darker pops," she explained. "We've gone big and creative for the headdress which works really well with the voluminous hair. The wilder bouquet contains a mix of Harper and Vuvuzela roses, spray roses, scabiosa, purple sweet pea, orange euphorbia, darker dahlias, trailing jasmine, tanacetum, craspedia, heliopsis, sanguisorba, clematis that has finished flowering, and fresh mint."

For a slightly more structured bouquet she used garden roses, more dahlias and lemony eustoma.





Get in touch directly with all of our suppliers to discuss how they can create your dream wedding looks.





FLOWERS AND HEADDRESSES Rook Botanics HAIR The Bride to be... **JEWELLERY** James Porter & Son, Sheila Fleet Jewellery MAKE-UP Makeup by Leigh Blaney **MODELS** Gillian Cheung and Helena Milne **PHOTOGRAPHY** Laura A. Tiliman Photography **VENUE** The Exchange ■

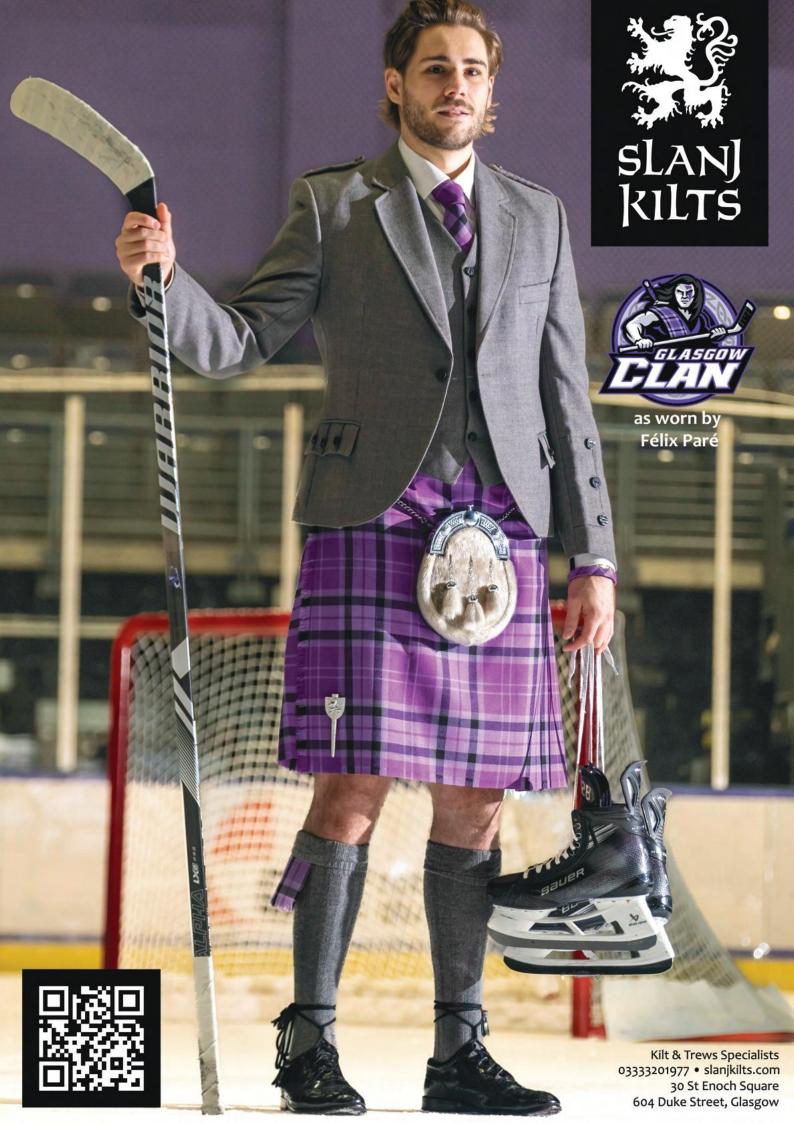






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The MATN MAN

Ever wondered how you can stand out from the rest of your bridal party? **Jennifer McLaren** gets advice from industry experts and speaks to real-life grooms ...

ave you ever seen a wedding and wondered just which one of the kilted men was the lucky groom-to-be?

While grooms may not be as instantly recognisable as a bride, (generally the one in the white dress), there are a number of ways they can make themselves stand out

According to Calum Grant of Slanj Kilts, the most common way of setting the groom apart from the rest of the party is a difference in accessories. "Wearing a tartan tie and matching flashes as opposed to plain ones is the most subtle and the cheapest way," he explains. "We have also seen grooms wearing a different tartan from the groom's party which works best when everyone has the same colour of jacket/waistcoat set."

Gordon Nicolson of Gordon Nicolson Kiltmakers says, "We strongly encourage every groom to express their individuality through their choice of wedding outfit." He advises that it's often the small details that make a significant difference, such as unique shoes or coloured socks, designing your own distinct sporran, or adding a fly plaid.

Selina Carlton of Kilts 4 U suggests making subtle yet meaningful changes. "A distinctive boutonniere, custom kilt pin, or unique flashes on his socks can further differentiate his look," she advises. "The groom could also choose special ghillie brogues with subtle detailing like adding tartan inserts or custom laces. These small variations allow the groom to stand out while keeping a cohesive and traditional feel."

However you decide to style yourself and your party, Michael Dixon of Suited and Booted Glasgow advises grooms to curate their own look first, before taking their groomsmen into account. "Subtle things can fall into place once the groom has been prioritised, such as nods of colour pulled from the groom's look, which can then be used to curate the other important members of the wedding party."



"We encourage every groom to express their individuality."

GORDON NICOLSON

Holyrood love

When Alan Hatherall married wife Beth at Eden Leisure Village he chose a Holyrood tartan kilt with matching plaid and tie, paired with a midnight blue tweed jacket and waistcoat, hired from Slanj Kilts. "I then chose a white shirt, navy socks, a grey sporran and black shoes," he recalls. "I added my own personal touches, with a corsage to match the bouquet and wedding flowers and a sgian dubh and kilt pin, which belonged to my Papa," he explains.

Alan had originally intended to wear his own McLellan tartan kilt, passed down to him by his great uncle. But while looking for a complementary tartan for his groomsmen, he realised he also loved the Holyrood design so decided to switch up a couple of details to make his own look stand out. "All of them wore the Holyrood tartan and the same outfit as me except I wore a plaid and the different sgian dubh and kilt pin. Additionally, me, my best man and my dad all wore the Holyrood tartan tie, with the rest of the party wearing navy ties. This was another small touch we chose which helped distinguish a couple of us from the rest of the wedding party."





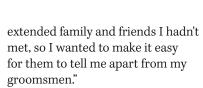


Brian wears the Spirit of Loch Ness tartan kilt outfit from Kilts 4 U, with prices starting from £150 to hire and around £1,500 to own.

Autumnal colours

Brian Chapman married his wife Faayza last October at Macdonald Crutherland House and found himself favouring a tartan with earthy green tones to suit the season. "I chose Spirit of Loch Ness tartan, which came with the full works, including a plaid," he says. "It was an autumnal wedding and I knew in advance that my bride would be wearing red, so I had green in mind from the start." Brian completed the outfit with brown ghillie brogues, and opted to wear a set of cufflinks owned by his late grandfather in tribute. For Brian, it was important for functionality that he stood out. "It was a

fairly large wedding and there were a lot of



Brian's groomsmen all wore identical outfits to his, with the exception of the plaid, which set him apart. He adds, "I also wanted the plaid to try and match my wife's energy. As she was in a traditional Pakistani wedding dress, I wanted there to be visual and cultural balance in the photographs to signify the coming together of our different backgrounds." >>



What is a plaid?

A fly plaid is a piece of tartan fabric typically draped over the shoulder and secured with a pin or brooch. Normally worn for special occasions, it is customary for only the groom to wear one on his wedding day. Calum explains, "The fly plaid is a nod to the great kilt or féileadh mòr. This was the large piece of tartan cloth that Highlanders used as multipurpose, all-weather clothing, and also for sleeping in." Selina adds, "Historically, a plaid was worn by the head of the clan, making it easy to recognise who was in charge. Now, it is traditionally worn to make a groom stand out from his wedding party, adding a regal finish to his outfit."

"I love wearing kilts and I wear them with a sense of pride."

GRANT





Sense of pride

Grant MacGregor and wife Helen tied the knot at Dalduff Farm, Maybole and his outfit was completely bespoke. While the majority of it was supplied by Kilts 4 U, he complemented it with some accessories he already owned such as his sgian dubh, the MacGregor clan crest cufflinks and his tie. His brooch was a special gift from Helen.

Grant's Kilts 4 U kilt, flashes and plaid were in Modern Hunting MacGregor tartan from Marton Mills, while his jacket was made from two tweeds. The main Beaters Green by Lochcarron tweed was paired with the second Cairngorm Heath by Marton Mills tweed, in a lighter shade of green. His waistcoat was also made

from Cairngorm Heath tweed and complemented the jacket perfectly. He completed the look with a brown musquash sporran and tan ghillie brogues. Grant explains, "I love wearing kilts and I wear them with a sense of pride, not only because it looks great, but also that it's a celebration of Scottish culture and tradition."

Grant dressed his groomsmen in charcoal grey Strathearn jackets and waistcoats, with black sporrans, charcoal grey hose, and black ghillie brogues, all on hire from Kilts 4 U − and the kilts were their own or hired. Grant adds, "I don't subscribe to the idea that the groomsmen should wear a particular kilt to fit into the colour scheme. I'm a big believer in wearing your own family tartan, if you have one." ■













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Mums on THEME

hat you wear should always be a meaningful representation of your identity and individuality. But when it comes to weddings (especially ones where you're part of the bridal party) there are some unwritten rules – and opportunities to get inspired.

Are they tying the knot in a grand city venue? Or will it be an intimate outdoor affair where you're enveloped by glorious green space? Are the bridesmaids going bold or understated? Matchy-matchy or mismatched chic?

Information gathering about all the above and more can be very helpful before you hit the boutiques. In fact, at Frox of Falkirk, Natalie suggests gently quizzing the couple to pick up some tips for what to consider (and what to avoid) when you start outfit shopping, "It's important to know where the wedding is going to be but also ask if there's going to be a theme," she advises. "Depending on your relationship with them, you may even want to ask if they have any colours or styles they'd prefer you to wear. Once you have all this information, you can discuss it with your consultant at your appointment."

At Rachel Scott Couture, which now has a dedicated occasionwear store, Rachel agrees that it's worth having a pre-shopping chat with the to-be-weds. "Remember you'll be in photos with the wedding party. So, as much as you don't need to match the bridesmaids' colours or the tableware, you don't want to clash either!" she says.

That said, Rachel reminds mothers-of-the-bride/groom (MOBs and MOGs) that even though it's the couple's big day, you'll remember the occasion for the rest of your life – and you're likely to see a lot of photos

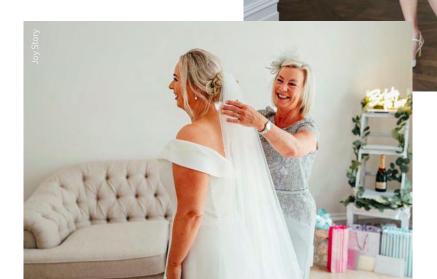
Miman Photography

If you're not sure where to start with MOB/MOG outfit shopping, how about looking to the big day itself for inspiration?

Here, Claire Muir talks to Scotland's top occasionwear suppliers who share their tips for coordinating your style with the wedding vibe

of yourself afterwards. As such, she and the team reckon that feeling like "your best and most iconic self" in your chosen outfit is a must.

Similarly at Catwalk in Falkirk, Louise underlines the importance of mums feeling confident and elegant in their chosen look. "Whatever the venue, theme or time of year, there are a diverse range of styles for every preference. You're guaranteed to find something that complements the surroundings and lets you shine on this special day."



"Ask if there's



Country estate wedding

"Jane decided to work with designer Suzanne Neville to create the perfect outfit for her son's country estate wedding. She opted for a bespoke gown with silk chiffon sleeves, a corseted bodice, and an elegant crepe skirt in vibrant orange. This was just the right look for a celebration at a stately home because it's classic and understated - whilst still being totally showstopping with a vibrant injection of colour. We just love working with Suzanne because she is great at creating one-off designs. That means MOBs and MOGs can have an outfit made exactly how they'd like it and to their exact measurements too. Fit and design are extremely flexible so there's no need for compromise!" - Rachel, **Rachel Scott Couture** ≫

Recreate this look

Bespoke gown by Suzanne Neville, POA

Church wedding
"If you're a mum looking for an outfit for your daughter or son's church wedding, it's crucial to strike a balance between elegance and modesty. This means your attire will align with the sanctity of the occasion and reflect a sense of respect for the religious setting. At Catwalk our top tip would be to opt for an 'appropriate' neckline and hem length, and one style we'd strongly suggest is the A-line dress. It gently flows from the bodice, creating an elegant and timeless look. The A-line also offers ease of movement, which is perfect for navigating church aisles with grace and poise. That said, floor-length gowns bring an undeniable sense of grandeur and formality, and they're a popular choice for traditional church ceremonies." - Louise, Catwalk

Recreate these looks

Left: John Charles floor length dress, £665 | Hat, POA Right: John Charles A-line dress, £689 | Hat, POA





Destination wedding

"This dress is from the new 2025 Couture Club collection. It's ideal for a wedding abroad as it's sleeveless and lightweight. That's not all, though. The bright and bold floral fabric makes it the perfect dress for a wedding in the sunshine too! It's worth noting that opting for a smaller headpiece is often easier for a destination wedding because the hatbox needs to be hand luggage and taken on the

plane. If the wedding is taking place on a beach, you might want to choose shoes with a closed toe to avoid unwanted sand! Remember, some shoes and bags can be dyed to any colour so that they complement an outfit perfectly."

- Natalie, Frox of Falkirk

Get the look:

Dress by Couture Club, £575

"Floor-length gowns bring an undeniable sense of grandeur and formality."

LOUISE, CATWALK



Made for her

When Taylor Sommerville and Gary Martin married at Drumtochty Castle last year (check out their feature in the September 2024 issue of YSW), it was time for MOB Judith Sommerville to find an outfit...

"I knew I wanted something different and modern but it was really difficult to decide. There is so much choice out there and I tried on so many outfits. In the end I had my outfit made, which was absolutely the right choice for me. I came across a video of an outfit I loved on Instagram and shared it with Taylor. She mentioned she'd seen a similar look on an Edinburgh designer's Instagram page and this was when I connected with Carolyn Baxter who created and made my outfit. The whole experience was great and the end result was fabulous. It worked so well for Taylor and Gary's classic, romantic castle wedding - and for dancing in the evening because the skirt came off, turning the outfit into a jumpsuit! With such a striking colour, I didn't want to over-accessorise so I wore the beautiful pendant Taylor bought me as a wedding gift. Then I added matching shoes and a bag. I'd have only made one change and that would have been taking a shawl or pashmina for the church and photographs - it was early May and I'd underestimated the temperature!"













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OPPOSITE PAGE, THIS PAGE:

l8ct yellow gold offset diamond wedding ring (£l,645), toi et moi diamond drop pendant (£l,450) and yellow gold martini glass diamond studs (£l,650), all James Porter & Son.

Golden GIRL

Elevate your bridal look with stunning jewels and fashion-forward hair and make-up

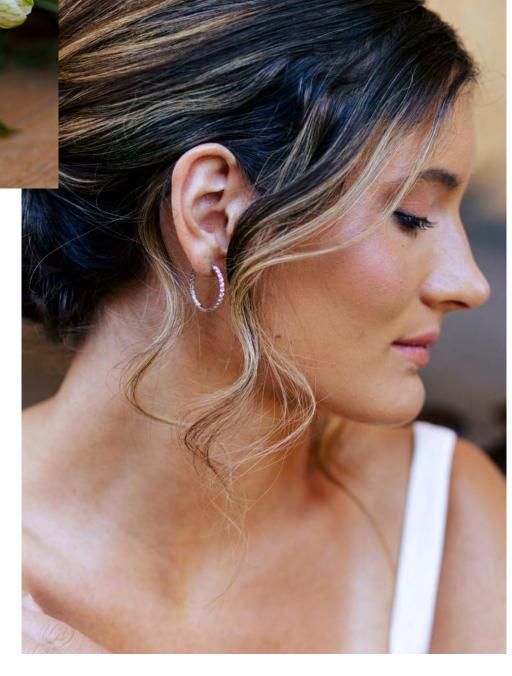
PHOTOGRAPHY: Laura A. Tiliman Photography VENUE: The Weaving Shed, Dundee ≫

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White gold brilliant diamond hoop earrings (£995) and I8ct yellow gold offset diamond wedding ring (as before), both James Porter & Son. 'Bennett' two-piece dress by Maggie Sottero (POA), Kudos Bridal Dunfermline.











OPPOSITE PAGE AND THIS PAGE, TOP LEFT: Primula Scotica two-flower diamond necklace in 9ct yellow gold (£1,021) and Primula Scotica two-flower diamond ring in 9ct yellow gold (£685). THIS PAGE, TOP RIGHT, BOTTOM RIGHT: Primula Scotica two-flower diamond ring (as before), Primula Scotica two-flower diamond pendant in 9ct yellow gold (£886) and Primula Scotica one-flower diamond bracelet in 9ct yellow gold (£522). BOTTOM LEFT: Primula Scotica bracelet (as before), all Sheila Fleet Jewellery. \gg

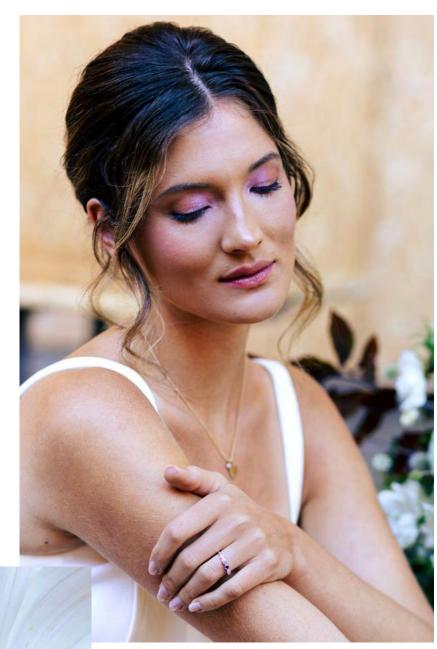






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122 | YOUR Scotlish WEDDING.CO.UK







OPPOSITE PAGE AND THIS PAGE: Cushion cut sapphire three stone engagement ring (£6,995) and blue sapphire and diamond bracelet (£2,995), both James Porter & Son. \gg





THIS PAGE, TOP LEFT AND OPPOSITE PAGE: Matrix diamond ring (as before), TOP RIGHT AND OPPOSITE PAGE: Matrix ring (as before) with cluster pearl necklace (POA) Rachel Scott Couture, THIS PAGE, BOTTOM: Matrix ring (as before) with gold pearl and crystal cluster necklace (POA), Rachel Scott Couture.















"I achieved this look by creating a base of foliage and balanced it with flowers with whispy stems to give that classic Greenshed Flower look," she says. "The mechanics are all reuseable, recyclable and biodegradeable."

ammi, astrantia, feverfew and eryngium

along with scavenged copper beech,

birch and ivy.

Kirsty of Kirsty MacPherson Hair and Makeup Artist worked her magic on our model Kathryn to create three distinct looks for this shoot. She began by creating a waved textured ponytail using the BaByliss 29mm tong, along with Moroccanoil texture spray to give the tousled effect and then pinned in some of Helen's gorgeous flowers.

For the make-up she used the new Vieve foundation balm with Vieve skin nova primer to give a dewy finish along with Dior highlighter and her favourite lipstick, 'Midnight' by Illamasqua.

Kirsty then progressed to look two; brushed out waves, again done with the tong, and smooth control cream from Moroccanoil to tame any flyaways.

She used Victoria Beckham's satin Kajal eyeliner in cocao and black to give the eyes a smudged soft look and finished off with her number one bridal lipstick; 'Modesty' from MAC.

According to Kirsty the final look was "so much fun!" She blended an orange-toned eyeshadow with a pink, then used Karla Cosmetics' opal multicoloured shadows in 'Nightfall' in the corner to give a more mystical finish. Dior highlighter brought shimmer to Kathryn's cheeks with Pat McGrath's 'Divine Rose' lipstick.

The look was finished with a messy knotted bun with a little lift for height and Kirsty used Kyk powder to texturise the bun.



DRESS

'Bennett' by Maggie Sottero at Kudos Bridal Dunfermline FLOWERS

FLOWERS The Greenshed Flower Studio

HAIR AND MAKE-UP Kirsty MacPherson Hair and

Makeup Artist MODEL

Kathryn Regan

PHOTOGRAPHY

Laura A. Tiliman Photography VENUE The Weaving Shed ■

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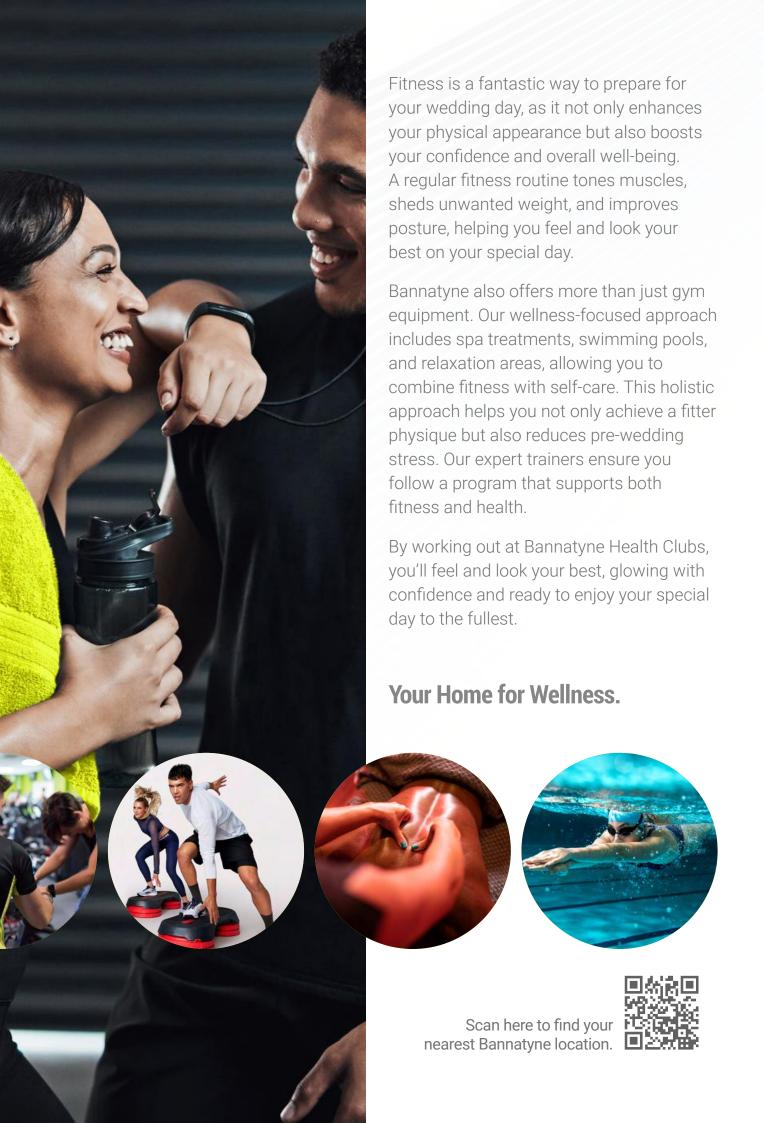


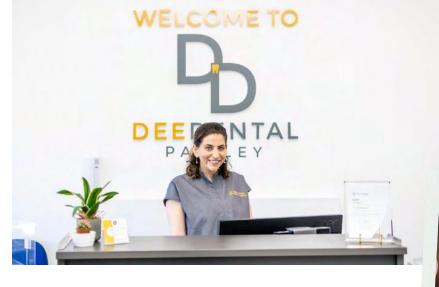




Bannatyne









Fresh-faced BEAUTY

Dr Dinah Naasan of **Dee Dental Paisley** shares how to boost your confidence and get your skin glowing in time for your wedding



The clinic is renowned for helping clients achieve their winning smile, but it doesn't stop there. Dr Dinah Naasan from Dee Dental Paisley explains, "In addition to smile makeovers like Invisalign, Enlighten guaranteed whitening, and composite bonding, many brides- and grooms-to-be are choosing facial rejuvenation treatments. These include anti-wrinkle injections, dermal fillers, Profhilo, and medical-grade skincare, all of which help them feel radiant and confident on their big day."

Your wedding is the one day you'll find yourself in front of the camera lens most and if you're concerned about fine lines being caught on film anti-wrinkle injections and dermal fillers could be the way forward. "These treatments can significantly soften fine lines and restore lost volume, giving a natural, refreshed appearance," says Dinah. "Anti-wrinkle injections help relax specific muscles to smooth lines, while dermal fillers can

add contour and volume to areas like the cheeks and lips. Together, they create a youthful, polished look that photographs beautifully and instils confidence."

At Dee Dental Paisley anyone considering anti-wrinkle injections will begin with a face-to-face consultation so Dinah and her team can understand their specific concerns and aesthetic goals. Then after assessment they will book the procedure, followed by a complimentary two-week review to check results and provide a top-up if necessary. "This ensures each client achieves a natural, refined outcome," says Dinah.

As with any aesthetic procedure, timing is crucial and for optimal results Dinah recommends scheduling anti-wrinkle injections at least six to eight weeks before the wedding. "It takes about two weeks for the full effects to become visible and this timeframe allows for any necessary top-ups," she explains. However, if this is your first time trying these treatments it's best to start at least six months ahead of the wedding as it can sometimes take a couple of sessions to achieve the desired look. The great news is anti-wrinkle injections generally last around three to four months, while dermal fillers can last

anywhere from six to nine months, sometimes even longer depending on the individual and the area treated. So, your treatment will take you through your wedding day, honeymoon and beyond!

Side effects are generally minimal, but some patients may experience slight redness, bruising or swelling at the injection site. However, Dinah says these effects are usually mild and temporary. "Our team ensures clients are fully informed and comfortable, with aftercare instructions to help minimise any effects," she adds.

Dee Dental Paisley's skincare doesn't end with aesthetic procedures though. Dinah says, "Alongside these treatments we offer ZO medical-grade skincare and Profhilo as excellent complementary options to our facial rejuvenation services. These can enhance skin texture, hydration, and overall glow, adding that extra touch of radiance for the wedding day."

To find out more contact Dee Dental Paisley directly:

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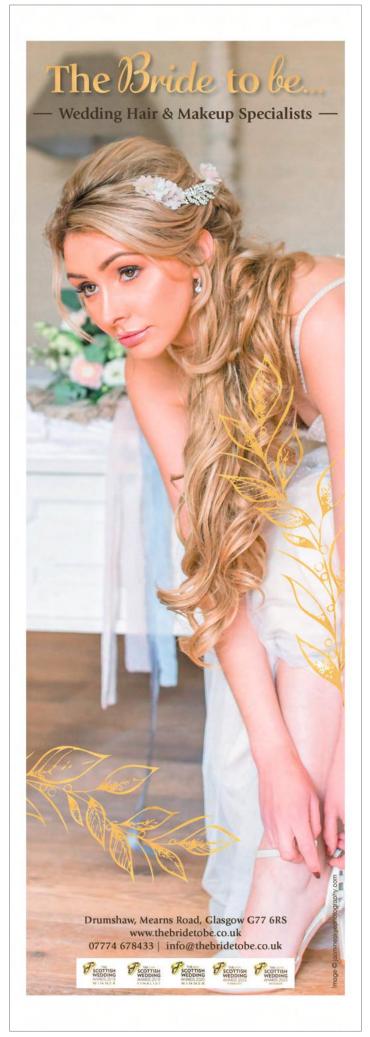


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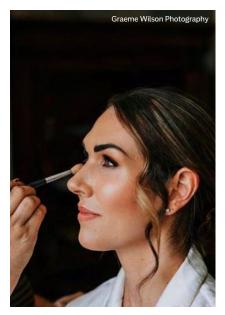
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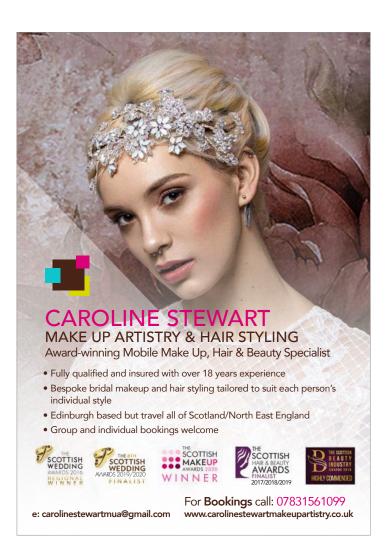






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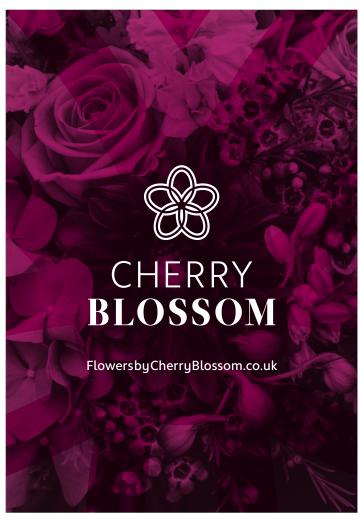
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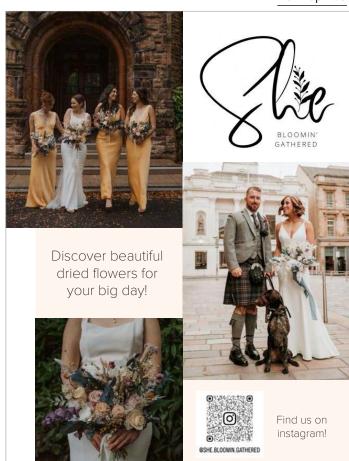












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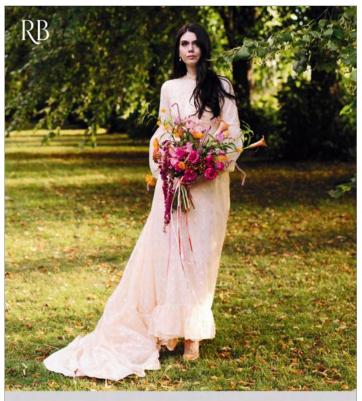




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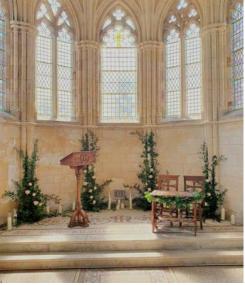




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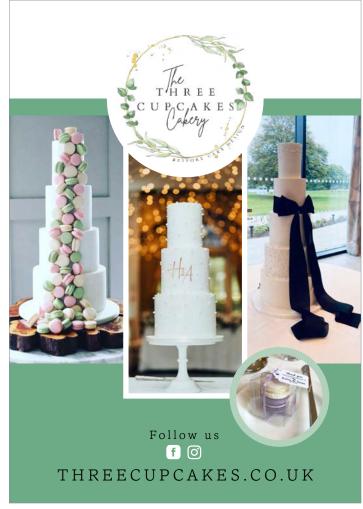


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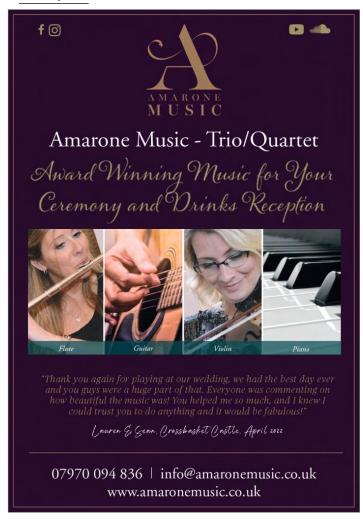


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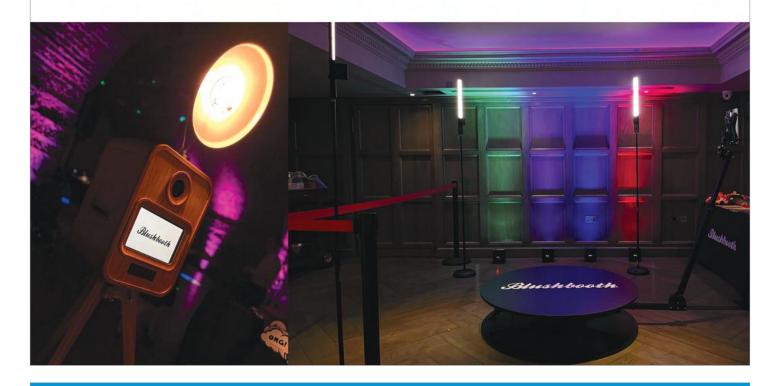


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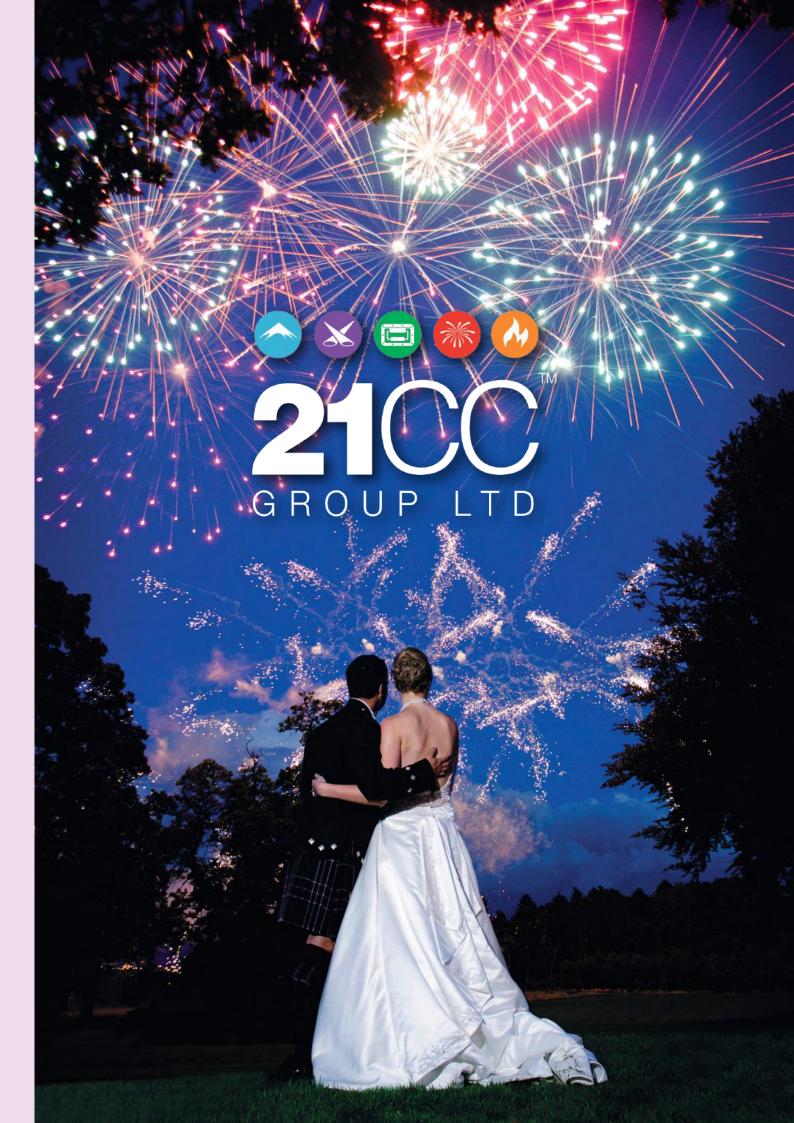


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Focal point

Love the great outdoors? Well, you'll find plenty of beautiful backdrops for wedding photos across Scotland.
Here, Scottish photographers share some gorgeous images captured outside

et's face it, the weather isn't always on our side in Scotland, but that's no reason to stay indoors for your wedding photos!

If you're determined to make the most of the stunning scenery close to your venue, or capture some atmospheric shots for your album, then all you have to do is be prepared for whatever the elements deal you on the day.

Having a professional who knows the ropes is also the key to getting those memorable shots in the bag. If you love fun and adventure, then seek out a photographer whose personality and portfolio resonates with your dreams for the day.

From beautiful sunshine and calm waters, to windswept mountains, rain, hail or snow – wherever you find yourselves, seize the moment like these couples and their photographers...





"I loved Heidi and Glyn's wedding. They got married in the picturesque village of Killin, nestled in the Scottish Highlands, and it was an intimate celebration surrounded by breathtaking mountains and serene lochs, giving us so many beautiful settings to choose from when it came to the couple photos."

LAURA, LAURA A. TILIMAN PHOTOGRAPHY



≪ "Beach weddings aren't the most obvious choice in Scotland. so when they work out like this, they feel extra special. Kirstin and Alan had a small. intimate wedding at Crear, one of my alltime favourite wedding venues, on the far west coast of Scotland. Both writers, they're a deeply creative couple which came across in every element of their wedding, especially in the iconic outfit choices, which really help to set this photo off against the backdrop of the unmistakable Paps of Jura."≫ **EUAN. EUAN ROBERTSON**

EUAN, EUAN ROBERTSON PHOTOGRAPHY





↑ "This image was taken in March 2024 at Sligachan, Isle of Skye, with the snowy peaks of the Cullin mountain acting as the perfect backdrop. Quinn and Lewis officially tied the knot two days before in Fort William, surrounded by close family and friends. Two days later, we met on Skye for an adventure session. We started at Sligachan where the couple exchanged their personal vows to each other. It was cold – very cold – but you'd never know it from the pictures. We went for a relaxed walk following their vows, which is when this moment was captured. I love this image as it really shows how I love to work... amongst the wilderness with relaxed and adventurous couples. I don't want couples to look at the camera. For me, that breaks the intimacy of the moment. It's not about me, it's about them and their story."

DAVID, DAVID GRANT SIMPSON PHOTOGRAPHY

"Having originally planned a large wedding, when Covid restrictions kicked in the plans hit the skids. During the pandemic Ashley and David travelled around Scotland when allowed and fell in love with Camusdarach Beach. So, they started to plan an intimate waterfront wedding. The only hiccup was the date was November and there was no viable plan B. Scotland served up its typical weather and it poured all morning, but 10 minutes before the ceremony the clouds parted, blue sky appeared, and Ashley and David had the most amazing beach wedding. White sands, blue water and isolation with peace and serenity. After, we managed some photos on the waterfront and headed back to the cars before the heavens opened."

ALLAN, BIGGAR PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHY





«"I love photographing in Scotland because of its incredible variety. The stunning landscapes create breathtaking backdrops, while the beautiful architecture of cities like Glasgow adds unique character. This photo combines both elements — natural light enhances the urban scenery, creating a romantic and unforgettable atmosphere."

PAUL, PAUL BUDZIŃSKI PHOTOGRAPHY

"Stunning landscapes create breathtaking backdrops"

≫ "Golden hour is my jam! I adore a sunset backdrop on a wedding day. This image from Cat and Iain's wedding at Kinkell Byre isn't one of my typical golden light shots but it sticks in my memory for that exact reason. Had it been a cloudless sunset we wouldn't have ventured as far as we did to get this shot, and we probably wouldn't be able to see as much of St Andrews in the background of the image. Cat and Iain wanted some time away from their wedding party, and I was obsessed with capturing the amazing connection this couple had together. The light was by no means perfect, but this shot is one of my faves."

VICTORIA, VICTORIA PHOTOGRAPHY





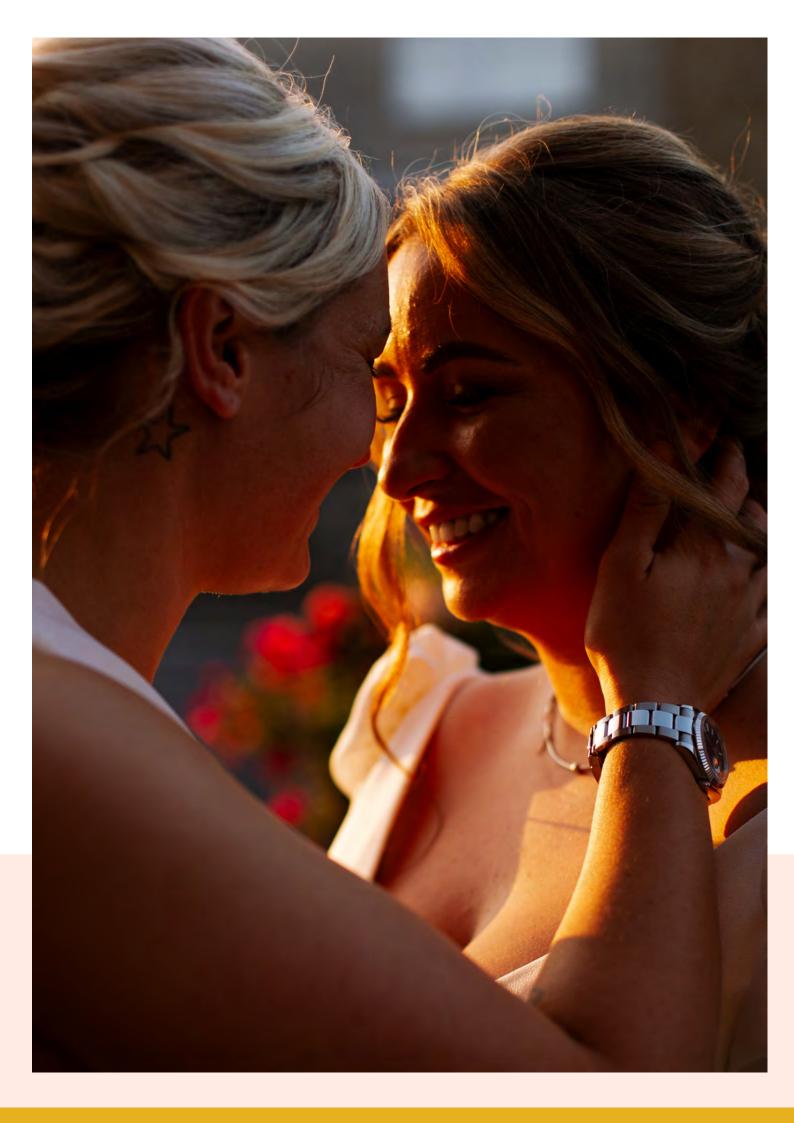






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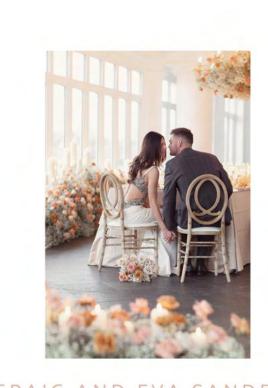


GENUINE MOMENTS OF JOY +

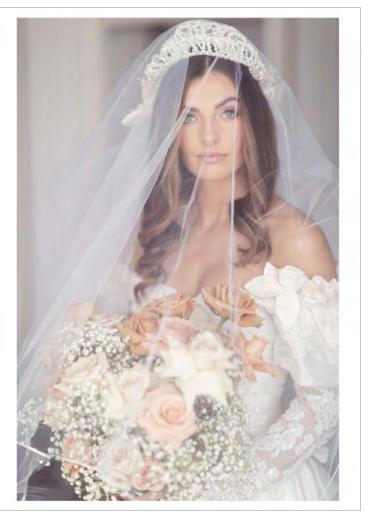
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"Supercomfortable but sexy." There's so much to love about this beautifully curated, relaxed and fun-filled barn wedding or some, wedding planning is a breeze. For others, especially when they're running a business and renovating a house at the same time, it can be a little more full on! "It's only now it's over that I'm realising how much time and

energy it took," explains Vivienne, who owns Miss Vivienne Lingerie.

For her and partner Greg (who you may recognise from *YSW*'s 'I do' diaries), their first priority was finding a venue to cater to their pretty specific needs. "We had 170 guests all day and we wanted a Saturday in July within the next year. It's almost a miracle we found one," smiles the bride.

Thankfully, Kingsfield Barn could accommodate them – and had lots more to offer too. "We loved that we could get creative with it. We also loved the owner. She was so friendly and communicative. And the animals were also pretty cute!" They decked the place out with as many DIY deets as possible – Vivienne's creativity and Greg's joinery expertise standing them in good stead – and they embraced all the bright colours loved by the bride. "We made our arches for the ceremony, the cake stand (that Greg put on wheels for ease), our doughnut wall, our welcome sign (that doubled as a post box), our timings arch, napkins, place settings, bud vases, table plan, invites, table numbers and my wedding robe, lingerie and garter. For our guest book, Greg crafted a stunning solid wood tabletop for everyone to sign. Now, we'll seal it and use as our outdoor dining table."

Making a statement

For her look, Vivienne wanted to feel "super-comfortable but also a little sexy" and tried to be as open minded as possible when she hit the shops. She visited four boutiques then circled back to the first place she'd been. Vivienne decided on the second dress she'd ever tried on; a soft, billowy organza gown from Allure Bridals with a huge train, a front split and a super-flattering Bardot neckline (a sweet nod to the fact Vivienne was in a Bardot dress the night she met her husband-to-be). She searched for months for the perfect shoes – orange satin peep toes with a big bow on the front and ankle straps – and, despite her ultra-specific criteria, the pair popped up one day! "I wore a silk garter I made for myself and chose to go with a bare neck, which I felt was a statement in itself," she adds.

"For my wedding gift, Greg surprised me with the most beautiful diamond earrings, which I wore on the day. The night before, my mum gave me her grandmother's ≫









"We could get creative."



engagement ring, which is more than 100 years old. It didn't match my nails but I wore it anyway because it definitely has some good juju in it!"

That evening, Vivienne and her sisters got massages (team YSW loves this pre-wedding idea!) then had a hot tub session before heading to the Champany Inn in Linlithgow for dinner. She remembers feeling more anxious than anticipated – "I think I was worried about everything going to plan," – then woke up exhausted after only about three hours' sleep. "I wanted to see Greg so badly and knew I'd feel better the second I saw him," she says.

She walked down the aisle to *Buy Dirt* by Luke Bryan and Jordan Davis, and the couple tied the knot in an interfaith ceremony. "It was important to me that my Catholic faith was recognised but Greg wasn't brought up in a faith. Because of that, and with the fact it would've been tricky to find a church nearby that could take 170 people, we kept it all at the same venue and with an interfaith minister. I'd highly recommend Barbara to anyone who likes a genuine, kind and calming presence."

Afterwards, everyone was served beer and fizz, and the couple's entertainment included a gin horsebox bar and a guitar trio playing all their fave country tunes. The wedding breakfast was all about Italian vibes – pizza, pasta and ice cream – and the speeches ranged from heartfelt to hilarious.

Not to be missed

Vivienne describes the atmosphere at the reception as being incomparable to anything she's ever experienced. She remembers sprinting to the loo and back because she didn't want to miss a second! And a quick costume change meant Vivienne was free to let her dance moves loose! "My friend Jillian had brought a back-up white mini dress, just in case we ended up at a club after the wedding! I changed into that and it was like the party started. I was so happy in that little white dress!"

The couple had a DJ – who said it was the best atmosphere he'd ever felt at a wedding – and a sax power hour. "When the saxophonist came out, the roof nearly came off the barn! He took things to the next level and all I remember is thinking: 'this is the best night of my entire life'. Even the friends and family that never get up to dance were cutting some serious shapes. It was hilarious."

Photographer Sarah of Joy Story stayed on to capture the fun of sax hour and Vivienne was delighted – in fact, dancing with Greg at this point was the highlight of her whole day. "Sarah's photos are incredible. So many candids (that are actually flattering!) of everyone, which would have been hard considering we had 170 guests. She even had an emergency sewing kit in her car which we needed after the first dance. I can't tell you how amazing this woman is!"



"The best night of my entire life."







BRIDE'S DRESS

Allure Bridals at Aimee Bridal Couture

BRIDESMAID DRESSES

Cicinia

CATERING

Fallones Pizza & Gelato

GV Events Borders Ltd

FLOWERS

Love in a Mist Florals HAIR

Hair by Luci **HORSEBOX BAR**

GV Events Borders Ltd MAKE-UP

Stephanie Ferry Makeup

MINISTER

Barbara Campbell

RINGS

Beaverbrooks

SAXOPHONIST

Man With The Red Suit

TRANSPORT

Linlithgow Classics

VIDEOGRAPHY

White Tree Wedding Films



PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"Vivienne and Greg went all out on DIY styling and décor for their big barn wedding and WOW! When a talented creative and a joiner are getting married, there's just no stopping them! I have never seen a couple have so much fun on the dance floor at their wedding. This is the vibe you've been looking for." ■ SARAH, JOY STORY



It's easy to see why Lauren and Gavin fell in love with The Dougarie Boathouse...

DATE: Saturday 7th September 2024 VENUE: The Dougarie Boathouse, Isle of Arran PHOTOGRAPHY: Ursula Kelly Photography

or some newly engaged couples, venue hunting may feel a little daunting. How on earth do you uncover the hundreds and hundreds of beautiful Scottish venues? Then drill them down into a shortlist to visit? Then decide on a clear winner, worthy of staging one of the most important days in your life - all while trying to navigate post-question-popping excitement and the other extensive aspects of wedding

planning? It's not always easy... But for high school sweethearts Lauren and Gavin, it totally was - thanks to a competition in Your Scottish Wedding! "After seven years together, Gavin proposed with a ring he'd had designed at Blair & Sheridan in Glasgow and we wanted to get married relatively quickly," explains the bride. "The fact we won our venue -The Dougarie Boathouse on the Isle of Arran - made it possible and real all at once. We'll always be so grateful for that."



Meant to be

The pair hadn't seen The Dougarie Boathouse before but as soon as they found it on Insta, they fell in love. "It seemed like the perfect place to get married with its rustic interior and beautiful scenery," adds Lauren. From there they pressed on with booking all the big suppliers and managed to save time on DIY décor due to the natural beauty of the venue - all it needed was some beautiful blooms. They steered clear of any specific theme and focused on keeping things simple and stress-free. Their naked cake came from Marks & Spencer (with talented florist Eleanor levelling it up, big time!) and they opted out of favours. Instead, they put money towards post-ceremony drinks at the bar for their guests. What a fab idea!

"At the start it was full on, enquiring with all the suppliers. But once we secured them I felt better. I did lots of planning in bulks rather than bits and bobs, which worked for me. Generally, planning was OK. But in the final few weeks before the wedding, there were lots of small details to sort," Lauren remembers.

The big day
Lauren and her 'maids (to whom she'd 'proposed' by designing a personalised newspaper with their pics and stories that was wrapped around a bouquet of flowers) had a chilled yet busy wedding morning, which zoomed by. "Before I knew it, it was time for some of the friends I'd asked to be there in the morning with me to get on the bus. We always agreed the last song would be Unwritten by Natasha Bedingfield and it was surreal knowing next time I'd see them would be walking down the aisle. My favourite moment of the wedding morning was definitely my dad ≫



seeing me and the drive to the venue. It felt so special."

Dressed in her elegant, fitted gown ('Dionne' by designer Rebecca Ingram), Lauren made her way down the aisle as an acoustic version of *Simply the Best* played. She'd kept the song a surprise from Gavin and her dad, knowing how much it would mean to them. And when she saw her husband-to-be, she couldn't resist excitedly hugging him before her dad got the chance to 'give her away'!

They tied the knot in a humanist ceremony that was light, fun and a great reflection of their story so far. Lauren had worried beforehand about stumbling over her words – but she nailed it, and just basked in the joy of standing saying her vows after all the planning they'd done.

Time to celebrate

With the sun shining, a drinks reception outside was a natural choice, "It was like being abroad," smiles Lauren. "We had Binky Blue playing traditional folk music, which was perfect." Next, it was a street food-style wedding breakfast for the newlyweds and their 54 guests. "We wanted a relaxed atmosphere where people could get up and mingle if they wished. After the wedding everyone kept telling us how much they enjoyed the food so it seemed to be a hit."





With being on the Isle of Arran it was day guests only so no new arrivals to consider, meaning Lauren and Gavin just needed to concentrate on celebrating! After a set of brilliant speeches ("I can't wait to watch them all back on video," smiles Lauren), the DI took centre stage and kept the floor full all night. "It was lively and happy. Being surrounded by all our close family and friends at night was my highlight - particularly when Taylor Swift's Love Story came on!"

The couple admit that not much has changed day-to-day

since they said 'I do' but they love knowing they're married with an exciting future ahead. Now, Lauren's top tips for to-beweds would be not to overthink it (coming from an overthinker!), to do their research and to prioritise what's important to them. And, of course, to have fun! "The best thing about planning was definitely getting my close friends involved. Every decision had to go past them and prosecco nights in, spent talking about what was planned and still had to get sorted, were amazing. I truly couldn't have done it without them!"





BRIDE'S DRESS

'Dionne' by Rebecca Ingram at Aimee Bridal Couture

BRIDE'S SHOES

Rainbow Club BRIDE'S VEIL

Ftsv

BRIDESMAID DRESS

Pretty Lavish **CELEBRANT**

Robbie Sharpe of Humanist Society Scotland **CAKE**

Marks & Spencer CATERING

Regis Banqueting

DJ

DJ Louis 7 Seven **FLOWERS**

Eleanor's Flowers

HAIR

Island Hair & Beauty

MAKE-UP

Makeup with KatieMac MUSICIANS

Binky Blue

TRANSPORT

Stagecoach VIDEOGRAPHY

Ursula Kelly Photography



PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"From Champagne and *Unwritten* singalongs at bridal prep to Taylor Swift-fuelled Love Story dance floor magic, this wedding was pure joy. Their connection shone as they exchanged surprise gifts, both asking, "How's Lauren?" and "How's Gavin?" Golden light, a beach backdrop, and an epic sunset—a dream and privilege to capture in photos and film." ■

> URSULA, URSULA KELLY **PHOTOGRAPHY**





Two brides with two statement styles, celebrating a whole lot of love in one incredible setting

fter sixteen months together, Laura proposed to Kara at the kitchen table - and Kara proposed to Laura just seconds of puzzles I made for her, the final puzzle spelt out the question. Kara immediately left the room and returned with a ring and the same question for me! We both said yes," explains Laura.

They planned to marry in 2020 before the pandemic hit and decided to go ahead with an elopement at this stage, hoping for a much bigger event with family and friends in the future. "It was just us and a judge in a little Texas courthouse," says Kara who is originally from America.

Four years and four days after marrying, they renewed their vows and finally got to share the celebration with their loved ones. They chose The Signet Library in Edinburgh, somewhere that had caught their eye back when they got engaged. "It's a truly stunning location and we could see our day coming to life there. They offered all we could ask for and more, and we knew it was The One," Laura says.

They wanted to embrace and emphasise the venue's beauty, leaning into it with a starry night-themed colour palette, forestlike greenery and sparkly candles. Finding talented local suppliers who went "above and beyond to make our vision come to life" meant the couple had very little on their DIY list. But they did have fun sourcing a few things together, like the polaroid cameras, the whisky tasting bar and their favours, which were gold sun and moon pins from Macmillan Cancer Support.



some ideas in mind and did some trying on but couldn't seem to tick all of her boxes with one single gown. Laura, meanwhile, was in two minds. "I knew what I didn't want. But I wasn't sure whether to go for a traditional kilt or tartan suit. In the end, I wanted to be comfortable and confident on the day, so opted for a tartan suit," she says.

Made to measure Having worked with Mette Baillie at Freja

Designer Dressmaking in the past, Laura sought out her expertise again to create her bespoke suit. Her chosen tartan went perfectly with the celestial wedding theme and she had fun designing her jacket; a dark navy velvet number with a silk lapel. Laura finished off her super-stylish look with a tartan waistcoat, a gold tie, black boots, and a black and gold Casio watch, a gift from her wife-to-be.

Encouraged by her other half's recommendation, Kara headed to Freja Designer Dressmaking too. "After a couple of sessions Mette had drawn out a dress design, and we picked out materials and lace. She created an initial template for the dress in calico and after a few sessions the final dress (an ivory gown with silken layers and floral details) came together. The last sessions were spent pinning each lace detail to the sleeves, bodice and train to complete the dress. I couldn't have been happier with the end result," she smiles.

The night before the big day the pair honoured a tradition from Kara's side of the pond and hosted a rehearsal dinner at Divino Enoteca in Edinburgh. It was the first time the majority of their family members had met in person, so after a little more fun than planned it was a slightly later-than-anticipated start in the morning! "There were bridesmaids and family members popping between suites to ensure everything was running smoothly and photographers were helping dress some of our first-time kilt wearers. It was a bit all hands-ondeck. But also brimming with excitement as we >



"Brimming with excitement."







"A truly stunning location."

knew we'd see each other soon," Laura explains. Taking the edge off the nerves with a first look (at The Witchery where they'd been getting ready), they walked down the aisle together before starting their vow renewal. Humanist celebrant Candice had helped them prepare their vows, making sure the words they'd said to one another in Texas were incorporated. "Those felt important to repeat, to reaffirm our commitment to one another. It also added another layer about what marriage meant to us and how we saw our lives together."

Afterwards, The Scottish Soul Collective played some jazz for the guests while the newlyweds snuck away for an early look at the upper library, all beautifully decorated for the wedding breakfast. "We spoke and laughed and danced on the dancefloor in a private, stolen moment of the day. It was amazing," remembers Laura.

After a fantastic wedding breakfast and heartfelt speeches – "the adoration and support from our friends and families shone through the jokes, the teasing and the laughter, and we felt so loved," – the band took to the stage again, this time as a full eightpiece. "There was lots of love and joy throughout the day but especially at the reception," remember the pair. "Everyone was thrilled to be mingling; people from across continents coming together with good food, good wine and good music. We hoped the reception would feel like a midnight dinner under the stars and it really did. We couldn't have asked for better."

Reflecting on the journey

Thinking back to the planning process, they admit the toughest thing was making sure they didn't miss anything ("There were so many details and although Kara tracked things on a massive spreadsheet there were still so many moving parts, deadlines and details to pull together"), whilst the best part was picking the food and wine. We couldn't agree more!







BAND

The Scottish Soul Collective

BRIDES' OUTFITS

Freja Designer Dressmaking CATERING

Heritage Portfolio

CELEBRANT

Candice Dillen of Humanist Society Scotland CAKE

SugarDaddy's Bakery **FLOWERS**

Occasions of Eyemouth **HAIR AND MAKE-UP**

Laura Gray Hair Beauty Bridal **STATIONERY**

2Flux Stationery Studio

VIDEOGRAPHY

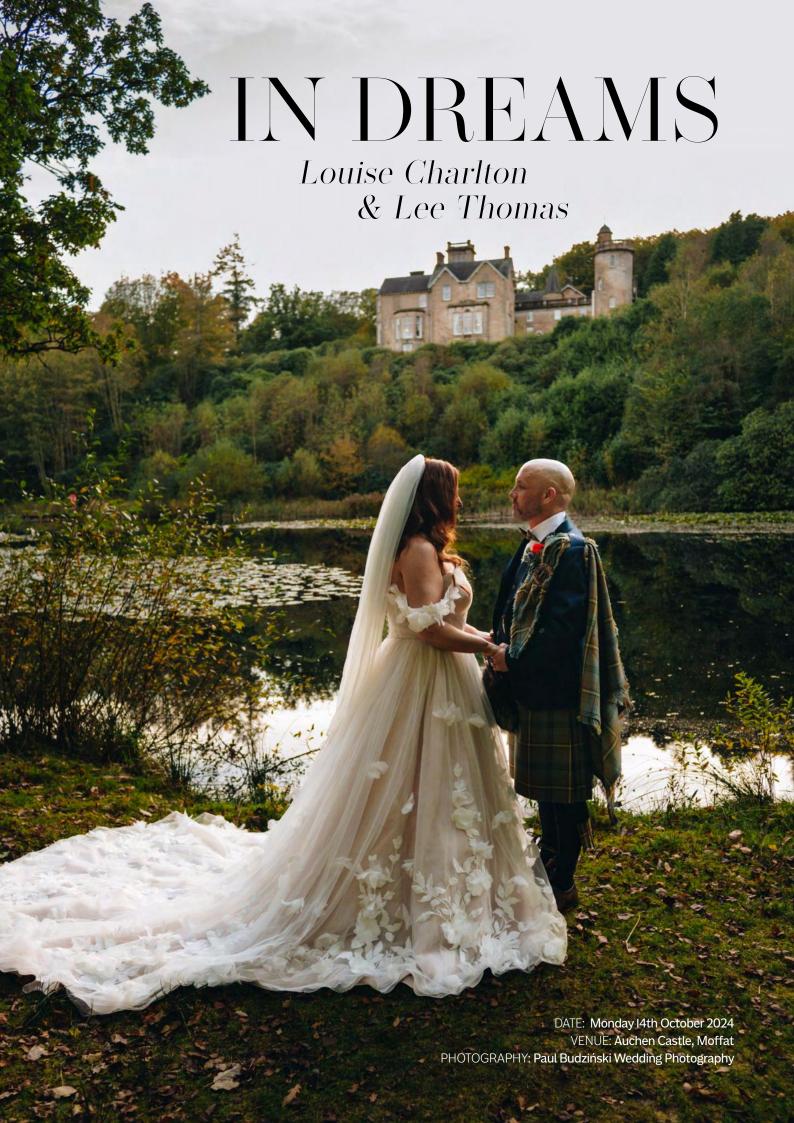
Afterglow Wedding Films



PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"Kara and Laura's wedding was such an incredible clash of cowboys and kilts. Their day was so authentically them and being surrounded by their nearest and dearest made it all the more special. Photographing their love was such an immense privilege." ■

SAMANTHA, MAD HOUSE **WEDDINGS**





Our columnist Lee tied the knot with bride Louise in a magical autumn ceremony ee met his soulmate
Louise in 2011 while
on a work night out.
He was in the military
then, and about to be
posted to a new location. "We
bumped into each other on the
dance floor and the rest is history.
I'm still convinced it was my

dance moves that sealed the deal, but I'm sure Louise would say otherwise... She may have taken pity on me instead! It was fate that we met each other that night as we would not have seen each other again with me moving away," he explains.

After eleven happy years together, Lee proposed at Culdees Castle Estate near Crieff. "I got so nervous, I proposed a day later than originally planned!" he reveals. And with a "yes" in the bag, the couple's first priority was deciding on what type of wedding they were going to have. Lee was thinking of a tropical island getaway, whereas Louise wanted a big white wedding. They found themselves in a dilemma, but then Lee came round to the idea.

"We knew we needed a venue that could fulfil all our requirements and dreams. With 90% of our guests travelling from outside Scotland, it was important to find somewhere magical, whilst also providing a one-stop shop." Lee says. "We instantly fell in love with Auchen Castle when we saw it, but knew we hit the jackpot after our first meeting with the staff. We walked away thinking how incredibly lucky we were." They went for an all-inclusive package complete with preferred suppliers to keep stress to a minimum – and were not disappointed! The colour scheme was an autumnal theme of burnt orange, reds and gold for flowers and table décor.

Like clockwork

Louise always wanted a white flowing dress, but says she only really knew The One once she had tried it on. "It was 'Elena' by Essense of Australia, plucked from the runway and dropped into a modern-day fairy tale. The dress was a ballgown style, with textured gathered tulle forming a structured sweetheart bodice with a deep plunging neckline."

Louise had 10 members of her wedding party. Two were maids of honour (her sister and her life-long best friend). Also in the mix were three incredibly cute flower girls and five bridesmaids. All were a mixture of friends and family – and one special bridesmaid was Lee's daughter. "With a big autumnal colour scheme, I did not want to have too many other vibrant colours going on for the dresses. I wanted to keep it subtle, but classy so I opted for a warm dusty pink colour," Louise explains. >>>









"The whole castle was full of love."

Meanwhile, Lee and his best man had their kilts and outfits made bespoke. "On the day, we both wore the watches we made at Kartel in Edinburgh when I asked Tony to be my best man."

Booking the castle for the evening before meant guests had a chance to settle in and relax after their long journeys before enjoying a barbecue. "Having our friends and family in one place for longer was a dream come true."

After a great night's sleep, Lee and Louise awoke ready for the big day. They parted company at 6am and didn't see each other again until the ceremony. Louise and her bridal party were whisked away to one of the gorgeous castle rooms where they were treated to breakfast and Champagne. Lee, meanwhile, took time to have a leisurely morning, safe in the knowledge everything was running like clockwork.

Magical touch

When it was time to walk down the aisle, Louise says she was, "nervous, excited and emotional all in one – but excited to see Lee." A harpist played a classical version of *Hallelujah* as she walked down with her father. "It was also really special that Louise's dad managed to walk her down the aisle as he is very ill and just wanted to do this one thing unaided," Lee adds.

The registrar who conducted the ceremony was actually best man Tony's sister and a family friend, lending a real personal touch. And Pitta the ring-bearing owl was a magical moment straight out of the pages of *Harry Potter* – Lee says their 76 guests were in awe!

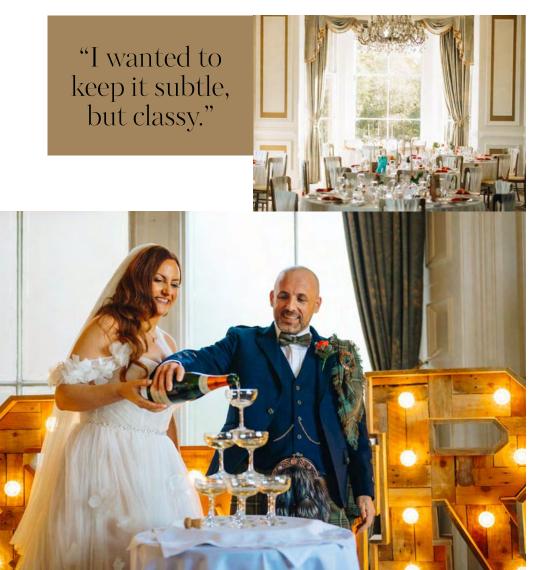
After the ceremony, there was a drinks reception and canapés in the formal gardens, where they enjoyed the gloriously sunny weather not often seen in October. And after a delicious meal and speeches, it was time for the first dance followed by some ceilidhing. Outside, guests toasted marshmallows on the firepit and around 10pm everyone gathered in the gardens with sparklers for more photographs, followed by a stunning fireworks display.

"The whole castle was full of love and happiness for two magical days. We lost count of how many times we were told, 'This is the best wedding we have ever been to,' Lee smiles. "It goes without saying Auchen Castle made our dreams come true and gave Louise the fairy tale wedding she dreamed of."











BRIDE'S DRESS

Essense of Australia from Eleganza Sposa

BRIDE'S SHOES

Bella Belle

BRIDESMAID DRESSES

Melle Cloche CAKE

Sweets by Ola

CELEBRANT

Louise McCutcheon

CONTENT CREATOR

Bow & Arrow Wedding Content Creation

DÉCOR

The Wedding Room **ENTERTAINMENT**

The Kilted Caricaturist, The Scottish Magician, Firepit Hire Scotland

FAVOURS

The Marshmallow Lady **FLOWERS**

Bell's Florist GROOM'S OUTFIT

Kapital Kilts

HAIR

Elegant Bridal, Bonnie & Bold Hair

MAKE-UP

Elegant Bridal, Makeup By Hania

MUSIC

Callum Scottish Piper, Nicky McMichan Scottish Ceilidh Band, Pip Smith Harpist, Phil Campbell

RINGS

Timothy J Sharp, Goldsmiths

STATIONERY

The Wedding Room, Com Bossa Luxury Wedding Invitations, Finishing Touch



PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"Louise and Lee's wedding at Auchen Castle was one of the most significant photographic events of this wedding season for me. I love photographing in venues like this, where the light is perfect, and my couple radiates love." ■

PAUL, PAUL BUDZIŃSKI WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY





Yasmin and Joe celebrated the coming together of different cultures at their beautiful country house wedding in Dumfries and Galloway

asmin and Joe first met at university in Glasgow in 2014. "We were originally flatmates in halls, and friends for four years before we got together," Yasmin explains. "Joe proposed to me when we were on holiday together in Lisbon, in the beautiful apartment we were staying in. He hung up photos of us from throughout the years all through the apartment, which led to the balcony where he was waiting with the ring!"

They had been together just over four years – and had known each other for eight. They ended up tying the knot a week after the 10-year anniversary of their meeting.

Getting the planning underway, they knew the venue would unite the whole vision for the wedding, so a couple of weeks after getting engaged they began searching. "We looked online before booking viewings. Kinmount House was just so perfect for us," says Yasmin. "It felt like something out of a movie. The house itself was grand and ornate, with romantic gardens and a stunning lake which we knew we would want to be featured in the wedding. It also had a fantastic space for dancing, something we were very keen to be a focus of the evening!"

Being a September wedding, they wanted to add some autumnal elements. "We also loved the idea of bright colours, so we ended up with a multi-coloured wedding theme with orange, red and yellow at the core."



Because Yasmin's mum owns wedding dress shop Isobel Florence Bridal, she had seen a lot of gowns before. "I was nervous nothing would feel special, so I wanted something that was still bridal, but a little bit different," she explains.

"Unsurprisingly, I went to my mum's shop to find my dress. Although it's somewhere I have worked myself before, we treated the whole day like I was a regular bride. My mum's colleague Stephen took the appointment while my mum and I enjoyed the experience. My bridesmaids joined us too. I also went to see the designer of my dress in London after choosing it and took my auntie and mother-in-law."

Yasmin's 'Versaille' gown by Eliza Jane Howell was in a custom pale pink with antique silver beading. "The dress was beautifully embroidered with rose motifs and featured cutout shoulders with beaded tassels. I adored how delicate and detailed it was, and that it was a little different from other dresses I had tried on – but still incredibly bridal."

Yasmin also chose 'Suzy', a red evening dress also by Eliza Jane Howell in a custom length, as a homage to her Chinese heritage. She wore a gold lotus necklace by Amelia Ray Jewlry that Joe gave her on the day of the wedding as a gift, and her auntie made a veil and custom hairpiece to go with it. Yasmin's six bridesmaids all chose their own style of Sorella Vita dress in either burnt orange or teal chiffon. And her mum also turned to Eliza Jane Howell, choosing her gorgeous gown from the designer's Gill Harvey collection, which she stocks in her boutique.

Meanwhile, Joe surprised Yasmin by choosing to wear a kilt. "I'm Scottish, but he is English and swore he would never wear a kilt – much to my disappointment. I expected to see him in a suit at the end of the aisle. Instead, he wore a tartan kilt and a burnt orange tie to match the colour scheme."

Deep breath Yasmin and Joe had a small celebration

Yasmin and Joe had a small celebration the night before in the croft at Kinmount House. "We also did a traditional Chinese tea ceremony where we presented our elder family members with tea in exchange for gifts and words of wisdom on marriage," she remembers.

Yasmin admits it had been stressful in the run up to the wedding, but the morning was ≫



"I just couldn't stop smiling."







"This was a really special day for me because Yasmin and Joe are close friends of my daughter Dorothy. She was one of the lovely bridesmaids so we got to share being part of the fabulous event together! Joe and Yasmin put a huge amount of thought into every detail. In spite of this they didn't have any anxiety about the ceremony itself, but were clearly totally wrapped up in the moment together."

JOSEPHINE KING. FUZE CEREMONIES

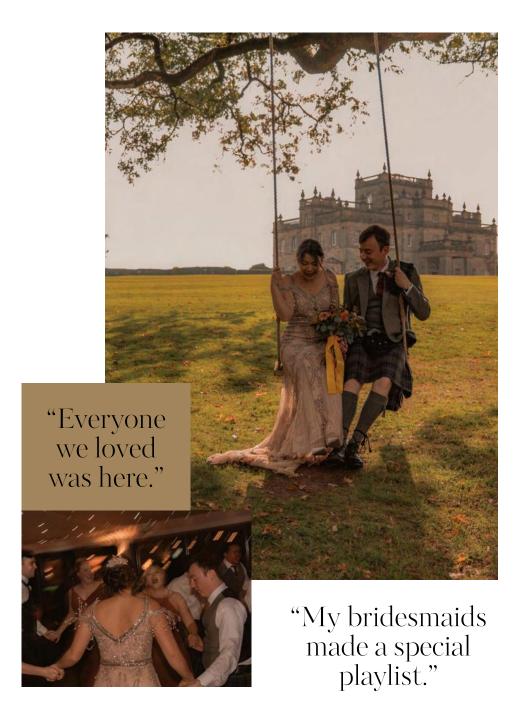
relaxed, and she was ready to hang out with her 'maids! "My bridesmaids made a special playlist with upbeat music to keep us going. I loved seeing everyone get their hair and make-up done, and also secretly enjoyed messaging the groomsmen to do lots of tasks while I got to sit and relax." However, that didn't hold Joe, his groomsmen and cousins back from having a morning swim in the lake!

"I was really emotional just before I walked down the aisle," Yasmin recalls. "I was ready to cry, but didn't want to be teary when I saw Joe, so I took a deep breath, hugged my dad and then just felt excited. Then when I saw Joe in a kilt, I just couldn't stop smiling."

Yasmin walked in to *God Only Knows* by The Beach Boys played by Strings Con Amore and their humanist ceremony including a handfasting. "We opted not to write our own vows and saved our words for speeches and letters to each other, which were delivered in the morning. It was nerve-wracking at first, but we managed without stumbling!"

Afterwards there were drinks and canapés through the house and garden for their 78 guests, along with Brooklyn from MacLànan Live Event Painting capturing the day. The reception kicked off with a surprise performance by Hung Ga Lion Dancers and the energy continued with their band getting everyone on the dancefloor. "Everyone was mingling with each other and drinks were flowing! It was such an amazing part of the day because we could really take it all in that everyone we loved was here in one room for us."

Yasmin says the day goes by so by quickly, so if you can extend things in any way, you should. "We did a small party the night before for the bridal party and family, and we also did a family brunch the next day. We were lucky we could do these too because it really meant we had three days to chat to people – most of whom we only see once or twice a year! Even if it's just a dinner the night before at a restaurant, take this time to catch up and then the wedding day has less pressure to make sure you talk to every person."







BRIDE'S DRESS

Eliza Jane Howell at Isobel Florence Bridal

BRIDE'S SHOES

Perfect Bridal Shoes
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Amelia Ray Jewlry, Harquin Designs MAKE-UP

Makeup by Hania, Makeup at the Mansion

MUSIC

Cassien, Strings Con Amore

RINGS

Aardvark Jewellery, Monaghans

TRANSPORT

Dumfries Limo Company

VIDEOGRAPHY

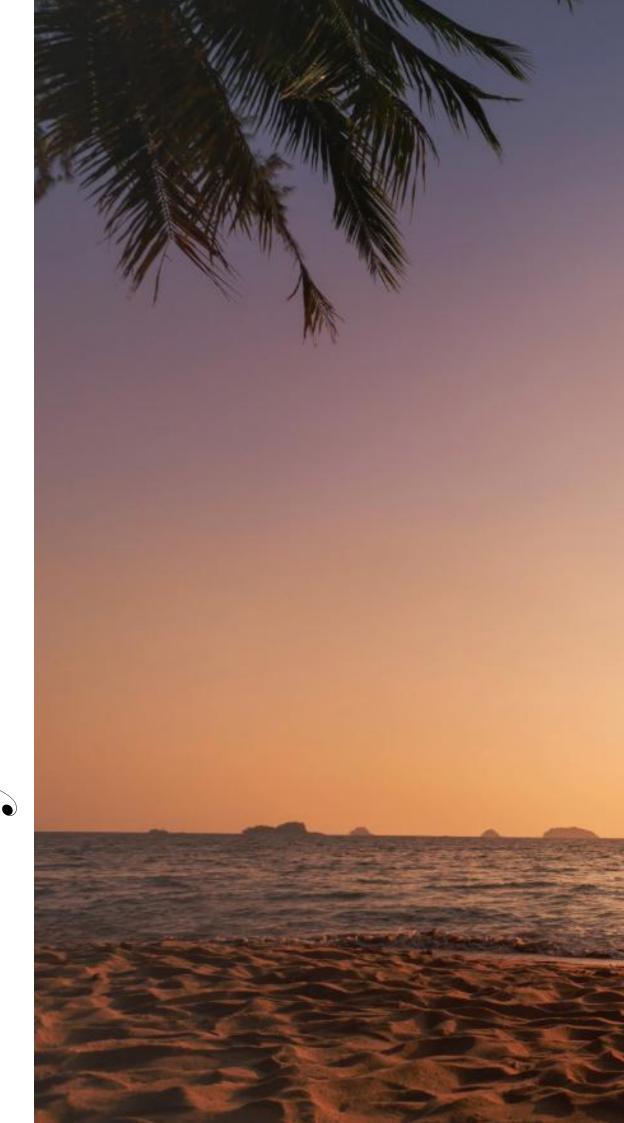
Edward Jones Photo & Film



PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"The whole day was stunning and, as a wedding videographer and photographer, I couldn't have asked for anything better. For me the best part is the party, and the dance floor was packed – which was great to see. Overall, one of the best weddings I've been to." ■

EDWARD, EDWARD JONES PHOTO & FILM









PLANNING YOUR DREAM DAY

WITH THORNE TRAVEL

Planning your wedding and honeymoon with Thorne Travel ensures a seamless and unforgettable experience. As a multi-award-winning travel agency and specialists in weddings and honeymoons, we help you find the perfect destination and venue.

We understand that every couple is unique, and so are their needs. That's why our services include customised travel plans that fit your schedule, ensuring your special moments are celebrated exactly when and where you want. With in-resort coordinators on hand to manage all the final arrangements, you will have peace of mind and the freedom to enjoy your celebration without any stress.

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- Our team of UK-based Wedding Specialists are dedicated to finding the perfect venue that matches your vision and needs. With extensive local knowledge and connections, they can uncover hidden gems and exclusive locations that may not be readily available through conventional channels.
- Collaborating with various suppliers large and small, we can provide you with an unparalleled wedding experience.
- As an independent travel agency, we offer unique benefits that you won't find with larger, more generic travel providers. Our independence allows us to provide a more personalised service, with tailored recommendations and insider tips that enhance your overall experience.
- Being ABTA members guarantees a secure booking experience, allowing you to embark on your adventure with confidence!

We went into honeymoon planning thinking we might do a cruise or go to Greece, but with Thorne Travel's help and advice we have booked the most incredible safari adventure in Tanzania and Zanzibar!

We are thrilled and so excited!

S.Howie



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motion a partially-planned itinerary.

You see I'm a born planner who lives for organising the next holiday, so it baffles me when I talk to couples who haven't given much thought to their honeymoon with just a few months to go to the wedding. However, if you're immersed in planning the actual day itself, the postwedding break may feel like a distant dream and something to be organised only once you've fine-tuned the canapés and order of service.

Enter the honeymoon planner, travel agents focused on delivering the afterwedding holiday of your dreams, even when you're not yet sure yourselves what shape those dreams are taking. It's their job to help you decide where you want to go, how action-packed or chilled you want it to be and just how to make it happen. We've teamed up with Thorne Travel's honeymoon specialist Amanda Mckinlay to put together a handy dos and don'ts guide to honeymoon planning...

DO - SET A REALISTIC BUDGET EARLY

Discuss your honeymoon budget as soon as possible to set clear expectations, prioritise must-haves, and avoid any stress later. Amanda says, "Having a budget in place makes it much easier to decide on destinations, accommodations, and activities."

DO - CONSIDER BOTH PREFERENCES

"Honeymoon planning is a shared experience, so it's essential to listen to each other's dreams and ideas," says Amanda. "Even if one of you envisions a beach escape and the other prefers exploring a city, a thoughtful planner can help blend your visions for a honeymoon that's uniquely yours."

DO - WORK WITH A HONEYMOON PLANNER FOR A MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

Honeymoon specialist Amanda is an invaluable resource. She will use her experience to help you get the most out of your budget, tailor suggestions to your interests, and combine both of your ideas into one cohesive, amazing plan. Planners like Amanda often have access to exclusive packages or upgrades and can ensure your honeymoon goes off without a hitch — leaving you free to simply enjoy. She says,



"This collaborative approach will help you create lasting memories that will stay with you for a lifetime."

DON'T - LEAVE IT ALL TO THE LAST MINUTE

Last-minute bookings can mean higher costs and limited availability. According to Amanda you should aim to start planning and booking at least six to nine months in advance, especially for peak season. This also gives you room to make adjustments if needed.

DON'T - OVERSCHEDULE

Try not to pack in too many activities or excursions each day. "Remember, this is a time to relax and focus on each other," says Amanda. "Plan for free time to explore at your own pace and take in the moments together."

DON'T - DO SOMETHING JUST BECAUSE YOU THINK YOU SHOULD

If you're not a beach person, for example, don't feel pressured to choose a destination like the Maldives just because it's considered the picture-perfect honeymoon spot. Amanda says, "The perfect honeymoon is one that reflects your unique relationship and interests, whether it's a cosy cabin in the mountains, a bustling city, or a cultural immersion in a new country."

Compromise is key

I've interviewed countless couples celebrating golden or diamond wedding anniversaries over the years and invariably their pearls of wisdom and tips for a long and happy marriage include the words "A bit of give and take". It may sound like a cliché, but clichés exist for a reason and compromise through all elements of a relationship and marriage goes a long way. This of

course can extend to honeymoon-planning too, especially if you have different visions of what your big trip should entail. Working with a honeymoon planner can help you find the best ways to balance and blend your ideas, and, according to Amanda, "allow you to enjoy a honeymoon that's relaxing, fulfilling and memorable in every way!" To make things easier though, she's provided some pointers for planning together...

BLEND TRAVEL STYLE - Look for a destination with both relaxation and adventure options. She says, "Beaches with nearby hiking trails or cities with nature day trips are excellent choices."

ALTERNATE DAYS FOR DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES - Plan

some activities on alternating days, so you each get to indulge in experiences that excite you while sharing time together.

SURPRISE EACH OTHER WITH THOUGHTFUL TOUCHES - Add

personal touches for each other, like a surprise spa day, a special dinner, or a hidden adventure. "These gestures can create unforgettable moments, ensuring you make memories that will last a lifetime," adds Amanda. ≫



Walk on the WILD SIDE

If you're ready to unleash your sense of adventure post-wedding, **Thorne Travel** has selected two perfect honeymoon options, exploring South Africa and all it has to offer

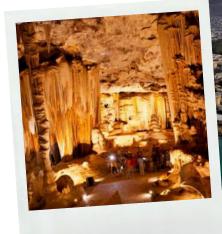
Cape Town, the Garden Route and the Big Five Safari

Animal-lovers this is the honeymoon for you! What better way to kick off married life than going in search of the Big Five in South Africa? But don't be fooled into thinking you'll be spending your entire time on a game reserve. You'll find plenty of other expertly-curated activities to keep you busy during your 12-day sojourn, including penguin-watching, visiting some of South Africa's finest vineyards and exploring Cape Town itself.

Begin your honeymoon with a direct flight from Glasgow to Cape Town before transferring to the seaside town of Hermanus, calling at Stony Point, home to a unique colony of African penguins, on the way.

After spending your first night in Hermanus you'll journey to the Garden Route Game Lodge in the heart of a privately-operated reserve. This is your home for the next two nights. Set in the shadow of the Langeberg mountains, you'll get to experience real bucket list safari games drives in search of the Big Five (lions, rhinos, elephants, leopards and buffalo) before returning to the comfort of your lodge and enjoying typical African dinners.

On day five of this amazing adventure you'll travel to Oudtshoorn, the ostrich capital of the world, in the heart of Little Karoo plain. The world's largest birds have been farmed here for 130





years and you'll get to sample a taste of their high-protein meat with a barbecue lunch before you visit the famous Cango Caves. Get up close and personal with the stalactites and stalagmites before you head on to Mossel Bay for your next two nights.

We said this honeymoon was varied and during your stay at Mossel Bay you'll get to travel to coastal Knysna for a cruise on the lagoon, followed by a guided 4x4 trek up the headland. Then for a total change of pace it's off to wine country with a tour of the vineyards of Franschhoek and, of course, some tastings.

On day eight it's on to historic Stellenbosch before taking a journey to Cape Town, where you'll stay for the next three nights. An orientation tour will take in historical landmarks like Castle of Good Hope, the House of Parliament and Company's Gardens. Then if the weather's on your side you'll ascend the iconic Table Mountain in a rotating cable car that offers a 360-degree view as it climbs.

The next day you're up early to take a trip along the scenic Hout Bay and the Cape Peninsula and on to Cape Point, the headland overlooking the most southerly point. You'll board the cable-drawn Flying Dutchman Funicular for a ride up to the summit and breathtaking views over the South Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

The rest of your time in Cape
Town can be spent exploring the
Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens or
perhaps scoping out the infamous
Robben Island where Nelson
Mandela was imprisoned. Finish your
honeymoon in style exploring one of
the most beautiful cities in the world.
This amazing 12-day honeymoon
departs from Glasgow and has
dates available from January 2025
– December 2026, with prices from
£3,249pp. The package includes
8 excursions and 16 meals. Prices
correct at the time of going to press.



Safari in Kruger National Park

If a honeymoon in South Africa is more about the safari and less about the sauvignon blanc then this itinerary is definitely worth looking into. This amazing trip includes an all-inclusive six-night stay at the Camp Bethel luxury tented safari camp, located by the Kruger National Park. The intimate family-run resort is comprised of just six canvas-style elevated tents in the heart of the African bush – allowing you to experience an authentic safari holiday.

Your flight departs from Edinburgh, arriving in Johannesburg where you'll meet your tour guide and transfer to Sanctuary Mandela Johannesburg where you can spend a relaxing afternoon unwinding before dinner at the lodge before bed.

On day two you'll take the scenic trip to Camp Bethel, your home for the next six nights. The tents are spacious, en suite and feature private wooden decks, boasting views of the bush. This is your chance to encounter the zebra, kudu, nyala and warthog which frequently wander through the camp.

On your first night you'll meet other guests around the campfire at the communal boma area before dinner on a wooden deck overlooking the bush. Make sure you keep your eyes peeled for a glimpse of the resident bush babies!

The next day it's time for your first full-day safari in Kruger National Park and the chance to see the iconic Big Five, alongside birdlife including vultures and eagles. Today's safari explores the southern part of Kruger, which covers almost two million hectares of terrain, and you'll love the open-air safari which takes in this unspoilt paradise and goes in search of the elusive leopard.



Day five of your wild honeymoon takes in a wildlife rehabilitation centre, where they take care of injured and poisoned animals which unfortunately cannot be re-released into the wild. You'll have the opportunity to get up close with cheetahs, African wild dogs and vultures, and learn about the vital work done at the facility, including its studies on the movement and behaviour of leopards.

After lunch you'll also have the chance to join an optional Blyde River Canyon boat cruise which takes in sights including the 'living' Kadishi Tufa Waterfall and the Three Rondavels rocky outcrops. And of course there's even more wildlife to take in. Look out for hippos, crocodiles, antelope and African fish eagles.

A further morning safari and optional night safari on day six give you even more opportunities to spy on the resident buffalos and elephants, before day seven is all about a panoramic mountain tour in the Drakensberg Mountain Range,

taking in the Blyde River Canyon, God's Window, named because of its sweeping views of the Lowveld below – and the Lisbon Waterfalls.

A final full day at the camp includes another morning safari, a nature walk, and Nyani cultural village tour, before a farewell barbecue dinner. This action-packed honeymoon will definitely serve up memories to last a lifetime!

This 10-day honeymoon departs from Edinburgh and has one remaining date available January 2025 – December 2025 (other airport options are available), with prices from £2,878pp.

The package includes 7 excursions and 21 meals. Prices and availability correct at the time of going to press.



This actionpacked honeymoon will definitely serve up memories to last a lifetime



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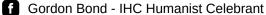
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The Church of Scotland

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- a minister to conduct your wedding...
- you must be in a heterosexual relationship...
- you have no say in what happens in your wedding ceremony...
- · that every wedding is the same and not personal...
- · having a minister conduct your wedding

tell you the REAL story and be part of your special day.





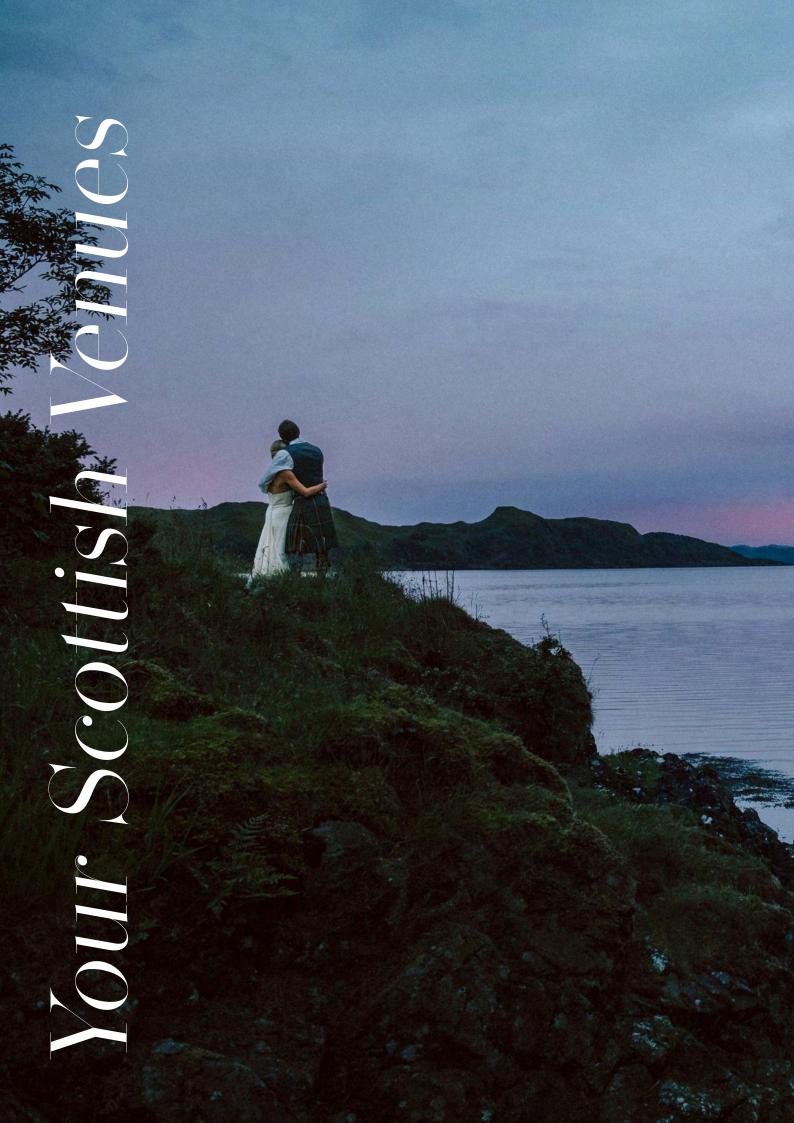
The Presbytery of Forth Valley & Clydesdale fvandc@churchofscotland.org.uk | 01698 285672



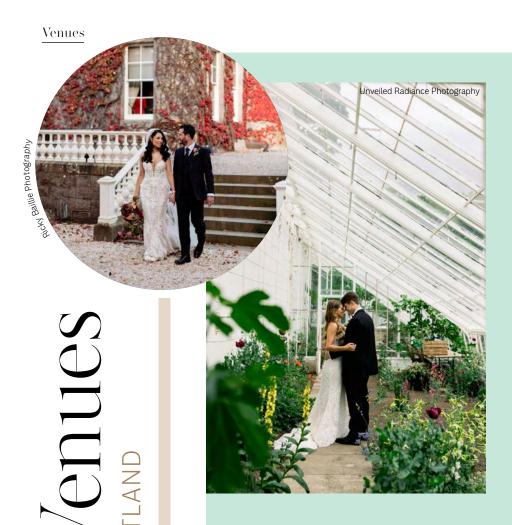












New year, new trends Events director at Carlowrie Castle, Jen Cusick has been busy working with couples to make their dream wedding day a reality. And in doing so she's come upon some key trends for couples looking to bring their venue to life in 2025 and beyond. "We're seeing couples bringing vibrant florals back into fashion. It makes the day feel fun and bright for those who prefer a less traditional style. Our walled garden and historic glasshouses are perfect locations for photoshoots that incorporate the colourful outdoors," says Jen. "We've also noticed that Champagne towers are very 'in'. Pouring Champagne into a perfectly balanced pyramid of glasses is a theatrical experience and a wonderful photo opportunity. We love working with our couples to find the perfect song to play during the Champagne pouring. And it sure does get the party started!"

New Angus venue

After a year-long restoration, the Victorian steading at Kinclune House and Estate has opened its doors... and it's definitely worth a look! Blending heritage style and modern amenities, couples can book this baronial mansion house and the steading venue for up to 120 guests. Nestled on a private estate in the foothills of the Angus glens, Kinclune is an award-winning, family-run organic farm with a grand party barn, a ceremony/reception room and an enclosed courtyard. The development has been a labour of love, says partner and business manager, Aylwin Pillai, "My husband and I married in the steading in 2003. But it became derelict and this was our last chance to save the beautiful old building." Kinclune House opened for holidays and small celebrations in September 2023 and boasts five-star reviews across the board! The wedding offering launches in May with the house and venue available to book together for exclusive use

destination weddings. **KINCLUNE.CO.UK/WEDDINGS**

SPECIAL OFFER FOR YSW READERS: Book a wedding package in May or June 2025 for just £II,250 for 50 guests (additional guests up to I20 at £57 per head). This includes venue hire and three nights' accommodation in Kinclune House for the wedding couple and eight others, plus corkage, catering and bar service.

CARLOWRIECASTLE.CO.UK



More space at Bachilton Barn

A charming rural venue with modern touches, Bachilton Barn combines chic design with a chilled atmosphere. And this year it'll be extending its main barn to boost the number of guests you can invite. "It will allow seated dinner capacity of around 200 instead of the current 160, and evening receptions for around 250 instead of the current 180," explains the venue's awardwinning wedding coordinator, Kayleigh Deans. The extension doesn't mean tying the knot on a more intimate



scale is out though. "To keep the space multifunctional we will fit a curtain that can make the room smaller or bigger, in place of the current wall. The curtain will match the current pleated fabric on the celing... So, this means there will also be more fairy lights coming to the barn!"

BACHILTONBARN.CO.UK

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

If you love the sound of everything Bachilton Barn has to offer, make sure you head along to their first open day of the year on Sunday I6th February, Ilam – 2pm.



Check out The Cow Shed Crail

Nestled on the outskirts of Crail, a pretty village in Fife's East Neuk, The Cow Shed Crail boasts stunning sea views across the Firth of Forth to the Bass Rock and East Lothian, and offers couples the freedom to style this blank canvas venue exactly how they wish for their wedding.

Opened as a venue in January 2016, The Cow Shed Crail has gone from strength to strength with countless couples starting their happily ever afters here. And what's not to love? The venue itself has plenty of scope for weddings of all different sizes with a number of indoor and outdoor spaces to choose from - as well as onsite accommodation and the muchphotographed Crail Harbour a stone's throw away for your couple shots.

Want to check it out for yourself? Make a date to come along to The Cow Shed Crail's open day on Saturday 11th January, 12 – 4pm. No ticket is required, and you can see inside the venue and accommodation options, plus meet some great wedding suppliers. Keep up to date with the wedding experts who'll attend on the day on the venue's Instagram page. ≫

THECOWSHEDCRAIL.CO.UK



Luxe lodges and more at Mar Hall

Luxury Scottish wedding venue, Mar Hall Hotel, Golf & Spa Resort, has secured planning permission to bring 30 new luxury lodges to life within its 240-acre Scottish estate. That's not all though – from spring 2025, to-be-weds can explore the newly redesigned public spaces and bedrooms within the main mansion. "The renowned design team has paid tribute to the hotel's history while welcoming a modern touch that elevates the resort with a timeless elegance for decades to come," explains Gemma Wayne-Wills, head of marketing at the venue. Meanwhile, the lodges (also due for completion in spring), will add a further 48 rooms to the hotel's curent count of 70 - perfect if you're hosting a large wedding with lots of out-of-towners. You and your guests will find a range of exquisitely designed one, two and four-bedroom lodges that blend an elegant rustic style with modern comfort - and boast beautiful river and hill views. It really is the perfect pre- and post-wedding retreat, especially given each lodge's lavish dressing area, super-king bed and outdoor terrace (with a hot tub)! If your guests fancy exploring after the festivities, each lodge comes with a set of bikes - what more could you ask for? Those looking for a less intense activity, however, can unwind in the hotel's newly refurbished pool and spa. Lush!

MARHALL.COM



Al fresco I do's at Eden Leisure Village

Adding to its appeal as a gorgeous rustic country wedding venue (complete with luxury glamping pods!) Eden Leisure Village has revealed its new woodland ceremony area. "We find couples are looking for something that will stand out and be a little bit different," says owner Janet Gracey. "Having already seen the demand for photos in our woodland here at Eden Leisure Village – and the desire and delight shown by couples and photographers in these surroundings - it was a natural next step to offer a ceremony area in the woods." Janet and the team have been overwhelmed by the reaction of couples and guests - why don't you check it out?

EDENLEISUREVILLAGE.CO.UK

Take a look at Teasses

If you fancy saying 'I do' in the picture-perfect surroundings of a Walled Garden with the option to stage your intimate ceremony in a Victorian greenhouse or hold your reception in a garden marquee, Teasses Estate near Ceres in Fife could be your ideal venue. Micro-weddings of up to 40 guests for dinner can be accommodated in the greenhouse, while the marquee has space for up to I20 and we've not even mentioned the stunning flowerbeds that form the backdrop to nuptials here.

Want to find out more? Head along to the estate for its wedding open day on Saturday 3rd May and discover just how your big day could play out at Teasses.

TEASSES.COM



Ready to go at Tinto A beautiful new function space at Tinto Hotel,

the country house-style wedding venue in South Lanarkshire, is officially open and ready for to-be-weds to view. The Cairn Suite, named after the famous stone cairn at the top of Tinto Hill, is a purpose-built space that can accommodate wedding breakfasts of 150 or receptions with up to 200 guests. There's an adjoining bar, too. General manager Leanne Forrester says the room has been "amazingly well-received," with couples especially loving the bespoke interior design. She adds, "The focal point of the room is the two large chandeliers. They are an attractive centrepiece during the day, that then add atmosphere at night with their colour-changing options. These, plus the built-in LED dance floor and stage lighting, mean the Cairn Suite doesn't need much in the way of additional décor." **TINTOHOTEL.SCOT**





Exclusively yours

How do you fancy having the run of your very own private estate for the duration of your wedding? Tucked away in rural South Ayrshire you'll find Ladyburn House, an exclusive-use estate perfectly set up for luxury, boutique weddings. Picture exchanging vows under the majestic oak tree or hosting your elegant reception in the estate's Garden Pavilion Yurt. Then when it's time for bed, there is plenty of accommodation for up to 20 of your nearest and dearest to stay over. Sounds like the idyllic setting for your dream luxury wedding.

LADYBURNHOUSE.CO.UK





All-inclusive from \$2,025! The team at Manorview is

encouraging Scottish to-be-weds to enjoy stress-free wedding planning with their all-inclusive



packages, which start from just £2,025. Covering all the essentials for your special day (with some packages including extras like a DJ, flowers and a cake) this is definitely fantastic value. Oh - did we mention a stay in one of the luxurious honeymoon suites is

> included? What a blissful start to married life! You'll find eight Manorview venues across central Scotland (Boclair House, Bowfield Hotel & Spa, Brisbane House, The Busby, Cornhill Castle, Lynnhurst, The Redhurst and The Torrance), all with a range of stylish settings for your big day.

MANORVIEWHOTELS. CO.UK/WEDDINGS

Winter weddings at Winton Castle

Here at YSW we reckon you can't quite beat a romantic, cosy winter wedding in an enchanting Scottish castle. But it seems you can - with a Scottish Renaissance castle near Edinburgh that offers to-be-weds 20% or more off their rates during November, January and February! "We take great joy in creating bespoke weddings, helping couples incorporate those personal touches that ensure their special day is one guests remember for all the right reasons," explains Johanne Falconer at East Lothian wedding venue, Winton Castle. "The beauty of Winton lies in the freedom it offers your guests, allowing them to explore all seven interconnected rooms of the castle at their own pace. The generous, varied and inter-linked

reception spaces comfortably host up to I20 with no need to venture outside. But the floor-to-ceiling Drawing Room and Library windows let you take in the gardens from the warmth of the castle's two best lounge spots, each boasting warming open fires." With the nights drawing in early during the winter months, the experienced Winton team can organise a candlelit wedding breakfast with everything from sharing feasts to marshmallows toasted on the roaring log firepits. So dreamy! ≫

WINTONCASTLE.CO.UK/WEDDINGS





Food glorious food

Fife-based Pratis Barns is bringing in the new year with a new menu, courtesy of the gorgeous rustic venue's awardwinning in-house catering team. "We're passionate about delicious food. Every party should start with good food and drink," smiles owner Nicola Gilmour. "At Pratis Barns, everything is always homemade, bursting with flavour and as local as possible. We make no sacrifices on quality when catering for a big crowd. Our 2025 menu is packed full of mouthwatering dishes. And we can't wait to work with more tobe-weds to make unforgettable memories."

PRATISBARNS.COM

Readers' offer!

Weddings at Forgans in Broughty Ferry and St Andrews are always pretty special, but *YSW* readers have even more reason to enjoy their big day at these gorgeous venues, thanks to this amazing offer. Couples who book a Forgans wedding and quote "**YSW**" will receive a complimentary glass of fizz for each of their guests on their wedding day.

We love Forgans' expertly-curated interiors, not to mention the mouthwatering cuisine, so this offer just makes a wedding in either venue that little bit more celebratory.

FORGANSBROUGHTYFERRY.CO.UK and FORGANSSTANDREWS.CO.UK





Call for Champagne at The Exchange

Introducing the only exclusive use venue in Glasgow city centre (outwith hotels) where the bride/ groom can get ready in a truly lush parlour with a bar and a Call for Champagne button... It's The Exchange! Now exclusively available to the venue's betrothed couples, The Parlour provides a peaceful oasis before and during the big day. It's a comfy, chilled area where the bridal

party can get ready at their leisure in complete privacy. And it's so Instagrammable - light, bright and decked out with gorge beauticians' chairs and vanity stations. Simply pop on your playlist and clink your Champagne glasses... Then press the call button should you wish for a top-up to be delivered! When the formalities are over, pop back for a quiet moment with your new spouse – or a quick mirror check before your entrance to dinner. PS. We love the idea of using The Parlour to have a first look with your loved one - a rare slice of calm amongst the revelry!

THEEXCHANGEGLASGOW.CO.UK



A new vision at Fasque Fasque Castle, one of

Aberdeenshire's much-loved wedding venues, has been bought over by the owners of beautiful Broxmouth Courtyard in East Lothian. New owners Susan and Simon Flame have grand plans for the 215-year-old exclusive

use property in the village of Fettercairn, levelling up the wedding offering for sure. You can expect an in-house catering team, more on-site accommodation and management expertise from Broxmouth Courtyard. Plus the Flames' background in renovation and interior design means some of the spaces within the venue will be revamped. We can't wait!

FASQUECASTLE.COM



Happy anniversary!

This year Citation, the iconic Merchant City venue, is celebrating its fourth year as one of Glasgow's exclusive use wedding venues. Back in July 2021, Citation hosted its first ever wedding where the couple and their guests enjoyed having the whole space to themselves. "The building is steeped in history, having been Glasgow's sheriff court building in a previous life, then a popular bar and restaurant. We saw a real gap in the market for an exclusive use venue in the city centre," explains Pauline Muir, sales, events and weddings manager at Citation. "This year is set to be a celebration of all the love stories that have taken place there ever since."

CITATION-GLASGOW.COM

Elope to the Isle of Arran

uzie Olsen photography

Designed for couples seeking a private, romantic escape amidst breathtaking natural beauty, the Dougarie Estate has launched its exclusive elopement packages, which include a two-night stay in one of the venue's charming cottages. They sleep up to four (so your witnesses can stay over too!) and combine

timeless charm with modern comfort. "These packages ensure every detail is taken care of, allowing you to focus on what matters – each other," explains events manager Malin Stewart. "You can choose from several picturesque spots on the estate for your vows, whether you prefer a stunning walled garden, a charming woodland, a serene riverside setting or a space by the loch nestled in the hills."

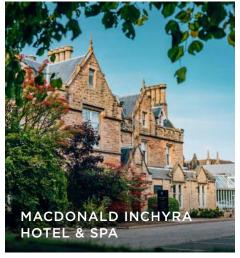
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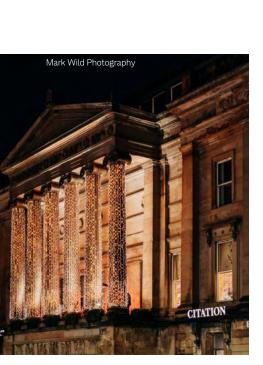
CITY SLICKERS

f you've started stalking Scottish wedding photographers on Insta, you won't need us to tell you city weddings are super-chic and make for some of the coolest images you can get on your big day. From the bright lights and buzz of traffic to the architectural masterpieces that double up as breathtaking backdrops, urban weddings are a photographer's paradise. Not to mention the fact they're really convenient too. Transport links are (sometimes literally) right on the doorstep, there'll be a range of accommodation options nearby and you'll find plenty of shops on hand – because you're bound to have forgotten something, like tissues, mints or safety pins! Tying the knot in one of Scotland's cities definitely gives you a winning wedding formula...

V Citation

Located in the heart of Merchant City yet tucked away within Citation's towering columns is Glasgow's best kept wedding secret - The Balcony. Iconic yet understated, this is the perfect place from which to appreciate the grandeur of your surroundings (and the ideal spot for some incredible golden hour photographs with your new spouse)! Chic backdrop aside, this luxurious venue has so much to offer. It's elegant and historic, vibrant yet rustic and it's all yours. Enjoy exclusive use for you and up to I30 of your faves - plus 70 more at night. Whatever your wedding vibe, the team will make it fit. They host intimate nuptials and grand affairs, and offer everything from midweek packages to twilight weddings.

CITATION-GLASGOW.COM



⋆ The Exchange

Standing proudly on The Royal Exchange Square in Glasgow, nestled between Buchanan Street and Queen Street, you'll struggle to find somewhere with more of a metropolitan mood than The Exchange. One of the city's newest wedding venues, this A-listed sandstone building boasts rich, luxurious interiors, unrivalled urban views and a sophisticated neutral backdrop you can style to suit your wedding. Capacity at The Exchange ranges from 60 guests to I20, and each versatile space (there are four rooms, three private bars and one hidden outdoor terrace) is totally gorgeous. We must admit we've fallen for The Parlour, a multi-functional penthouse that's spacious, light-filled and all about sleek design. It's the perfect spot for relaxed, fun-filled bridal party prep!

THEEXCHANGEGLASGOW.CO.UK



* The Georgian House

You may have visited this magnificently restored Edinburgh town house to appreciate its fine collections of paintings, costumes and period furnishings, or to see a fashion show or even to meet Santa Claus! But did you know this glorious space is a stylish city wedding venue too? Set in the heart of Edinburgh, just a stone's throw from the west end of Princes Street, the grand 18th century building is cared for by the National Trust for Scotland. Perfect for smaller celebrations, you can invite 50 guests to your ceremony and drinks reception (imagine sipping Champagne and enjoying beautiful views over Charlotte Square Gardens) whilst 30 people can tuck into an intimate wedding breakfast in the elegant Drawing Room.

NTS.ORG.UK/VENUE-HIRE/THE-GEORGIAN-HOUSE/WEDDINGS

Virgin Hotels Edinburgh

Charming, quirky and everso-picturesque, Edinburgh's Grassmarket area is an iconic part of the city for wedding photographs and Virgin Hotel is ideally placed to take full advantage of this! Formerly Cowgatehead Church, the unique venue blends iconic Victorian architecture with distinctive contemporary design and has so much to offer. From Greyfriars Hall - a beautifully restored space with vaulted ceilings and a

magical intimate atmosphere - to the luxe Scarlet Lounge, which oozes style with its plush red furnishings, to the dreamy roof terrace with iconic skyline views, you're going to be spoiled for choice when it comes to deciding where to say 'I do'. Then there's the accommodation... The rooms and suites are to die for with castle views, sumptuous lounge areas and décor that's both daring and distinctive.

VIRGINHOTELS.COM/EDINBURGH



Mean Venues Edinburgh

Looking for a quirky, atmospheric and totally magical venue where you can celebrate your marriage, hidden underneath the hustle and bustle of city life? Well, we've got three for you! Let us introduce you to Unusual Venues Edinburgh, a family-run company with a trio of exclusive use venues in Edinburgh's Old Town - perfectly positioned for Royal Mile photos. For weddings of 70 to I50 (and 200+ in the evening), The Caves feels like a romantic fairy tale castle. Tucked under the 18th century South Bridge, it's full of historic charm, modern facilities and a lot of flickering candles! Equally moody and dramatic, The Rowantree has space for between 50 and 70 day guests, and up to IIO later on. Marlin's Wynd, meanwhile, is a characterful space for a more intimate wedding.

UNUSUALVENUESEDINBURGH.COM



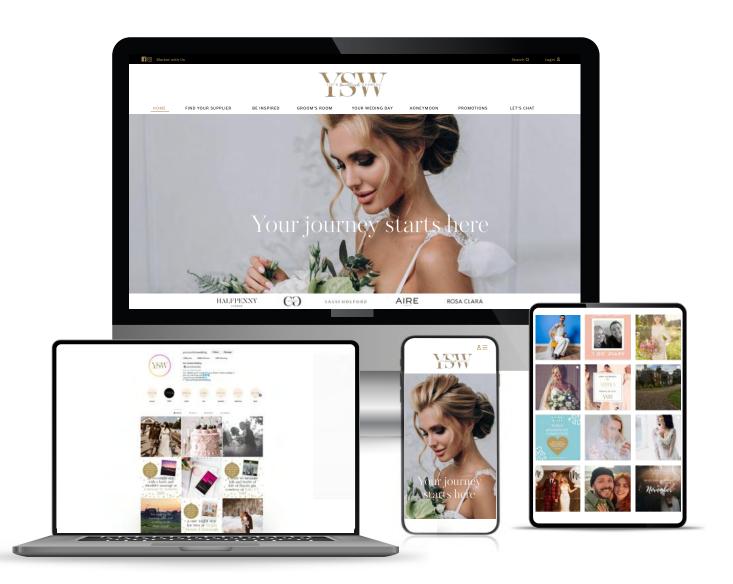
» The Weaving Shed If you're looking for an unconventional and industrial yet chic

celebration, meet The Weaving Shed. It has all the charm of a country barn but sits in a convenient city centre location. With roots in Dundee's historic textile industry, the funky former factory is a light and bright building. And its superflexible layout is a gorgeous blank canvas on which to paint your wedding vision. That said, the lovely team will supply fairy lights, and handsome wooden tables and benches - all of which beautifully complement the building's exposed brickwork, beams and skylights. In terms of your guest list, this one-of-a-kind city space hosts I40 during the day and 60 more to get the party started later on. Oh – and did we mention the outdoor courtyard? It's the cherry on top!

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Aberdeen, Grampian, Highlands & Islands



A romantic castle wedding with gorgeous DIY details and a firm focus on making magical memories

DATE: Saturday 4th May 2024 VENUE: Cluny Castle, Sauchen PHOTOGRAPHY: Fire & Ice aving been together more than 10 years before tying the knot, English couple Rowan and Martyn knew each other inside out and there was no question over where they'd be saying their vows. "We love any reason to come to Scotland," explains the bride. "Although we live seven hours away and the distance was the biggest challenge when organising, it was so worth it. And I have to admit, I loved the planning!" She continues, "I did what I could and was at peace with potentially not getting everything done. I found every supplier was an absolute

dream and we chatted regularly to make sure everything was sorted. I felt all I had to do was plan the finer details and enjoy the ride that is wedding planning."

The couple wanted a stunning yet historic location and with neither of them being religious, a castle was the perfect option. "I wanted a venue as beautiful on the outside as it was on the inside. We also wanted an exclusive space for our nearest and dearest to celebrate, and one that allowed us to spend the most amount of time possible together. Time is precious to us."

Cluny Castle, an ever-so-romantic and much-loved family home in the tranquil



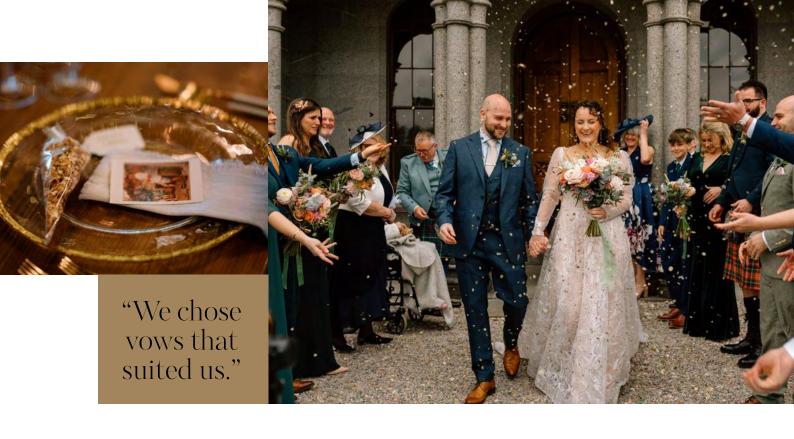
Aberdeenshire countryside, was the only location that ticked every box – especially because they'd be able to start the wedding weekend on Friday and keep it going until Sunday. The dealbreaker, though, was checking Fire & Ice (a supplier Rowan had her eye on for a long time) were available for photography and videography on the chosen date... Thankfully it was a yes!

Rowan's original vision was a dark blue and gold colour scheme but as time went on, her ideas evolved and she was drawn to shades of green. It was a mutual fave colour for the bridesmaids' dresses, and they planned to use confetti from a eucalyptus tree in their garden. A lover of DIY, this bride's projects ranged from hand stamping the eucalyptus confetti to hand dying and cutting linen napkins. "Every month, my nearest and dearest ladies got together and had a craft evening to make all things that made the day so special. I loved making the wedding so unique to us. We did our own invites, place names, sweetie table, découpage letters, favours and candle holders. For place names we printed photos of our 65 guests and it was a great conversation starter between those who had never met."

When it came to her outfit, the only 'must-have' was a gown she'd never seen before. Her multi-layered, sparkly Evie Young Bridal dress was stunning with a sweetheart neckline, baggy detachable sleeves (that Rowan altered to be slim fit) and delicate embroidered leaf detail, which she loved. Her best gals (two childhood friends, her sister and her sister-in-law-to-be) were given free reign with their attire and after collectively agreeing on green, each bought their dream dress. "I loved how beautiful and different each one was," adds Rowan.

Precious time begins

Making the most of their wedding weekend, the tobe-weds hosted a gathering full of love and laughter the night before the big day; the perfect opportunity for those who had travelled up from England to ≫



relax. The following morning, Rowan woke calm and collected (whilst Martyn was overcome with emotion). "Because we were sharing the castle with our nearest and dearest, the morning was so special. Country Flavours supplied us with breakfast and I had a nice slow start to the day," she remembers.

Going all in with the Scottish vibes, Rowan walked down the aisle to *Highland Cathedral* on the bagpipes. She and Martyn said their vows in a personalised humanist ceremony. "Mary gave us a few options for the vows and we chose ones that suited us. Because we'd been together for more than 10 years, we didn't feel we needed to go exceedingly soppy."

Everyone celebrated with wine and Champagne (bought by vino fan Martyn on a trip to France), whilst the super-friendly team at 10 Dollar Shake were on hand for some "incredible" cocktails. The couple loved Country Flavours' bespoke approach to the wedding breakfast, giving them the option to choose everything from the menu and set-up to the plates and cutlery. "We had a





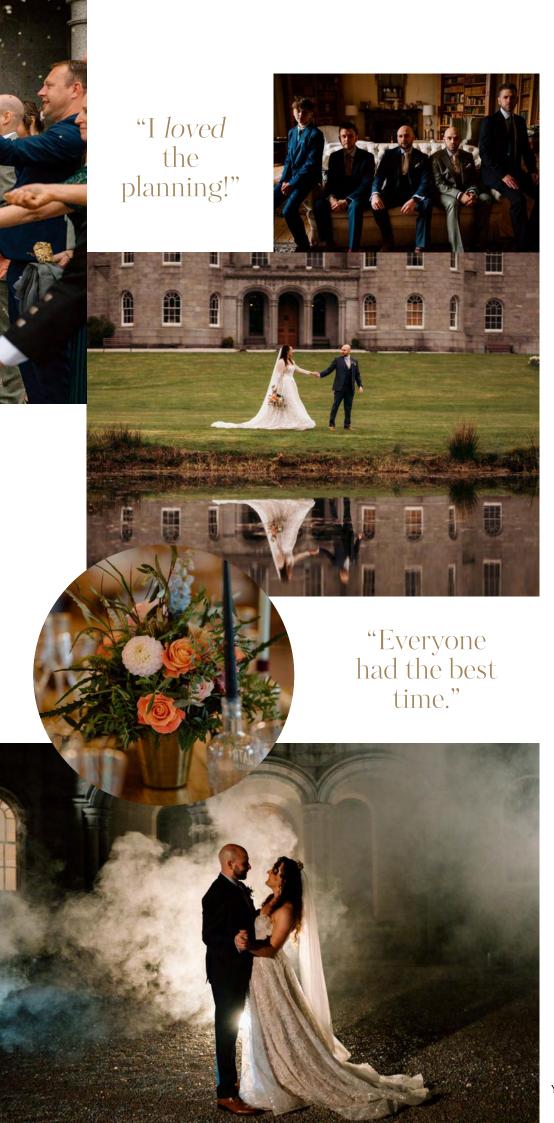
2pm ceremony and decided to make the canapés our starter then serve the main meal, dessert and coffee at 5pm. We didn't want people waiting too long to eat – or to be stuffed with three courses in quick succession."

The good food carried on later in the evening too, with a 'posh chip station'. Country Flavours served twice-cooked fries with lots of options for pimping them up. "It was everyone's peckish 10pm dream!" Rowan smiles.

Thinking back

Reflecting on the experience, Rowan would advise others to

remember that their special day can be anything they want it to be - and that they shouldn't focus on doing things for the benefit of others. "As a guest at other weddings, how many meals and seating plans do you really remember?" she asks. "Making it truly yours will mean you stood by your intentions, and you'll have no regrets. Also, we had a mostly child-free wedding (except our nephews), which felt like a good decision for us. It meant a lot of our guests had to have a weekend away from their children but they all seemed to enjoy the break! Everyone had the best time."





BAND

WooHoo Band BRIDE'S DRESS

Evie Young Bridal at Lotte Rose

BRIDE'S EARRINGS

Swarovski BRIDE'S NECKLACE

Evie Young Bridal

BRIDE'S SHOES

New Look CAKE

Portly Byrd Doughnuts CATERING

Country Flavours

CELEBRANT

Mary Gibson of The Celebrant

DÉCOR

Country Flavours **DRINKS**

10 Dollar Shake **FAVOURS**

Popcorn Shed

FLOWERS

XOXO Florist

GROOM'S SUIT

Charles Tyrwhitt **MAKE-UP**

StephM Artistry

VIDEOGRAPHY

Fire & Ice



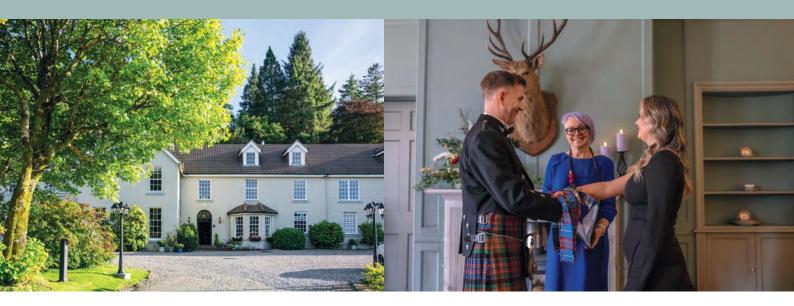
PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"Cluny Castle is a photographer's dream. Rowan and Martyn were such a fantastic couple who allowed us full creative freedom. They were an absolute joy to work with and made this wedding truly unforgettable. We're truly honoured that they chose us to capture their day!" ■

REBECCA, FIRE & ICE



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YSW tour Magnificent Fasque Castle

Katie Bletcher explores this amazing exclusive use Aberdeenshire mansion

asque Castle couples are encouraged to treat the venue as their home for the duration of their stay. And stepping through the doors on a chilly St Andrews Day it's clear to see how you could very quickly feel completely at ease here. Because even though those doors are the doors to a magnificent baronial mansion, we've driven past the estate's very own deer park to reach them, and the venue was once the home of former Prime Minister William Gladstone, Fasque feels instantly welcoming. It's simply delightful.

My eye is immediately drawn to the elegant double-staircase at the far end of the hall and house manager Brooke Sandeman informs me brides typically choose to make their grand entrance down it for their ceremony in the hall, which can accommodate 120 guests. Or if you fancy an outdoors ceremony, you could say 'I do' overlooking the deer. Wherever you decide to marry, the Grand Hall later transforms into one big dance floor for your evening reception with space for 160 revellers. I can just picture a massive Strip the Willow here!

Next door you'll find the Dining Room where breakfast is served for the 42 house guests who can stay across the castle's 19 bedrooms, (accommodation for two nights is included in your hire).

Then it's on to the Bar. Fasque Castle was recently taken over by Simon and





"Decorated in rich wood and aubergine tones there's a decidedly masculine feel to the library."



Susan Flame, the owners of Broxmouth Courtyard, and if you're familiar with that beautiful venue you'll recognise the touch of the new owners here. The couple have big plans for Fasque, which lies outside the pretty Aberdeenshire village of Fettercairn. While work is due to begin on five new second floor bedrooms, they started their transformation with the bar, opening up a middle window and completing the impeccable décor with a stunning chandelier.

The ground floor is also home to the relaxing Drawing Room (used as a break-away space), a Billiards Room (perfect for an ice-breaker the night before) and the West Wing Kitchen, which your loved ones can use whenever they wish. A separate catering kitchen is located in the East Wing and all wedding cuisine is delivered in-house.

The West Wing Terrace is a picturesque setting for an al fresco drinks reception, (or a casual barbecue the night before the wedding), before you ascend the staircase, or lift, for dinner in the Ballroom. It hosts up to 120 and the décor

is light, airy and easily adaptable to any colour scheme.

In complete contrast is the Library, my favourite room in the entire house. Decorated in rich wood and aubergine tones there's a decidedly masculine feel, so it's no surprise this is typically where grooms get ready. But it's also ideal for newlyweds to have a private moment, and some couples even choose to marry here.

Then it's a case of playing pick your favourite bedroom and Brooke says couples have fun compiling their rooming list and deciding who stays in which uniquely-decorated room. The West Wing's master suite is a popular choice with its dressing room located behind the bed, and an award-winning bathtub. (It was unearthed in the basement and restored by the previous owners), while the East Wing is home to the Bridal Suite, and Powder Room, which has space for all your bridal prep.

Castle in a cottage

Following my tour, I walk past the deer park, down to The Garden Rooms, one of the estate's self-catering cottages where we're staying for the night. I say cottage, but with its two turrets it's like a castle in miniature. My husband already has a fire blazing, and we settle in for a cosy night.

Downstairs, The Garden Rooms exudes cottage-core styling but upstairs it takes on a far grander, more romantic appeal, with silver furnishings, velvet curtains, a whirlpool bath and rich brocade wallpaper. It's a cottage fit for a king, queen, or whichever lucky guests stay here throughout your wedding.



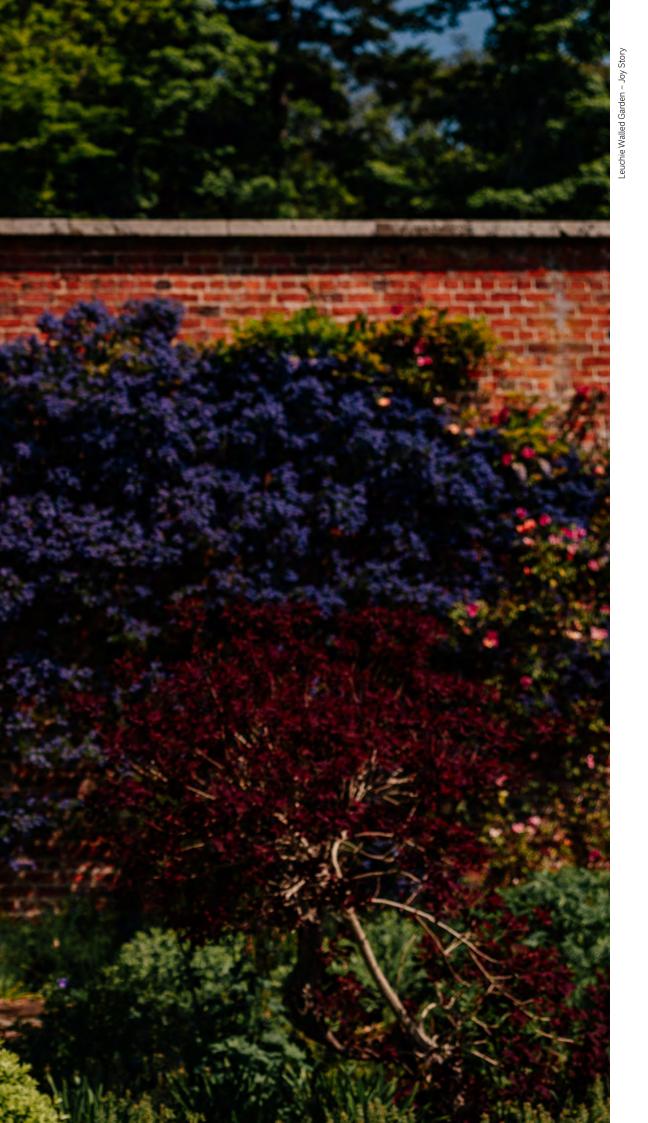
"My eye is drawn to the elegant double staircase."

Contact the venue to discover more:

Email: reception@fasquecastle.com Telephone: 0I56I 340746 Website: fasquecastle.com ■



Edinburgh, Lothians & The Borders







This couple had a relaxed wedding day with classic touches in the beautiful surroundings of an East Lothian country estate



"I had such a good experience." ucy and Liam met on a night out at the University of St Andrews students' union while Lucy was still a student and Liam was working in one of the restaurants in the Fife town. Then after just over six years together, Liam proposed in the beautiful setting of Lundin Links Beach.

As a former wedding planner, Lucy knew it was important for them to decide on a date and venue, as places were already booking up quickly. With that in mind, they booked Broxmouth Courtyard without even seeing the finished result - because it was still in the process of being built! The purposebuilt venue is situated on the outskirts of the historic fishing town of Dunbar, on the East Lothian coast. "We chose Broxmouth Courtyard off the architect's plans, and the amazing team and the delicious-sounding food options sold us," Lucy explains.

They settled on a "classic but fun" theme with dusty blue and white as the colour scheme, along with hints of gold. DIY touches included a welcome sign and homemade favours in the shape of mini bottles of cocktails rustled up by the bride and groom. "Each cocktail matched the name of the tables, so if you were at the Daiquiri table you got a mini Daiquiri. Shout out to Liam's sister Catherine for making all the labels for the bottles."

Simple elegance
Lucy was excited to get dress shopping

Lucy was excited to get dress shopping underway, but ended up going for the total opposite of what she thought she wanted. "I had such a good experience – every shop was so kind and supportive. I went with my mum, aunt, mother-in-law and my maid of honour

for two days of shopping," Lucy explains. "I bought my dress at Madison Rose Bridal in Kirkcaldy. I knew the team from when I worked in the wedding industry so I trusted them wholeheartedly."

She fell for the 'Gemini' dress by Ronald Joyce, a mikado satin fit and flare with dainty pearl straps and belt, along with an A-line full overskirt with lace detailing which she took off after the first dance so she could dance the night away! "I loved the simple elegance of the dress as it just felt timeless with the added bonus of a built-in second look." Lucy accessorised with a cathedral-length pearl veil and a gold and pearl necklace.

She had three bridesmaids and a maid of honour. "My maid of honour is my oldest childhood friend, then I had my cousin and two best friends from university as bridesmaids." She ordered lots of dresses for the girls to try, making the event into a trying-on party! The firm favourite was an elegant, dusty blue halter neckline with V-cutout from Azazie. "Luckily they all agreed pretty quickly that 'Evalleen' was the one — we all fell in love with the gorgeous tie back detail and light flowing fabric."

Liam, meanwhile, wore his own Modern Gunn kilt, which he'd been given for his 21st birthday. He teamed this with a jacket and waistcoat from Eight Yards while his three groomsmen and best man wore full kilt outfits to match in with his own look.

Relaxed and personal

The night before, Lucy and Liam got unpacked and set up, then ordered some pizza and drinks before splitting into girls and guys for the rest of the evening. Lucy says she got more sleep than she'd expected, but still woke up before everyone else feeling excited. "I don't think I could believe the day was finally here," she recalls. "It was so lovely spending time with my bridesmaids and mum before the ceremony. It was super chill and relaxed – which was totally needed."

When it was time to walk down the aisle, she felt calm and couldn't wait to get married ≫







"Lucy and Liam were an absolute joy to get to know and it was an honour and a privilege to legally marry them at the beautiful Broxmouth Courtyard. A truly special occasion, only made possible by Lucy and Liam's attention to detail and their outright fun attitude."

"THE HIGHLAND CELEBRANT" OF FUZE CEREMONIES

to Liam. She walked to *Forever and Ever and Always* by Ryan Mack performed by duo Ginny & The Tonic.

The couple chose a humanist ceremony because they wanted it to be relaxed and personal. "Our celebrant Brian was great. He came through and saved the day when Liam forgot to pack our quaich and kept everyone laughing throughout the ceremony. It would not have been the same without him," Lucy says.

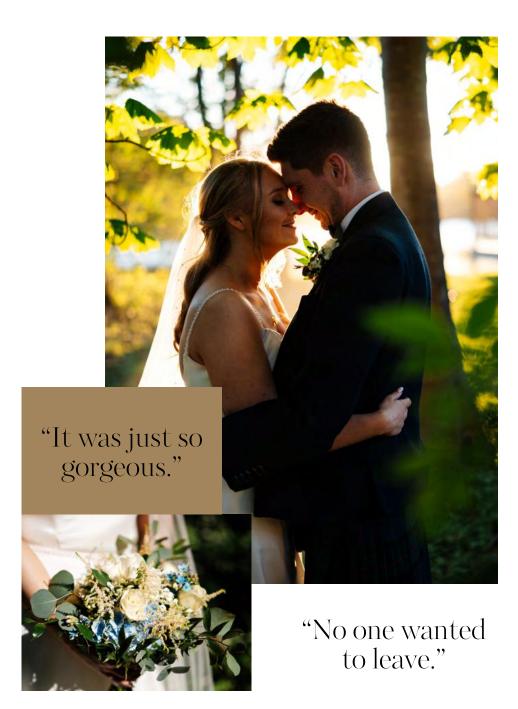
Afterwards, Ginny & The Tonic stayed on and played during the drinks reception while canapés were served to their 100 guests.

Food was a big part of the reason Lucy and Liam chose Broxmouth Courtyard. "We had a glorious menu tasting with the venue and the in-house chefs to make sure everything was perfect." Lucy explains. And the courses on offer were sumptuous, including dishes such as 12-hour cooked featherblade of beef with lemon and thyme mashed potato, cavolo nero and truffle sauce, and a chocolate bombe dark chocolate dome filled with chocolate mousse and black cherries.

The evening reception was a "big party" with a live band, and there was even a ceilidh set. "The dance floor was packed and all of our friends and family were mingling and having the best time. No one wanted to leave," Lucy smiles.

Being a wedding planner in a previous job meant Lucy didn't find organising her big day too hard. "I felt like I had a good understanding of where to start, what to do and what suppliers I wanted on our team for the day," she says.

The highlight of the day was taking photos at golden hour. "It was just so gorgeous and nice to spend a little more time, just the two of us," Lucy says. "Our photographer Vicki was just amazing – she was the extra bridesmaid, hype woman, family wrangler, and dog-sitter extraordinaire. She just kept everything flowing and the energy up. We couldn't imagine the day without her."







Ginny & The Tonic, The Stylists **BRIDE'S DRESS**

Ronald Joyce at Madison Rose Bridal

BRIDE'S SHOES

BRIDE'S HEADWEAR

Madison Rose Bridal

BRIDESMAID DRESSES

CAKE

Liggy's Cakes

CELEBRANT

Brian Baxter "The Highland Celebrant" of Fuze Ceremonies

FLOWERS

Cassia Salvona Floral Design

GROOM'S OUTFIT

Eight Yards

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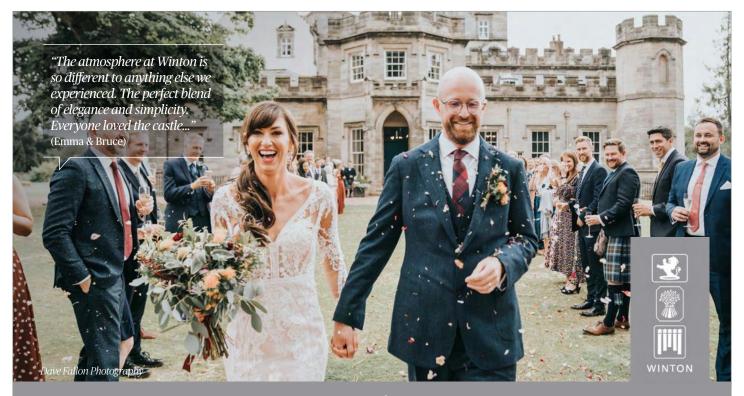
White Tree Wedding Films



PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"Lucy and Liam's wedding was the perfect concoction of laughter, love and beauty! The stunning floral arrangements were highlighted by the glorious sunshine that cascaded through the windows from the start of the day, to the delicious golden light we had such fun playing with in the evening." ■

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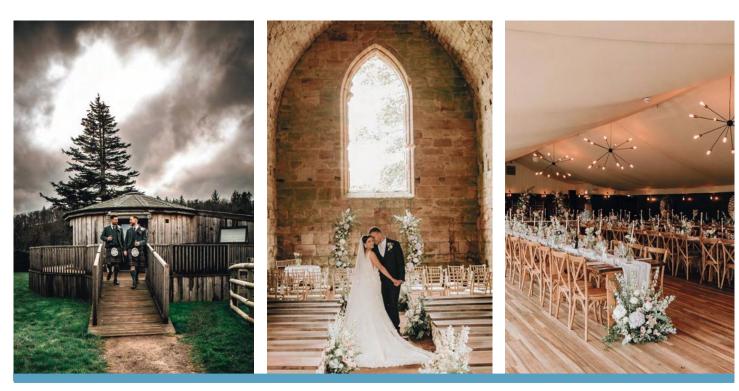
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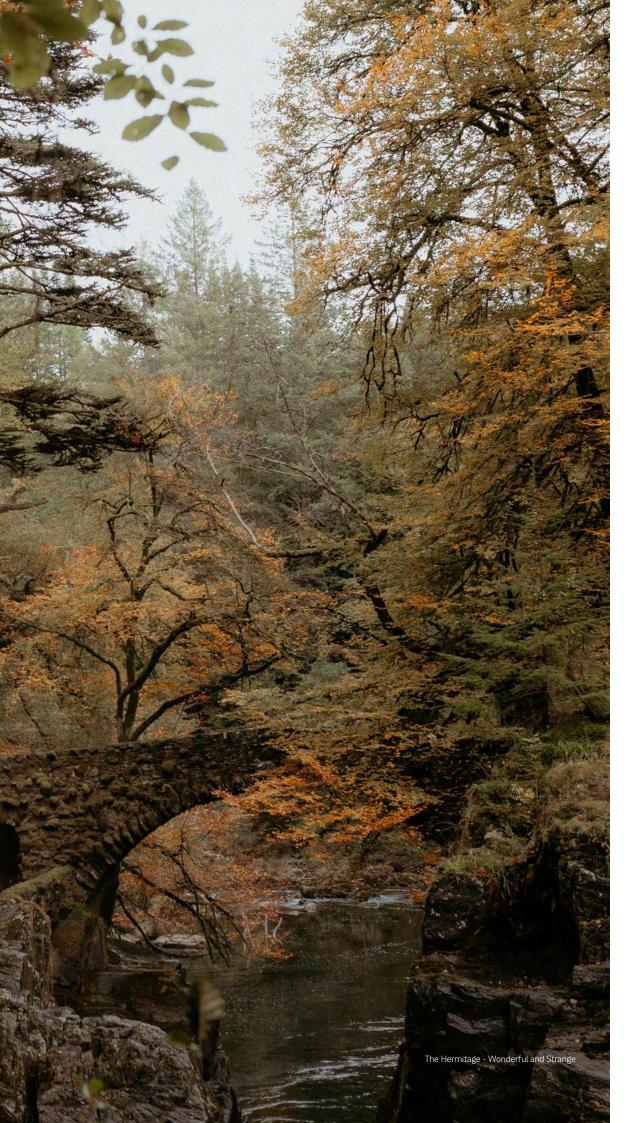
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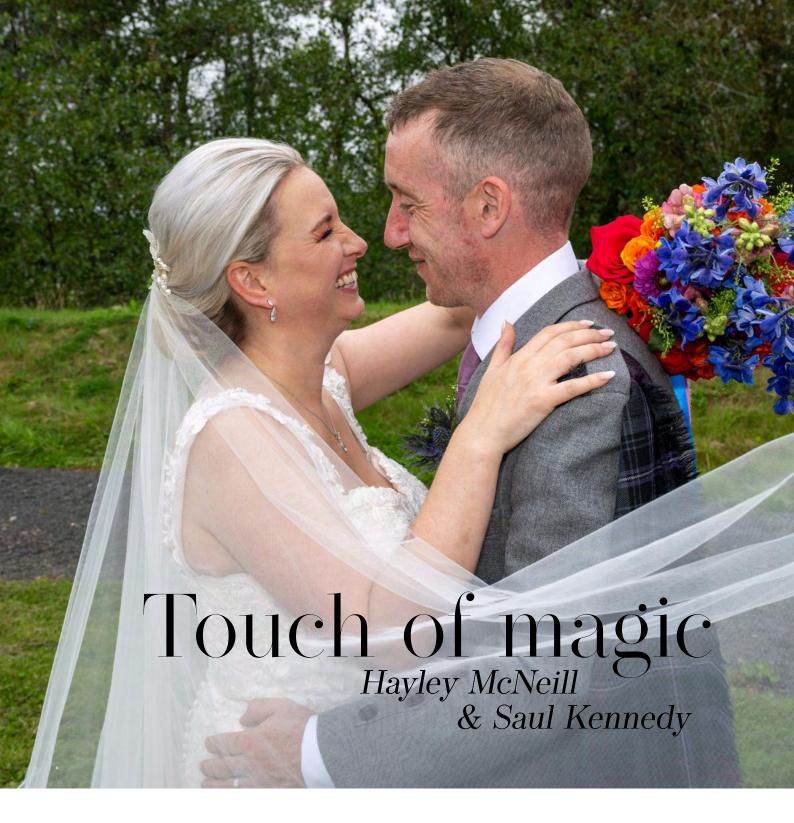
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Our 'I do' diaries couple Hayley and Saul tied the knot against the beautiful backdrop of rural Perthshire

DATE: Saturday 9th September 2024 VENUE: Silverwood Resort, Inchcoonans PHOTOGRAPHY: Sunshine Photography & Videography ayley and Saul had known of each other for some time but it wasn't until she moved back home to Aberfoyle after a few years in Glasgow that they truly hit it off. "We met when Saul came to fit my TV in my new flat after I had moved," Hayley explains.

Their relationship went from strength to strength, with son Leo being born in July 2022 and the couple getting engaged a few months later after a year and a half together. "Saul proposed to me on Hogmanay 2022. He did it at my mum and dad's house on the bells," Hayley adds.

As a former wedding planner herself, Hayley already knew what they had to do to get the show on the road. "The venue was definitely our first priority. Saul wanted water and I wanted a barn-type venue." And with there being stables right next door to Silverwood Resort, it was also perfect for Hayley's beloved old horse, Milly, so she could share in the day too.



While there wasn't a particular theme or colour, Hayley and her bridesmaids added some DIY touches for the décor, along with a sprinkling of magic! Hayley created her very own golden snitch (the object players of the fictional game Quidditch try to catch to win in the series of *Harry Potter* books) favours. "There was a little bit of a *Harry Potter* theme to the day," she explains. "I made these from a Ferrero Rocher sweet, then ordered some golden wings from Amazon and glued them on top!"

Princess vibes

Hayley thought she knew what kind of dress she wanted – but then she picked something completely different! "I'm not a very girly girl so to be able to just try on so many different dresses and feel like a princess was great," she says. "My dress was fitted and had a bit of a fishtail, it was very detailed and sparkly with a train."

Hayley complemented her 'Uma' Allure Bridals gown with a veil and super comfy shoes from JJs House. She had six bridesmaids and a flower girl in her party. "It was very easy to choose them as my two chief bridesmaids were my sister and my best friend. Then I had another friend and my cousin and my niece, and my flower girl was Saul's niece," she explains.

When she first started planning, Hayley discovered an orchid colour that became the ideal shade for her bridesmaids' dresses. "I let the girls pick what style they wanted as I was happy for them to wear different styles as long as it was the same colour," she adds.

Saul wore full Highland dress and in his party had two of his best friends, his two nephews, Hayley's cousin, and finally little Leo as a gorgeous page boy.



The night before, Hayley spent time with her mum and bridal party. "We were in a lodge on site and we just had a nice chilled night with some glasses of fizz and a buffet-style dinner. I got about three hours of sleep, but actually felt really good in the morning – I think the adrenaline takes over and you forget how tired you are!" she laughs.

Hayley enjoyed spending time with her mum and 'maids while Kirsty and Siobhan worked their hair and make-up magic. "We all had such a good laugh and just enjoyed the whole experience of getting ready."

Amazing time

Hayley walked down the aisle to *A Thousand Years* by Christina Perri, a song so special to her and Saul as when they attended their first scan for Leo, it was playing in the background when his image popped up on the screen. She felt like a princess walking down the aisle beside her





dad, "As I said before, I'm not a girly girl so for one day it was nice to feel like one."

The couple opted for a humanist ceremony with celebrant Gillian Stirling so it was a relaxed environment in which to share their story. "From our first meeting, Gillian just felt like a friend whom we had known for years. She was so invested in our story, and on the day was absolutely amazing at telling it to all our friends and family."

After the ceremony their 124 guests enjoyed some celebratory drinks before settling down to

enjoy their wedding breakfast. Hayley and Saul also chose to have a cake of cheese as well as cupcakes. "The cheese went down a treat as part of our evening buffet and the cupcakes were absolutely delicious as we had three different flavours."

For the evening reception, band Carlyle truly got the party started. "It was fantastic! Everyone was up dancing, just having the most amazing time." And Hayley says the highlight of the day was being able to have her beloved horse nearby. "Having Milly there was definitely extra special."





BAND

Carlyle BRIDE'S DRESS

Allure Bridals from Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo Bridal Boutique

BRIDE'S SHOES

JJ's House

BRIDE'S HEADWEAR

Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo Bridal Boutique

CAKE

West Country Cheese Company, Celebration Stations

CELEBRANT

Gillian Stirling Humanist Celebrant

FLOWERS

Floristic Designs

FLOWER GIRL'S DRESS

Monsoon

GROOM'S OUTFIT

Slater Menswear

HAIR & MAKE-UP

Kirsty MacPherson Hair and Make Up Artist

JEWELLERY

Jon Richard

RINGS

H Samuel

VIDEOGRAPHY

Sunshine Photography & Videography



PHOTOGRAPHERS' CREDIT

"We are a husband and wife team and we had a soft spot for Hayley and Saul from the first time we met. They are such a lovely couple. Our full team fell in love with Silverwood Resort as soon as we arrived, it has a relaxed, peaceful, luxurious vibe to it and the staff were very accommodating."

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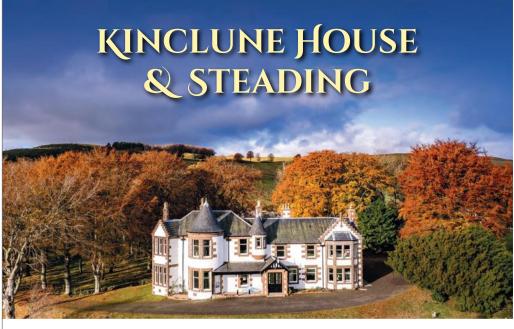


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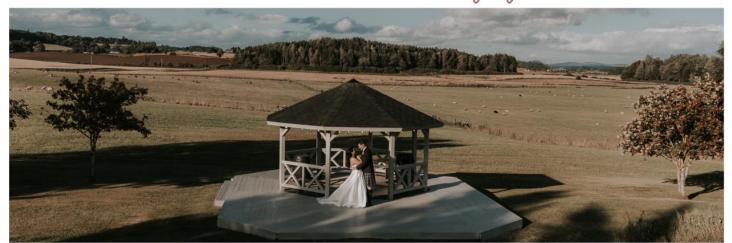
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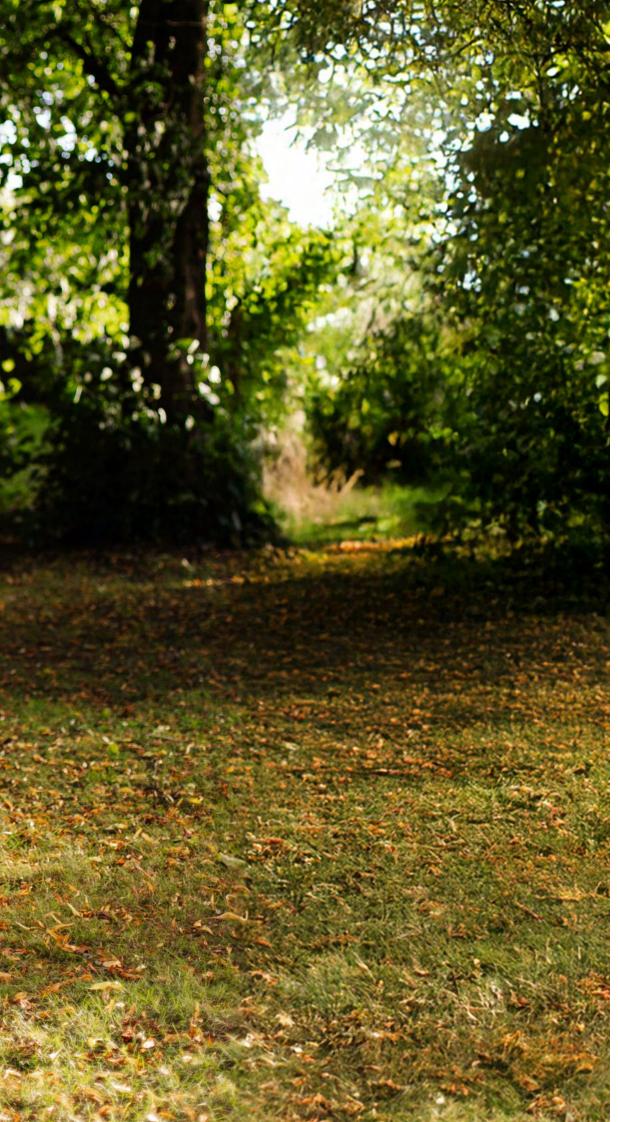
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"Timeless with a touch of vintage."



ijacking a holiday
to Sicily with family
and friends for
Holly's parents' 30th
anniversary, ("They
were good sports to be fair," laughs
Ryan) this groom-to-be was wellprepped for popping the question. "I'd
done countless research on different

proposal locations and had four back-up options, ready for any obstacle. Holly's parents took us to option one on the first day so that was out. The second option was derailed by a closed sign... And so was the third."

Heading off from option three, however, Ryan saw Holly admiring a beautiful view and realised he couldn't wait any longer. So he got down on one knee – but admits he doesn't actually remember asking her to marry him! Thankfully it was a big yes and the rest was history.

Time to plan

Back on Scottish soil, they started discussing venues and knew they needed bags of character, charm and quirkiness. "Oran Mór felt just right," says Holly. "Although we stay in the Southside of Glasgow, we always love to visit the West End. There's just something special about the area."

With the space already brimming with colour, they decided to keep the décor simple. "We based the theme around Ryan's Campbell weathered tartan. The result was an autumnal feel (the season we got engaged) with a nod to spring (the wedding and honeymoon season) that knots those special times together." As an established architect, Holly is naturally creative and went DIY on some of the décor, like the table numbers (with super-cute baby photos of the twosome through the years), the table plan and entrance sign.

With Ryan's kilt already sorted, it was time for Holly to get wedding-ready. It took her three shopping trips to choose 'The One' – a beautiful boho gown from Pamela Jayne's Bridal. "It was timeless with a touch of vintage; a crepe fit and flare shape with lace sleeves and train detail. I decided against headwear but accessorised with satin and lace block heels, a gold rotary watch from my auntie, my mum's pearl earrings and a pearl pendant charm necklace." Meanwhile, her bridesmaids Kirsty and Debbie, were totally on-theme in their autumnal rust-toned gowns. >>>











"Let the unexpected happen."



The night before their big day the couple gathered at Holly's parents' house with family and the bridal party - but kept it very sensible and were in bed by 10pm! After a sound sleep for the bride and a sleepless night for the groom ("I re-read my speech a hundred times and made several unnecessary changes," laughs Ryan) it was time to say I do, surrounded by their 107 guests.

Let's get married Holly walked down the aisle to Highland Cathedral on the bagpipes, feeling nervous and excited, and breaking into a smile when she spotted her other half. The pair had written their own vows and Ryan's mum had kindly printed and laminated them (even adding his tartan at the back) so they could read to one another. "I remember while reading that Holly looked like she was having an out of body experience. I think she was so overwhelmed by everything that she was trying to take it all in while also smiling for the photos. I can't imagine what it must have been like for her seeing everything for the first time," says Ryan.

After becoming Mr and Mrs, celebrations continued with a delicious wedding breakfast, lovely speeches, a fantastic wedding band - and a spontaneous set of Arabic dances, choreographed by Ryan's dad as a nod to his side of the family. "He had cornered

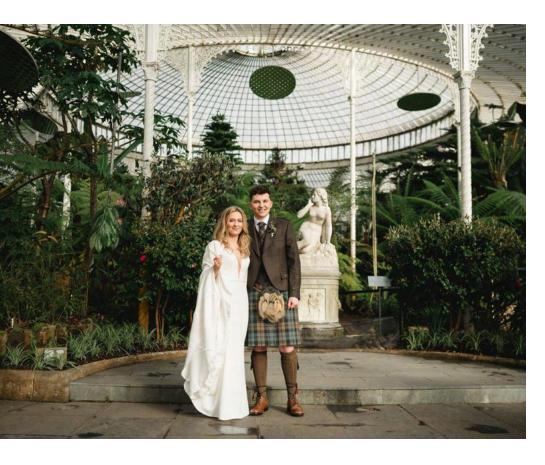
the wedding organiser (Barry from Òran Mór, who was great) and managed to pull together two dances. Everyone took part and it was lovely to see. We all danced in a circle then had a smooth transition back into modern songs from the band. We also had an Arabic evening menu that my dad organised, which went down so well."

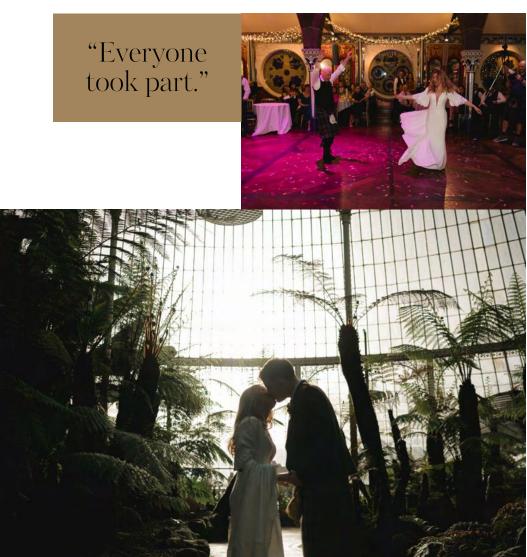
Afterthoughts

Reflecting on the planning process, the couple say their stress levels varied throughout. "At the start, we were very organised and ticked off lots of things. But time creeps up on you very quickly and a month before the end it didn't matter how prepared we were - there was lots we just hadn't thought about, or things that took longer than expected. Luckily we had a lot of help from our parents, which eased things majorly."

As such, the newlyweds would advise others not to get complacent in the planning stages because you may never be as organised as you think you are! That said, when it comes to the special day itself they'd urge couples to "let the unexpected happen" because they can be "some of the most magical moments of your wedding."

Finally, Ryan advises grooms not to worry what guests think of their speech. "Everyone will love it regardless. The most important thing is to speak to your new partner from the heart and let all the emotion out."







BAND

Franco

BRIDE'S DRESS

Lillian West at Pamela Jayne's Bridal **BRIDE'S SHOES**

John Lewis

BRIDESMAID DRESSES

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Bagpipers Scotland RINGS

VIDEOGRAPHY

Ninel8 Wedding Films



PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"After our first call I knew it was going to be a really fun day. Marrying in Glasgow, you can't rely on the weather so I was delighted when Holly and Ryan embraced the rain and we went to Kibble Palace at Botanic Gardens."

> LINDSEY, MACK **PHOTOGRAPHY** ■



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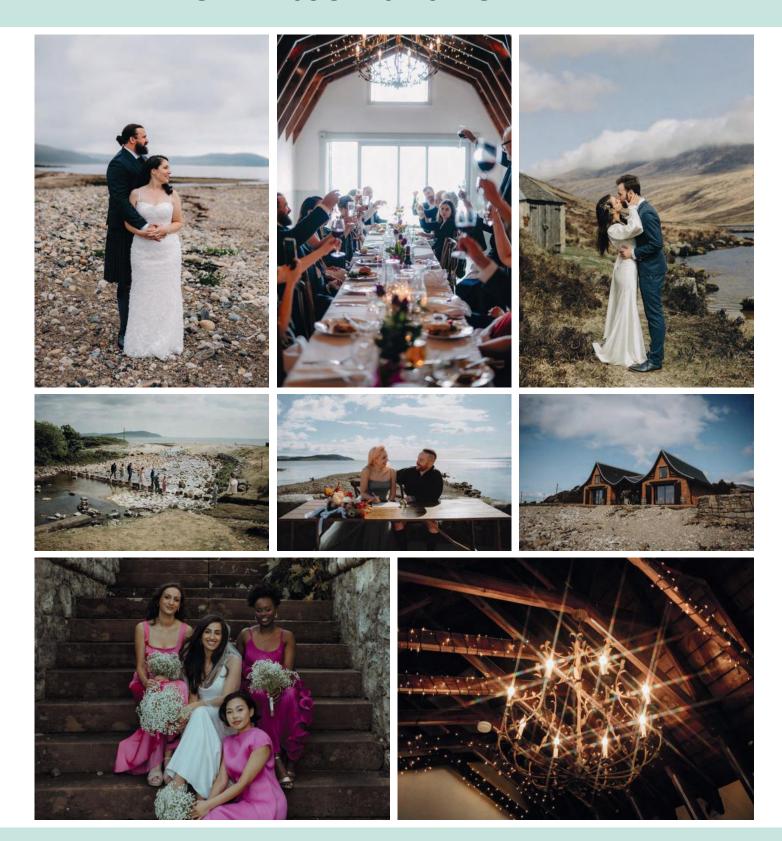


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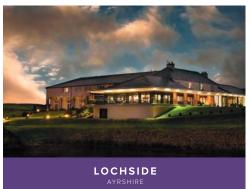


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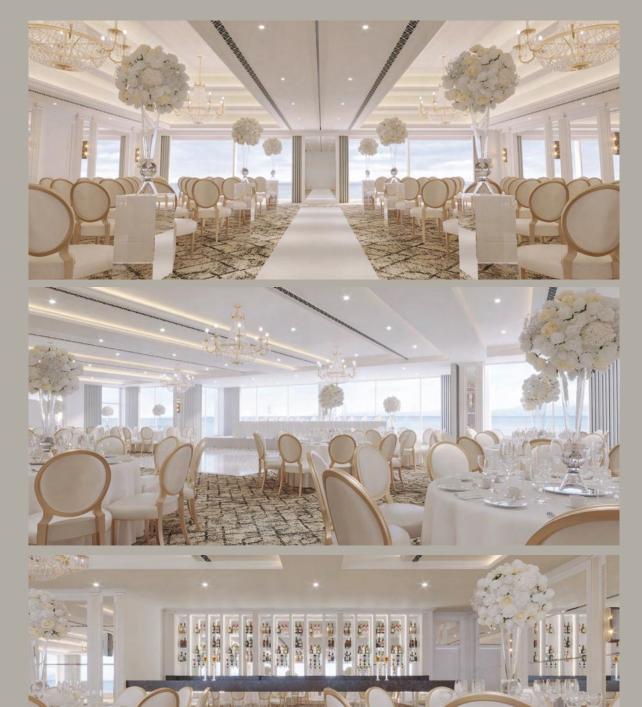


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Stirling, Argyll & the Trossachs



This couple celebrated their love in a beautiful lochside ceremony in the heart of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park

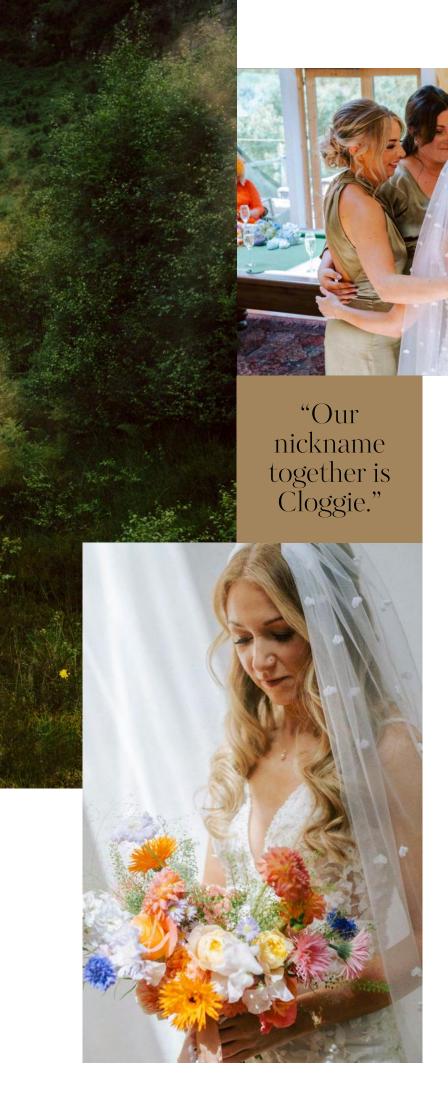
DATE: Saturday 29th June 2024 VENUE: Carrick Castle Estate, Cairndow PHOTOGRAPHY: Euan Robertson Photography laire and Martin met through friends and were pals for a while before they realised they might have something more going on. After five years together, Martin proposed in September 2022 against the backdrop of a beautiful sunset while they were on a sailing trip on the west coast of Scotland.

The first planning priority was to sort out a venue and date – closely followed by booking an all-important margarita truck. "We both love a spicy marg and thought the truck was so cool; ideal

for a fun drinks reception and a big hit with all the guests!"

The pair fell for Carrick Castle Estate because they wanted somewhere they could have a weekend event with everyone staying on site and also add a personal touch – not to mention the gorgeous backdrop of Loch Goil.

The theme was a mixture of maritime, festival, disco, boho and chic. They put lots of DIY touches into the weekend, including their own décor, making signage that complemented their stationery; a table plan made up of all their favourite drinks, welcome



bags for their house guests and a dressing-up box (which was a big hit!). Friends and family also helped with home-baking and even created a drinks boat complete with personalised sail!

Guest of honour

Claire was open to trying different styles of dress, but after visiting a few shops there was one that stuck in her mind. "I tried on a few different designers, but always came back to Made with Love and it was between two gowns: 'Harlow' and 'Elliot'. I loved the shape, the low back and the detail in the dress. It was a tough choice, but 'Elliot' had a nice sparkle to it." She accessorised with gorgeous gold shoes and a veil with 3D flutters attached.

Claire had four bridesmaids: her sister, sister-inlaw and two best friends from school and university. Guest of honour was the couple's dachshund Heidi, who had her own special flower arrangement collar, created by their florist. Martin's brother was his best man and, along with his father, four close friends were groomsmen.

House party

The night before was a chilled evening of food and drinks in the lodge with family and friends as excitement built for the next day. They stayed with each other, both sleeping well in the knowledge everything was in place for a great celebration. Martin woke up buzzing and took the lead on some last-minute preparations so Claire could enjoy her bridal morning of getting ready with her 'maids, which prevented her nerves from kicking in.

When it was time to walk down the aisle, Claire thought she would be a quivering wreck – but instead absolutely loved it! "As soon as I stepped out on to the balcony and saw Martin and all our friends and family, I got so excited, it was such a buzz."

Their band, Ginny & The Tonic, played for the ceremony and reception, giving renditions of some of Claire and Martin's favourite tunes in their own





"We wanted it to be funny and personal."



unique style. Martin and his groomsmen made a special entrance to *Harder Than You Think* by Public Enemy, while Claire walked down the aisle to *Landslide* by Fleetwood Mac. "We wanted it to be funny and personal. Rachel our celebrant did a brilliant job of bringing a combination of both and including our families too which was so nice, as it felt like a real joining of the two families." They exited to *Mighty Real* by Sylvester – "It was a perfect, upbeat disco tune and set the tone for the rest of the day," says Claire.

Afterwards, they had The Little Margarita Truck serving flavoured margs to their 100 guests along with their DIY 'boozy boat' containing beer and bubbles. And a highlight of the speeches was when groomsman Ross performed a poem he'd written about the couple in the style of Robert Burns. It was called *Address Tae a Cloggie* which was a take on *Address to a Haggis*. "Our nickname together is Cloggie – Claire + Toggie (Martin's nickname). It was so thoughtful and absolutely hilarious!" smiles Claire.





Laughed all day

In the evening, their DJ set up in the rustic barn to get the party started, while nephew Alfie piped for the ceilidh dances. The dance floor was filled from start to finish and Claire says there was a great atmosphere. "We decided to have the classic Scottish wedding songs at 10pm (*The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond, Dignity* and *The Whole of the Moon*) and then end the night with a rave with a good mix of dance classics."

The couple love looking back at their wedding photos to see people wearing random items from the dressing-up box they had created. "It makes us laugh every time we look at them!" says Claire.

Martin's highlight was their first look on the balcony of the lodge before the ceremony. "Seeing Claire for the first time, she looked amazing. I felt so lucky to be with her and having all our friends and family round for a full weekend to celebrate us."

Claire adds, "There were so many special moments throughout the day and so many funny memories, we laughed all day. One of my highlights was our first dance – *I Wanna Be Your Lover* by Prince. It was so much fun, and our photographer Euan got the most amazing photos with all the confetti."





BAND

Ginny & The Tonic

BRIDE'S DRESS

Made With Love from The White Collection

BRIDE'S SHOES

Loeffler Randall

BRIDE'S HEADWEAR

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PHOTOGRAPHER'S CREDIT

"Carrick Castle is in such a gorgeous location, and the couple who run it, Hannah and Darius will even drive you up the hillside for photos! Add to this one of the most absurdly fun couples and an epic first dance confetti bomb, this was a truly epic day." ■





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